

## Death 2191

Death... and me

Chapter 2191: Great!

As Rean traveled around the higher realms, Havek and Qia never stopped their work. However, due to the war, they barely had time to do anything other than expand the communication network between the three main powers in order to help with the war.

When the war started, all the Continental Barriers disappeared without a trace, leaving just a pitch-black chasm where they previously stood. The orders from the top experts of the three races were simple. Do not enter it, do not go down. They should use it to get inside the Devil's Territory, and it's just that.

Naturally, Qia and Havek send many formations masters together with the arms. Space-Time Realm Cultivators, Demon Beasts, and Spirits followed them too. With that, towers and more towers of communication were erected as the arms advanced. By now, they had already numbered the hundreds of thousands.

Still, as they built more, the masters understood them better. Their range increased further and further, now reaching over a hundred thousand kilometers of coverage around them. The web of communication advanced inside the Devil's Continents without stopping.

Yet, even though the coverage of the towers increased, the same couldn't be said for the Communication Badges... Or Smartphones, as Rean liked to call them. One has to understand the towers were provided with energy to get that far. Unfortunately, the badges themselves had limitations on how far they could answer a call.

It wasn't all that bad as they could at least be used to pass information one-sided. If necessary, the leaders who received a message only had to approach a relay tower and use the badge to send information back.

What Qia and havek have been working on was exactly that, a way to increase the communication badge range of connection. For them, it simply wasn't good enough to just receive information if they were too far away from the tower. It had to be able to answer as long as it was within the tower's own capacity.

That was how Qia and Havek worked together to come up with what they call 'Signal Recycle.' it took a long time to work this out since they were very busy putting the communication system deeper and deeper into the Devil's Territory. Still, the communication system was expanding fast, and one can imagine that it won't be long before it becomes the norm in the Realm of Gods. It's just that the humanoids, spirits, and demon beasts are making full use of it before any of their enemies think about doing the same.

Fay noticed Qia's reaction and quickly understood what it meant. "Did senior Havek succeed?"

Qia nodded. "Not him, us. You also helped a lot during the development of this new communication badge. Now the badges will be able to use the Divine Energy Signal that they receive from the tower, modify it for their own purpose, and send it back before losing its energy. It far surpasses the signal answer that the badges could achieve before."

Fay, Rean's daughter, was obviously happy to hear that. "Great! We need to make these news badges straight away."

Qia already expected that. "Don't worry. The facilities where the communication badges are being made have already done enough badges for the next few days. Havek and I will share a connection while we make the modifications on both sides."

"I'll help!" Fay obviously wanted to make part of it.

The Mother and Daughter then left while Qia passed the commanding position to another Formations Master in the room. As they flew to the factory, Qia couldn't help but speak, "I wonder if your father will be shocked by it."

Fay's expression immediately turned dark after hearing that. "Why do you even care about that man? Mother, you should just forget him. He left without saying anything and has been gone for all these years. It is obvious that he doesn't care about us."

Qia smiled but didn't answer. Qia and Calina knew the truth of the twins' mission, but they also knew they couldn't let others know. Not only wouldn't it help anyone, it would instead put them in danger if they accidentally let the truth escape. Because of that, Fay came to hate Rean for disappearing like that.

Even though Qia said that this was what she and Rean decided, Fay still didn't buy it. "Alright, he will be able to explain things to you on his own once he is back."

"Hmph!" Fay couldn't care less, though.

Suddenly, a man came flying from the Freedom Sect in the distance. Rean and Roan's Sect was still in the same place as they left the last time, as they were the only ones able to move it away. "Hey, Aunt Qia."

The man was none other than Roan's kid, Alen.

Back before the twins left the Dragon Race Territory, Rean and Roan disguised Fay and Alen so that they could leave without being noticed. The reason for that was their Nascent Soul Realm. To enter the Soul Transformation Realm, one had to first find their path. Otherwise, they would stay stuck forever in that realm.

Alen had always been a lazy guy up to that point, very much like Kentucky. But after they left, Fay, who was stronger and more diligent, had to protect him a few times during their travels. That was Roan's plan. He knew that although lazy, Alen also hated to look bad in front of women, even if it was his cousin. Alen was truly a copy of Kentucky.

Thanks to that, he began to put effort into his training as Fay was merciless. She totally humiliated him every time she had to save his ass. How could he accept that?

The second part of the plan, which was to help them find their own path, also worked. They both entered the Soul Transformation Realm in the end. With the resources given to them, they had another breakthrough, and the cousins were now in the Elemental Transformation Realm. It has been decades since the twins left, after all.

Qia looked at Alen, seeing his excited expression. "What is it? Did something good happen?"

Alen quickly nodded. "The Soul Flames Father and Uncle Rean left behind reacted!"

"What!?" Qia was taken aback. "Great!"

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Chapter 2192: Accomplishments

Qia quickly arrived in the Freedom Sect, going straight into the room where the Soul Flames of all its members who could generate one were kept. Before departing, Rean, Roan, Kentucky, and Luan left their Soul Flames there.

Calina and Zuo Were there too. Zuo was Roan's first disciple, the one with Magnetism Affinity. "Qia, you came fast," said Calina with a smile.

Qia nodded as she looked at the Soul Flames of the twins. Sure enough, they were a lot more distinct than they had been in the last few decades. "They are truly back in the Realm of Gods! Even Luan and Kentucky's flames are also burning in the same way."

With their communication system, everyone now had a much easier time acquiring information from many different places in the Realm of Gods. When the twins left the Realm of Gods for the Underworld, Calina's group noticed that those four Soul Flames had diminished in size by a lot. Still, they didn't seem like they were going to extinguish.

Naturally, Calina and the others got worried and went after information regarding this event. Using the communication formation and also the experts of the Dragon Race, they found out that this kind of specific change happens when a Soul Flame Owner leaves the Higher Realm where the flame is located.

That's how Calina and Qia found out that the twins had departed from the Realm of Gods. They sighed in relief after discovering that, but they weren't surprised. They knew from the twins that they would have to eventually go to the Underworld and the Heavens to acquire the fragments.

"Still, the intensity of the flames isn't anywhere near what it was when Rean and Roan first left the sect," Calina said, puzzled.

Qia tried to remember what the flames looked like back when the twins still lived in the sect and nodded in the end. "Indeed, they recovered a lot, but it is still not as big."

Zuo knew why." That means although they are in the Realm of Gods, they are truly far away. Unfortunately, we can't use the flames to find their location. Otherwise, we could ask senior Placake to send someone to pick them up with a Spatial Gate."

Calina and Qia nodded. They also knew that. "In any case, they can deal with it on their own. They will come back eventually, so we just need to wait."

"Hmph! I would rather they never came back," said Fay, still angry at the Rean's departure.

Qia laughed in response, seeing that although Fay said that with her mouth, her expression could completely hide her surprise. Rean had always been the one with the highest knowledge about Circuitry Formations. She deeply respected him for that since she loved formations herself. She obviously wanted to learn more and especially see what Rean learned during the time he was out. She just didn't want to admit it since it was also true she was angry about Rean leaving her mother behind.

'If just she knew what her father and Uncle are trying to achieve...' Qia couldn't help but think for a moment. Of course, she quickly threw that idea away as it wouldn't be good for others to know.

Qia then took a deep breath and prepared to leave. "Since they are far away still, we can only hope they are fine. I still have to go to the facility to make the modifications in the communication badges." As mentioned before, Placake ordered that all the equipment used in the Demon Beasts Communication System should be out of the Freedom Sect. After all, he knew the Freedom Sect could be relocated at any time by the twins. She had to go out to continue working on it.

Calina watched as Qia left with Fay before she turned to her son, Alen. "So, what about you? Do you think your cultivation progress will be enough to satisfy your father when he comes back?"

Alen felt a chill running down his spine after hearing those words. "Mo-Mother... I-I-I've b-been very diligent..." Different from Fay, Alen wasn't angry with Roan for his leave. His fear of him didn't allow that. "B-But I guess it is not a bad idea to polish my skills a little more while he is out."

Zuo Fin smiled, being much older than Alen. "Let's go take the teleport formation and join the Demon Beast Armies in the conquest of the Devil Territories. That's a true skill-honing place."

He has never had any problems with diligence, so he was very proud of his accomplishments. Sure, he fell quite behind Luan in his cultivation realm, being only at the Initial Stage of the Transition Realm. But he hasn't received Roan's attention as much as Luan, obviously. Not to mention that Luan had been inside the time acceleration effect of the Swamp of No Return, so he naturally fell even further behind. That still didn't diminish his efforts. Being at the Late Stage of the Transition Realm at his age was truly remarkable.

Alen was taken aback. He did mature a lot and was indeed more diligent compared to himself decades ago. However, it didn't mean he changed his core nature. He still hated training and especially seeking danger on his own. "Ahem... there is no need. I know what to do."

Yet, Calina just waved her hand. "Bring him with you. He has been confined in the sect for the past few years. Although he did train consistently, he will lose his touch if he doesn't experience some hardship. Sorry for disturbing you again, little Zuo."

\*Zush, zush!\*

Alen tried to flee straight away, but Zuo was even fast, quickly catching him. "Don't worry, mistress. I'll make sure he won't die... probably."

"What do you mean with probably?" Alen asked back while struggling to get free.

Calina nodded. "If he dies, he dies. Everyone here goes out to train now and then with this in mind. I wish you two good luck." She mercilessly ignored her son's pledge and bid farewell to the two.

Screams were heard on the way to the teleport formations as Alen tried to get free, just to stop when the formation activated, making both of them disappear with a flash of silver light.

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Chapter 2193: Far

The war against the Devils was expected to be arduous. The easy access to living souls was of paramount importance to the Devils, so the Demon Beasts, Spirits, and Humanoids expected harsh retaliation. However, no one thought that the moment the Continental Barriers disappeared, the Angel Realm would attack the Underworld as well.

Because of that, the Devils who were initially coming to the Realm of Gods to defend their territory got confused. Should they go back to the Underworld and fight the angels, or should they stay here and defend their supply of living souls?

Unfortunately, they were not given a choice. As mentioned before, the angels have locked down the Temporal Path. That meant the Devils who arrived couldn't go back, and that also included the Elder Devils. Well, it wasn't like they couldn't use the Temporal Path to reach the Underworld, but that the Angels had mounted a huge defense at its exit.

Angels flocked the Underworld nonstop, making it hard for the Devils to go there. As soon as they appeared in the Underworld, the Angel Army would annihilate them. Even the Elder Devils didn't dare to appear there.

It was truly a surprise attack while they were down. A lot of their top experts were in the Realm of Gods, while the other half was in the Underworld. The Angels, on the other hand, focused entirely on their conquest of the Underworld, putting the Devils on the back foot.

To make things worse, Rui, the leader of the Light Devil Clan, took the Underworld Relic during the last competition and now refuses to help the Devils. The Underworld Relic can't be used against Devils. That's how it was crafted. But just not having to fight an Elder Devil who has it is already an enormous advantage to the Archangels.

It was obvious to everyone that the Light Devil Clan had sided with the Angels for this attack. Still, that was the Underworld. The Angels could pour as much Light Element as they want there. It would never surpass the amount of Dark Element. Not to mention that the entire Underworld was mobilized to stop the angels in their tracks. That caused the war to defend the Underworld to reach a stalemate.

The situation of the Underworld didn't matter to the Demon Beasts, Spirits, and Humanoids, though. Different from the Underworld, the Devils simply had no place from where to take reinforcements. If anything, a lot of the Devils in their armies in the Realm of Gods were deserting every day, with the Devils not being able to do anything about it.

Things didn't get any easier with the expansion of the communication system into their territories. The three races' coordination was simply unmatched. They kept attacking from countless different fronts

while being able to keep track of every army and their commanders movements. There were simply not enough Thoughts Transmission Talismans for the Devils to keep up with such a barrage.

Sure, they quickly understood that the Realm of Gods' main strength lay in their communication system. That said, the Elder Devils in the Realm of Gods went out and captured some of the Formations Masters that were tasked with building relay towers. They always had many experts defending them, but there was no way they could protect against Elder Devils.

With that, they acquired quite some information on how the communication badges worked. Unfortunately, they could not replicate the communication system. That's because the formations masters that were sent into the Devil's Territories were only aware of how to build the towers. None of them had any idea how the communication system itself worked.

That was quite obvious. After all, the core of the communication system was still inside the Demon Beast and Humanoid Territories. To be more specific, they were located inside the Dragon Race Ancestral Land, being overseen by Qia and in the Rambram Sect in the Humanoid Territory, overseen by Havek.

All the communication of the system was received, processed, and sent forward in those two places. The number of DPUs they made for this task alone had already surpassed the thousands. It looks like a lot, but one must not forget that the system was already working several decades ago when the twins left. Technology is something that evolves faster than anything else, so such a huge expansion was to be expected.

Besides, there has never been a better stimulus for quick development than war. In this case, the cultivation universe and Earth were no different. The sides who want to win will always pour as much of their resources into development as possible, forgetting pretty much everything else not related to the war efforts. With unlimited resources, time, and stimulus, how could the communication system not leap many levels of development?

In the end, without access to the Communication System Servers, the Devils couldn't employ the same tactics. Neither the Humanoids nor the Demon Beasts were idiots either. They had always had several Divinity Realm experts around their servers and made sure that the secrets of how to build the Communication System were kept secret.

The Devils already lacked reinforcements to simply defend their positions, which they lost more and more every day. Let alone divert their few Elder Devils to attack the location of the servers. With the



formations and experts defending such locations, there was no way they could succeed. If anything, they would only ask to be severely injured or even die.

They also understood that destroying the towers had little effect on the communication system. After capturing the few formations master, they understood that the towers worked like a web. Even if you destroyed one, the information would take other routes through other towers and most likely reach its destination nonetheless.

Still, as much as the communication system made things hard to deal with, nothing compared to the sudden disappearance of the Continental Barriers. That truly made their life hundreds of times worse. Otherwise, the Realm of Gods would never be able to send so many of their experts inside this easily.

Of course, the Devils were still plenty after countless years of domination of the Northeast side of the Realm of Gods. They were on the back foot, but they were far, far from being defeated.

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Chapter 2194: Retaliation Plan

On the northeast side of the Realm of Gods, the three forces kept advancing deeper into the Devil's Territory. However, moving billions of beings in a place as big as the Realm of Gods took time, so even though they had the advantage, progress was slow.

It wasn't a problem for them, though. From the very start, the Demon Beasts, Humanoids, and Spirits already expected a war to last decades or perhaps hundreds of years. As long as they could keep pushing forward with not many losses, they would eventually win.

Of course, the Devils knew that as well. They also had countless Devils who were living here already and were defending the frontlines. As the owners of the place, the Elder Devils worked to make this a war of attrition. They had access to the resources, while the attacking forces had to bring their own from far away. Just like that, the war continued at a slow pace.

Near the center of the Devils' Territory, there was a continent called Glunfitea. There, five Elder Devils gathered in a room, followed by thirty or so Space-Time Realm subordinates. Even though it would take a long time, they couldn't just wait until they were completely defeated. This meeting was to discuss a new plan regarding the outcome of the war.

"Abaddon, how is it? Do you think it will work?" One of the elder devils asked, looking at the devil on the main seat.

Abaddon nodded with a serious expression. "It should, Asmodeus. After so many years collecting Living Souls, their energy should prove to be big enough to pull off this strategy."

A female elder devil called Echidna couldn't help but express her concerns. "That's exactly the issue, right? During the time we dominated this region, we kept some of the produced Living Souls at a steady pace. Now, we can't even count of many of them are. If we truly try that, we might be shooting ourselves in the foot. Would we be able to stop such a thing?"

Ahriman, another Elder Devil, agreed with Echidna. "She is right, you know? You all remember very well just how much trouble Beelzebub caused us. He will eventually escape and appear in the Underworld again. If we go ahead with this plan, we will have to deal not with one, but two Soul Devils."

Ahriman then looked at the last Elder Devil. "Kanpishi, you aren't as good as Belial regarding soul cultivation, but you aren't that far. What do you think?"

Kanpishi shook his head in response. "Even I can't say the outcome. The plan is to create a Soul Devil and use all the collected souls to strengthen it. With that many souls, it sure will be a powerful ally. Perhaps even the five of us wouldn't be its match. However, all Soul Devils up to this day were born from dead souls. Not a single one of them came from living souls. I'm not even sure if Living Souls can give birth to Soul Devils."

Abaddon understood that. "I know. But the part about whether it will help us or not is irrelevant. That's because it will not be sentient enough to think about such things. You all know how Soul Devils work. They are a collection of all the memories of the souls used in their processes. That huge amount of information makes them go crazy for many years before they start to put consciousness together."

"What we need at the moment is exactly that. We need it to go crazy!" said Abaddon. "It is exactly because it will be made out of Living Souls that we are creating it here in the Realm of Gods. If there is one thing it won't lack, it is Living Souls. Perhaps it can grow strong enough to completely divert the attention of all the Divinity Realm cultivators of the Realm of Gods. Take Beelzebub as an example. In the end, sealing him was the best we could do, and his start wasn't so full of souls as this new Soul Devil will be."

"What if it diverts its attention and decides to attack our Devil Armies instead?" Echidna asked. "I know, it is made of Living Souls, so it truly shouldn't attack us while it doesn't have a stable sentence. It should follow its instinct and try to take Living Souls instead. Still, it is not guaranteed."

Abaddon didn't seem worried. "That's why we aren't going to try to create it here in our territory. Kanpishi and I will leave the control of the armies in your hands. Before, it was possible to tell if someone at the Elder Devil level entered your continent because of the fluctuations left in the Continental Barrier. However, the continental barrier that we relied on so much is now gone. It is bad for our defenses, but it isn't all bad news. Now we can definitely leave the Devils' Territory and enter the other three forces areas without being noticed. Since they opened a path for us, why shouldn't we use it?"

Kanpishi agreed with him. It was obvious that Abaddon had talked to him about this plan before calling everyone to the meeting. "The time to act is now. We are Devils, and Devils always put themselves as the highest priority. The Devils at the front lines are constantly fleeing as soon as they see things are turning worse, and that is speeding up the invasion. I know it will take many years until we reach a desperate situation, but I'm truly not in the mood to wait for that to happen."

Ahriman had to admit they were right. "This is good. However, there is another thing we are missing here. Let's say the plan works, and this new Soul Devil causes all the havoc in the Living Beings' territories. Then what? Exactly what will be our next steps when that happens? At some point, the Soul Devil will gain a stable consciousness, or the Divinity Realm enemies will find a way to deal with it. What can we do while they divert their attention away?"

Sure enough, that was a necessary question.

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Chapter 2195: Twins' Side Effect

Abaddon already expected that question. "What else can we do? We will divert our complete attention to the Temporal Path. The Angels are defending the entrance, so we can't do anything while the Divinity Realm experts of the Realm of Gods are also on our backs. This Soul Devil will give us the time necessary to divert our forces and attack the Temporal Path."

Abaddon then took out a piece of red jade. Right after, he poured his Devilish Energy inside.

\*Zuuup...\*

In the next moment, a life-like image of Mephisto appeared right in front of everyone in the room. That obviously took the devils aback, with the exception of Abaddon. Still, they waited to see what Mephisto had to say.

"If you are seeing this, it is because Abaddon already got the preparations ready. Don't worry, everyone. This war is not over. If anything, the time for our real plan to be put into practice has just arrived," said Mephisto.

Echidna narrowed her eyes. "Our real plan? How come I don't know anything about it?"

This time, even Abaddon was a little surprised. He wasn't expecting Mephisto to talk about any other plan. "What are you talking about? Isn't it just a simple plan to attack the Temporal Path from both the Realm of Gods and the Underworld sides? We need to set it free if we want to do anything else. At the very least, we have to make the Temporal Path a place that neither race can control. Anything else can wait."

Everyone in the room nodded, even the Space-Time Realm devils. The main priority was to make sure they had a reliable connection between the Underworld and the Realm of Gods. Only like that would they acquire the necessary defenses to keep their territory in the Realm of Gods.

However, Mephisto shook his head. "Do you know why it is so hard to take over the entrance of the Temporal Path in the Underworld?"

Asmodeus was the first one to answer. "Because Rui betrayed us. He has the Underworld Relic in his hands. The Relic can't be used to cause harm to Devils, but Rui can simply not use it at all. If you or any other Elder Devil had the Underworld Relic in their hands, I doubt the Angels would have succeeded in taking over the entrance."

Mephisto nodded with a smile. "That's precisely so... and that's what the Angels think as well. That's why during our next attack, Rui will join forces with us."

"What?!" Everyone felt like they heard a joke. "Rui is on the Angels' side! Why would he help us? He made it clear that his loyalty lies with the Angels."

Mephisto wasn't surprised by their words. "Indeed, that was Rui's plan. All this situation. All the invasion of the Angels. Simply everything was within our calculations. Rui told us about the imminent Angels' invasion, and we let it happen."

Everyone felt like Mephisto was making a fool of them.

\*Bang!\*

Echidna couldn't hold her anger and stood up while slamming the table. "What the hell is all of this? How come none of us was told anything? Let the Angels invade? We are in this shit situation because of them, so how could you let it happen if you knew it was coming?"

The expression of the other Elder Devils wasn't any better. "Mephisto, you better give a good explanation."

Mephisto obviously did exactly that. "I know you are all angry, but we couldn't risk letting this plan leak out. You do know why the Angels covet our Underworld so much, right?"

Kanpishi nodded. "The reincarnation path. They can't accept that the souls of their Universe, and especially the Angel Races, have to pass through the reincarnation path in the Underworld. They want to at least have control over it to prevent them from being soiled by us Devils... or so they believe. For me, that is just another excuse to acquire more power."

Mephisto smiled. "That's correct. Rui acquiring the Underworld Relic didn't really matter. They would attack us sooner or later, and the fact he got the Underworld Relic just accelerated their plans. The Angels just so happened to have something similar in the Heavens, so it wasn't like we could attack them, either. To be more precise, we didn't even want to since all the Light Element Related things there were of little use to us."

"Still, we needed to find a way to get rid of the danger that was the Angels. To that cause, we got Rui on our side while he pretended to still have connections with the Angels. After all, the existence of the Light

Devil Clan was due to the Angels. The same goes for the Dark Angel Clan in the Heavens since we created them."

"The plan was in motion, and now we have over half of all Archangels inside the Underworld. Tell me, is there a better opportunity than this to get rid of most of their forces?" Mephisto asked before continuing. "However, I will admit. I totally didn't expect the Three Powers of the Realm of Gods to suddenly attack us just as the Angels initiated their attacks. It is hard to tell if the Angels are using the Cultivators or the Cultivators are using the Angels. Nonetheless, it gave us a little more trouble than we expected."

"And that's why you agreed with this plan of mine to give birth to a Living Soul Devil, right?" Abaddon didn't need to think much to connect the dots.

Mephisto nodded. "Just like you all, I obviously didn't want that all the Living Souls we collected so far to be used in such a way. If the Realm of Gods didn't attack, we could have saved this great fortune for our races, but alas..."

\*Bang!\*

Suddenly, a devil entered the meeting room in a hurry, taking the Elder Devils by surprise. "Are you looking to die? How dare you barge into this meeting? We told you all that no one was supposed to get in here."

That wasn't the only place it happened. Back in the Underworld, Mephisto had just got a report from one of his subordinates as well. "What?! What the hell did you just say?!"

The devil that entered the meeting in the Realm of Gods also delivered a very similar report. "The angels... the angels are retreating! They are going back to the Angel Realm, all of them!"

Sure enough, exactly the same thing was happening in the Underworld. All the Angels that were protecting the Temporal Path entrance immediately gave up what they were doing and flocked back to the heavens. That also included the Archangels!

Abaddon couldn't help but look at Mephisto. "Is this also part of your plan?"

"Like hell it is!" Mephisto was fuming. "Why?! Just why are the Angels retreating right now?!"

Little did Mephisto know, but the twins had a big hand in this sudden development.

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Chapter 2196: Twist

Mephisto wondered if his plan had been leaked. "How did they find it? No, it doesn't make any sense. Only three Devils knew about it, and none of us would have let our lips slip. None of us would gain anything from it." Mephisto continued to ponder. "Could it be something happened in the Heavens?"

He quickly turned to his subordinate and gave his orders. "Investigate! Find our spies in the Angels' Realm and see what is happening."

"Yes!" The subordinate quickly nodded and left. Still, he found it would be quite hard since it was pretty much impossible to put a spy in the Heavens. The reason for that was obvious. The Angels were just too united for the sake of their races. Even Mephisto could probably count on his hands the number of spies he actually had in there, and that's because they were not angels.

The other Elder Devils did the same until the room was left with only them there, waiting. Kanpishi then looked at Mephisto with other doubts. "Mephisto, what do we do now? If the angels are truly retreating, the Temporal path will be open for use again. I don't know about this plan to eliminate the Archangels, but we definitely can put up a defense against the Realm of Gods' armies."

Mephisto wasn't really in the mood to consider that. "Forget it for now! We will immediately start the attack and try to bring down as many Archangels as possible before they go away!"

Abaddon shook his head. "No can do."

"What did you say?" Mephisto was taken aback. "Are you talking back at me?"

"Hmph!" Abaddon couldn't care less. "You don't have the Underworld Relic anymore. I know you are stronger than me, but not by much. Also, I'm not talking back at you. I'm just not going to join in a sure-to-fail attempt."

Echidna agreed with Abaddon. "Mephisto, first calm down and think about it. Our armies here in the Realm of Gods are still all located at the battlefronts. For your initial plan to work, we would first have to bring the Soul Devil to life. Only after that would we be able to divert our armies to this objective of yours."

Ahriman nodded. "Besides, think about your own strategy. Tell me, are your forces already in a position to initiate this attack of yours? It doesn't matter how I look at it. We simply are not ready to initiate this attack, especially now that the angels are all gathering back at the Temporal Path Entrance to return to Heavens. If anything, their defense will be the highest you could think of."

Asmodeus was also in accord with everyone else. "Our only advantage at the moment is Rui's Underworld Relic. But then again, do you think that will be enough to take the enemies down in this situation where we are not ready? I'll tell you what will happen if we return our armies to the Temporal Path now. The Realm of Gods' forces will immediately storm forward, taking away many of our continents here in our territory. All of that while eating our forces as they retreat to attack the Temporal Path Entrance. In the end, we will find ourselves pincerred between the Realm of Gods and Angels forces."

"This..." Mephisto had to admit they were right. He quickly tried to calm down and decided to accept the other Elder Devils' answers. "You were right. I was being too rushed here. It's just that we had this plan in place for so long that seeing it crumble this easily made me lose my patience."

Suddenly, a Thoughts Transmission Talisman in Mephisto's possession activated. "Hum? This talisman..."

That was a talisman shared between him and Rui, the Light Devil, with the Underworld Relic. He quickly put the talisman on his forehead and allowed the message to reach his mind. "So that's why..."

As Rui was still pretending to be allied with the Angels, he obviously had access to a lot more information near the Temporal Path Entrance than the others.



It turned out that all the angels suddenly lost their will to fight. No, to be more specific, they didn't even understand why they agreed to come to the Underworld in the first place. After inquiring about the issue, Rui found out that it was happening all over the Heavens.

The angels, who before lived for the sake of the Angel Realm and nothing more, now seemed to wake up.

The top experts of the three Higher Realms always knew that something wasn't right with the angels. The angels weren't like that before. They had their own greed and selfish thoughts like any other race. Sure, they were a lot more constrained than the cultivators and devils in this regard, but definitely not as immune as they were until a moment ago.

Now, it seemed like this absolute loyalty to the Heavens was lost, and it was happening everywhere. Knowing that staying in the Underworld was a terrible idea for beings of light like themselves, they all panicked and immediately rushed back to the Temporal Path. That was especially so for the Archangels. With their power, they immediately understood that they were being controlled somehow. They were the very first to go back to the temporal path to guide everyone's return. Rui warned Mephisto that the Archangels were holding the fort together and that attacking now would be a very, very bad idea.

As to how that happened, obviously, it was the Spatial Soul Spectral Oscillation Liquid's effect! The Holamenor Clan might be constrained due to the things that happened in the heavens, but they weren't small. As Spiegel and Waremis returned to the Clan, they summoned everyone and started distributing the Liquid. Obviously, they also released a few drops of the Liquid in their own Clan. A single drop was enough, but they wanted to be sure, at least in their own ranks.

Among the members who got the vials of Spatial Soul Spectral Oscillation Liquid, there were some specific ones that had very clear destinations. One group was going to the Realm of Gods, while the other was going to the Underworld!

Death... and me

Chapter 2197: Get Rid of the Weed

Even though the angels started to retreat, they already had many of their members in the Underworld and Realm of Gods. That said, they took several months to send everyone back, leaving the Temporal Path Behind. Finally, the Devils got a chance to organize in the Underworld and attack the Temporal Path Entrance.

The Angels were in very low numbers already after the majority left. The Archangels themselves didn't see a reason to continue there to guide the last bits of their forces, so they were long gone too. With that, getting rid of the Angels that were left behind was easy, and the Devils soon retook the Temporal Path Entrance.

Back in the Realm of Gods, the cultivators sniffed something wrong in the Temporal Path as well. After finding through their intelligence network that the Angels were retreating back to the Heavens, the cultivators immediately changed their target and sent most of their armies to the Temporal Path Entrance. Above anything else, they couldn't let the Devils take control of it once again.

The Devils, obviously, knew that their lifeline was in the Temporal Path. That said, Abaddon's group immediately took the frontlines to defend it while the Devils prepared to reenter the Realm of Gods. Unfortunately for them, they were truly lacking experts. Even the plan of breeding a Living Soul Devil wouldn't be of much use now since that took time. A Soul Devil wouldn't reach the level of an Elder Devil in just a day.

With so many Divinity Realm experts attacking the entrance at the same time, Abaddon and the others saw themselves forced to retreat further back into the Devils Territories in the Realm of Gods, allowing the entrance of the Temporal Path to fall into the hands of the Realm of Gods experts.

For the first time in countless years, none of the three Higher Realms had full control of the Temporal Path. The Devils controlled their entrance, the cultivators controlled the Realm of Gods, while the Angels obviously wouldn't let their own entrance fall into anyone's hands, even in their actual situation.

Placake positioned himself near the Temporal path with other Divinity Realm experts. The war was far from over, but they now definitely had the upper hand. "Folesve, how is it going?"

Folesve was the head of the Rambram Sect and also a Divinity Realm expert. "I negotiated with the Formations Guild. We have thousands of Formations Masters building a protection formation around the Temporal Path. We will never let it fall into the hands of the Devils again. Of course, the same goes for the angels."

None of the three powers of the Realm of Gods cared about who controlled the Temporal Path between them. After all, it simply led to the Underworld and the Heavens, which were not suitable places for their races to develop. The only thing that mattered was to prevent it from being used by the Angels and Devils to attack the Realm of Gods. In this regard, the three forces had a very good understanding of each other and weren't concerned.

Gludi-otta, a Divinity Realm Spirit, couldn't help but ask. "So, how about we announce the retaking of the Temporal Path? That sure will boost our armies' confidence. Knowing that no more Devils would be able to reinforce the enemies is great news."

Placake, Folesve, and the other Divinity Realm experts agreed with Gludi. "Sounds good enough."

It goes without saying that the news spread in a flash in the Realm of Gods with the help of the communication system. Usually, such a thing would only be known by the Realm after hundreds, if not thousands, of years later. It was simply too hard to reach all the corners in such a gigantic place. But now, it only took a few days for it to spread everywhere you could find a transmission tower of the communication system.

Of course, the majority of the Realm of Gods still didn't have access to the system, but there was no doubt it wouldn't continue like that for long.

A few weeks later, Placake's group saw that the desired effect was achieved. They also received the new version of the communication badge, which was bound to make the war efforts even more operational. The only problem was that since they diverted the armies to attack the Temporal Path, the Devils were given a chance to regroup and create a better defense in their territory.

Fosleve was dealing with a few issues in his room in the city surrounding the temporal path when suddenly, he received a Divine Sense Message. 'Sir, the protection formation is ready to be activated.'

His eyes lit up, and he quickly disappeared from the room. The next thing he saw, he was already far above the city, joined by the demon beasts, cultivators, and spirits at the Divinity Realm. They all received the same piece of news.

Everyone then nodded at Fosleve, who gave the final order. "Activate the Temporal Protection Formation!"

\*Bzzzzzz...\*

A monumental amount of Divine Energy began to move everywhere around the Temporal Path Entrance, big enough to give a shiver to any Divinity Realm expert. In a few minutes, all that energy converged at the center before a Dome-Like Barrier of Divine Energy, Spatial Power, and Elemental restriction took form little by little.

That formation had three main uses. Prevent anyone from destroying it. Seal all Spatial Power of those without permission to use it inside, and above all, completely remove Dark and Light Elements from inside. It is no secret that Devils and Angels need one or another to display their full potential, so how could the cultivators allow such elements to be used in the formation protecting the Temporal Path Entrance?

All races had joined together to pay for the construction of this marvel of a formation. They absolutely wouldn't commit the same mistake and let the Devils or Angels snatch part in their Realm of Gods ever again.

Seeing that everything worked according to the plan, Placake's expression turned serious. "Let's go. Time to get rid of the rest of the weed."

Death... and me

#### Chapter 2198: Heaven's Awakening

Meanwhile, in the Heavens, Arcadia City, countless Angels were gathered around the city. Arcadia City was already the biggest city in the Angels Realm, but it had never had that many Angels staying there at the same time. By now, the city was already over ten times its full capacity, with almost no space whatsoever.

The reason for that was pretty obvious. The Holamenor Clan's first targets were the biggest cities in the Heavens. As the Angels woke up, they obviously noticed how their behavior wasn't as it should be. Of course, the drawback was more severe for the top experts at the Space-Time Realm and above.

That's because once you reach the Space-Time Realm, you are basically immortal. There is no more lifespan. That means most of the Space-Time Realm Angels had been living before the Soul Worms were introduced in the Heavens. They understood better than anyone else just how ridiculously weird their own actions of absolute loyalty to the Heavens had been so far.

Soon, the leaders of their own cities, sects, and organization went out to check everything. They quickly found that others at their level experienced the same thing. After that, they started to check the angels who were born after the introduction of the Soul Worms, which was basically every single angel in the Elemental Space Realm and below. That's how long the Soul Worms had been working.

For those who were born after the Soul Worms, the sudden disappearance of the Soul Worms from their minds didn't make much of a difference. After all, they had been 100% loyal from the moment they were born. Now their minds had been shaped around the loyalty they had lived with their entire lives.

Yet, most of them soon noticed something wasn't quite right. Sure, they were still loyal to the Heavens, but their passion for its overall well-being simply wasn't as strong.

The first noticeable changes started during training inside the Angel Beast Territories. Just like any other realm, adventuring into these places was a great way to develop one's strength, and angels were no different. However, when the Soul Worms were in place, the angels considered their companions to be of utmost importance.

There was no such thing as giving one of their party members to save oneself in moments of danger. They always did everything in their power to make sure everyone could come back alive. That often led to many deaths as their loyalty couldn't forgive them for dumping their companions.

Yet, now, situations where Angels were caught in perilous situations still happened, but their companions started to have second thoughts. Was it really worth risking their lives to save someone who was pretty much guaranteed to be dead? First of all, why should they do that if they barely met each other to make these groups of exploration?

In the end, although it was still pretty rare, several angel groups broke apart when the push came to shove. Even the angels themselves were surprised by their own actions, knowing that they never felt fear of dying as long as it was for the sake of others. Now they did.

That was one such situation. There were resources distribution that had always been equal to all sides, regardless of the contribution of each member of the group. Now, when such parties returned from their exploration of ruins, beasts' territories, dimensional realms, and things like that, the feeling of getting more than others obviously appeared in their minds.

Soon, fights about who contributed the most should get the best amount began to happen right and left. If anything, these fights turned out even more fierce than you would see in the Underworld or the Realm of Gods. The reason for that was simple. Different from the other two Higher Realms, these Angels had never experienced greed. They didn't know how to deal with it. Rage that would usually be in check in the minds of Devils or Cultivators was simply let loose as the Angels felt it for the first time in their lives.

It didn't take long until the Space-Time Realm and above angels, who had lived in the time when Soul Worms didn't exist, understand that something or someone had tampered with their minds. They quickly began to spread the message, warning everyone in their fields of influence of their discovery.

That led to the situation in Arcadia City. Even the Archangels themselves, like Gabriel, began to seek answers. It was obvious that they now had an entire Angel Realm that was growing impatient as the angels started to realize the problems. They themselves wanted to know how they ended like that.

It was during one of these days in Arcadia City when the Archangels gathered with many of the Space-Time Experts to investigate exactly that. Obviously, all the angels who could afford or had the means to go to Arcadia also came to see why things were like that. As for the attack on the Underworld, they couldn't care less about it at the moment.

All the Twelve Archangels, the pillars of the Angel Realm, gathered around a round table. There were obviously a few others who were not part of the original twelve archangels, but they reached that realm as the years went by. As for the Space-Time Angels, they gathered near it but didn't approach the table. In their case, there were over a hundred at the moment. It wouldn't be wrong to say that 90% or more of the top experts of the entire Heavens were in Arcadia at the moment.

"Is everyone here?" Gabriel started the meeting while looking at everyone with a grave expression.

Haniel, one of the twelve originals, immediately shook his head. "No, we are missing one Archangel."

Everyone looked around, and it was true. One Archangel was missing. Still, it wasn't one of the twelve. Gabriel narrowed his eyes as he knew who Haniel was talking about. However... "I... still don't know what his name is."

Death... and me

## Chapter 2199: Let's Start

"But we do know that he is related to everything that has happened," said a voice within the Space-Time Realm angels. The other Space-Time Angels looked at the owner of that voice with surprise, seeing that he stopped the talk of the Archangels.

Yet, the Angel didn't mind it and simply stepped forward. On his side, an Elemental Space Realm angel followed with a serious expression on his face.

Gabriel narrowed his eyes as he looked at the Space-Time Realm angel. Yet, for some reason, he felt that the real pressure came from the Elemental Space Realm Angel instead. "I know all the forces that Space-Time Realm experts within it. You are Spiegel from the Holamenor Clan, isn't that correct? As for the Angel on your side... I can feel some familiarity from him."

He was right. Spiegel was the one to step forward. Obviously, the guy on his side was Waremis, the real leader of the Holamenor Clan. "Hehe, Gabriel, Gabriel... It's been so long that you can't even recognize my aura anymore? I'm a Holamenor Clan member, so who do you think I am?"

Gabriel opened his eyes wide. There was only one Angel of the Holamenor Clan that could talk to him like that. "I see... It's been a long time indeed, Waremis. I still remember that you died. Still, it seems like you were lucky enough to reincarnate back in your clan. I wonder what price you paid to get this opportunity."

Some of the newer Archangels didn't know Waremis, but the twelve original definitely knew. Sandalphon obviously was one of them. "Waremis, you died after this situation turned out like this. I still remember how you tried to wake us up but to no success. Yet, here we are today. Our minds coming back to normal... does it have something to do with you?"

Waremis nodded as he pulled a seat from the sides and joined the round table, not caring about his much lower cultivation at all. Spiegel only stood on his side, pretending to not notice the weird expression of the other angels around.

Following that, Waremis took twelve vials of his Dimensional Realm before throwing one to each of the Archangels. "It was me, indeed. And the liquid in these vials is the reason that you were all released from your prison."

"What is this?" Gabriel asked as he opened the vial. Slowly but surely, the liquid inside began to evaporate. Gabriel could tell how it was merging with space itself, spreading in a flash everywhere. He quickly closed it, looking at Waremis and waiting for an explanation.

"It's called Spatial Soul Spectral Oscillation Liquid," said Waremis. "You can thank me already. It was because of this thing that my clan is now able to awaken all the angels in the Heavens. This liquid is capable of killing the soul worms inside everyone's mind and making them completely immune to those things."

"Soul... Worms?" None of the angels in the room liked that name at all. Naturally, a lot of whispers began to fly right and left, making the room quite loud.

Gabriel intervened. "Everyone, silence. I'm sure Waremis here will explain everything."

Waremis nodded and began. "First of all, the reason I died... and let's not forget you, the Twelve Archangels, helped to kill me, was because of this mind washing. It simply didn't work on me because, as you already know, my Holamenor Clan is slightly different from the other Angel Races. This subtle difference was what made us have a high resistance to the Soul Worms, which were created to match the souls of Angels."

Gabriel nodded. "I see. So, what are Soul Worms, and how did you find out about it?"

Waremis continued. "To explain that, I will have to talk about the Ruins of the Stars we had just explored." Waremis then began to explain his time there with Spiegel. How he entered with the twins, separated from them, just to meet them again inside the Spaceship. Last but not least, how the twins helped him to examine an angel they had captured and found out about the Soul Worms thanks to the advanced technology of the ship. Last but not least, how the twins helped him manufacture the Spatial Soul Spectral Oscillation Liquid. Of course, in his words, Rean and Roan were an Angel and a Devil. He didn't tell who they really were.

Yet, he never mentioned the Fragment of the Universe Foundation. He felt he owed the twins that much, so he kept quiet. Besides, he didn't really see if the twins acquired the fragments in the end or not. "And that's basically everything." Right after, Waremis waved his hand, summoning thousands of vials and throwing them at all the Angels in the room.



"My Holamenor Clan did its best to reach the most populous places in the Heavens. Yet, there is only so much we can do with our numbers. The Heavens are just too big, so we will need everyone's help to get rid of the Soul Worms that have been spreading in our Angel Realm during all these years." Waremis also warned them. "Remember, a single drop is enough to kill and make the hosts immune to the Soul Worms within a space of two million kilometers. No need to exaggerate."

\*Bang!\*

Suddenly, Cassiel slammed the table. "Who says you have nothing to do with all of this?"

Waremis shrugged his shoulders. "I can see you are also back to normal, Cassiel. What, are you going to use your Archangel Realm strength to deal with me now that I'm just a puny Elemental Space Realm Angel? Go ahead. I've already achieved my objective and awakened the angels. I have no more regrets."

Cassiel gritted his teeth and sat down once again. "Pardon my outburst. It's just that I had been under the influence of this forced loyalty for so long that I'm quite distressed."

Gabriel nodded, understanding Cassiel's feelings. "We are all the same, Cassiel. Well, you had always been the most impatient of the twelve of us, so I was impressed you held that long." Gabriel then looked back at Waremis. "We owe you big for getting rid of the Soul Worms in our souls. Also, even though we were being controlled, it is a fact that we helped kill you back when we were taken by the Soul Worms. For that, I apologize. Now... do you know anything about that Archangel? Even we don't know his name."

Waremis shook his head. "I tried my best during all these years, but I've never been able to find anything about him. But then again, he had all of you in his hand, so it wasn't like I could move as I wished. Now that you are all back to normal, I guess it is time for us to start sharing information. That said, let's start."

Death... and me

Chapter 2200: We Have a Winner!

Waremis looked at Gabriel, asking, "So, I know that during the time you were under the influence of the Soul Worm, you spent quite some time with him. What do you know about the guy? Remember, we still don't know if he is really the mastermind behind what happened, but I'm pretty sure that he is involved."

Gabriel sighed in response. "That's the problem. He had me do a lot of things, especially during this plan to take over the Underworld to control the Reincarnation Path. Yet, he had never revealed anything about himself. The way I was thinking, I simply trusted him because he was an Angel."

Gabriel asked the others. "What about the rest of you? Does anyone know anything about him? I don't even know where he lives."

Regardless if it was the Archangels or the Space-Time Realm Angels, they were completely silent. It was obvious that the situation was the same for everyone in the room. First of all, they didn't even think about investigating another Angel when the soul worms were there.

Waremis wasn't that surprised, though. "Alright, let's start with what I know. As I told you, I couldn't do much, but it wasn't like I didn't find anything. I was killed by you all due to the fact that I was considered a betrayer. Of course, I was no such thing. It's just that he found out that the Soul Worms didn't work on me."

"While I was still alive as an Archangel, I investigated his origins. I was getting close to an answer when he noticed my actions which led to my demise. It turns out he did not come from the Angel Realm," Waremis told everyone. "That's why we had no information about him and his journey to become an Archangel. Because he never cultivated in the Heavens to start with."

Gabriel and the others were surprised by that. "Not from Heavens? No, wait. It does make sense now that I think about it. We have a tight grasp on all the angels in the Space-Time Realm for obvious reasons. They don't have lifespans anymore, so every single one of them is a potential Archangel. Yet, there is no information about him as a Space-Time Realm Angel. When he appeared, he was already an Archangel."

Waremis nodded. "That's the conclusion I reached back then. Then here comes the question, if he was not from Heavens, where was he from? I went deeper into this investigation, hoping to find an answer. In the end, I found something ridiculous. To be honest, I have doubts about whether I'm right or not. It turns out he is not from the Realm of Gods, much less the Underworld. Yet, he wasn't from the Heavens either."

Gabriel narrowed his eyes in response. "None of the Three Higher Realms? That pretty much leaves us with one choice, right?"

The other Archangels knew what Gabriel was talking about. "So he was someone from the Vruve Organization."

But it was then that Raphael, another Archangel, noticed something strange. "Wait, that doesn't make sense. Waremis just said that he reached a ridiculous conclusion. I don't know about you, but I definitely know the Vruve Organization is very powerful, powerful enough to rival any of the Three Higher Realms. Simply put, knowing that this angel came from the Vruve Organization wouldn't be that much of a surprise since we know he wasn't from the Heavens. Still, Waremis said it was a ridiculous conclusion. Both options don't match."

Waremis was happy to hear that. "Seems like you are still quite good at reading the underlines, Raphael. That's correct. He wasn't from the Vruve Organization Either. And before you ask, no, he wasn't someone from outside our Universe either."

They all had witnessed Waremis' explanation of the foreign living being he met in the Spaceship, so quite a few of them thought of the possibility of the mysterious Archangel being someone from outside. Yet, Waremis denied that idea before anyone could even utter it.

"Alright, so he is not from the three Higher Realms. He also isn't part of the Vruve Organization, nor did he come from outside the Universe. If that's the case, where did he come from?" Azrael asked. "Don't tell me he lived in the void and cultivated his entire life there."

Waremis shook his head. "The void does have some Divine Energy available and a tiny bit of Light Element, but its laws are incomplete. You couldn't possibly hope to become an Archangel while staying in the void. Here is the ridiculous part I told you about. If I'm not wrong, and I admit this is quite far-fetched, he came from the other half of our Universe."

"What?!" Immediately, shock appeared on the face of the twelve Archangels and a few others who knew what Waremis was talking about. "That's absolutely impossible! Ever since the calamity all the way back, the two sides have been completely severed apart! No one has come or gone there ever since." Obviously, he didn't know about the twins and the Soul Gem System.

Waremis was the one to sigh this time. "I told you, didn't I? Even I quite don't believe my findings."

Liran, another Archangel, couldn't help but ask. "I don't want to doubt you, Waremis, especially since you were our savior. Still, could you tell us how did you find such a thing?"

Waremis nodded before pulling out a transparent cube from his Dimensional Realm. "Do you know what it is?"

Most of the angels immediately recognized it. "That's a Star Chart, isn't it?"

Waremis nodded. "That's correct. This is indeed a star chart. However, it is different from ours." Right after, Waremis activated the star chart. Everyone focused their Divine Senses on the chart, which allowed them to see the chart inside.

Sure enough, they could now use it to guide themselves in the void... or so they were expecting. "This star chart makes no sense..."

Waremis smiled in response. "That's because this star chart is not from our half of the Universe but the other half instead. Above all, this chart was made only a few million years ago. Now, who here wanna guess where I got this thing?"

No one there was an idiot. Still, Gabriel was the first one to say it. "You got it from that Archangel without a name."

"We have a winner!" Waremis joked with a little sarcasm.