

Death 651

Death... and me

Chapter 651: Shameless King

Roan then showed her a solemn expression before saying.

"I'll be direct. This is not the right time to have children, and that time won't come anytime soon. That being said, I will now send my Dark Element inside to stop the process."

Calina was taken aback as she took a few steps back, asking.

"Are you telling me that you will kill our child?"

Franklin, Agis, and Malaka looked at Roan after that, thinking of the same thing. Was he really that cold?

Roan shook his head as he replied.

"Don't worry. At the moment, you haven't been fertilized yet."

Naturally, that puzzled everyone.

"But, didn't you just say-"

Roan cut Calina in the middle of her question as he explained.

"What I said was that this is your most fertile period, not that you would get pregnant straight away. You guys don't know it because you have never lived in modern society. Anyway, that doesn't matter at the moment. What you need to know is that your 'egg' has to meet my sperm first, and then it has to break the barrier of the egg for it to get fertilized. This process takes around 24 hours. Before that happens, there's no such thing as a child."

Roan then continued.

"What I'm going to do is simply kill my sperm, not a kid since a kid doesn't really exist at the moment. Not to mention that even if I don't do it, there's a good chance that it wouldn't work anyway since it's all based on probability."

Calina sighed in relief as she soon asked.

"So you're preventing it from happening and not really killing a new life, right?"

Roan nodded as he responded.

"If you don't believe me, you can ask Rean about it. He also lived in modern society before, so he knows it as well as I do."

Calina nodded, allowing Roan to do what he wanted. After all, she wasn't an idiot. It was obviously a terrible moment to start a family. Roan then touched Calina's belly as his hair changed into a mix of white and black. After all, he had to use Rean's Light Element to protect Calina's organs. He wasn't as good as Rean with it, but he could slowly work in this process.

However, it was then that he received a Soul Message from Rean.

'Hey! I didn't bother you when you were having fun a few hours ago. Can you not interrupt me?'

Roan's mouth twitched as he hastily replied.

'Why would I care about you having sex? If I'm using your Light Element, that's because I need it, idiot! Just focus on your girl there and leave me alone. I'll stop it once I'm done on my side.'

'Fine! But next time, warn me beforehand.'

Roan's Spiritual Sense soon entered Calina's body and focused on his own sperm in her womb. Soon after, he covered her organs in Light Element before using his Dark element to attack the sperm. Sure enough, the process was slow but precise. He completely killed every single sperm inside, making sure to check the entire extent of both paths.

As he did that, Frandin, Agis, Malaka, and Calina took the chance to ask more about his words from before.

"Can you tell us more about it? We didn't even know that women had eggs. How come no one on this side of the Universe saw these eggs you talked about?"

Roan didn't mind as he answered.

"Obviously. A woman's egg measures around 100 micrometers. And that's considering that a woman's egg, or ovum in simpler terms, is one of the largest cells in the body."

"Mi-Micrometer? How big is a micrometer?"

Roan looked at them and sighed after that.

He then drew on the ground a small line that measured just one centimeter. He also used his Spiritual Energy to mark equal ten sections of that same centimeter. After that, he gave a quick explanation.

"Can you see those ten sections?"

Everyone nodded as they waited for Roan to continue.

"The total length of these ten sections is one centimeter. If it's just one of these sections, that's called a millimeter. It's small, right? Well, an ovum is just one-tenth of that size. That's a woman's egg. It's truly big when you compare it to normal cells like red blood cells."

After that, Calina and the other began to ask even more questions, which Roan explained little by little as he kept manipulating the elements inside Calina's womb. They came to understand what cells were and that it was far from being the smallest things that existed. As one could imagine, they had a very hard time believing Roan's words.

Roan wasn't surprised since very few races on the other side of the Universe even knew about it. Nevertheless, Roan believed that there would definitely be races in this side of the Universe that knew about it as well. It's just that they had been inside 'medieval' planets until now.

"Atoms...to think that everything in the Universe was made of these things, even ourselves."

Eventually, Roan finished his work before getting up again as he said.

"Alright, you can ask Rean more about it later. For now, take your time and process this information. After all, I don't expect you to understand the scale of how things work straight away. Humans back on Rean's planet, on the other side, would only learn about it gradually in the passage of academic years. Just understand that I'm not lying. This really is how things work. Well, not that it would make too much of a difference to you at the moment."

Calina then looked at her belly with a sad expression as she muttered.

"Even though I know we didn't reach the point of creating a new life, it still feels wrong."

Roan didn't refute that as he responded.

"That's up to how you see the world. At the moment, I only see it as the correct action due to our current situation."

Malaka smiled before asking.

"So you're saying that if we were in a safe position, you wouldn't intervene, huh?"

Calina and the others immediately looked at Roan. Indeed, his words really implicated that he, in fact, wanted a child as well.

Roan narrowed his eyes in response as he asked.

"It seems like you're all quite free at the moment, huh?"

Vup!

Sure enough, everyone dispersed like the wind when they heard Roan's words.

Roan snorted after that before returning to the Spiritual Energy Gathering Formation room to work on his Soul Mark.

Rean, not wanting to lose to Roan, spent quite a few hours mingling with Qia. He kept using his Light Element to remove his exhaustion. That being said, he really didn't hold back at all, much to Qia's mix of despair and happiness. When they finally came out, Qia was even worse off than Calina was.

Of course, he understood the same principle as Roan, so he also made sure that Qia wouldn't get pregnant either.

As Qia stayed back and rest, the two other girls went inside the room to talk with her.

In Rean's case, he had his Light Element, so he went back to work straight away. In the end, he only stopped because Qia couldn't hold for much longer...and because his Light Element couldn't really replenish his 'ammunition.' Even though he had the Light Element, it could never fix that problem of eventually becoming dry...

Frandin and Agis then came to the workshop to help him out. Of course, they looked at him as if they were expecting something.

"What?"

Agis put his arm around Rean's shoulder before asking.

"Hey, Roan told us everything. Isn't it about time for you to share your experiences as well? That's what brothers should do."

Rean narrowed his eyes as he looked at Agis as he asked.

"Since when did we become brothers? As far as I remember, we had quite the feud against each other before coming to this planet."

Agis laughed, not minding at all.

"It's fine, it's fine! That's all water under the bridge. What matters is the future! So, are you going to open your mouth and talk?"

Frandin couldn't help but follow Agis' example as he continued.

"Exactly, brother! We Zafins are related to humans, so I'm also very curious to hear what went different during your fun time. You can't possibly leave your brothers in the dark, right?"

Rean's mouth twitched in response. Frandin never acted that close before either.

"Aren't you two being way too shameless?"

Agis shrugged his shoulders as he looked up. There wasn't anything there, but he spoke anyway.

"Hey, Sister Orb. You definitely saw everything, right? Don't you agree that our brother here should be more open about what happened?"

Sure enough, Sister Orb's voice echoed in Frandin, Agis, and Rean's minds not long after that.

[Hahaha! How come you've become so likable all of a sudden, Agis? Well, that doesn't matter. I'm also in favor of sharing experiences. Don't worry. If Rean doesn't do that, I will. I'll make it even better by directly sharing the images I recorded into your minds.]

Rean felt like crying but had no tears.

"How can you record someone's private moment like that?!"

Sister Orb wasn't tricked by Rean's 'rightness,' though.

[Oh...are you telling me that you aren't interested in seeing how Roan acted? After all, how can you compare your performance with his?]

Rean's heart skipped a bit after hearing that as his expression instantly changed.

"Ahem...sharing one's experience is good for improving everyone's actions. Of course, as a person who came from a modern world, I know that very well. How could I not share my knowledge with my beloved brothers?"

Agis and Frandin instantly became speechless as they simultaneously thought.

'Aren't we supposed to be the shameless ones here? Sorry, brother, but you definitely take the cake for being the shameless king.'

Death... and me

Chapter 652: Let's Go There

If one didn't consider the three idiots, everything proceeded smoothly from that point onwards. Rean began to use the Earth Peak Level materials he still had in the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm to make even more weapons. Weapons were quickly sold, so he prioritized them.

Of course, other than that, Rean also finished crafting his first Light Element Gathering Equipment a week later. As mentioned in the past, he wanted Agis to try and use it with his own Light and Spiritual Sense Bending Skill.

"Alright, Agis. I made a bracelet that can use the Light Element as long as you infuse Spiritual Energy inside. It can't compare to the amount that Roan and I can gather, but it should be enough for a test."

Agis nodded and then asked Rean.

"So, how does your Spiritual Sense and Light Bending Skill work?"

Rean smiled brightly after hearing that question as he placed a hand on Agis's shoulder. For some reason, Agis felt a chill on his back.

"It's great that you asked. Come with me, it's time for you to start your studies. Without the knowledge of what Light really is, it'll be impossible for you to manipulate it."

Rean then looked at Frandin as well, saying.

"You will come along as well. After all, you have Lightning Element Affinity, which is also a Yang Energy type. Once you obtain a Lightning cultivation technique that allows you to use Yang Energy, you'll be able to do it as well."

Frandin bitterly smiled in response before following Rean together with Agis. For the next few days, Rean had to consistently carve in their heads what energy really was, the fact that Light was also a source of energy, and that it was made of photons. Of course, that was just the beginning. He also had to provide his own concept that Spiritual Sense had Life Force. Inanimate objects couldn't use Spiritual Sense, which was the trick for the Spiritual Sense Bending part.

Qia, who had used the Electrical Formations with Rean for a long time, joined his class out of her own volition. Then again, that was the first time that Rean went through the finer details. He especially taught her how Electricity worked and how he applied its uses with Spiritual Energy. Qia couldn't help but feel a headache when she began studying what atoms, and especially what electrons were.

Of course, it wasn't as if Rean was a scientist who knew everything. His knowledge was due to the Electrical Formations Repository in the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm. Everything was explained there perfectly. Nevertheless, Rean could understand that easily because of his origin. For Qia, Frandin, and Agis... they probably wished to have a few life and death battles instead.

As for Malaka and Calina, they kept themselves as far as possible from Rean. Otherwise, they would be dragged into all of that—especially Malaka, who hated studying since the three were in the Varen Tribe.

Fortunately, Rean didn't need to teach Agis the entire academic curriculum, only the parts that mattered about his Light and Spiritual Sense Bending.

Eventually, after another week and a half, Rean considered that Agis had obtained a basic grasp of what he needed.

"Alright, this should be enough. Put on your bracelet and try to bend Light first. Use your Spiritual Energy to charge the bracelet and your Yang Energy to control it. Light is made up of photons. Although you can't really 'see' what a photon looks like, it's definitely there. It's because of it that your eyes even work. Light Element can obviously be used to control them."

Agis nodded before taking in a deep breath. Soon after, he poured his Spiritual Energy into Rean's bracelet, which immediately began to gather the Light Element from the surroundings. Following that, Agis activated his Fire Cultivation Technique and used the Yang Energy it proportioned to control the Light Element instead.

Rean looked at that and nodded, satisfied. At the very least, Agis understood how to use the Light Element with his Yang Energy. He truly lived up to his Red Color Aptitude.

Suddenly, Agis's body began to turn blurry, as if it was a mirage. However, a few seconds later, it went back to normal as Agis gasped for air.

"Holy shit! This thing is incredibly difficult."

Rean laughed out loud, already expecting this much.

"Hahaha! Of course, it's hard. However, I'm impressed that you were able to partially control it during your first time. There's no doubt you wasted more than 90% of the Light Element gathered by your bracelet, but that's something you will need to train alone."

Rean then noticed Agis' thoughtful expression and asked.

"It seems like you finally believe the things I taught you, huh?"

Agis was taken aback before scratching his head in embarrassment. Sure enough, even though Rean tried to explain it in much detail as possible, his words were too hard to believe for someone from the cultivation world. Only after Agis controlled the Light Element, just like how Rean told him to, did he finally understand that everything was real.

"Sorry...it was just too...how do I put it...mystical. But now, I understand it."

Rean didn't mind it.

"Anyway, since you're already at it, you might as well try the Spiritual Sense Bending Technique. Remember, Spiritual Sense can only be used by living beings. That being said, they all have life force. Without Life Force, there's no Spiritual Sense."

"Think about Spiritual Sense as wind, and the person using it as the source of that wind. Your job is to create a smooth barrier that will deflect the Spiritual Sense to the sides without perturbing it. As I mentioned, the closer you are to that source, the stronger their wind. Naturally, it becomes harder to bend Spiritual Sense. In contrast, you will feel the opposite effect from when someone with higher cultivation scans you. Instead of not noticing it because your cultivation is a lot lower, his Spiritual Sense will instead shine like the sun for you. Of course, that also means that he can break through your Spiritual Sense Bending Barrier easier."

Agis nodded before beginning to try it out. This time, however, Agis failed many, many times. There was no helping it. After all, Spiritual Sense was completely different from simple Light.

Rean wasn't in a hurry, though. Agis already knew everything he should to improve. Rean then left Agis alone before returning to the workshop. After all, he wanted to finish forging at least seven or eight weapons by the time the next monthly auction started.

Agis took a total of two weeks to barely succeed in his first Spiritual Sense bending. Of course, his own mastery of the skill was at a very low level that even Frandin's Spiritual Sense, which was quite weak due to his cultivation, could pierce through his barrier. Nevertheless, with that one success, Agis finally grasped the principle behind it.

Rean was happy and curious at the same time. Agis had a very high talent and could comprehend things very quickly. If he already took this long to achieve the most basic level, he wondered how long someone else would take.

'Well, Frandin's far from being as talented as Agis, so I'll get an idea once he finds a Yang Energy cultivation technique.'

Suddenly, Roan entered Rean's workshop and looked at the people helping him make the weapons. Calina and the others obviously looked at him as one of them asked.

"What is it?"

Roan then pointed at Calina first before saying.

"Come, we have work to do."

Calina's expression went bright red as her imagination went on overdrive. However...

"After I'm done with you, send me Qia. Malaka's the next one. After her, it will be Agis and Frandin last."

Rean laughed as he understood what Roan was talking about.

"So you finally finished comprehending Soul Power, huh? Well, a certain someone definitely had the wrong idea just now."

Calina looked angrily at Rean as she replied.

"Shut up! You don't know what I thought at all."

Everyone smirked as they looked straight at Calina. Only an idiot...or Roan, wouldn't understand what passed through her head.

"Stop wasting my time and come. I need to revise your own Soul Power to finish your training schedule."

Calina didn't need to hear that twice before she stormed away. Indeed, she couldn't hold the pressure.

Around thirty minutes later, Calina came back and told Qia to go see Roan. Just like that, the guys went to see Roan one after another, leaving only Rean without that.

Obviously, that puzzled Qia and the others. Eventually, one of them asked him.

"Rean, aren't you going to work on your new training schedule?"

Rean shook his head as he replied.

"There's no need. Roan and I can share our memories and feelings as long as we allow them to pass through our Soul Connection. I simply handed him everything I understood about my own Soul Power, and he already passed to me back how I should work on it. Didn't you notice yet? The way I'm applying the elements into the weapons I'm crafting with my Soul Power has already changed a little."

Qia nodded as she said.

"Oh! That's why I felt like the flow of Soul Power around your hands seemed somewhat different. I see. By the way, is it possible to use Soul Power on the weapons as well?"

Rean shrugged his shoulders as he responded.

"Probably. After all, we saw that altar in the Rank Five Bloodline Trial Grounds. However, I'm still far away from being able to do it. Instead, I'm just using my Soul Power to have an easier time controlling the Elements. It helps a lot with forging and everything else."

Frandin, who wasn't in the room, came back sometime later.

"Rean, Roan. Isn't it time to go back to the Asume Clan?"

The two looked at him and had to admit that he was right.

"That's true. Let's go there."

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Chapter 653: He Truly Does

No one knew what happened to Frandin's group after the Imperial Guardians got involved. For the Portin Clan, they thought that Frandin and the others were probably captured even though they didn't know why. The Asume Clan was also informed by the Imperial Guardians that they would be looking into Frandin's case.

However, the fact was that no one knew for sure if there really was a problem with Frandin's group or not. The fact that they got no other news from them was also a reason for them to not hastily jump to conclusions.

At the Asume Clan, Xiria's parents heard about that and insisted that she should take the healing pill. After all, it was too strange for the Imperial Guardians to get involved. They thought that she was being fooled. Well, in a certain way, they weren't wrong. Nevertheless, Xiria insisted that until they obtained concrete information from the Imperial Guardians, stating that Frandin was not who he said, she would not take it. She convinced them by simply saying that she can wait until the pill that kept the poison at bay was gone. If Frandin was not back by then, she could simply take the healing pill.

In the end, Xiria was just way too unwilling to give up that chance. She was obviously worried that everything might have all been a fraud. However, the power that Frandin displayed, even though his talent was worse than his five opponents, was the real deal. No one, Ancestor Sumeri included, could deny that. Well, Xiria's patience paid off in the end...

In the meeting hall, Laun talked with a few elders of the Asume Clan when out of nowhere, a subordinate came in a rush as he shouted.

"Clan Head, It's Gian Torio! He came back!"

"What?!"

Everyone looked at the guy in dismay. Wasn't Gian Torio being investigated by the Imperial Guardians? How come he's here right now? What happened?

Laun was obviously the one with the worst expression. After all, he hoped that Gian(Frandin) wouldn't come back so that his daughter would be set free.

"Let's go and see him. I want to know exactly what he's up to. If he doesn't explain himself regarding the incident involving the Imperial Guardians, then he can dream about bringing my daughter away."

The subordinate let out a bit of sweat before continuing.

"That's not all. Gian Torio and his humans are also being accompanied by an Imperial Guardian. Not only that, but the Imperial Guardian seems to be very respectful to Gian."

Those words fell like a lightning bolt in Laun's head. Didn't that mean that the Imperial Guardians had already confirmed his identity? They didn't know if Gian was really part of a Celestial Land or not. However, the fact the Imperial Guardians were acting like that very much confirmed that Gian had a very high status.

Laun, Xiria, and a few other elders soon arrived at the hall and saw Frandin walking over. On his side, one could really see an Imperial Guardian. To be more specific, that was none other than Clad Palif, Firmel's son.

Roan knew that after the incident at the auction house, the Portin and Asume Clan would be suspicious of them. That being said, he needed to reassure them of their 'identities.' That's why they went to see Firmel first and asked for an Imperial Guardian to follow them. Clad was also part of the Imperial Guardian of the Trial Grounds, so he immediately volunteered himself.

Frandin saw Laun on the other side and laughed out loud as he said.

"Oh, long time no see, senior. I hope I didn't make you wait too long. As you can see, we had to go through a few procedures with the Imperial Guardians of the Trial Grounds."

Clad then came forward as he looked at Laun and the others with a serious expression, saying.

"I'm just here to confirm that we finished our investigation about young master Gian. Due to the difficulties of the situation, we can't reveal more than that. However, there's no need for your clan or the Portin Clan to worry about it. I just hope you will treat young master Gian with respect."

Laun bitterly smiled as he nodded, replying.

"Of-Of course...we treated Gian very well during his stay here, and we don't intend to do any different now."

Clad nodded before looking back at Gian as he said.

"Young Master Gian, I have concluded my part here. I'm going to inform the Portin Clan as well so that no misunderstandings remain. For some reason, those idiots thought that you were doing something wrong."

Frandin laughed as if he didn't care about it, saying.

"Hahaha! That's fine, that's fine. If I were in their shoes, I would be a little suspicious as well. That's what a clan should do if they want to exist for a long time. Well, Clad, thank you for your help. Give my regards to Imperial Guardian Firmel. His hospitality was very welcome during this time."

Clad smiled and nodded, replying.

"I'm sure father will be glad to hear it."

Clad then turned around and left the building. He was already informed by Rean about the 'test' they were going through and that they would be using it to catch the Soul Rulers' attention.

Frandin then looked at Laun and was just about to talk when out of nowhere, someone else arrived in the hall.

"Young Master Gian, it's good to see you again."

Obviously, that was none other than Xiria. She had arrived some time ago, but she didn't come out before her father had finished talking with the Imperial Guardian. Naturally, she was relieved to see that there were no issues with Gian's group. Otherwise, the Imperial Guardians definitely wouldn't be that polite to them.

Laun narrowed his eyes but didn't say anything. In the end, he had no cards to use and stop Gian from coming here anymore.

Xiria's mother arrived right after. After all, she wanted to see what her daughter would choose. She and Laun tried to convince her many times to give up the idea. But in the end, she was an adult already. If she was determined to leave, they really couldn't stop her.

Frandin didn't seem to care about the extra Zasfins in the hall before asking, "Now then, I only came back to keep my part of the deal."

He then looked at Xiria with a solemn expression and continued, "I told you before, and I will repeat it once more. This journey will be dangerous. Chances are that you might die during training or during

missions. Believe me, my elders are anything but easygoing when it comes to our development. Even I lost count of how many times I was almost sent to the next world. The pill I gave you isn't fake. As long as you take it, the poison, your body will be fully healed, and our deal will be over here. There's no need to worry about me holding a grudge or anything either."

Frandin put a lot of weight in his words, making sure that the message went through. Xiria's parents and the others already knew about it, but they couldn't help but feel impressed with Gian's lifestyle. Perhaps, only someone who lived on the edge day by day could reach a level like his. His talent was inferior, but he was stronger than their top geniuses.

Xiria then looked at her parents, who obviously seemed unwilling to let her take such a risk. However, everything that was supposed to be talked about had already been talked about. She then took a deep breath and passed Gian a bottle with a pill.

"Did you know my father tried to replicate this pill? That way, even if I gave this back to you, I could keep another one if I decided to leave on my own someday."

Laun was taken aback by his daughter's words. Why would she say that?

Roan couldn't help but mentally smirk. Copy his antidote pill? Sure, you just need to find someone with both Light and Dark Elemental Affinity. Good luck finding one.

Frandin, on the other hand, just laughed as he said.

"Hahaha! Obvious! Who else wouldn't try to examine my pill? However, I had never been afraid of someone copying it. His only chance was to talk with the alchemist who created it and ask him to do that. Otherwise, it would be near impossible to copy. You simply have no idea how peculiar this pill is."

Laun sighed after hearing that. Of course, he knew that. The clan's alchemists looked into the pill day and night. But in the end, they all gave up. They simply couldn't understand the principle behind the pill. The worst part was that they couldn't afford to break it for analysis. After all, if Gian didn't come back, that would be Xiria's only salvation. Well...even if they did, it wouldn't lead them anywhere.

Xiria smiled after hearing that. Somehow, she already expected that Gian wouldn't care about it. Nevertheless, if she was really embarking on this journey, she had to be straightforward with him and his group.

"I accept. I've also already prepared everything I needed, so we can leave at any time."

Frandin nodded with satisfaction. However, he also noticed something off.

"How come I can't see you carrying any luggage?"

Xiria giggled a little before she lifted her sleeve so that only Frandin would be able to see. In an instant, Frandin was taken aback. Xiria was using none other than the Spatial Bracelet that was acquired during the last auction! He did remember that the bracelet was won by the Lamal and Asume Clan. However, the two clans had to first reach a compromise to see who would have the bracelet in the end. After that, Laun would have to convince the others to let Xiria have it. One could just imagine how many hurdles Laun had to pass through to give it to her.

"Your father really loves you."

Xiria nodded as she replied.

"He truly does."

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Chapter 654: Does He Look Excited?

Laun sighed after that and didn't say anything else. It was obvious that his daughter was dead set on accompanying him in this journey. Besides, he had to admit that the Imperial Guardian's presence a moment ago eased his worries a little. At the very least, it didn't seem like Gian was a fraud.

Frandin then passed another pill bottle to Xiria with many pills that kept the poison at bay. There was enough for months in a row that Roan prepared with his free time.

Following that, Frandin changed the topic as he asked.

"By the way, Senior Laun. Did you find any Yang Energy Lightning Cultivation Technique?"

At this point, Laun already didn't care that much as he nodded while replying.

"Yes, but we only we able to procure a single one."

Laun then threw a jade slip to Frandin, who just smiled and put that away.

"Thank you."

He was obviously very curious about the technique, but he had to keep up his play. Besides, he would need Rean and Roan's help to revise it with him.

"Alright. We'll be back in a few days. We still have a few things to deal with in the city before calling the Soul Rulers over. We'll let you know when the time comes."

Xiria nodded before accompanying him to the exit. Following that, Rean and Roan put everyone into the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm before leaving the city. The auction would start soon, but they had enough time to try out their Soul Power. Rean also finished the weapons that he would sell there, so he decided to go with them.

Using Kentucky as a means of transportation and Rean to conceal him, they arrived at the nearest demon beast region a few hours later. Of course, they didn't stay at the border since only low-level Zafins would pick fights there. Instead, they went straight to the Inner Region. Only there would they find Stage Three and Four Demon Beasts to train their Soul Power against.

Kentucky then landed on the snow in the middle of a forest before Rean came down. Following that, Roan and everyone else exited the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm.

"Alright. You all know what to do. Soul Power is basically like controlling the elements with Spiritual Energy. In fact, it makes controlling the elements easier. Not to mention that it increases its power.

There will be no groups this time. Each one of you will move in a specific direction and spend the next three days fighting every demon beast you find."

Everyone understood why Roan was doing that. If they moved together, Calina, Agis, and everyone else would always have their minds set on the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm. That would only hinder their progress and make them more prone to carelessness. This wasn't the first time Roan did that. Even when they separated into two different groups to travel, he also ordered everyone to split several times on the way.

The only exception in this was Frandin. After all, he was still in the Late Stage of the Foundation Establishment Realm. This Inner Region would be way too hard for him, even with his quick improvement. That being said, he was the only one allowed to follow someone, and this someone was always Roan. Then again, that didn't make things easier for him. It's Roan we're talking about, after all. Frandin knew very well that unless an impossible-to-defeat enemy appeared in front of him, Roan would absolutely not intervene.

"We will meet at this point three days later. If you die, that's because you're just weak. However, let me give all of you a warning. We're quite close to Venasi City, so there's a possibility that you will bump into other Zasfins. After all, there are quite a decent amount of Core Formation and Core and Soul Fusion Realm Zasfins there. I have no doubt that a few of them will come here to train. If you do find one of them, try to stay away. We don't need more problems than we already have."

Everyone nodded, already expecting that.

After that, Rean added.

"Follow the usage of Soul Power that I mentioned in the routines Roan made for you all. Even if you're not battling, keep the Soul Power running at all times. As you know, I used my Light Element to analyze Soul Power. From its looks, Soul Power also uses special paths, just like meridians, to manifest itself outside. The more you use it, the bigger and smoother these paths become. When you combine it with dangerous situations, your improvement will be far greater."

Roan agreed with Rean as he listened. Now that he could use Soul Power, Rean knew how to apply Light Element to it. After all, Soul Power was the same as Spiritual Sense. Both of them only exist because there was life force. Dead things couldn't use it at all. It's just that Rean couldn't figure out how they were related since he didn't have it before.

With Rean and Roan working together, they had already reached a level of comprehension about Soul Power that surpassed most Zafins. Well, they also had Sister Orb, who was also able to analyze it as well. With the Soul Gem System's support, they had an easier path.

"With that, I will announce your target. Malaka and Calina currently have 28 Soul PowerPoints. Agis has 26 while Qia has 27."

Roan then coldly smiled and continued.

"For your own good, I hope your Soul Power surpasses 40 points three days from now. Otherwise...hehe!"

Everyone felt a shiver on their backs, including Calina. She couldn't help but show puppy eyes before asking.

"Would you really punish your love?"

That only made Roan snort as he responded.

"Oh! That's right. Since you like me so much, that means you want to live up to my expectations. Very well. I hope your Soul Power goes over 45 during these next three days. Otherwise, your punishment will be twice as painful."

Sure enough, the love play backfired completely as Calina instantly took back her words.

"Wait, wait, wait! Sorry, I won't do that anymore. Let me have the same target as everyone, please!"

Roan glared at her before saying.

"Then, you better start running already."

Calina didn't even hesitate as she took flight and disappeared in the distance. As the only Core and Soul Fusion Realm cultivator in their group, she was the only one who could fly. Of course, that didn't count Kentucky, who was a bird.

"Hmph! If you think you can pull my leg because of my relationship with her, you better think twice. Since I'm willing to do that with Calina, trust me when I say I can do worse for all of you."

Agis and Qia immediately departed in different directions soon after. That guy was just too crazy when it came to training. If he said he could make it worse, then he definitely could.

Rean scratched the back of his head as he saw everyone flashing away, asking.

"Is that really okay? Even though it's only a bit more than 10 points, that's still a 50% increase. I think three days is way too little. If it was Frandin, then it might be possible since he already has 343 points even without his Bloodline Mark."

Frandin, who was still there, didn't say anything.

Roan didn't seem to care as he replied.

"It's fine. In fact, I think the amount I asked for was too little. That's because they've just started on this path. Think of them as drivers. Which one you think would show bigger improvements? A new driver who just touched a car for the first time or an experienced driver who already knows most things?"

Rean's eyes lit up as he said soon after.

"I see...doesn't that mean Frandin's improvement at the moment will be slower than us?"

Roan then glanced at Frandin, who was trying to stay as inconspicuous as possible. He would have to follow Roan, so he did his best not to get on the demon's bad side.

"Hmph! That metaphor only works at the start. As long as they keep overcoming difficulties, their Soul Power will still increase at a steady pace. That being said, Frandin can definitely improve just as fast. After all, I'll make sure his battles will be very... difficult."

Rean couldn't help but place a hand on Frandin's shoulder as he said with immense sadness.

"It was a pleasure to have met you, brother."

Frandin was crying already. Frandin wanted to say that he wasn't dead yet, but he felt that he might be the next time everyone gathered here again.

Roan then ignored the shivering Zasfin as he looked at Rean and asked.

"By the way, I don't need to give you a target, right?"

Rean nodded as he responded.

"You and I can directly use my Light Element to help improve our Soul Power. Well, it's not like you don't know how much we've improved this month in the city. Let alone now that we're heading out for battle."

Frandin was taken aback as he asked.

"How come you didn't tell anyone about that?"

Rean shrugged his shoulders, answering Frandin's question.

"I didn't want to discourage everyone else. However, don't misunderstand it. We can use my Light Element to train our Soul Power, but it's still a far cry compared to how much it can improve in real dangerous situations. Even after a whole month of constantly using it, Roan and I could only increase our Soul Power by 22 points."

Frandin almost vomited blood! 22 points without having to battle at all! Back when Frandin was alone, an entire month of soul cultivation would be considered very good if he could increase it by 4 or 5 points, let alone 22! Only after suffering under the demon's hand(Roan) did his Soul Power cultivation speed explode. Since that's the case, just how much can these twins improve now that they were going to battle as well? After all, Roan was strict with everyone and twice as strict with himself. Rean, obviously, didn't want to lose to that guy, so he acted just as crazy.

"Are you two really humans?"

Rean laughed in response, saying.

"Perhaps not?"

Roan ignored that and began to walk away.

"That's enough. Frandin, let's go."

Frandin looked at Roan's back and couldn't help but ask Rean through a Spiritual Sense Message.

'Does he look a bit excited to you?'

Rean slightly nodded as he headed in another direction while responding.

'He does, right? I guess he's slightly happy...so you better be careful. I mean... really, really careful!'

Frandin gulped a bit of his saliva before unwillingly following Roan in the distance.

Death... and me

Chapter 655: Trying out the new technique

After they headed deeper into the forest, Roan took out the jade slip with Frandin's Yang Energy Lightning Cultivation Technique to look into it. At the same time, he connected with Rean through their soul connection so that he could see it as well. After all, Rean was better at Yang Energy.

By using their techniques' knowledge from the previous world, the two modified the technique, adding a few small tweaks to it. They also asked Frandin's opinion over a few parts since he was the one who would use it.

Eventually, Roan passed it back to him as he said, "Try to use the technique now. Don't waste much time, though. You'll have to slowly cultivate it to get a better grasp on how to use Yang Energy. Nevertheless, that speed should be enough for you to apply in the next battles."

Frandin nodded as he responded, "Alright."

He sat down on the ground and began to replay his own cultivation technique in his head. At the same time, he looked at the new one, trying to see which parts he could keep and which parts he should change. The process was slow, taking Frandin almost two hours to finally start on his first attempt.

Immediately, Frandin noticed the difference between the two as he said with surprise, "Impressive! The technique I was using up to now really can't compare at all."

Lightning Element gathered around Frandin's body much faster than before. On top of that, he wasn't using Yang Energy yet. Rean and Roan weren't surprised, though. Frandin came from a somewhat small city and power, so it was obvious that he didn't have such high-level techniques there.

Frandin didn't lose his concentration as he said that, though. After all, what he was looking for was Yang Energy as the result of the new technique. Of course, that was the hard part, so it took him a few more hours to finally grasp a sliver of it. Frandin controlled that small bit of Yang Energy and used it with his Lightning Element and Soul Power. Sure enough, the power didn't increase that much, but it was as expected since he only accumulated a small bit of it. Calina and the others, for example, accumulated Yin and Yang energy inside their bodies for use at a later time. Frandin didn't have a chance to do that.

Seeing that Frandin succeeded, Roan added, "This planet is quite bad for Yang Energy users. It's fully covered in snow most of the year, after all. However, there are places with rich Yang Energy, like

volcanoes, for example. If you get the chance, you should try and cultivate near one. Until then, take your time to slowly draw Yang Energy from the surroundings."

Frandin nodded as he replied, "I understand what to do. I will have to use my Yang Energy, even if I only have a bit of it. That isn't totally bad since it'll give me time to slowly get used to it."

Roan then turned around and began to walk away. Frandin quickly followed after seeing that. It had already been half a day, but Frandin didn't have the chance to fight a single demon beast. It was obvious that Roan was using Rean's concealing skills to keep him safe during that time.

Still, he thought, 'With this pause, I can already imagine how crazy the rest of the training days are going to be.'

Sure enough, As soon as Roan encountered their first Stage Four Demon Beast, he launched himself at it while giving Frandin orders.

'Those three demon beasts following this guy are yours.'

Frandin bitterly smiled as he looked at the companions of the Stage Four Demon beast. One of them was at the Initial Stage Three level, while the other two were in Peak Stage Two.

Fradin couldn't back down anymore, though. Roan was obviously fighting the strongest demon beast, which was already equivalent to a Middle Stage Core and Soul Fusion Realm cultivator, alone! He wasn't using Rean's Light Element to help himself at all. Frandin had no excuses to back down against much weaker ones. Then again, they were still very strong for a Late Stage Foundation Establishment Zashin like him.

'Let's try the first skill in that technique.'

Lightning Element accumulated around Frandin's spear together with his Soul Power acting as a guide. However, Frandin was also driving his own Yang Energy inside the spear, making it stronger.

Following that, he shot forward!

'Raging Bolt!'

With great speeds, he appeared right in front of the Stage Three Demon Beast, forcing it to stop its harassment against Roan. It was still a Stage Three Demon Beast, though. In other words, it had the same strength as an Early Stage Core Formation Realm cultivator.

Boom!

Both Frandin and the demon beast retreated due to the shockwave of their clash. Frandin's hand went numb as he thought, 'Such hard skin...'

Nonetheless, his attack was not in vain. It also attracted the attention of the Stage Two demon beasts, which was part of the plan. The three, sensing that Frandin was also dangerous, immediately pounced at him simultaneously. The only problem was that Frandin was at a disadvantage against those demon beasts from the very start.

Frandin gritted his teeth as he thought optimistically, 'I'm sure he chose these demon beasts on purpose!'

It turns out that they were battling a demon beast called a Mountain Crumbling Bull, a strong Earth Affinity demon beast. For Frandin, who used the Lightning Element, they couldn't be worse opponents. His attack barely left any damage on the Stage Three Bull, while his Lightning Element had little to no effect against it. Last but not least, he was behind in cultivation.

Frandin was right. Roan was in a crazed fight against the Stage Four leader of this small group. However, he also paid attention to Frandin as he thought to himself, 'Hmm...it seems like he's still holding back. Perhaps I chose something too weak for him to battle against.'

If Frandin heard that, he would cry. He was already suffering as it was, and Roan still thought that he had things easy. Then again, Roan had his reasons to think like that. Frandin might not be able to cause much damage to the demon beasts, but he wasn't getting hurt either. Frandin had really come a long way to be able to keep up with fighting three enemies at once while his cultivation was lower than theirs.

And just like that, the battle continued on this side with no time limit whatsoever. Then again...it was just the beginning.

Death... and me

Chapter 656: Reunion

Three days later, back in the same place, Rean and Roan could see the ghastly faces of the rest of the group. The worst off among them was surprisingly Malaka, who made them wonder how she made it back here. She had a big hole on the side of her chest that had barely avoided a vital point. Nevertheless, it was still quite nasty.

Fortunately, Rean had forged a chain mail to use under their clothes, which Malaka also had. Qia provided a lot of Earth Element as Rean crafted the equipment. With that, as long as Spiritual Energy was sent inside, Earth Element would gather in the equipment, increasing their defense a lot. If not for that, Malaka might have died for real.

Rean quickly gathered Light Element as Qia and Calina helped Malaka up. They weren't that much better off than Malaka but could still be of some help. Following that, he activated his Instant Recovery skill to heal her. Of course, he was going to heal everyone else after that.

Roan looked at all of them and nodded while talking, "It seems like all of you really took this separated training seriously. I can see that all of you had quite a few unlucky moments, but that's good. Now, take out the Demon Cores. I want to see just how many and what level of demon beasts all of you have killed this time around."

Sure enough, each one of them threw bags of Demon Cores on the ground. Roan examined those cores and could see that each one of them had defeated at least four or five demon beasts above their cultivation levels. That was not too bad, in his opinion. After all, the amount of Spiritual Energy to finish such Demon Beasts should have been very high. That meant that they all had to recover after that, which also took time.

"Very good. I'll have Frandin head to the Alchemist Guild later to sell them. The Spirit Stones acquired from it are yours to use."

However, Agis immediately shook his head as he said, "No, my part can stay with the main pile as always. Rean already made this amazing sword for me, and you created this nigh suicidal but definitely impressive training routine. I followed all the steps and improved more than ever, even with this planet's lack of Spiritual Energy."

Roan didn't mind and simply nodded as he said, "Up to you, then." Following that, he looked at the rest and asked, "How about everyone else?"

Qia and the others also agreed with Agis's words. As crazy as it was, it didn't change the fact that they reached this level because of Rean and Roan. Besides, it made them feel bad to rely on Rean and Roan all the time. At the very least, that would provide them with their own Spirit Stones without using Rean's all the time.

Roan then took out his Demon Cores as he placed all of them inside a single bag before looking at Frandin, saying, "You heard, right?"

However, there was no response. One must not forget that Frandin... followed Roan. When Roan and the others looked at him, it looked more like his spirit had already left his body. It was to the point that Malaka felt happy that she was at the state of near death.

'Just how terrifying was it to follow Roan this time around?'

Frandin was lucky that Roan could use the Light Element like Rean. That being said, he healed Frandin's injuries when they reached an unbearable point. Though that wouldn't stop Roan's training. Frandin wasn't even given time to recover his Spiritual Energy and Soul Power. After the first battle against the demon bulls, Frandin had been battling at 50% or less of his energy reserves. Roan simply never let him completely rest up.

Frandin couldn't help but remember Roan's words.

"What will happen to you if you're pursued by someone much stronger and have no time to recover? Would you just give up your life like that?" said Roan back as he snorted. "I'm doing it for you to understand that you wouldn't always be able to battle at your peak condition. Besides, forcing yourself in this situation will definitely bring even more of your latent potential out."

That's why although Malaka seemed to be the worst one out of them at the moment, Frandin had been in her state or worse at least three times. He thanked the heavens that he had also asked Rean for chain mail.

Roan narrowed his eyes, seeing that Frandin didn't answer.

Pah!

Ouch!

Roan immediately slapped Frandin's backhead, which brought the guy back to reality.

"Ah! Sorry, I was lost in my thoughts," said something that sounded like Frandin's voice from that spiritless body. "The demon cores, right? I'll sell them once we're back since I'll also have to go to the Formations Guild." After hearing that, Rean and the others couldn't help but feel some pity for him.

Roan then sent the Demon Cores into the Dimensional Realm before continuing, "Alright, time to test everyone's Soul Power Points."

As Roan said that, the Soul Measurement Crystal appeared in the middle of the snowfield while saying, "I hope all of you followed the training schedule to the boot. If you did so, all of you should have surpassed the 40 points I required."

Frandin and everyone else couldn't help but swallow a bit of saliva after hearing that. As much as they followed Roan's training schedule (Mostly because they were afraid Roan would find out if they didn't), they weren't sure if they reached it. Sure, each one of them passed through a few dangerous situations, especially Malaka. But after looking at that zombie who was once called Frandin, they wondered if it was enough.

As soon as Rean finished healing Malaka's injuries, Roan called her first. "First, Malaka. Your Soul Power Measurement before was 28 points. In other words, you must have attained at least 12 points during these last three days."

Malaka nervously nodded as her trembling hand touched the crystal. She truly didn't want to think what Roan would do if she failed. Malaka's Soul Mark lit up before she sent her Soul Power into the crystal. A few minutes later, her result appeared at the top as two numbers far greater than what Malaka expected had appeared.

-Soul Power, 59-

Malaka felt like she had seen a ghost as she muttered in disbelief.

"That much?"

Sure enough, Roan was right. The improvement of a new driver during a specific time would be much greater than an experienced one. Malaka's Soul Power was a testament to this fact.

Death... and me

Chapter 657: What the hell?!

Roan nodded, quite satisfied as he said, "That's what I expected. The initial burst of improvement in Soul Power was within my expectations. Of course, the fact that you really put in the effort was also a reason for that. Not too bad."

Malaka couldn't help but feel happy. After all, she jumped over 30 points! As always, Roan's compliments were extremely hard to come by. If he gave out compliments, then it was because she really did well.

Roan then looked at the next one and called out, "Next! Calina."

Calina immediately came forward after Rean also helped her recuperate and put her hand on the crystal, quickly sending her Soul Power inside. She didn't surpass 30 but got quite close to it, going from 28 to...

-Soul Power, 56-

"That's also good improvement." Roan nodded once again before turning towards Agis and saying, "Next!"

Agis followed the same process as his result was soon obtained.

-Soul Power, 53-

Then, Qia...

-Soul Power, 54-

Frandin, who had recovered a bit, also measured his Soul Power.

-Soul Power, 363-

Frandin ended up being the one who improved the least even though he suffered the most, getting an extra 21 points. Nevertheless, it was still a ridiculous improvement for just three days of training, especially considering his talent. Of course, it was, as Roan mentioned. Frandin was an 'experienced driver' already.

Roan didn't have anything to complain about in the end as he said, "Very well, all of you pass. It's good to see that all of you are putting effort into it. There's also the point where all of you came back even though severely injured. At least all of you understand that you can't rely on the Dimensional Realm all the time."

However, Malaka couldn't help but ask, "How about you and Rean? Aren't you two going to test your Soul Power?"

"No." Roan shook his head in response as he replied, "There's no need for that."

Unfortunately, the others couldn't accept it.

"That's not fair!"

"What if you didn't reach your own target?"

"Are you trying to avoid the punishment you created for yourself?"

Rean bitterly smiled after hearing that, already knowing why Roan didn't want to show it to others. Roan was already being considerate so that they wouldn't feel disheartened when they saw how much they had improved. After all, both Rean and Roan could use the Light Element. As mentioned before, it had a direct effect on Soul Power Training.

Nevertheless, everyone insisted.

"I'm not leaving before you show it."

"What are you afraid of? Could it be that we're much better than you two?"

"Roan, your wife here also wants her answer."

Frandin was the only one who didn't say anything. After all, he already had an idea of what would happen.

And so, everyone kept bothering Roan nonstop to the point he finally lost his patience as he shouted, "Shut up! Here. Look at this shit if you're so interested in that."

Roan's Soul Mark appeared soon after as he sent his Soul Power into the Soul Measurement Crystal.

-Soul Power, 92-

In an instant, everyone froze in their spot. Isn't that way too much of an improvement?

Frandin sighed before saying, "As I thought. These twins are just too overpowered."

Malaka couldn't help but shout in disbelief, "How's that possible?! You weren't so far ahead of us before! Could it be that you went through even crazier training?"

Qia, Agis, and Calina nodded after hearing that. If it was Roan, it was possible.

Rean then scratched the back of his head before gathering Light Element on his hand, catching everyone's attention as he explained, "It's my Light Element. Souls exist because there's Life Force. My Light Element has a direct effect on it."

Rean then moved in the crystal's direction while he continued to talk, "Of course, both me and Roan went all out in this training session as well. The reason we look fine is that we can use Light Element to a level that far surpasses anyone, especially me."

The Soul Measurement Crystal then calculated Rean's Soul Power, and sure enough, his result was out soon after.

-Soul Power, 109-

Malaka couldn't help but complain.

"That's so unfair!"

Calina and the others nodded vigorously. They also wanted the Light Element now.

Thinking about that, Frandin decided to ask, "Rean, can I use the Light Element of my bracelet to do the same thing?"

Rean shook his head soon after as he replied, "It's not the same thing. How can I say it? Your Soul is not compatible with Light Element. Roan and I are different. We have that connection that you know of. Also, we have Sister Orb's support to obtain the best results possible out of it."

Sister Orb's voice echoed right after as she said, [It's good that you understand how amazing I am. Indeed, after I finished analyzing how Soul Power worked, I modified their Cultivation Technique to include it in the mix. However, I can't do that for the rest of you.]

Sister Orb wasn't their system, after all.

As Rean and Roan discussed with the others, no one noticed a black and white bird looking at the Soul Measurement Crystal. Naturally, that was Kentucky.

Chick?

Kentucky saw how everyone put their hands on the crystal and used their Soul Power. This time around, Kentucky followed Rean. However, Rean simply gave him an order to go out and fight demon beasts without going too far away from himself. Every now and then, Rean would hear the sound of battle, but he never approached since Kentucky needed to know how to rely on himself alone.

All Rean could tell was that Kentucky was using his own Light Element to heal himself many times. Nevertheless, Kentucky seemed pretty satisfied when he came back to Rean every now and then. From how he looked, he enjoyed the Demon Cores he obtained very much, which also helped him recover the Spiritual Energy he used to do battle. In a certain way, Kentucky might have gone out and battled more than anyone else. Well...he just wanted to eat Demon Cores, though...

Kentucky repeated the same action as everyone else, putting his wing over the crystal before his Soul Mark appeared on his head. After some time, the Soul Power entered the crystal even though Kentucky couldn't understand very well why everyone else was doing it.

Malaka noticed Kentucky's actions and couldn't help but call the others' attention.

"Hey, we forgot Kentucky."

Roan and the others looked at the Soul Measurement Crystal for a moment, curious to see if he had improved as well. Then...

-Soul Power, 183-

Everyone's expressions froze, including Roan.

"What the hell?!"

Chick?

Death... and me

Chapter 658: Results

Kentucky might not understand what had happened, but he knew that he had impressed everyone. He puffed his chest and looked at everyone with pride in his eyes.

'That's how it's done, bitches!' He would probably say something like that if he could speak...maybe not.

Rean couldn't help but comment, "As expected of a Minokawa... I guess?"

That statement puzzled Frandin as he asked, "What's a Minokawa?"

Rean shook his head in response, not giving any extra explanation. Malaka and Calina did the same, knowing that it was better if others didn't know. All Frandin could tell was that it was definitely some rare type of demon bird.

"Still, isn't that way too overpowered?" asked Agis as he looked at the triple-digit number.

Rean pondered for a bit before saying, "He did eat that altar made for Soul Power users. On top of that, he's a type of bird that eats high-level metal. This is probably related to that. Perhaps...we could have him eat more altars?"

Roan shook his head as he replied, "That's if you want to have the entirety of the Soul Rulers on our tracks. Let's not do that."

Everyone else agreed with Roan. Following that, Roan sent everyone into the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm, including himself, leaving only Rean and Frandin outside. The three days of training were now over. They had to go back since Rean had to put his weapons up for sale. Rean quickly jumped on Kentucky's back with Frandin, and soon, the three took flight straight away.

Once they got close to the city, Kentucky came down as Rean sent him into the Dimensional Realm as well. Frandin pretended to be the owner once again as the two headed into the city, much to Firmel's relief. Firmel had kept an eye on Rean's group for quite some time, knowing even where their workshop was located. However, they suddenly disappeared without a trace. He even thought that they might have been fooled, but now he could finally relax.

Once Rean arrived at the workshop, he let the others out before asking, "By the way, did you guys find any Zasfins during your time in the Inner Region?"

Agis immediately raised his hand as he said, "I did, but I left straight away to not get their attention. Since I was far away as well, I doubt they noticed I was a human since they didn't pursue me."

"I met a group as well," said Calina as she raised her hand. "I even got into a fight with them. I was battling a Stage Four Demon Beast when this group suddenly appeared close to me. One of them also happened to be in the Core and Soul Fusion Realm. When the guy saw that I was a human, he immediately began to order me around, telling me to leave and give the demon beast to them."

Calina couldn't help but get angry as she continued, "That idiot went straight for the demon beast, thinking that I wouldn't touch him. How could I do that? When he tried to take my prey, I attacked him as well. With that, it became a three-sided fight: the demon beast, me, and that guy's group."

Roan narrowed his eyes as he asked, "And what happened?"

Calina smiled in response, asking, "Worried?"

Surprisingly, Roan nodded without hesitation. "Yes."

Sure enough, once Roan admitted he liked her, everything became easy for him. He didn't show the least bit of embarrassment when he answered. Roan simply said whatever he thought. She asked Roan if he was worried that she got in that battle, and Roan was, so he said yes. Simple as that.

In the end, the only one that felt embarrassed was Calina as she thought, 'This is so unfair. How can he act as if he didn't say anything embarrassing at all?'

Well, that's because Roan truly thought he didn't.

Calina then saw everyone smirking in her direction, obviously pointing out that she lost to Roan's denseness. "Ahem...thanks, but I was fine...kind of. The demon beast had me as its primary target, and the others focused on me as well. Nevertheless, it turned out to be a good experience even though I was left with many injuries. Fortunately, my Water Element Affinity is still good for healing. It's not as great as Rean's Light Element skill, but it still let me recover after some time."

Roan nodded after hearing that. That was also part of training from the very start since he did warn everyone that they might come across other Zafins during that time.

"Anyone else?"

The last one was Rean himself.

"Well, it wasn't me, but Kentucky instead."

Chick?

Kentucky, hearing his name, immediately looked in Rean's direction with a puzzled expression. Rean just smiled as he continued, "There was one time he went out to hunt demon beasts for their demon cores. Sometime later that day, he returned to my side with quite a few of his feathers and scales damaged. It was obvious that they were done by weapons instead of demon beasts' claws and teeth."

"Did you find the Zasfins who attacked Kentucky?"

Rean shook his head, replying, "No. Most likely, they had a very bad time by underestimating Kentucky."

"How do you know?"

Rean then patted Kentucky's chest as he smiled. "That's because I could tell that this guy ate quite a few dantians. Dantians aren't much different than demon cores, so they're definitely a good source of energy for Kentucky."

Everyone was taken aback. That's right, how could they have forgotten? This wasn't the first time Kentucky ate dantians of enemies. It's just that it had been a long time since he did that. However, Dantians were not as good as demon cores, so Kentucky wouldn't aim for them unless the other side attacked him first.

Malaka then laughed as she patted Kentucky as well, much to the pervert bird's delight. "Hahaha! Well done, Kentucky! They definitely attacked you for your demon core, so they have no right to complain that you took their dantians instead."

Chick! Chick!

Kentucky was obviously happy that he was being praised.

Frandin then thought about something else and couldn't help but ask, "In the end, just how strong is Kentucky?"

Rean pondered for a bit.

"I believe...he's more or less at the level of Roan and me when we exchange elements for fighting. After all, he does have both Light and Dark Element Affinities, as well as his own race's bloodline."

Frandin was really surprised to hear that. That meant that Kentucky could definitely fight an average Middle or even Late Stage Core and Soul Fusion Realm Zasfin. He better not get on the bad side of the bird. He wasn't in Stage Four yet. However, he was a bird, so he didn't need that level to fly, which was a great advantage against enemies with a higher cultivation level. That only made Frandin even more curious at what kind of race a Minokawa was.

"Alright, Frandin. Take the demon cores and go sell them for Spirit Stones in the Alchemist Guild. I believe the Stage Four ones should be worth quite a few Rank Two Spirit Stones. The high-level Stage Four ones might even go for Rank Three."

Frandin nodded as he prepared to leave. This time, Rean and Qia decided to follow him as well. After all, they agreed that Frandin would take the Formations Guild test to get access to their study materials.

And just like that, Frandin, Qia, and Rean left the workshop while the rest stayed behind.

Death... and me

Chapter 659: Walton June

The Formations Guild could also be found at the city's center, like most large organizations. Using a different appearance given by Rean and Roan, Frandin entered it and headed to the counter. Rean and Qia were also following him, pretending to be his slaves.

The worker at the guild then looked at Frandin before asking, "Hello, what can I help you with?"

Frandin then pointed at the test rules on the wall and asked, "I came here to take the test. How much is it?"

"It's 100 Rank One Spirit Stones. After that, you will have to take a knowledge test. As long as you get 50% or more of the questions correct, you can advance to the second test. There, you'll have to analyze a few random formations selected by the guild and tell their effects without activating them. Last but not least, you will be asked to draw a formation of your own. Of course, you would also need to provide your own materials depending on the type of formation you want to use."

Frandin quite liked it since it was more or less what Rean and Qia told him. Rean and Qia needed the study materials for formations of the Earth Peak-Level. The materials for beginner Formation Masters

were always available to the public, and Frandin had gotten it a long time ago. Besides, Rean and Qia knew a lot already, having to just do a few revisions on the actual material since the planet's formations were of lower quality. Their main interest was simply the fact that they used Soul Runes, something they had never looked into before.

Frandin then headed to another room where he could see a few other contestants waiting. From its looks, the guild received quite a few candidates every day, so there were daily tests. Some of them also had their own human servants, so no one cared much about Frandin and his own.

Their group waited there for another hour or so before the guild sent someone to give the test.

"Alright, all of you. You can call me Hudin in case you haven't seen me before. I will preside over today's test. Come with me. The knowledge test is already prepared. As for those with their humans, please leave them here. They can watch the test from afar. That is to prevent any cheating and make sure that the ones who have the knowledge are yourselves."

Frandin, Qia, and Rean nodded at each other before Frandin headed to the test. Once inside the room, everyone was given the test, containing over three hundred questions. Nevertheless, Rean and Qia weren't worried. They made sure to carve all the points of low-level formations into Frandin's head during the past few months. If it was just an Earth Low-level Formation Master test, then they were certain Frandin would have no problems.

The Zasfins had three hours to answer the questions. Whether they finished all of them or not didn't matter. As long as they got at least 50% correct, they could head to the next test. Frandin was a little nervous at first but gradually became more relaxed as time passed. It was not like he knew all the answers, but he could definitely identify far more than just 50%.

Frandin reduced his pace close to the end of his questions to not obtain any unnecessary attention, finishing it just a few minutes before the three hours were over. Hudin's assistants then collected the sheets before he said, "Good. My assistants will take some time to finish checking your answers, so let's start the second test while we're at it. Come with me."

Everyone followed Hudin to a much larger room. There, they could see one large formation projecting several images on the air through the manipulation of Spiritual Energy.

Hudin then looked at everyone with a nonchalant expression as he explained, "As you all know, the second test is to analyze the formations displayed here. The formations that appear are random, so even I can't tell which ones will be selected. Each formation on display will be there for five minutes. After that, it will automatically change to a new one." He then pointed at the sheets of paper on a few tables prepared for the participants as he continued, "Just mark your answers there, and that will be enough."

Everyone acted as if it was a normal thing. From its looks, quite a few of the participants had tried it in the past but failed. Obviously, it didn't matter much if you failed as long as you pay the fee to try again. For Rean's group, that was a good thing. Well, from what Rean and Qia saw so far, they didn't think Frandin would have any issues with it. As people from a planet with more developed formations, this test was more or less a joke. Frandin definitely benefitted from this fact when they were teaching him.

Hudin then checked the display formation one last time before giving the order, "Alright, this test will take two hours. You may start."

As soon as he said that, the first formation was displayed in the air. Some instantly showed dark expressions, while others seemed to ponder over something. There were also a small few who identified the formation straight away. Frandin, as one could imagine, was one of them as he marked the answer, 'Mist Concealing Formation, Earth Low-Level type, self-sustainable but it could be strengthened if Spirit Stone is added. Can be broken through...'

Five minutes passed before the next formation appeared. And just like that, one formation after another was displayed as everyone answered the questions. Frandin was feeling no tension anymore. Sure enough, the level that Rean and Qia put him in was far above what the test required.

Eventually, then the last formation disappeared from the air as Hudin nodded. "Alright, this test is over. Give the answer sheets to the assistants on your side." Hudin then looked at the other ZASFins coming back with some papers as he said, "It seems like your knowledge test results are ready. Whether you did well in this test or not won't matter if you didn't get at least 50% correct during the previous test. Alright, I'll start from top to bottom—first place with 93% of their answers correct, Walton June."

Walton June...was the name Frandin used with his new appearance.

Death... and me

Chapter 660: It went easier than we thought

Everyone looked at Frandin with shock in their eyes. That was an insanely high number since the guild never held back with the difficulty of the knowledge test. After all, why would the guild allow someone to pass with just a 50%+ result? That's the answer. It was hard!

Well, there was also the fact that Frandin was also taken aback by that result. During the knowledge test, he knew around 80% of the answers. As for the rest, well...he guessed. He took those questions and used the things he knew to compare before writing them down. Even he didn't expect that it would go so well.

Hudin nodded at Frandin with satisfaction as he said, "Good to see that you didn't slack off in the theoretical area." Following that, he continued announcing the results.

Madlam Lacal, 81%...

Suom Batevo, 75%...

Qimi Parana, 72%...

Eventually, he read the last name before looking at the rest of the Zasfins as he said, "The names I didn't call out has failed to achieve at least 50% of the questions right. You can leave."

Three-fourth of the Zasfins left right after, thinking about coming back another day. As for the rest, they were still nervous since they knew that the second test's results would follow.

"With that, the second test," said Hudin as he looked at the results. There were only 24 formations displayed during those two hours, one every five minutes. Naturally, it was a lot easier and faster to check the answers.

"Oh, Walton, you really know your things." Hudin smiled.

Walton June, 17 formations perfectly identified...

Suom Batevo, 15 formations perfectly identified...

Tossil Warnd, 14...

Frandin had gotten even more attention now. He was truly doing much better than anyone else. Well, Frandin was using a different name. On top of that, he would disappear once he got the study materials for Rean and Qia. That being said, it didn't matter much if the Zasfins paid so much attention to him in the end.

Hudin was indeed impressed with Frandin (or Walton in this case), but it wasn't as if he would make a big deal out of it. After all, someone like him appeared once in a while. Nevertheless, he liked to see these new formation geniuses.

In the end, one also needed to correctly answer at least half of the formations displayed in the second test, which sent more than half of the remaining participants home. Following that, they were all brought somewhere else.

Hudin then looked at the 9 candidates that remained before saying, "Alright, your job is very simple. Draw three Earth Low-level Formations of any kind. As long as they're functional, you will be admitted into the guild." He then pointed at a counter by the side of the entrance as he continued, "If you don't have the materials for the formation, you can buy them there. Of course, you will need to pay for it."

Hudin looked at the time before announcing, "You have three hours to finish the formations. You may now start."

Frandin didn't need extra materials since Rean and Qia prepared everything for him. He quickly headed to an empty space in the field and began to work on it. To make sure things would go well, Frandin decided to draw three very simple formations. Energy Gathering, Energy Flow, and Little Rain Cloud Formations.

Hudin noticed what Frandin(Walton) was doing and couldn't help but sigh. He felt like Frandin could do much better than that but was afraid to fail the test. Then again, that wasn't his problem, so he didn't intervene. However, he quickly noticed something different in Frandin's formations. 'Hmm? Those runes...this is the first time I've seen such an arrangement. There are a few runes I don't know about either.'

Well, that was to be expected since Rean and Qia taught him the Sunkan Planet's formations.

Frandin didn't need the entire three hours to finish them, though. By the time one hour was up, he had already completed all three formations. Well, that didn't impress anyone due to the level of Frandin's formations. The only one who showed interest was Hudin himself, who noticed that Frandin's formations used a completely different school of thought. Let alone the unknown runes.

Well, Hudin quickly recovered and didn't say anything. After all, he had to pay attention to everyone else's formations as well. He would take his time to analyze it more profoundly once everyone finished their jobs.

Time passed in a flash, and soon, the three hours were up. All nine candidates finished their formations, but only a few seemed confident that all three would work. Hudin didn't care about any of them, though. Now that he confirmed that there was no cheating during the process, he could move to Frandin's formation and check if it worked.

"This is quite a different arrangement of runes," said Hudin as he paid close attention to Frandin's formations. Soon, he asked, "There are even a few runes I've never seen before. Do they really work?"

Frandin laughed in response as he answered, "But of course! They are very simple formations, after all. Senior Hudin can go ahead and test them yourself. I'm only interested in getting access to the Formations Repository."

Hudin nodded with a satisfied expression and immediately activated the first one, Energy Gathering Formation. Sure enough, with Sunkan Planet's more developed formations, Frandin's Energy Gathering Formation showed a much higher level of efficiency than common Energy Gathering Formations.

"This..." Hudin was truly impressed. Only now that the formation was working could he see why Frandin used that arrangement and especially how the runes he didn't know about worked. "Where did you learn about these runes?"

Frandin shook his head as he replied, "I can't answer that without my master's consent. I'm sorry."

Hudin wasn't surprised by that. He was already 100% sure that Frandin had to have some incredible master. Otherwise, he wouldn't be able to bring out such a high level of proficiency. "I see..." Nevertheless, he was somewhat disappointed. However, he quickly recovered before saying, "Let your master know that our Formation Master Guild wishes to know him. I'm sure we have many things to discuss."

Frandin nodded with a smile, saying, "Sure."

Hudin then moved to the other two formations. Unsurprisingly, they showed the same level of improvement as the Energy Gathering Formation. Following that, he announced, "Walton June, you've passed the test."

Rean and Qia nodded from a distance as they simultaneously thought, 'That went easier than we thought.'