

Death 741

Death... and me

Chapter 741: Battle Start

Everyone looked at Gia, making sure to focus all of their attention on her. Just as the name implied, the Tarantula had dark spikes protruding out of all its body. As for its size, no other demon beast here was as big as her. Well, that was just a way of Gia showing her dominance. That's because a demon beast could control the size of their body once they reached Stage Seven.

"As described in the jade slips, you have to destroy at least 10 formations. There are five teams here and 70 to 90 formations covering the southeast area of the Celesgal Volcano Area," Gia explained before continuing, "I don't care what methods you use. As long as you destroy them, it'll count. Almost everyone here is a demon beast, and I'm sure we're all used to fighting against each other. However, you're forbidden from doing so this time. Remember, this is the demon beasts' chance to leave the Demon Beast Continent, so there will be plenty of territory for all of you to choose later. Understood?!"

"Yes!" everyone answered in unison. Well, the majority did that through Spiritual Sense since they were still Stage Five Demon Beasts. Only the three Stage Six beasts, Kentucky, and the humans used their voices.

Gia pointed in the distance before saying, "Good. Now go. I'll make sure that no one above the Stage Six Level intervenes."

Luti quickly returned to his group and departed with two other demon beasts. Those demon beasts were at the Late Stage Five Level, which was comparable to his own cultivation. Of course, they weren't the only ones. Everyone quickly departed, flying in specific directions.

"Let's head out as well!" Kentucky immediately spread his wings and took flight. Roan then examined the directions everyone left before pointing where Kentucky should focus.

Rean then looked at Roan and asked, "Should I use my Light and Spiritual Sense bending skills?"

Roan pondered a bit before replying, "Just make it good enough to protect us against the enemies' Nascent Soul Realm experts. That way, Gia will still be able to watch us with her Spiritual Sense. We shouldn't be the only people in the world who know how to avoid Spiritual Sense, so she won't be that impressed if she sees that it only works on people in the same realm as us."

Rean nodded as the light in the surroundings began to change. Or to be more specific, the light still reached their groups' eyes. However, when it was supposed to reflect back, Rean bent it. Since the reflected light didn't spread out, Kentucky's body seemed to have disappeared completely. Obviously, the same happened with Spiritual Sense. However, unlike the Light bending skill, the Spiritual Sense bending skill bent the Spiritual Sense so that it never touched their bodies.

Gia didn't notice anything different with them since she was still able to see Rean's group clearly. After all, her Spiritual Sense was strong enough to pierce through Rean's ability. Everything was how they planned it to go.

On the Zasfins' side, their own Saint Realm expert, which was equivalent to a Stage Seven Demon Beast, immediately caught the enemies approaching with his Spiritual Sense. Soon, he said, "Send a message to everyone. The demon beasts have arrived. I don't care if they have to die. Just make sure that they keep the formations protected."

A subordinate by the side immediately nodded before disappearing.

As one could expect, the areas where the Zasfins mostly focused on were the ones being attacked by the Stage Six Demon Beasts. Naturally, there were Soul Transformation Realm Zasfins there, ready to take them on. In the end, the Zasfins had four at the Soul Transformation Realm, while the demon beasts had three at Stage Six. That being said, one of them immediately fell at a disadvantage.

"Two vs. one? Hahaha! So what? Come on!" Well, it was still a demon beast, so it didn't retreat. Instead, its attacks became even more ferocious.

The two Soul Transformation Realm Zasfins understood that they wouldn't be able to stop it like that, so they also began to take it seriously. Their Soul Marks immediately shone on their foreheads as their combat power soared. One of them soon said in response with a snort, "Hmph! A worm who doesn't know how to respect the strongest race of this world."

Bang, bang, bang...

Boom, boom, boom...

Of course, neither side was alone. They also had their own Stage Five Demon Beasts or Nascent Soul Realm subordinates with them. In just a moment, the battlefield between the top experts of this mission was full of explosions of different colors.

Rean's group couldn't see it since each formation was several tens of kilometers away from each other. In any case, they could hear the delayed sounds of their clashes.

"It seems like they've already started," Rean could not help but say.

Roan nodded before focusing ahead. There was a mountain there with several Zasfins moving around. From the looks of it, the mountain was being used as the base for the formation. "Alright, ignore them. The first formation is right in front of us. By now, the enemy was probably warned by their Saint Realm expert that we're moving closer."

Because Rean kept his Spiritual Sense bending skill working only on those at their realm, the Saint Realm expert could obviously see them. Sure enough, they immediately saw five Zasfins taking flight, stopping in midair while looking in their direction.

Rean just faintly smiled in response as he said, "They're looking in our direction, but they can't really tell where we are. Also, unlike the Saint Realm expert giving orders, their Spiritual Senses can't go all the way back to ask about us."

Rean was correct. Although those Zasfins were looking around, they really couldn't see anything.

Kentucky didn't even stop as he sent out a Spiritual Sense message, saying, 'Alright, let's stick to the plan.' Not long after, he flapped his wings with a lot more strength, increasing his own speed even further.

Suddenly, one of the Zasfins felt a gale of air hitting his face, but that was about it. He couldn't see anything, so he simply thought it was part of the breeze the mountains had. He then looked at one of his companions and asked through Spiritual Sense, saying, 'Senior Jare said they should be here anytime. Can you see anything? My Spiritual Sense can't catch any presence at all.'

The other four Zasfins shook their heads.

'Nothing here.'

'Me neither.'

'Could it be that Senior Jare mistook the group he was talking to?'

'Ha! What a joke. Senior Jare is a Saint Realm expert. Do you think such a thing is possible? Just focus on your senses and wait for the enemy to come.'

However, it was at this moment that the five of them received a Spiritual Sense message from that exact Senior Jare. 'What the hell are you doing?! The enemy just passed right through you, and you didn't do anything?! Go after them! They are getting closer to the Formation Core!'

"What?!"

The five Zasfins were shocked to hear that. They really didn't see anything with their Spiritual Senses at all! However, there was no way for them to tell it to Jare since they were too far to talk to him through Spiritual Sense.

"Let's go!"

Without much choice, they all shot in the direction of the Formation Core. However, they had barely moved a few meters when suddenly...

Boom!

An explosion of black and white flames rose to the skies where the Formation Core was located. One must remember that Sister Orb was here as well. She might need a long time to analyze and even more to take control over the formation. However, if it was just telling Rean and the others where the core was located, it was astoundingly simple, especially after the Soul Gem System's processing power had

increased. Even before passing by those experts, the newly upgraded Sister Orb was able to locate the core and tell the twins where it was.

As for the one who attacked it, obviously, it was Kentucky! Rean and Roan separated from his back when he began his descent. That's because when it came to raw attack power, Kentucky still had the advantage. Even Rean's new sword wouldn't break through Kentucky's beak when clashing head-on. One must remember that Kentucky ate a fortune in terms of Heaven-level ores, so his body was even stronger than some common Heaven-level materials. They didn't know how resistant the Core was either. After putting it all together, it was better to be safe. Rean and Roan stayed in the air while Kentucky crashed against the Formation Core.

Crack...crack...crack...

Shatter!

The Formation Core was indeed very resistant and even had a small protection formation to give it a bit more defense. However, none of that was able to resist Kentucky's dive for even more than a second. In the end, both the Core and the protection formation shattered, which initiated a chain reaction that destroyed the rest of the formation around the mountain. The low-level Zafins who were too late to react to this ended up dying because of the explosions. The formation wasn't ready yet, so such a volatile outcome was expected.

Kentucky quickly took flight again, arriving at where Rean and Roan were. This time, however, Rean wasn't using his Light bending skill, so the Zafins' Nascent Soul experts quickly noticed them standing there. Obviously, they were fuming. After all, they would definitely be punished for failing to protect the formation in such an ugly way.

"Kill!"

In an instant, they pounced at Rean's group. Unfortunately for them, Rean, Roan, and Kentucky had no intention of staying. The twins held on Kentucky's back before the Minokawa shot into the distance.

"Hahaha! Until we meet again!" Kentucky shouted as he knew that the Zafins were quickly falling behind. Sure enough, at the same level, almost no one could beat Kentucky in flight speed.

Rean then looked at Roan and told him, "I won't activate my Spiritual Bending this time."

Roan nodded, understanding what Rean meant. "Good. If we keep using it, that Saint Realm guy will notice our trick and focus on stopping us. Let's change targets."

Death... and me

Chapter 742: Identity

Rean and Roan were right. The Zasfin's Saint Realm expert, Jare, was surprised to see how the twins passed by the defense line without anyone noticing. However, he saw how they were being pursued by the Zasfins that lost them at first, which meant that they could see the twins. Of course, it didn't take long for the Nascent Soul Realm Zasfins to receive the order to retreat since they were being lured way too far from the formations. It might be a trick by the demon beasts, so they had to go back to protect the others.

Rean and Roan didn't mind either case, though. After all, they were much faster, so they would still leave them behind easily even if they kept following. Jare, of course, still had the twins within the scope of his Spiritual Sense. Nevertheless, that wasn't the only front where battles were ongoing. He had to give orders to the rest as well.

Gia, the Stage Seven Tarantula, couldn't help but faintly smile after seeing what Rean and the others had done as she thought, 'Not bad. The battle has just started, but they already blew up one of the formations.' She then looked in another direction and nodded, continuing to inwardly think, 'It seems those ones won't take too long either.'

Gia was looking at Luti's group. From the looks of it, he and his two demon beast companions were quite used to fighting together. Luti gave the tactical orders while the two demon beasts brought in the raw power. Out of nowhere, a gap was opened in the Zasfins' defense before a fire projectile covered in Fire Element and Spiritual Energy pierced through the formation protecting the Core. Following that, the projectile hit the Formation Core like a hot knife on butter.

Boom, boom, boom, boom...

Sure enough, the same thing happened. Soon, the entire formation began to blow up due to the chaotic Spiritual Energy. Seeing that, the Zasfins defending that formation went furious and increased the tempo of their attacks. Luti's group seemed to be waiting for that, though. They immediately turned

around to flee, showing that they had no intention to continue the fight now that the formation was gone. However, just as the Zasfins were about to block them, Luti's group suddenly turned around and attacked the closest Zasfin together.

Bang!

Arrrgh!

That Zasfin, who wanted to stop them, wasn't able to defend itself against three attacks of the same level. His dantian was pierced through as he plummeted from the skies. And just like that, the first loss of a combatant at the Nascent Soul Realm and above appeared on the battlefield.

"Hahaha! There are only two of them remaining. Kill!" Luti and the two demon beasts laughed out loud and immediately began their counter-attack. With a disadvantage in numbers, the two Zasfins gave up on the battle and tried to flee instead. However, Luti's group didn't focus on both Zasfins, only on the weakest one.

That Zasfin was rushing at them just a moment ago, so he had to first stop his momentum before trying to fly in the opposite direction. Naturally, Luti's group didn't need to put much effort into catching this guy since they were at full speed already. The companion of that Zasfin tried to give his friend support. Unfortunately, he was impeded by Luti himself. Luti was the weakest in his group, but he could definitely hold that guy in place while the two demon beasts finished off the other enemy. In the end, the last Zasfin gave up and fled straight away. With that done, Luti joined his companions and ended the cornered Zasfin's life.

Without Rean's group knowing, that battle helped them take Jare's attention from their backs. After all, they destroyed a formation but didn't kill anyone. In Luti's case, they killed two Nascent Soul Realm Zasfins and also destroyed a formation, so their level of danger was gauged to be a lot higher in Jare's mind.

Of course, other battles continued as well. However, one thing began to become very clear. The Zasfins had the advantage in numbers, but they were all being cornered. In the end, that's what happens when one spends thousands of years without a proper opponent. Compared to the demon beasts who fought each other on a daily basis, the Zasfins were just too inexperienced in battle.

Rean, Roan, and Kentucky eventually arrived at the next formation. Unlike the last one, this formation's guards only had three Zafins, two at the Late Stage and one at the Middle. This time, the twins and the Minokawa didn't even try to hide. Instead, they headed straight for the Nascent Soul Zafins.

"Kill!" Both sides didn't hold back. The Zafins heard from Jare that Rean's group had already destroyed a formation, so they took them seriously from the very start. Their Rank Four Soul Marks shone on their foreheads as they launched their assault.

Kentucky, Rean, and Roan soon separated and attacked one Zasfin each. Kentucky took the Middle Stage guy on while the twins went for the two Late Stage ones. The hair color of the twins quickly changed into a mix of black and white as they began to exchange elements. Kentucky's body also burst into black and white flames as he shot like an arrow against the Zasfin in front of him.

'Life Style, First Form, Enhancement!'

'Death Style, Second Movement Form, Shadow Air!'

'Death World!'

'Death Style, Fifth Form, Mirage Assault!'

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

'Life Fire, Flame Emperor Slash!'

'Divine Bird Strike!'

Rean, Roan, and Kentucky could literally fight Initial Stage Soul Transformation Zafins with their full power. If Rean and Roan fought together, they could even contend against a Soul Transformation Zasfin at the Middle Stage. Naturally, two Late Stage Nascent Soul Zafins didn't stand a chance when the twins' group was going all out from the start.

Swish! Swish! Swish!

Boom!

Shhhhhhh!

Argggghhhh!

The Zasfins saw how Rean, Roan, and Kentucky's attack were heading straight at them. Naturally, they also fought back with their own attacks. However, they soon regretted trying to clash against those three. They watched as their own abilities were destroyed in the head-on clash. They simply didn't stand a chance against the raw power of the twins and the Minokawa. They tried to hastily defend themselves as fast as they could, but alas, it was too late.

The weapon Roan's opponent had, which was at the Earth Peak-level, was cut through without any resistance. Even a Heaven Initial-level Equipment wouldn't resist Rean's sword, let alone something like that. Soon after, the guy was cut into three pieces as Roan's Dark Element destroyed all of his life force. Well, the destruction of life force wasn't even necessary since the guy was already dead when Roan cut him.

Kentucky's opponent was far more miserable than Roan's. His attack was destroyed by Kentucky's flaming body before both his weapon and body were pulverized at the moment Kentucky smashed against him. The difference in attack power here was even higher since the opponent was only in the Middle Stage of the Nascent Soul Realm.

Last but not least, there was Rean's opponent. His Life Fire Skill, which was a fusion of his Light and Fire Element together with his unparalleled Yang Energy control, was met with even less resistance. Rean didn't see a need to be merciful with the Zasfins since they definitely wouldn't be with humans. The guy's body was cut in half as it began to burn with intense white flames. He wasn't pulverized like how Kentucky's opponent was, but the pain wasn't definitely far off.

"What?!" Jare, who was already in a very bad mood after seeing the Zasfins losing ground everywhere, was shocked by that sight. After all, Kentucky and the twins were still in the Initial Stage of the Nascent Soul Realm. Even with that, they destroyed their opponents on a head-on clash. How could he not be shocked?

However, it was then that he remembered something. 'Wait a second...a Demon Bird and two humans. Aren't those the targets Ancestor Fikin and our entire Soul Rulers were looking for?'

In an instant, he reached a conclusion as he thought, 'So, it was really the demon beasts who took the World Swallowing Cedar away. Not only that, but they were even bold enough to send these humans and the Demon Bird to the frontlines, just to show in front of our faces that they have the Demon Tree. I need to report this.'

He then put aside his thoughts about the battle in front of himself before taking out a Thoughts Transmission Talisman. This one was of very high quality, able to send a message to very long distances. It was quite expensive, so even the Soul Rulers refrained from using such a thing constantly. He then put the talisman on his forehead as he gathered information regarding what he saw inside the talisman. Eventually, the talisman began to burn before completely disappearing. Only after that was done did he start to command the battles again.

Gia, of course, saw that as well. 'Impressive! Phex, I know that the Minokawa is a Divine Demon Beast, so its power isn't a surprise. However, those humans far surpass common sense,' she thought after witnessing everything. 'It seems like calling the humans to join this war was really a good decision.'

Boom!

On the twins' side, Kentucky just destroyed another Formation Core, which sent the entire formation into the skies. However, that wasn't the only one. Just a few seconds later, the twins heard two more explosions of the same magnitude coming from other areas. 'It seems like we can't relax, or the other groups will catch up to us.'

Rean then looked at Roan as they headed to another formation, asking him, 'Do you think the Zasfins have already noticed our real identities?'

Roan nodded as he replied, 'If they didn't, they would be real idiots. But that's fine. Even if they do, they'll think that Celis is in the hands of the Demon Beast Alliance, especially since we're fighting on their side. Only an idiot would think that we still have Celis.'

Rean and Kentucky nodded in agreement with Roan's words before they arrived at another formation.

Death... and me

Chapter 743: On Going

Because of the previous killing spree, there wasn't anyone close to where Rean and Roan were staying at the moment. After all, it wasn't like the Zasfins had Nascent Soul Realm and higher-level cultivators to defend every single formation. Jare, the Saint Realm Zasfin, was managing the forces on his side to cover the formations the demon beasts attacked through his Spiritual Sense.

Boom!

Kentucky then destroyed another formation before the twins headed to the next one. Until the Zasfins on other battlefields were reallocated, Rean's group destroyed four more formations. Simply put, Jare didn't expect that the previous three Zasfins protecting that one formation would die that easily. Of course, even after all of that, he was still more worried regarding the message he sent over, as if he was waiting for an answer.

Tens of thousands of kilometers away, in the Soul Rulers' headquarters, there was an area responsible for managing information. During the last few months, this was one of the most active places in the Soul Rulers' territory, receiving reports from all over the world regarding the upcoming war.

One of the Zasfins working there then saw one of the Thoughts Transmission Talismans activating. He saw that it was one of the expensive ones, which meant that something important happened. Sure enough, his eyes opened wide when he received the information. In the next second, he was already gone from the room, heading to the area where the ancestors could be found.

It didn't take long before Fikin heard the message from Jare. "What, he found the humans?"

The Zasfin in front shook his head, saying, "We're not sure. Jare only said that they met the description of two humans and one Demon Bird. However, their appearances are completely different. Besides, we don't know the Demon Bird's color, either."

Fikin pondered over it for a bit and finally spoke. "Hmm...it's too much of a coincidence. It's obvious that we would notice them if they appear like that. Tell me, who's Jare and where is he located at the moment? Is he part of the groups looking for the World Swallowing Tree's hideout?"

The subordinate bitterly smiled as he shook his head once again, answering, "Jare's responsible for guarding the southeast side of the Celesgal Volcano against the demon beasts. We're building a few formations there that could stop their advancement in the area, and the demon beasts are trying to prevent it."

Fikin's expression went dark as he soon muttered, "You mean..."

The subordinate nodded, replying, "Yes, they're on the Demon Beast Alliance's side."

He then took a deep breath before continuing, "We've received reports that the Demon Beast Alliance has made an agreement with the humans living in their Demon Beast Continent, so they might be a duo from there."

Bang!

With immense rage, Fikin slammed the table in front of him, blasting it out of existence. His worst conjectures had become true. "It was really the Demon Beast Alliance that took the World Swallowing Tree away! Not only that, but they're blatantly showing it right in front of our faces that they have it by showing those twins right in the frontlines. They want us to know that, those damned low lives!"

The subordinate waited for Fikin to calm down before asking, "What should we do, Ancestor? Should I tell Jare to capture the humans at any cost?"

Fikin snorted after hearing that. "Ha! For what? Do you think those humans still have the World Swallowing Tree?"

"They might not have it, but perhaps they know where it is," the subordinate answered.

Surprisingly, Fikin shook his head as he said, "It doesn't matter anymore. Now that I know the demon beasts have it, I know very well where they're keeping it. The Bestial Sacred Ground! That place makes it impossible for even me to get close due to the demon beasts' aura. It's also the only place where it could completely block any prying technique."

It was the first time that the subordinate heard of such a place. "What are the Bestial Sacred Grounds?"

Fikin narrowed his eyes as he responded, "Let's just say that it was the only reason we couldn't take full control over the planet ever since we got the World Swallowing Tree."

After that, Fikin waved his hand as he said, "That's all for now. Tell Jare that he can try to capture the humans and the bird if a chance presents itself. However, there's no need for him to put much importance on it. His priority is protecting the formations without taking part in its battles. We can't risk escalating the level of the battles at the moment. Besides, it might be a trick of the demon beasts to show a demon bird and two humans that just so happen to fit the description. That's one more reason for us to not be harsh."

The Zasfin couldn't help but be taken aback. He wanted to ask more about these Sacred Grounds that prevented the Soul Rulers from dominating the planet. However, he knew his place. It was already a big thing for the Ancestor to tell him this much. "Yes, Ancestor. I'll send the message over to Jare immediately."

After the subordinate Zasfin left, Fikin began to ponder over a problem as he thought, 'They have the World Swallowing Cedar. But...why aren't they using it?' Fikin continued to think about it. 'Well, Celis always had a terrible personality. It only worked for us because we forced it to. As a Stage Nine Demon Plant itself, it's more than strong enough to refuse being used if the demon beasts didn't prepare a similar holding area. However, I doubt they would do such a thing in the Bestial Sacred Grounds.'

Fikin then shook his head as he continued to think, 'Whatever the reason might be, the fact still stands that Celis isn't affecting the Spiritual Energy on our side. Perhaps he never will since he spent his life doing this kind of job. In any case, this is a good thing for us, especially since we have the advantage in numbers.'

Back at the Celesgal Volcano Battlefield...

Bzzzz...

Suddenly, Jare felt a reaction coming from one of his pockets before he took out a Thoughts Transmission Talisman. He put it in his head, and with that, he finally received the message sent to him.

After the thoughts got through, the talisman burnt out, just like the previous one. 'As I thought, the demon beasts really did it on purpose to show these humans and the bird here. However, the Ancestor is right. It might also be a trick to try to force my hand and attack.'

Jare's Spiritual Sense reached far and wide. Far in the distance, he saw the enormous tarantula, looking in his direction with its numerous eyes. It was as if the tarantula didn't care about what was happening on the battlefield, only about him. 'So much attention on myself. Can't you at least pretend that you don't want me to come out?'

That was all a misinterpretation from Jare. Sure, Gia was looking at him, waiting to see if he would try anything. However, it wasn't because she wanted him to come out so that she would have a reason as well. Instead, Phex put her in charge of looking at the Minokawa. A Divine Demon Beast was too important for the Demon Beast Alliance, so she was being extra careful. Of course, she was also a demon beast, so she would love to see Jare come out so that she can have some fun times as well.

Boom! Boom! Boom...!

Suddenly, more explosions were heard from another side as Jare's face turned even darker. Sure enough, another formation was destroyed. From the very start, the ZASFINS were having a hard time, not to mention that some of them had already died during the battle, diminishing their initial advantage in numbers.

As for the demon beasts' side, only one of them died in this mission so far, and it was at Initial Stage Five. That was the weakest level of demon beast participating in this event.

While all that happened, the Stage Four Demon Beasts and the Core and Soul Fusion ZASFINS and below kept fighting everywhere around. In the end, one group of demon beasts, controlled by Gia's aura, succeeded in breaking through the ZASFINS' defense before swarming another formation. Unlike the high-level ZASFINS, demon beasts had the advantage in numbers in low-level ones. Eventually, they ran it over before the Formation Core was destroyed. This was an attack only something demon beasts would do, where most died in the end due to the formation's explosion.

Time passed, and Rean's group became the first one to destroy 10 formations. Sometimes they would go all out, wiping the floor with the ZASFINS' forces. In the next second, they would disappear from the ZASFINS' Spiritual Senses and eyes before another Formation Core exploded out of nowhere.

Naturally, Jare ended up paying more attention to them than the rest of the demon beast groups. Of course, there were still the three Stage Six Demon Beasts and the four Soul Transformation Realm Zasfins. However, they had been engaged in a heated battle from the very start. The Zasfins held their ground thanks to the higher numbers, but the demon beasts didn't back down. Not only that, but their ferocity seemed to have given them a small advantage. With that being said, Jare couldn't ask one of the Soul Transformation Realm guys to leave.

However, it was then that a subordinate appeared on his side, asking him, "Senior Jare, I've returned. What do you need?"

Jare's eye lit up as he looked at the Zasfin, saying, "That was faster than I thought, Gater."

Death... and me

Chapter 744: Sun and Moon

Gater was another Soul Transformation Realm Zasfin who was out on another mission. These first skirmishes were happening everywhere that can be considered important to the Zasfins, so the Soul Rulers' experts were being sent to various locations nonstop. Gater just so happened to be working on another task before this battle started.

Gater then looked at the situation ahead and could see how his own side's Soul Transformation members were having a hard time against the Stage Six Demon Beasts. "Four against three, but we're still slightly behind. Don't worry, Senior Jare. I'll join them and force the Stage Six Demon Beasts back. Perhaps we can even kill one or two of them."

Gater then took flight and was just about to move in the beasts' direction when Jare stopped him with a Spiritual Sense Message, telling him, 'No, leave them be. Although they are on the losing end, they can still hold those demon beasts for a long time. On the other hand, I have another place for you to be.'

Gater heard Jare's commands and couldn't help but ask, 'Do I really need to make a move on them?'

Jare nodded, saying, 'If possible, try to capture one of them. It's part of Ancestor Fikin's orders.'

The moment Gater heard that name, his expression turned serious, responding solemnly, 'Understood.'

Of course, one didn't need to think too much to know that Gater was told to stop Rean's group. He was at the Middle Stage of the Soul Transformation Realm, so Jare and Gater believed that it wouldn't be too hard of a task. It's just that getting close to the twins without them knowing was basically impossible. Unless, of course, you refrained from using Spiritual Sense.

However, in this case, even that wouldn't be of any help. One must remember that Gia was on the other side. With her Stage Seven Spiritual Sense, she could totally see Gater heading in the direction of the twins and the Minokawa. Naturally, she sent them a Spiritual Sense Message, saying, 'Retreat. There's a Soul Transformation Realm Zasfin heading in your direction.'

Rean and Roan nodded in response. However, they had no intention of retreating as one of them replied, 'There's no need. We have been waiting for something like this for quite some time.'

Gia was taken aback by their words. Not only that, she was even more shaken by the fact that Rean and Roan's Spiritual Sense could reach her location from so afar. After all, they were only in the Initial Stage of the Nascent Soul Realm. 'How can their souls be so powerful?'

Of course, seeing that they stayed there, Gia tensed her legs, ready to dart in their direction. According to Phex's orders, she couldn't let the Minokawa die or be captured. The only problem was that she could see Jare looking in her direction, ready to come out as well. That's the only reason she hadn't taken flight yet.

'You two better not let the Minokawa die,' Gia said through a Spiritual Sense message.

Rean, Roan, and Kentucky smiled in response as they arrived at another formation. Gater was still some distance away, so they could use that free time to increase their merit points.

Boom! Boom! Boom! boom!

This time, no Zasfin tried to block the passage of Rean's group. Jare already knew that the average Nascent Soul Realm Zasfin would only die if they did that. Naturally, the formation was left empty.

Gater's mouth couldn't help but twitch after seeing that sight. Rean and the others knew that he was coming. Nevertheless, they went even deeper into their territory to destroy another formation. Wasn't

that the same thing as saying that they didn't care about him? 'Some puny human slaves and a chicken want to cause trouble in front of me?'

Rean heard that Spiritual Sense Message and only laughed, responding, 'Hahaha! These puny human slaves and the chicken just destroyed the 11th Demon Beast Aura Repression Formation. Not to mention that we also killed seven Zafins at a higher realm than us. I wonder how bad things would be if we weren't so insignificant.'

"Courting death!" After some time, Gater finally arrived in front of them and attacked straight away. Lightning and Fire Element gathered around him as his Rank Five Soul Mark shone on his forehead. In an instant, his power soared as thousands of Lightning-Fire Spears materialized in the surroundings.

'Thunder Fire Punishment!'

At the same time that the spears shot in the direction of the twins, another spear appeared in Gater's hand. He wasn't just good with long-ranged attacks but melee attacks as well. While his Thunder Fire Punishment covered the twins and the Minokawa's vision, he followed right behind.

'Lightning Body Flow!'

His speed immediately increased at least twice than before after using his movement technique. Not long after, a greater amount of Fire and Lightning Element gathered around his own spear, making the ones created through energy look like candles.

'Thunder Fire Destruction!'

Gater was told to capture them, but nothing was said about how badly injured they had to be. Besides, he had no interest in the Demon Bird since he didn't know it was a Divine Demon Beast.

However, Rean, Roan, and Kentucky didn't panic after seeing this. Light and Dark Elements gathered around all three of them. Sure enough, they intended to fight head-on! 'There's no Dimensional Realm to retreat anymore, so give it your all!'

'Life Style, First Form, Enhancement!'

'Death Style, Second Movement Form, Shadow Air!'

'Death World!'

'Death Style, Fifth Form, Mirage Assault!'

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

'Life Fire, Flame Emperor Slash!'

Rean and Roan opened their own barrage of attacks exactly the same way they did with the Zasfins before. Well, not exactly. The ones who used those attacks were the clones created by the Mirage Assault. The twins stayed behind. Sure enough, the outcome was very different.

Boom, boom, boom, boom!

The clones went ahead first, using the twins' skills against the Thunder-Fire Punishment Spears.

However, one couldn't underestimate the power of the Soul Transformation Realm, after all. All the four clones could do was create a gap in front before they were obliterated. Right behind that gap came a raging Zasfin at a speed even higher than the energy spears that were destroyed. Gater then looked at Kentucky, who was right in front and shouted, 'First, let me send you to the next world, chicken!'

Kentucky didn't seem to be afraid, though. 'Ha! You and what army?' His body then burst with black and white flames before it all concentrated on his beak. Kentucky was also flying, just like Gater. Not to mention that he was a Divine Demon Bird, so he wasn't much slower even though the difference in cultivation was over an entire Realm.

'Kawa's Divine Thrust!'

Kentucky wasn't that good at naming his own attacks. Rean told him that he called his meteoric attack Fried Chicken Cannonball before. However, for some reason, Kentucky didn't seem to like that. In fact, he didn't like any of the names the twins used for the attacks he used before he obtained sentience.

Leaving that aside, this attack focused Kentucky's full strength in the hardest part of his body, his beak. His defense overall was already very high, with his blade feathers and scales hidden behind. However, compared to his beak, it was still a little lacking. Not to mention that there was a risk of the attack falling between the gaps if he was unlucky. Last but not least, Kentucky didn't underestimate the power of a Middle Stage Soul Transformation Realm Zasfin, who also had a Bloodline Mark on top of that.

Boom!

Beak and spear soon collided, creating a momentary balance between the attacks.

"What?!" Naturally, Gater was shocked by that. Their cultivation realms were so far from each other, not to mention the fact that he specialized in raw power attacks. Even with that, the Demon Bird showed the same level of power as him. How could he not be shocked?!

'Do you have time to let your attention deviate from the chicken?' Rean said through a Spiritual Sense Message.

Gater felt a chill on his back as the twins appeared by his sides. No, to be more precise, it was as if they had materialized there.

Shadow Air and Death World! This domain-like technique and the Shadow Movement skill showed their frightening synergy once again. Not only that, but Rean and Roan used the Spiritual Sense bending skill at the moment Kentucky and Gater clashed, making it even harder for Gater to notice their movements.

Gater's initial plan was to kill the Demon Bird in a single strike. He was sure he would be able to do that. Following that, he would catch the humans behind Kentucky with his momentum since they could flee to other sides. One must remember that the twins' clones only created a gap in front of the barrage of the Thunder-Fire Punishment Spears. Surrounding them was just even more spears. With that, they could only retreat in one direction, behind. However, that would be the case only if Gater succeeded in getting rid of Kentucky.

Worst of all, the twins reacted way too quickly. What does that mean? Obviously, it meant that the twins were sure that Kentucky could hold him down, even if just for a second!

'Death and Life Style, Seventh Form, Sun and Moon Obliteration!'

Rean's body shone like a sun while Roan's body became completely devoid of light. Those two extreme opposing powers then gathered on their Black and White Stars before shooting against Gater. The Seventh Style was the latest attack created by Rean and Roan, using the Fifth Style, Destroyer, as the base idea.

The Fifth Style, Destroyer, forced Light and Dark Elements to turn chaotic inside their weapons before releasing the destructive energy.

The Seventh Style, however, didn't gather that destructive power inside their weapons. Instead, that phenomenon happened after Rean and Roan released their energy, forcing them into chaos at the point of encounter. Not only was that many times more powerful since the twins could totally focus on their main elements alone, that also saved their weapons from the damage created by the chaotic energy that was previously stored inside before release.

BOOM!

Arrrggh!

The result was an explosion that had strength far surpassing anything a Nascent Soul Realm could hope to achieve alone.

Death... and me

Chapter 745: Not Dead

If Rean and Roan went all out and worked together, they could put up a fight against a Middle Stage Soul Transformation Realm Zasfin. However, it wasn't just Rean and Roan here. There was also Kentucky! With the three of them together, plus the fact that the Zasfin was completely underestimating them, that brought about their enemy's demise!

In the end, the only thing that came out of that explosion was a broken spear. As for Gater's body, it would be quite hard to find any remains. Of course, Kentucky and the twins didn't leave that situation without any injuries. This was the first time they used it in real combat, and it had to be released at a close distance. With that being said, they were blasted into the Thunder-Fire Punishment Spears.

Yes, what caused the damage wasn't Sun and Moon Obliteration, but the first attack used by Gater, who was already dead.

Bang, bang, bang!

All three of them slammed on the ground as several holes could be seen on their bodies. Of course, Rean and Roan weren't idiots. They made sure to protect their heads with the Black and White Stars. In any case, they were still alive even though they were quite severely injured. In Kentucky's case, his whole body was like a piece of armor, so although there were many holes as well, they weren't anything capable of threatening his life.

Gia and Jare watched the whole scene and had both their mouths agape. Contrary to all their expectations, Rean's group had killed a Soul Transformation Realm Zasfin while being over an entire realm behind.

However, Gia and Jare saw how the twins' bodies had fared. 'They won, but they won't survive,' thought the two at the same time. That was the only consolation for Jare. As for Gia, her priority was Kentucky, so she wouldn't enter the battlefield to save the twins either. Kentucky wasn't at risk of dying, so she stayed put.

Nonetheless, Gia couldn't help but think, 'In any case, this is such a huge waste. These humans could definitely help a lot more during this war.' Gia then looked at Kentucky as she continued to think, 'Well, their deaths should be beneficial since it would make the Minokawa wish for revenge.'

However, it was then that Gia saw something strange. Kentucky got close to the twins and started laughing, saying, "Hahaha! We really did it! We defeated a Middle Stage Soul Transformation Realm Zasfin!" Obviously, that reaction left Gia puzzled as she could not help but think, 'Can't you see their injuries? Is this the time to laugh?'

Roan's bloodied mouth twitched as he weakly answered, "Shut... up. Your voice is making the pain worse."

Rean then sat down with much difficulty while trying to ignore the pain of his injuries. He didn't have the strength to talk since his lungs had been pierced as well, unlike Roan, who only had one of his lungs in that condition. So, he could only ask Kentucky through a Spiritual Sense Message. 'Bring me closer to Roan.'

Kentucky nodded and used his Spiritual Energy to grab the twins' bodies and put them on his back. After that, he flapped his wings and made his way back to the demon beasts' side.

Jare snorted after seeing that scene as he thought, 'Hmph! Are you going to bury them? Then, be my guest.'

Gia also shook her head after seeing this, not expecting much from it. If anything, she preferred that Kentucky left the humans' bodies behind and focused on the battle.

However, just a few seconds after Kentucky took flight, a ridiculous scene appeared in Jare and Gia's Spiritual Senses. Rean's body burst with Light Element, covering him, Roan, and Kentucky completely. They looked more like a ball of white energy moving through the skies. Of course, it wasn't blocked by Gia or Jare's senses.

'Life Style, Second Form, Instant Recovery!'

Right inside their Spiritual Senses, Jare and Gia saw the injuries of Rean's group healing at a frightening speed. Lungs, heart, limbs, all the horrible holes, especially on the twins' bodies, began to close up extremely fast. What were supposed to be injuries that would end their lives now seemed to be mere illusions after this. Around a minute later, their bodies were healed up back to normal as if nothing had happened in the first place.

Of course, Rean and Roan's robes were completely ragged. Not to mention that their faces were as pale as ghosts. One must remember that before that battle with the Soul Transformation Realm Zasfin, the twins' group had been on the run, destroying the formations. Naturally, they had used up a lot of Spiritual Energy, even for their Nascent Soul cultivation and much bigger Spiritual Energy Pool.

'Impossible!' Sure enough, Gia and Jare thought the same thing.

Kentucky then landed quite far away from the battlefield. There, Rean took out many Spirit Stones before they started to recover their Spiritual Energy. Not long after, a big shadow appeared over their heads as a giant Tarantula landed by their side. Unlike Jare, Gia had the right to talk to them, especially since they left the battlefield, so she wasn't intervening. "What the hell was that? How come you three recovered from those injuries? What was that white light?"

Rean laughed in response as he responded, "Oh, that? It's nothing much for Light Affinity humans like me. There's no better healing power than the Light Element. That's why we were able to recover. Otherwise, do you really think we would take that Soul Transformation Realm guy on? We aren't that crazy."

"Light Element?" Gia knew that the Light Element could be used. However, this was only possible through the manipulation of Yang Energy. That's what she thought Rean was doing at first. It was the first time she heard of someone being born with Light Affinity instead. With that, she asked, "You are kidding, right?"

Rean shook his head as a ball of white light manifested over his palm as he replied, "Nope. Light Element is just natural for me, the same way the Earth Element is for you."

Kentucky agreed with him as he backed Rean up, saying, "He isn't the only one. You probably know I'm a Minokawa, right? Minokawas' Elemental Affinities are both Light and Dark. With that being said, I can guarantee you that Rean isn't lying. He really has Light Element Affinity. By the way, Roan has Dark Element Affinity."

Gia took a deep breath after hearing that. Obviously, Phex told her about the Minokawas' traits. "No wonder Phex is so interested in you all." However, this wasn't Gia's place to ask more. "In any case, this is something between you and Phex, so I won't stick my nose into it. Just take your time to recover, and don't try to pull off such a dangerous move again. If the Minokawa dies, Phex will scoop all my eyes out."

Roan nodded, saying, "Don't worry. Now that we've shown our real power, I don't think the other side will send anyone to stop us anymore. Their other Soul Transformation Realms are very busy with our Stage Six Demon beasts, after all."

Gia nodded before she took flight once again, returning to her peak. The battles were still ongoing, so she had to keep an eye on everything. Nevertheless, she sent the twins a Spiritual Sense message from there, saying, 'In any case, you've already destroyed 11 formations. Also, you killed a Soul Transformation Realm Zasfin while being an entire realm below. It's just that the rewards for killing won't change even if there is a difference in cultivation. Well, whether you want to head back there and destroy more formations or not is up to you. I've already marked your mission as successful.'

Rean, Roan, and Kentucky nodded after hearing as Rean replied, 'We'll head back. After all, those merit points might be of some use. Just keep the Saint Realm guy away from us. That's not something we can fight against at all.'

Gia nodded, saying, 'Naturally.'

Around an hour later, their Spiritual Energy Pools were filled to the brim once again. By now, the demon beast teams had destroyed more than 50 formations, turning the array of formations useless. Since the Demon Beast Aura Repression Formations couldn't connect to each other, the rest of them had become quite meaningless.

In the end, Jare gritted his teeth and ordered the Zasfins to retreat. It would be idiotic to let more of his forces die while the target of protection wasn't there anymore. Besides, the moment the twins' group joined the battle, they might come to help the Stage Six Demon Beasts get rid of the Soul Transformation Realm Zasfins. In any case, he had already lost one. Losing four more was definitely not an option. As for the remaining formations, it became a race between all the demon beast groups to see who would destroy them first.

Rean, Roan, and Kentucky obviously joined the fray. One formation after another was destroyed as Kentucky moved at a higher speed than most. They knew that there were between 70 to 90 formations in this mission. When it was finally over, they counted a total of 83 of them. Rean's group ended up in the second position among those destroying formations, having destroyed 17.

That was to be expected. After all, after they stopped to recover their Spiritual Energy, the other teams continued their jobs. The first place, surprisingly, was Luti's group, with 23 formations destroyed. However, if one counted the merits earned, Rean's group was definitely first as they killed more Nascent Soul Realm Zasfins than anyone else. The Nascent Soul Zasfins were worth a merit point each. As for the Soul Transformation Zasfins, that added another five points.

In the end, the twins got 29 merit points.

Rean's group met up with Luti, which Rean took the opportunity to ask, "Hey, Luti. What kind of rewards are available for these merit points?"

Death... and me

Chapter 746: Let's Save The Points

Luti looked at the twins with a weird expression as he could not help but ask, "You're participating in this mission, and you don't even know that? I even heard that you killed a Soul Transformation Realm Zasfin. Also, you guys don't know about the agreement between humans and demon beasts. Just...what are you even doing here?"

Roan glanced at Luti for a moment before answering, "Training."

Rean and Kentucky nodded their heads in agreement, confirming Roan's words.

"Tr-training? You guys are weird..." Sure enough, that was the normal reaction. Luti then sighed before answering Rean's question, saying, "Anyways, the list of items available is enormous. They range from high-rank Spirit Stones to Heaven-level materials. There are even a few pieces of Heaven-level equipment up for grabs."

Rean and Roan shook their heads after hearing that. The high-rank Spirit Stones might be good, but the rest didn't seem that appealing to them. After all, Rean and Kentucky already got a lot of Heaven-level materials back when they were in the Demon Beast Continent. "Isn't there anything else more useful?"

"U-Use...ful?" Luti almost vomited blood after hearing that. The things he had just mentioned were as useful as they could possibly be. Which Nascent Soul Realm cultivator wouldn't want something like that? "Are you guys big tycoons or something like that?"

Rean scratched the back of his head in response, saying, "Well, I guess you could say we're well-off. Besides, I can craft my own Heaven-level equipment, while Roan can concoct Heaven-level pills. We don't really need those things since we have a decent amount of materials with us."

Luti couldn't help but feel even more shocked after hearing that. "You guys can fight Soul Transformation Realm Zafins, are rich, and are a Heaven-level Blacksmith and Alchemist respectively. Is there anything you guys can't do?"

Roan pointed at Rean for a moment before saying, "I would love to make him grow up."

Rean's mouth twitched in response, saying, "Fuck you! I, your grandfather, am very mature."

Even Kentucky rolled his eyes at Rean when he heard those words, let alone Roan. Naturally, it bothered Rean even more. "Hmph! It's just that this ice cube of a brother doesn't know how to take jokes."

Luti didn't know what to do in that situation as he said, "Somehow, I feel like we're deviating from the initial topic of our conversation." Nevertheless, he stopped to ponder for a moment on the reward list he saw back in the Demon Beast Continent.

"Oh, right! You might like this one. They have several drops of Divine Beast Blood. The Phoenix, Basilisk, Black Tortoise, and the White Fenrir decided to make them available for others to purchase. This might be a very good addition to your friend here," Luti said as he looked at Kentucky.

However, it was then that Kentucky answered, "Ahem...I have no need for those." What a joke. Kentucky was a Divine Demon Beast himself. Why would he need other beasts' blood? It would only conflict with his own.

Rean and Roan agreed with Kentucky as Rean said, "Indeed, we have no need for those. Is there anything else?"

Luti was on the verge of fuming already. Things that would make anyone go crazy over them had simply no appeal to these fuckers' eyes. How could he not be mad at that? 'Can I beat you? Just a little, please?!'

"Errrr..." Luti calmed himself down and thought a little more. Soon, he said, "Maybe an airship?"

With that, something that caught Rean's interest had appeared. "Airship? Do demon beasts have airships?" Naturally, he thought it to be weird.

Luti nodded, responding, "Yes. It's not that they use them, at least not often. However, they obtained a few from other Zafins who lost in battle. Or maybe they got them from some weird trades in the Demon Beast Cities, things like that. After so long, they've accumulated a few of them, with most gathering dust because almost no one uses them."

Rean, who already knew a little about them, couldn't help but ask, "What level of airships do they have? Earth Grade? Heaven Grade? What rank of Spirit Stones do they use?"

Rean found out in the Soul Rulers' headquarters that a few airships were even faster than Saint Realm experts. The airship that brought him and Roan to the Soul Rulers' headquarters just so happened to be one of those. They could keep it in the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm for future travels. Usually, they weren't good choices for running away, though. After all, they took too long to gather speed. Only in the long run would they be much better than flying with one's own body.

However, Rean had an idea of building quite a few protection formations and improving the existing ones. Depending on the situation, it might be used for escaping as well. 'Hehehe! I might as well use the Circuitry Weapon Formations I've kept secret until now. Maybe I can change it into a flying fortress. How cool would that be?!' Rean couldn't help but feel excited at the thought.

However, Luti shook his head in response, saying, "How would I know? I have no interest in the airships to start with, so I didn't look at what type they were." Sure enough, only Rean would show interest in something like that. For humans in the Demon Beast Continent, an airship would only be considered a big target for flying beasts.

Rean nodded, not minding that at all. "It's fine. Do you perhaps know how much they cost?" Rean's problem was that airships weren't made with formations alone. Otherwise, he could have crafted one himself. They carried many expensive materials since they had to fly at ridiculously high speeds. One could only imagine how expensive it was when the term 'faster than a Saint Realm expert' was mentioned.

Luti pondered a bit before saying, "Well, I just glanced at them for a second, so I might be wrong. But I'm sure they cost around a few hundred merit points. If I'm not mistaken, the cheapest I saw was 340."

Roan and Kentucky looked at Rean after hearing that, soon asking, "Isn't that too expensive?"

Rean nodded, saying, "It is, but it'll be worth it. Trust me."

Roan and Kentucky didn't have much to do with the merit points, so they simply nodded. "Alright then. Let's save the points."

Death... and me

Chapter 747: Should We Join?

Luti asked if the twins lived somewhere on the southeast side of the Demon Beast Continent. However, they explained that they lived outside with a few other demon beasts. With that being said, Luti couldn't pay a visit to them unless he traveled a very long distance. "I see...where is it exactly?"

Roan shook his head as he answered, "We'd rather not talk about it. After all, it'll be annoying if the Zasfins appear and take revenge. Not that I doubt you, but I prefer to be on the safe side."

Luti nodded, not minding it much as he replied, "That's fine. Anyways, you can find me if you head to the Demon Beast City on the southeast side of the continent. As you know, there aren't that many high-level humans in this world, so it should be pretty easy to find me there if you ask around."

As explained before, there were only five cities in the entire Demon Beasts Continent. Other than that, there were a few very small settlements and tribes in isolated places. Luti mentioned the city at the southeast, which was the only one there, so it would definitely be easy to find him.

After Gia confirmed everyone's achievements, the demon beasts began to leave one after another. However, they didn't head back to the Demon Beast Continent. After all, the travel would take weeks considering their level. Kentucky and Gulan, two Divine Demon Birds, already took two weeks to make their way there. Let alone the others.

With that said, most of them decided to stay and cultivate close to Celesgal Mountain. After all, the World Swallowing Cedar disappeared, so the Spiritual Energy in the surroundings wasn't too different than back in their territory. Besides, it would be much easier to answer the call for a new mission since they were already here.

Gia, on the other hand, decided to head back to the Demon Beast Continent. As a Dark Spiked Tarantula, she had many offsprings to take care of. She was their queen, after all. 'I also have to talk with Phex about this. These twins are too weird.'

Rean, Kentucky, and Roan then bade farewell to Luti before heading back to the valley. On their way, Kentucky asked the twins, "Say, is it really okay to keep living in the valley? At the moment, only Gulan and the demon beasts there know about us. However, what if others decide to knock on our door?"

Rean agreed with Kentucky, saying, "That's one more reason to buy an airship with the Merit Points. If they're as big as the one we used after being captured by the Zasfins, it should fit all the kids and still have empty space."

That reminded Roan about the travel in the airship. "Indeed. That thing was enormous. I only saw something similar back in the Sasamil Empire, an airship used by the Imperial Family." As Roan said those words, he immediately recalled Calina.

Of course, Rean was no different as he thought about Qia and the others, muttering, "I wonder how those guys are doing at the moment..."

To answer that question, we'd have to move to the Odbruva Empire, Erstral Country's Capital.

At this moment, two Zasfins and four humans were making their way along the streets. As they looked at the posters on the walls, they saw the old ones that talked about Rean and Roan. However, it had been quite some time since those posters were put up there, so they began to show signs of age. On the other hand, there were new ones that seemed a lot more urgent.

They stopped in front of the posters for a moment as the Zasfins took one to look at. The humans only stayed by their side with a respectful expression. Obviously, those Zasfins and humans were Frandin's group. Malaka, Calina, and Agis were just pretending to be slaves as always.

Thanks to Rean's equipment, Agis could gather Light Element to use Rean's Spiritual Sense bending skill. After all this time, he had already mastered it, so he could hide Calina, Malaka, Qia, and his own cultivation without much issue. As long as a Nascent Soul Zasfin didn't come close and checked their cultivation up close, they wouldn't be able to pierce through Agis's skill.

Of course, compared to Roan and especially Rean, Agis was quite lacking when using the skill. After all, he didn't have an affinity with it, much less did he have a soul connection to exchange elements.

Frandin then used his Spiritual Sense as he talked with everyone, saying, 'Look at this. They're saying that the demon beasts have rebelled and are now attacking all cities.'

Calina nodded, responding, 'It started not long after the Spiritual Energy of the world increased. I thought the Zafins were the absolute rulers of this planet, but it seems like it isn't that simple.'

Xiria, the other Zafin that joined their group, was shocked when she heard of it as well. 'A continent filled with demon beasts. I've never heard of it before, so how come it appeared just now? Did the Soul Rulers hide its existence?'

Agis nodded, answering, 'Obviously. They didn't want their power to be contested. Unfortunately for the demon beasts, they couldn't attack either because of the Spiritual Energy issue. Now that the problem is gone, they refuse to be treated as if they don't exist in the first place.'

Malaka couldn't help but ask, 'Do you think it has something to do with Rean and Roan?'

Immediately, everyone except Xiria nodded. 'Who are we kidding here? Wherever those two go, chaos is ensured. Since they went to the Soul Rulers' headquarters, they must have done something. Otherwise, why would the Zafins be looking for them everywhere?'

Xiria didn't know what to say. Though, she soon asked, 'Was it that bad to travel with them?'

Everyone nodded once again as they replied in unison, 'Definitely!'

Hearing that answer made Xiria even more puzzled. 'Sometimes, I don't know if you like or hate those two...'

Achoo!

Somewhere far away, a certain pair of twins sneezed.

Qia then put those thoughts behind and focused on the poster as she asked them, 'However, what should we do? Now that we're out of Valaria Swamp, should we join the war?'

Death... and me

Chapter 748: Convenience

Agis immediately shook his head as he said, 'That would be a problem. We can't join the Zasfins since it would definitely reveal our identity. Where have you seen this many Core and Soul Fusion Realm humans before?'

He was right. Everyone in their team has entered the Core and Soul Fusion Realm by now...except for Frandin and Xiria, of course. One must not forget that Xiria and Frandin were still in the Foundation Establishment Realm when they separated from Rean, Kentucky, and Roan.

'It would be easy to connect the dots and tell that we were part of Rean's group back in the Asume Clan.'

Everyone agreed with Agis on that.

Malaka then suggested, 'In that case, do we join the demon beasts' side? To be honest, I think this is an excellent opportunity to see the results of our time in Valaria Swamp. Not to mention that the demon beasts should be as annoyed with the Zasfins as us.'

Frandin didn't like that idea very much as he said, 'Don't forget that Xiria and I are also Zasfins. If this war is won by them, it'll be our race that'll suffer. I don't really feel like fighting my own kin.'

Indeed, Frandin had always made it clear that he didn't like humans. Or, to be more specific, humans who simply accepted their fate as slaves. He never said that he had anything against the Zasfins. He definitely didn't want to go around killing them either.

Xiria was the same. She did like humans more than other Zasfins, but that didn't mean she wanted to fight her own race. What if the war reached her Asume Clan? Wouldn't it put them in peril? She was certain that the demon beasts wouldn't simply let them go. After all, it wouldn't be a surprise for her

clan to join the fight against the demon beasts, and the same could be said for Frandin's father, the City Lord.

At that moment, an awkward situation took place. Agis's group didn't care about fighting the Zafins, but Frandin and Xiria did. With that being said, what should they do?

Calina pondered a bit before saying, 'Maybe that's it.' Everyone looked at her, waiting for Calina to continue. 'We have been moving together for these last few years after separating from Rean and Roan. During this time, our cultivation has improved a lot, especially after the Spiritual Energy of the world has returned to normal. Perhaps, it's the right time to separate.'

Xiria was taken aback as she asked for clarification, 'Do you mean you'll leave Frandin and me?'

Calina shook her head as she cleared up everyone's doubts, saying, 'No. I mean real separation. All of us! It's about time for everyone to take their destinies into their own hands.'

This time, Agis and the others were also left at a loss for words. 'This...'

Indeed, they had relied upon each other ever since Rean, Roan, and Kentucky left. That had obviously brought many benefits to them both in cultivation and combat experience. There was nothing to complain about.

Agis was the first one to agree with Calina, saying, 'I'm up for it. It's obvious that this war is imminent. If we continue with Frandin and Xiria, our wills are bound to clash at some point. With that, separation is the best option. Not only that, but I agree with Calina and will choose somewhere to head alone. I want to see how far I can go by myself.'

Malaka couldn't help but ask, 'What about the Spiritual Sense bending skill? Agis is the only one capable of using it because of his Yang Energy. Calina, Qia, and I can't do it.'

Qia didn't seem to mind that as she said, 'Have you forgotten what Rean and Roan said in the past? If not because of the Spiritual Sense bending skill, we would never be able to do such things as walking in the Zafins' cities. We'll basically fall into the situation we should have from the start. Besides, I think I'll try to join the demon beasts' side as well. I have my own reasons for that.'

Calina knew what reasons those were, saying, 'You basically think that Rean and Roan are definitely on the demon beasts' side. At the very least, they aren't helping the Zafins, that's for sure.' Calina then smiled as she said, 'Alright, I'll join them as well. However, I'll head somewhere else where I can do it alone. Let's see who'll find them first.'

Qia agreed with Calina on that, saying with a light grin, 'Let's!'

Agis knew that he had an advantage thanks to Rean's help. However, he wasn't idiotic enough to not use it, so he didn't say he would. 'Very well. Then, that's decided.' Agis then looked at Malaka, Frandin, and Xiria before asking them, 'What about the three of you? What will you do?'

Frandin pondered a bit, saying, 'I'll join the Zafins to fight the demon beasts. However, there's no need to worry about me. I owe you guys way too much, especially the twins. Although I'll be fighting on the opposite side, I won't talk about you or them.'

Xiria grabbed Frandin's hand and nodded, saying, 'I'll do the same thing. However, I prefer to go together with you.'

Agis and the others didn't seem to be too surprised by that. A lot of time has passed, and it increased the bond between Frandin and Xiria. In the end, they simply got together.

Frandin, of course, agreed with that as he responded with a light smile, 'You are more than welcome.'

Malaka was the last one. 'Well...I'll think about it. I just don't know whether I'll join the war or not. It's not like this is the only option available. Hahaha!'

That night, everyone shared a meal and enjoyed their time. They didn't know when they might see each other again or if they would at all. One must remember that death was always an option. Perhaps they would find the twins before that. Who knows?

The next day, they left the city and headed to a secluded place. There, they shared the spoils of their travel equally and finally departed in different directions...at least that's what happened with Frandin, Xiria, Calina, and Qia. As for Agis, a certain happy-go-lucky girl began to follow him.

Agis's mouth could not help but twitch since Malaka wasn't trying to hide her presence at all. With that, he could not help but ask, "What the hell are you doing?"

Malaka came out and shrugged her shoulders, responding, "I said I was going to think about it, didn't I? I've decided to follow you."

Agis massaged his forehead in response. It was obvious that he hated that idea. "Why?"

Malaka smiled after hearing the question as she replied with only one word.

"Convenience."

Death... and me

Chapter 749: Divine Beasts Gathering

Meanwhile, somewhere in the Demon Beast Continent, Phex was standing in front of an enormous cave entrance that shone with faint red light. At this moment, he was in his humanoid form, the same form that the twins saw before.

Phex stood there like a statue as he looked at the cave. Not too long after, three more demon beasts appeared, all in humanoid forms. One of them had wolf-like ears above his head and fur covering most of his body. The second one was bald, had many scales, and had sharp eyes. As for the third and last one, he looked like an old man with a huge turtle shell on his back. One only needed a single look to tell that he was definitely the oldest one in that group.

That group formed the four strongest demon beasts of the world, the Four Divine Demon Beasts. They were the Phoenix, Black Tortoise, Silver Fenrir, and the Basilisk. Of course, Kentucky and Gulan were also Divine Demon Beasts, but they were both in Stage Five and Six, respectively. They didn't have a reason to be here.

Phex then looked at those three before saying, "So you've noticed it as well, uh?" Right after, he asked the Black Tortoise, "Senior Darion, what do you think?"

Darion was obviously the name of the Black Tortoise. He soon responded, "From the looks of it, this hasn't only begun recently. It's just that the reactions were too small for even us to notice. No one is allowed here, so I wonder how long it has been since it started. It has to be at least a few years by now."

The Silver Fenrir then asked, "Senior Darion, Phex mentioned that another Divine Demon Beast has appeared in our world, right? That's great news for us. With that one, we could say that we have seven of them now, including us. Don't you think that perhaps..."

Darion, the Black Tortoise, nodded as he said, "Frin is right. This is the first time we have so many Divine Demon Beasts on our planet. The requirements for the Bestial Sacred Ground might have been fulfilled. No, it's most likely the case. As I mentioned, it has to be a few years since the Bestial Sacred Ground has reacted. That must've coincided with the Minokawa's maturation." A rare tinge of excitement appeared on the tortoise's face as he continued, "To think that it would happen during my time. How many years did I have to wait? I can't even remember anymore."

"Do you think we can use it to break the barrier?" the Basilisk asked, feeling even more excited than Darion.

Phex sighed in response as he said, "It's still too early, Xaon. It doesn't have nearly as enough energy as we would need. Besides, it's not like we can simply activate it, and everything will be over. You also know about the records left behind by our ancestors, right?"

Xaon, obviously the Basilisk's name, narrowed his eyes after hearing that. He soon muttered, "The Sacred Transition...the records don't say anything about how it works, only that we have a path to take."

Frin, the Silver Fenrir, nodded as he said in response, "Exactly. Besides, don't forget the requirements. We need seven Divine Demon Beasts. But look at our current situation. Only the four of us are at Stage Nine. Gulan is still a Stage Six Blue Luan, while the Minokawa we've heard about is even further back, at Stage Five."

Frin continued, "In any case, let's ignore the fact that those two are very weak. We still need the last one, don't we?"

Phex, Darion, and Xaon's expressions turned worse as one of them said, "The World Swallowing Cedar...without him, we won't be able to continue with it."

"Well, at least that cedar is already a Stage Nine Divine Demon Beast...or Plant, for that matter. He should be a lot more helpful...if we find him," Xaon said.

Darion agreed with him, saying, "That's true. Also, there's another piece of good news. All we've found so far is that Celis escaped, and no one knows if he left the planet. However, since the Bestial Sacred Ground activated, that means Celis is still in our world." Darion then looked at Phex and asked him, "Have you told the Minokawa about this place already?"

Phex shook his head, replying, "No. In fact, even my grandchild is oblivious to this place. I told them that no one knows why this planet helps out Divine Demon Beasts. I was planning to tell Gulan once he became at least a Stage Eight Divine Demon Beast."

Darion, Xaon, and Frin didn't find it weird. "You did the right thing. Coming here without having any strength might end up in disaster, after all. It's better to not risk having Gulan get ahead of himself, thinking that he could deal with it. Divine Demon Beasts are too rare, after all."

Xaon couldn't help but ask Darion, "Senior Darion, you're the most experienced between us. Do you know more or less how long it'll take for the Bestial Sacred Grounds to be ready?"

"Hmm..." Darion pondered a bit over the question before answering, "Even at my age, this is the first time I'm seeing it happen, so it's hard to predict. However, I'm sure that it won't be just one or two years. As for the exact time, we'll need to wait and see."

In a certain way, that was convenient for the Divine Demon Beasts. "That's good. We can focus on the war for the time being."

Frin couldn't help but ask, though. "However, what will happen if it does activate? This is the reason why we Divine Demon Beasts can improve much faster all around the world. In fact, it also has some effects on the common demon beasts. Otherwise, the demon beasts would be far behind in strength. I don't think it'll be an isolated event when it activates."

Phex and the others narrowed their eyes after hearing that. Frin was right. There was just too much power in this place, even if it only existed for the demon beasts. Celis alone was able to affect an entire world, so what could this place, which was definitely a lot more dangerous than Celis, do?

In the end, Phex shook his head as he said, "Let's not think about it for now. We'll see when the time comes. After all, there's nothing mentioned about it in the records."

Death... and me

Chapter 750: Moving Out

The battles between the demon beasts and Zasfins naturally continued. Rean, Roan, and Kentucky, obviously, used those chances to fight and train. At the same time, they accumulated Merit Points to buy the airship. However, their effect in the battles was just too small.

One must remember the size of this world and how many Zasfins and demon beasts there were. Although they were changing destiny in the areas where they fought, it was extremely far from enough to generate a good number of Destiny Points. Rean considered if he should give his Circuitry Formation blueprints to the Zasfins. That way, they could build the communication system, just like in Sunkan Planet, for Destiny Points.

However, he quickly threw that idea away. After all, that would help the Zasfins win the war, not the demon beasts. With a reward of a small continent on the table for the humans, Rean couldn't possibly allow the Zasfins to get an advantage.

Well, he couldn't give it to the demon beasts either. After all, almost no demon beast knew how to draw formations. They definitely wouldn't ask for the Zasfins' help on it, either. Besides, although there were bound to be a few demon beasts who know of formations, showing his blueprints to them might have the opposite effect when it came to the twins' safety. One must remember that it wasn't possible to enter the Dimensional Realm anymore if danger appeared.

And just like that, four years had gone by. Rean's group didn't receive missions straight away. There was always an interval of a few weeks to a couple of months between them, so the accumulation of Merit Points wasn't that fast.

However, there was good news. First, no one came to check their valley anymore. It was as if even Gulan forgot it existed. He simply used the Mountain Bull, who was in the other Spiritual Vein in the twins' territory, to deliver the jade slips with the tasks.

Second, Rean and Roan alone might not be much, but when put together with the other humans of the Demon Beast Continent, they were doing quite well for the demon beasts in the war. If things continued like that and the demon beasts won, they would really deserve that reward.

Another thing was that Rean, Roan, Kentucky, and Celis had finally broken through to the Middle Stage of the Nascent Soul Realm. Well, Kentucky and Celis had reached the equivalent of it, Middle Stage Five Demon Beast...or Tree in Celis's case. Although the concentration of Spiritual Energy in the valley wasn't comparable to the concentration in the Soul Rulers' headquarters before they took Celis away, they were still cultivating as one.

Celis, especially, was always absorbing Spiritual Energy, pulling Rean, Roan, and Kentucky's cultivation with him when they weren't cultivating themselves. With that, their results got quite close to what they had in the Soul Rulers' headquarters. Not to mention that the war between the demon beasts and Zafins was happening. Rean, Kentucky, and Roan weren't lacking in opponents.

The twins even fought another Soul Transformation Realm Zafin after that. However, this guy was only at the Initial Stage. Now that they were in the Middle Stage, they were able to get rid of that Zafin. Of course, if that Zafin had focused on defense or escaping, it wouldn't have been so simple. However, which Zafin would flee in front of Nascent Soul Realm humans and a Stage Five Demon Beast? Just like the first one, he completely underestimated the twins' group, dying in the process.

The twins were also able to accumulate quite some wealth in terms of Spirit Stones. Now that they were only fighting enemies at the Nascent Soul Realm and above, they got a lot of spoils. That second Soul Transformation Realm Zafin even had a Spatial Collar, which was worth a lot of money. As for Spirit Stones, most of them had at least a few Rank Four ones. So they had acquired a little bit over 20000 of them.

Of course, that was only possible since no Stage Seven or Saint Realm expert has joined the fray so far. Otherwise, those who usually observed the battles would definitely have stopped the twins.

The twins weren't the only ones who have improved during this time. Back in the valley, the same four years had gone by. As one could imagine, Malo and the other Purple Talent kids had all advanced into the Core Formation Realm as a result. Of course, there were those with Red Color Aptitude, while some had Blue Color Aptitude. As one could imagine, the group that first entered the Foundation Establishment Realm was at the forefront, with most of them already at the Middle or Late Stage of the Core Formation Realm. Malo, especially, was at the peak of that realm.

No, calling all of them 'kids' wouldn't work anymore. After all, Malo and the others were already 13 years old before the war started. With that said, they were all 17 now, with Malo very close to becoming 18. It's just that there were many kids who were babies or below 10 years old back then, so most of them were still kids.

Rean and Roan couldn't help but feel a little jealous. If only they had these conditions back then, they would probably be just as fast, and that's considering their bigger Spiritual Energy Pools.

'As expected of Purple Color talents. They're terrifying,' Rean and Roan could not help but mutter inwardly several times during these past few years.

However, talent could only bring them so far. Until now, the kids in the valley had been sparring against each other or using Rean's formations to fight fake opponents. Unfortunately, that wasn't cutting it anymore. Roan could clearly see their lack in combat experience, or to be more exact, the lack of danger of dying. It was due time to let them head out and gain experience. It's just that the area they were in was a terrible choice. After all, the Tribes' Zone was mostly occupied by Zafins. If so many high-level humans suddenly appeared here, that would definitely attract too much attention.

Rean and Roan discussed this issue and eventually came to a conclusion. Although each mission didn't give that many merit points, doing missions for four years still helped accumulate a lot. With that said, Rean's group had enough to finally buy Rean's beloved airship. "We're moving to the Demon Beast Continent."