

Death 891

Death... and me

Chapter 891: Main Issue

There was a reason for Rean to not try and hide the existence of their Communication System from the Zasfins. Simply put, it would be impossible to hide it in the first place. This was something that would occupy an entire continent. How would they keep it a secret with tens of millions of people using the devices? That would be ridiculous. Not to mention that the Zasfins would be idiots if they didn't convince some ex-slaves to deliver information to them through whatever methods.

Since that was the case, Rean laid everything out in the open from the very start. 'Don't worry, this communication system created by my sect will be available for your cities as well. After all, it would make things simple when negotiating with both parties. Now then, please wait in the tower until the representatives of the cities come and talk with you. I'll be there as well when that time comes.'

Frandin and Xiria wanted nothing more than to talk with Rean about everything that had happened so far. However, only Frandin's father knew about their relationship with Rean. Besides, it would spell doom over their family if word got out.

Devou then nodded in response, saying, 'Alright, we will see you later.'

The human expert took his Spiritual Smartphone back before saying, "I'll be at your service during your stay, so you can simply call me Zian. However, don't push your luck too much. Otherwise, don't blame me for being nasty." Soon after, he pointed at the tower, telling them, "Now then, I'll give you a quick tour inside the tower and will explain how the communication system works. After all, we will need to install a few antennas around your territories if you guys also want to use it."

Naturally, there wasn't a single Zasfin not interested in that communication system. At the very least, they wanted to know if they could copy that method somehow. As one could imagine, there were Formation Masters present in their group at the moment, so they were the most excited ones.

Everything proceeded smoothly inside Freedom City's Communication Tower. Zian gave them a simple explanation of how it worked and showed the devices to the Zasfins. Unfortunately, even their Formation Masters couldn't understand anything. After all, those were all Circuitry Formations, a different path of formations they had never seen before. That was also why Rean wasn't afraid of someone stealing it either. Especially since quite a few Spiritual Senses from the demon beasts were focused in the Freedom Sect.

Once they were done with the tour, Zian brought the group to a few rooms, where he separated them by cities. Although that made the representatives nervous, they could only comply with Freedom City's rules.

Inside the room prepared for Danve City, Frandin, Xiria, and Devou waited for the time they would be called. Well, they also thought about another possibility.

Knock! Knock! Knock!

Suddenly, someone knocked on the door before entering. As soon as Xiria and Frandin saw who it was, they confirmed their suspicions, with Frandin saying, "As I thought, you separated us so that no one would find it suspicious if you wanted to talk with Xiria and me alone."

Naturally, the one there was Rean and the others. "Hehe! It seems like you understand things very well." Rean then went closer to Frandin before patting his shoulder, asking, "So, how have you been? Is everything alright on your side?" Obviously, Agis was also there to talk with him. "How much did you get beaten up during the war? Hahaha!"

Xiria, Calina, Malaka, and Qia also got together to talk. "I heard that you and Frandin are together now. Is that true?"

Xiria couldn't help but show a slightly red expression before nodding. "Yes..."

Naturally, the girls immediately switched to gossip mode straight away. Not wanting to be left behind, Xiria also asked about Qia and Calina. It was then that she found out about Agis and Malaka. Well, it would be hard to not find it with the size of Malaka's belly.

"Ahem!" Suddenly, a certain someone who was being ignored in the corner decided to call their attention. "You kidnapped my son back then and have nothing to say to me?" Naturally, that certain someone was Devou.

Rean shrugged his shoulders in response, telling the man, "Didn't I give him back ten times better? He was a lost case before. However, look at him now. How many Zasfins at his age can match his strength and cultivation?"

Frandin's mouth twitched in response. "Who was a lost cause? This grandfather here was having a very good life before you took me away, you know? Sure, I wouldn't have the strength I have today. However, I would still grow to become the city lord of Danve in the future."

It was then that Frandin noticed something, asking, "By the way, where's Roan?"

Rean looked at Frandin as if he was an idiot, saying in response, "Do you really think Roan would care about such emotional reenounters? In his head, he might as well spend this time cultivating. That's all."

Frandin scratched the back of his head in response. "Well, that's true. That guy is an emotionless training machine, after all." Roan would probably like that nickname. Too bad he completely ignored Rean and Calina when they told him Frandin was coming.

Devou noticed that he was being forgotten once again, though. "How long will you pretend I don't exist? I know this is your territory and that killing me would be easy, but I also have my pride."

Rean then patted Devou's shoulder after hearing that, saying, "Alright, alright. What is it that you want to talk about?"

Devou then looked at Frandin and Xiria before looking back at Rean, telling them, "You guys do know that Frandin, Xiria, and even I participated in the war, right? I'll tell you in advance even though we killed a lot of demon beasts, we also killed a few humans. Naturally, there were many more demon beasts. What I want to know is if it will affect your relationship or not. Because if it does, I want to know right now. Our cities depend on North Wringan's local materials, after all."

Sure enough, the main issue was brought to the table.

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Chapter 892: Good Luck With That

In response, Rean simply shrugged his shoulders as he replied, "I killed a lot of Zasfins, didn't I? In the end, that's what war is. I'm just happy that Frandin didn't appear on the other side of the battlefield since I wouldn't hold back just because of him."

That was a very straightforward answer, much to Devou's surprise. "I see...if that's okay with all of you, then I'm obviously okay with that as well. I won't play dumb, though. I still think that humans should be serving us. That's how it has always been as far as I remember. I know that it isn't possible anymore, but this kind of mindset won't change anytime soon."

Rean couldn't help but look at Frandin after hearing that, saying, "He really is your father."

"I agree." Frandin nodded in agreement. One must remember that Frandin always made it clear that he saw human slaves differently from Rean's group. He didn't try to hide it at all.

Nevertheless, Rean was satisfied with that. "Devou, I quite like you. As long as you're open with your feelings, I think our negotiations will run a lot smoother. It's definitely a lot better than trying to keep things hidden." Rean then smiled as he continued, "Of course, if you try and go around killing humans or try and make them your slaves, I definitely won't hold back, even if you're Frandin's father."

"That's fine by me." Devou would be lying if he said that he wasn't nervous about the result of this conversation. After all, he did put his feelings out in the open. He still felt aggrieved at the fact that his city's economy was ruined after Wringan was taken away. Otherwise, he would have never resorted to Frandin's connection with Rean to ask for help.

After that, Frandin, Xiria, Rean, and the others spent some time talking with each other. They tactfully kept the war out of the discussion, though. It wouldn't be nice to hear more about the death of their races. Their time of relaxation continued until suddenly, they heard another knock on the door.

A city worker then came inside, telling Rean, "Elder Rean, all the representatives of the cities in the north of Fausec Country are here already. We can start the negotiations at any time."

Rean nodded before looking at the others, telling them, "Alright, you guys can continue to talk. I'll head out to participate in the meeting with Senior Devou. The rest of you aren't considered part of this, so I can't let you come."

Devou couldn't help but ask, "Can't Frandin come with me? He will eventually inherit the position of Danve City's City Lord."

Rean shook his head in response, telling him, "Every city has only one representative, so it would be suspicious if you had someone to accompany you. They might also think it's unfair treatment. I'm sorry, but this has nothing to do with my relationship with Frandin."

Devou could only sigh in response and accept Rean's arrangements.

In the meeting, Malo and Poliana obviously took part as Sect Leader and another elder of the sect. Suana, the one responsible for the sect's office, was also participating. As one could imagine, the meeting started off very rough since the ZASFins still feared being taken in as prisoners or getting tortured and killed. Of course, such a thing didn't happen since the city lords or their representatives understood the economic advantages of these trades. Some time into the negotiations, the ZASFins gradually relaxed, understanding that the humans really wanted to get to business here. That also helped them state the conditions of their contracts more openly.

The meeting kept going for several hours and deep into the night. After all, each participating city of Palif Empire's Tasman Country had different deals with the few towns in Fausec. Well, it wasn't called Fausec Country before anyway.

By the time the meeting ended, everyone there was feeling quite mentally fatigued. After all, it wasn't like their feelings for each other changed all of a sudden. Humans still hated the ZASFins for being slaves or being confined in the Sealed Regions for so long. ZASFins still thought that humans should have continued to be their slaves. In any case, real agreements were reached between the several parties in the end.

"Alright, I would like the representatives of Fausec Country's cities to head back and report your achievements today in this meeting." Rean then looked at the representatives of the ZASF cities. "As for you guys, I would like to discuss the communication system. I want to test if using the communication system in ZASF territory is viable or not."

The Fausec Country representatives were taken aback. After all, they thought that the communication system should only be used by humans. Wouldn't that put the human's future advantage at risk if the enemy could do the same thing? However, before they could voice their thoughts, Rean interrupted them, telling them, "There's no need for you to worry. Our Freedom Sect obviously has its own thoughts by offering this. It won't jeopardize the humans' situation in the future. I can guarantee that much."

Only after hearing Rean's confirmation did the guys head out of the room, leaving only the Zasfins and the Freedom Sect members inside.

Rean then smiled at the Zasfins, telling them, "There's no need for you to think too much about it either. Whether you want to try the communication system is up to you. I won't explain why it wouldn't be a problem for our human race. All I can tell you is that the Zasfins won't be able to use it against us. Well, as long as it's only used for things other than talking about invading the Wringan Continent, it's more or less fine by us."

The Zasfins looked at each other with a hint of hesitation. They thought the same thing as the other humans who first heard about the system. Wouldn't the Freedom Sect use it to listen to their messages? But then again, Rean used the same reasons as he did before, which forced them to go silent. In the end, only half of the Zasfins agreed with letting the Freedom Sect install a few antennas for tests while the others would first watch and see how it would go.

Rean wasn't disappointed by that. In fact, he was surprised that half of them accepted it. 'Well, they're probably thinking about using their own Formation Masters to analyze and reproduce the Circuitry Formations. Hehe! Good luck with that.'

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Chapter 893: On the Rails

Rean was pretty confident that without the methods shown in the Formations Repository in the Soul Gem System, those people definitely wouldn't be able to replicate it. Also, it would be very hard for them to do that without Rean's knowledge of the modern world. Rean himself knew how hard it was to teach Qia and the others about principles found by modern science, which were things that none of them ever considered to exist. Without those principles, even if the Zasfins had the method to create Circuitry Formations in their hands, it would be too hard to bring it to life.

The meeting was finally over sometime later as Rean finished the details on which cities and where the antennas on Tasman Country's cities would be installed. All in all, the negotiations went well, and both parties would start trading in a month's time.

Back at Freedom Sect, Roan and Zuo were cultivating in a room. Roan had finally gotten a perfectly working version of the Magnetism Cultivation Manual, which Zuo was currently using. With the

environment's Spiritual Energy at the Rank Three level, Zuo's cultivation skyrocketed, bringing him to the Late Stage of the Energy Gathering Realm in these past few months.

Of course, Roan didn't leave Zuo only cultivating. Freedom Island had a lot of demon beasts at Stage Four or below. Thanks to that, there was no lack of opponents for Roan to put up against Zuo. He also made sure to train the boy in combat properly. That being said, Zuo could already fight Initial Stage Two Demon Beasts with his traits.

At first, the boy trembled more than battled, and Roan had to save him a few times. Naturally, injuries were constant as well. Though, Roan didn't care that much. With Rean's Instant Recovery skill, Zuo most likely could be healed as long as he didn't die. It was during this time that Zuo also understood why Roan was called the Demon King in the sect. In fact, Zuo's training schedule was a lot harder than most. After all, he had Roan's total attention, while the rest of the disciples simply received a standard training routine. Well, even the standard one was hellish, making even Julia feel sorry for the boys, let alone the girls.

Nonetheless, everyone who joined the sect understood that they all worked. It wasn't an oppressive environment where dogs ate dogs like most of the places outside. The sect was very united, obviously because of the same experience they had back in the Soul Rulers' time. As for the new disciples, they were quickly brought close to the sect's disciples. Even the difference in talent between the old and new didn't stop the senior disciples from becoming close with the new ones.

For that, Rean couldn't help but mention one time. "Where will you find a sect in the cultivation world where almost, if not all of them are so loyal? None of them wants to leave this place, and that's the kind of environment I like."

Meanwhile, the communication system finally started taking its next steps, expanding outside Fausec Country. The sect had obtained more Formation Masters from outside, thanks to its influence. As a result, that increased the speed at which the antennas were produced.

That wasn't all. Srevil's group had finally finished developing the new Minuscule Rune Carvers. That meant Rean's Nokias could now be mass-produced. One didn't need to be a Heaven-level Formation Master to build them anymore. Of course, when it came to the development of new models, Heaven-level Formation Masters were still necessary.

Nine months after the war was over, Freedom City began to take shape. Just like the Demon Beast Cities in the Demon Beast Continent, Freedom City also began to have all races walking on its streets.

Obviously, it meant that ZASFINS and demon beasts could be found there. It's just that their numbers were extremely small compared to humans.

Nonetheless, Freedom City's City Lord, the one who was also part of the Freedom Sect, did a very good job. He made sure that the humans would not attack the ZASFIN merchants that came from the cities of Palif Empire's Tasman Country. In fact, those merchants loved to come to Freedom City since the Spiritual Energy concentration here was really high. Some even found ways of permanently staying while continuing to trade with the humans.

During this time, a few cultivation breakthroughs happened within Rean's group. Malaka and Qia had reached the Peak Stage of the Core and Soul Fusion Realm. Agis was the same thing. However, the one furthest ahead was still Calina, who always had a cultivation level higher than the others. With Roan's Heaven Initial-level Cross-Realm Pill, she finally entered the Nascent Soul Realm. One must remember that before Rean and Roan separated from Calina, her cultivation was higher than theirs. So it was normal for her to be the first among the others to get to that realm.

Rean and Roan didn't stay behind either. Celis, Rean, Roan, and Kentucky had a cultivation connection where they could pull each other, keeping their cultivation level on par. Celis already had an insanely high rate of Spiritual Energy absorption due to his race, the World Swallowing Cedar. Rean and Roan's last two Spiritual Energy Absorption upgrades only made that become even faster. Last but not least, Kentucky also obtained the same upgrade as them.

Because of that, all four of them advanced into the Late Stage of the Nascent Soul Realm or the Late Stage Five Demon Beast level. Rean, Roan, and Kentucky weren't even in their forties yet, so one could imagine how surprised the other experts of the sect felt when they heard about it. They all understood that these twins and the Divine Demon Bird would be the real supporting pillars of the sect in the future together with Celis. After all, not only were their cultivations high, their combat strength was several stages higher than their own as well.

However, the biggest news on the ninth month wasn't any of that. Instead, it was the birth of Malaka and Agis's kid. Surprisingly, this was the first kid to have ever been born in the Freedom Sect.

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Chapter 894: We Understand

"So, it's a girl, huh?" Rean said as he looked at the baby embraced in Malaka's arms. Well, they all knew about that already since they could feel it in Malaka's belly with their Spiritual Senses. Rean then took a Soul Power Measurement Orb and had the little baby touch it.

-Soul Power, 24 points-

Wow!

In the end, Rean was right. Because Malaka and Agis developed Soul Power, their kid inherited that trait. It wasn't anything impressive, though. If one thought about Frandin, for example, he had 73 points when he was born. Although 73 points were considered a high value for newborn Zasfins, 24 points were on the other end of the line. It was deemed as below average.

"The amount of Soul Power she has doesn't matter. The fact is that she has above 20 points. Once she grows old enough, she will be able to manipulate and train it. Also, it means that Bloodline Soul Mark Formations are now useless on her since her Soul Power is too high. This is what I want to happen with all the humans in Wringan Continent." Rean was obviously happy to see that. Even if the value was below 20 points, the fact is that the kid's Soul Power would develop on its own during the next few years. Because of that, it would surpass 20 points sooner or later as it has inherited her parents' bloodline.

Qia took the little girl in her arms and couldn't help but ask, "Have you decided a name for her already?"

Malaka immediately nodded, responding, "It's Mia."

Immediately, everyone understood. That was the name of Malaka's old master, the Dalamu Sect Master, who 'died' in Sunkan Planet. Even now, none of them knew what happened after the planet's 'destruction.'

Those words also reminded Rean of his sister, Rana. She had been barely born when that event happened. "Sigh...what a very good name, Malaka."

The others also agreed with Rean.

"Indeed."

"I couldn't have thought about something better."

"I think it's great!"

Roan, who hasn't said anything until now, snorted in response, saying, "I see. That means you still remember your days of training with your old master. That's great! I'll make sure to make her soul in the underworld proud. Now that your kid is finally born, you better be prepared to make up for all the laziness up to this point."

Malaka's expression went pale after hearing that, more than it was after giving birth. "Ahem...perhaps we should select another name for her. What do you think, Agis?"

Agis looked away, pretending he didn't hear anything as he whistled. "Nice weather outside, don't you think?" Today was very cloudy...

Malaka was crying already after that. "Traitor!"

Hahahaha!

The mood in the room immediately brightened up once again. Rean, for a moment, glanced at Roan, who closed his eyes as if nothing had happened. 'Well, it's not every day you see Death itself caring about everyone's feelings.'

[That's true. We could say that the Demon King is improving, even if it's an old tortoise's pace.] Sister Orb agreed with Rean's thoughts as well.

Roan completely ignored those two before turning around to leave the room. He saw what he wanted to see, which was the baby's Soul Power. That meant Rean's plan of awakening the humans' Soul Power could really work.

In fact, Rean felt a lot more confident once he saw the numbers on the Soul Power Measurement Orb. After all, he could only use his feeling for Life Force to confirm it so far. Having concrete proof in front of him was another story altogether.

Later that day, Rean went to check the reports of the equipment created with his Light Element Gathering Metals. He spent quite a bit of his time making many huge pieces of low-level ingots. Those ingots were then sent to several cities where gold and blacksmiths turned them into small and cheap pieces of equipment. Freedom Sect even created a new company just for that, the Freedom Healing SA. No one understood why Rean put SA in the name, though. "You guys don't need to care about it. It's just a personal taste..." or so Rean said.

The disciples in his office organized all the papers and jade slips so that Rean only had to read through them. "Oh! So we were able to reduce the price to the point where people can buy it with copper coins, huh? That's great!" Freedom Healing SA's equipment had a good effect on injuries, especially on people who didn't have any cultivation.

One must remember that the higher one's cultivation, the harder it was for Rean to heal. One could take Phex and Darian, the two Stage Nine Divine Demon Beasts, as examples. In Darian's case, Rean spent weeks working on him. However, ordinary humans, which were obviously the majority, didn't have any cultivation whatsoever. That's where Rean's healing equipment made the biggest impact.

Kids who simply fell on the ground and bruised their knees, for example. In just a few hours, such injuries would be gone as long as they kept wearing a Healing Collar. One can't underestimate this power. Bruises weren't things that disappeared in just a few hours to start with. Usually, they would take several days to weeks, depending on how serious they were. As for more serious injuries, like broken bones and so on, a few days wearing the Healing Equipment would usually be enough.

Rean's ingots all had minuscule Spiritual Energy Gathering Runes all over. Since the metal gathered Light Element once Spiritual Energy was poured inside, they were constantly absorbing and released tiny amounts of Light Element in the users' bodies. Now that the company succeeded in reducing their price to mere copper coins, it obviously became a hot pocket in the hands of the shops selling it.

A few countries saw this chance and immediately made agreements with Freedom Healing SA. Obviously, the company accepted all of them as long as they kept the base of the business, which was the low price. "Sigh...the only question now is how long it will take for the wearers to develop their Soul Power. If I'm not wrong, I should see a few developments in the next few months in the areas where this type of equipment was first introduced." He could only wait to see how it would go from there.

Rean then looked at one of the disciples in his office before saying, "Make sure to keep the Soul Measurement Orbs available for the public everywhere. Just say that the first humans to achieve a Soul Power over 20 points will receive a prize in gold coins from the Freedom Sect."

The disciples immediately nodded after that. "Yes, Elder Rean. We already have our partners working on it. If you visit the first regions that received our Healing Items, you will see that their cities have Soul Power Measurement Orbs positioned on crowded streets. Our partners, who are selling them, are also promoting it in their own shops."

Rean was satisfied with that. "That's good. Let me know as soon as a human with more than 20 points of Soul Power appears. I want to go and see it myself."

"We understand, Elder Rean."

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Chapter 895: Spreading

Another event took place during this time as well. Freedom Sect had installed a few antennas in the cities in Tasman Country. Of course, there were a few more antennas installed between the Freedom Sect and the cities as well. After all, the antennas had to be in range of each other. Even if the signal could bend due to Spiritual Energy, the antennas still had a range limit on how far they could spread the signals.

Now that Freedom Sect was able to mass-produce Spiritual Smartphones, they gave a few thousand of them to the Zasfins. It wasn't even close to the amount being distributed in Wringan Continent. Nevertheless, that was a huge help for the Zasfins themselves. That's because those Spiritual Smartphones didn't need to be used to talk with the humans in Wringan only. The city lords and other elders in high positions in those Zasfin cities could talk to each other as well. They didn't need to use expensive Thoughts Transmission Talismans and could simply call the other side straight away.

Because of that, the cities that accepted to have antennas built in their territories began to gain an advantage in negotiations. Many things could be resolved very quickly with simple calls, instead of having to go all the way back to their cities and then return once more.

As one could imagine, the other half of the cities who wanted to simply see how those antennas would fare in the Zasfin territories immediately contacted the Freedom Sect. They simply couldn't wait anymore and asked for their cities to receive some antennas and Spiritual Smartphones.

However, it was then that Rean changed the terms, telling them, "You were the guys who didn't want it before. Now we have several times the number of cities in our Wringan Continent waiting in the queue. I'm sorry, but we won't be able to install the antennas in your cities anytime soon. Let me check here...we have a vacancy in our installation schedule three years and two months from now. Well, we're all cultivators, so such little time doesn't matter to us, right?"

"What?!" One elder of a clan from a city called Yistrik was taken aback after that. However, he didn't give up so easily. "Can't you do something about that? We can't wait that long at all!"

"Well..." Rean stopped for a moment before continuing, "We can put you ahead in the queue, but there will be a price." Sure enough, the key moment arrived.

The elder obviously didn't like the idea very much. However, the communication system of the Freedom Sect was just too important at the moment. "Depending on the price, we don't mind paying it. However, it can't be anything absurd. If the price is above the amount of income we would have during this time while waiting, then we won't accept it."

Rean laughed in response after that, saying, "Hahaha! But of course! In fact, I have an idea. How about having our Freedom Sect receive 10% of the city's income for the next three years? It'll be a very small value every month, and you will definitely benefit a lot more." Rean's idea was very obvious. Once the communication system was introduced in the elder's city, their income should increase quite a lot. 10% of the city's actual income was definitely not as much as it would be after they obtained the antennas and Spiritual Smartphones.

The elder obviously knew why Rean proposed that deal. "Alright, then we have a deal. Though, you have to do the installation within a month at most." Nevertheless, the elder could only accept the offer. He was afraid that if he tried to bargain, Rean would give up on the idea.

The same thing happened with many other cities in Tasman Country. In fact, it also happened in Wringan. For Freedom Communications LTD, that was extra income on top of the monthly income they were already getting for the use of their system.

Because of that, a certain type of profession began to appear in Freedom Sect, administration. The sect's businesses were expanding too fast, so they needed qualified people to take care of it. Suana, the one who was in charge of most administrative issues in the sect, obviously more than welcomed the addition of this new type of class in the school.

Another good thing was that the sect's old disciples were mostly highly talented humans with Blue Color Talents and above. That also reflected their ability to learn complicated things, so many of them showed quite some promise. As for why so many got interested in it, that's because the sect was being very generous with Spirit Stones and Sect Points to those who took such positions in the sect's businesses.

Everything was going very well in the Freedom Sect until the tenth month after the war. However, it was around this time that the higher-ups of the Zasfin continents began to take notice of them.

"Communication System?"

"Long-distance communication with almost no cost? Is that possible?"

"How does it work?"

"Send someone to check those Spiritual Smartphones and antennas."

"We need to find out how they work."

"Send our best members. Our Formation Master Guild must get our hands on the method of how this system is created."

That was all for nothing, though. The Formation Master Guild even sent their Heaven High and Peak-level Formation Masters to check Rean's communication system. Unfortunately, they simply couldn't understand how the Circuitry Formations and their runes worked.

"I recognize quite a few of the formation runes being used. However, just how is this thing even working?"

"Why are you asking me? The problem is that there are runes we've never even seen before!"

"Runes? Hahaha! These things are completely different from what we have seen so far. Can you even tell whether they are runes or not? I definitely can't!"

"This isn't working. Even with the samples right in front of us, we can't understand anything without the methods used to build these...errr...antennas...and controlling formations."

Eventually, after much discussion and testing, the Formation Masters of the Formation Guild reached a conclusion. "Send someone to investigate. We need to find the Formation Masters responsible for the creation of these things."

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Chapter 896: Dream On

Of course, it didn't take long for the Formation Masters to find out that the Freedom Sect was responsible for it. As soon as that happened, they sent people to Freedom City to learn more about the creators. It didn't even take a long time to find about it since Rean never really tried to keep it a secret. It's just that after they found out about him, the Zasfins who had relations with the Soul Rulers felt somewhat uncomfortable.

"So...it was the human who was working on formations back in the Soul Rulers headquarters."

"Doesn't that mean Rean developed this new type of communication formation after learning about it from the Soul Rulers?"

"That doesn't make sense. I helped the Soul Rulers with a few formations before. I'm sure they didn't have anything like that. Unless they were hiding this new method until now."

"That's even more impossible, don't you think? If they had access to this kind of formation before, they would have used it during the war. Can you not see how big of a difference it would have made if they had it there? There's no way they kept it hidden."

"In that case, Rean developed it on his own...but the things he learned about formations in the Soul Rulers headquarters definitely helped out."

One couldn't blame those Formation Masters for thinking that way. After all, no one other than the Divine Demon Beasts and Rean's friends knew that his group came from another planet. Let alone the fact that Rean has the Soul Gem System.

"What should we do, then? Try to kidnap Rean or one of the Formation Masters working in Freedom Sect?"

"Hahaha! Good luck with that! From the moment I entered Wringan Continent, the demon beasts kept their Spiritual Senses on me nonstop. I'm absolutely sure no one will be able to touch the Freedom Sect unless they send the ancestors of the Zasfin Race to do the job."

"That won't happen since it would be in violation of the agreement. The Ancestors want to use the demon beasts' Bestial Sacred Ground to head to the Realm of Gods. It doesn't matter how important this communication system might be. They won't jeopardize their chances to enter a higher realm of cultivation just to get their hands on it."

With that, the Zasfins were in a huge dilemma. On one side, they needed to obtain the methods to build the communication system. On the other, they couldn't start an incident against the demon beasts. Otherwise, the Zasfin Ancestors of the Soul Rulers would personally come and kill them.

In the end, they had only one choice.

"Do we really need to negotiate with the humans? They were just slaves a few months ago."

Sure enough, that feeling pestered all the Formation Masters of the Formation Master Guild. Nevertheless, they could only begrudgingly accept that choice as they couldn't find out how it worked on their own. They needed the principles behind creating the communication system.

Eleven months after the war, a disciple came to Rean's office to deliver a message, telling him, "Elder Rean...there seems to be a few Formation Master Zasfins waiting to talk with you outside the sect. I told

them hundreds of times that you don't want to be bothered, but they simply don't give up. Should I send a call to Elder Julia or Rarigo?"

Rean was surprised for a moment, but he knew what the Zasfins came here for. With that, he replied, "There's no need. You can tell the guards to guide the Zasfins to my office. If anyone asks, just tell them it was my decision."

The disciple immediately nodded. "Yes, Elder Rean."

Rean couldn't help but ponder over it after that, thinking to himself, 'Well, that was faster than I thought. It seems like the Formations Guild is quite interested in the communication system. Otherwise, I would have entered the Bestial Sacred Ground before they appeared.' Rean then thought about it from another perspective. 'Oh well, this is also a good opportunity since I don't know what will happen there. Better leave everything on the rails before then.'

Naturally, Rean received a few Spiritual Sense messages asking why the Zasfins were allowed in the Sect. Nevertheless, Rean just told them to forget about it as he had everything under control.

The Zasfins noticed that they weren't the least bit welcomed there, but they ignored all of that. For the communication system, they were willing to enter the dragons' den. It didn't take long before a disciple of the sect brought the group of Zasfin Formation Masters to Rean's office.

"Hello, everyone. You surprised me when I received a message that some Zasfins wanted to talk with me," Rean said with a smile. "In any case, I'm happy that you're all here. I hope we can have a good time as well. So...what is it that you came to talk with me for?"

The group of Zasfins immediately looked at one of their members in the center. From the looks of it, he was the leader of this party. Seeing their gazes, the Zasfin stepped forward and said, "It's good that you received us. My name is Larefin Dubam, one of the elders in Palif Empire's Formation Master Guild. I believe you already know why we're here. We want the method to build the communication system formations."

Sure enough, the elder acted incredibly high and mighty. In his eyes, he was still a Zasfin, while Rean was just a human. Whether Rean's knowledge of formations was better than his own or not didn't matter.

Rean, however, couldn't care less about the guy's feelings, saying in response, "Oh, is that so? Very well. The Communication System is something I invented. Tell me, why should I give it to you?"

"Isn't that obvious? This kind of system can change the world. Once we learn how to make it, we can improve and spread this knowledge around the world. You should be honored that our Formations Guild is willing to at least recognize its creator to be a human."

Rean couldn't help but laugh out loud after that. "Hahaha! Indeed, this is such an honor! Too bad I don't give a flying fuck about that. You want to know how to build my communication system? Dream on!"

Death... and me

Chapter 897: Follow Me

Obviously, that wasn't what Larefin wanted to hear. However, he didn't lose his cool, using other methods to get what he wanted as he asked, "What? Do you want payment? We don't mind it. Just say your price, and we can provide it. As long as it isn't unreasonable, we can definitely work it out. Don't underestimate the funds of the Formation Master Guild."

Rean narrowed his eyes in response, telling him, "It seems like you didn't understand what I said. I have no reason to give it to your Zasfin race. After all, wouldn't it be used against my human race once the thousand-year non-aggression agreement is over? No price can pay for that."

Larefin couldn't help but rebuke, "What kind of shitty reason is that? You are talking about something that will only happen a thousand years in the future. Do you really think we can't figure out how this communication system works until then? You should take what you can while we're still willing to pay."

"Hmph!" Rean snorted after hearing that. "I truly think you can't figure out how it works even in a thousand years. That's how confident I am. Only a scant few of the Formation Masters in Freedom Sect know how the core components are created. Not to mention that they have restrictions applied on those memories as well. Even if you capture some of them, you will never find out how the communication system works. My Freedom Sect has total control over it."

Larefin felt like killing Rean right there and then. The memory restriction is something their Zasfin race created. Their race was good at the matters of the soul, after all. He just didn't expect that a human would be able to use it as well. However, considering that Rean did stay in the Soul Rulers' headquarters for quite some time, he didn't find it surprising that Rean obtained his hands on the method.

"Fine!" Larefin finally decided to yield. "What is it that you want to allow our Formation Master Guild to obtain the creation method? And don't tell me there isn't a way to get it because you wouldn't have received us otherwise. Am I wrong?"

Hearing that, Rean's angry expression suddenly disappeared as if it had never been there. Instead, a bright smile took its place as he said in response, "Come on, Elder Larefin. We're all Formation Masters here, aren't we? That means we're all friends. How could I ask you for something? However, since you already offered, it wouldn't be polite for me to refuse."

Larefin and the other Zasfins almost vomited blood after hearing that! 'Can he be more shameless than that? I doubt so! You just said a second ago that you wouldn't sell it to us, remember?' Nevertheless, they kept those thoughts inside. The important thing was the communication system. "So, what is it you want?"

Rean then used his Spiritual Energy to draw a map of the Zasfin territories in the air. "I don't care about payment since this system will provide my sect with as much money and Spirit Stones as it could ever need. What I want is the Formation Guild's help!"

"Help?" They were expecting some unreasonable price, not some kind of favor. Nevertheless, something told them that they definitely wouldn't like the idea.

"Yes, help!" Rean continued, "The Formation Master Guild has a lot of influence over the entire Zasfin territories. That being said, I need you to help me promote a friendly coexistence between humans and Zafins. From now on, the Formation Guild will accept humans within its ranks and won't tolerate racism between its members. To start, I want the Formation Master Guild to open a branch in our Freedom City and bring Formation Masters to teach the humans who decide to enter the world of formations."

At that instant, the entire room went silent. Naturally, Rean's request was far beyond what they expected from him. There's no price involved in this deal, only pride! Can the Formation Master Guild really decide to change itself?

However, quite a few of the Zafins immediately thought, 'Wait, we don't need to do that. We can simply accept this idiot's offer and get our hands on the creation method of the communication system. After that, we can simply ignore this deal as if nothing had happened. What will he do about that?'

Complain about us breaking our side of the deal to the demon beasts? We didn't violate the non-aggression agreement, so the demon beasts can't do anything.'

However, Larefin and a few more experienced elders didn't believe it would be that easy. After all, would one of the three culprits behind the destruction of the Soul Rulers headquarters be this dumb? They definitely didn't believe so.

"What stops us from simply ignoring the deal after getting our hands on the creation method and the principles of the communication system? I doubt you haven't thought about that yet." Sure enough, instead of keeping these thoughts inside, Larefin threw them out for everyone to hear.

"Hahaha!" Rean laughed out loud when he heard that, saying, "No wonder the Formation Master Guild sent seniors to negotiate with me. Indeed, only an idiot would simply give their methods away after a verbal agreement. If the Formation Master Guild wants my methodologies to its creation, it will have to prove its intentions."

Larefin asked straight away, "And how exactly should we do that?"

On the enormous map drawn in the air, hundreds of light arrows connected Wringan Continent and the Zasfin territories. That only confused the Zasfins present at that moment, though. "What is this about?"

"Integration!" Rean answered. "I want a lot of Zasfins to come to Wringan Continent to live here. We will start with the Palif Empire's Zasfins and Wringan's Fausec Country. Every year, the Zasfins will send more of its members to live here. I'll be honest here. I'm aiming for a path of coexistence with the Zasfins. I want the humans and Zasfins to understand that they can live together."

However, Larefin laughed in response, telling Rean, "Hahaha! Are you an idiot? Let me tell you right now. There's no way the Zasfins will ever be able to coexist with humans. Should I tell you the reason?"

Rean shook his head as he refuted, "There's no need. I know what you want to talk about, and I can tell you as well. This reason of yours will become useless in a few decades."

This time, Larefin was really taken aback. Somehow, Larefin didn't think Rean was joking. "Why?"

Rean then stood up and walked past the Zafins before opening his office door. Before he passed through it, he turned around and told them, "Follow me."

Death... and me

Chapter 898: This is Just the Start

There was a new building in the Freedom Sect that appeared just around a month ago. At first, other than the disciples who built it, no one else entered there. However, sometime later, it received its very first resident. It was an old woman, already in her forties. Also, the disciples who saw her entering it noticed that she didn't have any cultivation whatsoever. Not even in the Blood Replacement Stage of the Body Transformation Realm.

However, she wasn't the only one. A day later, another person took residence in that building. This time a man in his twenties. He did have some level of cultivation, though. However, it was just the second stage of the Body Transformation Realm, the Bone Enhancement Stage. To be in his twenties and have only that much cultivation was not that impressive at all for the sect members.

These things continued to happen as more and more people arrived in the sect and took residence in the building. Except for a scant few, no one understood why these people were being sent there. By the time the Zafins came to visit Rean about the communication system, the highest cultivation they had noticed there was only at the Middle Stage of the Energy Gathering Realm, and there were only three people with that cultivation level.

The ages of the people who arrived at the building were all over the place as well. There were kids four to ten years old as well as old elders above their seventies or eighties. This only contributed to the mystery behind that new building. After all, none of those people passed through the sect's test. In fact, the next sect test was scheduled three months in the future, so that still wouldn't be the reason why they were admitted.

As one could expect, this was the building where Rean brought the elders of the Zafins' Formation Master Guild.

Once they arrived in front of it, they noticed the name on the board above the entrance.

-Soul Hall-

That name immediately made Larefin squint his eyes. Nevertheless, he didn't try to reach any conclusions since Rean would show what was inside anyway.

"Elders, please come inside," Rean said as he made his way past the disciples guarding the entrance. Of course, he told them not to stop the Zasfins either.

After that, Rean guided the group to a training facility where one could find most of the newcomers of the sect. They were all following a training schedule based on their age and cultivation. Surprisingly, even the elderly had their work cut out for them.

Of course, such a scene mattered little to the Zasfin. There was a bunch of humans, young and old, training there. So what?

However, Larefin quickly noticed one specific point that caught his interest, one orb placed at the very center. "Isn't that a Soul Measurement Orb?"

As soon as his words came out, the Zasfins' expressions changed.

"Why is there a Soul Measurement Orb here?"

"Could it be that they captured some Zasfins and brought them here?"

"I can't see any Zasfins with my Spiritual Sense, though."

Rean simply smiled before looking at a woman who was the first one to take residence in the sect. "Sora, please come here a second." Obviously, that was her name.

Sora was a resident of Wonke City, one of the cities of Fausec Country. She was forty-two years old and had three kids. She was a housekeeper through and through. There wasn't anything remarkable about her before she arrived in Freedom Sect. The sect made an agreement with her, telling them that as long as she followed their request, her family would be sent to Freedom City to live there. Of course, with Rean behind it, Sora's family did indeed get what was promised. Sora immediately accepted the request

since she and her family were ex-slaves of the Zasfins. Their conditions weren't very good, so she did that for her family even though she didn't know very well what the Freedom Sect needed her for.

By now, the sect had put quite some effort into her. This woman, who didn't even have any cultivation a month ago, was now in the Bone Enhancement Stage of the Body Transformation Realm. Since she could do that in just a month, it showed that even a few pills were added to her training. "Elder Rean, is there anything you need from me?"

Sora was feeling a little nervous and quite afraid. After all, she could recognize the Zasfins with a single glance. She was an ex-slave, after all. She worked for the Zasfins before arriving in Wringan Continent.

Rean nodded in response to her question, saying, "You were the very first result of the sect's awakening plan. As I explained to you when you joined the sect, all the humans on the continent will eventually turn out the same way. Don't worry. These Zasfins aren't here to take you away. They are here to watch your progress. Why don't you try the Soul Measurement Orb for me? Let's widen their horizons."

By now, the Zasfins had extremely unpleasant expressions. Could it really be that a human has Soul Power? Or better yet, the hundreds of humans in this place have it?

Sora sighed in relief when she heard that Rean wouldn't force her to go with the Zasfins, so she immediately moved to the Soul Measurement Orb. As always, the orb worked as it should before a result was shown over it.

-Soul Power, 37-

"What?!"

They did understand why Rean asked Sora to try the Soul Measurement Orb. After all, it could only test one's Soul Power. However, until the very last moment, they simply couldn't believe a human had Soul Power. "What's happening here?"

Rean then turned around before shouting out to the rest of the people. "Everyone, come here and form a line. I want you to test your Soul Power."

Sure enough, the Zasfins' shock only increased.

-Soul Power, 28-

-Soul Power, 21-

-Soul Power, 29-

-Soul Power, 34-

-Soul Power...

"How's that possible..." That's the only thing that the Zasfins could think of when the last human tried it out.

Rean then snorted, chuckling as he said, "Hehe! This is just the start."

Death... and me

Chapter 899: The Age Is Over

"What do you mean by that?" one of the Formation Masters asked straight away.

However, Rean didn't need to answer that question. The one who answered it was Larefin himself, saying, "It's the end of the Bloodline Soul Mark Formation." Sure enough, as someone with ties to the Soul Rulers, Larefin knew a few things about the formations.

Noticing the confused expression of the other Formation Masters, Larefin decided to give an explanation, telling them, "The Bloodline Soul Mark Formations can't use Zasfins as a sacrifice because their Soul Power is too big. We, Zasfins, are born into the world with a high Soul Power level. That's why we need humans. Only their souls are gentle enough to be converted into Bloodline Soul Marks."

Everyone was taken aback after that. They knew about the Bloodline Soul Marks and that humans were used as sacrifices. But they didn't know that Zasfins couldn't take their place. At the very least, they didn't know why no one ever tried it. In any case, the answer had finally appeared in front of them.

Rean smiled as he continued, "Some of you are probably asking why Larefin would reveal such a piece of important information here. Well, the truth is that I already knew of it. If he didn't say anything, I would. Anyway, now that humans are born with high Soul Power, the Zasfins simply can't use them. Unless they want to die, of course. Hahaha!"

Larefin then looked at Rean with a dark expression, asking in a solemn tone, "How did you do that? I know that hybrids between humans and Zasfins can have Soul Power. However, I've never heard of humans gaining Soul Power."

Rean shrugged his shoulders as he told them in response, "That's the point where you guys are too prideful for your own good. Have you never asked yourselves why humans and Zasfins can have children together? That's because both of them are of the same race. To be more specific, the Zasfins are an evolution, or you might as well say a mutation of the human race."

"Bullshit!" one of the Formation Masters exclaimed. "It's obviously because the Zasfin bloodline is much superior that your human race can accept its genes. I will never accept that we were part of your puny race in the past."

Rean couldn't care less, though. "Suit yourself. Whether you want to believe it or not is not my problem. The truth of the matter won't change just because you refuse to believe it." Right after, Rean looked at Larefin and said, "Well then, this is the reason why Zasfins and humans will be able to coexist in the future. Bloodline Soul Mark Formations won't work on humans anymore, after all. That was the motive that led you to say we could never be together since the Zasfins would always consider the possibility of using humans to create Bloodline Soul Marks."

Unlike the other Zasfins, who cursed and kept denying Rean's words, Larefin was a lot more open-minded. He didn't deny Rean's words at all.

"Silence!" Immediately, his companions stopped talking and waited for Larefin to continue. Larefin then looked back at Rean before saying, "Are you sure you wanted to show it is us? Soul Power is a Zasfin race's ability. If you keep this experiment, the entire Zasfin Race will do everything they can to get rid of you."

Rean looked at Larefin as if he was an idiot, telling him, "You talk as if the ZASFINS would try to get rid of us to start with. At most, you would keep enough of us around to make more Bloodline Soul Marks. Tell me, is that any different from how your ZASFIN race already treats us?"

"This..." Larefin couldn't give Rean an answer. Yes, Rean was right. The ZASFIN already hated the humans since they were a big part of the reason why the ZASFINS lost the war. So what if they found out humans were developing Soul Power as well? They couldn't do anything with the thousand-year non-aggression agreement in place. The demon beasts, who had superior power at the moment, definitely wouldn't let them do anything.

Rean then let out a sigh as he said, "You just don't understand. The shock about humans having Soul Power will only be a momentaneous thing. The next ZASFINS and humans who are born in the future would not have experienced the past. For them, it won't change much whether the humans have Soul Power or not since they were already born in that age."

"That's why you think we will eventually be able to live together?" Larefin asked.

"Yes." Rean nodded. "Just so you know, this is a transformation that's happening all around Wringan Continent. The ones you see here are nothing more than the humans we taught about Soul Power. There are many more out there that simply don't know they already have Soul Power. As long as we teach them how to use it, they will develop this power without a hitch."

Larefin couldn't help but ask, "How did you do that? How could the humans of an entire continent suddenly start to evolve to have Soul Power?"

Rean laughed out loud as he pointed at himself. "That's because of me. Or, to be more specific, it's because of my Light Element Affinity."

Rean's eyes soon noticed the reddish hue of killing intent emanating from the ZASFIN Formation Masters in the group. Well, not that he cared about it. "Some of you are probably thinking that as long as you kill me, this change will stop. Unfortunately, nothing can stop it anymore."

Rean then explained how he did that, which made the ZASFINS' eyes widen in shock. He told them how there were millions of collars, earrings, bracelets, tiaras, and other accessories being used by humans at

this very moment. Indeed, if things were like Rean said, killing him would have little to no effect. They would have to get rid of all his Light Element Equipment first, which was obviously impossible. There were just way too many!

After that, Rean looked back at Larefin and said, "Well, that's about it. I guess there's no need for me to keep the people in this building hidden anymore. Once you guys leave, I'll release a big announcement about my plans for the entire continent to hear. The age where only Zafins could use Soul Power is now over."

Death... and me

Chapter 900: Announcement

Larefin wanted nothing more than to leave that place and head back to tell the Zafins about what he learned. However, he knew that their negotiations weren't over yet. After all, the reason he came here was for the communication system, and that hasn't changed yet. "Alright, let's consider that your awakening plan can't be stopped anymore. You want both sides to exchange people to live in their midsts, right? What kind of people are we talking about?"

"Isn't that obvious?" Rean asked in response. "I'll send humans who have developed Soul Power. Also, your Formation Guild will be responsible for their safety. The initial integration will be very complicated. However, we have to start from somewhere. Do that, and the methodology for the communication system is yours to analyze."

Larefin narrowed his eyes after that. "However, you don't intend to give it to us straight away, right?"

"Of course!" Rean nodded. "However, I won't leave you empty-handed. After all, I could simply ignore this deal once I achieve my objective as well. The same way I couldn't trust you, you can't just trust me either. That being said, I'll give you a small introduction to the Circuitry Formations. It won't be enough for you to figure out how the communication system works. Nevertheless, it will improve your own view of the formation world by leaps and bounds."

"We could simply take this introduction to Circuitry Formations from you and then ignore everything else, you know?" Naturally, Larefin put his cards on the table. "What makes you believe you will follow this deal to the very end?"

"Hahaha!" Rean laughed out loud in response. "Don't worry. I'm absolutely sure you will follow this deal to the very bitter end when things can't be taken back anymore."

Larefin once again felt like Rean wasn't joking. "How?"

Rean then pointed at the antenna at the top of the Freedom Mountain Peak. "Once you understand what Circuitry Formations are and what they can do, there's no way your Formation Guild will ever try to call this deal off. They will do everything in their power to guarantee that they will receive the methods to create them."

The Zasfin Formation Masters were surprised by Rean's confidence. However, if Qia or any of the Formation Masters of the guild were here, they wouldn't find it surprising at all. Every single one of them was hooked to the world of Circuitry Formations, like moths flying into open flames. There was simply not enough will to resist its immense allure.

With that, Rean asked the crucial question, "So, are you going to accept my offer?"

Larefin shook his head, though. "I can't do that on my own. I have to head back to Palif Empire and talk with the higher-ups."

Rean was already expecting that. "That's fine. Here, all of you can take this." Right after, Rean threw several jade slips to the Formation Masters present. They were the introductions to a few simple runes of the Circuitry Formations. Rean was certain that it would be enough to make them hooked. "Try to study it a little once you guys are back at the Zasfin continent."

Suddenly, a disciple of the sect approached Rean to pass on some information, telling him, "Elder Rean, the broadcast to all the areas within the range of our communication system is ready. However, at least half of the Wringan countries won't be able to hear it since we haven't installed the antennas in their territories yet."

Rean shook his head in response as he replied, "That's not a problem. More than half of Wringan Continent means hundreds of millions of humans already. The rest of the humans in other areas will hear about it sooner or later."

Rean then looked at Larefin as he smiled, telling him, "Well then, if you excuse me, I have some important information to share with the humans of Wringan Continent. The disciples of our sect will guide you outside. Make sure to keep the sect's badges close to you. Otherwise, don't blame me if the demon beasts protecting the continent aim your group on your way out."

It was then that Rean remembered something. "Oh, right! This broadcast will also reach the Zasfin cities that have obtained our antennas. I believe you guys already got your hands on a few of our Nokias, so you should be able to hear it as well. After all, I'm sending this message to all the display formations and Spiritual Smartphones that can be connected to our sect." After that, Rean left the building.

Larefin's group was then guided out of Freedom Sect before being released back in the city with their airship. However, they didn't leave straight away and waited for Rean's broadcast. They obviously wanted to stop it at any cost, but they knew it was simply impossible.

Around an hour later, the broadcast start. The Spiritual Smartphones were still quite crude. However, they received a few improvements which allowed voice to pass through. One must remember that it was only possible to send and receive Spiritual Sense Messages, so the addition of voice transmission was indeed a new perk. Naturally, Rean added it so that humans without cultivation could exchange information as well.

All over Wringan Continent, there were big megaphones installed close to the towers holding the Freedom Sect's antennas. Well, to be more specific, those were Spiritual Circuitry Formation Megaphones. They could use Spiritual Energy to increase their sound range to entire cities using just a single one. Cultivators often used Spiritual Energy to increase their voices, after all. The megaphones basically followed the same principle.

"Ahem! Hello, everyone. My name is Rean, and I'm one of the elders of the Freedom Sect. Some of you probably know about us as the strongest power in Wringan Continent. Others might know about us because of our business partners, like Freedom Healing SA or Freedom Communications LTD. Anyway, I'm here to announce that our customers who bought equipment from our Freedom Healing SA also got a hidden surprise. Congratulations, you have just acquired a piece of equipment capable of awakening Soul Power!"

Rean continued his speech as he explained the extra perk of his Healing Equipment. By the time Rean finished his words, the entire Wringan Continent had gone into an uproar. Well, the half that heard his announcement, at least.