DEMONIC 1191

Chapter 1191 - 1191. Departure

Noah had gone through rough periods inside the separate dimension, and his cultivation level didn't improve by much compared to his usual training speed.

Yet, he had used that time to meditate. Noah couldn't test his abilities inside the separate dimension, but his journey through the last stages of the sixth rank was more than a mere slashing session.

Techniques were useful to cultivators, but they had to nurture their individualities to obtain their power. King Elbas had proved that already. He had to lose all his items and disposable weapons to complete his path.

Noah had always owned various techniques that only expressed certain aspects of his individuality. Sword Saint had trained him so that he could put his entire existence into his slashes, and Noah had completed that phase when he reached the liquid stage.

Still, that was only the starting point for his journey to become a law. Now that his entire existence was in one place, he had to make it grow until it obtained a true meaning.

Noah had techniques that were stronger than his existence in the past. Sword Saint's final slash could overcome the attacks that made use of his dark world, which meant that Noah's individuality couldn't surpass abilities that carried sheer superior power.

However, that had changed during the five hundred years spent inside the separate dimension. Noah used that time to focus on his individuality, and his prowess had benefitted from that.

Noah knew that he was far stronger than before. He didn't know exactly how powerful he had gotten due to the lack of proper enemies in those years, but his instincts told him that he was nowhere near his previous level.

The fissure leading to the Immortal Lands was still open in the sky when the cultivators who had lived inside the separate dimension for more than five centuries came out of it.

A blinding white light appeared on the western side of the new continent, and an army of cultivators replaced it when it dimmed. The three organizations took out all their assets except for the weaker human experts.

Noah gazed at the sea for an instant before focusing on the white crack leaking out a welcoming aura. He felt a pulling force trying to bait him to enter it, but his mind cut away that influence immediately.

The fact that the crack was still open meant that King Elbas had yet to leave those Mortal Lands. However, Noah didn't care about that. Even if his feelings came from the simple respect toward another talented existence, he trusted the Royal.

Noah didn't hesitate and led the troops toward the surface. A bit of hesitation filled the two Matriarchs and the other higher-ups, but they followed Noah without giving voice to any complaint.

When the massive group of experts came out of the sea and gazed their eyes on the new continents, they couldn't help but remain speechless.

King Elbas had burned almost every region when he returned from the separate reality. Entire lands had become nothing more than charred wastelands under the effects of his higher energy.

However, the scenery that welcomed the assets of the three organizations was the complete opposite of what they recalled about the new continent.

Immense prairies and many magical plants filled their vision. The roars of magical beasts echoed through the surface, making it give off a lively atmosphere. The terrain had many large fissures, but it wasn't dead anymore.

Even the central territories had completely recovered. King Elbas had fixed the new continent in those five hundred years, but he had to take the energy required for the task from somewhere.

The powerhouses were the first to notice the differences from the piece of Immortal Lands that they recalled. The new continent was initially brimming with "Breath" and uninhabitable by human cultivators, but that landmass radiated a weaker power now.

The "Breath" in the air wasn't as dense as before, and even the ground contained less energy. It was as if King Elbas had sacrificed the quality of that landmass to restore its state.

The human cultivators who had come out of the separate dimension deactivated the inscribed items meant to shield them from the pressure of the "Breath". The new condition of the landmass allowed them to walk freely in those regions.

The new continent wasn't nearly as poor as the old one in its current condition, but it was far from its previous peaks. The experts of the world had managed to ruin it in a bit more than a millennium.

Of course, they wouldn't complain about that outcome. The major organizations had always known that their unrestrained growth would eventually turn the new continent in that state. It had merely happened earlier than they expected.

Noah soon lost interest in the new environment and focused on searching for traces of enemies. His consciousness expanded and covered half of the western coast with his sharp mental waves.

Shining lines appeared whenever Noah's consciousness flew above the regions. The entirety of the coastline appeared to be under the influence of defenses capable of bearing his innate pressure.

Noah didn't trigger those formations with his pressure, but the resilience shown during his analysis confirmed that they were all defenses in the sixth rank.

"I didn't say that taking the world will be easy," King Elbas' voice echoed through the sky, and golden flames appeared right under the crack.

The flames condensed until they took the shape of King Elbas. The Royal appeared in the sky and spread his aura through the world so that everyone could feel it.

It was a calm aura that hid a violent behavior. King Elbas seemed a ticking bomb ready to explode whenever the situation required it.

Many weaker heroic cultivators took steps back at the sight of King Elbas hovering in the sky, but Noah had completely different feelings. There was only annoyance in his mind. Find authorized novels in ,

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"Why are you still here?" Noah asked as he shouted toward the crack. "Go to the higher plane already. Leave us ants to our games."

Noah replying in that way to a divine cultivator was a sight that made many experts fear for their lives. They didn't know if Defying Demon had angered King Elbas with his aloof and uncaring character.

Yet, King Elbas limited himself to show a smile at those words before turning to fly toward the insides of the crack.

A couple of rank 6 cultivators came out from the center of the new continent at that point and began to shout toward King Elbas.

"Wait, Father!" Second Princess said as she tried to reach King Elbas before it was too late.

"Take care of this army!" Third Prince said. "If you kill them, the Elbas family will keep control of two worlds for millennia!"

King Elbas stopped flying when he heard those words, and the experts inside Noah's army trembled when they saw him turning toward them. They initially thought that his descendants' pleads had succeeded, but they soon understood that they were wrong.

The Royals' leader continued to turn until he faced Second Princess and Third Prince, and he stared at them for a few seconds before giving voice to a phrase that made them show ugly expressions.

"I am the Elbas family," King Elbas said before turning and flying through the fissure.

Chapter 1192 - 1192. Now

Third Prince and Second Princess remained speechless when King Elbas left the lower plane while giving voice to that arrogant line. Still, they didn't expect that his words alone could help them.

The whole world watched his departure and the defeated organizations staring as his thinning figure knew that he had spoken the truth. King Elbas was the foundation and the very core of his organization.

King Elbas had a mysterious past. He had lived under the suppression of the previous Royal Family and had managed to overcome it with his power.

Then, he had brought his family to the peak of the world. The Royal's accomplishments also went far beyond any other expert living in his era, and he had achieved feats that many believed to be impossible.

The dimensional tunnel alone was enough to make his name immortal in that plane. Connecting two Mortal Lands was a feat that many experts had only dreamed of accomplishing.

His war against the whole world sealed his position as an incredible warrior too. King Elbas was a perfect cultivator that didn't have any weakness. He was a monster in battle and when it came to the inscription field.

King Elbas' departure triggered the bystanders' memories, and they could only marvel when they thought about the existence who had just left the plane.

The fissure's closing put an end to King Elbas' history in the lower plane, but it gave birth to his legend.

A tremor ran through Third Prince and Second Princess' bodies when the fissure in the sky closed. The immense respect that the three organizations' assets felt toward King Elbas improved the innate arrogance that his descendants carried.

The Two Royals felt a surge of power filling their centers of power. Golden flames came out of their bodies as if they were the flares of a star, and their cultivation level rose during the process.

Third Prince and Second Princess were nothing more than powerhouses near the half-way mark of the gaseous stage before that scene. Yet, their cultivation level rose till the peak of the stage after their Patriarch left the world.

Noah gazed at the Royals, but he didn't act. He had decided that he would leave the initial stages of the invasion to his underlings, so he had no intention of charging ahead just yet.

Moreover, the two Royals weren't worthy of his time. He might have fun dealing with the formations covering the new continent, but defeating them wouldn't bring him any benefit.

'I wonder if Second Prince has come back from the separate reality,' Noah thought as he gazed toward the new continent. 'He should still be King Elbas' heir.'

The cultivators' gazes from the three organizations went on Noah while he wondered whether there was a worthy opponent left on the plane.

The centuries spent inside the separate dimension had solidified Noah's position as the three organizations' leader. The Council and the Shandal Empire were still independent, but they knew that they needed the Hive's help to take back part of the world.

Noah briefly glanced at the army behind him before pointing at the new continent. His aura surged as he spoke human words that carried low roars with them. "I won't join the battlefield for a year. You want to conquer something before I step into the fray."

The assets of the three organizations didn't need motivational speeches. They had developed an intense eagerness to return to the surface after surviving inside the separate dimension for five hundred years.

Even the cultivators who knew only the separate dimension had that eagerness. They had grown hearing the legends of a better place, and seeing it for the first time made their enthusiasm spike.

Every cultivator and hybrid who had gone through the life inside the dimension could barely hold back from charging toward the new continent.

Noah's words lifted their restraints and acted as a signal for the beginning of the invasion. The army around him charged ahead without even bothering to assemble into battle formations.

The Royals stabilized their condition and activated their defensive formations when they saw the massive number of heroic cultivators charging toward the western coastline.

The three organizations didn't lose much power during those five centuries. They had to limit their growth due to the scarcity of resources inside the dimension. Still, the breakthroughs of some assets made up for that drawback.

Faith and Daniel had reached the sixth rank during those years. The addition of two powerhouses to the alliance brought its power way past that of any other organization.

The alliance had ten powerhouses in its ranks, and two of them were the now the strongest existences in those Mortal Lands since King Elbas had left.

There were magical beasts hidden inside the sea that could surpass their level, but Noah and Great Elder Diana expressed the human world's current peak.

'That's not higher energy,' Noah thought as he analyzed the Royals who still released golden flames from their figures.

He decided to watch the invasion from a casual spot in the sky, and he didn't miss that critical detail about the Royals' power.

It seemed that they only gained access to part of their Father's individuality. Normal "Breath" fueled those golden flames, and their power only appeared slightly more threatening than different types of fire.

Gigantic spears formed on the coastline, and their tips rose toward the sky to point at the incoming army. An intense aura came out of their ethereal shapes, and a blinding halo began to cover their figures.

The entire western coast lit up as the army marched ahead. The aura of formations with power in the middle tier of the sixth rank filled the sky, but the three organizations' experts didn't let it scare them.

Defensive formations in the middle tier were still fine. The nine powerhouses charging ahead of the army could handle them and open a path where the army could pass.

However, there weren't only nine existences in front of the army. A peak rank 5 cultivator was among them and released black sparks from her feet to match their speed.

'She must be excited,' Noah sighed when he noticed June trying to keep up with the powerhouses.

Her cultivation level slowly rose as she neared the coastline. June sensed the arrival of a battle, and her Perfect Circuit produced as much higher energy as it could to fuel her individuality.

June was a battle maniac who couldn't join a fight for centuries. The only thought that she was finally about to release her power made her cultivation level grow.

Spears shot out of the golden halo filling the western coastline. Each of those attacks radiated the aura of a powerhouse at the bottom of the liquid stage.

Cracks filled the sky as those attacks flew toward the army. More than thirty spears were converging on the experts from the three organizations. That was an offensive that could push the powerhouses to their limits!

Great Elder Diana and God's Left Hand prepared themselves to cast their best spells. They were the only powerhouses in the liquid stage, so it was in their interest to take care of those attacks.

That would save the weaker powerhouses' energy, and it would give their organizations more chances to seize regions before Noah stepped on the battlefield.

However, black lines suddenly appeared at the center of those spears and divided them in half. No cracks spread from those new attacks, but the Matriarchs stopped their charge to glance at the powerhouse who had decided to remain behind.

"One year starting now," Noah revealed a cold smile when the Matriarchs fixed their eyes on him. His action reminded them who was at the peak of the chain of command.

Chapter 1193 - 1193. Landing

A chill ran down the Royals' spines when they saw the spears cut in half. Those attacks lost their power and vanished into a cloud of golden energy.

Third Prince and Second Princess recalled Noah's prowess very well. They had witnessed his determination when he conquered Divine Market city, and they had heard about his feats during the battle against King Elbas.

Noah was a monster, but he had a fatal weakness: He was too young! His past battle prowess was already miraculous for someone on his level.

However, his current power appeared boundless. The Royals saw how Noah didn't even need to move to fend off the attacks of their defensive formation.

The five hundred years spent inside the separate dimension had given him what he had always lacked due to his fast growth. He had now polished his power to make it express its true potential.

Great Elder Diana and God's Left Hand felt amazed too. They had never seen Noah in action during the past five hundred years, but their instincts had always told them that he was improving at a fast pace.

Yet, they didn't expect his level to be so high. The Matriarchs had understood how Noah had taken care of the spears, but the event still surprised them.

The Matriarchs didn't stare at Noah for too long. They quickly turned back to rejoin the powerhouses who had continued to fly toward the coastline.

They had a critical mission to complete in that invasion. The Matriarchs had to secure as many regions as they could before Noah decided to join the battlefield.

As the leader of the Hive, Noah was in complete control of the strongest organization in the world. He also was one of the most powerful existences in that plane, with only Great Elder Diana being his match.

The Council and the Shandal Empire couldn't oppose the Hive's will even if they joined forces, so they had to reestablish themselves on the new continent before it could say anything about that.

Noah was aware of that. His decision to delay his taking part in the battlefield was an honest gift to the organizations that had fought King Elbas with him.

There was another reason too. Noah's underlings needed to fight, and he didn't want to hinder their chances to gain vital battle experiences.

Noah preferred to leave them on their own for a while. After all, the Elbas family wouldn't fall in only one year. Its defenses alone were enough to make it last for more than a decade.

The defensive formations launched another attack right before the powerhouses managed to reach the new continent's shores. Golden spears flew in their direction, but they all faced them without any fear.

The Demons, Elder Regina, and Elder Julia took care of most of them by deploying some of their strongest techniques.

The spears could match a liquid stage powerhouse's spell at the bottom of the stage, but they had limited power and an ethereal structure. The lack of a wielder also affected their structure.

Flying Demon's individuality made flowers grow everywhere in the sky. They released a peculiar aura that froze the air and slowed down the advance of the spears.

Dreaming Demon unfolded her consciousness and made her mental waves seep inside the structure of the golden spears. Her goal was to weaken their fabric so that even gaseous stage powerhouses could take care of them.

Elder Julia and Elder Regina supported the Demons with spells that had a large area of effect.

Elder Julia launched a massive wave of wind-slashes that crashed on the weakened and restrained spears. At the same time, Elder Regina summoned an army of puppets to shield the group from the formations' remaining power.

The spears struggled to pierce those attacks, but the powerhouses had focused their structural weaknesses. Techniques that were only a mass of energy were easy to destroy if a group had access to various types of spells.

'As expected,' Noah thought while inspecting the battlefield. 'They are quite cheap.'

Noah had initially felt surprised when he saw formations covering the entire western coast, but he couldn't believe that they could express too much power.

King Elbas was a true master in the inscriptions field, but he had to respect certain limits when building formations. One of them was the fuel that they required.

The new continent had suffered a lot after the last battle, and most of the reserves of energy in the world had vanished to face King Elbas.

The Royal couldn't amass a lot of fuel in those five hundred years, so he had to compromise on the spears' structures to make them cheap to cast.

The spears were exceptional weapons capable of carrying a lot of power, but they were relatively easy to counter by cultivators who had a lot of battle experience.

Of course, that was true only if those cultivators' power was near that of the spears.

June coughed blood as the four powerhouses opened a path among the array of spears. The shockwaves radiated by those attacks were enough to destabilize her organs and create internal injuries.

However, more black sparks came out of her figure after she stabilized her condition. Her individuality was already in motion. Her Perfect Circuit was producing massive quantities of higher energy to make her power go beyond her limits.

When it came to June, surpassing her limits meant improvements in her cultivation level. She had remained at the peak of the fifth rank for a long time, but her power appeared about to take the last step after she suffered those injuries.

The Matriarchs caught up with the group of powerhouses and surpassed them to set foot on the new continent. Their auras then spread through the coastline and began to eradicate every shining line that they found.

Tempests formed on the coastline and thick lightning bolts flew high in the sky to create masses of sparks that released smaller bolts toward the surface.

The other powerhouses felt forced to stop when they saw that scene. They had managed to endure the previous attack due to its flaws, but they couldn't do anything against the Matriarchs' spells.

Only June continued to fly forward. Her face became ashen, and blood continued to flow out of her mouth as the shockwaves running wild through the environment injured her.

A cloud of black sparks formed and crumbled around her. June appeared on the verge of collapsing, but she strived through the shockwaves and landed on the landmass anyway.

The energy released by the Matriarchs' spells was even more intense in that spot. Injuries opened on June's skin, and blood splashed out of those wounds under the effect of those shockwaves.

Yet, June remained calm. There was only determination in her expression.

The Matriarchs and the other powerhouses began to worry about her well-being at that point. They vaguely understood how her relationship with Noah worked, but they didn't want to see her die.

She was still Noah's lover. No one knew what he would do if she died due to the Matriarchs' spells. It didn't matter that joining that battlefield was her mistake in the first place.

The Matriarchs and powerhouses couldn't imagine that June had done that on purpose. Her Perfect Circuit produced sparks continuously, and it eventually found the structure of her higher energy unsuitable for the new level of power that it was reaching.

June's centers of power slowly took the last step that divided her from the sixth rank. They began to advance right in front of everyone.

Chapter 1194 - 1194. Destruction

Tremors swept June whenever a shockwave hit her. She coughed blood almost rhythmically as convulsions filled her figure.

Still, a different type of shockwave came out of her body after her centers of power started to advance to the sixth rank. A heartbeat began to echo in the area, and her sparks expanded after every beat.

The Matriarchs activated their defenses when they saw that June wasn't in control of the expansion of her higher energy, but her sparks began to converge back on her right before reaching them.

The black sparks returned inside June's body, and she convulsed as all that energy amassed inside her Perfect Circuit. An orange halo filled the area around her, and shockwaves spread whenever her heart beat.

The first heartbeat shattered the few strands of grass that had survived the Matriarchs' spells. The second heartbeat filled the ground around June with cracks. The third one affected the sky, creating small cracks that led to the void in its fabric.

At the fourth heartbeat, June's aura surged, and a series of chaotic black lightning bolts shot out of her figure.

June's aura became more intense, and it soon broke into the sixth rank. Her power surged, and her higher energy went wild as she unleashed the battle intent that she had felt forced to suppress.

Her hair fluttered in the wind that she created by launching those thick lightning bolts. Golden lines fell apar whenever her violent attacks landed on the inscriptions in the area.

Even if June didn't do that on purpose, she helped the Matriarchs take care of the formation that created the golden spears.

June's breakthrough created a lightning storm on a region of the western coast. Her bolts flew in every direction and without a specific target, so her companions had to fend them off whenever they found one of them aiming for them.

The Matriarchs summoned shields while they continued to fuel the spells they had launched toward the inscriptions, but the other powerhouses had it slightly harder.

God's Left Hand and Great Elder Diana had access to liquid "Breath", but the other powerhouses were only in the gaseous stage. Their individualities were intense, but their "Breath" couldn't match June's higher energy.

Even if her cultivation level was lower than her companions, June's higher energy was far denser and could generate far more power.

A white halo began to surround Daniel's figure. The lightning bolts entering inside his defensive spell split into orange and black bolts before vanishing inside the light.

Faith needed to summon a spherical water-shield that engulfed her figure to protect her from the lightning bolts. Her aura helped her defensive method by making June's attacks almost harmless to her.

True Speed dodged those attacks, and the other Elders could rely on similar methods to either evade or stop June's attacks. The only one who had to retreat was Skully since her mental waves were a bad match for those dense lightning bolts.

June's heartbeat continued to echo through the coast, and her power surged with it. More black sparks came out of her figure, and the entire area soon became a crackling mess.

"Calm down!" Great Elder Diana shouted. "You are obstructing the others!"

Great Elder Diana didn't have any political power over June, but she seemed to listen to the Matriarchs' words. June's body soon stopped releasing sparks randomly, but the intensity of her aura continued to rise nonetheless.

Her heartbeat stopped though. June tried to hold back. She didn't want to destroy the area with her influence.

Once June called back the lightning storm, the other powerhouses managed to land on the new continent and begin their clearing operation.

No one had decided or ordered that, but every powerhouse knew that they had to take care of the defensive formations first. They couldn't leave those spears in the Elbas family's hands even if their ethereal structure made them easy to counter.

The powerhouses divided pieces of the western coasts among themselves.

Daniel took the southern part, where a grassland had replaced the desert that filled that region. He waved his hand, and a white halo rose from the ground and condensed among the formations.

In a bit less than a few seconds, Daniel destroyed those formations and cleared the area.

God's Left Hand and Great Elder Diana continued to unleash their previous spells to deal with the formation. They took care of the central regions and covered the largest area among the group.

The weaker assets relied on their strongest abilities to take care of those shining lines. They took care of the remaining regions, and they also remained in a group to avoid unforeseen negative consequences.

Only the Demons, Elder Julia, and Elder Regina didn't join that massive clearing operation. The formations continued to launch spears even if they aimed at the coast, so they needed to block those that targeted their companions.

June took out a golden spear from her space-ring. A buzzing sound came out of the long weapon, and a series of lines dug its surface to create a linear pattern.

She didn't have many chances to use her living weapon because she had only been one of the many weaker assets against King Elbas. However, she could unleash its true power now.

The weapon was a quasi-rank 6 item. Now that June was a powerhouse, she could push its efficiency to its limits and make use of the inscriptions that she had added on top of Noah's work.

June was an expert in the formations' field. The book that she had retrieved from Shandal's dimension had taught her a lot. She had even modified some of the methods recorded there.

Black sparks flowed inside the spear and amassed inside the lines dug by Noah. The buzzing sound intensified at that point, but June wasn't satisfied with that amount of power.

More black sparks came out of her body to flow inside her living weapon. The spear appeared unable to contain her energy at some point, but inscriptions appeared on top of it to enhance its storage capacity.

June pointed the spear toward the northern side of the coastline. Those regions were still empty because the weaker powerhouses had started the clearing operation from the corner of the landmass, so she could go all out.

The spear released a blinding orange halo, and June's heartbeat resumed echoing in the area. Then, at the third heartbeat, a dark crackly wave of energy came out of her weapon and created a beam that reached far in the distance.

Moreover, the attack continued to remain active as long as June had enough fuel to pour inside the weapon. She only needed to tilt the spear a few times to clear half of a region in a few minutes.

The defensive formations on the coastline couldn't survive the joint assault of the powerhouses. They didn't have anyone protecting them, so they could only crumble under the might of the invaders.

The invaders appeared about to conquer their first territory right after the beginning of the war. That could be a magnificent feat that would surely boost the morale of the troops who had yet to join the battlefield.

However, a golden light soon rose from the coast's broken ground and began to fix the inscriptions. Even if the powerhouses continued to unleash their spells, the halo mended half of the formations.

Chapter 1195 - 1195. Battlefield

The resilience of the Elbas family's formations was something that the Hive had learnt after its many attacks on the Royals' domain. They had invented inscriptions capable of fixing the shining lines, which made their defenses extremely annoying to deal with.

However, the amount of power displayed by the assets that had come out of the separate dimension was immense.

The two Matriarchs were unstoppable. Their spells could almost cover entire regions and rip off any formations on their surface in a matter of minutes. The other powerhouses weren't weak either, but they needed more time to deal with those defenses.

Faith wasn't even well-versed in offensive spells. She had average attacks for a powerhouse at her level, but her main quality was her impenetrable defense.

Still, the Elbas family didn't have large reserves of energy, so it couldn't keep the healing light active for a long time.

The relentless destruction of the defensive formations on the western coast consumed a lot of the energy acc.u.mulated in the area. Even the inscriptions on the in-land regions would suffer if those reserves were to vanish.

Third Prince and Second Princess could only activate more defenses in front of such a display of power. The regions near the western coast lit up, and various formations became visible on their surface.

The powerhouses had to face different formations since they had decided to spread their efforts through the entire western coast.

A series of golden giants rose in the region next to Great Elder Diana and began to walk in her direction. They all radiated an aura at the bottom of the middle tier and wielded long spears that spread flames around their tips.

A wall made of runes came out of the territory next to God's Left Hand. They turned toward the Matriarch and began to gather energy once all of them pointed at her.

Puppets of various sizes appeared next to Faith. They marched through the sky while a trail of golden flames came out of their feet.

Elder Julia had to deal with an army of enslaved hybrids, and Elder Regina found a series of red wh.i.p.s surging from a region nearby and cracking in her direction.

Skully saw multiple magical plants growing around her under the effects of some inscriptions. They had green trunks and a series of thick metal-like branches that turned in her direction and began to charge at her.

Massive structures came out of the ground from a region near June. They appeared as buildings with a series of runes on their sides, but their effects were unclear.

Flying Demon and Dreaming Demon witnessed how the ground of the region next to them surged to take the shape of a massive dark-yellow monster.

The creature had two vaguely humanoid arms, but its body was round, and a large crack spread at its base as if it was a giant mouth.

More puppets appeared near True Speed. They were different from those that had formed in the region near Faith. Her opponents had different shapes and emitted flames, while those against him seemed to be simple armored knights.

Elder Laura had to face something similar to the wh.i.p.s against Elder Regina. She was against a series of large ballistae already pointed in her direction.

Golden runes exploded in the region near Daniel, and three cultivators came out of the halo they had released. The trio appeared to belong to the Elbas family, but they had golden hair and green eyes, which expressed how far they were from the main bloodline.

Yet, the three of them were powerhouses at the bottom of the sixth rank. It seemed that the Elbas family had managed to increase its number of assets on that level during the last five hundred years.

'The Royal Pool has survived the battle against King Elbas,' Noah thought when he saw the three new powerhouses on the Royals' side.

The awful scent of the Royal Pool had reached his nostrils even if he was at some distance from the western coast. Noah was sure that the Elbas family had relied on that miraculous item to refill its assets.

The battle broke out immediately. The powerhouses from the three organizations charged toward the new defenses and unleashed their cultivation level's full might to fend them off.

Most of those defenses carried a power similar to powerhouses at the bottom of the liquid stage, but they shared the same weaknesses as the golden spears.

It would be hard for the weaker powerhouses to deal with the new defenses, but they were confident that the Elbas family couldn't withstand a long battle.

Great Elder Diana waved her hands, and her black lenses assembled behind her back. She then turned her weapons toward the giants while pointing her forefinger to the ground under her.

Orange sparks acc.u.mulated behind the assembled lenses and released lightning bolts on their black glass. The power contained in Great Elder Diana's spell skyrocketed after her attacks came out of her weapons, and three massive bolts crashed on the giants before they could even react.

Other lightning bolts came out of her fingers. They weren't as big as those enhanced by her inscribed weapon, but they were more than enough to deal with the formation creating the golden spears.

The Matriarch didn't want to stop her attack on the western coast. She had a way to maximize the depletion of energy on the enemy's side, so she used most of her power to take care of both formations.

God's Left Hand did the same. She had understood the Elbas family's situation, so she relied on massive storms and piercing attacks to destroy the regions around her and take care of the beams that the runes had begun to launch.

Gales blew from behind her and crashed on the wall of runes together with the tornadoes that she created. Some of them took the shape of large arrows when she needed to destroy those formations' cores.

Many of the other powerhouses couldn't deal with the new formations and the lines creating the golden spears at the same time. They needed the entirety of their cultivation level to face the defenses in the middle tier of the sixth rank.

True Speed completely ignored the western coast as yellow sparks began to run on his legs. He charged toward the puppets while leaving a trail of cracks in the sky that closed in a few seconds.

One of his kicks could make a puppet crumble even if their armors partially absorbed the lightning bolts released with his attacks. His power wasn't overwhelming, but he could face that army even if his cultivation level made him unsuitable for that type of battle.

Skully had also forsaken the coast, and her mental waves filled the sky as she tried to stop the metallic branches from converging on her spot. The magical plants around her continued to grow, but the powerhouse focused on increasing the number of gales condensed on the battlefield.

Faith jumped right among the army charging at her and unleashed her individuality. The puppets tried to attack her, but their fiery abilities weren't a match for the azure sphere that had appeared around her figure.

The shield wasn't mighty, but Faith's individuality made all the attacks change their course and disperse into energy inside her defenses.

Chapter 1196 - 1196. Energy

Daniel was in the same situation as the weaker powerhouses. He was already stronger than the average cultivator in the gaseous stage of the sixth rank, but his opponents were quite annoying.

He was against two men and one woman at the bottom of the sixth rank. Daniel couldn't focus on the inscriptions generating the golden spears when he was busy with a battle on that level.

A white halo spread from Daniel's figure and covered a large chunk of the sky as he charged toward his opponents. The three powerhouses took out a series of defensive items before deploying various offensive spells that converged toward Daniel.

A wave of blue flames, bird-like creatures made of gray metal, and three massive pillars flew toward Daniel. They entered the expanding white halo and tried to converge on the cultivator at its center.

However, Daniel's individuality purified those attacks and turned them into nothing more than "Breath". Even the auras of the Royals vanished from that energy under the effects of the white halo.

The white light then morphed. Its surface became unstable as flares came out of its spherical shape.

The flares shot in every direction and purified everything they touched. Any inscription illuminated by Daniel's light vanished, and the powerhouses' defenses crumbled when his individuality reached them.

The Royals had deployed the usual defensive methods of the Elbas family. They wore golden armors, a golden halo surrounded their figures, and runes covered their skins.

Their protections weren't on the Princes and Princess' level, but they still reached the peak of the lower tier in power. Yet, Daniel's individuality turned them into nothing more than raw materials and pieces of metal.

Moreover, the light that had seeped through the defenses had turned pieces of their skin into withered tissues. Cracks appeared on those spots under the stunned powerhouses' inspection, and they couldn't help but retreat when they understood how dangerous Daniel was.

Daniel wasn't as impressive as Noah when it came to his battle prowess, but he had one of the rarest aptitudes too. The many events in his life and his growth inside the Hive had made him capable of facing peak gaseous stage powerhouses even if he had been in the sixth rank for only a few centuries.

June could take care of the coastline and the structures that had come out from the nearby region. She didn't do that on purpose or, rather, unleashing her power affected the golden spears anyway, so she didn't need to focus on them.

Black sparks covered her figure and spread in the environment to give birth to a loud lightning storm. June's higher energy behaved like Noah's cloud, but it had far different effects.

June's heartbeat echoed through her higher energy, and lightning bolts shot out of it at every beat. The number of attacks even increased as June kept the ability active.

The golden spear was still in her grasp, and part of the black sparks flowed inside it to prepare her next attack. June only needed to point it toward the structures that had begun to move in her direction to release a black wave of energy.

The runes on the structure's side lit up when June's attack landed on them. A series of shining lines appeared on the buildings and activated the ability of those formations.

A golden whirlpool appeared on top of the runes while June continued to keep the spear pointed at the first structure. Her higher energy continued to flow inside her weapon, but her attack didn't seem able to destroy that building.

The whirlpools struggled to deal with June's higher energy. Their inscriptions' purpose was to absorb "Breath", so that denser energy wasn't something that they could dismantle easily.

Yet, there was more than one building. The other structures moved to assist June's target, and their inscriptions fused when they made their sides touch.

The shining lines slid on the structures' surface and reassembled themselves to suit that defensive measure's new form. The buildings had previously been independent defenses, but they had turned into a tall wall that gave birth to a single massive whirlpool.

June's wave of energy eventually began to crumble under the effects of the golden whirlpool. Black sparks fell from the attacks' structure and entered the runes on the tall wall.

The golden inscriptions on its surface changed color as June's higher energy fueled those formations. They became darker, and an orange halo started to surround the massive structure.

Then, a golden beam came out of the whirlpool and started to fight against June's attack. The two waves of energy pushed each other as they tried to overwhelm their opponent's offensive.

Orange and dark flashes shot out from the area where the two beams fought. The ground under the tall wall crumbled as June's sparks fell on the terrain and unleashed their immense power on the environment.

A series of cracks eventually formed around the area where the two beams fought. Openings toward the voids surrounded those chaotic but dense waves of energy and expanded as more power leaked into the sky.

June continued to pour more energy into the spear, but she soon understood that something was off. She felt that her attack lost power during the clash with the defensive wall.

The whirlpool didn't disappear after it released the golden beam. It continued to absorb the black sparks and make them part of its power. Also, there didn't seem to be an end to its capacity.

June could only witness as her attack slowly lost its ground against the golden beam. The advance of the wall's ability made the whirlpool absorb more of her higher energy and continued to increase its power.

The golden beam eventually overwhelmed the black energy, and June felt forced to perform an evasive maneuver. Dense light fell on the storm that surrounded her, and it slowly lost power as lightning bolts pierced its structure.

Part of the storms fell apart to destroy the golden beams, but higher energy came out of June's figure and refilled those missing spots. Also, the new sparks appeared far denser and more threatening than the previous ones.

June's battle intent surged as she turned toward the tall inscribed wall. The runes on its surface had abilities similar to her individuality, and she felt excited to have found something that could endure her relentless blows.

She had found an opponent that could force her to unleash even more power. That was what June had desired for the past centuries!

Her heartbeat became more intense as waves of higher energy came out of her figure and fueled her abilities. Her spear started to tremble as sparks flowed endlessly inside its inscriptions, and a buzzing sound came out of its shape.

The storm became more violent too. Dark clouds appeared high in the sky as a result of the influence of June's sparks. She seemed to be able to influence the behavior of the environment with her aura.

Shining lines lit up on the spear. They increased the amount of energy that the weapon could store, but June had long since stopped caring about its structural limits.

A quasi-rank 6 weapon was a miraculous item in the hands of rank 5 cultivators. Yet, powerhouses required stronger assets, and June had reached that point as soon as she advanced.

Daniel and Faith had to improve for a few decades before Noah's living weapons couldn't help them anymore. However, June had only needed to lose one clash to reach that point.

Her Perfect Circuit produced so much energy that the entirety of her region on the western coast became nothing more than an array of black sparks. Lightning bolts fell from that array of higher energy and destroyed the ground under them.

When June saw the first crack appearing on the spear, she pointed it at the wall and launched another crackling wave of energy. She intended to go all out and see where her individuality would bring her.

Chapter 1197 - 1197. Idea

Elder Laura had her fair share of issues facing the defensive formations. She shot arrows against the ballistae's bolts, but her attacks couldn't stop those inscribed weapons' attacks completely.

The ballistae were inscribed weapons in the middle tier that launched bolts with power at the peak of the lower tier. The might that they were capable of was superior to most gaseous stage powerhouses.

Elder Laura had to perform evasive maneuvers multiple times to dodge all the attacks coming in her direction. She even shot her morphing arrows toward the weapons when she found an opening, but her techniques would always crumble under the power of the bolts.

Even if her arrows transformed into giant magical beasts, the bolts shot by the ballistae always pierced them to converge on her position. Moreover, the golden light filling the coastline was fixing the spears, so she was about to face formations on two sides.

Still, Elder Laura couldn't do anything to avoid that outcome. She could only do her best and try to find a flaw in the ballistae's array.

Elder Julia didn't have any issue facing the hybrid army and dealing with the coastline at the same time. Her wind-slashes filled the sky above those regions and flew through everything that shone or moved.

The formations on the coast couldn't do anything against that display of power, but the hybrids opposed some resistance.

The hybrid army had one Poisonous Giant Frog in the sixth rank as its leader. The creature's centers of power were near the bottom of the sixth rank, but it had many weaker beings ready to give their lives to defend it.

The creatures in the army didn't belong to their leader's species. They could only display basic battle formations, but that didn't influence their battle prowess in front of a powerhouse.

The weaker hybris had power between the fourth and fifth rank, and only a few of them had a quasirank 6 body. It seemed that the Elbas family didn't invest too much in raising them and solely relied on their sheer power as a form of defense.

The Royals only wanted an army that could protect their regions, and the chains locked on the creatures took care of that task. The Elbas family couldn't care less if all the hybrids died to complete their missions. They were disposable assets anyway.

The Poisonous Giant Frog was a threatening opponent for a cultivator. It had a strong body, but it didn't lack long-range attacks that could match human spells. The Royals had also taught it a few techniques, so its battle prowess was far above the level of its centers of power.

'It's a bad copy of the Ancestors,' Noah thought when he looked at the Frog.

He could see how the Elbas family had tried to improve the leader's condition, but they had been quite sloppy at it. The Frog's spells empowered its innate poisonous abilities, but it didn't add other attacks to its arsenal.

The Royals didn't even try to make the creature express its full potential. They had disregarded fundamental aspects of its innate superiority as a hybrid.

'Their desire to control everything has always been their greatest weakness,' Noah thought as a sigh escaped his mouth.

He had suffered from the same behavior when he was only a human cultivator. The Royals desired to have complete control over their underlings, which affected their troops' overall power.

Elder Julia made most of her wind-slashes converge toward the hybrid army, and many of her hidden attacks pierced the ranks of the weaker beasts to crash on the Frog.

The army's leader used the creatures with a quasi-rank 6 body as its shields, but Elder Julia's attacks were hard to notice, and even its superior awareness couldn't help it in the task.

It would have been different if the Frog was a bit stronger, but its level was far below Elder Julia's, so it could only endure her attacks as it waited for an opening in her offensive.

Elder Regina summoned an army of puppets that detonated whenever they clashed with the red wh.i.p.s. Part of her creations was already on the ground, dealing with the inscriptions that the golden light kept on rebuilding.

The wh.i.p.s were massive and tried to catch her with their fast attacks, but Elder Regina was in complete control of the battlefield. Her puppets moved following precise battle formations that always left an escape route open for her.

The puppets detonated every time the wh.i.p.s crashed on them, but Elder Regina never stopped creating more beast-like creatures to refill her army's ranks.

That battle style depleted her "Breath" quickly, but she didn't care as long as she managed to inflict some damage on the red wh.i.p.s. Her goal was to make the Elbas family consume their reserves of energy, and she was doing great at that.

Flying Demon and Dreaming Demon were experienced fighters, so the appearance of that strange creature in the nearby region didn't worry them.

Moreover, they were among the best gaseous stage powerhouses in the world, and they were fighting together. They had nothing to fear in that situation.

The creature appeared made of a mixture of metal, mud, and terrain. The Demons destroyed large chunks of its body with their attacks, but the region always provided more materials to fix those spots.

Its arms could also stretch, and sharp spikes shot out of the four fingers of its vaguely humanoid hands. A dense gas came out of its large mouth too, but the Demons avoided all those attacks.

Flying Demon covered the entire region on the coast with his white flowers. Ice spread from them, and his influence soon reached the strange creature.

Ice began to cover the monster that replaced the frozen pieces of its body with more materials. Its endurance appeared connected to the number of resources in the ground, so defeating it slowly would hurt that area's value.

Dreaming Demon used Flying Demon's ice to make her consciousness seep faster in the creature's fabric. She wanted to take control of it, but she soon understood that the task wouldn't be easy.

The materials in the creature's body were already under the influence of another consciousness, and the Royals seemed to have placed protections against her methods.

Something or someone was already controlling the ground in the entire region, so the Demons had to find the existence behind that defense if they wanted to avoid ruining that land forever.

"I'll open a path," Flying Demon said toward his lover. He waved his hand, and the flowers shattered to release a storm of ice-shards that crashed on the monster.

The creature's movements slowed down as the attacks landed on its body. Pieces of frozen ground fell from its figure as the monster tried to replace its wounded parts, but Flying Demon's offensive didn't give it enough time to heal.

The monster eventually stopped moving, and ice covered its whole figure. Flying Demon joined his hands in front of his chest, and a tall flower grew on the frozen creature.

Then, Flying Demon's hands separated, and cracks appeared on the tall flower's structure. A vertical fissure spread from the white plant's top and reached the creature.

The crack began to spread on the frozen creature, and it soon opened a large cavity that divided its body in half. Flying Demon only had to split his hands further to open the monster and reveal its insides.

Frozen terrain and mud fell from the creature's insides when Flying Demon forced it open. Dreaming Demon's consciousness shot forward to inspect it, but her mental waves had to reach deep inside the region to find the monster's core.

There was a small golden sphere made of a smooth metal under the monster. Dreaming Demon shared that vision with her lover, and Flying Demon couldn't help but find similarities between that item and Noah's Beast Cores.

It seemed that the Elbas family had tried to create a fake sea of consciousness to give birth to that monster. They wanted to give life to the very ground of a region so that it could fight with them.

The Demons exchanged a cold smile at that sight, and the same idea appeared inside their minds.

Chapter 1198 - 1198. Item

Chaos spread on the western coast and the inland regions as the powerhouses unleashed their abilities to fight against the defensive formations.

A golden halo covered the coast and tried to repair the inscriptions, but the destruction generated in the many battles worsened their condition.

Some battles gave birth to shockwaves that spread even in the nearby regions and destroyed the formations on their surface. The Matriarchs' were enough to clear all the central part of the coastline.

The same wasn't valid for the other powerhouses, but many of them managed to take care of the inscriptions in their regions even if they had to deal with other defensive formations.

Still, there were spots where the golden light managed to fix the inscriptions. The southern side of the western coast had Daniel and other cultivators who were too busy with their new opponents and couldn't take care of the formations under them.

True Speed, Elder Laura, Faith, Daniel, and Skully had to neglect the coastline, and the golden halo soon fixed the inscriptions in some of their regions. Spears eventually formed and began to fly toward the intruders again.

The battlefield became even messier at that point. Third Prince and Second Princess controlled the spears to focus the assets struggling against the formations.

The Royals ignored the troublesome opponents to focus on those that would suffer the most from those attacks. Faith and True Speed had annoying abilities that would make them fend off the spears easily, so the formations focused on the other three powerhouses.

Elder Laura had issues against the ballistae, but she had managed to become used to their offensive. She had also come close to hit a few of them between one attack and another.

However, the golden spears' arrival forced her to perform multiple evasive maneuvers in a row until she escaped from the formations' range. The Elder couldn't deal with both defenses and could only leave the battlefield for now.

Skully was inside in an array of branches that tried to crash on her body and block every escape route. Her mental waves managed to fend off most attacks, but she had to rely on movement spells to dodge some of them.

Her mental waves were dense and could stop a few branches, but there were too many of them. She could summon winds capable of destroying some attacks, but that wasn't enough to block the magical plant's offensive.

Moreover, the formations around the magical plants improved their vitality and benefitted their growth, which gave birth to more branches every second. Skully soon found herself overwhelmed and had to rely on a different battle style to take care of her opponents.

Her mental waves began to amass and condense into a different shape. Skully gave birth to a series of wind-slashes that resembled Elder Julia's attacks.

Skully's slashes were quite tall and radiated an intense aura. They didn't give off any sharpness but only relied on the amount of power acc.u.mulated inside their shapes to inflict damage.

The wind-slashes flew toward the branches that restrained Skully's flight and cut right through them, opening a path where she could escape.

Skully's felt excited to see that the new approach worked well against those magical plants, and she intended to focus their trunks after destroying every branch in her way.

Yet, golden spears suddenly set off from the region behind her and converged in her position. They even dodged the branches on their path to preserve their power for the peculiar powerhouse.

Skully cursed in her mind, but she promptly decided to escape from that situation. She couldn't face both defenses at the same time, so she covered her figure with the wind-slashes and flew away from that entanglement.

The branches fell apart as she escaped, but some spears landed on her and destroyed part of her defenses. A few of them even pierced her skin, leaving deep injuries on her body.

Skully managed to escape the range of those formations at that point, but she didn't stop amassing mental energy to create more attacks. The invasion wasn't over, and she needed to be ready for when a new chance appeared.

Daniel had it far harsher than his companions. His opponents were three powerhouses, and they could work together with the golden spears to maximize their opportunities.

Waves of flames, bird-like puppets, and ice-pillars assaulted the white halo radiated by Daniel. The Royals didn't mind that their attacks couldn't cross his defenses. They only wanted to keep him in his place until the spears arrived.

Daniel sensed the arrival of the spears, and his white halo became unstable again under his control. Flares came out of its uneven shape, and a few dense rays accompanied them in their offensive.

The dense rays weren't chaotic attacks. Daniel aimed them directly at the Royals while he flew toward their attacks to dodge the incoming spears.

The white halo became thinner as Daniel's light gathered inside his beams to enhance their piercing power. The Royals' attacks couldn't do anything against them, and they also had to dodge some flares as they avoided the enemy's offensive.

The spears pierced Daniel's halo and flew through it for a while before dissolving into a small cloud of golden energy. They had almost defeated Daniel's protection, but he wasn't in their trajectory anymore.

Daniel waved his hands at that point. His halo exploded outward and gave birth to a series of thin beams that aimed at the Royals. Yet, a series of golden spears appeared in their trajectory and gave the three powerhouses enough time to escape.

The Royals didn't let that chance go to waste. Daniel was defenseless, so they could hope to inflict some damage if they unleashed their best attacks.

The water aptitude Royal created a series of pillars that converged in Daniel's position. They left a trail of ice as they encircled him and tried to trap him in a cage-like structure.

The earth aptitude Royal summoned an army of bird-like puppets that flew through the cage's bars and forced Daniel to focus on them. He couldn't unleash the white halo again with so many creatures keeping him busy.

The fire aptitude Royal covered the entire area with blue flames that didn't affect the ice created by her companion. Daniel couldn't help but suffer injuries in that situation.

The ice wasn't a problem, but the birds were annoying to deal with since their metallic structure was sturdy. Also, the blue flames didn't hurt them and affected only Daniel.

A white radiance came out of Daniel's skin and stopped most attacks. The flames vanished under the effects of his individuality, but the birds pierced his skin before dissolving into energy.

The flames kept coming, and there were still many bird-like puppets sieging him. Moreover, the cage began to emit strange vibrations that suppressed the expansion of Daniel's light.

The three powerhouses were successfully suppressing him, and they had the time to cast more attacks while he tried to free himself. More golden spears had set off from the ground and were flying in his direction too, so he had to do something to avoid worse injuries.

Daniel didn't hesitate once his consciousness noticed the threats around him. An emblem appeared in his hand, and a blinding white halo spread from his figure.

The light didn't stop expanding until it engulfed the sky above the southern part of the western coast.

Chapter 1199 - 1199. Rolling

Daniel relied on his divine item as soon as the situation became too problematic to handle with his current power. He knew that the invasion had only started, so he didn't mind using his best tool to come out of those restrictions.

The white light made everything vanish. The cage, the blue flames, and the bird-like puppets disappeared without leaving any trace. The Royals even retreated in front of such a display of power.

The golden spears didn't release any energy when the white light engulfed them. Daniel's divine item eradicated their existence, but it didn't reach the inscriptions on the coastline.

Daniel had gained some time to breathe, but his situation didn't change. The three powerhouses still targeted him, and the defensive formation had already resumed creating spears.

Escaping appeared to be the best option in that situation. The invaders didn't need to conquer the entirety of the coastline in their first attack, so retreating wasn't a bad outcome.

Daniel didn't make the defensive formations deplete much energy because his opponents were cultivators, but keeping them busy had allowed his companions to take care of that task.

Still, he didn't want to retreat just yet. There were other cultivators in the same situation, and he could join them to exploit the flaws in the Royals' defenses.

The regions had different defenses, and they appeared able to affect only the lands nearby. The formations didn't have a good range, so Daniel could use that feature to his advantage once he regrouped with some of his companions.

He could even choose regions near the Matriarchs to have an easier fight. The two liquid stage powerhouses would take care of one side of the battlefield for him.

However, when Daniel inspected the situation on the coastline, he found out that the Demons had already deployed a strategy that left him and all those checking the events stunned.

Flying Demon and Dreaming Demon had split the monster in half and found its core, but an idea had come to their minds when they saw that the golden sphere resembled Noah's Beast Cores.

Dreaming Demon was an expert capable of influencing the laws inside the matter with her mental waves, and she could even control other creatures with her individuality. The same went for fake seas of consciousness. They were even easier to subdue for her.

When Daniel retreated in the air to gaze at the western coast as a whole, he saw the Demons sitting on top of the mud monster that charged recklessly at the regions nearby.

Dreaming Demon controlled the monster to invade the coastline and destroy the inscriptions that the golden light tried to restore.

Their goal was to use the creature to crush the spears multiple times until the Elbas family's energy reserves vanished. That would make their task easier since the monster still relied on those resources to function.

Its fake sea of consciousness was only an amass of instincts and tasks that the Royals had programmed it to do. The energy still came from the regions through a special connection between the golden sphere and the ground.

The Demons didn't understand how that connection worked, but they didn't need to know that to make use of the monster. Dreaming Demon's control was so subtle that it didn't even trigger the failsafe placed by the Royals.

The monster crossed entire regions in a matter of minutes. It became bigger as some of the ground where it crawled fused with its body.

Flying Demon laughed as the monster laid waste to the formations. Its destruction was even more thorough than the powerhouses since it ripped off entire chunks of the ground and absorbed them into its shape.

Skully could only reveal a smile when she saw the monster destroying the formations near the magical plants and moving toward the black storm.

The Demons had given her the chance to fight undisturbed for a while, and she didn't want to waste it.

The monster moved toward June's battlefield, and Flying Demon stood up to take care of the matter. Dreaming Demon had to keep her focus on the golden sphere, so she couldn't help him in that situation.

Flying Demon stared at the dense array of black sparks raised his hand. He knew that asking June to hold back for a while was pointless, especially when she was in the middle of an exciting battle. It would be faster if he opened a path through the storm.

Flowers grew in a straight line between Flying Demon's hand and the storm. The man's individuality surged, and his creations exploded into an array of sharp shards that crashed on June's black sparks.

June's higher energy was dense, and it would typically fend off most attacks. However, her focus was on the defensive wall in the other region. The storm around her was leftover energy that her Perfect Circuit created.

A path opened among the storm. June's sparks shattered, and ice appeared on their surface as Flying Demon's influence engulfed them.

Flying Demon then snapped his fingers, and those frozen sparks shattered. A wave of ice-shards fell from the sky as the monster crossed that region, and the Demon gathered them to create a shield above his group.

Lightning bolts fell from other sides of June's storm, but Flying Demon's shield blocked any attack coming in his direction. His group soon went out of the wave of higher energy, and the ice-shield crumbled as they moved toward the Matriarchs' battlefield.

God's Left Hand and Great Elder Diana weren't as focused as June. They noticed the Demons' arrival and retracted their spells to let them pass without causing any trouble.

The monster became bigger as it crawled through those regions and it eradicated the formations that created the spears along the way. The golden halo had to rebuild entire parts of the terrain to restore those inscriptions, and that made the Royal deplete even more energy.

"They cut the connection with its sea of consciousness," Dreaming Demon said as she closed her eyes to pour part of her energy inside the creature's core.

"We are almost on the other side!" Flying Demon shouted as it placed his hands on the creature's body. His "Breath" flowed inside the monster, and Dreaming Demon redirected it toward specific areas.

The Royals couldn't let one of their defenses fall into their enemies' hands, but they took a while to cut the connection with the monster since they were busy managing the golden spears and other formations.

Still, the Demons used their "Breath" as fuel for the creature so that they could finish their sweep of the coastline. After all, there was no better destroyer of inscriptions among their group.

The creature retracted its strange arms and sealed its mouth to focus everything it had on reaching the other corner of the coast. Under Dreaming Demon's control, the monster began to roll on those regions and rip off even more terrain.

Daniel and Elder Laura could only smile when they saw Flying Demon laughing on top of a line of terrain that didn't move even if the creature rolled. Dreaming Demon had created a platform that made them remain still no matter which actions the monster performed.

The monster eventually reached the end of the coastline, and its structure began to crumble as it fell into the sea. The creature gave off a loud cry, but the Demons didn't even glance at it as they jumped back on the continent.

There was only destruction in front of them. The golden halo tried to restore those pieces of ripped ground, but the process was far slower than before. The group could focus on the formations in-land without worrying about the spears for a while.

Also, now that the Demons were on the southern side, they could help with the defenses that had made their companions struggle.

Chapter 1200 - 1200. Division

Daniel was aware of the Demons' mindset, so he shot directly toward the Royals. A white light came out of his figure and covered the area with a thick aura that seeped through every surface.

The intensity of Daniel's aura increased as he neared the powerhouses, and even the sky began to suffer under the effects of his individuality.

The air slowly vanished, and cracks opened in the sky as Daniel's light destabilized its structure. It seemed that he could even affect the laws in the environment when he went all-out.

The Royals retreated while launching their spells. The three powerhouses relied on their techniques to slow down Daniel's advance, but dizziness soon invaded their mind and made them lose control of their abilities.

Ice began to spread under their feet. The Royals weren't aware of what was happening around them. They didn't even notice that their legs had fused with the chunk of ice under them.

They were utterly defenseless, and Daniel only needed to touch them with his light to deliver a fatal blow.

A wave of golden flames engulfed the Royals and fended off the white light when Daniel's halo was about to touch the three powerhouses.

The fire didn't hurt the Royals. It acted as protection meant to give them time to retreat. Third Prince and Second Princess had launched it to save their powerful assets.

Yet, the flames didn't manage to shake off the Demons' influence thoroughly. They had fended off Daniel's light and gave them some clarity back, but Flying Demon's ice remained unaffected by that fire.

"Not so fast," Flying Demon said as he and his lover reached Daniel's position.

The trio glanced at the three powerhouses still engulfed in the golden flames before looking toward the Royals in the distance. Third Prince and Second Princess could only reply with an ugly expression to their gazes.

Flying Demon raised his hand, Daniel pointed his palm toward his enemies, and Dreaming Demon closed her eyes to unfold her consciousness.

The Hive's trio was about to unleash their offensive on the trapped Royals, but Third Prince and Second Princess acted before their attacks were ready.

The three Royals began to scream in pain as part of the golden flames burned them. The Hive's trio remained speechless when they saw the powerhouses leaving the ice to escape through the fire.

It wasn't hard to understand how the three had pulled that off. Third Prince and Second Princess had saved their underlings by turning their legs into ashes.

Flying Demon and Daniel wanted to chase after the departing Royals, but Dreaming Demon gestured them to stop. Her consciousness was still inside the area, so she could see part of what waited for them ahead of that region.

Surpassing the golden flames wasn't a problem. Third Prince and Second Princess had become stronger after King Elbas' departure, but they were still against some of the world's best gaseous stage cultivators.

Yet, Dreaming Demon sensed some danger coming from the region where the three Royals were escaping. She felt that her group might not be able to cross it easily.

"Let's focus on the coast," Dreaming Demon eventually announced as she opened her eyes and retracted part of her consciousness.

She didn't need to explain anything to her two companions. Both of them were aware of her abilities and trusted her judgment. There had to be a good reason if she had decided to stop the chase.

The trio's eyes moved north at that point. The monster's charge had helped all the battlefields, but cultivators were still struggling to defeat the defensive formations.

"One each," Dreaming Demon said before flying toward True Speed's region.

Flying Demon winked at Daniel before flying toward Elder Laura's battlefield, and the latter pretended not to understand his gesture when he gazed at the remaining fights. There was only Faith to help on that side of the coast, so Daniel flew toward her.

Once the reinforcements arrived, the situations on those battlefields utterly changed.

True Speed had continued to crush armored puppets since the beginning of the invasion. The Royals had even avoided to target him with the golden spears because his movement technique was too troublesome to deal with.

The expert from the Shandal Empire would escape. Using the golden spears against him was a waste of resources.

True Speed didn't manage to destroy many puppets. He had to use all his physical strength to make one of them crumble, but they used battle formations that often limited how often he could attack.

Moreover, the puppets had started to counter his physical strength by assembling more pieces of armor. They only needed to gather the materials from the destroyed golems to build better ones.

True Speed continued to fight even in that situation. He didn't care if he now needed two or three blows to deal with a puppet. He would still remain on the battlefield because his organization needed his efforts.

The Shandal Empire was the weakest among the world's forces, and it also had worse growth. Both the Hive and the Council had seen cultivators advance to powerhouses' rank even if the three of them had shared those centuries of isolation inside the separate dimension.

Even the Elbas family had managed to produce more powerhouses. The Royals' methods weren't orthodox, but that still didn't justify the Empire's low growth.

True Speed could only believe that the Shandal Empire had a flawed foundation at that point. He didn't know if Shandal's influence had something to do with it, but he needed to give his organization a home if he wanted to find and fix those flaws.

That was why he couldn't leave the battlefield no matter what. He had to seize regions where the Empire could prosper and improve its mindset as an organization.

The puppets suddenly stopped moving when Dreaming Demon reached True Speed's battlefield. The cultivator from the Empire wanted to complain when he sensed her, but he decided to remain silent.

There was no need to discuss who would own that region if they were to work together. The priority was to capture it.

Dreaming Demon glanced at him before nodding and closing her eyes. She had understood that True Speed wouldn't object to the two of them fighting together, so she decided to become sober.

Her consciousness spread in the environment and seeped inside the puppets' structure. Still, they were powerful enough to hinder Dreaming Demon's influence, so she focused on stripping them off their armors.

The puppets' armors shattered. Metallic shards fell toward the ground and revealed the unpolished torso and legs of those golems. The Royals didn't even bother to finish them since they had to wear protections all the time.

True Speed didn't let go of that chance and sprinted forward. The puppets usually tried to rely on their strong defense to encircle him after enduring one of his kicks, but the situation had changed now.

The puppets weren't much for him without their armors. A kick was more than enough to kill one of them.

True Speed ran through the puppet army and kicked everything he found. He didn't bother to maximize his momentum anymore since they were defenseless, so he could focus on taking care of them as quickly as he could.

Half of the army had fallen apart when the puppets understood that they had lost their armors.