

Demonic 1801

Chapter 1801 - 1801. Over

A few experts and magical beasts had managed to seize part of the jellyfish's energy, but only Noah and King Elbas had managed to turn that power into breakthroughs.

The group couldn't help but stare at the newly advanced experts once they came out of the mansion. They almost couldn't believe that those relatively young existences had already caught up with them.

The Foolery ended up remaining the only member of the team that had yet to reach the solid stage. Its existence still required to make up for the many years spent with only one center of power, so its level remained in the liquid stage.

The pig had even inherited part of Noah's insane requirements after the transformation, so its share of the jellyfish's energy only managed to make it reach the peak of the liquid stage and middle tier.

The void creatures tried to assault the group as soon as the mansion returned inside King Elbas' space-ring, but Noah limited himself to wave his hand and fill the area with his sharpness.

Countless cuts appeared in the void whenever the blackness bent or something moved. The empty creatures couldn't get near the experts at all, which gave them time to decide their next move.

The experts were at their full power now. Their dantians had enough energy to sustain a long journey, but King Elbas still had to complete a few calculations that required him to consider their previous gains.

Stealing worlds was easy and barely required any energy, but the same didn't apply to fights against rank 9 creatures. Their situation would worsen if they found another powerful being, which could endanger their chances of returning to their hole.

The group was even far away from their hole. Noah could rely on Shafu and make it carry everyone if they ended up without energy, but that would leave him alone among the void.

King Elbas had to consider for how long the mission had to continue. After all, the group could always return inside the sky, calculate how far they had traveled through the void, and find a new hole that led into areas that they didn't explore.

The faint hurry that they felt came from a possible punishment from Heaven and Earth, but nothing had arrived in the last years. The rulers didn't seem to care about the destruction that was spreading through their system. They appeared ready to forsake their sources of energy.

Needless to say, Noah didn't like that unclear situation, and many of his companions shared his worries. They couldn't understand why the rulers remained silent even after Caesar confirmed that they would deploy a punishment.

The odd situation made the group wonder about the many possibilities connected to that silence. Those guesses went from Heaven and Earth's lack of energy to a plan that saw the rulers unleashing deadly force on the experts only after they made sure that their punishment would deal with them.

Still, Heaven and Earth had already tried to pull something similar off, and Noah's group had defeated them. Also, the fear of the punishments didn't make the experts forget the reason behind their mission.

The experts had to accumulate energy to rebuild the world and prevent the slow death caused by the lack of nutrients in the lands under the sky. They had yet to gather a decent amount of power, so the journey through the blackness had to continue.

Noah kept his ideas for himself during that conversation. He wanted Heaven and Earth to deploy a punishment to make them waste even more energy, but some of his new companions wouldn't agree with his mindset. Keeping them in the dark was the best option since internal fights could endanger the mission.

The group resumed their travel through the blackness after deciding to keep going for a few more decades. Their approach didn't change after the battle with the jellyfish. They entered every separate space hidden behind white layers with power that approached the ninth rank or crossed it and ignored everything else.

The journey managed to surprise the group from time to time. Heaven and Earth had gathered sources of energy from worlds outside of their system, so the experts found things that they didn't know how to describe from time to time.

Broken worlds devoid of wills still filled most of the separate spaces, but the group also met strange materials, creatures, or structures capable of radiating energy they couldn't classify.

The group met a large cloud made of yellow gas that barely felt alive. The complete lack of cores in its insides made it hard to evaluate its actual nature. The attempts to steal its energy generated arrays of yellowish beams that filled the entirety of the separate dimension.

The cloud was clearly dangerous and alive, but King Elbas eventually came up with an item that could slowly absorb currents of the yellow gas without alerting that strange existence.

Stealing power became far easier at that point, and the cloud didn't notice that it was losing energy until its size shrunk by a lot. Angry attacks came out from the cloud at that point, but the strange creature had weakened during the silent drain, so the group could deal with it easily.

Noah and the others found a massive lizard once. The creature was a rank 9 existence, but it was unclear whether they could label it as a magical beast since it had a fake dantian in its belly.

The sight of a fully-fledged rank 9 magical beast would normally force the team to consider their options, but the first envoy into that area found out that the creature had many chains around its neck, limbs, and tail.

The chains seemed to belong to a different world. They didn't come from Heaven and Earth, and their vibe was too different for them to come from the same place.

The chained beast couldn't do much with the chains tying it up, so the group didn't hesitate to deploy special items that could weaken the lizard's scaled body. The experts could take care of the creature at that point. The lizard died quickly due to a relentless assault, and only a withered chained corpse remained in the separate dimension once the process was over.

Noah and the others seized the chains to study them. The experts even noticed that the four cultivators from the human organizations couldn't wait to get their hands on the energy taken in the mission.

Other peculiar events followed from time to time, but the group always managed to deal with them. The platoon made of cultivators, hybrids, and magical beasts was simply too powerful and prepared to let a few imprisoned creatures in the ninth rank scare them.

Shafu developed a large belly after filling its separate dimension with worlds and raw energy. It seemed that its size depended on how heavy its insides could be, and even Noah didn't expect that reaction. However, that was a good sign since it proved how much fuel the group had gathered.

Noah and King Elbas soon ended up at the center of the rumors spread throughout the group. Their performance was incredible after the breakthrough, and they often took care of issues single-handedly.

Their power had skyrocketed after the breakthrough. Both of them were still trying to understand their new strength, and the many issues on their path helped in the process.

Then, after seizing part of a massive mountain that spoke in a language that no one could understand, the group turned and began to fly in the direction of their hole. The mission was over.

Chapter 1802 - 1802. Hole

The experts conversed about their possibilities during their return.

Noah had enough energy to rebuild the world, but he couldn't fill the entirety of the area inside the sky with that. Still, he could build something capable of lasting for a long time, even with many powerful existences feeding off its nutrients.

In his mind, Noah wanted to complete multiple raids to the void, but he had to accept that every mission required long preparations and training sessions.

The experts couldn't spend their entire lives gathering energy. They had to put it into use, so the only viable solution seemed to involve the stormy regions.

A new plan slowly formed in Noah's mind as the experts threw ideas at him. His organization had many solid stage experts and upper tier creatures by then, so the storms didn't appear as dangerous as before. Those lands could offer energy easier to gather and transport back into the black regions, making them the perfect target for the imminent future.

No one wanted to explore the void a second time. The experts would do it if the situation required it, but that mission sounded pointless when they had a closer source of energy at hand.

The group had to decide between the dangers of the void and the threatening rank 9 creatures living inside the stormy regions. The latter appeared more dangerous, but the experts already knew about them. Instead, the blackness past the sky could hide creatures that the group couldn't even begin to approach.

The issue didn't concern the power level. The stormy regions probably were more dangerous than the void, but they didn't have problems connected to the lack of energy and the peculiar location.

Of course, Noah would change his mind as soon as one approach became more appealing, but he agreed that the entire group needed to spend some time resting after that travel. The period spent inside the mansion had allowed the experts to cultivate. However, the journey through the void had prevented them from training for most of its duration.

The travel back to the hole was uneventful. The group didn't encounter any significant danger since they didn't open paths toward the separate spaces anymore. The various cultivators, hybrids, and magical beasts focused on crossing the blackness, but excitement inevitably spread among them as their destination grew near.

The fights against the strange rank 9 existences contained in some separate space had been exciting, but nothing could compare to the nature of their mission. After all, the experts had successfully stolen entire lands and planes from Heaven and Earth. No one in the history of the Immortal Lands could claim to have succeeded in that task.

Even Noah felt quite proud about his group and himself. The journey didn't only make him gather the energy necessary to rebuild the Immortal Lands. It had also tightened the relationships among his group and had given him a general idea of their mindset.

The entire group hurried toward the hole to seize the glory that would accompany their return. King Elbas couldn't lose his way with the many inscribed items deployed to keep track of their position, so he led his companions in the initial location in no time.

"I was thinking," King Elbas exclaimed while the group descended toward the white layer. "I could try to create fake centers of power that generate energy on their own now that my path has to approach the ninth rank."

"That's an arrogant way to ask my help," Noah laughed as whiteness filled his vision.

"I can count the fields in which you are superior with one hand," King Elbas snorted. "Fake centers of power are one of them."

"We still need the key to generate proper energy," Noah sighed. "The cultivation journey should bring us closer to Heaven and Earth's level, in theory. We would have to invent a new form of energy completely detached from the "Breath" to step into that realm."

"That's why we need experiments!" King Elbas scoffed.

"You are just too curious to calm down," Noah continued to laugh.

"What can I say?" King Elbas shook his head. "Maybe you'll get these flaws too if I feed you with my energy."

"As if I didn't have enough already," Noah added before something strange caught his attention.

The hole usually became visible after nearing the sky, but Noah didn't manage to see anything. The group was already on top of the white layer, but no passage for the higher plane appeared.

"Tell me that you've made a mistake," Noah whispered, but King Elbas' silence was an answer that he didn't want to hear.

King Elbas separated from the group and hurried toward the sky. Noah followed him closely, and the duo soon arrived on top of the white layer. There was no hole there, but a desperate scene unfolded in their vision and made them lose every hope once they looked past the whiteness.

Noah and King Elbas saw the flag with the horned head among the white material that made the sky. It was inside it, even if the experts had planted it on the surface.

The other experts started to gather around Noah and King Elbas before revealing similar shocked expressions. The location of the passage was correct, but the hole had disappeared. They didn't have a way back into the Immortal Lands.

"The most dangerous enemy isn't necessarily the creature with the sharpest fangs," A youthful voice resounded near the group, and a man slowly seeped past the whiteness.

"A mere patch is enough to spread desperation sometimes," Caesar concluded before exploding into his odd laugh.

"I thought the holes were necessary for the Mortal Lands," Noah announced without turning toward the expert. "Did Heaven and Earth create a new path? I thought they wanted to preserve energy."

"They would never do something like that," Caesar laughed. "They simply absorbed the Mortal Lands connected to this passage. The sky can't have holes with no purpose, so the tunnel closed."

Elsie and the other experts from the human organizations trembled when their minds touched Caesar's rank 9 aura. The same went for the magical beasts. There was a proper monster at the peak of the cultivation journey in front of them. It didn't matter if Noah and King Elbas had told them about him. Caesar remained a scary existence to have so close.

Instead, Noah's core teammates remained relatively calm. The rank 9 aura was still scary, but they knew that Caesar didn't want to kill them.

"Why are you even here?" King Elbas asked. "Do you want to laugh at our fate?"

"I only want what's best for Heaven and Earth," Caesar exclaimed. "Your role is to overcome this struggle and grow more powerful before losing against the rulers."

"Hearing that once was already too much," Noah sighed. "You can go. You can come to visit my lands once we reach the other side of the sky if you have something to share. Don't bother coming otherwise."

Countless glances slowly moved toward Noah. He was ordering a rank 9 cultivator around without showing the slightest shame, and Caesar couldn't help but explode into a laugh at that sight.

"You are right," Caesar laughed. "I shouldn't waste your precious time. I bet your reserves of energy are running low already."

Caesar laughed again before seeping into the sky again and disappearing from everyone's gaze. Even probing with their minds didn't reveal anything.

Noah roared toward the blackness before a series of complaints could reach his ears. Everyone fell silent when they sensed his cold eyes moving among the group.

"I already know how to return inside the sky," Noah explained. "Let's skip the part when you sound like Heaven and Earth's allies."

"What plan?" Viola asked in a helpless voice. "We can't locate the holes from here. Do you know for how long we would have to explore the sky with all its whiteness?"

"We won't go closer to the sky." Noah continued. "We'll take the long route. We'll use one of the passages connected to the Mortal Lands."

Chapter 1803 - 1803. Strategies

The many complaints remained stuck in the experts' minds after Noah's announcement. Heaven and Earth had closed their path back inside the sky, and the situation appeared completely doomed, but Noah didn't despair. He had even managed to come up with a solution in no time.

"Can Mortal Lands even endure our power?" Marina asked.

Marina was a native of the higher plane. She obviously knew about the Mortal Lands, but they had never concerned her too much. After all, spending time thinking about lower worlds was pointless unless an expert had a specific reason for that.

"No," King Elbas directly replied.

"They'll probably start to fall apart as soon as one of us gets close," Noah continued. "I believe they'll crumble if all of us were to enter the separate space that contains them."

The last revelation made the experts go back to their complaints. They suddenly realized that Noah had given birth to another crazy plan, and they cursed themselves for not understanding that part sooner.

A storm of complaints reached Noah's mind, but he only rolled his eyes at that noise. He even felt annoyed by the seemingly intelligent suggestions of some of his friends.

In his mind, only a few of them had the right to speak about those topics since their expertise involved them. Noah knew space better than anyone in the group, King Elbas' knowledge was almost boundless, and Alexander's endless innate abilities gave him far more power than he realized.

Noah eventually gave voice to another roar and forced the group to fall silent. He wouldn't have revealed his idea if he didn't have a proper plan ready. He only needed to adjust a few details that his expertise didn't cover.

"I need to speak with Elbas alone for a bit," Noah announced. "Those of you with understanding in the laws of space and evolution should join us. The others should remain here and try not to complain too much."

The group wanted to argue, but everyone remained silent since Noah and King Elbas were their best bet to get out of that situation. The complaints could arrive later, when they all returned inside the sky.

"What's your crazy idea now?" King Elbas asked once the two separated from the rest of the group and used their auras to create an area where mental waves couldn't enter. "I understand the idea behind your plan, but we are too powerful for the Mortal Lands. They'll break before we can even step on them."

"I know," Noah sighed. "That's why we need to transform them into Immortal Lands before stepping on them."

King Elbas showed a blank expression, but he couldn't stop his eyes from opening in surprise. He had to admit that the idea had never managed to enter his mind.

"Think about it," Noah continued. "We have enough energy to recreate a large chunk of the higher plane. Transforming a weaker world should be even easier."

"Did you even consider the dimensional tunnel in your plan?" King Elbas asked. "Heaven and Earth created them for newly advanced divine experts. We are far away from that level."

"I did consider them," Noah laughed while patting King Elbas' shoulder. "I explained the plan to you. You can solve that issue now."

King Elbas' expression went blank again. Part of him started to hate Noah and his crazy plans, but the severity of the situation didn't allow him to curse at his fate. He could review which choices had led him among those idiots after he saved his life.

"We need to perform many tests," King Elbas eventually said. "Do you plan on wasting the energy gathered in the mission to prolong our time here?"

"Do you have other options?" Noah laughed. "We even have to find suitable Mortal Lands afterward. Did you take note of the weaker worlds that we met on our path?"

"Of course," King Elbas snorted before taking out a map that depicted an oval white mass at its center and complete blackness everywhere else.

Noah could find many notes on the map when he inspected it with his mental energy. King Elbas had divided it into large sections that used symbols on the drawing of the white sky to create vague coordinates.

It was clear that creating an accurate map of the void was impossible due to the complete lack of reference points in that environment, but King Elbas had done a great job in reducing the errors to the minimum.

"Right," King Elbas suddenly said when placing a finger on the white oval.

Noah noticed how the hole marked on the map disappeared. King Elbas had just found the time to update it.

The map kept track of all the separate spaces that the group had met during their mission. Noah could see that many separate dimensions hidden in the void in the surrounding areas contained Mortal Lands that seemed suitable for the plan, but he didn't want to take risks.

There was a high chance that the Mortal Lands in the area all converged toward the now closed hole. Noah guessed that the group had to move to distant quadrants to ensure that Heaven and Earth couldn't mess with them.

"Pick one," Noah ordered at some point.

King Elbas scratched his chin before pointing at a quadrant that was quite distant from them and explaining his decision. "We found a Mortal Land that appeared quite resilient here. It might be easier to evolve."

Noah nodded before reminding him about his task. "Find a solution for the dimensional tunnels. It doesn't have to be nice as long as it solves the issue. I'll tell the plan to the others."

King Elbas sighed before taking out his massive mansion. The experts wore ugly expressions when they saw the golden structure unfolding in their eyes. It was clear Noah had decided to spend some time there, which meant that they had to use part of the energy accumulated in the last years.

It felt bad to see their efforts and achievements turning into mere fuel for inscribed items, but the experts couldn't say anything when their survival was at stake. Even the four cultivators from the human organizations remained silent and waited for Noah to explain the nature of the plan.

"I know I'm famous for my crazy plans," Noah announced, and a series of suppressed comments immediately reached his mind. "However, this plan is the least crazy of all of them. We only have to transform a lower plane into a world on par with the Immortal Lands."

Blank expressions appeared on the experts' faces. Even Noah's friends couldn't help but show how little they trusted his reassurances.

"The evolution is the easy part," Noah eventually continued. "You can leave that to me. The main issue is the dimensional tunnel. We need to travel through it until a hole appears in our vision, which means more than simple improvements. Still, Elbas is on it, so everything should be fine."

"What should we do?" Wilfred asked. "Do you want us to cultivate while you handle everything?"

"You get inside the mansion and do everything Elbas tells you to do," Noah snorted. "Everything should go smoothly, but I don't want to take risks. Heaven and Earth have made their move already, but they might not be done."

Chapter 1804 - 1804. Will

The entire group entered King Elbas' mansion and began to attend to their different tasks. The only ones really busy dealing with the mission's issues were Noah and King Elbas, but the other experts had to help them whenever the situation required it.

Noah's understanding of space was profound, even deeper than King Elbas. However, the expert had a lot of experience when it came to dimensional tunnels, especially those meant for existences that had just stepped into the divine ranks.

Noah had started to study space only after reaching the Immortal Lands and stepping into the eighth rank. He could claim that his knowledge in the field surpassed King Elbas, but that didn't apply when his understanding had to affect weaker existences.

The fact that King Elbas required all the help he could get didn't make Noah forget about his task. He had announced that evolving a weaker world was easy, but the procedure still needed preparations.

His new ambition could deploy a domain capable of enveloping entire Mortal Lands, and evolving them as a whole wasn't an issue. The problems came before that since there was a high chance that everything would crumble before his law could reach the ground.

The Demonic Deduction technique couldn't help the task since Noah had to stay far away from destructive intentions. The world needed to remain in one place for the dimensional tunnel to have an

entrance. He knew that Heaven and Earth couldn't wait to remove their assets and spare energy, so he couldn't give them that chance.

His ideas eventually led to the Shadow Domain. Noah could create a bomb capable of releasing a dense wave of ambition at the center of the eventual planet or landmass and trigger the evolution before landing in that world.

Issues accompanied that idea. Noah couldn't just throw his raw ambition into a lower world. His law carried a power that the frail materials of the Mortal Lands couldn't endure. His bomb could very well destroy everything before spreading its evolving properties.

Noah had to start experimenting with one of the areas that he hated the most. He had to remove destructive power from his abilities to create something suitable for lower planes.

The process was extremely hard for someone who had spent his entire life walking every path that could lead to power. Having to forcefully remove some of the core features in abilities that he had perfected after millennia was annoying and went against his core, but his very survival depended on his success.

Noah's separate space had never stopped containing vast stashes of magical beasts' corpses and other materials. Some of them had even started to accumulate since his power had ended up advancing too quickly.

Piles of Soul Stones also filled the insides of his separate space. Those rocks contained chaotic laws that could theoretically gain different true meanings, so finding materials for his needs wasn't a problem.

Noah's experiments were rarely safe. Stuff often exploded, but the dark world prevented the shockwaves from reaching the golden walls of the mansion. Still, his ambition continuously flowed out of his technique, and the hall that King Elbas had appointed to him eventually turned completely black.

The mansion was relatively resilient to his ambition due to the already incredibly high quality of its materials, but the blackness didn't stop expanding anyway. It soon invaded other halls, and it didn't limit itself to reinforcing the overall structure.

The other experts didn't mind that event. The black landmass inside the sky carried Noah's ambition, so everyone knew or had learnt to accept the beneficial effects of that power.

King Elbas felt annoyed to see Noah's ambition tainting his item, but he didn't do anything about the matter. After all, those changes were clear improvements that benefitted the entire group.

Yet, the constant empowerment of the ambition eventually gave birth to a minor issue that King Elbas didn't hesitate to show to Noah.

Noah was tinkering with a large black metal sphere that was three times his size. Mechanical arms made of dark matter modified its surface and added or removed materials whenever something off appeared. The item seemed stable, but a few trails of grey smoke eventually came out of the structure.

'Another failure,' Noah thought before waving his hand and cutting the item in half.

A dark rotating mass came out of the center of the severed sphere. That chunk of energy was a special version of the dark matter that had tried to replicate the effects of Noah's ambition. He was basically

attempting to give a proper shape to the invisible power of his law, something that was impossible at his level.

'It's still too powerful,' Noah sighed in his mind. 'The issue isn't even the dark matter since I made it harmless. I need to work with the higher energy a bit more and force it to suppress part of the ambition's power.'

"I can hear you," Noah revealed while he remained immersed in his experiments.

The dark world that had filled the entirety of the hall made him aware of everything that happened in his surroundings. Even the creator of the mansion couldn't sneak up on him.

"Do you mind if I shield the mansion from your law?" King Elbas asked while flying through the darkness and landing next to Noah. "You wouldn't have complete freedom here anymore, but I would be able to stop you from ruining my item."

"Since when does the great King Xavier Elbas see improvements as negative outcomes?" Noah mocked the expert while continuing to study his ball of dark matter.

The solution was close. Noah obviously understood that the approach would give him important insights concerning the last step of the eighth rank and the path ahead, but his focus wasn't on that. He only wanted to survive for now.

"They are indeed improvements," King Elbas exclaimed, "But they can be annoying."

Noah grew curious at that point and turned toward the expert. King Elbas was holding a hexagonal golden crystal in his grasp, and faint glows came out of its surface. A few dark spots had appeared in its insides, but they didn't seem to affect its functioning or light.

"It seems fine to me," Noah commented.

"I told him!" A shrill female voice suddenly came out of the crystal and startled Noah. "I'm fine, father. Why do you take that fact that I developed a thinking mind so bothersome?"

King Elbas didn't reply. His eyes remained on Noah, who slowly recovered from his astonishment. He didn't expect the crystal to speak, especially since the dark world didn't sense any trace of life coming from its insides.

That feature ended up making Noah understand what had happened. The core of the mansion had developed a will due to his ambition. King Elbas didn't seem too excited about that.

"Well," Noah commented once he regained his focus. "You can always give her to Second Prince. They might be happy together."

King Elbas glared at Noah before heaving a sigh and announcing his next actions. "I'm putting a shield around your hall. Sending information and visiting you will be difficult with it, but you can still exit the structure whenever you like."

Noah shrugged his shoulders. He didn't really care about that. He only needed to complete his task and return to the higher plane. Everything else didn't matter right now.

Chapter 1805 - 1805. Bomb

It took the experts decades, but they eventually prepared everything required for the mission. Noah had completed the experiments with his bomb, and King Elbas had found a way to stabilize the dimensional tunnels long enough to carry the entire group.

Noah's bomb didn't require much external energy. He mostly used his dark matter, so he absorbed fuel from the mansion only when his dantian approached an empty state.

The same didn't apply to King Elbas. The expert's task was arduous and required him to transform a frail dimensional tunnel into a passage that could lead a large platoon made of peak rank 8 existences through the void.

Noah only needed the weaker world to grow until it could withstand the experts' pressure. King Elbas' task required a superior enhancement since the dimensional tunnel had to continue to work once the group stepped inside it.

Shafu's stashes of energy inevitably shrunk as time went by inside the mansion. Everyone inside the structure required power to cultivate or prepare for the imminent mission, so the dragon had to disperse the energy seized in the last years to favor the seclusion.

Both Noah and King Elbas eventually felt confident in what they had achieved in those years, so the group left the mansion and resumed their journey. The experts felt strange when they heard the large structure talking, but they ignored the matter once King Elbas stored the item inside his space-ring.

The group had grown so used to the void that they barely paid attention to their surroundings anymore. Noah and Sword Saint usually handled the empty creatures during the travel since the formations rarely could keep up with their speed, but King Elbas had come up with a better solution after the time spent inside the mansion.

King Elbas would never admit it, but he had taken inspiration from Shafu to create a troop carrier that could contain multiple experts and feature defenses at the same time.

Of course, King Elbas' item didn't have the shape of a magical beast. It was a massive fiery spearhead that featured countless inscriptions on its surface.

Those accepted by King Elbas could stand on the spearhead without suffering from the flames. The magical beasts weren't an exception. The entirety of the group could stand on that golden metal and rest while the item crossed the void for them.

It would have been perfect if the environment had energy to absorb, but the experts' condition was already quite ideal. The only issue came from the magical beasts since they would try to eat part of the fiery spear, but Noah only needed to roar to make them stop.

The long travel ended once the flaming spearhead reached a seemingly random spot in the void. King Elbas stored his item and deployed a few tools before taking out his dimensional claws and tearing the fabric of space.

The items had found a sturdy lower plane that contained many peak rank six existences. They had even confirmed that the dimensional tunnel was still in place, so the group could start their plan right away.

Noah disappeared as he entered the Shadow Domain and expanded it until he reached the insides of the weaker world. Those Mortal Lands had the shape of a large planet that featured many powerful living beings, but they were nothing more than ants in his eyes when he inspected them from behind the dark edges of his technique.

Noah expanded the Shadow Domain until he reached the center of the planet. The special bomb left the separate space at that point, and he placed it at the exact center of the area before retreating back outside the crack in the void.

"Is everyone ready?" Noah asked once he came out of the Shadow Domain to face his companions.

Firm nods unfolded in his vision and left Noah no choice but to start the plan right away. He snapped his fingers, and the bomb came out of the Shadow Domain to detonate at the planet's center.

The bomb still had weak rank 8 items in its external layers, but their purpose was to contain the initial burst of power of his ambition. Noah had made sure that those materials would work against his law. He had found himself unable to keep his creations stable due to the taboos of his existence, but he had solved the issue by placing more restrictions around his dark matter.

The bomb reappeared inside the world's burning core, and the magma fell apart when it touched the rank 8 metals around the item. That threatening liquid couldn't even stay in the same area after the divine materials appeared. Most of the planet's core vanished in less than an instant.

The event caused earthquakes and opened massive cracks. It seemed that the entire planet was about to cave in, but Noah's bomb activated before the ground could react to the disappearance of its insides.

The sphere of dark matter that replicated Noah's ambition exploded outward and clashed with the rank 8 metals around it. The sheer might discharged by the higher energy destroyed the materials while losing power in the process.

The ground suddenly stopped falling apart. The planet had lost its insides, but the ambition forced the surface to remain in one place and evolve. The terrain soon gained metallic features before growing in power and crossing the limits of the heroic ranks.

Noah had made sure not to affect the living beings on the planet with his ambition. All the creatures inside the world's core had died during the appearance of the bomb, but that was a necessary sacrifice that he couldn't avoid.

Black clouds started to gather around the planet. Heaven and Earth had launched a Worldwide Heaven Tribulation to make sure to eradicate every form of rebellion, and the group outside the separate space couldn't intervene.

The world was still too weak for them. It required a few more seconds under the effects of Noah's ambition to reach a decent state.

The Worldwide Tribulation raged while the experts waited outside of the crack and inspected the scene. Heaven and Earth wanted to get rid of all life on that world, but they found themselves unable to pierce the black patches that had filled the planet.

Every living being on the planet chose to hide under those reinforced spots. Noah's group had unleashed a catastrophe on them, but they did their best to survive.

The white layer flickered once the world started to approach the seventh rank in terms of overall materials. The restraints meant to isolate those Mortal Lands appeared powerless in front of their newfound power, and they started to shatter in front of the apocalypse.

The separate space began to collapse once the world crossed the seventh rank. Noah and the others could only exchange a nod before stepping inside the area and hope that everything worked.

Chapter 1806 - 1806. Sling

The weaker world had successfully evolved. The materials inside the separate space had reached the seventh rank, and an intense aura spread from them.

The separate space was collapsing, but the experts in Noah's group deployed their auras to push those edges back. They couldn't stop the process completely, but slowing it down was possible with their power.

The Worldwide Heaven Tribulation suddenly found itself unable to damage the cracked surface that had survived after the recent events. The heroic and human beings hiding under that structure managed to survive the intense shockwaves generated by the lightning bolts since the ground absorbed the energy that dared to touch it.

Those cultivators, hybrids, magical beasts, and magical plants could barely understand what was happening in their world. Everything had turned upside-down in a matter of seconds. They had organizations, wars, politics, projects, and much more before, but everything had fallen apart in front of an apocalypse that they couldn't hope to defeat.

The arrival of Noah's group didn't improve their situation. Auras that could crush their centers of power with their sheer weight filled the separate space and vanquished the Worldwide Tribulation before avoiding the insides of the cracked surface.

The evolved world could barely endure the pressure of Noah's group. It was a mere rank 7 plane that had just stepped into the divine ranks, so those powerful auras enlarged the cracks and shattered the evolved ground.

The world seemed on the verge of a complete collapse, and the weaker living beings could only wait in front of the massive power radiated by Noah's group. They couldn't do anything in that situation. One of the rank 8 experts was enough to suppress them, and the team had more than twenty of them.

Noah didn't care about the shattering world. He only needed its overall structure to remain in place to preserve the entrance to the dimensional tunnel. Still, he didn't completely ignore the weaker beings hidden under the crumbling surface.

King Elbas activated a series of inscribed items as soon as the intense auras managed to bring some stability to the separate space. Golden light quickly filled the whole area, and a white passage eventually appeared near the cracked surface.

"It's already retreating," King Elbas explained. "We must go now."

The group shot toward the white entrance, but a pulling force suddenly spread from Noah's figure. The technique only affected the crumbling surface and its insides. It dragged the world closer to the group before completely disappearing once it entered Noah's range.

"How merciful of you," Robert commented when he saw that scene.

"The last thing we need is more existences on Heaven and Earth's side," Noah snorted.

Noah had already decided to save the beings inside the weaker world. His choice didn't involve mercy, and he didn't believe that those experts could become valuable members of his organization due to their low power. He had only d.e.s.i.r.ed to limit Heaven and Earth's assets as much as possible.

The group had to stop since King Elbas had to tinker with the tunnel's entrance to make it viable for those powerful experts and magical beasts. The process involved hundreds of different inscribed items that had various functions and various levels of intensity. Those objects created a dense array of intense influences that modified the structure of the dimensional passage and affected its nature.

It soon became clear that King Elbas wasn't trying to improve the dimensional tunnel. Most of his higher energy and items only flowed inside the structure and reinforced its edges to allow a thorough inspection.

The other items took care of building a tall portal that enveloped the white entrance. Golden light soon filled its insides and covered the dimensional tunnel, but the structure eventually fused with the path that cut through the void and invaded it with its influence.

The experts remained confused while they inspected that scene, but they didn't dare to give voice to their doubts. King Elbas wasn't improving the dimensional tunnel, but his goal was the same as his companions. He had to return to the other side of the sky to survive and continue his cultivation journey.

"The jump point is almost ready," King Elbas revealed. "It's far from perfect. You can expect it to be quite messy and flawed in certain spots, but I'll try to fix everything on the way. Also, don't lose track of the hole once you see it."

The instructions weren't clear, but the group accepted them anyway. King Elbas was basically asking them to trust him.

"Wasn't it easier to improve the entire dimensional tunnel?" The Foolery asked while wearing a rare curious face.

Its words could sound like a mockery among experts who didn't know each other, but King Elbas and the Foolery had spent millennia together, and they had often bickered. Still, there was some hidden respect between them, so the experts gave a polite explanation to the question.

"Improving it isn't the issue," King Elbas explained without moving his attention from the portal, "The problem is the length of the dimensional tunnel. I can probably reach its end with specific items, but I would have to spend centuries, if not more, on the task. This method is faster."

The experts didn't know what King Elbas was building. Noah had seen something similar in the lower world, but it was evident that the expert had changed the nature of his inscriptions in favor of other purposes.

"How do you plan on getting us to the hole without the dimensional tunnel?" Steven asked as a tinge of worry accumulated in his mind.

"I'm building a sling," King Elbas revealed. "Don't worry. It's almost completely safe. As I said already, you only have to keep track of the hole since my divinations can be slightly off."

Some among the group understood what King Elbas wanted to do. He was building a massive sling that would push the experts on the same path of the dimensional tunnel. Noah and the others wouldn't need to reinforce the structure at that point. The right push would lead them directly into the hole.

Of course, the dangerousness of the procedure worried them. The slight mistake in King Elbas' calculations could make the whole group land on the white sky and suffer uncountable damages.

Still, the experts couldn't ask much more since the expert was already doing his best. He had even warned everyone about the potential dangers of the task, but no one dared to retreat.

"It's ready!" King Elbas exclaimed before flying toward the golden halo that had appeared in the portal's insides.

Noah and the others quickly followed him and remained in their position in front of the golden light while they waited for King Elbas to give the order.

"Go in!" King Elbas eventually ordered. "The sling will do the rest!"

The group moved at the same time and stepped into the portal. A massive force landed on their backs and pushed them forward at high speed, but nothing appeared in their vision. The attack had been invisible, and it didn't leave any chance to dodge it.

Chapter 1807 - 1807. Acceleration

The dimensional tunnel shattered as the experts shot forward. King Elbas had only reinforced the structure's edges, but that empowerment didn't make it able to endure the immense pressure radiated by the group.

The difference between the void and the area inside the dimensional tunnel became unclear as the experts let the massive acceleration generated by King Elbas' sling lead them forward. The group didn't have to do much in that situation. They only had to make sure not to fall into the blackness.

That also turned out to be easy. King Elbas had studied the entirety of the dimensional tunnel before creating the sling. The item already knew where to send the experts while limiting their chances to fall off the separate space.

The only variable in the process remained the hole in the sky. King Elbas couldn't understand how big that opening was from his previous position, so he had to limit the eventual landing area to a relatively large spot.

Some experts might land on the white sky if his calculations ended up being off. The event wouldn't be dangerous due to the impact or the distance from the hole since the group could handle those parts. The issue was on Heaven and Earth's potential reaction and the inevitable arrival of the empty creatures.

The two problems could lead to ugly consequences. The empty existences could push some experts far away from the hole with their control of the void. Heaven and Earth could even prepare something for them on the sky.

Moreover, the passage might close on its own if the destroyed lower world was the only weak plane connected to the hole. The expert would have a limited amount of time to reach the other side of the sky at that point, and any delay could force them to remain outside.

The sole idea of remaining stranded in the void without the experts that had made that mission possible made the cultivators, hybrids, and magical beasts inside the shattering dimensional tunnel focus even more on their task. Everyone tried to move closer to Noah and King Elbas, but the intense acceleration fought against their efforts.

Their d.e.s.i.r.e to take precautions against an eventual failure to hit the hole didn't make them forget that they were following the path set by the dimensional tunnel due to King Elbas' pushing force.

Empty creatures appeared in the corner of the group's vision, but they couldn't do anything in front of that speed. They had even reacted to the faint auras that spread past the broken pieces of the dimensional tunnel, so they could never prepare a proper attack capable of reaching them.

The incredible acceleration didn't cause any problem. Even the cultivators could easily endure it due to the lack of air necessary to create friction. The entire group could cross large areas of the void in a matter of instants, and the sky soon became the only thing in their vision.

The pushing force didn't diminish even as the group approached the white layer. The blinding light released by the sky made them unable to see if the area actually featured a hole, but everyone decided to have faith in King Elbas and stick to that direction.

Getting out of track now could make the experts lose their chances to find the hole. None of them dared to take risks in that situation, so the whiteness eventually enveloped their figures.

A small hole eventually appeared right below them. The passage was smaller than the experts had predicted. Some of the bigger magical beasts wouldn't be able to fit it, and those at the edges of the group turned out to be off course.

The passage was also closing, and the various experts couldn't help but curse. Calculations quickly happened in their minds, and everyone soon realized that only the speed generated with the sling could make them cross the hole on time.

It became evident that someone had to do something, but the experts in the safe areas didn't dare to put their return at risk to deploy abilities that could drag the others on the right path.

Noah's close friends also chose to ignore those who were off-track. They didn't have movement techniques that could bring them to the hole on time once the pushing force stopped.

King Elbas suddenly wore a determined expression. He appeared ready to sacrifice himself and remain outside of the sky to remain with the experts off-track, but Noah acted faster than him.

Faint trails of dark matter came out of his back and touched all the big magical beasts and the experts outside the safe zone. The higher energy created a connection with those existences and instantly teleported them inside his separate space, where Shafu accepted them into its body.

The dense dark matter forced the pushing force to a stop. Noah stopped accelerating and began to remain behind due to the difference in speed. Yet, his unstable substance, ambition, and Isaac's ability activated at the same time to give him a sudden burst of speed.

Noah ended up crossing his companions after activating his techniques. He managed not to waste the acceleration accumulated until then and build on that to become faster than he had ever been in his life.

The entire group entered the hole and descended through the closing walls of the sky until they reappeared inside the almost empty whiteness of the Immortal Lands.

Abilities activated at that point. Everyone deployed techniques to stop their bodies and disperse the acceleration accumulated until then. Noah even released the existences that he had saved previously, and they couldn't help but shout in joy at the sight of their home.

The group had done it. They had returned inside the sky after spending the last centuries exploring the void and stealing energy from Heaven and Earth's sources.

The event would normally end up in the historical records. Noah and King Elbas could write detailed guides on how to succeed in that difficult mission. They could also spend some time improving the process before announcing it as a revolutionary method for those who couldn't approach the stormy regions yet.

The void wasn't an area impossible to explore anymore with the proper preparations and techniques. It could be a source of energy that surpassed even most of the old regions. Also, organizations could use that knowledge to remove certain landing zones and hurt the future of their enemies.

However, those glorious ideas could only apply to a world with lands, organizations, and politics. They were pointless in front of the empty higher plane. The sky was illuminating an area almost devoid of energy, but Heaven and Earth didn't seem to mind that.

"Let's hurry to the landmass," Noah ordered. "I don't want to waste more of the fuel that we have spent years collecting."

Everyone seemed to agree to that idea, but a strange event suddenly unfolded in their vision.

Their consciousnesses didn't react to that event, but their eyes couldn't miss that a black patch had appeared in the sky above them. The hole had disappeared, but darkness spread through the white layer until it condensed into a humanoid figure that stood upside-down on the dangerous material.

Chapter 1808 - 1808. Best

The humanoid creature didn't have facial features. Its head only had a large mouth filled with two rows of razor-sharp teeth on both sides. Its arms were long and ended into seven claws, and its slim legs featured two different knee-like joints other than the familiar ankles and waist.

Noah had never seen or heard about a similar creature. He couldn't even study it with his senses since his mental waves could barely notice that strange existence.

The other experts were in a similar situation. That strange existence didn't appear in their minds. It seemed to have features similar to the empty creatures in the void, and Noah couldn't help but link those common abilities.

The creature had appeared after black spots had gathered in the lower part of the sky. The empty beings from the void might have followed the trail of energy dispersed during the destruction of the dimensional tunnel, but that idea still left many unanswered questions.

The empty creatures couldn't have possibly kept up with the group's speed. Only beings that had appeared near the sky could enter the hole at the last instant, but that didn't explain the whole situation either.

The white layer had closed before the appearance of the strange creature, meaning that the empty beings would have had to cross the sky to appear inside the Immortal Lands.

That was theoretically impossible, especially since Noah and King Elbas had already tested what the touch between the empty creatures and the sky caused. They would regain the laws that Heaven and Earth had stripped away from them and revert to their original form.

The situation appeared far different now, but Noah still felt confident that the empty creatures had something to do with that strange existence. After all, only the void and the windy regions could hold species capable of surprising him, and the source of the black being was quite clear in that situation.

"Did Heaven and Earth finally send something?" Divine Demon asked as excitement built in his insides, but his friends quickly contradicted him.

"How can you even connect that creature to Heaven and Earth?" Robert asked. "It has no aura at all. It's similar to our enemies in the void."

The sky seemed to add fuel to that conversation. Another black spot spread under the creature standing upside-down, and its size increased once the blackness flowed inside its body.

"It might actually be part of those creatures!" Steven exclaimed. "Are they fusing themselves? Maybe they used this method to become strong enough to pierce the sky."

"That's not how the reaction works," King Elbas rejected that idea. "I told you what happens when they touch the sky."

"How would you explain this then?" Robert asked while glancing at the creature again.

"The sky is letting them pass," Noah explained and made everyone glance at him in surprise.

"Why would they even cooperate?" The Foolery snorted. "One betrayal from Heaven and Earth doesn't seem to be enough to teach them a lesson."

"I believe they didn't make any pact," Noah added. "According to Caesar, Heaven and Earth's enemies attract them, probably due to their d.e.s.i.r.e to acquire laws capable of threatening the rulers. Still, their condition is a curse that they can't overcome."

Noah explained everything in brief lines. Of course, his words still carried a bit of uncertainty since it had been impossible to study those creatures. He guessed that those beings had developed the non-existence law, which obviously left nothing to inspect.

"We fight then," Divine Demon laughed.

"The brute obviously had to be happy about that," King Elbas commented, but his eyes suddenly widened when he realized something.

A fiery spear promptly appeared in his hands, and King Elbas didn't hesitate to point it at the Foolery. The pig had already opened its mouth, but the sudden event made it unable to say anything.

"Not a word," King Elbas threatened, and the pig limited itself to smile.

King Elbas had finally stopped the pig's irritating comments, but he didn't feel better after watching that shameless face. He knew that the Foolery would wait until he forgot about the matter to say something that would make his patience reach its limits.

"Sword Saint," Noah said while ignoring the bickering happening next to him. "Poke it a bit. Let's see how it reacts. Robert, do the same. I want to know if this creature shares the same weaknesses of the empty beings in the void."

Sword Saint and Robert didn't hesitate to follow those orders. Robert was the first to attack. He gathered a large toxic mass above his head before throwing it toward the creature.

The toxic mass burnt when it touched the sky, but it still enveloped the strange creature in its purple shades. Yet, Robert showed a confused expression when he sensed that his ability was disappearing.

Waves appeared on the purple mass and converged toward its center. The strange creature soon reappeared and showed how Robert's ability couldn't escape falling in its black insides.

Sword Saint didn't hesitate to attack at that point. He casually waved his fingers and generated a storm of slashes that flew toward the creature.

The humanoid monster stretched its arm toward the slashes, but its large mouth curved into an ugly smile when it understood how powerful that ability was.

The creature disappeared from its spot and materialized into another area. It was still standing on the sky, and another black patch covered the white material before flowing inside the monster and increasing its size.

"You go ahead and prepare defenses," Noah ordered after studying that scene. "The two of us should be enough to deal with this creature, but we'll retreat toward the landmass if the situation gets ugly."

"Aren't you forgetting someone?" Divine Demon snorted while putting a hand under his chin and looking at the side to gain a respectful aura.

"We need sharpness in the battle," Noah complained.

"I'm the best swordsman in the entire higher plane!" Divine Demon shouted.

"I beg to disagree," Sword Saint commented after clearing his throat.

"Is that a challenge?" Divine Demon asked as his eyes lit up.

"Of course," Sword Saint replied in a calm tone. "The path of the sword isn't something that experts can invent on the spot."

Divine Demon had already stopped listening to Sword Saint. He had only needed to hear the positive answer to his question to activate the breathtaking effects of his law.

Azure energy flew out of his body and gathered in his right palm while taking the shape of a long sword. Divine Demon's aura even began to radiate a faint sharpness, but that feature couldn't match his companions.

Noah quickly wielded the Demonic Sword, and Sword Saint joined his hands before separating them to create a silver blade. The three experts then turned toward the strange creature, and they didn't do anything when they saw that more dark patches were appearing under its feet.

The other experts shot sorry glances at Noah. They were about to leave him alone with Divine Demon, and the situation didn't foreshadow anything good since the expert had already managed to activate a challenge.

"Go!" Noah roared so that even the magical beasts could feel compelled to return to the landmass.
"We'll handle this!"

The experts and magical beasts couldn't help but leave at that point, and the creature followed their departure with its gaze. It even seemed about to bend its strange legs, but its figure disappeared when a series of multicolored slashes crashed on its spot.

Chapter 1809 - 1809. Immune

'Missed,' Noah commented in his mind while his companions flew out of his figure.

The strange creature didn't release any aura. It didn't even carry energy. Noah and the others couldn't keep track of its movements with their mental waves or senses. Only their eyes could make them understand where the monster went, so Noah didn't hesitate to add the companions to the search.

Duanlong suddenly found the target high in the distance, and Noah promptly waved the Demonic Sword in that direction. His rain of black slashes couldn't grow since the environment lacked energy, but they still carried enough power to make the creature abandon its position and interrupt the absorption.

"On the right!" Noah shouted an instant after the creature moved.

Sword Saint didn't even bother to look at his right. He waved his silver blade, and a massive slash came out of it. The attack reached the sky before curving and flying right under it.

The empty creature had reappeared under the sky and was trying to absorb more black spots, but Sword Saint's slash forced it to jump away from the white layer.

Divine Demon pointed his azure blade toward the descending empty creature, and a sharp beam came out of his ethereal weapon. The attack touched the monster, but it only managed to pierce its shoulder.

The corners of the creature's wide mouth turned downward, but its body remained intact. The azure beam entered its black insides and disappeared without doing any evident damage.

That scene made Noah and Sword Saint wear ugly expressions. They were aware of Divine Demon's power, but the empty creature had endured it easily. The faint reaction that it showed wasn't enough to satisfy them.

'What's its level?' Noah wondered even if he knew that he couldn't find an answer.

The empty creature belonged to a completely different realm. Noah might have guessed correctly about its law, but that only made things more difficult. After all, non-existence or non-energy weren't features that he could quantify.

The monster could be in the ninth rank, but the three experts wouldn't be able to realize it due to the lack of aura and energy in their opponent. Their hope in the battle came from the creature's reactions since it kept dodging their attacks.

Divine Demon didn't appear bothered by the almost lack of reactions of his opponents. He actually liked that the empty creature could endure his attacks and force him to exert more power. His challenges gained real value only when he had to struggle to win.

The empty creature charged toward the sky, but Noah appeared on its path and pointed the Demonic Sword toward its face. His sharpness intensified, and the monster promptly shot to the side to dodge the incoming attack, but Noah's consciousness expanded at that point.

The companions kept track of the creature's position, so Noah could avoid relying on his mental waves to choose the destination of his attacks. His sharpness seeped inside his consciousness and generated a thick array of black slashes that covered the entire area.

An immense white area transformed into a hellish black scene. It was hard to notice the gaps among the various slashes due to the density of Noah's offensive. He did his best to cover every spot with his sharpness, and the empty creature inevitably fell prey to his attack.

Countless black slashes fell inside the darkness of the creature's body as it moved through Noah's attack. It couldn't avoid enduring a large part of the technique since sharpness covered it on every side.

The mass of sharpness helped Sword Saint follow the creature's movements. The expert embodied the sword's true nature, so he could sense whenever the blackness of the monster's body made part of Noah's attack disappear.

Sword Saint made his weapon trace the empty areas created by the monster's movements, and a sharp silver halo suddenly filled them to send another wave of attacks. The blackness of the creature's body absorbed them too, but its mouth grew uglier as it continued to endure those slashes.

The monster eventually managed to exit the black area made by slashes, but it found Noah waiting for it. He didn't share Sword Saint's mastery over sharpness, but the attack still came from his energy, so he could sense where the creature moved.

A massive slash fell on the monster and pushed it back before its strange body absorbed the attack. Noah didn't let that event mark the end of his offensive, so he followed the blow with a wave of black flames.

The flames were different from his usual innate ability. His black hole had fused dark matter with them before they could leave Noah's lungs. The organ had given them sharp features that could make them able to hurt the empty creature.

The sea of flames filled another chunk of the sky with blackness that fused with the sharp zone still featuring countless slashes. The empty creature ended up in the middle of two deadly attacks, and Sword Saint didn't hesitate to worsen its situation.

The monster appeared immune to every type of attack. Only techniques that carried sharpness seemed able to cause some reaction, but even they left Noah and the others unclear about their actual efficiency.

The empty creature didn't show injuries. It didn't even have features that the experts could sense. It was nothing more than a black dot moving among the immense whiteness.

Noah began to wonder whether the monster was there for them at some point. The trio was overwhelming the strange being with barrages of slashes that could fill the sky with blinding lights and complete darkness. The creature even seemed to suffer from them, but it didn't carry any injury, and it didn't try to attack them either.

"Do we keep attacking until something happens?" Sword Saint eventually asked. "I know that we aren't using our full strength, but we aren't getting anywhere."

"What can I even say?" Noah snorted. "Keep fighting. We have been inside the void for centuries. How bad it can be to fight for a while without refilling your centers of power?"

"It's not a matter of endurance," Sword Saint complained. "I don't see the sense of it. If we follow your theory, that thing has a non-body, which means that I can't cut it since there's nothing to cut."

"The path of the sword is boundless," Divine Demon promptly announced while shaking his head. "You younglings have yet to gaze at the vastity of this law. We see blades cutting void every day, so why would they be unable to cut nothingness?"

Divine Demon let go of his azure sword at that point and waved his hand. The three experts had kept the strange creature prisoner of three large attacks that they could move at will. The monster had continued to endure slashes during that period, but nothing seemed to affect it.

A white slash came out of Divine Demon's fingers and pierced the three techniques, dispersing them on the spot. The empty creature could bathe under the white light again, but the attack landed on its figure.

The monster appeared surprised, even if it didn't have facial features. Only its mouth could show its feelings to the group, but its expression appeared frozen.

The white slash had ended up creating a crack on its empty figure, and Divine Demon's friends couldn't help but shoot surprised glances at him. The expert had done it. He had gone past the creature's natural defenses.

Chapter 1810 - 1810. Stupid

"Did his speech make any sense to you?" Sword Saint whispered.

"Divine Demon is crazy," Noah commented. "Don't try to learn how to improve your sword arts from someone who has to forget the very foundation of his existence to launch attacks."

"Forgetting doesn't sound bad if those are the results," Sword Saint announced while studying the horizontal cut on the creature's waist.

The white slash had damaged a body that had absorbed every attack that had flown in its direction. The sole fact that the monster could suffer injuries left both Sword Saint and Noah surprised.

"Maybe that's the last piece," Sword Saint exclaimed. "The last of the arts is the form that doesn't make sense!"

Noah massaged his temples when he heard those words. Divine Demon wasn't only going off with his challenge. He was even putting Sword Saint's law at risk with his actions.

'How do I even solve this?' Noah cursed in his mind while his eyes moved between his companions.

Noah wasn't underestimating Divine Demon. The expert's talent went beyond reason and labels. He probably was the only existence in the entire world who didn't need to learn how to step on the path that led to the ninth rank since he had always walked it.

Still, the abilities that Divine Demon could launch belonged only to his personal realm. They existed in a domain where everything had to work only because the expert needed them to work.

King Elbas had already tried to imitate his techniques, and he had even partially succeeded in replicating something. However, his path matched the potentially endless creation featured in Divine Demon's law.

King Elbas could implement the branch of creation that didn't feature materials or fuels because that was the natural evolution of his path. Divine Demon called them Miracles and forgot about them, but the duo's laws were quite similar, even if they had completely opposite requirements.

Sword Saint's situation could appear similar, but Noah saw the vast differences that the expert couldn't see due to his intense d.e.s.i.r.e to improve.

The main issue was that Sword Saint was already on the right path. He was even closer than Divine Demon to the ninth rank. His law had reached the point when it could start pondering the idea of evolving into something more, and doubts only slowed down that process.

Noah eventually wore a resolute expression. He had found a way to prove to Sword Saint that imitating Divine Demon would only make him lose track of the true nature of his law.

"Divine Demon didn't find a sword art that surpasses your techniques," Noah announced as ambition flowed into his aura and gathered inside the Demonic Sword.

"Are you accepting my challenge too?" Divine Demon asked when he saw that Noah was preparing a powerful attack. "I can't wait to see what I'll learn to do after this battle!"

"I'm not challenging anyone," Noah snorted. "I'm just saving a future rank 9 cultivator."

The announcement made the whiteness in the sky intensify. The white halo naturally radiated by the Immortal Lands grew stronger and hid the empty creature that retreated inside the light.

Noah couldn't see his opponent anymore, even with the help of his companions inspecting the battlefield. Yet, he didn't need to see the monster to attack it. After all, he knew where it was.

Different faces appeared on the dark halo that had started to come out of the Demonic Sword. The unstable substance also flowed inside Noah's black vessels. He reached his peak state in a matter of instants, and even Sword Saint couldn't help but tremble when he sensed the danger that his figure radiated.

Noah had almost always been able to deploy a battle prowess that ignored the gaps among ranks and stages, but he was in the last step before the ninth rank now. Filling the distance from that realm wasn't easy, even for him, but the power that he could generate felt incredible nonetheless.

Noah glanced at his Demonic Sword before waving the weapon horizontally. The sky above him turned dark before his attack even arrived. The world simply reacted to the massive discharge of power that had to land on the white layer.

The sudden arrival of the darkness revealed the empty creature standing upside down on the sky. Black spots appeared on that dim white surface, and the monster didn't hesitate to absorb them.

The crack that had appeared on its torso had been nothing serious, but it still fixed itself far faster than Noah had predicted. It only had taken the monster a few absorptions to heal completely.

The creature started to inspect its surroundings after the darkness arrived. The suppression of the whiteness left it surprised, but it had yet to experience everything that Noah's team had in store for it.

Noah's attack became visible after a second passed. His slash had launched a small black sword that radiated his intense bloodlust and created a series of scarlet shades on the creature's body.

The shades spread inside the creature's body, but Noah detonated them as soon as the monster tried to absorb the marks on its skin. The small blade arrived at that point, and everything fell into pure chaos.

The Demonic Deduction technique couldn't come up with a way to destroy nothingness, but Noah had gone around that issue by deciding to shatter everything, including the creature.

A storm of raging darkness spread right below the sky and threatened to reach the three experts. Noah, Sword Saint, and Divine Demon had to retreat to escape the destructive wave of energy that filled the world and made space shatter.

Cracks that led to the void opened in the stable higher plane. Those fissures connected and expanded until void spread right below the sky. Even the whiteness failed to pierce the large layer of blackness that had covered Heaven and Earth's structure. Noah had given birth to the largest crack that those stable areas had ever seen.

Sword Saint's eyes widened at that point. The massive attack dispersed the delusions that had tried to invade his mind after witnessing Divine Demon's power. He even felt strange when he realized what had happened. He had lost control of part of his mind during the battle.

"How could I be so stupid?" Sword Saint wondered.

"It's not your fault," Noah explained as he withdrew his ambition and left only the unstable substance and Isaac's ability active. "Divine Demon's law makes him affect his surroundings. You have only fallen prey to his challenge."

Sword Saint opened his mouth to speak, but he eventually closed it and shook his head. Everything was in the past now, but his mind already started to develop countermeasures to Divine Demon to avoid ending up in the same situation in the future.

That event confirmed the sad truth of the cultivation journey. The various existences that strived for the higher ranks didn't isolate themselves out of a d.e.s.i.r.e to create a peaceful environment for their training. One of the greatest enemies of their path was a captivating external influence that could make them forget about their true meaning.

Noah was partially immune to that natural pressure since he was his greatest enemy. His ambition alone already created enough problems for his journey, so Divine Demon's influence couldn't find room to add issues.

The same didn't go for Sword Saint. The expert had even grown used to be around other existences only recently, and his status as a being close to the ninth rank only enhanced the natural doubts that could appear inside everyone.