DEMONIC 901

Chapter 901 901. Battle Spiri

The horned head resembled the tattoo that appeared on the cultivators of the Chasing Demon sect when they joined it. Yet, Noah knew that the assailant couldn't possibly be a traitor since his status as Demon Prince would prevent any member of the Hive from attacking him.

It was hard to create oaths able to restrict rank 5 cultivators, but they would be almost impossible to break once sworn them. Only a stronger existence or an inscribed item meant solely for that purpose could help in that matter.

Nevertheless, the oath of the assailant was still active and didn't react to Noah's presence, meaning that the cultivator couldn't belong to the Hive.

'The traces of the Morphing Demon sect led to the Utra nation,' Noah thought as he reviewed what he had discovered during his mission for the Patriarch. 'The Bleeding Demon sect should be one of the tribes recruited by the Shandal Empire, and the same should have happened to the Thieving Demon sect, even if it ended in the Papral nation instead. Still, they shouldn't have the power to ambush us.'

The clues found in his mission hinted that all the surviving Demon sects had lost most of their assets during the escape. Even those recruited by the other nations were bound to be in a poor state back then.

The image of a tall red-haired man appeared in his mind as he pondered about the issue. The truth was that Noah had thought about the Ravaging Demon sect as soon as he saw the horned face.

After all, Ravaging Demon had his reasons to target the Hive, and he still had access to the full power of his sect.

Noah didn't know how strong his organization was, but it must have thrived in the thousand years after his betrayal. Ravaging Demon had played a vital role in the battle between unorthodox and orthodox sects, so his position in the Council had to be important.

However, Noah knew that the Demon was at the peak of the fifth rank, which meant that there was a limit to how many rank 5 cultivators were willing to follow him.

Of course, those were just hypotheses based on pieces of information that he had gathered through the years. Still, he had a way to confirm his ideas.

The horned head vanished after a few seconds, and the hand became nothing more than a useless body part that carried no clues.

Noah's attack didn't break the oath of the assailant. What he had seen on his hand was just the physical representation of that pact, not the actual vow. The symbol would reform on the main body now that the hand wasn't a part of it anymore.

Oaths would be useless if they were so easy to break. They were more thorough in their fusion with the cultivators' centers of power, and they became part of them once sworn.

Noah waited for his companions to catch up with him right next to the broken teleportation matrix. As he finally sensed their presence coming from behind him though, the remaining lines of the formation began to crumble until they turned into dust that fused with the seabed.

Only the severed hand and a few traces of blood remained on the terrain when the rest of Noah's group reached him.

"Did you get them?" June asked when she saw the hand, but Noah shook his head before turning toward Faith. A series of saber-shaped runes came out of his palm at that point, and Noah assembled them to create a bigger version of the horned head.

"Do you recognize this symbol?" Noah asked when his drawing entered Faith's vision.

Her eyes widened at that sight, and she shot a confused glance toward Noah before replying. "How do you know about it? That's almost a taboo among the sects under the Council."

"The Chasing Demon sect uses the same symbol, and I found it on this hand before it vanished," Noah said as a lifted his hand to show that a similar tattoo had appeared on his back. "Why is it a taboo? I thought that the Ravaging Demon sect was your ally."

Noah went straight to the point. After all, Ravaging Demon's betrayal wasn't a secret, so he couldn't understand how that symbol was a taboo for the Council.

Faith fell deep in thought for a while. Her heart wasn't on the Council's side anymore, but she had never revealed secret information of her country. Yet, she had to say something if she wanted to help her friends.

"The stories that we spread inside the country about the defeat of the Demon sects are mostly inaccurate," Faith said. "The orthodox sects don't want the new cultivators to think that they had won that battle with the help of an enemy. I had to become a heroic cultivator before I learnt the truth too."

Noah couldn't help but feel surprised at those words. He didn't know anything about the Papral nation except for its political system. However, he had never thought that it would censor its history to appear more righteous in the eyes of its youngest members.

"The Ravaging Demon sect doesn't exist anymore," Faith continued. "Its name is Battle Spirit sect right now, and it acts as a member of the orthodox faction on the surface. Yet, the Council knows that it has many underground activities right in the middle of the country."

"No wonder," Noah said. "Ravaging Demon is still alive in the end."

Noah could understand how part of what Faith was revealing was confidential. She probably had gained access to such records only because she was one of the Council's rarest talents.

"Yes, his behavior wasn't a surprise," Faith replied. "The surprising part is seeing the Council making use of those underground activities instead of condemning them. When I first learnt about it, I felt that we had defeated the Demon sects just to become like them."

"It's part of the cultivation journey," June commented as she patted Faith's shoulder to console her. "Everything gets tainted in the path to power." "Indeed," Faith said after heaving a sigh. "Still, it's not the entirety of the Council. Our political system gives a seat to the leaders of every major sect, so there are small factions. One of them is led by Ravaging Demon, who is said to have many small sects under his rule."

Noah didn't need any other information to confirm that some of the assailants had come from the Council. Even if they belonged only to one of the factions, he would still hold the entire organization responsible.

However, there was something else that he needed to ask Faith before he requested her for a complete description of what she knew about Ravaging Demon and his organizations.

"Is the Council able to deploy that formation in less than a day?" Noah asked.

Faith didn't even need to think at that question. She promptly shook her head as soon as Noah finished speaking.

After her answer, Noah felt sure that the Royals had played a part in the ambush too.

Chapter 902 902. Meeting

Two powerful men stood in front of a fuming pool inside one of the restricted areas of the new Royal Academy. One of them had silver hair, a slender body, and shining golden eyes, which were the common traits of a member of the Elbas bloodline. Instead, the other had long red hair and a pair of dark eyes.

They were both peak rank 5 cultivators, but they belonged to different organizations that wouldn't usually hold those kinds of meetings.

"So," The red-haired man said, "This is the miraculous item that you have mentioned. Are you sure that you have the authority to show it to me, First Prince?"

"Of course," First Prince said, "My father has stopped caring about these matters. Us princes and princesses handle the family now, and you are the most promising ally. Don't you think the same, Ravaging Demon?"

Ravaging Demon didn't answer, but he kept on staring at the pool with a mixture of eagerness and hesitation.

The war against the Shandal Empire had opened the path for unforeseen and strange alliances. The departure of the two gods had even left an empty spot that every organization would be willing to fill, but that none of them had the power to cover alone.

There were only a few forces that were worthy allying with, which led to the current situation, where the higher-ups of the Elbas family and Ravaging Demon were working together.

First Prince let Ravaging Demon think, but a message suddenly arrived on his inscribed notebook. As he proceeded to take it though, the Demon spoke. "Don't bother to listen. They failed."

First Prince didn't let his words discourage him and listened to the mental message. Yet, his usual arrogant smile flickered for an instant when he heard the report.

Ravaging Demon didn't even look at him since he was confident of his previous statement. His whole focus was on the pool and its murky oily water.

However, First Prince couldn't let go of the matter so quickly and probed the Elder. "How did you know?"

Ravaging Demon ignored him for a while until he eventually snorted and explained himself. "My Master has chosen that kid as his heir. An ambush can't defeat him."

"Why did you decide to send your underlings then?" First Prince asked. He had always known that the so-called Demons had unusual methods, but it was merely idiotic to risk rank 5 cultivators in a mission that was bound to fail.

Ravaging Demon turned toward the Royal at that point and showed a smile brimming with confidence before speaking. "I needed to send a message. It won't be long until I seize what is rightfully mine. I'm the only one worthy of being the heir of the Divine Demon."

First Prince had many questions. After all, he knew about the betrayal and that the Demon had traded his allies for a share of Divine Elder Tabitha's inheritance.

If he cared so much about his Master's inheritance, he should have remained on the side of the unorthodox sects instead of help destroying them.

Nevertheless, First Prince didn't give voice to his confusion and let the topic end there. Curiosity was something that every inscription master had to learn how to control, especially when dealing with a probably unstable existence that had a lot of influence in his country.

"The pool is constantly in function, and it doesn't lack power since many cultivators of the last batch have died inside it," First Prince said as he pointed at the barely visible floating corpses in the murky water. "You can start by sending your oldest heroic cultivator to test its effectiveness before passing to the stronger ones."

That was the approach that the Elbas family had applied once they discovered the exceptional properties of the pool. The Royals had sent all the heroic cultivators that had no hope in advancing there only to switch to those in the fifth rank slowly.

"Do you know why they call us Demons?" Ravaging Demon asked.

"You don't respect the political limitations and rules of any nation," First Prince replied. "And you are powerful enough to earn a title of your own."

Ravaging Demon shook his head as he exploded in a loud laugh. It took a while for him to suppress it, but he corrected the Royal as soon as he stopped. "That is just part of it. Demons don't understand the basic ethic of life and act as they want. All their bonds, organizations, and items are mere tools meant to make them stronger. In the end, a true Demon cares only about his power. Anything else is a liability."

"Is the Elbas family a burden in your eyes?" First Prince asked in a challenging tone.

"Of course," Ravaging Demon replied before he started to undress.

His actions caused a series of complaints from the Royal, but the Demon ignored them and walked toward the pool once he was naked.

"We never tested it for beings on our level!" First Prince shouted as he watched Ravaging Demon stepping inside the pool and sitting in a casual posture.

"I've already told you how a Demon acts," Ravaging Demon said once he was inside the pool. "My centers of power are a burden too. I've stagnated at this level for centuries by now. If I have to risk death to advance, I'll gladly do it."

First Prince could only sight at that sight and leave the restricted area. He had no power over someone like Ravaging Demon, but he had to prepare for when his father ascended. One way to do that was to form alliances with powerful and promising existences.

As for what concerned Ravaging Demon, it would be up to him and the pool to decide if he was worthy of the sixth rank.

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Noah and Daniel returned to the new continent a few weeks after the ambush. They had split with June and Faith on their way back to the Archipelago, but the hybrids had followed them since Noah had submitted them.

Also, they had been in contact with Elder Julia for the matter concerning the ambush and the horned head.

The main issue with that was that the political situation in the world was quite messy and tense. No one wanted to alter it before the complete defeat of the Empire.

So, Elder Julia had declared that it was better to keep the matter a secret and take it out only when the Hive could benefit from it.

After leaving the hybrids in Danelle's care, Daniel and Noah returned to the neutral city.

The city had changed a bit. A few new buildings had appeared in the territories near the Stele.

The outskirts had grown too, and the appearance of many new habitations had expanded the city by a lot. There were even more heroic cultivators in there, and no sign of the usual tension among powerful organizations could be seen in those days.

As for Noah, he had already isolated himself in his training area, set on coming out of it only once he completed his project with the higher energy.

Chapter 903 903. Iconic

Earthquakes started to happen again in the neutral city as soon as Noah resumed his experiments. Still, the Hive had improved the underground training area while he was away.

The tremors that reached the buildings on the surface weren't strong enough to cause any damage, and the citizens soon became used to those events. After all, it wasn't a secret that heroic cultivators performed experiments during their seclusion, and Noah already had a reputation in that field.

As the years passed, the earthquakes became something iconic of Divine Market city. Everyone became used to them.

Daniel shared the training area with Noah, but he cultivated in other places or even in the wilderness since it was too dangerous for him to remain there during Noah's experiments.

Noah had kept on increasing the amount of darkness used during his tests, which only caused heavier repercussions after each failure. Also, the fact that he wasn't making any noticeable progress made him more reckless with his experiments.

Noah would often fill the entirety of the training area with his darkness and start manipulating it as he tried to find a shape that his "Breath" accepted. The Divine Deduction technique was crucial in the process since he analyzed and changed approach even when he was in the middle of a different procedure.

It was impossible to predict the reactions of his darkness. Noah usually had to improvise since his "Breath" reacted in unforeseen ways during the approaches that he had chosen beforehand.

The increased quantity of darkness created even more unexpected reactions, which turned the entirety of the training area in a rank 5 danger zone due to how often Noah ended up causing an explosion.

However, nothing seemed able to satisfy his darkness. His "Breath" appeared unable to find a stable form whenever Noah tried to increase its power.

It had been more than ten years already since his return from the Odrea nation, but Noah had only managed to pile a series of failures. He had reached the point where he could list thousands of approaches that didn't work and not even a promising one.

Noah had always known that creating higher energy would be hard. After all, he had spent sixteen years to make his darkness, and he already had a sort of blueprint when it came to that experiment.

Yet, he had never predicted that he would still be stuck on the starting point after so much time.

Noah knew the reason behind the level of difficulty of that project.

Generally speaking, cultivators had to be able to understand the laws to modify the structure and functioning of energies. They needed to follow universal rules concerning the behavior of the "Breath" of a specific element.

The same would have been applied to Noah's darkness. Still, he had created it using the shape that his primary energy had taken during the transformation into a Cursed Dragon. From there, Noah had just performed countless tests until he managed to create something stable, and that matched the power of Heaven and Earth's "Breath".

He had just memorized the procedure that his body had executed during the transformation and used it to make something that belonged only to him.

That process didn't involve laws or, rather, Noah wasn't making use of them consciously. His mind would only gain brief insights during his meditation, which he then applied to his tests.

What he obtained was a darkness that didn't follow any known behavior and acted according to laws that weren't part of Heaven and Earth's system.

That had always been Noah's plan, but now he found himself unable to use studies and researches concerning the "Breath" of the darkness element because his energy acted differently. Without them, he was entirely in the blind and could only keep testing until he found something that could give him hope in succeeding.

Of course, Noah didn't lose his determination during those years, and he had even kept on training following his usual tight schedule.

The invading forces were still reorganizing. A few decades weren't enough to make up for the losses endured during the war against the Shandal Empire.

Also, they weren't in a hurry to attack the Empire again either. The fact that the invaders had complete control over the new continent assured them that they would experience better growth compared to the Empire.

They would launch another offensive once they felt that the difference between their power was large enough to limit their losses. Still, their only focus was on turning their new domains into sources of income and nurturing new heroic assets.

That left Noah with no tasks other than becoming stronger before the new major battle. That was precisely what he was doing, even if he didn't have much success when it came to his higher energy.

A change occurred after the fifteenth year of isolation.

Noah was immersed in his darkness as usual. His hand performed quick gestures that affected the dense gas around him and tried to alter its shape.

He was trying to force his energy into a massive gale at that time. He planned to unify all that darkness into a unified shape that he would condense by creating an artificial tornado.

That was one of Noah's untested approaches. His darkness would slowly fuse into a denser form at his gestures and began to blow through the underground room, gathering more "Breath" as it flowed.

The gale seemed to work at the beginning, but the inherent violence in his energy soon began to create small unstable areas in that form. Blowing in an orderly way wasn't a problem, but conflicts started to appear once the wind of darkness reached a specific density.

The remaining darkness in the room would oppose the gale when it tried to absorb it, and black slashes shot once those two forms met. The situation eventually reached a point where more slashes were flying around the underground area than energy.

Noah decided to endure one of the slashes to test their power, but the results were disappointing. The attack could only scrape his skin, meaning that it had barely surpassed the limits of the gaseous stage.

'This is already the best that my darkness can accept,' Noah thought as he let his "Breath" disperse. 'I can't improve this gale form anymore.'

As tiredness filled his mind though, he heard familiar footsteps coming from the corridor that connected the underground area and the buildings on the surface.

"It took you a while," Noah said as he showed a smile to the woman that had just entered his training area.

"I lost track of time while I studied the book from Shandal's palace," June said, replying to his smile with one of her own.

She and Faith had returned to their organizations after the mission in the Odrea nation. The matter concerning their sudden ambush forced them to prolong their stay there. Also, June had obtained a great amount of knowledge from Shandal's castle, which led her to request to be reassigned in the neutral city only recently.

Chapter 904 904. Memories

June couldn't help but notice the darkness still lingering in the underground area as she reached for Noah to exchange a long kiss.

"Are you still working on higher energy?" June asked after their lips separated, and she closed her eyes as she laid her head on his chest.

"Yes," Noah said while caressing her hair. "Nothing seems to work."

"You have lived two lives," June mocked him. "I'm sure you'll be fine."

"It's not that simple," Noah replied as he gazed at the vanishing darkness in the underground area. "There weren't cultivators in my previous world. We were just powerless humans. The laws weren't something that we could bend at our will. They were fixed rules that we tried to exploit with complex machines and long years of study."

That was one of the main reasons why Noah rarely thought about his previous life when searched for some inspiration.

He was a rank 5 cultivator now. His mind was capable of ideating forms of energy in a matter of years, and his "Breath" fueled spells that could match the destructive power of some of the most advanced weaponry of his previous world.

The difference between the two worlds was immense. Humans could become actual gods capable of moving entire Mortal Lands here.

Noah didn't feel arrogant about it. The humans of his previous world had been able to perform wonders even without the miraculous "Breath". They deserved a certain amount of respect, even if they had created a society that he had hated.

"This is what you are trying to do, right?" June said without separating from his chest. "You want to create a natural procedure so that your darkness can reach a higher form on its own. You don't need to bend the laws for that. You need to follow them."

A warm smile appeared on Noah's face as he lowered his head to stare at the woman in his arms.

June's could only guess it, but that was what Noah had done in the last fifteen years. The main issue was that he didn't know which laws ruled over his darkness since he had created it after a long period of trial and error.

Also, his mind wasn't able to recognize them yet, so even knowing their name wouldn't help Noah's project.

However, an idea took form as the warmth felt due to June's concern filled his body. Noah had inevitably thought about his previous life at that moment, and something that he had studied in his past world began to interest him.

June was enjoying her lover's caresses when she noticed something strange.

The two of them would usually enjoy their reunion whenever they spent some time separated. Noah's arousal wasn't something that he could control, and June wanted him as much as he did.

Yet, Noah wasn't giving in to his instincts, and he had even stopped caressing her.

June didn't think much about it. She would take the initiative since Noah seemed lost in some thoughts that she knew concerned his training.

"Nuclear fusion..." Noah muttered while June was about to reach for his lips again. His gaze appeared lost, but there was a light at the bottom of his reptilian pupils.

June could recognize that expression. The two of them had been together for decades already. She knew when her lover had found an answer to his issue.

June remained silent as she stared Noah muttering incomprehensible words and moving his gaze through the underground area. She enjoyed seeing how such a usually profound and focused cultivator could show an excitement so intense.

Noah's eyes eventually focused again, and he understood what had happened when he saw June staring at him with one of her warmest expressions. His arousal kicked in stronger than ever at that sight, but another emotion had the monopoly over his mind now.

"Don't make me wait too much," June said before Noah could open his mouth to speak. Then, she kissed him and moved to the back of the underground area, where she started to cultivate.

Noah's emotions were a mess at that moment. The sole fact that June had understood him so easily was almost enough to make him spend the next month focused on her. Yet, there was something else that burned in his mind now. Something that had always been above any other emotion and drive.

His aura became unsettled as his ambition reacted to his discovery. In the memories of his past life, Noah had found something that might be able to help him with the higher energy!

Noah activated the Divine Deduction technique as he immersed himself in specific memories. His mind went back to when he was just a simple student and listened to his physic professor explaining how the stars worked.

'Lighter elements fuse to form heavier ones,' Noah thought as he reviewed the few memories that he had about that period of his life. 'This reaction normally happens in the stars due to their incredible temperature and gravity, but I might be able to recreate similar conditions with my spells.'

Of course, Noah didn't know much about that topic even when he reviewed his memories with his rank 5 mind and the divine technique. His studies only covered the basic theory behind nuclear fusion and never involved anything too specific.

However, Noah was a rank 5 cultivator. Mountains could crumble if he stepped on them, and the sky would open at the swing of his blade.

He wasn't limited to the methods mentioned in the theory of the other world. He was just interested in the behavior that atoms had in those environments.

There was a chance that his darkness would act in the same way if he managed to recreated those same conditions.

As soon as Noah had the idea, he immediately pursued it. He even had the necessary tools already. They just needed some adjustments.

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Eight months had to pass before Noah felt ready to start his first real attempt with that new procedure. The only thing that was still stopping him was the stubbornness of his lover.

"I'm not going to leave," June said while Noah massaged his temples. "I've never seen you so worried. I won't leave you alone."

"I need this area completely devoid of any external energy!" Noah repeated for the tenth time. "Also, I don't know what will happen, but it shouldn't be something that my body can't handle."

That exchange of words continued for a while until June eventually gave up and exited the underground area while snorting at every step.

When Noah was utterly alone, he sealed the entrance of the room and filled the entirety of the underground area with his darkness.

The Demonic Sword wanted to come out to play, but Noah forced it to stay inside his robe. There was a high chance that the situation could escape his control.

Then, he activated a version of the Black Hole spell that he had modified in those months and took a few steps back, ready to stop the procedure with his most potent attack if needed.

Chapter 905 905. Purity

Purity was everything in what Noah was attempting to do.

In the stars, nuclear fusion could eventually start using heavier elements if the temperature and gravity allowed it. Yet, Noah needed to limit the materials to his darkness.

He was trying to create a procedure that would naturally bring his "Breath" to a higher state. There couldn't be any impurity in that.

The Black Hole spell floated in the darkness as his gravitational pull started affecting the energy in the underground room. "Breath" began to flow toward the small dark sphere, but it didn't enter in it. It only remained on its surface where it accumulated.

Noah had to modify his spell to make it fit the requirements of his procedure. The modification didn't take long because he only had to remove some of the abilities of the dark sphere, but he still had to spend months on it since it was a rank 5 spell.

However, he had obtained what he needed in the end.

That version of the Black Hole spell didn't increase in size nor absorbed energy in its form. Noah had left only its gravitational pull and eased its connection with his mind.

Also, he had made sure that the dark sphere would continue working even after he severed his connection with it. It wouldn't be stable without his direct control, but it wouldn't weigh on his mind either in that way.

That was just a precaution since the spell wouldn't grow stronger with time. It didn't absorb energy anymore, so its power was fixed somewhere near the limits of the gaseous stage.

Still, Noah felt that it was better to play it safe when dealing with dangerous experiments. He didn't know what would come out of that procedure, but he was sure that it could be fatal to neglect some details.

Noah released more of his darkness as the spell kept on attracting it. He couldn't leave any space in the underground area since he would risk attracting different types of "Breath".

The sphere needed to be pure, wholly made of his darkness. Letting impurities fuse with its form would be asking to destabilize it.

Layers of "Breath" gathered around the dark sphere. Noah's darkness condensed around it and flowed in a round motion as the gravitational pull kept it bound in that place.

Noah's eyes couldn't see it since the darkness in the air blocked the light radiated by the inscriptions on the walls. Yet, his mind could sense it.

The small sphere had already become a giant uneven orb that had a dense gas flowing around its center. However, it still failed to show the reaction that Noah wanted.

Noah didn't mind it. The fact that his "Breath" didn't cause any explosion showed how promising that procedure was already. His darkness would amass naturally around his spell and increase its density as more of it reached for the sphere.

'I wonder when it is going to have its gravitational pull,' Noah thought as he analyzed the energy amassed in front of him.

According to the physic that he had studied in his past life, gravity depended on the amount of mass accumulated in an area. Noah was trying to achieve that with his dense darkness, but he didn't know what level of density it had to reach before it could start making up for the limited features of his spell.

After all, Noah wasn't an expert in that field. He was trying to imitate what usually happened in the stars with his poor knowledge.

Noah kept on refilling the darkness in the underground area as the spell continued to gather it around its shape. The amount of energy accumulated there had already surpassed what he managed to withstand with his mind, but the weaker connection allowed him to maintain his control over it.

Its gravitational pull though still failed to arrive, and the procedure eventually reached the point where the power of the Black Hole spell couldn't attract energy anymore.

'This is the limit of an ability in the gaseous stage,' Noah thought as he stared at the massive accumulation of energy in front of him. He couldn't see it, but he faced it anyway since he was too focused on it.

'I have to loosen it up a bit,' Noah thought as he turned and opened his mouth. White ethereal flames came out of it and spread in the environment, affecting the structure of his darkness and softening its innate resistance to the gravitational pull.

Noah's flames used the energy stored in his body. The primary energy fueled them and turned them into an attack of the darkness element.

Using them directly on the sphere would affect its functioning and taint the material accumulated there. Still, the flames would only make Noah's darkness more ductile if he only targeted the spots away from his spell.

Also, the flames would disperse before the "Breath" reached for his spell, so he could use them quite freely if needed.

The temperature in the underground area rose as flames spread in the air and loosened the structure of Noah's "Breath". More darkness began to flow into the black sphere at that point, and the layers of energy around it resumed their accumulation.

Then, Noah felt a second traction force coming from the dense gases in front of him. The darkness attracted by his spell had finally reached the point where it could help in that procedure!

With two gravitational pulls together in one place, Noah didn't need to use his flames anymore. The "Breath" that kept on flowing inside that construct made the traction force become powerful enough to surpass the limits of the gaseous stage.

'It's about to become self-sufficient,' Noah exclaimed in his mind as he continued to pour "Breath" in the environment. He knew that it would come to a point where all his reserves of darkness would be gone, but he had to continue giving to the procedure only one material.

Everything would have been for nothing if he allowed some different form of energy into the spherical accumulation of his darkness.

The sphere's shape had become peculiar after its gravitational pull started. There would be some occasional flare as more energy condensed there, and its surface was continually rotating as if it was an actual star that was trying to come to life.

Eventually, Noah had to cut away his connection with the Black Hole spell because there was so much energy around it. That affected the link between Noah and his ability, even if it wasn't a direct connection.

The procedure though didn't stop. The spell still worked after losing its connection with Noah, and the gravitational pull of the darkness around it had already become self-sufficient.

Noah didn't need to do anything but to wait until the experiment required his flames again.

The hours passed in the underground area as Noah waited for a change to appear in his darkness. It was only a matter of time before a significant event happened.

Chapter 906 906. Higher energy

The outer layers kept on growing in size and expand since the darkness in all the previous ones had reached a level of density that the gravitational pull couldn't surpass with its current power.

Yet, the traction force kept on increasing as more energy amassed there, and the most inner layers slowly started to reach higher levels of density.

As the density increased, even the gravitational pull became stronger. It was a continuous cycle that would continue as long as Noah continued to provide the raw materials needed by the fusion.

June sent him a mental message at some point, and Noah listened to it right away since the procedure didn't keep him too busy. "The "Breath" is acting funny out here. It has started to converge toward the underground area since a while ago."

She was still pissed that Noah had prevented her from joining the experiment, but she wouldn't fail to inform him about the consequences that the procedure was creating in the outside world. After all, Noah had been locked up inside his training area for almost a day by then. She was worried about his well-being.

Noah told her that he was fine, but he didn't add any other detail. That wasn't the time to let his mind wander through his feelings for June. He had to remain focused even if he only needed to pour more darkness in the environment to keep the fusion going.

The massive sphere would become smaller every time the density in the inner layers increased. Still, that only enhanced its gravitational pull that made more "Breath" gather to form new outer layers.

Noah almost felt in awe as he sensed those events unfolding right in front of him. The vast mass of darkness had a shape similar to the stars that he had seen in pictures in his previous world, and it was a fantastic sight even if he could only analyze it with his mental energy.

Yet, the first issue eventually appeared.

There were often flares rising from the surface of his sphere every time the density increased. They weren't a problem before since they were too weak to cause any damage, but it had reached the point when Noah felt forced to take even more steps back.

The release of energy was a good thing though. According to Noah's memories, elements would release energy only when they fused, which meant that something was happening in the inner layers.

Everything continued in that way during the entirety of the following day too, and Noah only had to keep darkness inside the underground area in that period. The cycle of shrinking and enlarging continued without any problem, and it was slowly leading to the point where a significant change was bound to happen.

The Black Hole spell had stopped working by then, and the sphere had become entirely self-sufficient. Only an external influence or the lack of energy to gather could prevent it from growing further.

Something happened during the third day since the beginning of the procedure.

Noah was pouring darkness in the environment as usual when the sphere suddenly shrunk until it was a little orb once again. The gravitational pull that came from that new form was even far stronger since most of the "Breath" in the environment started to gather there and create more layers.

'It's happening,' Noah thought as a smile appeared on his face.

The only thing that could make the gravity spike so much was the appearance of a heavier element, or, in his case, it meant that his darkness was finally transforming into a higher form of energy.

Noah analyzed the inner layers. There were minute trails of dense gas at the center of the sphere that was far darker than the other surrounding it.

When it came to higher energies, evaluating their power was quite complicated. For example, June's black sparks still belonged to the power level of a cultivator in the gaseous stage, but their actual prowess could surpass those limits.

The "Breath" and the higher energy were different both in shape and power that they were capable of releasing. No one had even created clear labels either since less of a handful of people knew about the existence of higher energies.

Noah found himself in that spot now. He had a form of higher energy right in front of him, but he couldn't evaluate how strong it was. He only knew that it was powerful thanks to his instincts.

However, those minute strands of thick dark gas were the best result that he had obtained in more than two decades. They were energy on a higher level than his darkness, and they had formed through a procedure that just altered their environment.

They had come to life naturally. Noah had just prepared the area for the procedure and set it off.

Noah didn't know if that was the final form that his darkness could reach, so he let the procedure going to see if he could strive for energy even higher than that one.

The gravitational pull had started to affect the entirety of the underground area, and all the "Breath" inside it rotated around the black sphere. Noah had to pour a lot of darkness back in the air to keep up with that consumption, but its sight was terrific.

It was as if Noah was in front of a real star, only black in color.

June sent him another mental message at that point, but Noah ignored it. His focus had to be on the procedure since it had just chosen to form higher energy.

The sphere enlarged and took the "Breath" still lingering in the outer layers. It was devouring everything that entered in its gravitational pull and built layers over layers made of energy.

The quantity of higher energy kept on increasing too, which made Noah eager to see what would happen if all that "Breath" reached that higher form.

Yet, June sent another message, and Noah understood that the situation had to be troublesome since she knew that he was focused on the experiments.

"There are major repercussions here!" June said in her mental message. "The "Breath" is gathering toward you, and some of the weaker buildings can't handle this suction force."

Noah knew that stopping there was the right move. After all, he had already obtained what he wanted.

The procedure worked, but he had to perform it in a different environment. Divine Market city didn't allow him to go all out with his recklessness, and he would destroy some of the buildings in if he lost control after deciding to keep going.

The mass of gas soon reached the inscribed walls and continued to grow. It had come to a point where even Noah was struggling to refill the darkness in the environment.

However, that wasn't inherently a bad thing. It only meant that nuclear fusion worked.

Now, his focus was on finding if that was the limit of the higher energy and invent procedures that would allow him to seize it.

Chapter 907 907. Creation

Noah's inscribed notebook rang continuously. It was only June at first, but even the other rank 5 cultivators in the neutral city started to send him mental messages.

All their messages described the same events. It seemed that the gravitational pull had started to affect both the "Breath" and the buildings on the surface.

That wasn't a force that the inscriptions in the underground area could block completely. Noah had created a small dark star that continued to grow stronger with time. Its effects were bound to spread in the outside world.

It wasn't an issue when the experiment affected only the "Breath". Cultivators in the heroic ranks would often perform techniques that involved large amounts of energy.

Still, the buildings had started to crack under that pull too. The citizens of Divine Market city began to fear for their lives at that sight.

The human cultivators were even worse off. They couldn't leave the city without the tools necessary to survive the dense "Breath" in the environment of the new continent.

They were trapped in a city that was slowly falling apart.

The matter became even worse when the first rank 2 cultivators started to fell the effects of the increasing gravity. They would feel as if a mountain had suddenly appeared over their shoulders as they dragged their bodies into the main roads to escape from that slow destruction.

Some of them even kowtowed in the direction of the central buildings, hoping that their mighty heroic cultivators could stop the catastrophe that was falling on their homes.

Noah felt hesitant as he stared at the black star. The reports of the other rank 5 cultivators didn't bother him, and he didn't care about the well-being of the human assets in the city.

However, June sounded concerned in her mental messages, which meant that the situation on the surface was quite bad.

Also, the black star had reached the point where Noah wasn't able to provide enough darkness anymore. Its traction force had become so strong that the underground area had started to have empty spots where the inscriptions on the walls could shine.

Noah would pour more "Breath" in the air only to see it fly toward the black star. His experiment had reached the moment when he couldn't contain it anymore.

'This is my limit as a cultivator in the gaseous stage,' Noah accepted that in his mind as he inspected the illuminated areas in his training hall. It wouldn't take much for the "Breath" from the outside world to fill those spots, and that was something that he wanted to avoid at all costs.

Noah didn't know what kind of reaction the black star would have when other materials fused with its form. There was even a high chance that tainting its purity would cause a detonation.

An explosion backed by so much energy couldn't lead to anything good. The inscriptions on the walls would probably be able to contain it, but Noah would have to endure the entirety of its might.

As a rank 5 hybrid in the upper tier, Noah didn't think that there were many attacks capable of hurting him, let alone killing him. Yet, the black star had his higher energy inside its fabric, which made it challenging to analyze.

Noah felt confident that he could survive the explosion, but it wasn't the same for many cultivators on the surface. Also, he was bound to end up badly injured, even with his fantastic body.

'Just a little touch then,' Noah thought as he made up his mind and started to walk toward the black star.

Power surges and flares would escape from that spherical amass of energy and sweep him with their power, but Noah strived forward with a determined expression on his face.

His sharp darkness would land on him and tear his robe, but he didn't stop. He continued to walk toward the center of the black star even when the flares left bloody marks on his body.

That wasn't the power of the gaseous stage anymore. Noah had created something able to hurt him.

Noah felt proud at that realization instead of being worried about his safety. The energy that was able to hurt him was just darkness in a far denser form, but it was still his "Breath".

So, that meant that his higher energy had to be far stronger than his normal darkness.

Noah began to feel strange as he walked through the dense layers of darkness that had yet to become higher energy. They appeared as dense gases capable of slicing him in multiple pieces, but that could only cut his skin due to the innate violence of his energy.

He didn't fear that wild "Breath" though. He felt good, and his mind started to expand on its own while he lost himself in that sensation.

There was creation everywhere he looked or touched. The sphere was the most natural expression of his individuality, and being in the middle of it gave Noah's mind the possibility to increase his understanding of the laws connected to creation.

His mind had entered a peculiar state as he reached for the center of the star. Noah would slowly understand the laws that regulated his darkness, and the subject became more complicated as he pressed forward.

His journey toward the center of the sphere continued, and more superficial wounds appeared on his body. Still, he eventually reached the densest area in the entirety of his experiment. He arrived right in front of that gas that didn't emit any light.

Noah could sense it floating slowly through his darkness. He noticed some resemblance with his "Breath" in that form, but there wasn't the usual sharpness inside it.

The higher energy appeared almost liquid, and it radiated his intense ambition. There was even a sense of defiance surrounding its shape.

It seemed that Noah's ambition had evolved too during the procedure. It would become an arrogant statement that he still couldn't put it into words.

Noah raised his hand to touch the higher energy, and that simple contact was enough for him to gain even more insights into the laws ruling over that energy.

It was mostly understanding concerning the laws of creation, but Noah found various pieces of his individuality inside it too.

He soon understood that the higher energy was connected to his mind. It felt heavy and clunky, but he could control it.

The higher energy felt solid at the touch, but it was gaseous since Noah's hand made a hole in it without sensing any opposition. The last tool necessary for his individuality was right in front of him, but he would have to destroy it unless the automaton of his ring said otherwise.

"The ring is nearing its limits," The automaton said as Noah let it inspect the higher energy. "But a little bit might fit."

Noa nodded and seized part of that higher energy to store it. Then, black smoke began to come out of his body.

It was time to destroy his project before it was too late to stop it.

Chapter 908 908. Polite

The black smoke of the Demonic Form mixed with the dark star, and the gravitational pull trapped it in one of the external layers. Noah's spell couldn't hurt the darkness since it was his energy. It was an extension of himself.

Still, Noah wasn't aiming to destroy the massive accumulation of "Breath". His focus was on the core of the star.

All that darkness would be useless if it lost its traction force. It would just disperse in the environment, and the inscriptions on the walls of the underground room would prevent it from damaging the structure.

Noah transformed into a fiendish figure donned in a scaled armor before performing the second form of his martial art, targeting the small mass of higher energy in front of him. A fissure appeared right in the middle of the dark star, but, to Noah's surprise, something had survived his offensive.

Noah watched through his draconic helm how a few strands of higher energy had survived his most potent attack. Even the technique that fused the qualities of a hybrid with the spells had been unable to destroy his latest creation in one blow.

He had even launched the attack right next to the higher energy. That was the best that he could do with the current level of his centers of power.

'No wonder it has taken me so much to make you,' Noah thought as he revealed a smile and prepared another attack.

The dark sphere had shrunk as soon as Noah destroyed part of its core. Yet, the gravitational pull was still there, and it would bring the star to its original might if he didn't stop it completely.

Noah attacked without showing the slightest hesitation toward the energy that he had needed decades to create.

In its current form, the higher energy was a liability. It was a powerful energy that Noah could control, but that he didn't know how to use yet.

June had replaced her "Breath" with the dark sparks, and King Elbas gained access to his higher energy only when he used something that carried his bloodline as a fuel.

However, Noah didn't want to replace anything. He intended to keep his three forms of energy so that he could express all the shades of his individuality.

Finding the procedure that allowed him to create higher energy was the first and most challenging step, but he still had to decide how to implement it on his cultivation journey.

Also, he needed to improve the procedure too. The black star was a magnificent spectacle, but he needed to think about its feasibility.

It didn't often happen that cultivators had training areas during a war or a battle. They were a common sight only when they were in their respective organizations.

If Noah didn't improve the method to create higher energy, he would have to repeat that procedure before every battle.

The second attack destroyed the remaining higher energy once for all, but the gravitational pull didn't disappear just yet since there was enough darkness condensed there to keep it going. Still, Noah didn't need to resort to his martial art to take care of that.

Noah dispersed the Demonic Form and started to cultivate right in the middle of the black sphere. His Demonic Sword absorbed the "Breath" that he had previously poured in the environment and turned it into primary energy before transforming it into his darkness again.

The massive sphere slowly started to become less dense until it eventually became a black cloud that converged toward the cross-legged Noah.

Of course, Noah was only refilling his dantian. That energy wouldn't help him improve. However, he discovered that the suction force of his cultivation technique had increased again.

Noah knew the reason for that. His mind was still wandering the enlightenment obtained when he touched his higher energy.

The understanding of laws of creation still lingered in his thoughts. They were vague and strange feelings rather than proper explanations. Noah felt as if his instincts had broadened. He sensed that they could guide him when it came to matters concerning that part of his individuality.

The cloud eventually vanished too, absorbed by the Demonic Sword that Noah held tightly over his low-waist. Yet, he didn't stop cultivating. After all, he had to make up for the three days spent focused on his project.

Noah came out of the underground area only a week after the events with the black star, and the destruction that he had caused finally appeared in his eyes.

The buildings near the center of the city were the sturdiest of Divine Market city since they were near the Stele. They had endured the increased gravity and the suction force quite easily.

Nevertheless, the buildings on the peripheral areas had it worse. Most of them had a few cracks on their surface, while others had directly crumbled.

There were large cracks on random spots on the terrain too. The ground had crumbled at some point during the continuous gravitational pull.

There wasn't any casualty because even the human cultivators had become used to Noah's dangerous experiments, so they had created methods to survive. They had devised evacuations plans for when Noah started to deal with things too hazardous for them.

Noah mostly ignored the human cultivators, and the heroic cultivators would never complain in front of him due to his bad reputation. Also, his eccentric behavior appeared as a feature to imitate since he was the most talented cultivators in history in their eyes.

Yet, the citizens of the neutral city weren't the only ones that had something to say about the recent events.

"Demon Prince," Elder Estelle said as she neared Noah, who was standing in the sky, staring at the destruction that he had caused. "Do you mind joining me? The Council is holding a meeting with the members of the Elbas family. The Hive should have its seat."

Noah could understand the reason why Elder Estelle would invite him. The other two forces had grown worried that Noah could take down the city with his experiments.

However, Noah didn't have time to join the political formalities required to ask a cultivator to train somewhere else. He had just experienced a breakthrough in his experiments, and the increased understanding of his creation could only benefit them.

He didn't want to let political matters hinder him now that he could finally improve his power significantly. The higher energy was just the beginning. There were countless projects that he had put in hold until he solved that issue.

"Don't worry," Noah replied in a flat voice. "I'll train somewhere else."

"Oh!" Elder Estelle exclaimed before trying to fake her relieved expression. "That's not what I meant at all. Mine was just a polite invitation to discuss crucial matters about the city."

The Elder didn't mask her lie too well, but Noah didn't mind it. Her reaction was perfectly normal. After all, he was the one threatening to destroy entire cities.

Yet, the matter concerning the new training area was something that he had just conveyed to the Hive. Luckily for them, they had an entire separate dimension at their disposal.

Chapter 909 909. Talents

Noah wasn't the only one who had created chaos in those years.

The Hive had welcomed the soldiers of the Odrea nation, and it had provided them with the means to walk on the path that Shandal had blocked for millennia.

The sky above the territories of the Hive saw countless lightning storms happening while Noah was busy completing his project with the higher energy, and they didn't stop even when he moved his experiments in the separate dimension.

That wasn't an unusual sight in the years after the war against the Empire. Many rank 3 cultivators had gained enough experience in those battles and reached the point where they felt confident in approaching the Tribulations.

Yet, the Hive still had more of them thanks to the stream of experienced soldiers provided by Noah.

The other nations didn't fail to notice that peculiarity, and many experts even guessed that the mission in the Odrea nation had something to do with the high number of Tribulations.

However, there wasn't much that they could do after everything that had happened. The ambush had become the Hive's shield against the probing of the other forces.

It seemed that the three invading forces had sealed a silent agreement that prevented them from speaking about the ambush. None of them wanted to create discord before the war against the Empire was over.

They limited themselves to maintain their polite and friendly attitudes during eventual meetings while also respecting the borders that they had set once conquered the entirety of the new continent.

"The Hive has just obtained its one-hundredth rank 4 cultivator," Elder Julia said as she stared with a respectful expression at the Demon Prince meditating in front of her. "All of this was possible only thanks to you. We now have hope to match the other big nations even without the Copying Technique."

Noah and Elder Julia were in one of the branches of the separate dimension. The latter usually sent him reports concerning the situation in the outside world whenever he went in seclusion, but she wanted to convey that news personally.

After all, one hundred rank 4 cultivators put the Hive on a similar field with the other big nations that had always been a few steps above it. Its sheer number of heroic assets was finally meeting the standards of the organizations that were at the apex of those Mortal Lands.

Also, Elder Julia wasn't considering the assets that Noah had brought back from Shandal's separate dimension.

The two Ghostly Snakes and the River Beaver were hybrids in the fifth rank. Their value was priceless since they could theoretically become as threatening as Noah. Their hybrid status put them a bit above ordinary cultivators due to their incredible potential.

"That many?" Noah asked as he interrupted his meditation and opened his eyes.

He had always known that the soldiers from the Odrea nation were promising. Still, it had only been a bit more than twenty years since they joined the Hive.

That period was in line with the time required for a rank 3 cultivator to reach the heroic ranks, but that would mean that they had focused only on their training in those years!

"Prince, all the recruits in the third rank have gone in seclusion as soon as we provided them with the techniques that they needed," Elder Julia said as she summarized the events that Noah had missed while he was busy experimenting. "Even the oldest ones have shown unexpected improvements. I don't think there is a human cultivator in the entire world who has as much experience as them."

Noah nodded at those words. The soldiers of the Odrea nation had fought for their whole lives. Even Noah couldn't match their experience when he was just a human cultivator.

Noah could imagine how those soldiers had felt once they saw techniques in the fourth rank for the first time. It wasn't surprising that most of them had gone in seclusion.

However, he felt as if he had underestimated their potential. The Hive was trying to make up for the losses endured in the war, but those new arrivals had directly brought it to unexpected heights!

"They still don't have any experience when it comes to battles in the heroic ranks," Noah commented as he tried to see the only negative note on the matter. "Investing in that before the war resumes can't be a bad idea."

Elder Julia revealed a proud smile when she heard that, and she didn't hesitate to give Noah more details. "The other Elders have already started training classes that make use of the Copying Technique. We even handpicked a few of new arrivals for Thirty-seven lessons. Of course, his other students will manage them while the automaton stays with you."

"I'll give him back as soon as we solve my issue," Noah answered in a helpless tone.

"Keep him as long as you need," Elder Julia quickly replied. "There is no point in nurturing promising cultivators if we forsake our best one."

The Elder left after her answer, and Noah stood up to return to a teleportation matrix that was at a few meters behind him. The light of the inscriptions engulfed him, and he found himself in front of a black star when the halo disappeared.

"So?" Noah asked as he turned toward Thirty-seven, who was staring at the mass of darkness with an expressionless face.

Noah had recreated the black star when he returned in the separate dimension, but he had waited for the automaton to ideate a formation capable of containing it first.

The black star in front of him was a bit stronger than what he had created in the training area under the neutral city. Yet, a series of formations around it prevented its gravitational pull from affecting the separate dimension.

The formation had the form of a cube that isolated the dark star from the outside world and stopped its inevitable leakage of energy. A series of shining lines created an area that contained only Noah's darkness.

"Compressing it further isn't a problem," Thirty-seven said without moving his gaze away from the massive sphere. "It will create more higher energy, but I believe that you want that."

Noah didn't answer. He had contacted the automaton because he wanted a second opinion on the matter, and Thirty-seven was the maximum expert of the Hive when it came to inscriptions.

"The problem is the formation," Thirty-seven continued. "I can't create something smaller while maintaining its same power. I don't see how you can carry around something so strong without affecting your centers of power or the world around you."

Thirty-seven even proceeded to explain that most alternative methods wouldn't work either because the black star was deeply connected with Noah. It would need a personal touch if he wanted to avoid unforeseen consequences.

"This formation though can endure far more than this," Thirty-seven concluded as he turned toward Noah. "Chasing Demon has helped to deploy it. Anything below the sixth rank won't be able to break it."

Chapter 910 910. Itch

Noah knew that his higher energy was something that he had to manage on his own. However, he needed help for what concerned containing the dark star, and he liked to hear the opinion of other experts so that he could have a broader vision on the matter.

Thirty-seven eventually went away and left Noah alone in that area of the separate dimension.

The automaton had many things to handle in the Hive, especially with the new wave of promising cultivators from the Odrea nation. Also, his job was over there.

Thirty-seven would make a list of inscription methods that could compress the dark sphere, but Noah had to do all the work since it was a matter that concerned his individuality. It would be even better if he did everything on his own for the same reason.

Noah spent weeks meditating in front of his dark star. He would train and meditate as usual while thinking of a way to turn that power into something that he could utilize in battle.

Of course, his thoughts didn't focus only on his battle prowess, but Noah's priority had always been his power. He had to find an answer to that question before he pondered about other applications.

He would even spend time analyzing the lump of higher energy that he had seized during his first successful experiment.

The higher energy gave him insights on the laws of creation whenever he interacted with it, but it seemed that those enlightenments consumed part of it, and the insights weren't endless either.

Noah consumed the first piece of higher energy to understand more about its nature and seized more of them from the dark star in front of him to deepen his understanding of the laws of creation.

Restoring the massive sphere to its original power wasn't a problem since Noah could pour more darkness inside the cubical formation. He didn't even need to cast the Black Hole spell again since the gravitational pull made the star self-sufficient already.

Yet, his mind soon became used to those insights, and the higher energy stopped deepening his understanding of the laws that ruled it. He had experienced all the enlightenments that it could offer.

Noah began to experiment with the higher energy at that point. He would test it with his spells, eat it, and even using it as a material in his inscription methods.

Eating that dense and dark gas didn't give him much. Noah understood more about its structure before turning it into the primary energy that his body needed.

The experiments with the spells and the inscription methods though produced peculiar results.

The spells fueled by the higher energy wouldn't work at all, but Noah expected something like that to happen.

Noah had made his higher energy by creating an environment where his darkness would evolve naturally. He didn't have any specific feature in mind when he made it. He used the only method that worked.

Meanwhile, spells generally needed "Breath" to work. Adapting his abilities to his darkness had been a challenge already, and most of them had changed drastically too.

When pushed to a higher form, his darkness lost most of its destructive features and became something dense that wasn't suitable for his spells.

His higher energy was different from June's dark sparks and King Elbas' fuel.

June had to replace the "Breath" with the dark sparks in her Perfect Circuit. Her higher energy was a pure source of power that stood far above her previous lightning.

King Elbas' higher energy, instead, was connected to his bloodline. He could gain access to it only when he consumed something that expressed the power of his family.

Of course, Noah didn't know all the details concerning King Elbas' power, but he could guess something since he had seen the differences between his and June's higher energies.

It seemed that the rare elements were as peculiar as the Patriarch of the Elbas family had described them. The fact that they didn't have a fixed procedure led to different results that might even not meet the needs of a cultivator.

Noah had considered the possibility of going back to the endless trial and error phase when he saw that his creation didn't work with his spells. Still, he held back his final consideration when he saw what his higher energy produced when paired with his inscription methods.

'This can't be right,' Noah thought as he stared at a spiked sphere in his hands.

When testing his inscription methods, Noah would often create Instabilities since he could easily spot the differences with his previous products.

The Instability in his grasp was black and had a series of saber-shaped runes on its surface that worked as spikes.

It appeared as identical to all the other disposable weapons that he had made in the past. The only peculiar and astonishing aspect of that sphere was that it radiated the aura of a rank 5 inscribed item in the middle tier.

Noah knew that his mastery in the creation of those weapons had probably reached the point where he could produce items on that level. The only problem was that he was still in the gaseous stage, which made it hard for him to manipulate more powerful materials.

Nevertheless, when it came to the Instability in his hands, Noah had only used the skin of a magical beast at the bottom of the fifth rank!

Also, the higher energy was far denser than his darkness. Noah had been able to put only a minute part of it in his sea of consciousness to complete the procedure required by the Elemental Forging method.

'I wasn't even sure if it could have reached the middle of the lower tier,' Noah thought as disbelief still lingered in his mind.

Noah had created a rank 5 inscribed item in the middle tier with only one basic material and a minute part of his higher energy.

That achievement was incredible, and it was connected to his latest creation. The fact that he could drastically improve the power of his final products just by adding his higher energy to his inscription methods wasn't something that he could ignore.

Noah repeated the forging multiple times to be sure that his miracle wasn't only a fluke caused by his recent enlightenments in the laws of creation. Still, the results were identical to his first Instability. He would create powerful items with materials on a far lower level.

'It might be the perfect tool for my creation,' Noah thought as he stared at the seven spiked spheres in front of him. 'The Elemental Forging method isn't even tuned for this type of energy. Just like my abilities with my hybrid status, my higher energy might not suit humans' inscription methods.'

Countless thoughts rose and fell apart while Noah pondered about the issue.

He had been initially disappointed that he couldn't imitate King Elbas and June in their usage of their higher energy. Yet, now he felt his hands itching to create more.