

Descent 951

Chapter 951

Augustus Ovilteen.

One would have thought that he was a man of grand stature, the kind of man who could cause waves throughout an entire galaxy with nothing but a single word, the kind of man who would have an aura that made such a thing clear.

However, while it was indeed true that he could flip the Milky Way on its head with a single thought, the rest wasn't true. In fact, he was very easily overshadowed by a few overbearing youths and seemed to be unmoved by it all. Even worse than that, causing chaos in the Milky Way might not even be so easy for him any longer as the hidden undercurrents of this galaxy only became more and more pronounced.

The man himself looked like a calm scholar. He wasn't stoic, and instead had an even smile on his face that made him seem warm and inviting. At the same time, though he wasn't short, he wasn't tall either, being under six feet tall. There didn't seem to be anything imposing about him in the slightest. He didn't even seem to care when this youth called him by his first name.

This realization might have been shocking to many. The very man whose decisions even his own children feared actually appeared like this. But, it was maybe those who could hide their thoughts so thoroughly that were the most fearsome.

"If you and your friends would like to take this as a hunt for sport, I don't mind. Consider Planet Solara your own grounds for as long as you're here. However, we can also deal with this for you so that your training is more free and unrestrained. The choice is yours." .com

Augustus' voice was quite even and measured. He neither spoke too loudly nor softly. And, despite his ingratiating smile, his words had some backbone to them. It seemed that he was very much used to towing the line between servile and overbearing.

The tall, shark toothed youth thought for a moment before shaking his head. He looked toward the other youths that were by his side, but all of them had on an expression that said they didn't want to be

disturbed. They had been the silently brewing undercurrent for too long, they didn't want to be restricted by anything any longer.

"It doesn't make much of a difference. We'll go ourselves."

"Mm. Alright." Augustus nodded.

The youths didn't seem to need much more than this and instantly shot out of the rest location, each of them using their own methods to deal with the heat. Very soon, there was no one left but Augustus and his attendants. PANDA NOVEL

"Pull up what the scanners picked up." August spoke after they disappeared.

Like an organized machine, the attendants began to move about. Soon, Augustus had several floating screens before him.

"... How clever."

The images were all too obstructed to get a proper view. Though they had still managed to catch Leonel, because he had ridden a 'solar' flare in, there was no clear image of him. And, but the time the images cleared, Leonel had activated [Refractive Light], causing him to vanish.

About the only things they knew were where Leonel landed and the initial direction he went in.  
p??J??????

"Guild Head, there are large movements nearing the core of the planet. It is likely that this individual has that as their target destination."

"Mm." Augustus nodded, his light smile not fading. "Send out a few elite troops adept at concealment. Don't let anything happen to those youths, I don't want a single hair on their heads harmed."

"Yes! Guild Head!"

Augustus directly ignored the choice of those youth. In fact, he continued to monitor the situation, fully prepared to act personally should the situation warrant it.

These youths were his key to reaching the next level. All of these petty squabbles and this internal conflict were nothing but pebbles in his way. He had been planning for too long to give up his piece of the pie.

All these mysterious factions that were suddenly popping up within the Guild he had built up with his own blood, sweat and tears... He would destroy them all one by one.

...

Leonel wasn't aware that he had long since been discovered. But, as he had already decided previously, it hardly mattered to him. He had already come here prepared to be hunted.

A Disaster World provided a unique opportunity. Unlike a regular planet, even if they were aware that someone was invading, it wasn't necessarily a simple task to do anything.

At the same time, though, Leonel was aware that the closer he got to the core of this planet, the smaller the search radius would become, especially if they were already monitoring him. So, he still had to have some urgency in his movements.

Leonel, who had been speeding through the curtains of lava like a bullet, suddenly came to a grinding halt.

'Here's the first.'

In this world, Leonel didn't even need to rely on the dictionary to find ore deposits. His own affinities and sensitivities were enough, especially after entering the Fifth Dimension. He could sense things from hundreds of kilometers away as long as he focused, and that was only amplified in this world.

This wasn't the first ore deposit Leonel had come across, but it was the first that was worth his time because it was the first with a large store of Fifth Dimensional Ores. In fact, this vein alone was almost 70% Fifth Dimensional.

If the Milky Way Guild found this deposit, it would most definitely be a hassle. Not only would they need to establish a safe route to get to it, but they would then need miners who were strong and sturdy enough to both deal with the pressure at this depth and the ridiculous heat. As though that wasn't bad enough, digging up such ores came with dangers in their own right, who knew when you would run into a Fuel Type Ore that would implode in your face and take half your body with it?

But for Leonel...

'Hm, 12 minutes?'

Chapter 952

Little Tolly replied to Leonel's commands almost instantaneously. In one moment, Leonel was covered in a thin skin of silver. In the next, his hands had grown to over three meters in size from the base of his palm to the tip of his fingers. If one looked closely, it would even be possible to see Leonel's real hands moving about quickly, their fingers controlling Little Tolly's every action.

Leonel took a step to the side, stepping out of a rushing waterfall of lava and into a lavaless cave. His hand swiped at a side wall filled with what looked like sparkling rubies. However, instead of causing a loud explosion, the sound was akin to a hand running through sand.

The large silver hand scooped out the hard rock as though it was nothing more than play puddy. The marks of its fingers ran across the almost molten rock, revealing even brighter and more refined ores beneath.

As Leonel got used to this unique method of using Little Tolly, he grew bolder. Arms grew from his back and eventually he had ten hands going at it at once. Each scooping out ores like they were no more tough than tofu.

'Ten is the limit right now, I can't stretch Little Tolly any thinner.'

Leonel felt that his mind could handle controlling more of these large hands, but there was a limit to how large Little Tolly could become. Leonel would have to help the little guy enter the Fifth Dimension first before he tried to increase the number of hands he was using. .COM

Knowing this, Leonel stored about 95% of the Ores in the Segmented Cube and allowed Little Tolly to absorb the rest slowly. He had to be careful with how he fed Little Tolly, which was why the little guy couldn't progress on his own like Little Blackstar could. But, in this controlled atmosphere, Leonel was confident in monitoring things himself.

Just as Leonel calculated, in just a dozen minutes, the cave was a completely hollow husk.

'Not a bad harvest, but the best Ores here were only Tier 3 of the Fifth Dimension. It would be great if I could find a few Urbe Ore Deposits and a Devil's Shavings Deposit.'

Leonel shot away. He ended up coming across multiple Urbe Ore deposits, but they were all of the Fourth Dimension so he directly ignored them.

As Leonel dove deeper toward the Planet's core, he found that the density of Force was growing with every passing moment. Soon, it became a bit suffocating to him. PANDA NOVEL

No, suffocating wasn't the appropriate word... It was more like intoxicating. Leonel felt that he was... getting drunk?

Leonel's brow furrowed. He knew that just because something was benign in small quantities didn't mean that it would always be so in great quantities or concentrations. People could even overdose on water and become high off of oxygen. It wasn't a large leap to say that this could happen with Force as well.

'Hm, I've been passively practicing [Dimensional Cleanse] all this time, but it seems like that might be dangerous here... At least it might be dangerous if I continue like this. Let's adjust some things...'

Leonel was able to use his split minds to passively practice all the time. Thanks to this, he was already close to firmly stepping into Tier 1 after just a few weeks. But, it seemed that the combination of his

affinity for this place and the concentration of the Force had left him with too much abundance, an abundance his mind couldn't quite keep up with.

'Interesting... Oh!' ρ??∫??????

Leonel had just finished fixing the problem and balancing himself out when he caught sight of exactly what he needed. He grinned from ear to ear.

'I'm rich.'

Leonel shot forward, spiraling through the sea of lava he made it to his target destination in just a few seconds. Bursting through another curtain of lava, dripping with red-gold, his grin was almost visible beneath Little Tolly's skin of silver.

Soon, ten massive hands appeared again, sweeping through the ore vein with impunity. Kilogram after kilogram of Urbe Ore found its way into Leonel's pockets, his heart fluttering with the emotions of a nouveau riche.

He had finally found his first Fifth Dimensional Urbe Ore deposit and from his calculations, there was at least a thousand kilograms of it here. It made his gains from his battle with Shield Cross Stars look like child's play.

It hardly took Leonel five minutes to clear it all out. After that, the deeper he went, the more frequent the deposits became. It was clear that the more dangerous the environment got, the less likely the Milky Way Guild would have sent people so far.

However, Leonel did find one thing curious. Even at the more manageable mines, he had yet to run across anyone. On Planet Vincero, he had had to skirt around several miners to avoid trouble, but he hadn't sensed a single soul in this place.

Leonel didn't believe that it was because this planet was so much more dangerous. There would still be at least someone regardless of the danger... There had to be a different reason.

‘Is a dangerous event coming soon? Or is there another reason they cleared everyone else out?’

Leonel planted a small seed of doubt within his mind, readying himself for any potential changes or danger. However, it was very difficult to dampen his mood entirely. In just an hour, he had accumulated over 8 000 kilograms of Fifth Dimensional Urbe Ore. He could almost pay off his own bounty!

‘This is it.’

Hours later, Leonel was finally beginning to feel some real pressure from this planet. At the very least, Little Tolly could no longer remain as nonchalant as the little guy usually was. Unfortunately, it still had a small ways to go before entering the Fifth Dimension so it still had to put a small bit of effort in.

Leonel, though, wasn’t thinking about this exactly. Rather, he realized that the concentration of Force had grown to such a level the first Force Crystal Mine he had run across since Earth was now right before him.

Leonel was certain that the Milky Way Guild had no idea about its existence or else they would have stopped at nothing to mine it. But now, wouldn’t it all benefit him?

Not only was it wealth, but...

‘The concentration of Force is great enough to form this mine. That should mean that the Natural Force Arts aren’t much further from here as well...’

Chapter 953

If the concentration of Force was already high before, it skyrocketed now. If Leonel had found this place while the Segmented Cube was still in its second phase, it probably wouldn’t have been very long until it entered its third.

Leonel stepped into the bright cave, his eyes practically glowing.

Whether it was the walls, the ceiling, or even the floors beneath his feet, they were all covered by a rubies with flickering silver flames dancing within them. The dichotomy of the two colors made for a fantastic sight and was quite beautiful to behold.

'This should be a special type of Fire Force... Oh, this...'

Leonel's pupils constricted. As beautiful as these crystals appeared to be, an instinct of danger took hold of Leonel's heart just when he thought of plucking one out. It took several moments of observation, but Leonel came to understand.

'This Fire Force is dangerous...'

For Leonel, who had the Scarlet Star Force as a ticking time bomb within his body, to actually say something like this wouldn't be just a small bit shocking. .com

Of course, the character of this flame that was dangerous to Leonel wasn't the Fire Element itself, but rather a unique mutation that likely occurred due to this planet in question. And somehow, Leonel felt that this was just the tip of the iceberg.

'This tunnel formation is formed almost like it overflowed from some place.'

Just looking around, Leonel felt it was standing at the mouth of something that had overflowed. By logic, then, there was likely a deeper, more concentrated region.

Leonel traveled down the cave and sure enough, he found numerous perforations and holes leading to something far deeper. The unfortunate part was that his body couldn't personally fit in any of it.

'Maybe this is why they haven't discovered this place yet. It should be a relatively new formation. Maybe a few months at most. But, that's surprising in its own right. For just a spill over of Force to cause this, just what's on the other side?'

Leonel's gaze suddenly sharpened. 'Swallow it all, Little Tolly.' PANDA NOVEL



\*Bloop

In just a few moments, the budding Force Crystal mine had vanished, swallowed by Little Tolliver entirely. Danger was all relative. It hadn't reached the point where Leonel felt the need to take a step back.

Plus, these Force Crystals were just Third Dimensional. The only reason Leonel bothered to have Little Tolly swallow them was because of their quality and to also get the little guy prepared for higher levels.

BANG!

Leonel's fist shattered the opposing wall of the cave, expanding the perforations until they were large enough for him to fit through.

The sudden change caused a violent energy to surge upward. It was the sort of boiling heat would might expect from an eruption of heated oil or a geyser shooting up and into the skies. ρ??∪???????

'Absorb it.'

Leonel redirected this wild concentration of Force toward the Segmented Cube.

In truth, Leonel wanted to form Pure Force Crystals out of this odd Fire Elemental Force. He had a feeling that this unique Fire Force might be the root to a powerful change within himself.

His thoughts toward improving his Snow Star Owl Lineage Factor had opened up another door for him. He had the greatest Fire Elemental affinity one could possibly have. Not only did he control the number one source of Fire in the universe, but he also had it in the form of an Innate Node, the purest form it could appear as.

With such an affinity, why was he constantly constraining himself to using normal Fire Force? Even if he couldn't control his Scarlet Star Force just yet, weren't there powerful Fire Forces he could control?

And this one happened to catch his attention. If he was correct... He just might be able to complete his Four Seasons Realm in a single sweep. And, if things worked out how he imagined... There might not be anyone beneath the Sixth Dimension who would be able to match him.

At least not anyone from this quadrant of the universe, that is.

As Leonel dove down, the heat and pressure became greater and the warning signs for danger skyrocketed. But, he pushed through, slicing through it all like a hot knife through butter.

On one hand, Little Tolly split apart the rocks and ores that blocked their way. On the other, the Segmented Cube sucked up the high concentrations of Force in their surroundings. To Leonel's shock, even this amount of Force wasn't enough to form even a single Pure Force Crystal.

To put matters into perspective, the amount of Force Leonel had just passed by was enough to implode his body a thousand times over. Yet, according to the Segmented Cube, he wasn't even a single percent toward forming a Pure Force Crystal.

Leonel's gaze suddenly sharpened. He had been traveling for hours, his speed never letting up even as the heat became more and more scolding.

In that moment, he broke through a barrier, only to find himself falling through a suffocatingly hot fog of air.

Leonel felt as though he had entered a completely different world.

All around, waterfalls of molten rock fell from on high. But, what was baffling was that some of them seemed to be running in reverse as though they couldn't tell which way was up and which was down. This led to the odd scene of two waterfalls clashing together and yet being completely unable to eliminate the other.

Instead, thin pools of hovering lava hung in the air where these waterfalls met, drawing a thin line that divided this odd world between a flip of up and down.

‘The core?’

In the center of it all, what could only be described as a miniature sun stood, rolling with reds, golds and silvers hues. The thin pools of lava formed a disk around it, unwilling to approach too closely.

Deep within this miniature suns, complex runes of all kinds floated, pulsing with an undeniable power.

‘This is it...’

“Oh? It looks like the Little Rat came to us.”

The sudden voice caused Leonel to blink several times.

#### Chapter 954

Leonel, who was still falling through the air, sent his Internal Sight toward the one who had spoken. Though, by extinct, he still turned his head toward the sound of the voice.

Leonel’s senses took in the sight of six youths. They stood together on the thin pool of lava, a distance away from the miniature sun. However, it was clear that compared to Leonel, they were all having trouble of their own.

The one who spoke out to Leonel in particular was wearing a massive set of black armor that radiated out with a strong shield that blocked much of the pressure from the others. At the same time, those that followed him were not only wearing their own armor, but they seemed to also be holding a glowing orbs in their hands.

‘Those are Force Vessels...’

Force Vessels were essentially artificial Force Crystals. They started off empty and had to be filled. And, even when they were filled, they didn’t have the purity of true Force Crystals, let alone Pure Force Crystals.

That said, in some places, they were used as a replacement currency for Urbe Ore. But, these places were usually close knit groups like families or organizations that specialized in particular Forces that would benefit from a particular Force Vessel. .com

It didn't seem that these youths were using their Force Vessels to accumulate wealth, though. Rather, it seemed that they were absorbing the pure Force the miniature Star was giving off. This Force was so pure that it was just a single step from the Sixth Dimension.

Leonel felt he didn't have enough information to guess what they were doing. But, he believed it likely had to do with their training.

He flipped through the air, eventually nimbly landing on his feet. Then, he did something the youths could have never expected...

He ignored them.

The shark-toothed youth was at a loss for words when he saw Leonel look away from them, focusing his attention on the core of the world. Just as he was stunned, he finally put aside his sneer and truly observed Leonel. In that split moment of shock before his inevitable rage set in, he was stunned. PANDA NOVEL

'Metal Spirit?!'

This close, there was no way he wouldn't be able to tell what it was that coated Leonel's body. In that moment, any rage he should have been feeling was completely overwhelmed by greed. And yet, just because he wanted to, didn't mean he could directly attack Leonel.

For one, he was still responsible for the lives of those behind him. If these were all individuals from his own Midas family, that might be fine. But there were two individuals from the Radix family, one of which was his fiancée.

"Libli." He suddenly spoke out.

Compared to him, his fiancée was practically a dwarf. He was 2.5 meters tall, but she was almost a full meter shorter than he was. Libli was the only one who hadn't reacted much to Leonel's appearance, her gaze focused on her Force Vessel as she continuously calculated something.  $p \ll \frac{1}{1000000000}$

"Don't." Libli spoke without looking up. "Your chances of defeating him in this place are less than 1%. Your chances of taking his Metal Spirit in this place even if you do so is less than 1% of that probability. If you act, the likelihood the rest of us die will be over 60%."

Libli's fiancé, Dynmo, almost reached out and picked her up by her scrawny little neck when he heard these words. But, all he received was a slight glance from Libli before he felt his entire body go limp.

Dynmo gnashed his shark teeth together, sulfur billowing out from his lips.

Sometimes he really wanted to tear this fiancée of his from limb to limb. Of course, Libli was an absolute gorgeous beauty despite her petite stature. She fell just a single step behind the likes of Anya and Aina while also having her own unique air. But, Dynmo didn't seem to care about this at all.

As far as he was concerned, he was only marrying this annoying woman because his family said so. He didn't care for beauty as much as an other man might. He was only worried about growing as strong as possible and now this woman was standing in the way of him doing exactly that.

A Metal Spirit wasn't just a Crafting familiar. It was far more than that.

Of course, making it 'more' than that would pervert the path of the Metal Spirit and turn it into that world devouring monster Leonel's father warned so much about, but why should Dynmo care? This was exactly what he wanted.

Unfortunately, as scholarly as this petite young woman was, she was just as dangerous as him and she hated to put her life on the line for anything less than 100% certainty. Knowing that, he knew that the moment her words fell, his chances at fighting Leonel here had dropped to zero.

Dynmo snarled. "Focus. The moment we leave this place, I'll be taking his head."

From start to finish, Leonel didn't spare them another gaze, his Internal Sight having become enamoured with the miniature sun before him.

'... [Dream Sculpt].'

A scalding heating began to come off Leonel's skull. As though his mind was overheating, his veins reddened as blood pumped furiously throughout his body.

The world began to rumble.

"The next wave is coming. Retreat." Libli said calmly.

She finally sent a glance over toward Leonel, her eyes narrowing when she saw that he had no intention of moving. Was he a fool? Or...

'I see. A Metal Spirit truly might be able to weather this if his skill is high enough... Is he that confident? It might not be so simple to snatch it away later if that's the case...'

Dynmo's jaw clenched but he still followed instructions. They had already experienced one of these eruptions since being here. He would have listened to Libli anyway, but after experiencing it himself, he had no objections.

Leonel didn't move from his spot, his gaze growing a fiercer and fiercer light as Universal Force began to dance about him as though it had gained its own mind.

A fog of death began to accumulate around him.

Chapter 955

The core spun just a single degree. It was such a small change that with its size, it was almost impossible to notice. To a passive observer, it would have felt as though nothing at all had happened... Until, that is, the pulse appeared.

In that moment, an invisible wave of energy spread out in all directions almost like a subtle calm before the storm. It expanded almost like a calm spring breeze. Even as it foretold the death of everything in its surroundings, it was surprisingly gentle for just a moment. Then...

**BANG! BANG! BANG!**

The instant the invisible wave touch the thin pool of lava that hung like a ring around the core it was like everything lost its form. What once was a solid, continuous stream of a lava became unsettled droplets and volatile gases.

Leonel was suddenly hit by a wall that sent ripples even through Little Tolly. It felt as though he had been smashed by a sledgehammer, the bones in his body threatening to shatter beneath the pressure.

'[Valiant Seal]!'

Leonel roared, an illusory pillar appearing around his body, lacking in the Earth Elemental Characteristics it needed to be complete. But, in order to cast it so quickly, Leonel had no choice. .com

It was one thing for Little Tolly to take the brunt of the hyper charged particles the core was releasing at this moment. However, the pressure wave was something that Leonel would need to withstand himself. It was then that the prowess of a Two Star Disaster World manifested itself in its truest form.

Even after draining his stamina and layering ten [Valiant Pillars] atop of each other, Leonel violently coughed up several mouthfuls of blood. And yet, his gaze never left the core, the fervor in his eyes growing to the point it became nearly manic.

This pressure alone could eradicate someone at the Quasi Sixth Dimension. This was something that Leonel was absolutely certain of. However, he was in a unique position to withstand its impact.





In truth, he hadn't thought the results would be so exaggerated. Ultimately, the Four Seasons Realm was designed for the Fourth Dimension. He hadn't thought that it would empower him so much, at least not until he progressed into the Heavenly Body Realm.

But, the results spoke for themselves. Leonel felt that his current self could defeat his former self with one hand tied behind his back.

Despite the fact violent eruptions were still continuing all around Leonel, he almost didn't seem to notice. He looked around, realizing that this core was an exceptional concentration of not only Force, but also Force Crystals. He could also sense several more Urbe Ore deposits from this location.

Leonel grinned. 'Might as well take as much as I can until this eruption ends. Ah, there's huge Devil's Shavings and Dancing Lantern Ore deposits nearby as well. If all I have to do is gather Star Core in the future, that would make things far more convenient.'

Leonel shot out. By his calculations, he had exactly an hour.

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Across the universe, as Leonel was making dangerous maneuvers of his own, Aina moved like a prowling predator through the Luxnix family estate.

Her body seemed to have lost its shape, snaking around trees and branches as though she was a formless mass of Dark Elemental energy. This odd phenomena made it so that the wind pressure she had to deal with was minimal, and despite having broken through the sound barrier, she hardly rustled even a single leaf around her.

Her body control was immaculate and her stealth was even more fascinating. The Luxnix guards didn't stand a chance at detecting her before they found themselves being knocked out one after another.

This choice was one of the most foolish ones Aina could make. She would have had a better chance at remaining unseen if she slipped by without touching them. But in that case... how would she fulfill her mission of being noticed?

In a flash of darkness, she appeared before an inconspicuous building that looked no different from a storehouse. But, according to her information, Aina knew well that this place was one of the hidden entrances into the Luxnix dungeons.

There was a main entrance within the family's main home, but there were also many hidden locations like this one. As for why a prison would have such a foolish design, maybe only the higher ups of the Luxnix family were aware.

Aina broke through the door with ease, only to find two guards waiting for her on the other side, their eyes widening in shock.

But, before they could react, a hidden blade had already shot forward, causing two heads to shoot up into the air.

She rummaged through their bodies, finding the keys she needed and opening the doorway that led down a path of darkness.

It was right when she took her first step downward that the blaring sounds of warning shook the Luxnix family estate. Before even laying eyes on Ossan, Aina had been found out.

## Chapter 956

Aina hardly reacted, her steps remaining at the same speed, not accelerating or slowing. She dove down the stairs, her body still weaving in and out of the shadows.

In just a few seconds, she had made it down to the tunnels of the dungeons, her Internal Sight spreading out through the winding corners. With her curse suppressed so heavily, it wasn't difficult in the slightest for her to release such powerful pressure from her mind. In an instant, she latched onto Ossan's aura, slicing through the air as her powerful thighs bulged.

In just another few seconds, she appeared before Ossan who was in a half daze. He had been drooling in his sleep when he was suddenly awakened by the loud blaring of the alarms. Now that a looming shadow had suddenly appeared before him, he was so scared that he nearly pissed his pants.

He sat in his own filth, cradling his body amidst a pile of thick chains. His body trembled as he tried to make out Aina's face. But, he only shivered more severely when he realized that she was actually wearing a mask. There was something particularly sinister about the way her golden eyes floated like two orbs of light within her black mask. Let alone pissing himself, Ossan almost lost control of his bowel movements at the same time.

Things only got worse from there because this shadow actually took out a massive red-gold ax, only to swing down toward him with all the power it could muster.

Ossan screamed beside himself.

CLANG!.COM

The ax rebounded in Aina's hands. She felt her wrists almost snap beneath the pressure, her arms and legs trembling as her battle ax continued to vibrate.

There were three small nicks that spanned three different bars resulting from Aina's strike. But, outside of this, there were no other great changes.

A low shout left Aina's lips, violent Universal Force hanging around her. Ossan watched on in horror as Aina's jet black hair spread out around her looking like the snakeheads of Medusa. He couldn't see clearly between all the darkness and the simultaneous blinding lights of Aina's Force. It left him feeling as though he was walking to the end of a tunnel that led toward his death.

Images of a rising moon caused the dungeons to tremble, a flood of Universal Force rising.

BANG!

The air itself shattered the moment Aina began to swing, the pole arm of her battle ax bowing beneath her might. The blade of her battle ax glowed with a fierce crimson light, her gaze being painted by a slight red. PANDA NOVEL

Like a hot knife through butter, Aina's ax tore through the bars, drawing a diagonal line from top to bottom and shattering the locking mechanism of the door.

Ossan's heart shook, finally completely losing control of his bladder as Aina's blade Force passed just over his head and shoulder. In that moment, he felt his life flash before his eyes. He swore that if he ever got out of this place that he would walk the straight and narrow. This was the most fear he had ever experienced in his life. In fact, it took him almost too much time to realize that he hadn't been harmed in the slightest.

Before Ossan could snap out of his shock and be thankful that he was still alive, Aina had thrown a ball of light toward him before he could react.

The ball flashed a light and rebounded back toward Aina. When the light had faded, Ossan had disappeared.

This ball was a special Vessel that could store life. But, it would only last for half a day before it burst. In addition, it only worked on those with weak strength like Ossan.

Aina didn't linger, shooting off. However, she didn't travel far before she suddenly found her exit route being flooded by the Luxnix family guards.  $\rho\sigma\tau\upsilon\phi\chi\psi\omega$

Her gaze turned a deeper shade of cold, her battle ax vanishing only to be replaced by two short swords. Her hair blazed to life around her, almost melding into the shadows just like the rest of her body. A fiendish, bloodied killing intent wafted from her body, the shadow of a looming panther forming over her head.

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In another corner of the Luxnix family estate, Gradeyr woke with an ugly expression on his face. After negotiations failed, he had been invited to stay as a guest. But now, it was far too dangerous to stay here.

Without a word of explanation, he woke his entourage up one by one.

“CUT DOWN ANYONE WHO BLOCKS OUR WAY! CHARGE OUT!”

Gradeyr was too intelligent to not understand that he had been played. If he didn't cut a path to leave now, he might never see the light of day again. The worst part was that he knew his actions would only give those plotting against him an even greater chance of survival, but he had no choice.

Even if the Luxnix family believed him and understood that he was being framed, it still wouldn't matter. For one, they might still detain him just to save face. Sometimes, the truth itself wasn't all that mattered. And second... Gradeyr was certain that this person who was plotting against him had his younger brother in their hands right now...

What choice did he have but to help them?

Gradeyr grit his teeth so hard blood leaked from his gums. His usual calm, stoic demeanor was nowhere to be seen.

The worst kind of schemes were the kind that came and yet one still had no choice but to play along. There was only one bastard clever and cunning enough to pull this off.

‘RYCHARD! If a single hair on my brother's head is harmed, I'll tear you limb from limb!’

...

Blood and corpses littered Aina's surroundings. Her twin swords were like scythes of death as they flashed in and out of the shadows as though they had minds of their own. Dozens of Fifth Dimensional existences fell before her, as for those foolish enough to take action at the Fourth Dimension, they were obliterated into a rain of gore and blood.

Her speed didn't suffer. In fact, it only seemed to be increasing as she shot toward a pre-planned exit.

Aina could feel that something had locked onto her. However, what was curious was that this person only seemed to be observing curiously, even up until the point just half a dozen minutes later when she burst out from the gates, entering a dense forest she almost completely vanished within.

Yet, somehow, despite her concealment, Aina's steps came to a grinding halt barely half a kilometer from the gates of the Luxnix estate. Before her, a young man fluttering golden hair stood wearing robes of such pristine white that they glowed even in the darkness.

For some reason, he had instinctually decided to chase after Aina as opposed to Gradeyr. He could smell that some conspiracy was afoot, but it was hard to tell. And... There was something else that felt off.

He looked her up and down as though trying to understand something, the pressure he radiated making it feel as though there was no way out.

## Chapter 957

Myghell stood in silence. After a while, he became certain. This shadowy figure was likely not a plot set by Gradeyr. But, this scheme was so great that it still didn't matter. What the truth was, was irrelevant. All that mattered was what the optics were and only by dealing with them could his Luxnix family come out unscathed.

Still, this was quite interesting, though. Myghell didn't pay much attention to the outside world because there was no one of the younger generation even worthy of his effort. In fact, he felt that every second he spent in a Sixth Dimensional world was another greater waste of his time.

That said, as the Heir of the Luxnix family, there were still some things he had to know—namely, who the Heirs of the other families were and what strength they had.

This was all to say that an existence like Aina wasn't one he had heard of before. It was even more surprising that he would feel a slight pressure from someone who was merely a Tier 3 existence.

Of course, he didn't feel that there was any real threat of losing, but it was surprising nonetheless. The Viola family shouldn't have such a genius on their side. And, even if they somehow did, sending this person on such a dangerous mission was impossible.

The only explanation was that this person wasn't a member of their bloodline lineage. This meant that this girl wasn't some hidden trump card of the Viola family but more likely to be a Vessel, a Vessel candidate, or the offspring of a Vessel. .COM

Reaching this conclusion, Myghell stretched out a single finger, his other arm clasped behind his back. Seemingly without warning or buildup, Aina's pupils constricted. A beam of light had already appeared just a foot from her face, leaving her almost no time to react.

Leaning backward, she shot one of her twin swords upward, her wrist going numb as the light rebounded away, leaving an exceptionally smooth hole in the bark of a tree.

Myghell didn't say a word. He stood in the depths of the forest with a halo hanging around him. He looked like a spirit floating amidst the darkness, his outstretched finger releasing strength that could wipe out an entire city with ease.

Each beam was highly concentrated, sending Aina onto her backfoot almost instantly. In just three attacks, Aina had retreated a hundred meters, eating up a fifth of the distance she had managed to put between herself and the Luxnix family estate.

A coldness hung within Aina's eyes, a tinge of crimson still leaking out of their corners. Despite the increased distance, the strength of Myghell's finger lasers didn't seem to weaken in the slightest. In fact, they seemed to grow more powerful. PANDA NOVEL

Was he really trying to push her back to the estate so casually?

Before Aina could even have this thought, she was pushed back another 50 meters, and yet Myghell had still not moved a single inch, his pristine white robes still fluttering. The subtle flapping of their fabric resounded between the clanging of metal and laser, accentuating just how quiet the forest was outside of their clashes.

Another beam of light shot forward. It pierced through the trunk of a tree with a dull thwack sound and rebounded off of Aina's sword once again.

This time, however, the collision was met with a sickening crack as Aina's wrist gave way.

By this point, with how many trees separated the two, it was almost impossible to use their eyes to spot one another. However, each was very clearly aware of the circumstances of the battle. ρ??∫???????

Myghell's finger lasers couldn't be stopped by these trees while Aina herself was still continuously being pushed back without recourse. In just a few exchanges, she had already been pushed half way back to the family estate. If it wasn't for the trust the Luxnix had in Myghell to handle this situation on his own, it could be said that Aina would be finished by now.

Aina's gaze hardly flickered as her sword fell from her hand, her broken wrist simply unable to maintain her grip. She suddenly flicked her forearm, snapping her wrist back into place only for it to be rapidly healed beneath her ability.

Originally, she had been trying to focus on speed and stealth to get out of here. But, since even after all this time no one had come, it was likely that they would never. In that case...

BANG!

A demonic howl left Aina's lips, a raging crimson Force rising into the skies like a pillar. An illusory black-red flame erupted around her body and flickered within the depths of her golden eyes.

Her left hand cocked back almost like a snapping whip holding on to her remaining sword. Just as Myghell's gaze narrowed, the whistling wind finally caught up to his ears and a glistening silver streak appeared right between his brows.

Myghell tilted his head to the side. But, he was slightly too late. Three strands of his immaculate golden hair were tossed into the air, sprinkling downward without an anchor to root themselves to.

'This Lineage Factor... Where have I seen it before...?'

Myghell never got the chance to answer his own question because Aina had already appeared before him like a she-devil, her golden-red ax leaving blades of red in its wake as it struck down with a spine tingling might.



Aina's hair whipped about as though it had a mind of its own, the fiery red glow around her body only growing fiercer as her mind descended into a peak battle state. All she wanted was blood and the flesh of her enemy.

Myghell stretched out his arm once again, a subtle change taking place in his demeanor. The output of strength was far beyond what it had been in the past.

BANG!

The ground beneath Myghell's feet shattered like an eggshell.

All of Aina's strength weighed down from above. A moon hung high up to her back and her Abyssal Panther blood was surging through her veins like a raging river. And yet...

It was still all stopped by a single finger.

Chapter 958

Aina didn't seem to truly register what had happened. Her body had entered a state of all out battle.

Steam rose from her skin, her heart began to pump ten times faster, the radiant illusory flame around her only grew brighter and brighter with every passing moment.

At the same time, the moon above her head began to revolve, the Universal Force projecting out from it growing with strength as its silver hue became a dripping blood red.

Aina retrieved her battle ax, swinging down again with even more strength and power.

Myghell took a single step back, his aura as stable as a mountain. Every swing of Aina's ax was met by a parry from his finger. His movements were smooth and natural, but anyone who was paying attention could tell that he was being forced to pour out more and more of his power.

'If things continue like this, she is going to end up killing herself.' .com

Though Myghell thought this, he made no moves to end this quickly. Something in his intuition was nagging at him but he couldn't quite place a finger on it. He felt that he had some sort of connection with this woman but he was unable to put it into words.

However, this didn't mean he would go out of his way to save this woman either. As far as he was concerned she deserved death. If anything, the only reason she wasn't a corpse right now was because of his curiosity.

That said, he could also tell that this girl's Lineage Factor was a self destructive one and could be classified as a Berserk type Lineage Factor. It was harder to classify Lineage Factors in comparison to abilities as the former were far more varied, but there were still some broad categories that existed.

This Lineage Factor of this girl's clearly placed great strain on her heart. At the same time, it ate away at her reasoning to the point she seemed to become a demon.

In truth, it had been a long time since Aina fell into such depravity. The last time was in the Joan Zone when Leonel awakened his Spear Force to save her. Since then it seemed that Aina's berserk tendencies had vanished, but the truth was that she simply stopped using her Lineage Factor entirely. PANDA NOVEL

One reason was because she didn't want to put Leonel in that situation again. And, the second reason was because she didn't want Leonel to see that side of herself.

But right now, there was only herself and this enemy. If she couldn't get past and survive, this would be the place she died.

Unfortunately, Myghell felt like an insurmountable mountain.

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Leonel floated up to the surface of a river of lava, his body still coated from head to toe in a skin of silver. Everything about his actions seemed carefree and casual. One would have never expected him to currently be in an incredibly dangerous situation. But, maybe it was just that wealth could mask a lot of things. ρ??∪???????

Leonel had never been rich in his life. Though he had never been wanting for anything, when most of his life was spent in a schools of the children of celebrities, billionaires and politicians, it was quite clear that he would be inferior in this aspect.

But, right now, Leonel truly felt rich. He had just mined locations the Milky Way Guild couldn't even dream of mining and he had gotten away with...

Leonel looked up, his lip suddenly beginning to twitch. Alright, maybe it was a bit premature to say that he had gotten away with it.

In that moment, several auras had already locked onto Leonel. Up above, a massive Force Art that protected the entire planet was deployed, causing the skies to be filled with swirling runes that gave the world a unique character.

Leonel coughed lightly. Maybe he had taken a bit too much time clearing those mines up. He wasn't sure if the Segmented Cube could burst through that Force Art. He would have to find some sort of weakness so he didn't end up exploding along with it.

Leonel pulled himself out of the pool of lava, standing firmly on the land of obsidian. He could sense several auras converging toward him. They hadn't been certain of exactly where Leonel would appear. But now that he had come up, they could close the net around him.

The smartest thing to do would probably be to wait for them to converge and then dive back down to appear somewhere else. But, Leonel had a feeling that they were smart enough to be prepared for such a possibility... Especially since there was already a group not even a half kilometer from him.

Leonel's playful demeanor vanished when he saw that group, his gaze narrowing. It was none other than Libli and Dynmo along with their group.

Leonel didn't believe it was a coincidence that they just so happened to be here. He had heard the words of that girl earlier. Her calculations were more rounded and less precise than his own, but it was hard to tell if that was because her calculative abilities were weaker or if she had just been dumbing it down for Dynmo.

However, regardless of the answer, the fact that she could guess that he would appear here was impressive enough on its own.

This location had just experienced the strongest surge of charged particles and volatile lava under the most recent explosion. This made the Force in this region chaotic and simultaneously meant that the Force Art that hung above this area would be the weakest and most prone to weakness.

This was the second reason Leonel didn't just turn tail and reappear elsewhere...

The fact that this Libli could calculate this matter was impressive indeed and it made Leonel take her with a few measures of extra seriousness.

BANG!

Dynmo's fists knocked against one another. The sound alone made it feel as though one's ears might burst. However, just as he was about to take a step forward, Libli reached out a hand and stopped him.

"I can tell that you aren't a simple opponent. But, as you can see, this situation is not very favorable toward you. In as little as a dozen or two minutes, you'll be surrounded by Fifth Dimensional existences and weaponry. I guarantee that even if we cannot defeat you in that time, we can definitely stall you for that time.

"So, how about we make a deal? Hand over your Metal Spirit and we will let you go without a fight before you're surrounded."

Leonel didn't answer Libli. In fact, he was still scanning the surroundings, trying to come up with the best plan of approach. The fact that Leonel was spending several moments to do such a thing should have been something these six youths tried to stop at all costs. However, they were still naïve to just who it was that they were facing.

'There.' Leonel's gaze narrowed, his shoulders relaxing slightly.

Libli's brows furrowed when she felt the subtle shift in Leonel's aura. It had gone from a slight tension to a relaxed confidence in just a few seconds. But, she couldn't quite grasp just what changes had occurred in just those few moments to cause such a shift in him.

Leonel suddenly began to walk forward, making the unease in Libli's heart grow.

In one moment, Leonel was walking casually as though a man of silver. In the next, his back had suddenly exploded with two wings of blazing Light Elemental Force. They spread outward for tens of meters, sparkling beneath the bright hues of Planet Solara. .com

Leonel's speed exploded, rippling air following in his wake as the obsidian ground beneath his feet shattered and cracked. Lava began to surge out from these cracks, pooling around and following the flow of Leonel's movements as though they had a mind of their own.

By the time Leonel appeared before Dynmo, just a split second had passed and a fist of lava following the arc of Leonel's punch was mere inches from the latter's chest.

Dynmo's shark-like teeth glistened, his muscles bulging beneath his armor as he shot a punch out. Even before his fist collided with the punch of molten rock a booming sound rocketed through the air. The power behind the strike of such a large man hardly needed to be described and could shake almost anyone to the core.

BANG! PANDA NOVEL

'Idiot.'

Dynmo shattered the fist of lava but completely neglected Leonel's real punch. In that moment, a spiraling Universal Force surged around Leonel's knuckles and his forearm, the twist of his hips and torso accelerating as he seemed to flash an entire meter forward in the blink of an eye.

Before Dynmo could react, a fist landed on his plate armor. First it felt as though all the air in his lungs had suddenly been squeezed out. In the next, it felt like his ribs were collapsing in on themselves, turning his inner organs to mush.

Then, he shot out like a bullet from a barrel. The air screeched and whined as his massive body tore through it. It almost sounded like steam whistling out of a thin hole, the nagging, high pitched sound nearly enough to make one go deaf. ρ???(???)

Libli to a single step to the side, dodging Dynmo's body as though she knew that exactly this would happen. But, another Midas family member right behind her wasn't so lucky and ended up following their family Heir in shooting off into the distance.

It could be said that Libli was visibly annoyed. Leonel's fist of lava had only followed the arc of his punch, not enveloped his fist, so why did that fool think he only needed to block the bigger one? He was so simple minded Libli wanted to puke. Was this fool really going to be her husband? She heaved just thinking about it.

Unfortunately, their two families had been attached at the hip since their very first generation. Their two Heirs had always been destined to marry from the very beginning. From the moment of her birth, her marriage had already been decided.

The worst part was that Dynmo was most definitely not so weak. Of course, he was only Tier 4, an existence that Leonel had already defeated many of. But, comparing Dynmo to the other Tier 4 of this quadrant would be foolish.

Leonel stood amidst the four remaining youths without much tension on his face. As things stood now, there were just two Midas family members remaining and two Radix family members. Yet, other than being annoyed, there didn't seem to be any other emotion on Libli's face.

"Is this the choice you're making? I can give you one more chance." She said plainly.

In response, Leonel simply extended his opposite hand. A second flaming Lava fist formed and opened to reveal its palm. It expanded to ten times its usual size in an instant and covered the group in a shadow before descending downward like a falling meteor.

Libli's gaze narrowed, annoyance even more clear between her brows now. However, this didn't stop her from reacting quickly.

Her small hands came together at blazing speeds revealing a cube-like structure of complex moving gears and parts. In this way, it was a lot like the Segmented Cube except instead of puzzle pieces, it was made of gears, screws and what looked like miniature hydraulic systems.

To Libli, a Metal Spirit was far too important. If it was paired with her Lineage Factor and her Radix family's legacy techniques, it would be like adding wings to a tiger. Unfortunately, Metal Spirits were things she had only ever heard about in legend. Let alone getting her hands on one, she had never even heard of anyone partnering with one.

She had wanted Leonel to give up because this would make things far easier. She could on one hand guarantee the Metal Spirit would fall into her hands while ensuring no other variables popped up. But, since Leonel wanted to play this game, she would play.

Libli's Radix Cube floated in the air of its own accord. The moment she stretched a finger toward it, it reacted as though it had a mind of its own, sending out one of its pieces.

CLINK! CLANK! CLANK! CLINK!

In that instant, something absolutely shocking happened. A small piece of bronze metal jetted out from Libli's Radix Cube. First, it just coated one of her fingers, but then it began to rapidly unfold, snaking all the way up her arm before expanding outward.

In the blink of an eye, Libli's right arm was covered in a bronze armor two times too long and three times too wide for her.

With a look of indifference, she pointed this steam punk-like arm into the air, shattering Leonel's lava palm into a rain of golden fire droplets with a single punch.

## Chapter 960

Though it was impossible to see with Little Tolly covering his face, Leonel's gaze had lit up like a Christmas tree. Libli's arm was the most complex piece of machinery he had ever laid his eyes on.

Though Leonel could probably say the dictionary was more complex, he had never personally opened it up to see just what its inner workings looked like. However, this arm and especially the Radix Cube made Leonel feel as though he was a kid in a candy store, a reaction even he, himself, hadn't quite expected.

Leonel didn't know when Crafting for him had gone from something he just did to beat his father at to something he loved to this extent, but it had to be said that even he was surprised by this change. Though, it might just be that his love for cool uniforms and things had spilled over.... Because, no matter how much he disliked Libli trying to take Tolliver away from him, he couldn't deny that her metallic arm... Was indeed pretty fucking cool.

Libli's arm twisted and moved in all sorts of unique ways. Though it appeared to only had three main joints—the shoulder, the elbow and the wrist—much like every other arm, its degrees of freedom were enormous. And, somehow, despite its size in comparison to Libli's petite body, she seemed completely unaffected.

What was most shocking about this though was the second Radix family member, realizing that Libli was getting serious, acted quickly as well, taking out a Radix Cube of their own, and, rather than attaching a single arm to themselves, their Radix Cube fused into their bodies to form an entire armor as though they had become a mech.

Leonel could tell with a single glance that this person following behind Libli didn't have a Radix Cube even a tenth as complex as hers. But, it still filled Leonel with awe. .com

Very soon, though, Leonel wasn't able to continue to casually spectate.



Libli stretched her free arm toward her Radix Cube, causing it to be coated in another arm as well. However, this one was far smaller and sleeker. It clung to Libli's small arms like a second skin and almost seemed harmless... Until Libli pointed it toward Leonel, that is.

All the hairs on the back of Leonel's neck stood tall.

"Stay back." Libli said plainly to the others. "This isn't a fight you can take part in. Go wake that fool up and tell him to stop being so useless."

Even as Libli's words fell, a beam of bronze light tore toward Leonel, leaving him at a loss. Not only could he not tell what kind of Force was coming his way, but it was actually so fast that his Internal Sight almost failed to lock onto it. PANDA NOVEL

Leonel's body curled backward in an arch, the beam just barely missing his chin. But, by the time he tried to recover, Libli had already acted again.

Her large steam punk arm whipped downward almost in a mock gorilla's pounce. It was so large in comparison to her body that its palm easily smashed against the ground even without her bending down. It propelled her forward with such speed that she had already appeared above Leonel even before the ground she smashed against registered the impact and shattered into countless pieces.

Leonel's pupils constricted. The shadow of Libli's gorilla arm swinging downward toward him was ominous in and of itself. But, the wind pressure was so great in addition to that that he was nearly forced flat onto the ground, Little Tolly distorting slightly beneath her might.

Leonel quickly rolled to the side but the impact was far greater than anything he could have expected.

BANG! BANG! p??J??????

The forearm of Libli's gorilla arm suddenly twisted and pulsed. The result was Libli's single smash registering like two as though she had layered two strikes atop of one another.

The pressure blasted against Leonel's back, catching him off guard. Little Tolly was blasted apart, revealing the skin of Leonel's back and sending him flying dozens of meters.

\*Bloop\*Bloop\*

Leonel's expression changed. The impact was only enough to redden his back a little and maybe bruise him a bit. But, blasting apart Little Tolly was a different matter entirely.

Little Tolly was most Spirit as such the little guy could separate into many pieces and even change form at will. However, this didn't mean that the little one couldn't be hurt, which was why Leonel panicked.

'Thank god...' Leonel sighed a breath of relief.

Luckily, Libli's strike was a normal physical attack. So, though it blasted through Little Tolly, it didn't harm the little guy. It was only then that Leonel felt like he could breathe easy.

Leonel slowly stood to his feet. It seemed he had been a bit careless.

It was well known in the Dimensional Verse that a battle with Force Crafters would be the most unpredictable, and though he had been aware of this, he had still been caught off guard. There was no telling what other hidden mechanisms Libli could have within her arms.

'Alright, fair play...'

Leonel took a deep breath, putting Little Tolly away and gripping his fists.

His aura blazed, Bronze Runes racing into existence across his body as his halo expanded and descended to his feet. As his halo rose up, a brilliant silver armor coated him from head to toe, his demeanor completely changing.

He grasped at the air, a spear of black wood appearing in his hands as he faced Libli. Her Radix Cube continued to hover before her, her eyes having narrowed into near slits.

She didn't care about having seen Leonel's naked body, but what she did care about was the glimpse of his face.

"You... You're Leonel Morales. I see... So you're from Earth. That makes things more interesting."

For the first time, Libli's face showed something other than indifference even as Leonel's head was slowly covered by a silver helmet. News had been spreading rapidly about this fugitive, but Libli still found it more interesting that he was from Earth.

That said, Leonel didn't seem to care, his body flashing forward. He needed to end this quickly.