

Dimensional Descent

- Chapter 1695: Stalwart |

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Chapter 1695: Stalwart

Leonel's booming words traveled far and wide, so much so that many Factions outside of the Sword Faction heard his call. In fact, even the Spear Faction which he had just left heard him.

Challenges between Factions wasn't unheard of, but doing it like this most definitely was. Even when the Sword Faction had gone to antagonize the Spear Faction, they didn't do it so openly and boldly. While they had appeared outside of the Spear Faction, they didn't levy a formal challenge, all they did was wait and the sparks of battle happened naturally.

Of course, doing even that was highly arrogant and it caused the fury of the Spear Faction. But back then, the Sword Faction had gained the upper hand especially with the fall of the Stalwart Polearm Party. The gap wasn't enormous, but between such strong existences, just small differences were able to tip the balance.

Now that the Sword Faction controlled the Senate, the treatment sword wielders received was just a margin better. This only became more exaggerated after the new tacit rule changes and the battle for missions became a more corrupt process.

After the return of the Morales family Heirs, the situation had stabilized, but with the Stalwart Polearm Party still having been downgraded to a Faction and not having had the chance to return to their former glory, while the suppression had weakened, it hadn't outright vanished just yet.

Under this situation, there was only so much that the Morales family Heirs could do, especially when the Suiard family Heirs were just as powerful. The only difference between the Morales family and Suiard family was that they had chosen their Heir early on with Amery and as such they didn't have a title like the "Seven Novas".

After the Suiard family Heirs and the Morales family Heirs began entering the Seventh Dimension one after another, they became restricted by the rules of the Void Palace and were limited in their ability to interfere in such things.

This ultimately left Valor as the only remaining member who could hold the line. But he was just one person and very soon, he too would enter the Seventh Dimension, leaving no one behind who could stop the rise of the Sword Faction.

In such a situation, unless First Nove quickly helped the Stalwart Polearm Party return to the status of a Party instead of the Legacy Faction they currently were, things would only get worse and worse.

But, not to mention the fact that returning to the status of a Party was very difficult, even if they did, unless they could also return to being a Majority leader, it would all be useless.

In truth, First Nova could have long since brought the Stalwart Polearm Faction back to the status of a Party. But he had been forced to hold back for this reason. Unless they could sweep the Senate and reclaim a Majority, or at least a Shared Majority, they would only be shooting themselves in the foot due to certain complex rules.

Ultimately, this led to the situation as it was here. The Spear Faction was still being oppressed and the Sword Faction was quickly becoming stronger and stronger. Now, the only path Ness saw was to send in her nephew to wreak some havoc...

And that he would.

Leonel grinned, grabbing at the air and forming a spear out of Emulation Spatial Force.

With a pierce of his spear, a blinding Spear Force shot forward, splitting the ground and the gates to the Sword Faction in two.

The light didn't stop, suddenly rising into the air and splitting even the Sword Faction's logo and sign in two.

Only after it did that did the spear light vanish into thin air, blinking out of existence and leaving nothing but a hushed silence.

The members of the Sword Faction couldn't believe what they were seeing, so much so that their previous rage vanished into nothingness for a long while. But when it returned, it did so with a vengeance, roars of rage filling the surroundings.

Leonel tapped a foot and vanished from the pillar he stood upon, landing on the ground with light steps.

A small gust of wind kicked up the dust on the well paved road as the cries of several sword hums rose into the skies.

In their fury, the Sword Faction members forgot the normal rules of engagement. Rather than sending someone at Tier 1 just like Leonel, they didn't even bother with such things, charging forward all at once as though they would well and truly kill him.

Leonel's smile didn't fade, the tip of his spear dipping down slightly as he held it forward. Compared to the army he had just battled, these Sword Faction members seemed... too small.

He pierced out once, but his blade seemed to appear in dozens of locations all at once.

Blood flew, limbs danced in the skies and cries of agony replaced the ones of fury.

Leonel casually took a step forward. Every one of his thrusts severed the battle capability of half a dozen people on the low end and upward of two dozen on the high. He was like a menacing beast, lashing out his tail whip wherever he went and taking no prisoners.

"Back up! He's from the Morales family! That's the Absolute Spear Domain! Only those who have grasped at least part of the Absolute Sword Domain should go forward!"

The roar of fury came from the back. It was only now that they realized that Leonel was actually a member of the Morales family. Usually, they could tell with a single glance, but other than his tanned and bronzed skin, Leonel truly looked nothing like a Morales.

The quality of opponents Leonel faced suddenly changed. Swirls of Sword and Spear Force shot into the air. There was no doubt that those who could

touch onto the secrets of these Domains were extraordinary. But, without the full Lineage Factor, how could they stand up to him with this alone?

Leonel continued to walk forward, entering the Sword Faction with the same light smile on his face. The roars of rage seemed to be like a tonic for his soul.

He pierced forward again, causing three arms to spin into the air.

In the distance, several powerful auras converged, their bodies looking like swords streaking across the skies.

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Chapter 1696: Blazing Devil

Leonel's spear snaked through the skies, continuing to thrust forward as though he hadn't sensed the coming auras at all. The smile on his face was still there, beaming like a secondary ray of light. It was in stark contrast to the blood and cries that flew around him. From any perspective, he truly looked like a demon incarnate.

"Stop!"

The eyes of many of the Sword Faction that had dulled with despair suddenly lit up. Of the three approaching auras, two of them were very familiar and were members of the Suiard family. As for the last, although he wasn't a member of the Suiard family, with how popular the sword was as a weapon, how could it be that only the Suiard family would produce astounding talents?

Regardless of which of the three it was, they had already surpassed Tier 6 of the Sixth Dimension. Both Suiard family members had a firm grasp of the Sword Domain Lineage Factor, while the third of them had completed 70% of the Sword Pagoda.

All three of them, while not being members of the Cataclysm Generation, were individuals who had entered with the next generation, placing them with the likes of the youths Leonel had met at the Void Tower.

And yet, even with all of this being the case, Leonel didn't seem to react to their call at all, his expression casual and unhurried.

The three were immediately infuriated. None of them believed that Leonel hadn't heard them which meant that he had purposely ignored them without a care.

They had more reasons than just this to be infuriated as well. After all, the three of them had just been preparing to enter the Sword Pagoda just a moment ago, only to be interrupted by Leonel's arrogant roar.

When they entered in range of the battle and saw their fellow swordsmen and women being practically crippled one after another, their gazes went red, especially when they noticed that Leonel was actually using the Absolute Spear Domain.

To think that a member of the Morales family would actually come here so arrogantly!

The two Suiard family youths flashed forward without hesitation, flipping their palms over to expose radiant swords.

The trio appeared just ten meters from Leonel in the blink of an eye, all three of them launching all out strikes from the very beginning without showing the slightest hint of mercy. They didn't even consider the rules of the Void Palace. If Leonel was truly crippled, or worse yet, died, that would be trouble they would deal with after the fact.

However, just when their Sword Force was prepared to tear Leonel to pieces, his Absolute Spear Domain trembled, pulsing once and shattering the sword lights into what looked like flecks of broken glass.

With a step, Leonel's figure vanished and he appeared before the three, his spear striking out just once and yet all of suddenly felt as though their lives were in danger. Their pupils constricted and the hairs on the back of their necks stood at attention as their hearts palpitated.

Without hesitation, they all raised their swords to block.

A strong force pushed against the three of them, causing them all to take heavy steps backward.

A grave expression spread across their faces as they looked toward Leonel with a hardly concealed wariness. The strength behind that blow was far too monstrous and it was clear that his control over the Absolute Spear Domain

was at a ridiculous level. But worst of all, his personal strength was still more than enough to overwhelm them even after splitting it into three.

The Absolute Spear Domain was, indeed, able to attack multiple people at once, but the drawback was also dividing your attack strength by that many times as well. If this was taken to its logical conclusion... This person was more than three times more powerful than each one of them!

Their heads shook furiously, unable to believe such a thing. Battle intent raged in their eyes and they stomped the ground hard to stop their backward momentum. Brandishing their swords, they charged forward once again, their Sword Force radiating outward.

The two Suiard family members both activated their Absolute Sword Domains, but neither was satisfied with just this alone, a tinge of red lighting their eyes.

Leonel raised an eyebrow.

This aura, he recognized it. Back when he had defeated Amery relying on the White Lion Bow, his gaze and aura had both turned quite dark. With Leonel's sharp senses, he could tell that Amery was being forced to hold something back.

Of course, he still didn't know that Amery had been preparing for his Sword Domain Tribulation back then and in order to suppress it in wait for an optimal time, he chose to seal away much of his strength to keep the ring from erupting ahead of time.

That said, as threatening as Amery was back then when he almost lost control, these three were like pitiful toddlers in comparison. Leonel only felt that it felt somewhat familiar.

'In that case, this should be the Lineage Factor of the Suiard family. They should be the only other family outside of the Morales who have two Lineage Factors to their bloodline. But... everyone in the Morales family who can awaken both is an Heir candidate. Could it be that these two are also Heir candidates?'

What Leonel didn't know was that the Suiard family Lineage Factor worked differently. Much like most Lineage Factors, their main Lineage Factor, or the equivalent of the Morales family's Metal Synergy Lineage Factor, could be awakened in degrees.

The difference was that in the Suiard family, the degree to which it was awakened was decided at birth and couldn't be steadily awakened like Leonel's Metal Synergy Lineage Factor.

As a result, everyone in the Suiard family had awakened this Lineage Factor to a certain degree...

The Blazing Devil Lineage Factor.

The two Suiard family members howled into the air, a wild and savage aura coming off from them that turned their Sword Force a tinge of crimson.

Leonel's gaze flashed.

'Okay, show me what you've got.'

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Chapter 1697: Thanks

The two shot forward. As for the third non-Suiard family member, he seemed to know his limits and stayed behind, at least that's what it seemed like at first. But what happened afterward seemed to change that narrative entirely.

The third swordsman tossed his sword into the air. One after another, swords began to appear in the air, a surging aura coating around them as they zipped about in a controlled formation.

Leonel's eyes flashed with a hidden light. It looked like a telekinesis Ability Index, but not at the same time. It was just slightly different.

This third individual was from the Sina family. They were a family of swordsmen as well, but they were a tier below the likes of the Morales and Suiard family and could be considered to be on par with the weaker Constellation families.

Their Lineage Factor was unique in that they likewise as a sword related Lineage Factor, but theirs was a unique Sword Force and Soul Force fusion that allowed them to manipulate swords in particular.

This Lineage Factor allowed them to form formations of swords and made them quite good at battling large numbers of opponents or restraining opponents with area control.

When you fused the Kinetic Sword Lineage Factor with the Sword Domain Lineage Factor, you gained a powerful stacking effect that probably made this third swordsmen the strongest of the trio.

Leonel's brows couldn't help but raise with a hint of surprise as he tapped the ground with his foot, retreated for a moment and parried the two Suiard family members with a single thrust.

Leonel found his wrist vibrating slightly at the impact.

'Oh?'

The strikes were far more powerful than he had anticipated. Another drawback of splitting his attack was the effect of doubling the rebound. After all, he was facing two strikes at once and not just a single one. He wasn't sure what kind of changes these Lineage Factors caused, but after just a single exchange, he realized that it boosted not only their speed a great deal, but their strength more than doubled in a single instant as well.

As Leonel was thinking, the formation of swords had already surrounded him and he couldn't help but probe it with his Internal Sight. He found it fascinating because there seemed to be a unique cadence to the way the swords moved as though they were in resonance with one another.

It was definitely beyond just controlling each sword to move individually. It seemed to Leonel that there was a unique tether between them. The movement of one followed the movement of them all like the ring of a chime.

Leonel saw through this in a single glance because it reminded him of something even more profound... Force Arts.

'So this is possible as well.'

Leonel's first instinct was to try and replicate it. Even fighting such a battle, being hounded from the front by two seemingly rabid Suiard family members, and from the sides and back by this formation, he still had more than enough mental capacity to spread around.

He parried and defended, gliding backward with every collision, but to the ignorant, it only looked like he was being forced to retreat again and again, causing the members of the Sword Faction to cheer their seniors on.

Within Leonel's Dream World, he formed several spears and controlled them.

With his Variant Earth Force affinity, taking control of metal objects was easy. So, theoretically, wasn't it also possible for him to replicate the feat of the Sina family member?

Unfortunately, he quickly found that this was impossible, and why wouldn't it be? The uniqueness of the method lied in the combination use of Soul Force.

The assimilation abilities of the Spear Domain Lineage Factor could potentially do this. After all, it was designed to absorb Forces and assimilate them. This was something that Leonel had learned long before he even stepped into the Spear Pagoda, it was just that he had always assumed that it could only be done with his own Force.

But doing things this way also felt off.

That was when Leonel realized the problem. It wasn't just that Soul Force was needed, but the method by which it was used as well. Essentially, he needed the unique Force Art methods of the Sina family, a language that he had never learned before.

'Fascinating...'

Leonel's vision cleared somewhat in the real world. When he looked around, he was about to be forced out of the Sword Faction again, but the smile on his face only grew brighter.

All this time, he had known exactly how to improve his grandfather's way of the spear.

The first step was resonating with calligraphy and words, the second was resonating with music and sound, and the last was resonating with painting and visualization.

If he wanted to take it beyond this, Leonel had always believed that the answer lay with Force Arts but he didn't know how he would do it. He had yet to walk forward because he lacked a method.

Who would have thought that he would find this method on his first day on the job as a villain. It seemed that crime really did pay.

The Sina family had suddenly opened a door for him. The key that he needed was right before him. Now that he knew such a method existed, it was only a matter of time before he built his own.

Leonel's bright smile caught the three off guard, but they didn't waver in the slightest. Despite this, they couldn't help but be shocked by the words he spoke next.

"Thanks." Leonel grinned.

At that moment, a Bronze Aura radiated out from Leonel, a halo taking shape above his head.

He pierced forward, his spear seemingly splitting into two and colliding against the swords of the two Suiard family members.

They tried to fight back, but Leonel, who they had been beating back before, suddenly became like an endless abyss. No matter how much strength they put in, it seemed to sink into an unknown depth, never to return again.

They held on for just a moment before they were sent flying backward.

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Chapter 1698: Storms

The smiles on the faces of the Sword Faction members froze as Leonel took another casual step forward.

With a wave of his hand, several bubbles appeared in the air, encasing the swords flying about the surroundings and locking them in space.

This was precisely what Emulation Spatial Force was best at. He might be limited in his ability to use it to move since his comprehension of it was too low, but when it came to stacking and locking space, it truly earned its right as a top five Spatial Force in all of existence.

With another step, Ethereal Star Force wrapped around Leonel's body, his speed skyrocketing as he appeared before the Sina family member.

His spear pierced forward. Its tip was so small, and yet the momentum behind it felt like a raging tsunami. Just looking at it, the heart of the Sina family member rose and fell in waves, his head snapping from left to right only to find the two Suiard family members flying by his sides, unable to stop themselves.

He roared, taking out another sword and swinging out with all the might that he could muster. But before he could even finish his strike, the aura of Leonel's Absolute Spear Domain shredded his accumulating Force to pieces, assimilating his Sword Force and making the rushing tsunami grow all the taller.

The Sina family member was sent flying into the distance before Leonel's spear even landed, his bones being crushed beneath the pressure as though he was facing a Demon General.

He crashed along the ground, the whites of his eyes rolling forward as he began to foam at the mouth. It was hard to tell if he would ever have the capacity to battle again.

Leonel's spear aura continued to wash forward, wreaking havoc everywhere it went and shredding the attempts to block it into pieces.

It crushed everything in its path, catching up to the flying Suiard family members and ravaging the both.

Leonel came to a stop, clicking his tongue slightly as he retracted the rest of his strike. It seemed that he had gotten a bit overly excited and used a bit too much strength. With the current state of his Sword Force, whenever he unleashed too much of it, he wouldn't even have to strike down most people. Most so-called geniuses would just directly crumble.

Leonel had a feeling that this was a result of high level Force Manipulation, a direct suppression that truly represented a gap between Dimensions.

In the most literal sense, a person who was a Dimension above you should be infinitely more powerful. No matter how powerful he was in the Sixth Dimension, he should never be able to face someone in the Seventh Dimension.

However, in practice, at least until now, he had never experienced such a gap... Not until, at least, he had entered that Zone.

But in that Zone, the true gap lay not in Dimensions, but in degree of Force Manipulation. The blue cobra demon had been able to toy with him like a ragdoll precisely because of this gap.

While Leonel had yet to figure out how to progress his other Forces reliably, his grandfather had already done the work for him when it came to the spear, so it wasn't a surprise that his current Spear Force was so absolutely suffocating.

If it wasn't for the fact he had gotten a bit excited knowing how to progress his Spear Force from now on, he wouldn't have displayed so much of it. If he was too unrestrained, he might truly accidentally kill someone.

Leonel looked around and chuckled slightly.

Even those that hadn't been wrapped up in his spear aura and escaped injuries had mostly fainted. Those that managed to retain their consciousness had all fallen to the ground. If one came to look now without knowing what had happened, they would have never guessed that this was actually the famous Sword Faction.

Leonel looked around as though trying to see if there was anyone else, but after a while, no one stepped forward so he could only shrug. It seemed that the truly powerful members of the Sword Faction were busy today, lucky him, that meant that his job would end early. Now he could rush back to his Aina.

Whistling a small tune, Leonel crushed his Emulation Spatial Force spear and began to casually walk away.

He paused for a moment when he remembered that he had kept the Sina family member's swords locked in place. With a thought, he released them and caught one in his hands before nodding to himself.

There wasn't anything special about the swords aside from being a bit lighter than normal, even though their construction was fairly ordinary. It was truly the Force and the secrets behind their manipulation that made them so powerful.

'Hm?'

Leonel's eyes sharpened, zooming into a section of the blade just before the hilt. There was a mark there so faint that if not for his gaining the pieces of the Bow Domain Lineage Factor, he would have never seen it.

Right there, there were the faint etchings of what looked like delicate calligraphy.

Leonel tossed the sword away and grasped at another one, then another. Each time he finished, he nodded to himself.

All of the swords had this brand. One could have easily mistaken it for the signature of a Craftsmen, if it wasn't for the fact that they were all just the slightest bit different.

'If I incorporate this into that... Yes, the results would be excellent...'

Leonel slotted this into the back of his mind before tossing the swords aside and walking awake. In his wake, the groans of swordsmen and women echoed through the Faction.

In the distance, the Seventh Dimensional overseers of the Sword Faction could only clench their fists, unable to do anything.

As for Cornelius, who was still following in the skies, he had already rubbed a few layers of skin from his forehead. This child would truly be the end of him.

He had just returned, why was he already in the center of so many storms?! This would definitely not end so simply.

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Chapter 1699: Waves

[AN: sorry everyone, have a splitting headache right now so I only managed to squeeze out two chapters]

It felt like every time Leonel did something new, the information brokers of the Void Palace would try their best to keep a rein on the information. After all, this was how they made money, how could they not do such a thing>

However, it was slowly becoming impossible to continue to do this. From the Void Tower, to the Bow Pagoda, then to the Spear Pagoda, and then to the Sword Faction. Every step Leonel took through the Void Palace only caused more and more waves.

Soon, the number of individuals who had heard of things that happened began to overlap and quickly news began to disseminate.

First it was the results of Leonel's climb up the Void Tower. This was one of the most difficult things to hide because of the news names of the ranking list, and it was especially difficult because the names used were simply too shocking.

The name Morales was one that echoed loudly through the Human Domain. In fact, as one of the strongest forces of the humans, it was likewise a name many of the other races were well aware of as well.

The moment the name 'Leonel Morales' was seen on the leaderboards, the forgotten Seventh Nova anchored his place in the minds of many who had long since forgotten him.

However, this was just the very beginning. In fact, it could be said that Leonel's name wasn't actually the most shocking one to be seen on that list because in the near quarter century he and Aina had disappeared for, the names of the prominent families of Earth had likewise come into the public consciousness.

The name Brazinger carried with it an all new connotation, a sort of weight that could very well increase to the point it stood next to the greatest families of the Human Domain, or at the very least, that was the way those of the Human Domain saw it.

Not many knew that Leonel was of Earth and that he shared a lineage with its current Emperor. But now that everyone knew that his woman was actually a member of this new and shocking family, it caused an uproar in its own right.

Those that had been fighting against Leonel that day were so distracted by him and his results that they hadn't even registered the fact that Aina was, in fact, a Brazinger.

Due to this, the wave of shock toward Leonel lessened for a bit in some regards and increased in others. A lot of things suddenly made sense.

Aina was an exceptional talent, one that would most definitely have long since claimed a spot on the Queen Beauty Rankings already had she not disappeared for so long. But she had also seemingly come out of nowhere.

The Void Palace was a place where everyone could come so long as certain standards were met, so Aina's background had never been important. After all, let alone Aina, the Void Palace had even admitted some non-humans in the past and present, although they were in a very small minority.

Now, though, it all seemed to make sense. Could it be that the Morales family had had a stake in Earth long ago?

This seemed like a very simple question, but the weight behind its answer couldn't be underestimated.

Earth had been a taboo for a very long time because it could very well be the center of another all out war within the Human Domain, something that couldn't be allowed to happen with danger lurking over the horizon. If, though, the Morales family had made such a bet in the past, this could spark another conflict.

It had to be remembered that even with the Camelot Zone being tampered with in the past, it was done extremely covertly. In fact, just for that matter, in order to silence Leonel, the latter had almost suffered the punishment of death. If it hadn't been for his grandfather taking action back then and crushing the opposition, Leonel would likely be dead already.

This matter was clearly not a simple one at all and it was news that was capable of causing a tsunami of waves through the Void Palace.

But before that wave could even settle, the matters began to pile up one after another.

First it was the battle with Conon. With news of the Void Tower spreading, how could news of this not spread as well? The idea that the invincible armor of the Cataclysm Generation was coming crashing down was enough to leave many in stunned shock until a simple fact was remembered...

Wasn't Leonel, too, a member of the Cataclysm Generation? In fact, not only was he a member, he was one of the only three to gain Amethyst Token rights when the Selection had come to an end, and of the other two... One was the Sword Deity and the other was actually his girlfriend.

News that the battle between Leonel and Conon was not only won by the former, but easily at that, was a shocking revelation that most still weren't willing to accept despite this truth.

However, even this dust wouldn't settle before news of a man clearing the 12th floor of the Bow Pagoda was spread, and it only made it more polarizing that this man was banned from entering the Archery Faction for the next ten years right after for nearly crippling a member of the Tarius family.

All of this came to a head when it was learned that this was once again a feat of Leonel, shocking to an extreme and enough to leave people in complete and utter silence.

Unfortunately, the news that day was truly relentless.

Right after, news of the Spear Faction's Spear Pagoda being cleared to perfection spread like wildfire, but it didn't even have time to calm before the so-called "Massacre of the Sword Faction" fell.

An unsettling sort of silence fell over the Void Palace, but the man in question was taking a nice nap. Since he was unable to find Aina, he couldn't be bothered to do much other than wait for his Void Points and make a final trip to the Void Library, everything else was meaningless to him.

As for the reactions of the Void Palace, though it would probably mean something later, he still couldn't be bothered to give it much thought.

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Chapter 1700: Center of the Storm

Leonel got up with a yawn. With a quick flicker of his eyes, he could tell exactly how long had passed and felt that it was about time he made his way to the Void Library.

With a thought, he appeared outside of the Segmented Cube and took a step, quickly heading in that direction. Not too long later, he was standing before a familiar flight of steps, one that it had taken him a great deal of effort to climb when last he was here.

Leonel smiled lightly, thinking about that moment. Because he only had 24 hours back then, he was in a great rush, so he had gone right from the stairs to the library, even wasting an Instant Recovery so that he would be in the best shape possible so that he could minimize the time he wasted.

Now, however, Leonel didn't think that so much was necessary. These stairs that had been daunting before felt so very normal to him now.

With a step, he vanished, leaping hundreds of stairs at once as he blazed a path upward, leaving many who were still climbing in his dust. Even as he moved, his speed only seemed to become faster and faster. By the time he looked up, he could already see the shadow of the library, the smile on his face widening.

Leonel stomped his foot hard when he next contacted the ground, propelling himself upward with a wind tearing momentum.

BANG!

He landed heavily at the top of the stairs, several glances landing on him all at once.

Leonel knew that many of these people were Domain Ranked disciples, a silent herd of individuals he could only see in very rare places like this one. They were truly mysterious.

The last time he was here, even he couldn't quite feel their true strength. But now he was absolutely certain that they had enough power to crush him with a finger.

That said, that could only be expected. It was impossible to be a Domain Ranked disciple without first being a Seventh Dimensional existence, but even then, that wasn't enough. It also required a certain amount of talent as well, much like the other ranks.

Of course, just stepping into the Seventh Dimension alone was a testament to one's talent.

The Sixth Dimension could be considered to be a huge watershed, even more so if you were following the God Path. If one had enough time, they could brute force their way into the Fifth Dimension, but entering the Sixth required a certain level of personal achievement, something that placed you far above the masses.

The Seventh Dimension was an even more exaggerated version of this, leaving it as a watershed reserved for only the cream of the crop of an already small population.

But these Domain Ranked disciples were even a step above that. It was no wonder it was so difficult for the past Leonel to see through them.

Still, Leonel just smiled lightly and stepped toward the library's doors before he entered a familiar world of darkness. All around him, the bits and pieces of the network that he had already formulated lay untouched.

Leonel took a breath and he sunk into a state of meditation, spreading his Starry Spirit Domain outward.

Over these last few days of sleep, he had allowed his mind to adjust to its most ultimate state, but he had also considered other things quite thoroughly.

There seemed to be a very special connection between the best resources of the Void Palace. Whether it was the Pagodas, the Void Tower, or the Void Library, all of them had a very thin thread connecting them all...

Dream Force.

It wasn't too obvious at first, but Leonel felt that there had to be a reason for all of this, and he felt that it was even more obvious when it was considered that the only place he ever saw Domain Ranked disciples was in this very place.

If the Domain Ranked disciples knew of Leonel's thoughts, they would be quite shocked. This was because the reason for these matters was only made known to them after they reached their current disciple rank. Before that, they were in the dark like everyone else.

Leonel also hadn't forgotten his shocking realization about Zones and how their very being seemed to be formed of Dream Force as well, to the point where he was even able to use his affinity to find secrets within it.

However, all of these bits and pieces of information led him nowhere. He didn't have an answer for it all and he could only sit in idle curiosity...

Unless, that is, he could find a potential answer here.

Leonel knew that he was running out of time in the Void Palace. Those lurking enemies of his in the darkness might have let him stay for a bit longer if he was weaker or more low profile, but they would soon realize that the more

time he was given, the more difficult it would be for them to do what they wanted to do.

In that case, this meant that Leonel would only have one go at this, one final stretch within the Void Library, one final chance to learn everything it had to offer.

Leonel's eyes snapped open, his Force rushing out like a tsunami. One after another, floating motes of light rushed toward him in batches of dozens at a time. Unlike the previous time where he biased it with Spatial Force research, this time, he didn't discriminate against anything.

Today, no matter how many times he had to use Instant Recovery, he would do it. He really wanted to see who would give in first...

Himself? Or the Void Library?

...

As Leonel's battle was beginning, the machinations that he was certain would unfold had indeed begun to. But the location where they began would be a surprise even to him, albeit quite a small one. That was because the center of the coming storm would begin in a place he was quite familiar with: the very same information network he had paid twice for information on Treanna Viror.

This was none other than the Winding Shadow Faction, now known as the Winding Shadow Legacy Faction, run by none other than Ronan Sith.