Dimensional Descent

Dimensional Descent Chapter 2121: Boost

Leonel took out a stone. It was only as large as his palm, but its heft almost caused the back of his hand to hit the ground. This might not be too surprising if it was others, but Leonel's raw strength now had almost caught up with Aina's before she broke into the Seventh Dimension. His future wife was practically a dinosaur in the body of a lovely woman, so this metric alone was enough to paint just how powerful Leonel was.

The fact this stone was so heavy, though, only surprised Leonel further, that was because he could somewhat already guess what it could do.

This stone was designed to train Weapon Forces. One would sink their Weapon Force into the stone and in return, it would be shattered. This process would be fed back to the individual using the stone and the weaknesses of one's Weapon Force would be reflected to them.

This was a truly magical thing. If Leonel had seen such an item back in the Cataclysm Zone, he would have definitely taken it for himself even at the cost of giving up the other things that he had exchanged for.

Leonel didn't know how useful it would be for him since he had already formed a Sovereign Spear Force, but if he was correct, this sort of stone should be one of the best that the Suiard had access to. Depending on the talent of the person that was using it, helping them to form True Sovereign Weapon Force wasn't impossible.

The Suiard family simply called it the Whetstone, an apt name for its function.

Leonel hesitated. While he was curious to see if he could lower the required strikes to display Fourth Layered Spear Force, he didn't act immediately. After his recent increase in Dream Force, he had gone from needing almost a thousand strikes to only 333. If he used this stone, he might be able to lower it further.

If he could lower the requirement to just a hundred, he could probably use it for longer periods of time in battle. But... there was also the chance that the stone would be useless on him.

After analyzing the stone on its own, Leonel realized that there was actually a small introduction to the treasure. This made sense, the Morales would obviously force the families pressuring them to teach them how to use their treasures as well. After all, many of these were top secret and very few outside the top echelon of the families would know everything about them.

'l see...'

According to the introduction, this Whetstone was able to do one of two things depending on the focus of the user. The first was to allow one to comprehend Universal Weapon Force, the second was to increase the base power of one's Weapon Force itself.

There were various grades of Whetstones just like there were various grades of Morales pools as well. However, this was the highest Transcendent Whetstone, so there was no need to consider anything else.

The only requirement to use the stone was that you had already formed your Weapon Force. After that, the result was based on one's talent.

That said, according to the introduction, even those with the weakest of affinities, assuming they started with Third Dimensional Weapon Force, could increase their Weapon Force to the Fifth Dimension at worst.

Of course, the benefit would be lesser depending on where one began, but so long as you were below the Fifth Dimension, you would be guaranteed to form a Weapon Force two Dimensions above. If you had a Fifth Dimensional Weapon Force, however, you wouldn't be guaranteed anything if you had poor talent.

This logic was the same for Universal Weapon Force. Someone in the Four Seasons Realm could instantly comprehend the Heavenly Body Realm, but anything above wasn't guaranteed.

These effects seemed lackluster compared to the Morales pool allowing one to enter the Seventh Dimension of the Conventional Path instantly, but this wasn't the case. This was almost akin to increasing one's affinity for a Force

instantaneously, it was much more complex than just increasing the strength of one's body.

Even so, Leonel frowned. After a long while, he made a decision.

"Emna."

Leonel's voice echoed and it drifted to one particular beauty. At the moment, Emna, even while seated in silence, felt like an unsheathed blade. But her aura was far too obvious.

Emna was the only one of Leonel's subordinates that Leonel felt stood firmly shoulder to shoulder with him and Aina. Her talent was that extraordinary. If not for wanting to keep her as a trump card as well, she would have displayed far more strength during the Heir Wars. Leonel couldn't imagine what would happen to her strength if she managed to become a True Blade Sovereign.

Leonel had wanted to give her the Sword Domain Ring, but then he realized that he was too naïve. The sword and the blade were two wholly different disciplines. It wouldn't help Emna, it would hinder her.

So, instead he would give her this opportunity instead. If there was a Blade Domain Ring out there, she would definitely be the one to receive it.

Emna appeared before Leonel in a streak of sharp light, even leaving a faint white mark on the solid surface. Caught off guard, she caught the stone Leonel thrust at her.

Leonel explained things simply and concisely. Then, he began to describe Force Manipulation to her and gave her a few pointers on what to focus on while using the stone, then he let her go.

Whether she could become a True Blade Sovereign or not would be up to her. Leonel had succeeded in becoming a True Bow Sovereign without a Domain Ring, so he was certain that it was possible.

He turned his attention toward his other rewards. He didn't regret not being able to use the Whetstone. In fact, even if he didn't have fate with any of these treasures, he would still grin ear to ear, because that would mean he had given each one of his subordinates a huge boost.

Dimensional Descent Chapter 2122: PING

Leonel took out the Omann family treasure and he was surprised. He had been certain that it would have some relation to Crafting, maybe something that would help Flame Spirits evolve, or maybe a Spirit of a different kind since the Morales had a monopoly on Metal Spirits, but it was nothing of the sort.

'The Omann family actually has such a treasure related to combat? Why are they so weak, then?'

In Leonel's palm lay a bronze disk. It had a slight taper to it that didn't allow it to sit on Leonel's palm perfectly. Its outer edge was a separate mechanism from the inner, the outer being layered with complex runes while the interior was perfectly smooth.

This was yet another surprise, because Leonel had been expecting a consumable item, but then it clicked for Leonel.

Given the plans the Omann had for the Heir Wars, would they even consider the possibility of losing? They were very weak overall outside of their Crafting abilities, and it could be said that Cynthia's appearance and her high combat strength was an anomaly of their family. As such, they didn't invest in large consumable products like the Suiard family's Whetstone or the Morales family's pools.

At the same time, the items they had that could help Spirits evolve were the greatest secrets of their family, they wouldn't easily hand them over to the Morales because even if the Morales lost, in the time that it had spent in their possession, it might be reverse engineered, and they wouldn't stand for that.

So, in the end, they had given this item instead and its introduction was very brief.

Reversing Disk. Inject your Force and it will expel the opposing Force. Resist the change to train your Force.

Leonel's brows jumped. Wasn't this exactly like his Lotus Domain?

His eyes narrowed. This matter definitely wasn't so simple. He activated his Internal Sight and scanned the disk in its entirety, but he didn't find anything out of the ordinary, it seemed to do exactly what the description said.

But Leonel did find something else that was shocking. This was definitely a Life Grade treasure, but more importantly than that, it gave off a sort of familiar energy that Leonel recognized.

'The Cataclysm Zone!'

Leonel's heart skipped a beat. This was definitely the unique air of the Cataclysm Zone, it reminded him of the other treasure he had in his possession.

The Cataclysm Zone wasn't just ahead of their "simulation" in terms of fighting prowess, but their Crafting was on a completely different level. From what Leonel had seen, even their standards for Black, Bronze, Silver and Gold Grade couldn't compare. This is why even until now Leonel was still using the Force Crafting Quill he had gotten from them despite technically being able to forge a "better" one with his Life Grade status.

Though, of course, quills weren't that easy to forge because they required special materials from living creatures.

This disk fell into a similar category. It was of the Life Grade, but it was a Life Grade that existed on the standard of the Cataclysm Zone, and as a result, was in a plane of its own. It was no wonder the explanation was so simple, the Omann didn't believe that the Morales could find more information about it through normal means.

Leonel flickered and vanished. "Anastasia, start an analysis on this treasure."

Reverse engineering was an ability that Anastasia definitely had. In fact, if given enough time, she might even be able to construct a replica. The reason why Leonel had to forge it himself first before she could mass produce things for him was that it greatly simplified the process because then she would only have to copy him.

However, it could be said that Reverse Engineering was the foundation of this mass producing ability.

Although he spoke these words, Leonel still deployed his own Dream World. As Anastasia was completing the task, he was deducing on his own, picking the treasure apart.

A diagram appeared in the air, formed of his Emulation Spatial Force. He waved a hand and the disk suddenly split into countless pieces.

Leonel's heart skipped a beat. This overly simple interior that looked like the workings of a watch or an analogue computer... they reminded him of...

Leonel waved a hand and a familiar silver disk flew into his hand.

PAH

His thumb rubbed the outer surface of the disk and he frowned. This was obviously the dictionary that his father had left for him. It had been a long time since he had needed to use it, especially after he gained Wise Star Order and then read all the books and research papers of the Void Palace. He was no longer that naïve boy who didn't know anything.

But he had still wanted to take apart this silver dictionary one day. Unfortunately, he still didn't have the skill, he couldn't even spot his father's peak, it was a bit exasperating. It was clear that there were large gaps between Life Grade Crafters as well.

That said... why was the interior of the silver dictionary and this Reversing Disk so similar? Could it be that his father had learned Crafting techniques from the Cataclysm Zone? Or was this just the natural progression of Crafting?

Leonel was a bit frustrated now. He knew that if he asked his father about it, he would be brushed off even in normal situations, let alone right after he had exposed him in front of his mother.

Suddenly, he grinned.

"Hey, what's this disk and what's its relation to the way you were crafted?"

A familiar, somewhat robotic version of his father's voice began to speak. Leonel's grin widened. As expected, the dictionary was just designed to do as it was told and answer questions appropriately. He had thought once before that it had already reached its limit, but maybe that was just him thinking too much.

Usually, highly important information or information that his father thought he was too weak for would be redacted, but without noticing, Leonel's strength had reached a point where most of the information he hadn't been able to access before was laid out bare before him.

[*Ping*]

[Defensive-Support Treasure Item][Life Grade: First Star Inferior][Uses: Reverse Force, Absorb Force, Dispel Force, Suppress Force, Train Force][Responding to Seed, there is no relation]

Leonel's brows jumped. First Star Inferior? Wasn't that a grading system of the Cataclysm Zone? Why would this silver disk use it?

Dimensional Descent Chapter 2123: Humble Servant

His father's silver dictionary responded with the grading system only seen in the Cataclysm Zone, but it had still concluded that there was no relation? Leonel frowned for a moment before he remembered something. This silver dictionary was known for being a tricky mistress, unless he asked a hyper specific question, it tended to skirt the issue.

But when he thought about it, it made sense. At least, it made more sense to him now than it ever had before.

The silver dictionary probably didn't store answers like a huge database would. Rather, if Leonel was correct, it deduced answers on the spot. The scanning function Leonel had taken advantage of to understand the missions of Zones wasn't just an auxiliary function, it was the foundational function of the silver dictionary.

The only stored information within the silver dictionary were the voice messages and video messages left behind by his father that would either help him complete certain training modules, or activate when he asked a particular brand of question. When Leonel had first reached this conclusion, he was in complete awe. This made the silver dictionary countless fold more complex than he had originally given it credit for. It was like it was built with a foundational understanding of the world, and then could deduce everything based on this foundational information... almost as though it was a kernel of the universe itself.

Knowing all of this, Leonel made his question more specific.

"These two items seem to have been forged using very similar techniques and their inner components resemble one another, why is that?"

To his surprise, though, Leonel didn't receive the answer he was expecting even after all of this.

[Ping][These two treasures do seem to be built upon the same principles, but they are a product of Convergent Evolution. They are very similar, but entirely unrelated]

The shock in Leonel's heart was even greater upon hearing this. The implications were almost too much to accept, he couldn't help but grin.

Divergent Evolution was when a species branched into two, forming different traits and eventually becoming two novel species of their own. Of course, it didn't have to be as exaggerated as that, it could also be as simple as polar bears gaining white fur while black bears gained black.

Convergent Evolution was the opposite. It was the process of two entirely independent species, unrelated to one another, gaining the same or very similar traits in order to combat the very same environmental factors. This could be any number of traits.

In this case, the silver dictionary seemed to be implying that his father had independently created this form of Crafting that was very much in line with what the Cataclysm Zone called their own. In that case, his father hadn't necessarily been to the Cataclysm Zone before, but this only made his feat all the more astounding.

Even with these two items before him, Leonel couldn't even begin to comprehend them, they were on an entirely different level, but his father had created it on his own.

"What form of Crafting is this?" Leonel asked.

[Ping][This form of Crafting is known as Simplistic Convergence by Father Overlord. It takes the rule that a Craft with more parts is more complex and reverses it, attempting to minimize the number of moving parts and creating a maze of layered blueprints that can allow a simple mechanism to be responsible for many actions at once...]

The silver dictionary continued to ramble, but the most important part was in the first.

Indeed, according to Leonel's understanding, the more parts a Craft had, the higher level it tended to be. In fact, this was part of the difficulty of forming a Life Grade Blueprint. To have so many moving parts be of one mind and body was a tall task.

It was no wonder these inner mechanisms reminded Leonel so much of a watch.

On Earth, the mechanical watch had never been phased out despite the fact it was maybe the most primitive technology still alive aside from the wheel itself. Instead, watch makers took pride in making so-called in-house movements that were increasingly more complex and yet served just a single purpose: to move a second hand at a set and steady rhythm.

Some watches might include moon and star cycles, but they were ultimately all following the same fundamental principle.

Then it all hit Leonel at once. He wondered... did his father gain inspiration for this form of Crafting from Earth as well?

Now that Leonel thought about it, there were two things his father never took off. The first were his glasses and the second... was his watch. It was an old leather watch with an incredibly simple white face, it was thin and unassuming. But as expected, after seeing his father for the first time in so long, it was right there.

The shocking reality awakened Leonel and he felt enlightened, and yet confused at the same time. He realized that this level of Crafting was still impossibly far beyond him, there was simply nothing that he could do to understand this right now.

However, more carefully than ever, he stored the silver dictionary away after asking it all the questions he wanted to. Then, he called James forward.

"Oh mighty Emperor Leonel, thank you for calling thy servant. Your humble Knight is here to serve you."

James bowed low, but in return he got a kick for his efforts.

"I'm sorry, Emperor! I'm sorry! Please forgive this humble servant!" James begged for forgiveness.

Leonel was exasperated. "Alright, alright, I get it. I called you here for a reward, but it seems that you don't want it, maybe I should just call someone else."

James suddenly appeared by Leonel's side. "Leonel, ol buddy, ol pal, you wouldn't do that to your boy, right? We were raised in the same crib practically! We peed in the same bed!"

"... I didn't meet you until I was four years old."

"Potato, tomato, now gimme," James grinned, snatching the bronze disk.

Leonel laughed and shook his head, letting James take it.

Dimensional Descent Chapter 2124: Protective Mechanism?

Leonel chuckled as James left. That annoying guy had a way of making him feel better and yet annoyed at the same time.

Once again, he didn't hesitate to give something so valuable away. In fact, this might even be more valuable for James than the Transcendent Whetstone would be for Emna.

That disk didn't seem to be very related to James, but if one thought about it, it was essentially James' Ability Index in treasure form. It could take in Force, absorb it, expel it. James' strongest ability was nerfing a specific type of Force within a certain region, and the treasure also had that ability as well. The only thing that James couldn't do was convert one Force to another type of Force, but with that treasure, he could obviously use it as a medium to do so.

That said, Leonel didn't want James to rely on the treasure like a crutch. Rather, what he wanted was for James to study the Runes of the treasure and gain a deeper understanding of them. Then he could use the treasure as a jump off point to improve his own Ability Index and Lineage Factor.

It had to be remembered that both Emna and James were Sparks. Emna had a taller mountain to climb and more hurdles to jump over, which was why she was so much more powerful than James. As for James himself, his hurdles were lower because he was already born with great talent as a person of Earth, he wasn't a particularly introspective person either, so much of his advancements came naturally and without much effort.

If he made full use of the bronze disk, his abilities should take a massive leap forward. By then, he would become the second person on par with both himself and Aina. At that point, they would truly be unstoppable.

If one added Elorin, Old Hutch's grandson, and Amery to the equation, the core of Leonel's formation would be nigh undefeatable.

Elorin may have lost handily to James, but Leonel wouldn't necessarily say that James was undisputed, James just happened to be the perfect counter to Elorin.

That said, Elorin ran into similar problems as James, but for different reasons. Elorin was very introspective and had grinded every day to improve himself. His issue was that his Ability Index was far too special and it took him walking 10 miles to see through what someone would see walking one, and that was despite having impossibly high talent already.

As for Amery, his problem was only life and death experiences. But very soon he would get much more of that.

These weren't things that Leonel was worried about, instead, the true problem with these two was whether or not they would follow him without causing problems. The more powerful a person was, the more difficult it was to guarantee such a thing.

'I wonder, though... Why didn't the Suiard family force me to hand back Amery immediately... Unless they assumed that it was useless to ask until they brought forward compensation.'

This was, indeed, an odd situation. But Leonel felt that that answer was probably true enough.

Regardless, he felt that investing in those around him so that he didn't always have to do everything himself was an excellent best. He hadn't given nearly enough to his brothers and those around him.

After a slight nod to himself, Leonel took out the Omann family's treasure. This was the third of the treasures he was most looking forward to. Although the Pyius family was a bit interesting, with how low profile they were constantly, Leonel didn't believe that they would put forward anything of great shock. And, since Shield Cross Stars and the Void Palace weren't participating, this was definitely the top of the line compensation.

That said, Leonel didn't really expect very much from the Spirituals Religion either. With their pacifist tendencies, they didn't seem to have entered the Heir Wars for victory. If they were planning to lose, what could they have brought forward?

If Leonel had to guess, this treasure was one of two things. It was either completely useless, or something that they were certain that only Spirituals could use. And sure enough...

Leonel took out an orb. The moment he touched it, he felt a familiar feeling. It was the feeling of his soul trying to be sucked out of his body. The last time he had felt this, Wise Star Order had been trying to trick him into learning a technique of the Spirituals. Back then, Leonel had had no idea that the Spirituals protected all of their techniques so that all non-Spirituals that tried to use them would be harmed.

However, Leonel wasn't the Leonel of the past. Aside from a slight tug, he felt nothing else. His soul strength surprised even himself, quite frankly.

But there was something else more curious, why didn't Ancestor Hito warn him about this? Leonel's gaze flickered, but he shook his head after a long while.

'That old man is quite... something,' Leonel thought with a chuckle.

He didn't believe that Hito was trying to harm him. In fact, he was certain that that old man knew what would happen and allowed it anyway because he was confident in Leonel.

After Leonel looked at the introduction, his brows shot up.

'Interesting, so this isn't just a protective mechanism, this so-called Soul Extraction Orb is precisely designed to pull your soul out from your body. Is this how Amery succeeded in separating his own?'

Leonel only knew a single crude method for separating the soul from the body. Whether it was himself or Raylion, both of them had to destroy their bodies first before succeeding. But it seemed that the Spirituals had a far more elegant method.

'I see, so I've wrongly accused them. They weren't trying to harm me at all. That said, this item is pretty useless. Without the methods of the Spirituals, separating your body and soul only allowed you to be a bit more immune to death than the usual person, but it doesn't grant you anything else. Maybe...?'

Leonel pulled out the silver dictionary again.

Dimensional Descent Chapter 2125: Extraction

[PING][Soul Extraction Orb][This item is used to separate the soul and body. In lower lifeforms, the soul is omnipresent and impossible to detect and sense. As a result, when the body dies, the soul dies. The only exception are those with special Ability Indexes or those of higher races. Some races, such as the Spirituals, are even born with their souls alone, and then construct their bodies after birth.]

Leonel had asked what the object and what the significance of Soul Extraction was, but he didn't expect this answer. Did that mean that humans were the only "lower" lifeforms without the ability to separately sense their souls?

"Why is the omnipresence of the soul within the body classified as low level?"

[PING][Replying to Seed, the soul is formed of Soul Force. Soul Force is unique from person to person. When this Soul Force is diffused into the body, it becomes further tainted and further removed from the origin of Dream Force that birthed it. This makes it more difficult for higher class talents to be born and even those of equivalent talent will be weaker in this state].

Leonel's brows couldn't help but jump as he had a bad feeling.

"What happens if you separate the soul from the body... after birth as a lower life form?"

[PING][If being born with soul and body separate is first class and being born with them fused is third class, then separating them after birth would be second class. But even then, the progress will be slow and only occur over the course of a long time as the cells of the body turnover and the person in question trains. The damage to affinity and talent has been mostly done after birth and it is difficult to reverse]

Leonel sucked in a cold breath. This was what he had thought, he had been hoping to hear something else, but clearly it wasn't in the cards for him.

When one thought about it, it made sense. The Spirituals were born with just their souls, but as a result, they were able to construct perfect bodies for themselves. All of the talent that they had was stored within their souls, so whether they would have Innate Nodes or not, for example, was already predestined.

It could be said that the body was just a projection of what the soul was, and if they were born as one, then the soul couldn't do its job properly.

The Spirituals were the highest form of this, but there were several other races who had their souls birthed within the womb first, before their bodies were constructed, and as such could stand almost shoulder to shoulder with Spirituals.

Also, it was hard to say which among these races and the Spirituals had it better. That was because not every Spiritual would have access to the perfect resources to construct their bodies, while not every body formed within the womb would be perfect for the soul it was bonded to.

Either way you sliced it, though, the Spirituals at the very top, the noblest of them with access to all the resources in the world, would have access to the greatest and most perfect bodies. In addition, from time to time, those among races with bodies constructed after souls in the womb would hit the lottery a few times a generation with geniuses with perfect bodies as well. As for humans...

Well, humans were essentially screwed at that front. There was simply no lottery to hit for them.

Leonel chuckled.

Although he had reconstructed his body, he had done it with [Instant Recovery], it just reformed his body based on the previous blueprint, nothing had changed. As for Raylion, his situation was similar, unless one could figure out what was wrong with their body ahead of time, no amount of reconstruction would change anything. At best, separating one's body and soul would allow slow improvement over time, but perfection would be impossible.

There was another problem as well. Aina had told him that his father had a sort of seal on him. He felt that that seal had finally been entirely undone, but it also left him even more at a loss of what to do. He didn't even know the first step to take.

His soul was already tainted, how could he cleanse it?

Suddenly, Leonel froze. The spark shot through his Dreamscape was so violent that lightning almost manifested in the real world. His clones, which were manning the Starships, rippled wildly, almost dispersing.

Cleanse? [Dimensional Cleanse]?

Was it a coincidence? Was he grasping at straws?

"Aina," Leonel suddenly spoke.

Not long later, Aina strolled in with a raised eyebrow, but Leonel only tossed her the Soul Extraction Orb.

"Use it."

Aina blinked but didn't think much. Soon, she felt a weird pressure coming from within; she felt as though the deepest part of her being was being ripped out from her.

The pressure coming from Aina suddenly doubled, and then it doubled again. The look on her face became somewhat pained, but she didn't stop.

For Aina of all people to show such an expression, Leonel knew for certain that what she was truly experiencing was world-shattering. Maybe this method

was no less painful than being eaten alive. Even so... Aina didn't make a single sound.

Leonel watched in silence, but his expression was very serious. Lost in thought, he thought about the fact that his was a simulation once again. Anything that could appear in here was, in all likelihood, available in spades to the outside world.

If this orb was really so useful toward changing their fate, they wouldn't be in their current situation. The same went for [Dimensional Cleanse] that had appeared in here... no?

But Aina was a bit unique. She had Brazinger blood flowing through her veins, so her family line was from outside of this simulation. In addition, she had a unique Ability Index that allowed her to subconsciously understand the best path to take her body down.

He wondered... if he allowed Aina to separate her soul from her body, would she be able to naturally understand how to make herself perfect?

Dimensional Descent Chapter 2126: Nothing Made Sense

Veins popped up all across Aina's body, her power fluctuating wildly as her Blood Force threatened to break free of her control. But after several moments, it finally seemed to calm down. She took deep gasps, however before she had even caught her breath, she gasped in shock, her expression changing again and again.

She felt as though her body was levitating at the moment. Her Ability Index had become sharper than she had ever imagined it becoming. It was as though rather than just being able to see one step ahead, she could see two. Usually, she would have to identify a problem or a roadblock she faced, and then go through a database of information she had within her mind to find the perfect solution. But now she felt that she didn't just see the problem that she was facing currently, but she could see ahead to the problem she would face after they were resolved or even branching problems that might manifest irrelevant of these matters.

It was like the road ahead had been cleared, the fogginess that had blocked much of it lifting up a great deal. Now she didn't just see enough to take a single step forward, but two steps! That was a 100% increase in her Ability Index and all because of a little stone?

She looked down at the stone, quite speechless. Only then did she focus and find what had fundamentally changed within her.

Whereas before her body had felt like both the engine and the car body, it was now just the car body, while a mysterious bundle of energy that could only be said to be the engine had separated.

Suddenly, Aina understood. The core of her ability should come from this bundle of energy, but while the bundle of energy was fused with her body, it was too difficult to distinguish what was fundamentally herself, and what were problems that should be corrected. As such, that limited the options she could take. But now...

She gripped and released her fists, her golden irises shimmering.

CRACK.

The stone's crack shocked her awake and she looked at it with a bit of pity. It would be amazing if everyone could have such a feeling, but it seemed that this stone could only be used a limited number of times.

Leonel looked toward the stone and shook his head. From his understanding, it could only be used three times, and each subsequent usage would force the person in question to undergo more pain than the last. That was because the stone had to work harder due to its imperfections, placing the body under greater stress.

That aside, Leonel doubted that anyone would receive the same great advantages that Aina had. Her Ability Index was very unique.

It had to be remembered that there was a point where even Aina herself couldn't tell where her Ability Index stopped and where her Lineage Factor began. They had too many overlapping abilities and the cloudiness made it difficult to take perfect advantage of the two. While this was good for continuing down a singular, unified path. It was bad for comprehending the inner workings of a singular power. Now, however, with it separated from her body, the ease had become far greater. Whatever benefits Aina was receiving now was just the tip of the iceberg.

It had to be remembered that the Lineage Factor was rooted in the body and changes within it. Whether it was bloodline, additional organs, or changes to existing organs, these were all categories of Lineage Factor.

Ability Indexes, however, were bestowed by the Regulator and they were matters of the soul. Now that they had been separated, Aina's comprehension of both would become as clear as day. She was so happy that she almost squeezed all the air out of Leonel's lungs with just a single hug.

Leonel coughed heavily. "Okay, okay, Miss Guinea Pig, your husband needs your help?"

"What did you call me?" Aina squeezed tighter.

"Mercy, mercy, it's a joke, a joke!"

Aina nodded with satisfaction and then quickly came to understand what Leonel had meant. It seemed that she would be testing to see how one might form a perfect body after separating the soul.

After some hesitation, Leonel shook his head and then passed down the layers of [Dimensional Cleanse] up to the Sixth Dimensional layer to Aina. Now that he had fully comprehended all the layers he had, he wasn't restricted to passing it down in the slightest. The knowledge had truly become his own and he didn't have to rely on anyone else.

It was a long shot, but he thought that maybe it was still worth exploring. His Dreamscape had never stirred him wrong before, so maybe he would get a pleasant surprise this time.

Even so, Leonel wasn't very optimistic, that was because things weren't adding up.

This simulation had likely been created for the sake of something their creators feared. If he had to guess what this threat was, he would probably guess other races and specifically the Demon Race, but the answer was unimportant. That was because all that mattered was the fact that they needed to get stronger.

An excellent way to get stronger would be precisely something like [Dimensional Cleanse] if it was capable of surpassing the issues of being born with a fused soul. So if it was really possible for it to do such a thing, why did they need this simulation?

That aside, even if they knew about this "secret" of [Dimensional Cleanse], why would they create humans who weren't aware of how to circumvent this weakness of theirs? Why would they allow inferior examples of humans to propagate?

If they already had this technology, what use were weak, fused soul humans to them?

Clearly, they could simulate better versions... after all, weren't there Spirituals here too?

Leonel suddenly felt a headache coming on, not a figurative one, but a very real one. His mind was fatigued. No matter how he forced himself to think, there were simply too many questions and not enough answers...

That was right, if they could create Spirituals... Then why would they fear the Demons? Nothing seemed to make sense...

Dimensional Descent Chapter 2127: Time Force

Leonel took a breath and closed his eyes. Although he had more treasures to go through, he directly shook his head, he needed rest. Without another word, he entered a pod and entered a deep sleep. It wasn't until three hours later, the equivalent of almost two weeks, that he finally stepped out.

His mind felt far sharper and he was also much calmer. These questions weren't things that he allowed to bother him any longer. The answer didn't matter. All that mattered to him was that Aina wanted their babies to be little princes and princesses. Simulation or not, real world or not, did it matter? He would just conquer it all and enjoy the smile on his wife's face.

With a sharp gaze, Leonel went through the remaining treasure in the spatial ring. As expected, none were as world-shattering as the first three. He didn't really want to waste his time with these things because there was nothing here better than simply training with the Segmented Cube.

'Hm? The Segmented Cube?'

Leonel's eyes suddenly lit up. Indeed, why hadn't he thought of that?

He had been looking for something to strengthen his most powerful combatants. In his mind, his top priority currently was the improvement of Aina, James, Emna, Elorin, and potentially Amery depending on how things went.

He had already greatly helped the first three, but Elorin had stumped him. He had hoped to find some inspiration, but how could families weaker than even the Morales and Suiard families have something as rare as a treasure that could help a time Ability Index user? And, even if they did, they would likely take such a thing to the grave, how could they allow others to know when they could use the façade of their weakness to avoid its reveal?

But Leonel had forgotten that he had the ultimate treasure right with him.

Whether it was the snowglobe or the suspended animation pods that had spun off from them, both were a spectacular application of Time Force, there was nothing else that could be used to describe them. It was very likely that Anastasia knew something about this Force that others simply didn't.

"Anastasia."

Leonel called the little cloud spirit over again. The analysis of the bronze disk was still going although he had given James, but Anastasia could multitask quite easily, especially since this was a question that should be within her purview to answer.

"You're ordering me around a little bit too freely, don't you think? And didn't I sense your father? That bastard is actually so close and won't come to say hello? How dare he?!"

Anastasia seemed to have been holding in this belly full of anger for quite a while, but finally couldn't anymore. She had wanted to play it off and be as uncaring as Velasco was, but clearly that wasn't within herself to do.

Leonel smiled bitterly. That old man was too busy sucking up to his mom after his past as a pervert was exposed to focus on anything else right now, how could he have the time to remember Anastasia especially since he had already given the Segmented Cube to Leonel to control. "Humph, Humph, HUMPH!" Anastasia's lower half, formed of clouds, bristled and shook, even darkening as though she would begin to shoot out lightning bolts.

"Okay, okay, I'll bring him here to see you, promise. That aside, what do you know about Time Force? Do you think that it's possible for you to pass on any of that knowledge to someone else?"

Anastasia froze for a moment then looked toward Leonel. "You don't have any talent in such things. Just like Dream Force, if someone without affinity tried to mess around with Time Force they'd only hurt themselves. The consequences for messing with Dream Force might be devastating in that you'll forget yourself, but there's always a small chance you could come back. If you mess around with Time Force without affinity you won't just figuratively lose yourself, the devastation would be very real and there would be no coming back.

"Death would be the easiest and simplest outcome."

Leonel wanted to explain that this wasn't for him, but then he suddenly became curious when Anastasia said this.

"What would be a worse outcome?"

"How about being caught in a perpetual loop where you can only experience that same death again and again?" Anastasia said, somewhat annoyed.

Leonel sucked in a cold breath. He had experienced being eaten alive once before, but what if he had to experience that again and again.

"The causalities you have to deal with when using Time Force can easily trap you unless you have a talent for telling the difference between reality and constructs, only death awaits you."

"Why do I feel like my spear can kind of use Time Force, then?" Leonel suddenly asked.

Anastasia looked at Leonel deeply before shaking her head.

"Everyone has Dream Force in them, can they use it? Everyone has Soul Force, but can they freely wield it? In truth, calling it Time Force is incorrect, it's more accurate to call it Causality Force, Reality Force, even Creation Force would be more accurate. Time Force is the foundation that gives everything else meaning. Even space, location, and size are all irrelevant before time. Without time, there is no existence, you can describe a being without describing their location, but you can't separate them from the causality they're tied to.

"There was nothing before time came into being, and there'll be nothing after it vanishes.

"The so-called Time Force you're controlling is only you taking control of the causality of your spear. You've gained enough understanding of it to begin to shift and change its very being with your Spear Force, but don't mistake that for controlling Time Force. These aren't the same things."

Leonel's eyes widened. Anastasia had never spoken so much in one sitting, but when she finally did, her words seemed to hold the weight of a world.

Dimensional Descent Chapter 2128: Mistake

Leonel took a breath and exhaled. He seemed to gain a deeper understanding of his Spear Force and the direction it was going in.

"You don't need to worry, Anastasia. I wasn't asking for myself; I already have too many things on my plate dealing with Forces I do have affinity for, let alone ones I don't. I was asking for someone else. I thought of the snowglobes and the pods and realized that you must have some comprehension of such things, and it seems that I was right."

Anastasia snorted. "Every World Spirit do-"

Anastasia, seemingly realizing that she had made a mistake, suddenly stopped talking.

Her not speaking much wasn't a mistake. Usually, she was quite talkative. It was just that she knew her own habits and thought to control herself using this path. But she had accidentally let something she had held close to her chest slip just like that.

She looked toward Leonel, hoping he hadn't heard anything, but before she could sigh a breath of relief, he was blinking in shock and she blushed with

shame and embarrassment. She had really let such an important piece of information go in such a stupid way.

'Stupid Velasco, Idiot Velasco, this is all your fault! If I wasn't so agitated, I wouldn't have spoken so much and I wouldn't have made such a mistake!'

Leonel remained silent for a long time and didn't answer immediately. He was still processing what Anastasia's words could mean, but in the end he smiled bitterly. He didn't have enough information. He actually didn't know what this could mean at all.

"Alright, never mind that," Leonel said lightly. "I don't know why you want to hide that you're a World Spirit from me, but I assume it has something to do with the fact this is a fake, simulated world, huh? I would blame you for thinking I'm too fragile, but then again I did have a mental breakdown a couple of days ago."

Anastasia froze. "... What did you just say?"

Leonel waved a hand. "I'm what you would call a genius; deducing these things is child's play."

Leonel looked up and suddenly started, finding Anastasia right before him. She surprised him, but she didn't say anything for a long while.

"Indeed..." she finally mumbled. "A pair of monster father and son, makes no sense... Is this the miracle of the randomness of life?"

Leonel raised an eyebrow, but he let this little World Spirit sort out her own emotions. Finally, she retreated, floating into the air again.

"Fine, depending on how this matter goes, I might tell you other things..." she said lightly. "For now, sure, I can help this person you speak of. Time Force comes naturally to me."

"Does that mean my mother can use Time Force too?" Leonel asked. He wanted to ask Anastasia to help his mother as well, in that case. Although his mother already had a World Spirit, a complete one at that, something was telling him that Earth's World Spirit and Anastasia were on two completely different levels.

To his surprise, Anastasia shook her head.

"It's not that I don't want to help, but I truly had a slip of the tongue back then. World Spirits that are more than blobs of instinct are incredibly rare. In all of existence, there are probably fewer than 10 like me.

"While one can help you comprehend the Laws of your World, Time Force isn't something they can pass down. Even for me, such a thing is impossible."

"Even if you fused with someone?" Leonel asked.

"I have a mind of my own; although that makes me far more powerful than most World Spirits, it also limits me as well. I cannot fuse with someone for the benefit of my world; that would suppress me rather than helping me. What I need is someone to partner with me and help me find precious resources. Once I succeed in entering the Ninth Dimension, I'll finally mature, and my world will fully take shape; only then can I try to skirt some of the Regulator's rules by passing down such knowledge."

Leonel nodded slowly. "I see, I understand."

After a moment, he tossed over a snowglobe. "He's in here. We don't have much time, so I hope that you can train him in a time-dilated state. Try to see if you can make him obedient as well."

Anastasia nodded and her eyes lit up. Indeed, Elorin had a strong Time Force affinity; this was indeed perfect.

"Obedient?" Her head suddenly popped up.

"Let's just say he's a bit unruly. His parents were killed due to a decision of Old Man Fawkes. His own grandfather stood in his way, and he was enraged enough to cut him down. So maybe being unruly isn't exaggerated enough for this person."

"His parents died?"

"Indeed. They were likely to become Invalids, so they were killed before the Metamorphosis."

"I see..."

"What, you can do something about that?"

"Well, in the real world, no, but this world is more... pliable, and it's even easier when the people in question have weak causalities. Third Dimensional beings without even Ability Indexes are about as easy as it gets. It would be helpless if they had entered the God Path, or the Eighth Dimension of the Conventional Path, but this is too easy."

Leonel was stunned. He suddenly realized that maybe there were a lot more things Anastasia was hiding from him so that he wouldn't realize just how special she was too early. But now that he had exposed these matters, her misgivings were much less.

She directly spoke about resurrecting two people who had died more than 30 years ago as though it was a trip to brunch.

After a moment, Leonel grinned. After this, would Elorin still dare to disobey him?

Now that he thought about it, Hutch was in the Seventh Dimension of the Conventional Path at best, and his Ability Index was just as broken as his grandson's. If not for familial love, it was unlikely that Elorin would have had a chance to win at all.

"Since you're busy being a god anyway, Anastasia, how about someone else?"