

Dimensional Descent Chapter 996

Chapter 996 Four Young Men

Just when the young golden hair and eyed young man thought that his life was forfeit, a hand with translucent scales suddenly appeared before his face.

BANG!

The hand was unable to stop the full momentum of the beam of gold, resulting in the golden haired young man's face being bashed in with the back of it.

Blood flew as the golden haired young man's nose caved in, his body sent reeling backward to the point he nearly fell off of the flying disk the group of them stood upon. He was immediately concussed and felt as though the world was spinning without end all before he fell to his butt, the grip he had on his bow loosening to the point he almost lost hold of it entirely.

At that moment, the young man who had saved his life looked down at his palm. He could feel an ache in his wrist that told him that he had nearly broken it. It was clear that he had underestimated this beam of light almost too much.

This young man had a head of blue hair and eyes, and judging by his stunned look, he was clearly very much confident in his defensive abilities. Though his translucent scales hadn't been broken, he still felt a hint of pain.

"Who?!"

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This time, it was a green hair and eyed young man who spoke, being the third of the group of four. It seemed that his temper was the most fiery of the group, but it somewhat made sense. Being so far away from land made him itchy and trigger happy. It was definitely safe to say that he was the most uncomfortable of the current group.

By now, it was very much clear that these young men were members of Earth's hidden families and also that their goal may very well be identical to Leonel's own.

The gold hair and eyes of the Laevis family. The green hair and eyes of the Crudus family. The blue hair and eyes of the Adurna. And, finally...

The fourth and final member of the group was the only one who didn't seem to react with shock or fury. He stood silently, a monocle with numerous floating lenses revolving around his left eye as though the moons to a planet.

He was none other than Simeon Brazinger, the first main branch member of the hidden families Leonel had ever met. And, even until now, he was still the only one.

Simeon's gaze narrowed. 'It's you...'

He still remembered four years ago now when he was forced to retreat from the Project Hunt Island. It was a humiliation he still wore on his chest to this very day. He hadn't seen Leonel in a very long time but the pure dislike he had for him was just as palpable as it had always been.

Back then, Simeon had chosen to come out ahead of time to try and lay a foundation and some groundwork for his future plans. However, at

every turn, it seemed like Leonel was there to stop him. He had even tried to use the Royal Blue Fort to deal with him, but even that had ended in failure.

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The result was Simeon being forced to return to the family's lands where he hadn't even been allowed to come out for the Terrain war. Only after Earth entered the Fifth Dimension was he finally given some degree of freedom back in return. Yet, in the irony of all ironies, the moment he tried to accomplish something, here was Leonel once again to stand in his way.

How could he not want to tear Leonel limb from limb?

"Simeon?" The blue haired young man called out, seemingly realizing that something was up.

"Adrin, Elilar, Zannos. Don't you dare move. He's mine."

Simeon's words were baffling. 'He'? Who was 'he'? And plus, if there was anyone who should get first crack, shouldn't it be Zannos? Just look at him.

The blue haired youth, Adrin, looked toward Zannos to say as much. But, when he saw that the latter had grown a mustache of blood from his bleeding nose and how he still seemed to be in a daze, he shook his head.

"... Never mind..."

Elilar, who had snapped earlier, looked toward Simeon oddly. They all knew Simeon well, he practically never showed any emotion at all. It

wasn't coldness, it was just indifference to all things. This had to be the first time they had ever seen him lose his cool.

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Simeon's face was quite expressionless, but a deep red Force had begun to pour out from his body.

'Sometimes I forget that he's a Brazinger...'

Simeon's palm flipped over to reveal a rattling chain that must have been at least ten meters long. It had a black body and was coursing with crimson veins and golden barbs. It looked as though there wasn't a single place on its bod that you could touch without ripping your flesh apart and yet Simeon began to slowly wrap it around his palm, down his wrist and up his arm as though he couldn't feel a thing.

At that moment, Leonel, donning his silver Divine Armor, suddenly appeared in the air no more than 20 meters from them. As for how Simeon had recognized him with his helmet on, maybe only he would be aware of the answer to that.

Seeing Leonel, the gazes of Elilar and Adrin narrowed while Zannos was still far too out of it to even register just what was going on.

Simeon's red hair waved about gently, the harsh rain in the surroundings not even touching the hem of his clothing beneath the bubble of his flying disk.

With a wave of his free hand, two balls of light hovered before him before bursting. What was left behind left Leonel's gaze narrowing beneath his visor.

Two enormous metallic birds appeared. Or, rather, that was what they looked like on the surface. But, their true nature most definitely caught Leonel's attention.

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[One more chapter coming today]

Chapter end

Dimensional Descent Chapter 997

Chapter 997 Any Time

The two metallic birds weren't entirely metallic at all. With a sweep of his Internal Sight, Leonel could see that they had flesh and blood.

The answer, then, seemed simple. Weren't these two birds just wearing armor, then? But this wasn't the reality either. The metal wasn't being worn... It **was** them. It was as much their skin as flesh could be. In fact, it seemed that there were a few parts of their bodies that could be classified in much the same way.

If Leonel didn't have such a dislike of Simeon, upon stumbling upon his first cyborg sighting, he probably would have felt that this was very cool too. However, unsurprisingly, Simeon wasn't a person he liked very much at all.

Even setting aside what Simeon had tried to do to him, just the fact Simeon treated humans like experimental subjects was enough for Leonel to hate him. Leonel didn't even want to consider what sort of horrid torture these two birds had gone through to reach this state either.

Leonel's gaze swept by Simeon, landing on Zannos. It didn't take much deduction at all for Leonel to realize that he was likely the one who had shot the arrow. If not for his bloody nose, the bow he was barely holding onto was a dead giveaway.

However, after looking around some more, Leonel realized that this storm definitely wasn't being caused by these four. This meant that there was a more than 90% probability that they were looking for the creature at the core of all of this just like he was. There was no coincidence that they were in the exact direction Leonel had been heading in considering the sheer vastness of the ocean.

Leonel's eyes narrowed when he remembered was Simeon's ability was. If he was allowed to get his hands on such a creature and he controlled its genes to come under his command... Just what kind of devastation would that bring?

Remembering back to how Leonel met Little Blackstar, his grip on his spear rotated slightly. Back then, he had almost killed Little Blackstar just to ensure that he never ended in Simeon's hands. Now, it seemed that history was replaying itself.

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The difference here, though was that while Little Blackstar had only been playful, this beast was costing people their lives.

Leonel had no idea what it was that these hidden families wanted, nor did he understand what their purpose on Earth was. But, what he did know was that when Earth was pushed into a corner facing the people of Terrain, he hadn't seen a single member of their ilk.

All they had done was show up on Avalon and try to poach away King Arthur and his people. After they failed, they vanished and didn't

appear again until now when there were once again benefits to be gained while others were falling and dying in the background.

These sorts of people... They were the kind Leonel abhorred the most.

"I'm going to give you two options." Leonel said coldly. "Either get the hell out of my sight, or you fall beneath my blade."

The fluttering red Force around Simeon suddenly surged, his pupils constricting into pinholes. This was most definitely not the Leonel he knew. The Leonel he knew didn't have this edge to him, he didn't have this blood thirsty air. In fact, he didn't have a willingness to kill at all.

That Leonel was like a lion without its claws or a shark without its teeth. But now...

Leonel raised his spear, pointing it between Simeon's brows. It was a blatant, undisguised provocation. At that moment, Leonel's aura was palpable. It hung in the air like a violet mist, raising above Simeon's own and suffocating it.

"Leonel Morales..." Simeon said slowly.

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However, what he hadn't expected was for Adrin to suddenly stand out.

"Huh? What did you say Simeon?"

Simeon frowned, turning his gaze toward Adrin. The coldness in his eyes made Adrin's own gaze narrow, but the latter didn't back down. All four of these young men were on the same level. On top of that, all

of them had entered the Fifth Dimension. Adrin felt no fear for Simeon although the latter's power was great.

Adrin looked away from Simeon and toward Leonel, suddenly understanding something.

"I can't let you kill him, Simeon." Adrin finally said.

"What?" Simeon's voice simmered like hot coals, his red eyes flashing with added menace.

"Leonel Morales is the name of the man who saved my little sister. I owe him a favor. So, I'll only repeat myself once more. I can't let you kill him, Simeon."

Adrin's own aura began to leak out, a dense blue Force wafting about his body. Though he and Simeon were about the same height, Adrin was far broader, making it seem as though he was towering over Simeon completely.

"Ha..." Simeon released a cold laugh. "... Did you forget why it was that we came here?"

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"All of that is meaningless in the face of my little sister's life." Adrin replied coldly.

"So you're going to stand in my way no matter what? Do you really want to war against my Brazinger Family?"

"Since when as my Adurna Family been afraid of you all? I'm sure you know best that we're the ones who best counter your Lineage Factor.

Do you want to have a try to see how that'll work out for you? I'll give you a sneak peek."

Adrin wasn't wrong. If the Brazinger family was the absolute pinnacle of offense, then the Adurna family was the absolute pinnacle of defense. It almost felt like nature knew they were meant to clash, coloring them both blue and red.

Adrin turned to Leonel without another glance toward Simeon.

"Little Nana has told me a lot about you, so consider this my thanks. I won't allow them to interfere and you can take this as repayment. Next time we meet on the battlefield, though, we will most likely be enemies."

Adrin was confident in saying this even if Zannos and Elilar chose to side with Simeon in this matter. When it came to stalling and buying time, no one was his better.

Leonel gave Adrin a deep look before nodding and shooting off into the distance, his three pillars following closely behind him.

"... I'll make you regret this, Adrin."

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Simeon's voice had once again returned to neutrality, his Force vanishing and even his twin pair of metallic birds having disappeared. He regained his composure so quickly that it almost felt too ridiculous.

Adrin's eyes narrowed. "Any time."

Dimensional Descent Chapter 998

Chapter 998 Beautiful

Simeon soon vanished, teleporting back to what must have been the Brazinger family's estate. This left the three young men behind with Zannos slowly regaining his bearings.

When the golden haired Zannos finally realized just where he was, his head snapped around and he blinked. It was clear that his healing abilities were also far beyond that of a normal individual's. Rather than still being concussed, he seemed to be back to 100% in just a few minutes, just enough to catch a bit of the conversation between Adrin and Elilar.

"... Now he's pissed. You know Simeon is unpredictable Adrin, I wouldn't want him as an enemy."

Adrin shook his head. "This has little to do with how uncomfortable it makes me. It's a matter of principle. If not for Leonel, not to mention my little sister, a few of my cousins and other members of the younger ones would have been finished."

"Pft," Elilar laughed beside himself. "Your family went around snatching Zones and ended up almost dying, isn't that too funny?"

Adrin glared at Elilar but let it slide only because no one had truly ended up losing their lives.

"It was a Mythological Zone, so the risk was different. If I hadn't already been in the Fourth Dimension back then, I might have gone as well. It was just unfortunate that it mutated into a Unique Zone."

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Elilar's pupils constricted. "... He survived a Unique Zone?"

A Unique Zone was something that Leonel had already come across twice. Well, once that very nearly became twice if he counted the Joan Zone. As such, to Leonel, it was no big deal and not even as rare as most made it seem to be.

But, the reality was that to most people... A Unique Zone was a death sentence! Pure and simple.

To put this matter into perspective, one only need to think of the Valiant Pillar Heirlooms of the Valiant Heart Mountain organization. That was the level of the technology one needed just to keep reusing an open Zone. If one wanted to enter and interfere with a Zone, the necessary threshold to meet was even higher.

What did that mean? It meant the use of a treasure that was equivalent to the Gold Grade Valiant Pillars or even their superior!

When things were put into this kind of perspective, just how shocking it was for Leonel to survive was painted out clearly. It also made it more obvious just what kind of enemy he had made by now handing over his findings from the Camelot Zone as well. It was no wonder that they were infuriated.

If not for the difficulty of traveling to lower Dimensions as a higher Dimensional existence, maybe they would have already sent someone Leonel couldn't possibly match up against.

"... I see. So it seems that Earth really does have some young heroes of its own."

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Zannos spoke, wiping the blood from his lips. He didn't seem enraged by what had happened at all. In fact, his eyes had lit up to the point it seemed he might chase after Leonel right this moment. If they didn't know better, they'd think this battle freak was a member of the Brazinger family while it was Simeon who was a member of Zannos' Laevis family.

"They don't just have one of them." Adrin said, looking off into the distance.

"Well my fingers are itching." Zannos said with a grin.

Elilar rolled his eyes. "Can you be a little less shameless? You almost died just now."

Leonel very quickly closed in on his destination, the rain above still pelting down and the thick, rumbling black clouds growing as solid as the earth itself.

He hadn't hesitated to take Adrin up on his offer. After all, there was no need to fight a battle he didn't have to. Plus, the value of whatever was up ahead was no small matter, this Leonel knew for certain. It was likely that Adrin was also aware which was why Leonel had birthed a healthy respect for the young man as well.

Leonel's forward momentum came to a grinding halt once again. But, this time, there was no bowman nor was there any arrow.

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Up ahead, as though a halo of heavenly light, there was a small hole in the dense black clouds. Compared to the kilometers of distance these storm clouds covered, this ten meter wide hole was like a pin drop.

A ray of golden light descended from it, gently touching the surface of the water to create a scene that left Leonel completely speechless.

All around, the raging tides of black water rose and fell, even crashing about the pillar of slightly slanted light. And yet, the waters that were graced by this light's touch were not only completely and perfectly still, but they had a beautiful sky blue color to them that made one think of clear tropical oceans one could see to the very bottom of.

Within this beautiful, still and clear water was a single koi fish with gorgeous golden scales and fins so delicate and flexible that they looked like transparent silk fabrics soaking in the water.

The koi fish was just two feet in length and was practically an ant in comparison to the colossal creatures Leonel had come across today, and yet it pulled him in while simultaneously giving him a sense of danger he had never experienced before.

'... Beautiful...'

It was the most gorgeous creature that Leonel had ever seen. Let alone killing it, he couldn't even muster up the fortitude he would need just to harm it. It was like a delicate flower, the absolute last of its kind, radiating the beauty of its ancestors and carrying the weight of an entire species on its shoulders.

For a long while, Leonel just stared, his heart gripped by something inexplicable that he couldn't even begin to express in words.

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He was so enraptured that he didn't notice the grotesque, vile, and foul smelling creature that raised its tentacle to his back.

Chapter end

Dimensional Descent Chapter 999

Chapter 999 Risk

Leonel's pupils constricted. He felt his heart pump vigorously and his veins suddenly double in size.

Outside his control, his Dream Counter activated, pumping his body into a state of fight or flight. Without hesitation, Leonel blinked away.

BANG!

Leonel's eyes widened as he watched one of his [Valiant Seal]'s shatter into pieces beneath the might of a tentacle of blackish purple. Just like that, he was left with only two that he quickly brought to his side.

His expression warped as he laid eyes on the monstrosity before him. Had it not been for his Dream Counter, considering the strength behind that strike, Leonel felt that he would have most definitely died. However, the most shocking thing was that for his Dream Counter to activate, something must have made his mind go murky.

Leonel had many Dream Counters. One was to activate his instantaneous heal ability when he was on the border of life and death. A second one was the one that had activated just now. It was attached to a strand of Internal Sight that always monitored his surroundings and was detached from his conscious mind. This strand of Internal Sight's only job was to calculate the strength of an oncoming blow. If the blow was beyond what Leonel could handle, Dream Counter would activate and drive his body into an optimal state for escape.

However, under normal circumstances, Leonel was aware of this process from start to finish. But, this time he wasn't woken up until the moment his blood vessel dilated and his heart began to pump wildly. Thanks to this, he was snapped awake.

It made him realize that he had entered an odd trance just now, and it was all related to that golden scaled koi fish.

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That said, Leonel didn't have the time to mind that koi fish now as this tentacle monstrosity before him was bearing down with a foul smell that he only just now registered.

Without hesitation, Leonel used Dream Sense, splitting his sense of smell to the point it was dulled considerably. Brandishing his spear, he swept it forward, his wrist flicking several times as he retreated.

In an instant, dozens of the monster's tentacles were severed, flying about in a rain of purple blood that dripped down the sea below and revealing bowels that left Leonel stunned.

'It's defenses... are terrible.'

What Leonel didn't realize just yet was that it wasn't that the monster's tentacles lacked defense, but rather that his Spear Force had become too powerful for it to defend against. If it wasn't for Leonel's improvement, it would have taken at least three hacks to sever a single tentacle, but now a single sweep took out several.

'Hm?'

Leonel's eyes narrowed.

After taking out so many tentacles, the monster retreated, but it wasn't before Leonel could catch a glimpse of what was behind the curtain of all those tentacles.

'A womb?'

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Leonel's conclusion even made his own face go weird. This was because the conclusion wasn't based on his own normal deductions, but rather the result of a spark within his Dreamscape. This was to say that what he had just seen ticked off enough boxes under the categorization of what a womb would be to cause a reaction in his Dream World.

'Eggs, warmth, nutrition, placenta...'

Leonel's eyes widened, his gaze suddenly snapped back toward the gold scaled koi fish before going back to the monster. He felt like he was on the verge of understanding something when the koi fish suddenly acted.

Its mouth opened, causing a small sphere of golden light to form. It looked completely harmless and was just as beautiful as the fish it came from. But, in that instant Leonel was shaken.

That small bead had a concentration of Force that dwarfed anything that had come from the storm previously.

'This little b...'

Leonel didn't get a chance to finish his thoughts.

The wild churning of the sea suddenly became like a pot of boiling water. The siren call of a what sounded like a dying whale sounded from all directions. It was so loud that Leonel was forced to use his Dream Sense on his ears as well, dulling his senses once again.

At that moment, on the coast several kilometers away, the onslaught of Invalids suddenly did an about-face and charged toward Leonel's location.

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Leonel understood immediately that this was the last resort of the koi fish.

From what he could see, the koi fish and the tentacle womb were two separate existences. The tentacle womb needed the koi fish for the energy it could provide it while the koi fish, without combat abilities of its own, needed the tentacle for protection.

The earlier onslaught of colossal beasts Leonel had fought were already all the guards the koi fish had outside the tentacle womb. It had sent them all in hopes that Leonel would never get close to it. But, that had failed miserably.

The tentacle womb could be considered the last line of defense and was indeed far stronger than any of the beasts Leonel had fought on his way here. However, what the two had never expected was for Leonel's breakthrough to make the tentacle womb fair even worse than their vanguard of beasts had.

Without a choice, the koi fish could only use its final resort, calling an onslaught of Invalids over to deal with Leonel in its stead in hopes that it could find a path to escape.

'Can't you just take your loss with grace?!' Leonel chided in his mind.
'Fuck it.'

"Vice!"

Leonel senses reached into the Segmented Cube and pulled Vice out. The young man blinked in confusion, unsure of what was going on.

Vice was none other than one of the two Savants that Leonel was raising. Leonel was always hesitant to use them for fear that they'd grow more powerful than he could control, but he had still been slowly releasing their reins. Now it was time to see whether his risk was worth it or not.

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Chapter end

Dimensional Descent Chapter 1000

Chapter 1000 Vice and Candle

Vice was confused about what was happening but sensing a threat to his life, he immediately reacted with all the strength he could muster, freezing everything for several kilometers in space as he took a step behind Leonel, fearfully looking around.

Leonel's gaze glowed when he felt this.

For one, Vice's ability no longer seemed to have any impact on him. This wasn't because Vice wasn't as good a Savant as he seemed to be originally, but rather that his ability had barely reached a Fifth Dimensional level.

Thanks to Leonel's Divine Armor being constructed with Evolution Ore as its core, what should have been his Fourth Dimensional armor actually had the strength and abilities of a Fifth Dimensional Armor. Thanks to this, he was able to concentrate his Spatial Domain down to becoming the equivalent of a Force Skin, thus allowing him strong control over the Space Force around himself.

This was all to say that Leonel was likely the only one not impacted by Vice's ability. However, even this was just the tip of the iceberg.

Vice's ability wasn't as simple as a spatial lock. Its boundaries worked similarly to Leonel's [Valiant Seal] and were like the borders separating two worlds. This meant that not only were all the Invalids surging toward the two of them frozen, but this also meant that the Invalids that had been rushing toward them could no longer sense the wild fluctuations Force being released by the golden koi fish.

Leonel whistled, feeling that Savants were really the universal cheat code. If he wasn't restraining Vice's progress, just how powerful would he be by now? Leonel couldn't even wrap his head around it...

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"How long can you maintain this?" Leonel asked Vice.

Vice, who had been 'hiding' behind Leonel, looked toward him with a blank expression. Every time Leonel looked into his eyes, all he could see was vacancy.

With Candle, she at least had a normal range of human emotion, it was just that she tended to the extreme. However, after a long while of observation, Leonel felt that Candle might have grown up to be a perfectly normal girl had she never been locked away. Now, though, her trauma was a weight on her heart that was difficult for her to release.

Vice, however, didn't have these emotions. And, any emotion that he did show was just a reflection of what he saw around him as though he was projecting what he thought others wanted to see rather than being his true self.

If someone like Vice had grown up in normal society, he would probably be very charismatic and have a knack for manipulating the people around him. It was just too bad for him that his skill in this facet was stunted by his upbringing, thus allowing Leonel to see through him easily.

Even now, while Vice was acting scared and 'hiding' behind Leonel, he was only doing so because this was exactly what Candle would do if she was suddenly brought out like this. The more time those two spent together, the more of her personality that Vice imprinted onto himself.

At this moment, though, Vice was looking at Leonel as though he couldn't understand the question. It was then that Leonel chuckled and understood.

Stamina? That was something only non-Savants had to worry about. Vice's look was as good as telling him that he had no time limit and could hold this indefinitely. He didn't have a concept of 'how long'.

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"Got it. Then keep it up."

Leonel brought out the surfboard and allowed Vice to stand on it so he could release his grip on the latter's shoulder. Then, he also brought Candle out.

As expected, seeing the dark clouds above, the frozen rain in the surroundings, and the giant tentacle monster to the side, Candle immediately shrieked and hid behind Leonel as well.

Leonel's approach to dealing with Candle was much different than how he dealt with Vice. He gave her comfort and a few caring words almost immediately. He realized that this was his own bias shining through. After all, he felt that Candle was genuine while Vice was not. But, for now, he let things play out this way.

He wanted to see just how Vice evolved from here.

'Maybe I shouldn't do this myself... I wonder if the Dimensional Verse has therapists and psychologists specialized in dealing with Savants... But if they do, which of them can I trust?'

There was a hidden reason why Leonel had chosen to take the risk of raising two Savants on his own, and that was his grandfather.

Leonel simply didn't believe that his grandfather could be so cruel as to kill 99% of Earth's population for the sake of clearing out as many Invalids as possible ahead of time, and yet leave such a hidden danger like these Savants behind without cause or reason. There was definitely something about this choice that Leonel didn't have enough information to understand just yet...

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Leonel patted Candle on the head until her tears were soothed and her breathing became even once more.

"I just wanted to let you out to experience the world, if you want to go back in it isn't a problem. Just let me know."

Candle sniffled and looked around, her shoulders shuddering when she saw the tentacle womb. She stretched a hand out and caused a massive mirror without borders to appear in the sky, blocking the view of the monster. Only then did she relax.

When she swept her gaze around and saw the koi fish, her eyes lit up.

"... So pretty..."

Leonel smiled. "You two stay here, I'll be back."

"Okay." The two replied at once.

The surfboard hovered just a foot over the dark waters, allowing Candle to sit and glide her feet about it.

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Leonel appeared on the other side of Candle's mirror and observed the tentacle womb. He could tell that it was struggling to move away, but it couldn't no matter how hard it tried. The abilities of Savants were truly too sick. Such a powerful creature couldn't even lift a finger to stop it.

"Can this tentacle womb clone creatures?"