GOD'S EYES

Chapter 541 - I Don't Want To Regret

"Can I go all in?" This question caused the surroundings to suddenly turn quiet, and it was only a minute later that the receptionist hesitantly asked.

"Does that mean you want to crush him...or that you can't defeat him without using everything?"

Under normal circumstances, she would have not even considered the second possibility, and simply rejected Jarid's request.

However, after what she had witnessed, she couldn't help but feel a little bit worried.

Though the Colosseum wouldn't make many losses if Jason were to win the bet thanks to the number of spectators and bets that had increased during the last few hours, the Olympians' reputation was on the line.

It was already shocking that Jason could effortlessly defeat the Olympians, but if the same were to happen to Jarid, who was by far the most talented and known Olympian, it would be devastating.

Nevertheless, exposing everything Jarid had learned during the last few years in order to prepare himself for the liberation tournament was also not what anyone wanted!

In the end, it was Jarid's decision, but the receptionist couldn't help but feel that both decisions were not satisfying.

Jason had driven them into a corner, and now they couldn't escape without sacrificing something!

Unfortunately, the worst had yet to come, and the receptionist stiffened when she saw that Jarid pondered about something.

'Is he trying to figure out whether he can crush Jason by giving his best...or if he can defeat him without doing so?..."

Neither was correct and what Jarid was thinking about was something completely different.

"If I go all out, I should be able to defeat him...I think."

The Olympians and receptionist were staring at Jarid as if he had just lost his sanity.

Suddenly one of the youngest Olympians, who had always seen Jarid as her idol, stepped forward.

"You can't be serious?!? The silver-dragon masked man is just at the peak of the 1st Lique stage!! How can he be strong enough to face you if you utilize your full potential?? Even those at the 9th Lique stage have problems fighting you for more than five minutes!!"

The others couldn't help but nod their heads. Their youngest member had spoken the doubt that had been lingering on everybody else's mind, but Jarid could only shake his head.

"And who says that the man behind the silver dragon mask can't do the same?" With that being said, Jarid took a step forward before he grabbed the railing in front of him.

A mysterious smile appeared on his face and it was the first time for the Olympians, let alone the receptionist to see Jarid being excited.

The words he had just said rattled everyone, but instead of saying anything, they decided to be quiet.

Only a few hours passed before Jason had finally defeated the 49th opponent.

He had received many lengthy breaks which was unexpected.

Not only his 49th victory increased the spectators' tension, but also stalled time for more spectators, or to be more precise, bets to be made.

Ben seemed to be fine which caused Jason to sigh in relief, while the others were struggling to continue fighting.

They had reached the 60th round, which meant that their opponents were three ranks above their cultivation base.

This was still not enough to be at par with most of the God's Children but more than needed to pressure them.

Jason watched their battle, and couldn't suppress a faint smile.

'They're improving extremely fast. The pressure is exactly what they need!'

At the same time, Jason was also thinking about Jarid and everything he had perceived through his Emperor Eyes.

There were several reasons why the Ilian was so strong, but only one specific factor combined every single advantage he had.

Not only was his thunder affinity unique and even rare among his race, but Jarid had also a highly ranked Terra body refinement and cultivation technique.

Both techniques focused on increasing every possible characteristic of his thunder affinity, increasing his combat prowess further.

This would already be enough to allow Jarid to fight against an average being at the 8th Lique stage despite being at the peak of the 6th Lique stage.

However, that was not everything Jarid had!

Throughout the last few years, Jason had been unable to see many individuals with a special constitution.

Max Drake and his late master Dalia had been two such examples, and Jarid had become another being with a special constitution, according to Jason's Emperor Eyes.

Unexpectedly, Jarid's special constitution enhanced certain aspects of his thunder affinity.

Jason was not sure which that was, but during Jarid's short fight with Ben, he had been able to see something.

Jarid's constitution had been intentionally sealed!

This made it nearly impossible for others to perceive his physique.

Unfortunately, Jason was excluded and he sensed everything.

There were some details he had never seen before, but Jason was sure of one fact!

'His constitution was still growing, and too strong for him to handle!'

Even though Jason knew that Jarid was evidently unable to handle his constitution yet, he could sense the Olympian's excitement to fight him.

Because of that, Jason was sure that Jarid would unleash his constitution during their fight that was about to occur any moment.

They were only a few meters away from the arena in which their fight would be held.

Excitement radiated from both of them when they took the first step into the arena as their mana fluctuated wildly.

"Did you want to disguise your thunder body constitution to act like an underdog in the liberation tournament?"

Jason couldn't be sure about what he had just assumed, but from Jarid's behavior and that of the other Olympians in addition to the young receptionist, there were many things that made him believe that his assumptions had been correct.

He had also heard rumors about the Olympian Jarid that stated the same, and it was also said that the Olympians were using more resources than they had in the last couple of decades.

Combining everything known, the only logical solution was that the most talented Olympians wanted to increase their group's reputation and image.

Unfortunately, Jason had come into their way, tarnishing the Olympians' reputation just a few months before the liberation tournament was about to start.

Jarid was simply staring at Jason as if his exposed secret didn't bother him.

"Well, that was my plan, and I assume that you, or to be precise the entire group following you will participate in the tournament too? I'm sorry to say this, but the mask is useless and your identity has already been exposed to the colosseum.

Talking in the human language during a fight is not really the smartest move if one wants to hide their identity!"

It was annoying to hear that their identity had been exposed, but that was not something Jason or the others should be surprised about.

They had been talking in the human language on the elevation, right in front of hundreds of spectators, without even bothering about speaking quietly.

In the end, this was not really important for Jason anymore. He would get the fight he had been waiting for, and the colosseum couldn't immediately change their rules to assign opponents!

Their knowledge about soul worlds was too shallow for that!

While Jason just shrugged his shoulders, Jarid turned serious.

"Furthermore, if I were to be honest, I'm not confident that I will defeat you in three months. At least, if I trust what my gut feeling tells me right now... My only chance is today, and I don't want to look back and regret not giving my best!!"

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 542 - Thunder Legacy

Jason was astonished that Jarid nonchalantly accepted that he was not confident of defeating him in three months.

At the same time, he assumed that the young Olympian's gut feeling was telling him that his opponent was not to be taken lightly.

If Jason were, to be honest, he felt exactly the same, and a certain excitement he hadn't felt in a very long time ignited within him.

Both felt that they should fight without holding back, but Jason remembered that he hadn't planned on using Solaris' fire affinity!

Using a fire affinity that was strong enough to injure newly advanced beings at the Prismar stage owing to the mana nullification and life force draining ability, was not how he wanted to fight.

As such, Jason decided that he would use everything but the fire affinity before he was sure that Jarid would be able to fight him head-on even if Solaris' flame were to be utilized.

Thus a minute later, they were standing opposite each other inside the combat arena. Jarid seemed to smile in excitement, while Jason's smile was covered by the silver dragon mask.

However, through the slits in the mask, a faint golden light could be seen, telling Jarid that he was not the only one who was excited to fight!

Just as the fight was about to start, both turned serious and the atmosphere in the entire colosseum tensed up.

At that moment, everyone realized that something great was about to happen. Never had the spectators seen Olympian Jarid so seriously. Normally he would be cold, and rational, finishing off his opponents as fast as possible.

But right now, despite the serious aura that was something new to see, the guard he had put on was enough to astonish everyone.

Jason had already taken off the robe he was wearing, knowing that it would only become a hindrance during the fight.

Through this he exposed his skin, and the fortified soul conjunction he would utilize in a moment, but that was the last thing Jason was currently thinking about.

His entire mind was focused on Jarid, and it was the moment their fight began, that Jason realized something with a radiant smile.

'Finally!'

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When their fight started, Jarid didn't waste any time as he unleashed his thunder constitution. At the same time, he exerted the special technique he had learned for several years and had been waiting to showcase exactly for that moment.

Jarid's body refinement and cultivation technique were both at the advanced terra grade, enhancing only one affinity; the thunder affinity he possessed!

While this increased his strength by another notch, Jarid's unique constitution allowed him to increase the benefits received by both techniques drastically, while the special technique he had practiced painstakingly with, combined everything at once.

A moment after the fight had started, Jarid's entire body was enveloped in a dense thunder armor whose currents crackled around him like a livewire.

The torment energies revolving around him destroyed everything in Jarid's proximity, tearing apart the arena around him.

Only a moment later he catapulted himself towards the front, creating a cavity at the position his feet had pushed himself from.

Not a single spectator below the Prismar stage could keep up with his speed properly, and the only thing everyone was able to perceive was a huge bolt of thunder strike shooting towards Jason, who had yet to move.

Despite his earlier worry if he should use his black fire affinity or not, Jason couldn't help but smile brightly.

Within an instant, his entire body was enveloped in thick, black scales that were intertwined with a golden vein-like pattern.

At the same time, a three-meter-long tail grew out of his coccyx while Byakur manifested in his hand.

Jason didn't even think about using the other weapon that had remained unused inside its scabbard during the last several dozen battles he had fought.

Right now, Jason wanted to test Petri's defensive capabilities, but at the same time, he felt like using Solaris' flames to overwhelm his opponent.

In the end, curiosity got the better of him, and he couldn't help but disregard using Solaris for the moment.

Instead, he wanted to see how far he could go by using everything but his strongest soulbond!

As such, he stared at Jarid, whose entire being had transformed into a thunder enveloped monster.

Jarid's mind was calm and he noticed how unruffled Jason was.

At the same time, it was evident that his defensive capabilities had increased drastically as the familiar currents of primordial energy enveloped the armor he was suddenly wearing.

He might have been oblivious to mankind's unique traits, but seeing how an entire armor and a threemeter-long tail grew out of Jason was more than enough to tell Jarid that something was about to happen.

Nevertheless, backing off after having utilized every means to strengthen himself for a total of 10 minutes, was not what Jarid would ever do.

What he demonstrated to everyone proudly was his Thunder legacy, something he had painstakingly worked on for his entire life.

It had been a culmination of years of sweat, blood, pain, and efforts that had made him who he was coupled with the will to strive for more; to become someone the Olympus federation could rely on!

They were just a bunch of races that had been forced to immigrate to a planet with a scarcity of mana. They hadn't had much time to grab necessary equipment or weapons before hastily scurrying away to the nearest possible planet while running for their lives.

The races had built everything from scratch and wanted nothing but to return to their former glory, and Jarid wanted to become the person who could lead them to that goal.

All of that belonged to the Thunder legacy and Jason could feel the emotions radiated by Jarid.

At the same time, his eyes could follow every single of Jarid's moves as he was still not strong enough to overwhelm his eyes.

Though Petri's scales and only a part of his tail had been constructed when Jarid had merely been three meters away from him, Jason was still able to remain calm.

Everyone, even the God's Children, including Merl and the other human powerhouses thought that Jason was about to lose right now.

He had yet to make his move and was already in a pinch.

At least, that was what they saw.

Suddenly, without a warning, huge streams of mana that had been gathered in Jason's eyes shot out.

Jason ignored the fact that he was unable to tell how strong his Emperor Eyes' abyssal effect had become after absorbing the divine aura, let alone the enhanced versions of the petrification and race specific weakening curse, as he released everything at once.

Only a small margin of mana that he didn't use for the abyssal effect remained unused inside his mana core, preventing the possibility of killing Jarid or destroying himself by straining his eyes and mana veins.

Jarid, who had been focused on attacking Jason, without holding back even if he were to stay unmoving, suddenly felt as if his entire body was becoming heavier.

As he stared straight into the golden eyes, his body felt heavier as something eerie seemed to envelop his entire body.

He was unable to control the thunder that enveloped his body like an armor, and it was as if his affinity was struggling against something dark, and oppressive, reducing its lethality drastically!

Using his utmost efforts to control his heavy body, and the thunder armor, Jarid didn't even notice that his sight blurred as his mind had already entered a place full of nothing but eternal darkness.

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 543 - My Turn

The abyssal ability Jason had utilized with only a small margin of mana had dragged Jarid's distracted mind into a bottomless pit of pitch-black darkness.

At least, that's what it looked like to Jarid and everyone else who had entered this place.

Time seemed to continue to pass, but somehow it felt different, and Jarid was unable to tell whether seconds, minutes, months, or even years had passed.

Suddenly after a moment that felt like an eternity, the outlines of something gigantic, eerie, and terrifying appeared in front of him.

Just as the huge hands of the ominous being were about to grasp him Jarid was released from that queasy feeling, only to find himself in the arena.

All of this had happened so quickly that he felt as if he had been dragged out of that abyss and thrown back into the arena at the exact same moment he had left.

His mind was seemingly blank, and the distraction caused by the abyssal ability completely deteriorated Jarid's control over his thunder ability as Jason appeared in front of him.

Ignoring the torment energies caused by the thunder that began to spread through the entire arena, Jason slashed out with Byakur.

The Floating Sky movement technique was activated, increasing his speed starkly, but that was still not enough to pierce Byakur mercilessly through Jarid, who had instinctively moved.

Owing to the combat experience he had attained over years, evading Jason's simple slash was not a problem.

However, what the visibly confused Olympian hadn't realised was that Jason's three-meter long tail had already been coiled around one of his ankles.

Shock could be seen on Jarid's face as Jason used the three-meter-long tail to lift the young olympian once before the tail whipped on the ground, crushing him into the floor as a gaping hole and several cracks appeared on it.

Jarid's physical strength was not lowered despite the first throw, making it impossible to injure him heavily with such a move.

As such, Jason had simply flung Jarid further away, yet again.

Yet, instead of throwing Jarid out of the combat ring and ending the battle once and for all, Jason let the Olympian take a deep breath as he wanted the fight to continue.

He could now roughly gauge how powerful his Emperor Eyes' ability was. At least, if he were to ignore using the two curses and his eyes' ability in one lethal attack, and instead use them in quick succession by making use of every little distraction!

While Jarid was flung to the other side of the arena, Jason unleashed his entire Celestia aura and stigma, before he began to absorb the surrounding mana rapidly.

There was still more than enough mana left in his mana core, but he didn't want to end the fight so soon.

Jason had yet to get his turn to release his strength and actively attack the Olympian, who was struggling to regain his senses.

It didn't take him long to get back on his feet, but his mind had been consumed by the eternal darkness his mind had been dragged to.

The expressions of terror and worry chased his facial features and he had difficulty coming to terms with the eerie sensation he had just experienced.

Other than that, Jarid's confidence to defeat Jason had crumbled as he was unable to even utilize his Thunder legacy properly.

Meanwhile, Jason absorbed mana without minding that Jarid was standing inside the arena ring as if his fighting spirit had left him for good.

There was no pity in Jason's eyes and he left the choice to Jarid whether a single exchange of blows was enough for him to give up his goals and desires.

If that was it, he would be disappointed, but everyone was free to make their own choice!

Due to his passive mana gathering technique exerted by his sub-area combined with his active mana absorption, Jason's mana replenish speed was terrifically high.

Both the active and passive mana absorption was further accelerated through his stigma and Celestia aura that had been reinforced by the divine aura he had annexed and absorbed months earlier.

Their fight had come to a momentary standstill and the entire atmosphere of the colosseum had changed the moment Jarid had lost control over his body.

Some spectators were voicing out their complaints, saying that the fight had been rigged.

Almost everyone had betted on Jirad, and except Jason himself, a handful of gamblers and opportunists, nobody betted on him.

The complaints quickly dispersed when the short clip of the fight had immediately been processed and projected on the large screen that was suspended from the center of the colosseum.

In the end, the clip had to be replayed several times, every single replay at a lower speed, only to allow everyone to realize that Jarid had jumped straight into Jason's trap.

There was a moment Jarid's eyes had turned black, while the silver-dragon mask had been dyed in a golden hue, only for both to disperse a moment later.

This had left behind a terrified Olympian and Jason, who had used the opportunity in his favor.

Moments later after Jason thought that he had given Jarid enough time to recuperate from his shock, he stopped absorbing mana.

Averting his gaze towards the young Ilian, Jason couldn't help as he sighed.

"How is it possible for you to be discouraged by that already? Will you ever be able to face someone from a stronger race with that attitude? Your will was too easily shaken. Talent is worthless if you can't even stand up after a single failure. If you're not dead, stand up after falling down, learn from it and improve, become better than the past you! I doubt it...how could I even remotely think that this fight will be worthwhile...How disappointing..."

Jason was fully aware that he'd exaggerated a few facts, but that was not what he was bothered about right now.

He was simply disappointed while using his last effort to turn the fight that seemed to have lost all its meaning into something glorious.

There was no need for his excitement to completely die and there was only a last ray of hope left within Jason.

Somehow it seemed as if Jarid was trying to progress everything, trying to overcome the terror he had witnessed.

However, at the same time, Jason could tell that Jarid's pride had been shattered into smithereens.

Fortunately, there was no need for Jason to stay disappointed. His words elicited the reaction he had been expecting from Jarid.

Previously, Jarid had thought that his fight against the silver-dragon masked man would be epic, turning into a glorious legend about his first revelation.

Unfortunately, now it felt like Jason had pulled a tight slap across his face even though his hand hadn't even come anywhere near him. His dream, his pride, and the expectations others had about him had been blown to dust.

Despite all of that, Jarid couldn't help but hear two sentences Jason had said, ringing through his head countless times.

[Talent is worthless if you can't even stand up after a single failure. If you're not dead, stand up after falling down, learn from it and improve, become better than the past you!]

Clenching his fists, Jarid couldn't help but feel ridiculous. After a single failure, he had been already on the verge of giving up on himself, his entire race, and the Olympus federation that was in a dire need of strong and talented warriors?

From the beginning, he had known that the silver masked man was an opponent he couldn't face, but his pride and arrogance had blinded his eyes, preventing him from accepting the bitter truth.

Gritting his teeth, he finally regained his composure as he stared straight at Jason, who felt the determination glimmering in Jarid's eyes.

However, just a moment later Jason heard something he hadn't expected to hear at all.

"Use all your strength...please!!"

While this had been unexpected, Jason just nodded his head while an uproar swept through the entire colosseum.

"The silver masked man hasn't used his entire strength yet? How can that be?"

"This is ridiculous! Nobody with a cultivation base at the peak of the 1st Lique stage can reach such a high combat prowess!!"

"How can this not be rigged!! I demand an explanation!"

Despite the complaints ringing through the colosseum, neither Jason nor Jarid heard any of it. They were focussed on each other and Jason cautioned,

"Alright, be careful, I won't hold back! It's my turn now!"

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 544 - Face Off

Despite saying that he wouldn't hold back, Jason wanted Jarid to see what was about to happen.

As such, he decided to ignore using the abyssal ability for the rest of the fight.

Jarid was already enveloped in a thick layer of thunder that swirled around his body like snakes, ready to lunge at every opponent in their range.

His eyes had regained some of their vigor and will to fight, and to give his best while facing the silverdragon masked man.

He was ready to collide with Jason once again.

This caused Jason to smile behind the silver-dragon mask as he took a deep breath.

Thanks to the terrific high mana absorption rate he had attained by using every means to enhance it for a short time, Jason had been able to fully replenish his mana core.

Thus, holding back because he lacked mana was out of question!

Suddenly, the three-meter-long tail and black scales with the golden vein pattern spreading through it dispersed as if they had never existed causing an uproar among the spectators.

They had assumed that the scales and tail were something that belonged to the silver masked man's body, which he could simply retract and extract.

However, now that it simply dispersed, their assumption was proven to be wrong!

If everyone knew that Jason could manifest and disperse his soulbonds body parts as long as they occupied his body,

Yet, even more, astonishing to everyone was that a set of wings had manifested out of black flames sprouting out of his back.

Only a moment later, highly compressed flames emerged from his skin, enveloping Jason tightly.

Everything was pitch-black, except the golden shimmer that shone through the masked slit and the black flames that seemed to crave something.

From an indomitable force of physical strength, Jason had turned into the epitome of a black fire god.

There were many races with a fire affinity, including mutated fire affinities that were extremely powerful and deemed as extraordinarily strong, however, Solaris was on a completely different level.

The black flames were unfathomable, yet, they caused everyone nearby, Jason, to feel the intense pressure released by every single flame.

Solaris was at the peak of the 10th Lique stage and on the verge of breaking into the Prismar stage.

It was only lacking the ability to create a solidified prismarine crystal which was something Jason had yet to figure out.

Nevertheless, as long as Jason had enough mana, he could use the black flames to his heart's content which included the utility of the abilities Solaris had!

Jason's appearance of a pitch-black being that radiated an unbearable heat, and increasing the temperature inside the entire colosseum was a stark contrast to Jarid's.

He still looked like his usual self, despite the thunder armor which was not the case with Jason.

If one had no idea about his actual appearance, humans who had listened to all kinds of fairy tales and nightmares would compare him to a devilish existence!

Even worse than the pressure he released were the piercing, golden-silverish eyes that were clearly visible.

All of that together was almost enough to crumble the confidence Jarid had painstakingly gathered during the last few minutes.

From one of the most talented and self-confident citizens of the Olympus federation, he had turned into a pushover; a weakling.

In front of thousands of spectators, and a youth who was barely at the peak of the 1st Lique stage at that!!

To Jarid, it was obvious that Jason would participate in the liberation tournament, and he couldn't help but feel excited when he would encounter the other true prodigies that were older than him!

"ARRGHH!" Screaming out, Jarid gave himself a last push.

He used every single trace of mana inside his mana core, and the courage left within him to charge towards Jason.

His speed had been as terrific as before, but Jason remained rooted to the spot, similar to what he did in their first clash.

This time, however, Jason lifted Byakur, which he was holding with a firm grip.

"Be careful!"? He cautioned as he transferred the vast majority of his mana into his longsword.

At the same time, the tormenting black flames around Jarid swirled violently before they shot towards Byakur.

Every single rune on Byakur was glowing up and it grew in size at a rapid pace.

It had been a long time since Jason had used the enlargement rune, but somehow, it felt like every rune had become a part of his body.

As such, Jason could freely activate every rune he found usable in the current situation.

While huge black flames were tightly woven around Byakur, the armor that enveloped Jason thinned.

Jason brandished his longsword at Jarid who had almost reached him, only to smile lightly as he exerted the Floating sky movement technique to the highest possible degree.

At the exact same time, the Emperor Eyes began to glow brightly as Jason released the petrification curse.

It was just then that Jason noticed that the petrification curse was blocked by Jarid, who seemed to be using a special technique to prevent his entire physique from being affected by the paralyzation.

Unfortunately, this didn't apply to the race specific weakening curse Jason exerted only a moment later.

Jarid, who had assumed that it was the exact same curse he had faced before, hadn't dared to lower his guard because of the uncomfortable feeling he'd received.

Despite that, it was still not possible for him to cope with the sudden weakening his thunder affinity had received.

He was giving his best, but it was exceedingly difficult to overcome the sudden, yet drastic deterioration of a certain trait one had painstakingly trained.

Even worse was that Jarid relied on his thunder affinity more than anything which was noticeable by looking at his physique, the cultivation technique, and other types of techniques he used.

Everything had to do with his affinity, and Jarid was unable to fight without it!

As such, the effect of a decrease of his thunder affinity by a total of 20% was tremendous.

Jason hadn't perceived the exact potency of the enhanced race specific weakening curse before.

Because of that, he could only smile bitterly as Byakur was right by Jarid's side.

The soul weapon had grown to more than ten meters and there was still quite some distance between Jarid and Jason.

Taking into account the decrease of speed the Olympian had to face right now, it was impossible for them to collide in a close combat attack.

He now had to face Byakur first!

Thus, Jarid was forced to face the weapon that was enveloped in black flames head-on.

Evading it was impossible as it was already too late for him to swiftly change his trajectory and Jarid could already perceive how the flames would lunge after him.

Just as the razor-sharp blade was about to hit Jarid, and cut him in half, Jason shortened Byakur's length, barely enough to brandish past the young Olympian.

Byakur's tip grazed Jarid's chest before Jason allowed Solaris to wreak havoc!

The black flames that thirsted for mana pounced on the thunder armor that enveloped Jarid, enveloping and devouring anything through the mana nullification ability the black origin flame possessed.

A moment later Jarid was completely enveloped in black flames and it was only when the young Olympian stopped in his tracks that Jason snapped his fingers extinguishing the flames in an instant.

"I guess I won!" GOD'S EYES Chapter 545 - Loot

"I guess I won!"

Jason was simply stating what had happened even though the result was obvious.

If he'd wanted to kill Jarid, he wouldn't have reduced Byakur's length at the crucial moment, let alone extinguished Solaris' flames that would have burned through Jarid.

Despite his skin being covered in burns and boils all over, Jarid could only grit his teeth and accept the bitter truth.

"I think I have to thank you for not killing me...you had three chances to take my life but you decided to hold yourself back every single time...Thank you, I will remember that!"

Instead of replying verbally, Jason simply shrugged his shoulders.. He was about to leave when he remembered something he had wanted to say.

"Even though you lost today, do not be disheartened. My situation is quite unique which made my victory possible. Your talent is enormous. I've already said it before, but you should believe in yourself and stand up after being defeated.

Today, I didn't kill you in our first clash let alone the second encounter we had, but others won't show any mercy.

It is good to focus on your thunder affinity, but you should learn to be able to fight without it too, otherwise you will always have a disadvantage if someone with a weakening curse is around you!"

After that, Jason simply left.

He had many things to do, and his muscles were sore.

Having fought a total of 50 battles within two days had paid off because he had won his bet.

Not only that, but a winning streak of 50 rounds rewarded him with the permission ticket to enter the world bridge that would lead him towards the broken world.

This was what he'd aimed for all along, and there was no way that he would waste this opportunity.

Ignoring the commotion he had caused with the fight, Jason glanced at the receptionist who was still standing on the elevation.

She was frozen in place, staring blankly at the young man whom she and the colosseum's manager had grossly underestimated.

Earlier, both had assumed that the Olympians were more than enough to handle Jason.

However after the 40th round it had been quite obvious that the man behind the silver dragon mask was exceedingly powerful!

Nevertheless, the chances that Jarid would lose were still low as per everybody else including the receptionist and the manager.

He was the most talented Olympian after all and only a few members of the younger generation were as talented, or even more talented than him.

Most of them were also older to him and had already unleashed their entire potential which was not the case for Jarid.

Never had there been a need for him to use every single trick to fight someone because he hadn't met a being as strong as Jason.

His body was still not strong enough to fully endure the unique thunder constitution he had been gifted with at birth.

Because of that his potential had forcefully been reduced by sealing his constitution with a multitude of seals.

In the end, Jarid could only break through one of them without tearing himself apart.

Though Jason could see a lot through his Emperor Eyes, not everything was clear enough to be perceived perfectly.

As such, he could only tell that Jarid had been unable to use the unique constitution in its entirety.

Once he had exited the arena, he walked towards the reception where only a small number of the initial staff members had stayed back.

They had been watching his battle, and were just about to return when they saw the man with the silver dragon mask requesting to retrieve his equipment in addition to his rewards.

"I-I'm sorry sir, I have yet to receive the official notification of your victory in the 50th battle...p-p-please wait a moment!"

Jason noticed that the young woman he had asked for his stuff had a pale face, and she was seemingly afraid to talk to him.

This caused Jason to take a look at himself but he noticed that nothing had changed about his appearance.

Everything was as it had been before and he had even placed Byakur back in his bracelet.

Thus, he could only scratch the back of his head, not knowing about what was going on.

"Alright!"

Waiting for a few minutes wouldn't make a drastic difference, and the only reason he had wanted to leave the combat arena was to avoid being bothered by others.

If Jason were to know that the colosseum's staff had assumed that he would be killed by Olympian Jarid or at least heavily injured, he would have understood the reason behind their terrified looks instantly.

Not only had almost everyone witnessed his fight with Jarid had already started, but also seen that he was completely unscathed and didn't even have a minor scratch.

As such, something must have happened, and if the young receptionist's assumption was not completely wrong, the man in front of her must be extremely powerful and more talented than anyone she had ever seen!

She now feared that antagonizing him could very well mean endangering her life.

As such, the young receptionist realised that she had to be exceedingly careful because her life was something she held dearly.

The more time passed, the more nervous she became, while Jason merely drummed his fingers on the reception counter with a bored expression.

Wanting to do something productive, Jason entered his soul world through his mind to take a look at his soulbonds.

This had become some sort of ritual for him since a few months already. Not only were his soulbonds a part of himself, and his family, but also extremely important to increase his strength further.

Either of these reasons was already enough for Jason to pay attention to his soulbonds, but the fact that he saw them as his family was the most important which was directly connected to the last point!

The stronger his bond with each soulbond was, the better was Jason's ability to manifest their body parts, and move them around in his mana core.

Likewise, he also improved the speed and accuracy of utilising their affinity.

As such, with a firm soul bond it was less likely for his family to be injured or die as long as he was around to protect them!

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When the female receptionist, who had been in charge of Jason since the beginning regained her senses, she noted that Jason was not in the arena anymore.

Perplexed that she might have offended him in some way, she quickly asked the olympians around her, who had been busy staring at their idol, Jarid, in shock.

"Huh, the man with the silver dragon mask? He went inside, and is probably currently retrieving the equipment he had betted in addition to getting the rewards he was promised."

This worsened her dread and the young female receptionist rushed back to the reception without being able to digest what exactly had happened during the last few minutes.

The entire battle had been chaotic to look at, but at the same time the fact that the man with the silver dragon mask was just at the peak of the 1st Lique stage was terrifying.

Jarid might have lost, but it looked like he had gained a lot from the final clash.

Turning around, she rushed towards the reception, where she saw that Jason was standing around, patiently waiting for someone to acknowledge that he had defeated Jarid.

It took much longer than Jason expected, but when he sensed the mana fluctuations of the female receptionist who had taken care of his bet two days ago, he turned towards her.

She seemed to be distressed and quickly rushed towards him,

"Sir, I'm so sorry for making you wait! We will immediately return your goods and the promised rewards. The reward we hand out will consist of all kinds of items, and we won't barter.

Thus, if Sir wants to exchange goods, the trading market right next to the colosseum will be the perfect place!

As for the permission ticket for the broken world, I will immediately take care of that!!"

Jason didn't even have to say anything because the female receptionist was blurting out everything at once.

He had been a little bit annoyed to have been kept waiting for more than ten minutes as more and more people were approaching him, but Jason couldn't help but laugh when he saw how flustered the receptionist was.

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 546 - Powerful Shop Owner

Ignoring everyone else, Jason looked at the goods he had received instead.

His spatial rings had been filled to the brim, and the inner storage area of his spatial rings was quite an interesting sight to look at.

There were different types of items in it, including the permission ticket to the broken world and another ticket stating that the vendors had to trade fairly with him.

The latter was interesting and apparently another perk of having defeated Jarid.

It could also have another reason, but that was not really important.

Jason couldn't help but feel satisfied with having fought for 2 days straight and gained treasures.

If his assumption was not wrong, the goods he had received would be worth more than ten times the value he had betted.

This was exactly what it should have been, to begin with, but Jason was still glad that the colosseum didn't seem to be stingy with their rewards..

'Well, they shouldn't have made a loss considering that everyone must have betted on Jarid.'

From a logical point of view, it was clear that Jarid would win the fight. He was not only the most talented Olympian but a total of five ranks above Jason.

Thus they had been under the impression that Jason would lose 100%.

Unfortunately, the human race, or to be precise those with a five-star soul-awakening were unlikely to bother about the common cultivation ranking.

It didn't even matter which kind of cultivation ranking one used because God's Children were usually several times stronger than their mana core suggested.

The same could be said about Jason, but that was not only because of his soul world.

His drops of mana were compressed and a single mana drop was equivalent to three common mana drops!

There were several more factors, and in the end, Jason was simply too strong to be assessed on a simple cultivation ranking without placing him a few ranks higher than his current to signify his true strength.

After he had received his reward, he walked outside the colosseum ignoring the angry gazes of those who had bet against him.

However, this didn't matter to him. He hadn't bet his lifesaving, and if others did, it was their fault for not betting on him!

Meanwhile, Jarid had already left the arena while trying to control his hands that were trembling in excitement.

Despite feeling that he would be unable to defeat the man behind the silver dragon mask three months from now during the liberation tournament, Jarid couldn't help but feel eager to meet him again.

There was still something he could use to become stronger in the next few months!

"Maybe, I should work on unveiling the second seal...and I need another martial art technique...!"

The other Olympians had followed Jarid to figure out if he was doing fine or if his will to fight had been destroyed.

He had lost against someone at a much lower cultivation rank after all!

Yet, after they saw the determination in his eyes, the Olympians' worry dispersed, as their behind confusion cleared.

It was normal to feel discouraged after having been overwhelmed by an opponent everyone deemed weak.

As such, Jarid's reaction was uncommon, but everyone could only feel glad about that!

'He hasn't given up!'

Meanwhile, Jason had entered the trading market, where he exchanged the goods he had obtained with all kinds of materials to forge, concoct, inscribe runes, and most importantly resources to cultivate with.

Other than mana stones, and nutrition solutions, Jason had exchanged his goods with pryr stones too!

Petri had to continue advancing and become stronger by cultivation with primordial energy after all!

The trading market was an interesting place, and his eyes fell upon the different kinds of goods on display that made him curious.

One of the most intriguing items Jason came across was inside a small bookstore he had entered on a whim.

In comparison to Janur's library, the bookstore was small, but the books he found were at least as valuable or even more valuable than those inside the library.

While he looked around in awe glancing through the titles of all the different books, what truly surprised him was the old shop owner's mana core.

'Eight solidified prismarine crystals!!!'

His eyes widened in astonishment. Jason had assumed that not a single intelligent being on Argos had yet to reach the peak of the first threshold of the Prismar stage.

At least, not if the world bridges worked as he had known until now.

'Did I miss something?'

The bookstore owner noticed his gaze and only gave him a faint smile without saying much.

Based on the name of the shop that was called 'Old Sadran's treasury' Jason assumed that the Old man of the Ilian race wanted to be called Old Sadran.

'Maybe he entered Argos as one of the first immigrants. If he was at the 6th Prismar stage and came from one of the stabler world bridges then it might be possible.'

For most of the foreign race immigrants, it was different from the three beast Overlords that had already reached the 2nd threshold of the Prismar stage!

They had been much stronger than any being on Argos the moment they had emerged from the temporary world bridges that had only been stable for a short time.

This was something Jason had found out based on the information he had gained from Janur's library several months ago.

Jason hadn't encountered many beings of the Ilian race yet; Jarid was the first and Old Sadran was the second.

That meant their race was a minority, or that they simply didn't like to live in the Olympus federation's capital.

Nevertheless, this was not as important as the books he had found inside the bookstore.

The books were a treasure trove that could provide him with knowledge about the past of all immigrant races, but also about all kinds of forging, concocting, and rune inscribing techniques that were employed by different races.

Though the explanations weren't exhaustive, he could understand that all races used their affinity to enhance the manufacturing process of goods.

That was extremely interesting, and Jason couldn't help but purchase one of the thick volumes he had found after sifting through a lot of books in the bookstore for an hour.

Just as he was about to go to the shop owner to pay for the heavy tome, Jason noticed that the old man was still staring at him intently.

The old man had released his mana since the beginning, scanning through him as if he was an object, which Jason had simply ignored.

As he placed the thick tome and the colosseum's ticket on the counter, Old Sadran knew that he had to give Jason a fair price.

However, at the same time it told the old man something else, he had only been suspicious about before. Olympian Jarid's mana fluctuations were still lingering on Jason!

"You...fought against Olympian Jarid? How come you look perfectly fine??"

The last sentence sounded more like an insult, but Jason could only smile lightly at the old man's question.

There was something Jason had been suspicious about before, but now that the shop owner had asked him directly, his assumption was proven to be correct.

The old man and Jarid knew each other, and mostly had a great bond, maybe they were even related to each other!

As such, Jason knew that he had to give the old man a reassuring answer, otherwise, it might end up being unfortunate on his side. That was what Jason perceived because he got the gist of something interesting.

"We fought, and he is perfectly fine. There is no need to worry about him!"

'HE is perfectly fine? I asked why you're fine and not if he is....fi--nee?!! WAIT?!'

Jason was still wearing his mask, but his mana core rank was evident. As such, Old Sadran had never imagined that his grandson could have been defeated by the man in front of him.

However, the more he looked at Jason, the more dangerous he seemed to become.

"Ah, so he is fine ... great ... "

After that, the shop suddenly turned silent and nobody said anything and a few minutes had to pass before Jason tapped on the tome in front of him.

"How much is the tome for?"

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 547 - So Close, Yet So Far

When Jason left Old Sadron's shop, he felt much better. He had purchased the tome and got to know one of the most powerful citizens inside the Olympus federation.

There shouldn't be a single being at the 2nd threshold of the Prismar stage in the Olympus federation because it would indicate that one had created one rotating crystal enveloping three small solidified prismarine crystals.

Through the rotating crystal, the mana stored inside the mana core would be consistently moved, circulated through the mana core, reinforcing it.

At the same time, the mana strengthened the entire body as well as the mana core's capabilities.

Jason assumed that there were only the three Overlords and at most one or two more beasts with that kind of strength.

But that was not something he could say for sure.

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Furthermore, there was the possibility of a temporary world bridge manifesting every once in a while.

As such, new, stronger beasts could emerge at any time.

Jason would love to change this because it could endanger mankind and the Olympus federation which might come into contact with each other soon.

However, in order to prevent world bridges from emerging, Argos' protection wall had to be fortified, which was something that had to be done manually, and at the planet core, in the worst-case scenario.

His knowledge had yet to reach the basics and Jason had to figure out how to destroy the world bridges without allowing them to be reconstructed once again.

The best scenario would be to terminate all world bridges, except one that would allow anyone on Argos to leave and enter the planet to one particular place that might be some sort of intersection with other world bridges.

That was the best possible scenario Jason had in mind, and something he hoped to make possible in the future.

Unfortunately, this goal was still well beyond his reach at the moment, and Jason assumed that he would have to reach the peak of the Lique stage to make something like that possible.

Due to his unique condition, he shouldn't need to be at the Prismar stage, and one would only be required to look at his Emperor Eyes.

Every single rune was visible to his eyes, and he had already been able to destroy one world bridge!

Though the reason for this had been a different matter altogether, in the end, only the result counted!

Several days passed as he flew in the direction at which the world bridge leading to the broken world was located.

He had more than enough time before New Year's eve when the liberation tournament would start, and Jason was already eager to fight against those prodigies at the 10th Lique stage!

Jarid had already aroused his interest, and he assumed that the young Ilian would grow much stronger too, but Jason was not sure whether or not they would be able to fight again.

Fighting against the God's Children was not really something Jason was interested in because he wanted to represent mankind as a unit, and not fight with others needlessly.

However, if he were to be matched against the God's Children, Jason wouldn't hold back.

He wanted to obtain the lesser origin flame crystal after all!

Advancing Solaris was amongst the most important tasks he had right now, and if the lesser origin flame was what he needed, Jason would get it by all means.

It might not seem important to others, but Jason knew that he couldn't make the Flers wait any longer!

There were too many uncertain factors he had to take into account and he felt bad about them being enslaved, while he was becoming stronger.

The only reassuring fact for him was that they were being treated relatively well.

Jason was inching closer to the solution on how to destroy a simple soul contract, but he was missing the final piece.

Unbeknownst to himself, he had already found the answer he had been looking for.

It was directly in front of him, and something Jason was consistently using; the most obvious answer to everything.

At the same time, it was veiled and an answer that was too easy to be the answer to his problems!

That was also the reason why Jason couldn't comprehend and grasp it.

His mind was still preoccupied with the thought of rescuing the Flers and he didn't even realise that he had already emerged in the proximity of the world bridge.

Precisely, at the same moment, a voice transmission shook him out of his train of thoughts.

[I'm sorry for intruding on Sir's thoughts, but it is forbidden to fly in the surrounding area. If Sir wants to enter the broken world, please descend and follow the given instructions.

Alternately, either descend or follow the signs on the ground and take a detour.]
He chose the latter option and descended to the ground.

Using his Emperor Eyes, he scanned the surrounding two kilometers and the mana fluctuations of every living being in that radius.

As such, he could tell that the fortress that had suddenly emerged in front of him was not only veiled by illusionary magic circles but also protected by a huge garrison at the Prismar stage.

There were several hundred guards and Jason couldn't help but think that they were taking the defensive mechanism on the broken world bridge to a completely new level.

Jason found this great because it told him that the broken world might even be better than he had expected it to be!

The world bridge itself looked similar to the others he had seen through his Emperor Eyes before, and it were only the runes he assumed to be the destination coordinates that were interesting because they were changing every moment.

It was as if the destination was moving around, or to be precise the place they would land.

Apparently, the broken world was said to be exactly that, a broken piece of a world that had ceased to exist. Nobody knew how this had happened, or why this particular piece was still able to sustain itself, but it was flying through space.

At least, that was what others said.

However, according to the information Jason had obtained, it was different!

He didn't know if it was correct or not, but the broken world could also be a dimension constructed by someone else in order to accomplish something.

Everything was possible with enough strength and energy. As such, it was not unlikely that the existence of dimensions, created by other beings, was possible.

Despite taking interest in the moving coordinates, and wanting to know how it was possible for Argos to have naturally constructed a world bridge with the broken world, Jason just wanted to cultivate and train.

He had to become much stronger and the same applied to his soulbonds that were as eager as he was!

As such, Jason followed the instructions he received through the transmitted voice before it suddenly vanished and he spotted a tightly armored man from a winged race.

His visor was closed, and Jason could only see his green feathered wings without actively using his Emperor Eyes.

Unfortunately for the young man in front of him, Jason could see everything owing to the fact that the basic function of the emperor eyes was always activated!

The armor he wore had a concealment effect, but that didn't hinder Jason's sight.

The winged man approached him and Jason tried to appear unruffled as he took out the permission ticket he had obtained from the colosseum.

"Oh? It has been a long time since we had someone from the colosseum. That's quite interesting!...You must be quite strong."

The man who guarded the gates alone seemed to be in a dire need of talking to someone.

However, Jason didn't want to waste his time in chit-chat.

As such, he simply nodded his head which was noticed by the winged man, who could only sigh.

"Please don't create any trouble and follow the instructions, otherwise, we will use force to throw you out of the broken world, if necessary!"

This caused Jason to look at the winged man in doubt.

"You guys protect the inner part of the broken world too?"

At that moment, the man blurted out.

"Of course we do! Don't you know how many basic races at the 1st threshold of the Prismar stage enter the broken world through their world bridge, only to cultivate?"

This was something Jason hadn't known and it was fortunate that he was still wearing the silver mask.

'There are multiple world bridges? How many races are actually cultivating inside the broken world then??'

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 548 - Within Space

Jason thought that the broken world was just connected to Argos, but that didn't seem to be the case.

According to the winged man he had enquired with, there were more than a dozen world bridges inside the broken world.

Despite that, it was relatively peaceful because the space inside the broken world was vast, and there were not many resources except the ginormous amount of naturally generated mana one could make use of.

In the end, peace could only be maintained because the world bridges leading towards the broken world prevented anyone above the peak of the 1st threshold of the Prismar stage from entering it.

Jason already knew this, and he was also aware of the extreme stability the world bridge had which astonished him.

The broken world was moving, and despite that, there was not a single sign of instability of the world bridge's mana fluctuations.

All of this was interesting to Jason, but at the same time, it wouldn't change a lot for him.

He just wanted to cultivate for the next two months and improve his martial art techniques afterward..

Thus, he walked through the fortress, and his Emperor Eyes perceived that there weren't many people who had entered the broken world at that time.

This surprised Jason because it looked like they were wasting the chance to obtain precious resources.

Not fully utilizing the broken world would end up in a loss of time for some prodigies who had to cultivate much longer without mana inside the broken world.

What Jason didn't know was that the broken world had a schedule according to the agreement all races that could enter the broken world had made unanimously.

Thus, it had a total of 10 slots with an exception to the colosseum and other organizations that rewarded an entry to the broken world to someone who had achieved an extraordinary feat.

By showing the ticket he had obtained from the colosseum, he obtained a swift entry to the world bridge.

The total time for which he could stay inside the broken world was three months. This was more than enough for Jason.

Excitement and apprehension filled his mind as he couldn't help but wonder what kind of sight would manifest in front of him!

While taking his first step through the world bridge, he felt a familiar blindfold covering his eyes, making it impossible for him to see anything.

This was something Jason had expected, so only a moment later, he released his stigma and injected a faint trace of mana into his eyes before the blindfold slowly dispersed.

Looking around, he saw the overly familiar stars surrounding him and noticed that several of them were shining brighter than others.

Suddenly, Jason's eyes widened and he couldn't help but smile as he saw three different types of energy swirling within the large space.

It was only after he had undergone the primal awakening of his bloodline that several new changes had occurred and it was the first time since then that he had entered a world bridge.

Two among the three energies looked familiar to him and he realised that they were in fact mana and primordial energy.

Jason assumed the last, unknown energy to be the spiritual force that was, in fact, used to cultivate in the path of wisdom. It was also called Spiral and was used to strengthen one's mind for various purposes.

However, what caught Jason by surprise was that when he turned around, Argos was releasing dense mana currents, enveloping it in a faint membrane.

This membrane should be the world's protection layer that safeguards the planet from outside invaders and at the same time prevents too many strong world bridges from manifesting.

At least, that was what Jason had learned from the books he had read inside Janur's library.

It could be wrong, but it was unlikely because the Elvyr race's world bridge had drained lots of mana that had probably thinned the world's protection layer which in return allowed more world bridges to manifest.

That was interesting, but at the same time made Jason feel like he was missing something.

'If the space is filled with all three energies, why is there no primordial energy or spiritual force on Argos?'

This could have many answers, but Jason did not think further about it.

Instead, he turned his head back to the front, where a huge floating island, enveloped by a dome could be seen.

The sight in front of him was interesting and the broken world's appearance was truly similar to that of a piece belonging to a destroyed world!

Jason smiled lightly at the sight of the broken world and the dense mana currents that enveloped the dome before filling it to the brim.

If he had to estimate the mana density and also purity based on his sight alone, the mana vein below Cyro City, which was the mana densest place Jason had been to, he might consider Argos to have one third in both mana density and purity.

This was shocking, but at the same time, it told Jason that Argos was a planet that was scarce of places with dense mana!!

He had heard that the broken world had characteristics comparable to the planet of some immigrant races who had found themselves a new home because of external factors most didn't want to speak about.

Even those that had fled were accustomed to a mana density several times higher than Argos. They had to overcome many trials other than building everything from scratch in a world that was not only unfamiliar to them but also lacking what they needed the most; cultivation resources.

Despite the loss they had to overcome, the Olympus federation was going strong. However, at the same time, those immigrants who had come to Argos could have only been the youngest generation because those who were older, shouldn't have been able to step through the world bridges due to the strict restrictions.

All of this information helped Jason to construct a big picture of common races, the Olympus federation, and the importance of the broken world in his mind.

'If mankind were to make a treaty with the Olympus federation, the broken world will become a blessing and a curse at the same time!'

Even though that was the case, Jason's mind was fixated on the several channels his Emperor Eyes perceived all around the broken world.

They were likely to be the other world bridges, but before he could think about anything, he was drawn outside the world bridge.

A moment later he emerged from the world bridge and stepped into the broken world filled with dense mana and a flourishing environment.

The moment Jason took the first step he was enveloped in dense mana that swept through his body, invigorating him.

It was an addictive sensation and Jason couldn't help but smile brightly.

He was still wearing the mask, but it didn't hinder him in any way. As such, he had decided to continue wearing it until he would leave the broken world again.

There was no way for him to know what kind of races he would encounter after all, and Jason wanted to avoid attracting too much attention.

This didn't include his enormous mana absorption, which he wouldn't restrict while having extremely dense and pure mana all around him.

A guard who noticed him looked at his permission ticket before leading him to a place where he could rest.

After that Jason was led to a guide who would explain everything to him in detail.

He had been under the impression that there would be nothing special he had to pay attention to, but he had just been proven wrong.

There was a war zone in the center of the broken world, allowing the cultivators to fight each other!

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 549 - Center

Though killing may not be forbidden inside the war zone, it was certainly frowned upon!

There was no need to needlessly kill because it was important to maintain a good relationship with all the races.

This would prevent multiple races from establishing an alliance to overthrow the other races and annex the broken world.

In the end, this was not needed by most common races because they had several areas with a similarly dense amount of mana, and it was only the war zone and other similar facilities that drew their younger generation to the broken world.

It was rare for some races to encounter other races as some liked to keep to themselves.

For such races, the broken world was exactly what they needed to get to know the strength of other races, and their prodigies!

Jason understood this too, and it was only unfortunate races and entire worlds that had to rely on the broken world to cultivate similar to that of Argos and the Olympus federation.

He was not sure if the other races that had a world bridge connected to the broken world knew this, but it didn't really matter.

The Olympus federation had already overcome so much blame and humiliation that being ridiculed by more races wouldn't make it any worse..

In the future; the time when the Olympus federation would make their move, they would start reclaiming their old lands one after another.

This may need time and a proper strategy, but Jason assumed that something similar to that was the federation's ultimate goal.

As long as they reclaimed the weakest planet, it might even work, but only if the older generation of the immigrating races was still alive.

Fighting others while being at the Prismar stage was not really worth it, and Jason could tell that the Olympus federation was making plans for the future, plans that they would enact in the coming centuries, if not millennia later!

Jason found this extremely interesting, and if possible he would tell the human race to establish a close relationship with the Olympus federation.

This might as well help both parties to get what they always wanted while reducing his burden!

Unfortunately, this was something for the future, and Jason was still forced to maintain peace among the different power-hungry clans of mankind on Argos.

Because of that, winning the liberation tournament was even more important as his strength would increase further if Solaris was to devour the lesser origin flame.

Other than that, the broken world was another opportunity he and his soulbonds had to use.

From the information, the guide had given him Jason knew that the war zone was not the only important place inside the broken world.

As such, he manifested Artemis' wings before flying towards the center of the broken world.

By exerting the Floating sky technique at the highest mastery he had achieved until now, his speed increased.

Meanwhile, his stigma and the Celestia aura further enhanced his mana circulation, thus also the highest pace at which he could exert the Floating sky movement technique, increasing his speed.

Equipped with the speed of someone at the latter ranks of the Lique stage, Jason reached the broken world's center only a day later.

There, he could see a gigantic area that was enveloped in a faint mana membrane, indicating the outlines of the war zone.

However, that was not what Jason wanted to look at.

He was more interested in the large market right next to the war zone.

Almost every race had established a small district that had different kinds of goods on display.

Through certain channels, one could even find cheap substitutes for pryr stones.

At least, that was what Jason had heard which was the reason for him to exchange only a few pryr stones with the equipment he had received from the colosseum's bet.

On Argos, one pryr stone was worth two, if not three times more valuable than mana stones.

But that was not the case for other races, let alone the broken world where everyone was competing with each other on offering the best selling prices.

Because of that, he wanted to take a look at the goods' prices inside the broken world.

Maybe he could make use of the races' competitiveness, and exchange the materials he had in addition to the high-grade mana stones.

Unfortunately, the trade market in Janur didn't have what he had wanted.

There were certain things he was looking for, and Jason hoped to find them inside the broken world.

When he had reached the proximity of the market, Jason descended to the ground.

After that, he stepped through the paved streets and switched on his Emperor Eyes ability.

There was no need to waste any time on unnecessary shops where he wouldn't find what he was looking for either way.

Thus, he continued to scan the shops around him before his eyes fell on something.

Turning to his left, he decided to enter an inconspicuous shop.

Jason couldn't help but smile when he took a proper look at the items exhibited inside the small shop that was right in front of a large blacksmith shop.

Even though the items were mostly at the Lique stage, the color Jason perceived showed that it had a high quality.

The same could be said about the entire smithy, with every single tool and material that had been refined to an extremely high extent.

'The weapons have less than 1% impurities! Have they been forged with an origin flame or a particular forging technique that involved purifying metals?'

Jason was curious about forging, concocting, and most importantly, rune inscribing techniques.

This had multiple reasons, but one was that Jason wanted to learn more about the three basic auxiliary occupations as it could help him advance further.

Learning more about runes and how to inscribe them in the best possible way was extremely beneficial for the termination of world bridges.

The same applied to the enhancement process of certain characteristics from forged goods, devices and to accomplish other specific things.

Other than that, the concocting process was connected to inscribing runes too. The better the inscription solution, the more potent would be the inscribed rune.

As such, a technique on how to concoct more efficiently with higher potency was essential too!

This was also connected to the forging techniques as the best-inscribed runes on the most powerful weapons would not only allow the wielder to exhibit more of his strength but also to defend properly without the need to fear that the weapon would break at first contact.

Jason walked through the small shop, inspecting every single weapon through his Emperor Eyes. At the same time, it was not too difficult for him to pay attention to the shop's blacksmith, who looked like a fire giant.

In fact, Jason had almost thought that the race the blacksmith belonged to was the Ganasia race that had attacked Cyro City.

However, this was not the case because of the distinct mana fluctuations and affinities the blacksmith in front of him had.

He might not be sure what race the man in front of him belonged to, but it was definitely among the stronger races in the field of blacksmithing!

By simply observing the blacksmith's strokes on the searing hot ingot, Jason could tell that the hammer was not only heavy but also amplified by mana that was intertwined in a complex manner, creating small dents into the metal.

'Is that some sort of forging technique?' Jason wondered and he seemed to have lost track of time as he was fully fixated on the forging process in front of him.

He tried to imprint every single movement in his mind while doing the same with the mana circulation of the fire giant who released fire from his arm, enveloping the heavy hammer with which he struck the metal.

Jason didn't even realize when the blacksmith had stopped forging, as he had been mesmerized watching him work.

The blacksmith noticed a man wearing a silver dragon mask standing a few meters next to him, staring at him and his forge, and asked in a gruff tone,

"Hey brat, do you have any business with me??"

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 550 - Deal With The Devil

When Jason regained his senses, he could only look at the fire giant while hiding his dry smile behind the mask.

"I was just looking at the exhibited goods when I saw you forging with that mysterious technique. Is that why every weapon has less than 1% impurities?"

Instead of beating around the bush, Jason decided to get straight to the point.

There was no need to hold back, to begin with.

He was in a neutral zone and if someone wanted to attack him defending himself was not really a problem.

Either way, Jason didn't sense any hostility from the fire giant. Instead, he seemed to be somewhat curious.

"You're a blacksmith too, am I right? It's not easy to figure out the difference between highly purified and almost perfectly refined weapons!

Some people are too ignorant to notice whether a weapon has been purified or not....those fools!! They're just complaining about the prices without caring about the effort we have to put in!"

When he heard this, Jason couldn't help but smile lightly.

The fire giant was more sympathetic than he had expected, and it looked like he needed someone to talk to.

As such, Jason continued speaking to him for quite some time.

In that time, he figured out that the blacksmiths' name was Jlarn and that his race was in fact the Lesser Fyr giants that were also called Fyrlg race!

Jlarn was very talkative despite his outer appearance that radiated a grumpy attitude along with the response to the earlier question that had sounded harsher than he had wanted it to sound.

Apparently, he was using the traditional blacksmithing technique of the Fyrlg race, called [Hammer of Fire; K?yldram] that was in fact a Terra-Advanced forging technique!

The technique sounded more like a weapon to Jason, but he had simply nodded his head, interested to know more about every detail of the technique.

He had seen quite a lot about the technique thanks to his observance of the entire forging process through his Emperor Eyes.

As such, he knew how the movement of the basic hammer strikes worked.

Unfortunately, after Jason got to know that it was a traditional technique of their race he couldn't simply ask Jlarn to sell him a copy of it.

This would be extremely rude, and instead of being hasty in wanting to lay his hands on the technique, Jason changed the topic.

Jason accessed his spatial ring and took out certain ores he had perfectly purified when he had learned about manufacturing guns and other weapons at Mike's house.

When he placed the small metal bars on the counter in front of Jason and Jlarn, the blacksmith who was at the peak of the Lique stage couldn't help but instinctively inspect them.

The mana they released was extremely pure and he couldn't sense any impurities within them.

Thus, Jason could visibly see how Jlarn's eyes widened more and more in shock upon seeing the thing that he held in his hand.

It took him a few minutes until he had evaluated all the different types of perfectly purified metals Jason had laid on the counter one after another.

He had a huge mountain of unrefined ores which he had exchanged at the trading market on Janur a few days ago, and wanted to test a few things.

Nevertheless, the perfectly purified goods in front of him were the best of the best of what mankind could provide.

They were rare materials at the Lique rank that were strong enough to be forged into good weapons without the need to purify them.

However, being perfectly purified changed everything about such materials, turning simple metal ingots into finished products that were several times more expensive than the raw material used and had less than one percentage of impurities.

Jlarn was fully aware of the value the perfectly purified ingots in front of him had as forging one was something he had achieved only once in his life as a blacksmith, and that had been an ingot at a much lower rank!

Turning towards Jason, he couldn't help but feel threatened as an uncomfortable feeling emerged within him.

"Did you forge them? What do you want?!"

The blacksmith's mind was running wild and the worst-case scenario flashed through his mind.

As such, he was already expecting Jason to ask for his forging technique in exchange for a certain number of perfectly purified goods.

Jason was a little bit astonished about the blacksmith's behavior, but it seemed like Jlarn could read his body language perfectly well.

'He is more perceptive than I thought!' He thought before he simply asked.

"Are you up for a deal?"

This caused the blacksmith to squint his eyes, only to size up Jason once again.

His talk with the man behind the silver dragon mask had been refreshing, but he couldn't help but feel that the man at the peak of the 1st Lique stage was more capable than he was.

Even more so if he didn't lie about forging the perfectly purified Lique rank ingots himself!

However, he couldn't help but feel intrigued about what kind of deal someone at Jason's caliber could have.

Instead of looking at Jason like someone who was below him due to his mana core rank, the blacksmith had long since noticed that he was no match against him.

Jlarn had never focused on increasing his combat prowess, let alone learning many martial art techniques to a high degree.

As such, he had asked almost immediately, "What deal?"

At that moment, Jason knew that he had caught Jlarn's interest, and once he heard of the deal, the blacksmith wouldn't be able to reject his offer!

Nevertheless, Jason remained silent for a minute as if he was pondering about something before he answered,

"I was inspired by your forging process and felt like I had received enlightenment. Unfortunately, the feeling dispersed when you stopped forging.

How about I give you one perfectly purified Lique rank ingot in exchange for observing your forging process from the beginning?

Well, at least if you are allowed to have visitors who look at your forging process while you exert the Hammer of Fire forging technique!"

This deal astonished Jlarn because it was something he hadn't expected. Hearing that Jason was enlightened while observing his forging process only for a short time sounded nice and made him feel a little proud of himself.

However, even then, the price Jason wanted to pay for looking at a forging process that took less than four hours was too high.

Because of that Jlarn hesitated only to recall what Jason's last sentence had been.

'There is no problem if someone wants to look at our race's forging technique...if he comprehends something by himself there shouldn't be a problem at all!!'

With that thought in mind, Jlarn accepted Jason's offer, unaware that he had just made a deal with the devil.

If the blacksmith were to know that Jason could see and imprint every single move, mana circulation, and the exact amount of mana that had been utilized by every person in his proximity, he wouldn't have accepted the deal so easily.

In the end, Jlarn had accidentally taught Jason the entire Hammer of Fire forging technique in just a day!

Jlarn had even exposed several different ways to use the Hammer of Fire technique, thinking that he had to show off and that he should allow Jason to make full use of the price he had paid to observe his forging process.

Meanwhile, Jason's cost to learn the technique was only a few perfectly purified Lique rank ingots, and not even close to the information he had imprinted in his mind!

After he left the forging shop, only slightly more than one day had passed, and he had more than enough time to do different things.

However, now that he had truly used his Emperor Eyes to learn a technique focused on auxiliary occupations, Jason couldn't help but feel exhilarated!

With that in mind, he accessed his spatial rings to take a proper look at the goods he had still left, as his eyes fell on a bunch of potions Dalia had concocted for him months ago.

They were perfectly purified due to the silver origin flame she had, and Jason couldn't help but grow sad as he thought about his deceased master.

Nevertheless, he couldn't allow sadness to engulf him.

Instead, he had to think of a way to exploit a runemaster in the same way he planned to take care of the alchemist.

At that moment, he recalled the numerous runes his Emperor Eyes had imprinted into his mind every single time he had looked at a world bridge and how they were composed!

A bright smile emerged on his lips as he paved his way through the crowded street.

'I guess it's finally time to learn a concocting- and rune inscribing technique!'