GOD'S EYES 931

Chapter 931 - Custom Mission

It was great to know that true powerhouses were about to reach the Ninad beast realm soon.

However, that didn't really help Jason to figure out what to do if one of the Soul Monarch's Guard were to control or even protect the Soa crystal mine.

As such, he wanted to ask more questions, only to understand that the reason for two dozen or more Specta stage powerhouse to be sent out was solely to tackle the Soul Monarch's Guards.

Sending out more would be suspicious, even more so because the Soul Monarch, himself, might still be lurking in plain sight and roaming around disguised in Liun.

Fortunately, this was unlikely because they had already searched through every nook and cranny in the last week, conducting thorough research.

Thus, everything should be safe on Liun's side, and the only issues at hand were the Soa crystal mine, in addition to the enlarged portal, if one were to exclude the Soul Monarch and his Guards for a moment.

Given the fact that the Yinar race sent out true powerhouses, Jason could only expect that they wanted to annihilate the Soul Monarch and his Guards for good.

From the looks of it, the foretelling of events he had done with the help of Sira's blessing had been more than enough to scare them witless!

This was great, considering that even the true powerhouses and higher authorities felt that the Soul Monarch was a threat to reckon.

With that in mind, Jason didn't really have a problem joining the mission to reclaim the Soa crystal mine.

It was still dangerous, but given the fact that young Elite of different cities was brought together, while still being at or below the Mid rank of the Ascendion stage, Jason figured out that they would be able to fight off the dangers easily.

The Yinar race wouldn't sacrifice their young generation just to train a few survivors and give them practical experience.

The authorities must have put in a lot of thought before asking the relatively inexperienced warriors to reclaim the Soa crystal mine despite the prevalent dangers.

"I'm fine with giving a helping hand to the young Elite of Liun, and the other cities that will join hands. But will we be considered to have joined the rescue mission like everybody else, or will this be considered as an additional mission?"

He had not bothered about the rewards before, but this time, Jason felt different.

After all, he and Jennifer would have to enter dangerous lands in order to support the young Elite of Liun.

This was completely different to the time in which he used his foretelling ability just to find out the truth behind the Shapeshiting ability of the Yinar race's traitors.

In the end, the foretelling ability had revealed a harrowing possibility, but the thought of asking for a reward had never crossed his mind.

After all, he did everything of his own accord.

However, now the situation was different, and Elder Ben, who had been informed about Jason's deed, was aware about what Jason wanted very well.

"While both of you will receive the normal rewards for the reclaiming mission, which is already a small fortune that neither of you should underestimate. Additionally, protecting the Elite of Liun is a personal request from my side, as well as the City Lord.

If you help everyone's safe return from the mine, we will double the rewards the two of you will receive!"

By recalling the rewards of the reclaiming mission that had been handed out not too long ago, just before Jason and Jennifer had left for their mission in the morning, he could only nod his head.

Now that he thought about it again, he realized that if both of them were to receive double the amount of rewards for the reclaiming mission, they wouldn't have to go on anymore missions!

As such, with only one more mission Jason would have enough Soa crystals to have secured one of the main ingredients for his True Soul awakening.

This was great, and after giving Jennifer a short glance to figure out what she was thinking about this, he nodded his head, agreeing to the Elder's proposal.

"I'm fine with that, but what if your disciple acts recklessly and charges into the fray of wandering souls, only to be heavily injured or killed?"

Jason wanted to figure out how serious Elder Ben was, and the question he asked was the best to achieve this.

Yet, seeing the Elder's expression that stiffened before turning eerily serious, Jason seemed to understand what the old man was hinting at.

"I have already stated my condition. Even if they make a mistake, you either save them, or there will be no additional reward!"

Nodding his head, Jason indicated that he understood everything and agreed to notarize the additional mission, the demands, and the rewards.

In the end, Elder Ben even added that he would even consider adding an extra reward if he managed to ensure the safety of the young Elite of the other cities as well.

However, Jason was not sure how confident he should be in himself.

Protecting a bunch of impatient youngsters was already a hassle.

As such, he couldn't protect a large number of youngsters who were bound to act recklessly owing to their excitement.

Fortunately, the Elder was already aware of this, and he just added this clause so that Jason wouldn't ignore the other young Elite of the different cities.

This was not what Jason had planned to do, to begin with, but he felt that it was quite nice of the Elder to care about the other cities' Elite.

After all, it was not that anyone would voluntarily pay a higher price for ensuring someone's safety whom they didn't even know personally.

Yet, what Jason figured was that Elder Ben was likely to approach the other cities after the reclaiming mission in order to demand some money for rescuing the kids.

But that was just a fleeting thought and something Jason couldn't be sure of, at all.

Nonetheless, it was not his business, to begin with.

Instead, his business were the youngsters who were already preparing themselves to gather in the Yinar race governed city that was the closest to the Soa crystal mine they wanted to reclaim.

'Traveling to Niarn will take two weeks, and it will take another week until we arrive in front of the mine... that will be enough time to lecture everyone to not act reckless, right?

If required, using a little force to make them understand their weaknesses should be possible to...'

Jason was already thinking of ways to prevent anyone from being dumb.

Unfortunately, this was easier said than done, because the youngsters were simply reckless.

They would probably take his lecture as guidance. Thus, he had to show them how much they had to improve, and what kind of traits they had to pay most attention to while training.

Because of that, Jason thought of a few things, only to tell himself that overwhelming the youngsters might be the best way.

Little did Jason know that would also turn futile and that the young Elite of the cities who were about to gather in Niarn were the most reckless bunch of youths the Yinar race had trained until now.

Elder Ben was fully aware of this, which was also the reason he had approached Jason, to begin with.

If it was possible to protect the young Elite of their race by providing double the rewards of a simple reclaiming mission, the price was insignificant.

Even paying four to five times more than the rewards of the reclaiming mission would be fine in exchange for the survival of their Elite, after all!

However, Jason was oblivious to all of this, including the most important information about the young Elite of the Yinar race.

He would only find it out slowly and learn about things when it would be too late to turn back.

Chapter 932 - Lecture

Contrary to Jason's expectations everything went by rather quickly.

In a matter of a few hours, the Elite of Liun had gathered in the city, and they departed without any further delay.

This allowed them to reach Niarn in two weeks, where a total of 200 Elite of the Yinar race that would go on their first real mission were eagerly waiting to finally depart.

The Specta stage powerhouses had yet to arrive, which allowed Jason to understand just how restless the Yinar race's Elite truly were.

In the beginning, he and Jennifer presumed that the youths were well trained, and experienced in fighting.

However, seeing how they acted right now, both could only shake their heads in disappointment.

They were supposed to protect the Elite from being severely injured.

Yet, from the looks of it, their restless behavior was already enough to injure themselves if the opponents didn't.

This would be the worst that could happen, and it was something Jason wanted to avoid by all means.

As such, he was quite satisfied at the sight of the youths from Liun.

Jason had already lectured them quite a bit.

Having demonstrated what would happen to them if they were to play around, Jason hadn't held back at all

Instead, he had used a little harsh words to let them know how it felt to be helpless, and how painful it was to struggle every day in order to just survive and hope that the next day would be better and struggle free.

With that in mind, Jason had used his Abyssal effect quite often, barely supplying it with enough mana to activate the effect.

This was more than enough to throw any of the youths from Liun into a deep state of desperation as they attempted to escape the clutches of the abyss.

Taking that into consideration, in addition to the approval he had received from the City Lord, who had spoken about Jason's tactic with his master, there was even less need for him to hold back.

With that in mind, Jason waited a while in order to see if the other youths would calm down, or if they would turn even more restless to see their comrades be in a trance-like state.

Unfortunately, the latter was the case, indicating that the same might as well happen in the reclaiming process of the Soa crystal mine.

This was more than enough for Jason and he released his Celestia aura, enhancing it with his Stigma.

Jennifer's Stigma began to glow too, overlapping with his own Stigma, only for divine aura to sweep through the Celestia aura that enveloped the entire room.

Fully prepared to attract everyone's attention, Jason increased the pressure his aura released, transforming the room into a space full of energy that suppressed other living beings's ability to breathe properly.

Only Jennifer, Jason, and everyone else, who had been able to keep their calm earlier were excluded from this effect.

This was something he did intentionally in order to focus his attention on the rather annoying youths.

And exactly as expected, everyone attempted to retaliate against his suppression by releasing their Soul force.

Owing to the youths' cultivation base this was already more than enough to counter the Celestia aura's effect.

However, Jason hadn't even focused on the aura.

Rather, he maintained a level gaze and eye contact with everyone who dared to look in his direction.

By releasing his abyssal effect with the lowest amount of energy that was necessary to empower it, he swept it through the rows of youths that looked in his direction.

Having been attacked out of nowhere, it was only obvious that they would try figuring out where the culprit was located.

Yet, the moment they looked in Jason's direction, everything turned dark for them as they entered an eerily black darkness; the abyss.

It didn't last long, but the suffocating noises of youths fighting against the darkness that seemed to have devoured them could be heard.

Hearing this, Jason could only shake his head before he looked over the batch of youths that had quickly regained their senses.

This was only obvious but it was still quite dissatisfying to see as Jason had expected the batch of Elite to be much better.

Just a few seconds later, a bunch of Specta stage powerhouses entered the large gathering hall when they sensed tremendous energy waves radiating from an aura they had never sensed before.

Yet, instead of seeing a powerhouse, they only saw a bunch of Elites that were standing in one particular area of the room, while everyone else was lying on the ground, oblivious to what Jason had done.

Seeing the powerhouses at the Specta stage, some of the youths with slightly stronger willpower got up from the ground.

Quickly turning towards the Specta stage powerhouses, one of them began to complain about Jason's assault, without batting an eyelid.

"He attacked us!!! The Agran wanted to kill us, Sirs! We cannot allow someone like him to come with us on our sacred mission!! He will endanger our lives!"

The youth was exaggerating what had happened to an unimaginable degree.

With the energy Jason had used to empower the abyssal effect of his Emperor Eyes, anyone with even the slightest bit of focus on the mission would have been able to come out unscathed.

In fact, there were more than a dozen youths other than the Elite from Liun who had easily overcome the abyssal effect.

After all, those Cultivators who used Soul force were adept in protecting their brain too!

They were cultivating their entire being, which included their body, their cultivated vessel and their brain!

Because of that nobody was injured, and the only thing that had caught them off guard was having been attacked all of a sudden.

Yet, in the end, it had calmed them down and conditioned their mind a little to become calmer.

That was if one were to exclude a few individuals, such as the youth who had just complained about Jason.

While the youth complained, Jason could only shake his head before smiling lightly as he looked in the direction of the Specta stage powerhouses.

After he retracted his Celestia aura, the Stigma on the right side of his face dimmed down too.

This astonished the Cultivators at the Specta stage as they quickly realized what his Stigma indicated.

At this moment one of them couldn't help but blurt out,

"He should be the one Lord Mian told us about, right?"

The others just nodded their heads, before ignoring the youth who had complained about Jason, acting as if he didn't even exist.

This astonished the youth, who believed that he was someone others regarded highly.

Turning his neck at a lightning fast speed, he glared at Jason with anger.

It was impossible not to notice this, but Jason didn't have the time to pay attention to the youth anymore, either.

Thus, he completely ignored him as well.

Meanwhile, the other youths could only look pitifully at the young man, who had complained about Jason.

They had also been enraged about the sudden attack, but their mind had worked faster and deduced a logical reason behind this.

Who would dare to attack the Elite of the Yinar race in such an offensive manner without official permission?

The answer was simple - it had to be the higher authorities of their own race or those prodigies of their race who were simply allowed to do anything they wanted.

In the end, only one such person lived in the rows of the Yinar race, and Jason was certainly not the former.

He was an Agran, after all.

As such, it was only obvious that he had received the permission to attack them mentally, which gave most youths the time to think about their wrongdoings.

At first, they were first confused about what was going on, but after some time, they understood that their restlessness had caused all of this.

They had been careless and would get influenced quite easily which was the reason Jason's simple attack had caused such a huge effect on them.

After all, it wouldn't have worked if they had focused on their surroundings and paid attention to others instead of Jason.

It might be a fact that they were currently safe in the city, but before a mission would start, the first mission for all of them, at that, one should be nervous and overly vigilant, and not carefree.

Understanding this, they eyed Jason weirdly, not sure if that was truly what he had wanted them to realize or if he had been annoyed at their behavior.

However, they wouldn't find out the answer to this, and neither would they know why an Agran was allowed to join their first mission.

It was a tradition to let rookies overcome struggles together and face powerful opponents after all.

Only later would they understand reality, what it meant to fight with one's life on the line, and why exactly Jason had been requested to accompany them!

Chapter 933 - Pulled

After everyone had regained their senses, a few explanations and announcements followed suit.

Once that was done, everyone could rest for an hour, eat, sleep or cultivate before they departed from Niarn.

There was no time to waste anymore.

It had already taken more than enough for everyone to gather in Niarn, and their journey to the soul mine would further take seven more days.

As such, if the Soul Monarch was desperate enough to protect the small Soa crystal mine, he would most probably send a few of his Guards to the mine.

However, everyone expected to encounter numerous wandering souls instead of the Guards as they were more likely to have other tasks to do.

In the end, intelligent races were just better at the tasks that required scheming, trickery and tactical knowledge in order to fulfill specific tasks.

They would design the blueprint and orchestrate the elaborate plans, while the wandering souls of beasts would be the working force that would make things happen.

At least that's what everyone assumed to be the case, with only one or, at most, two Guards protecting the mine.

And this was already the worst-case scenario.

Jason was still subjected to weird gazes, but that was something he couldn't care less about.

During the last two weeks, the Elite of Liun had acted similar to the others, annoyed at his sight and recalling the humiliation of him overwhelming them all with his Abyssal effect.

Everyone had realized that they had no chance against Jason, even though he was only at the Initial phase of the Ascendion stage.

This was frustrating but also a clear indicator of his terrifyingly high combat prowess.

Even the Specta stage Cultivators had clearly sensed Jason's aura and the presence of his stigma.

Yet, the weirdest of all was the fact that the aura seemed to have vanished from their sight for a few moments before Jason had retracted it.

They felt that this was abnormal, but none of them dared utter a word against Jason.

In fact, their Lord had told them to not bother Jason in any way, and let him do what he wanted.

It astonished them that Lord Mian had given an Agran the permission to act however he pleased, but it was not in their power to do something against it.

As such, they had simply accepted the fact that Jason was different and somehow had gotten in their Lord's good books.

Hence, despite their loathing, they decided to not bother him in order to avoid irking their Lord.

Thus, they left Niarn after an hour, keeping close to the borderlines of the territories.

Jason was still eyed weirdly by many as even the Specta stage Cultivators' interest was piqued.

Nevertheless, he ignored their gazes, and instead focused on his Soul world, the thoughts of his soulbonds, Jennifer and his surroundings.

Ever since the day he and Jennifer had reunited, Artemis had begun to sulk and grumble.

Initially, she didn't think much of the fact that he and Jennifer had started spending a lot of time together.

However, after some time she realized what this truly meant.

Thus, she was always complaining to him.

Meanwhile, Petri encouraged him to be more proactive with Jennifer which astonished Jason quite a bit.

He had never thought that Petri would act like this.

Because of that, Jason could only smile bitterly when Artemis and Petri had started to fight inside his soul world.

Meanwhile, Sira had just decided to sleep and ignore them, while Spyro and Solaris watched the fight with interest.

To Jason's misfortune, even his attempts to stop them didn't work.

As such, he was forced to keep watching them fight too, which was quite hilarious in his opinion.

Only after some time, he grow tired of them bickering with each other. His conscience had to leave the soul world to return to Jennifer, who shared a few things with him, which she had noticed earlier.

"When we were in Niarn, I felt a sharp pull towards a few places. I don't know how exactly I can describe the feeling, but I think when we flew past a herbal store, I felt like my entire being was pulled toward this place.

Could this feeling have something to do with the True Soul awakening's requirements?"

In the beginning, Jennifer had just wanted to make sense of things and her weird encounters as there was more than one reason for the pull as it originated from multiple places.

However, upon hearing Jason give her a lengthy explanation of how his instincts had told him to acquire the Soa crystals for the True Soul awakening, Jennifer felt the need to share her thoughts as well.

After she was done, Jason couldn't help but feel great, which his expression clearly showed.

"Did the pulling forces feel different or similar to you? What else did you sense?"

If they could manage to procure the items Jennifer required for her True Soul awakening, it would be perfect.

After all, her bloodlines would finally merge, and it was not unlikely for her cultivation energies to produce a new type of energy with which she could use the darkness and light affinity easily.

That was just something Jason had in mind, but it didn't sound implausible to him.

In fact, he was pretty sure that something similar would happen as her bloodlines were connected to the respective affinities.

With that in mind, and considering the fact that Jennifer's innate bloodline was not exceptional, if one were to evaluate the ordinary Aues and Devir race, there shouldn't be much of a problem.

The requirements for the said races' True Soul awakening were much lower than it was the case for Jason's Celestia bloodline.

As for the Agran race's True Soul awakening, it was quite difficult to explain, but Jason knew that completing it successfully was extremely difficult too.

Thus, Jennifer ought to be the first to procure all items and finish her True Soul awakening.

This was something Jason was eagerly awaiting already.

Because of that, he felt like turning around and going back to procure all items that she had felt a pull towards.

However, it was not that easy because they had left a while ago.

Flying back and forth would also be a hassle, and Jennifer didn't want to do that either.

After all, the items she required seemed to be commonly found in the Ninad beast realm.

The pulling force pulled towards six different locations, after all.

Yet, there were only three different types of pulling forces at work, indicating that there was only total of three different materials that had pulled her towards them.

This was a lot, to put it in simple terms, and it caused Jason to feel even happier.

Niarn was quite a big city.

Still, he had not expected Jennifer to find that many items for her True Soul awakening.

As such, he was unable to control his Celestia aura properly that leaked from his body, enveloping the surrounding youths, all of whom flinched upon sensing the aura.

Yet, when they perceived the joy that was intertwined in his aura, they kept throwing glances towards him once again.

'Does he have a split personality, or is love blinding his senses?'

The youths didn't know the answer, but they liked the current Jason much more than the one who had used his traumatizing effect on them before.

The former Jason had humiliated them by shutting them up in a single glance, literally!

Despite the anger that churned within the depths of their conscience, the youths could still understand why Jason had acted that way.

Realizing their own mistakes instead of pushing it aside and blaming others was the best trait someone could inculcate in their behavior.

As such, even though Jason's way to act might have been unprofessional, it hit the bullseye in communicating his message quite effectively.

Thus, some youths even wondered if Jason had truly acted unprofessional or if he had planned out everything well in advance.

Little did they know that Jason had just acted on his own will, doing what his instincts told him to do.

And th same applied to whenever he felt that the timing for doing something was correct.

That was who he was and who he would be in the future- someone who followed his heart, even if that would mean his doom!

Chapter 934 - Prowess

It didn't take long to reach the Soa crystal mine, which was a given.

Only five days had passed, while the following two days were utilized in order to investigate the mine, and its surrounding.

Instead of barging inside the mine, this was a necessary step.

After all, they didn't have to fight against normal wandering souls, but against beings that served the Soul Monarch.

This was not to be taken lightly, and their worries would further increase if one or multiple Guards would be around.

They were unable to exclude this possibility as an informant could have forwarded intel about the Yinar race's planned attacks on the Soul Monarch's claimed mine and the city in which the Soul Monarch had enlarged the portal to the Kianan race.

Yet, even if the Soul Monarch would have been informed about both, this wouldn't be that much of an issue.

The most important thing for them was to protect the enlarged and stabilized portal.

If the portal were to be destroyed, procuring the high number of Soa crystals would lose its meaning and intent.

Though these crystals were highly sought after, right now their aim was to maintain the portal.

The Yinar race's wandering souls could cultivate with the Soa crystals, and increase their strength at a rapid pace, but that was already it.

As such, Jason presumed that the biggest portion of the combat forces would stay in the city, while only a small number of Guards would be sent out to the mine.

It was also possible that only one, or if they were extremely lucky, none of the Guards were ordered to protect the mine.

This was not something they could ignore because the Yinar race seemed to take Jason's prophecy extremely seriously.

In the end, even Jason had not expected himself to be taken that seriously, but this was certainly something advantageous for all the parties involved, excluding that of the Soul Monarch.

Thus, after the last two days had passed, and the remaining scouts had returned to the small and well-hidden base they had constructed, a simple plan was created.

AT first glance, there were multiple types of wandering souls that were working together in order to mine Soa crystals before storing them inside a specific and well-hidden space.

Other than that, there was no sight of a Guard which was helpful.

But based on the Soul force fluctuations the scouts had been able to perceive relatively easily, there were at least 50 beasts at the Specta stage.

The numerical advantage was thus on the defending side.

However, that could be tackled easily as long as no Guard was on their side.

Despite not sensing or seeing a Guard, they assumed that they would encounter at least two Guards in order to be on the safe side.

Afterward, the strength of everyone was taken into consideration, which was the crux of the entire situation.

Even if most youths and even the Specta stage Cultivators were not at a higher rank than the opponents they would face, by making use of the wandering souls they had bound, their combat prowess could reach an extremely high state.

In fact, some of the Specta stage Cultivators that had been sent out were well-known for their powerful wandering soul, rather than their individual strength.

This might be quite embarrassing for them, but Jason felt that it was even more difficult to bind the wandering soul of overly powerful beasts rather than being strong on their own.

After all, a wandering soul was something permanent that could continue to grow with oneself even further, while individual strength could be enhanced by training.

With that in mind, Jason began to see the Cultivators all around him in a different light.

Initially, they hadn't been prepared to face his mental assault with the abyssal effect, but now that the situation was becoming serious, his little lecture seemed to put some much-needed sense in their heads.

Jason felt proud after seeing how everyone evaluated their strength without boasting a lot as they recalled how they had been overwhelmed by Jason's simple gaze a few days ago.

This made them feel as if they were shrinking in size and were ants that he could squash easily if he wanted to.

Yet, simultaneously, it made them feel like Jason was some otherworldly being who was powerful enough to take out everyone just like that.

The entire situation was quite awkward, and every single time a youth exposed his combat prowess, their eyes automatically flicked to Jason.

Sometimes, youths, mostly the young men attempted to say that they were stronger than they truly were.

However, the moment they lifted their head and met Jason's eyes, whose relaxed gaze was lingering on them, they changed their statement.

As such, Jason felt awkward but also amused about the situation, only to be asked about his combat prowess.

"If you were to fight a life-and-death battle with an opponent that forces you to reveal your entire strength... Do you think that you can handle a bunch of Mid Ascendion stage wandering souls, or can you already defeat Late Ascendion stage wandering souls?"

The Specta stage Cultivator asked the question quite weirdly.

It was almost as if he was vigilant of Jason, and attempted to subtly investigate him.

This caused Jason to smile weirdly, but if he were to be honest, he was not really sure what to answer.

A group of Mid Ascendion stage wandering souls was no problem, and a single Late Ascendion stage wandering soul shouldn't be much of a problem either.

After all, he was yet to find out how strong he truly was.

It felt odd to answer truthfully and would almost look like he was showing off, but after sorting his thoughts, Jason answered,

"I'm pretty sure that I will be able to handle wandering souls at the Late Ascendion stage."

His voice was neither loud nor low, yet everyone could hear the way in which he had answered nonchalantly.

Some youths were unable to hide their grimace as they stared at him, wondering where the confidence to cross multiple ranks, and defeating opponents three ranks higher than himself came from.

And that was not all, because the beasts he was talking about were wandering souls.

This meant that their entire being had been enhanced to a much higher extent than it was the case with a being that cultivated in one of the major three cultivation paths.

Thus, his confidence in defeating wandering souls at the Late Ascendion stage spoke volumes about his true combat prowess.

Yet, rather than being shocked, the Specta stage Cultivator who took note of his strength sighed in relief.

It was a barely audible sigh, but his colleagues noticed this, which caused them to furrow their eyebrows.

'Wait...did he think that Jason might say he can defeat Specta stage powerhouses?!'

Looking from Jason to their colleague, who was visibly relieved, they were not sure what to think.

Had they underestimated Jason, or was their colleague simply insane?

In the end, the latter was more likely to be the case.

Yet, unbeknownst to the other powerhouses, the youngest of them had been silently observing them all.

He was busy mentally noting everyone's strength and was also the one with the best senses amongst all of them.

As such, he had clearly sensed the Celestia aura, the divine energy, and the potency of the overlapped Stigma from Jason and Jennifer a week earlier.

Thus, the youngest Cultivator at the Specta stage couldn't help but think that Jason might even be stronger than he had acknowledged.

If everyone present were to know that Jason had purposefully excluded losing his reasoning, turning into an Infernal Celestia, or subconsciously breaking the limits of his mortal body for a short period of time, he would have stated a much higher rank of beasts that he could defeat.

After all, unleashing his bloodline to the extent that he would be barely able to stay alive was something that could increase his strength to a whole new level, possibly even the Specta stage owing to the secondary bloodline awakening.

Even Jason didn't know how far he might be able to go in the worst-case scenario, after all!

Chapter 935 - Infiltration

To enter the Soa crystal mine, one had to make use of one of the two entrances.

The main entrance was enormous and allowed even the largest beasts to easily pass through it while leaving enough space for other beasts to enter it simultaneously.

Meanwhile, the other entrance was small and barely allowed three humans to enter at once.

As such, they had decided to pierce through the defensive line of the wandering beasts by using both entrances simultaneously.

While only a small margin of the entire attacking force was supposed to use the smaller entrance, the rest used the bigger entrance.

Through this, they were able to sandwich their opponents, allowing them to focus on taking out the most threatening wandering souls first.

This was the most important aspect of their battle strategy because the strongest wandering souls could eliminate the Yinar race's entire Elite with just a single attack.

Such an incident would be the worst possible outcome, which was why the Specta stage powerhouses entered the mine half a minute before anyone else.

Their energies were retracted and concealed from the senses of others in an almost perfect manner. These would be released upon encountering the strongest wandering souls.

Through the surprise attack they hoped to defeat their most threatening opponents within a few moves, but that was easier said than done.

Thus, instead of going ahead with the 30 seconds delay in mind, Jason and the three Cultivators at the Specta stage had decided to increase this time to one minute.

The small group had stayed behind with the Elite units in order to ensure their safety.

Under normal circumstances, the strongest Cultivators on their side would defeat Specta stage wandering soul within 60 seconds at the bare minimum.

In the end, this might not be the best outcome, but it was certainly enough for everyone else to feel more at ease while fighting the Ascendion stage wandering souls.

As such, once the first powerhouses entered the mine, the others listened intently to the sounds that thundered through the surrounding area only shortly afterward.

It was an indicator that the fight had started, which gave them the necessary information to focus on the released energy fluctuations instead of solely listening to the sounds.

Perceiving the Soul force fluctuations would allow them to visualize the situation that occurred farther away from them.

However, that was not necessary for Jason, who saw everything that happened in the depth of the Soa crystal mine right from where he was.

Being able to see every single fluctuation of the numerous beasts that inhabited the mine, Jason clearly understood that the situation was far more dangerous than initially expected.

The number of Specta stage wandering souls had largely been correct, with only a variation of three or four beasts in total.

That was great, but the same couldn't be said about the thousands of Ascendion stage wandering souls that were hiding underground.

He saw the outlines of Scorpions, Spiders, Centipedes, Corroded Moles, Bats, and even Goblins.

As such, Jason figured that they had built a society in which the Goblins were the biggest working force, while the other wandering souls were mostly used for mining.

At the same time, each of the beasts seemed powerful, and strong enough to fight against others at the same cultivation base as long as its survival was on the line.

Jason was not sure what to make of the scene in front of him because it made his mission to protect everyone several times harder than it had already been.

Yet, instead of focusing on the weaker wandering souls, Jason took a glance at the fight between the Yinar race's powerhouses against the stronger wandering souls.

This allowed him to clearly sense that the Cultivators on their side were more powerful owing to the wandering soul's armor which everyone seemed to be proficient at constructing around themselves.

With their combat prowess in mind, Jason could safely assume that they were winning.

Because of that, he didn't hesitate to allow Petri to enter his mana core, increasing his strength as he prepared himself to fuse with the Cursed Basilisk.

Yet, it was just a moment later that he sensed an incessant nagging ringing through his mind as one of the soulbonds that had never voiced out its desire to fuse with him, stated that it wanted to try the soul fusion.

This astonished Jason a little bit, but after thinking about it for a moment while considering the situation, he nodded his head.

Asking Petri to leave the mana core, which the Cursed Basilisk did only unwillingly, he then allowed Spyro, the Spiral Spirit, to enter his mana core.

Owing to this, his brain functions were enhanced severely, giving him the ability to think about more things at once with a faster pace.

This was great, and nearly perfect because Jason had already figured out what Spyro wanted to do with him.

'Let's do it!'

Feeling excited at the prospect of fighting alongside Spyro, he took a deep breath before allowing his mana core to form a connection with the spiral soulbond.

It was the first time for him to undergo a soul fusion with Spyro.

Compared to the natural soul fusion with his other soulbonds, Jason was not even able to explain how exactly he was feeling.

Seconds passed, but he was not sure what exactly was changing within him as everything felt similar to how it had always been.

Only a faint itch in his eyes told him that its colors had changed to a bright silver color, while his hair had taken on the same bright color as well.

They had already been silver in color, but now it was an even brighter shade that gleamed lightly.

Following that his entire body began to leak tiny droplets of a silver, semi-translucent liquid that enveloped him tightly.

A second layer of skin was added to his body, slowly covering him while the semi-translucent liquid disappeared slowly.

Turning into a full-body suit, the silver liquid suddenly shot up, transforming its shape at once as a seemingly solid armor was formed.

His seemingly ordinary combat clothes were hidden as Jason's entire being was now clad in a bright shining silver armor that attracted much attention and shone a little.

Yet, Jason couldn't really be bothered about this as Spyro's stigma manifested on Jason's body.

It connected to his first stigma but didn't appear above it.

Rather, Jason's stigma looked as if it had been enlarged once again.

Glowing brightly, the golden color of his stigma could be sensed through the silver armor.

Nevertheless, one couldn't see it, and the only thing one was able to perceive was that the Celestia aura was slowly changing, taking on a silver-tone as well.

Following that, Jason also perceived that his brain was working much faster than before, while the energies coursed through his body at a much faster pace.

In fact, it almost felt like he was able to use every single trace of energy at will, without the need to think about it.

This feeling made it look as if he was addicted.

Because of that, Jason didn't hesitate to retract his God's Halo back into the Soul world before releasing it behind his back in its usual size.

As such, a large, silver-colored halo manifested behind Jason's back with golden edges turning it even more glamorous.

Yet, the tremendous energy wave it connected to didn't overflow in the surrounding area.

Rather, the energy waves flowed inside the silver-colored armor that enveloped Jason tightly, strengthening it further while radiating tremendous pressure.

This caused everyone to look at him in doubt as goosebumps sprang all over their bodies with a single thought flashing through everyone's mind.

'Is he really only an Agran?! What a... monster!'

Chapter 936 - Duplication

Releasing tremendous pressure, the soil below him cracked open, and the loose grains of sand were thrown all over the surroundings.

Lifting his arm, Jason couldn't help but smile as he felt the strength coursing through him.

He might have only fused with a Spiral Spirit that enhanced his brain functions.

However, the degree of the enhancements was terrifyingly high.

It even enhanced his sub-areas' passive cycles.

Through this, the surrounding energies were naturally pulled towards him, only for the effect to increase even further as the God's Halo, his Celestia aura, and the enhancing effect of the Stigma were fully unleashed.

Thus, the surrounding area spanning up to a radius of more than fifty meters was quickly deprived of its energy before Jason took his first steps.

Having connected the God's Halo with the silver armor, it was swept through by an enormous amount of divine energy and mana.

Yet, instead of being connected to only the God's Halo, Jason's direct connection to it was even higher.

Thus, he could make use of the energy within it, the moment he thought about it for a second.

Such a feat was exceptional because it would mean that it was extremely difficult to drain him of every single ounce of energy inside his body.

After all, the God's Halo was an enormous energy storage device, with the additional function to absorb and annex the energies it had absorbed.

Making use of this as an extension of his body allowed Jason to move it however he wanted.

However, that was not the main essence of the current situation because he and Spyro focused on using the energies within him in order to split him up.

Rather than being split up, it was more like Spyro had learned the duplication technique of the Spiral puppet, which it had used in order to defeat and overwhelm Jason years ago during the time he had been inside the Dungeon of the Primordial Descendant.

As such, Jason wanted to make use of the fact that Spyro had copied the duplication technique using moonlight mana, and large amounts of energy in order to create similarly strong duplications.

The amount of moonlight mana and divine energy that was required in order to create a single duplication was enormous, but the consumption of energy that was drained of him from the moment a second duplication emerged was equally high.

As he was continuously being drained of his energy to maintain and sustain the duplications, Jason knew that he would have to act really fast.

After all, he wanted to protect the youths, and using the fused state with Spyro, in addition to the duplications that he and Spyro were currently creating with his spirit soulbond's help ought to work perfectly fine.

Thus, with every single step he took, the energies that left his body, only to gather half a meter next to him, were slowly forming the outlines of his silver armor.

Approaching the Soa crystal mine with fast strides, two replications of him had been formed half a minute after he had initiated the duplication technique.

It took him longer than expected, and he had yet to even enter the mine completely.

Nevertheless, Jason was still excited which allowed his transmuted Celestia aura to expand even further as the surrounding energies were pulled towards him at a rapid pace.

The energy consumed by the replicas was balanced out by the numerous passive effects that revolved around Jason.

Thus, he was only drained of the necessary amount of energy in order to create the replicas that had the combat prowess comparable to 80% of his current state.

This was without the Stigma, and God's Halo, which was something Jason couldn't duplicate.

Nevertheless, this was more than enough to allow Jason to feel exhilarated as he circulated moonlight mana and divine energy through his body in addition to exerting the Hermes Celeration technique at once.

Catapulting himself inside the mine, his replicas followed suit and made use of the energy that had been transferred to them in order to attempt catching up with him.

However, that was easier said than done as Jason had already disappeared in the depths of the mine that was glowing in a faint golden light.

This light radiated from the Soa crystals, throwing a soft golden yellow light on the walls, lighting up the interior of the cave.

Meanwhile, as Jason shot towards the first opponents followed by his replicas, even the Specta stage Cultivators that had been left behind had halted in their tracks the moment Jason manifested replicas of himself.

Clearly sensing the distinct divine energy which the replicas radiated followed by the presence that originated from them, they felt stupefied.

Yet, instead of allowing themselves to be overwhelmed by the terrifying threat they felt from Jason, they realised that it would tarnish their reputation if they were to allow a youth at the Initial rank of the Ascendion stage to take all the credits of the reclaiming mission.

The young Elite of the Yinar race thought the same.

However, they had already gotten a first-hand impression of his abilities and clearly understood that Jason had held back when he had used his Emperor Eyes' abyssal effect.

This was something they had already expected, but witnessing the sight of Jason's natural soul fusion, and the transformation he underwent, everything became so much more intense in their mind.

'He could have killed us with his eyes alone if he would have used this weird energy!!'

None of the youths had any idea that the weird energy which they were referring to meant the divine energy that was even purer, and much stronger than their Soul force.

All these days they had been living under the impression that their cultivation energy was the strongest, but now they were forced to undergo a reality check.

This hit them harder than expected as most young Elite could only see how the Specta stage Cultivators released their wandering souls and merged with them naturally before they shot towards Jason.

They were able to catch up with him, but it took them slightly longer than expected.

And that was under the consideration that their strength increased owing to the merged wandering soul they had released.

Thus, they quickly realized that even Jason's replicas were on par with Late Ascendion stage wandering souls.

However, what they didn't realize was the fact that they had completely forgotten to take Jason's combat proficiency into account.

If they were to understand that the replicas borrowed his combat experience and proficiency, they would be even more shocked about the unique technique he was using.

In fact, they would probably attempt to purchase the technique from him as it was bound to be something overly powerful.

Little did they know that it was his soulbond that had learned the technique instead of Jason himself.

In the end, there was not much time to think about Jason either.

As such, their focus quickly switched to the fights ahead which they joined after killing the wandering souls that were in their way.

Following that, they entered the fray, acting as the defensive line between the Specta stage wandering souls and those wandering souls at the Ascendion stage.

One could also say that they were dividing the battlefield into two parts, allowing Jason and the Elite of the Yinar race that was slowly advancing towards the interior of the mine.

They had a hard time catching up with Jason, and the moment they saw three of him fighting together, taking on dozens of wandering souls at the Late Ascendion stage, they felt insignificant.

And that was the case despite their cultivation base being higher than Jason's!

At this moment, Jennifer shot past them, and two pairs of wings were released as two swords manifested in her hands.

Spinning her body while releasing her two repulsive affinities, she transformed into a black and white as she advanced through the rows of wandering souls that obstructed her way.

'They're...both monsters!!"

Chapter 937 - Attack is the best defense

For several seconds, the youths could only look at Jason and Jennifer in doubt.

It was the debut battle of the young Elite of the Yinar race, yet, the two newcomers who didn't even belong to their race stole all of their limelight.

This made them furious and frustration spread through their entire body.

As such, without any delay, they allowed their wandering soul to emerge from the depths of their soul before they merged with it.

Releasing their wandering souls to the extent that the young Elite was barely able to control them, their strength increased drastically.

Thus, shooting towards the foes that had a numerical advantage, they began to overwhelm them, clearly showing who had the upper hand.

While their cultivation base was mostly at the Low Ascendion stage, they were able to fight against Mid Ascendion stage wandering souls the moment they utilized their bound wandering soul properly.

Sensing this, Jason nodded to himself, understanding that he had underestimated the young Elite's strength a lot.

However, this was only to his advantage, which made him smile lightly as he reverted his focus back to himself and the two replicas he controlled.

Despite a mana and divine energy consumption that was trice higher than usual, Jason was still not facing issues.

After all, the duplicates were using the same movements as he did which included their passive mana gathering.

This was quite advantageous, but nothing in comparison to the Celestia aura, the enlarged Stigma, or the pull of the God's Halo.

These traits were something Jason and Spyro were unable to duplicate, but that was perfectly normal.

If that had been so easy, many more beings would possess such traits too.

However, as this was not the case, there had to be a reason, even if it may only be related to the complications of reconstructing the God's Halo or a Stigma.

Keeping his focus on the opponents he and his replicas faced, Jason quickly understood that there were quite a few Peak Ascendion stage wandering souls which the Specta stage powerhouses had missed out on earlier.

This proved to be yet another hassle because Jason was pretty sure that he was unable to defeat them in his current state.

Nevertheless, he didn't think of holding back because the moment Jason retreated, the more powerful wandering souls would reach the young Elite of Yinar.

They were already fighting against numerous wandering souls at the same time.

The only fortunate thing was that the cultivation base of their opponent was not exactly high.

With that in mind, even if their numbers were on the higher side, defeating them shouldn't be much of an issue.

And even if there was something wrong, there was still Jennifer who could tackle the opponents quite well.

Releasing a thread of mana from himself, Jason shot it towards Jennifer, before sending her a voice transmission.

[Protect the kiddos, I'll take care of the small issues in front of us, alright?]

Jason didn't wait to receive an answer as he terminated his contact with her.

Instead of allowing himself to be distracted, his main focus remained on the three Peak Ascendion stage powerhouses.

They were quite a hassle, but it was quite advantageous that Jason's innate strength was already comparable to someone five times stronger than a normal being at the Ascendion stage.

Adding the enhancements of his secondary Celestia bloodline awakening to the other traits, Jason's innate strength was likely to be sixfold stronger than one would usually have at the same cultivation base as him.

This feat was exceptional, but not strong enough to fight against the wandering souls at the Peak Ascendion stage.

After all, their entire being was cultivated by Soul force, which made their strength equivalent to someone with twice, and possibly even thrice the strength of a normal being.

As such, Jason knew that he had to rely on his other traits, the two replicas that were calmly standing next to him, and other additional factors.

Unfortunately, it was extremely difficult to cross a total of four ranks within a single cultivation stage, even more so if one was progressing to higher stages.

The Ascendion stage was known for a wide range of strength beings within the same rank had, yet Jason was supposed to make a miracle come true.

Under normal circumstances, he would avoid the Scorpion, the High Goblin, and the Earthworm in front of him.

Unfortunately, their current situation was far from being normal.

With that in mind, Jason didn't hold back from immediately making use of the God's Halo.

Releasing the stored divine energy from within it, Jason and his replicas released a terrifying presence as their silver-colored armor was fluctuating wildly.

After releasing the transmuted Celestia aura with the Stigma fully unleashed, Jason and his replicas circulated the divine energy through their body before exerting the Hermes Celeration technique.

Upon facing a life-and-death battle, Jason didn't even think of acting defensive.

Attack was considered the best possible defense, and this was something Jason believed in, most of the time unless he was unnecessarily provoked.

As such, with both replicas wielding the weapons they had received from Jason, all three of them faced an opponent each.

While Jason faced the strongest opponent, which was the High Goblin that was around the height of a normal human, the duplicates were using their utmost efforts in order to face the other two wandering souls.

They were not supposed to kill them, but stalling was already enough in Jason's opinion.

Given that factor, the two replicas moved away, averting the focus of the Earthworm and the Scorpion from Jason's main body to themselves.

Moving at a rapid pace that was on par with a Late Ascendion stage wandering soul, the two replicas had to use their high agility, and flexibility to evade the attacks that reached them with a terrifying velocity.

As such, Jason was finally able to fight against a single opponent without being distracted either by friend or foe.

This was quite advantageous for him as he also exerted the Hermes Celeration movement technique.

However, in comparison to his duplicates, Jason's speed was much higher owing to the transmuted Celestia aura, the Stigma's effect, and the fact that the God's Halo supplied the divine energy stored within it directly to him.

Jason noticed how painful it was to solely use divine energy to strengthen his body, and to exert a movement technique.

Unfortunately, that was not something he could pay attention to right now.

Instead, Jason had to use an additional boost of speed in order to catch up to the fierce-looking Goblin.

Shielding the backside of his silver armor with black burning flames, they erupted and blasted him ahead, straight towards the High Goblin that wielded a seemingly ordinary weapon.

Yet, noticing that it was manifested out of some sort of metal and the wandering soul's energy, Jason knew that he had to be vigilant.

Thus, rather than launching an elaborate attack, he decided to do something small.

After injecting an enormous amount of divine energy in his eyes, Jason activated the petrification curse, followed by the race specific weakening curse, only to end the combination of attacks with the abyssal effect.

However, in the end, this was just the beginning because Jason emerged in front of the High Goblin while holding Byakur in his hand.

He swung the blade that slashed at its core, only to notice that the wandering soul was able to move.

Yet, this was exactly what Jason had expected; an instinctive movement.

Unfortunately for the High Goblin, Jason had exceptional eyesight allowing him to predict his move in advance in addition to the foresight blessing that made this even easier.

Thus, even with the High Goblin's exceptional strength, it was unable to evade Jason's attack.

Byakur's trajectory had been altered to correctly aim at the area he had to pierce through perfectly.

Jason's attack was successful as only a moment later he cut the High Goblin in half!

Seeing its corpse slump to the ground made a confident smile emerge on Jason's face, clearly understanding what he had just achieved.

'The God's Halo and divine energy..is so powerful!!'

Using the advantage he had gained by defeating the High Goblin, Jason didn't waste any time as he began to support his replicas in defeating the other two wandering souls.

This was possible but drained Jason of a huge amount of energy, including the stored energy within the God's Halo.

He had used up an enormous amount of energy, but the final result was shocking to put it simply.

After all, even without releasing his limitations of the body and bloodline, he was able to defeat a total of three wandering souls at the Peak of the Ascendion stage.

And that was exceptional considering that their combat experience hadn't been great!

Yet, instead of being able to celebrate his victory against three mighty beings at the Peak of the Ascendion stage, Jason's focus drifted to another batch of opponents. He was utterly exhausted which is why the entire group of wandering souls decided to target him.

With an exhausted expression, Jason could only sigh as he cursed inwardly.

'Is that really necessary?!?'

Chapter 938 - Trap

'Is that really necessary?!?'

Shaking his head in frustration, Jason felt as if his mind had blanked out.

Exhausted from the earlier fight against three extremely powerful opponents, he deserved to rest for a short while.

That was the basic courtesy Jason had hoped for.

Unfortunately, a battlefield was not generous enough to provide him with some peace.

However, that was something he shouldn't have expected to receive, to begin with.

Because of that, he could only force himself into a defensive stance as he faced his opponents.

Though he was prepared to fight and protect the young Elite of the Yinar race, along with Jennifer with his life, Jason could only ask himself if everything was truly worth it.

'What is the use of a few treasures, if I were to die for them?!'

Yet, he had no time to lament and he cleared his head of the negative thoughts while his defense turned into an iron wall.

From the looks of it, there were numerous wandering souls who were ready to fight with their life on the line.

Yet, the stronger wandering souls seemed to be the most ferocious too.

This was quite disadvantageous for Jason, who was still determined to protect the young Elite of the Yinar race while attempting to clean up the front rows of powerful beasts.

But that was much more difficult than he had initially expected.

As such, it was fortunate when he noticed that the wandering souls were stepping away and retreating inside a smaller cave that was hidden behind a corner within the cave, which others couldn't see well.

The precision of their retreat was odd, and it made Jason halt in his tracks after he had defeated the wandering souls around him.

Following that he decided to help the youths who had been struggling, only to shoot a glance towards the direction where more than a thousand wandering souls had gathered.

Whether this was their safe hideout or a means to initiate a counterattack, Jason didn't know.

However, it was not as if he cared about this, to begin with.

Their mission was to reclaim the Soa crystal mine.

That meant every single beast had to be killed in order to be thrown out of the mine.

As the latter was too difficult to do with wandering souls that numbered in the four digits, Jason didn't even waste his time trying to come up with a way to throw them out, and instead kept his peace of mind.

Instead, he used his Emperor Eyes and divine energy that enhanced it, which in turn helped him clearly perceive all entrances to a secret room.

In fact, the secret room was also connected to a warehouse, which confused him a little bit.

It made no sense, but he simply accepted it for now.

Yet, feeling odd, his gaze swept through the entire secret room, where he was able to perceive many things that he couldn't clearly decipher.

There were all kinds of devices he had never seen before, and without actually seeing it with his bare eyes, Jason was absolutely clueless of what these things actually were.

However, it was just at this moment that a wave of powerful wandering souls emerged from the depth of the Soa crystal mine.

Not even fifteen minutes had passed since the fight over the Soa crystal mine had started, yet Jason got a bad feeling that it was going to turn bloody real soon.

The issues were not the sudden emergence of the wandering souls from the deeper area of the Soa crystal mine.

Rather, his gaze drifted to the devices which the High-Goblin wandering souls seemed to be utilizing.

Seeing them armed to the teeth made Jason feel as if they had truly expected their attack.

But if that were to be the case, at least one Guard of the Soul Monarch would have been around in order to, protect the mine to a bare minimum.

When he gave it another thought, this was probably what irked Jason the most as he witnessed how the High-Goblins moved their arms, demanding the other wandering souls to come closer.

Picking up Soa crystals while moving closer, Jason was only able to see that the fluctuations of the Soa crystals and the wandering souls weakened as they approached the devices.

This made Jason's heart skip a beat, and his aura fluctuated wildly as he realized something that made him freeze in place.

The wandering soul he had just killed with Byakur's razor-sharp blade, slumped to the ground without his notice.

At the same time, his replicas began to ripple only to turn towards Jason before they transformed into pure energy as they were pulled back towards the main host.

Both the replicas filled Jason's body with the remaining energy, making him feel energized.

However, even that didn't help him to endure the sudden cold that swept through his entire body.

Goosebumps erupted on his body, and he was unable to think straight.

There was only one particular thought in his mind, and it scared Jason!

'Why does it feel like a deja-vú??'

A premonition filled his entire body, and all of a sudden his soul world core vibrated, and the golden scorpion that had been engraved on it glowed.

This caused numerous painful memories to flash through his mind.

Yet, instead of allowing his brain to relive the memories, Jason enhanced his vocal cords before he shouted out.

"THIS IS A TRAP!! LEAVE THE MINE!!!"

His voice boomed through the entire Soa crystal cave, bouncing off the walls which further amplified it as every single living being heard him.

Unfortunately, hearing and reacting to one's words were two different things.

In fact, the Specta stage Cultivators didn't believe a word.

Rather than listening to him, they wanted to defeat the beasts they were currently facing.

This was far more important in the process of reclaiming the Soa crystal mine as it would result in an increase in their reputation.

Other than that, the rewards they were bound to receive were enormous, which was the biggest reason for them to accept accomplishing the mission, to begin with.

Thus, nearly everyone had decided to ignore Jason's warning.

Jason felt anger surging up within him, but the decision or mindset of the others was not something he could change just like that.

As such, he thought about it for a moment, forcing his mind to work harder that made a numbing headache spread through his brain.

"IDIOTS, THINK ABOUT IT!! Why the hell would the Soul Monarch abandon a perfectly fine Soa crystal mine?! There is not a single Guard of his to protect the mine, and even the wandering souls are not that powerful.

Rather, they're just a high numbered bunch of cannon fodder!!!"

Initially, the Yinar thought that Jason was proactively trying to distract them from fighting with their highest combat prowess.

Why he would do that was something they didn't know.

Hence, they simply didn't plan on trusting his words earlier.

Yet, the moment they heard his second warning that reverberated through the entire cave, they were able to finally realize that it was the truth.

With their focus dragged away from the Specta stage wandering souls that had distracted them severely, they were even able to notice that most of the wandering souls were truly ordinary beasts that could be replaced easily.

The Soa crystal mine was also much more valuable than they had first assumed, which made everything only weirder.

As such, the youngest of the Cultivators at the Specta stage immediately released his Soul force fluctuations. It rapidly spread through the entire surface area of the mine which made him notice something that caused him to freeze in place.

"Fuck....LEAVE QUICKLY!!"

Chapter 939 - Escaping

The moment everyone heard one of their own shouting out a curse followed by a warning, the other Cultivators at the Specta stage halted in their tracks.

Ignoring the wandering souls they had almost defeated, they immediately released their Soul force.

This allowed them to sense the same devices as Jason and the youngest of them had sensed earlier.

Their expression turned grim and their faces paled visibly, as everybody started to shout warnings and curse themselves for their mistake.

"This fucking Bastard!!"

"Fuck!"

"RUNN!!"

Just at that moment, the High Goblins that were in charge of the mysterious devices seemed to have noticed the fluctuations that reached them.

As such, instead of continuing to empower the device they had been ordered to fill to the brim, they activated it immediately even though it was only partially filled.

When that happened, weird energy fluctuations were released by the device, only for the surrounding temperature to instantly spike up to match that of a furnace.

Following that, numerous things happened at the same time.

First, the entire Soa crystal mine seemed to be drained of its energy, including the Soa crystals that had been brimming with energy and radiating a golden light.

Not even a second after that, Jason was able to perceive how the energies gathered in the core area of the device.

Being compressed, they were bound to explode after a certain threshold, post which they would be further nurtured by the weird energy the devices released.

This worried Jason a lot, but rather than staying idle, he turned towards the entrance of the mine.

It was not even five hundred meters away from them, but it was at this moment that he noticed how several young Elite of Yinar were still fighting against other wandering souls.

They had been unable to move away, pressured by the high number of wandering souls that were closing in on them.

This was a huge hassle, which caused him to throw a glance at Jennifer.

[Take out the others! I'll take care of the wandering souls!]

It might not even be necessary to use his voice transmission for now, but he wanted to send out a clear message to her rather than letting any misunderstanding crop up.

A moment later he had replaced Spyro with Artemis in his mana core.

Using moonlight transmuted mana to tend to his overly exhausted body, he realized that his condition was much worse than expected.

Yet, in the end, he could not afford to rest and had to manage on tending himself a little by using nothing else other than his moonlight mana.

As such, the situation in which Jason was, could be considered a huge hassle.

However, that was not something he could bother about because even the Specta stage Yinar were unable to move away.

Having killed the beasts around him, he was one of the few that were free to move.

Because of that, Jason pushed himself to overcome his body's limits and unfurled Artemis before flapping them, accelerating the speed at which he was able to shoot towards the wandering souls that kept the young Elite occupied.

Appearing in front of the first opponent, Jason lashed out without hesitation, eliminating the first threat with a simple attack.

Afterward, he moved like a whirlwind, killing the remaining wandering souls that were circling the young man in front of him.

"Leave!!"

Knowing that there was not much time, Jason clearly understood that the lesser youths he had to save and protect, the better he could fight.

Throwing a short glance behind himself, he noticed that the Yinar at the Specta stage were still fighting.

This was quite bad, but from the looks of it, they were able to retreat while fighting.

It was not the best approach, but within the next ten seconds, they would be able to leave the Soa crystal mine.

Jason was sure that 500 meters were not enough to survive the explosion that would be caused by the device.

However, that was something everyone could figure out quite easily.

In fact, Jason was not sure how much of a distance they had to keep in order to survive the explosion that was bound to occur.

Nonetheless, having sensed the trap early enough was great, to put it simply.

After all, his presence of mind provided everyone with a chance to, at least, survive the given situation.

Most of the youths had already left the arena only a few seconds later, with only two who had stayed behind.

Seeing them still desperately fighting their opponents, Jason figured that they could feel their time running out.

Even Jason felt uncomfortable with the sudden increase in heat as the entire mine seemed to start to melt.

He didn't even have to take a backward glance in order to know that the situation had escalated to its worst possible level.

Thus, Jason could only ignore the pain spreading through him as he used the remaining energy in his body and the God's Halo.

Additionally, he combined everything together in order to exert the Hermes Celeration technique, while activating his Stigma, which enhances his speed further.

His enlarged Stigma had reverted to its original appearance.

Fortunately, this was his advantage as it required less of Jason's energy to be activated.

This allowed the young man to shoot forward towards the first of the two youths.

He was surrounded by a few High Goblins at the Mid Ascendion stage and was fighting them all after enveloping himself an armor that resembled crocodile hide, bleeding due to several cuts.

His condition was bad, to put it simply, and it was only when he saw Jason that his face lit up.

A moment later Jason appeared next to him, and kick one of the High Goblins, blasting it away before disappearing once again.

Turning into a flash of light, Jason catapulted himself towards the next girl, grasping her without looking at the opponents she faced.

But the moment he grasped her, Jason felt a sting in his lower back.

Yet, he was unable to sense that anything was off, and simply decided to ignore it and instead leave as quickly as possible.

Because of that, he ignored everything around him, holding one youth in each hand as he shot out of the mine.

Only a short moment had passed before he emerged in the bright, open area of the surface as he heard a loud commotion from behind him.

It was the Specta stage powerhouses who had suddenly emerged, only to zoom ahead and leave him behind at once.

This caused Jason to frown, wondering if they were really willing to leave their own comrades behind, just for their own survival.

After all, it wouldn't have been a problem to take one of the two Elite he was carrying.

They Yinar race's Specta stage powerhouses wouldn't be slowed down after all due to the Elite's weight.

Yet, they did not return to help so Jason had to forcefully circulate moonlight mana and traces of divine energy through his body, while simultaneously exerting the Hermes Celeration movement technique, just to widen the distance from the Soa crystal mine.

Just at that moment, Jason heard the ear-piercing sound of an explosion that was followed by a tremendous shockwave.

The shockwave blasted Jason through the air before gravity did its work and dragged him to the ground where he crashed into.

After this, he was unable to move anymore, and the lower part of his back was aching as if he had been severed in half, while the rest of his body was simply too exhausted.

Yet, his mind was unwilling to give up and simply die in the explosion.

'Fuck this shit!!'

Chapter 940 - Supernova

Unsure whether the distance at which he was from the Soa crystal mine was enough or not, Jason could only attempt forcing his body to move once again.

Yet, in the end, Jason knew that he had overexerted himself and that his body had just decided to rest.

This was frustrating and took him a great deal of effort to even move a finger.

His sore and numb body that should have been wrapped up in Artemis's soft feathers was lying on the uneven, hard ground.

The cushion of Artemis' wings had disappeared as his eyes opened the moment a shadow fell on his eyes, shielding them from the bright rays of sunlight from dazzling him.

A sky blue plumage that seemed to have interwoven with numerous silver feathers came into his view, covering him and the young Elite who were both trying their best to get up from the ground.

However, the moment they saw the huge silver-horned Owl with golden engravings on the horns, sky blue eyes that pierced through the brightest sunlight, and huge wings with a wingspan of 30 meters, their body froze.

The young Elite of Yinar knew that the beast that had just emerged from Jason was only at the Initial rank of the Ascendion stage.

Yet, the presence Artemis radiated was that of a Queen, the Queen of Ice!

Unable to move properly, the young Elite just noticed that they had been crudely clawed by one of the her talons.

At the same moment, they saw how Artemis picked up Jason, using her horns to throw him on her back.

But she had been a little clumsy and made him land harder than she had intended.

The injury on the lower part of his back began to ache heavily, as it burst open, as blood splattered on her blue feathers, smearing them red.

Only now Jason noticed how severe the injury on his back was.

Yet, circulating moonlight mana through it was not possible anymore.

After all, his body was numb and he had trouble even moving his finger let alone trying to check his injury!

This was quite a hassle and frustrated Jason the most.

Nonetheless, he was overjoyed that Artemis had helped them out, even though there were numerous dangers around them, including the explosion behind them.

Oddly enough the shockwave was the worst that had reached them yet.

However, with his eyes wide open, and his back resting on Artemis he was able to get a glimpse of the situation from the mine's entrance.

'What the hell is going on there?' He could just ponder while looking at the scene in front of him with disbelieving eyes.

It looked like a supernova was occurring, yet the velocity at which the huge ball of energy was being released was slow, eerily slow.

Knowing that it would not remain like this, Jason asked Artemis to fly with the highest speed she could reach.

What his Emperor Eyes perceived under tremendous pain was way too scary to be spoken out loud.

Jason was not even able to imagine how the Soul Monarch had been able to create devices that were able to cause such a tremendous explosion.

Even weirder was that the Soul Monarch seemed to have never used it beforehand.

However, he was in condition to think about anything revolving around the Soul Monarch because his mind was going blank.

He was unable to think properly, and the sight of the fiery red, burning ball that looked like a miniature version of the sun, made his mind go blank once again.

Exhaustion threatened to take over his body and mind, but he was unwilling to accept the fact that he might lose consciousness right now.

After all, he might die at any moment.

While he was struggling with himself, the brightly burning miniature sun, rapidly enlarged, and had nearly reached the proximity of Artemis.

But it was suddenly retracted and was compressing at once as a second tremendous shockwave rocked the surrounding territories, waking up even the beasts that had been hibernating for centuries.

Shaken by the second shockwave, Jason instinctively sensed that Artemis would be severely injured as the shockwave was intertwined with brightly burning flames.

Thus, his subconscious forced her to return to the soul world.

Through this, he and the two youths were falling to the ground.

Meanwhile, Jason's eyes solely focused on the bright red shockwave as it looked like time slowed down.

'Is that how I die?' He suddenly wondered once again.

Yet, even before the memories of his entire life could flash past him, a humongous flame enveloped Jason and the two youths, acting as a means of protection from the searing hot flames.

It was Solaris who had released itself from the Soul World, the moment it noticed that Artemis would be injured.

The shockwave was extremely powerful, and on par with an attack of a being above the Specta stage.

Fortunately, it was evenly spread out, meaning that its impact on a single spot was far less, which was comparable to a direct hit of a Specta stage powerhouse.

This was a powerful attack for Jason, and far more lethal to the young Elite that he wanted to save.

Thus, Solaris, whose forte was to devour and burn energy released itself, taking on the biggest shape it could control.

The said shape was just a ginormous black burning flame with golden and silver strands that were intertwined into it.

Yet, this was more than enough, and, in fact, the most efficient way to protect them.

With the sole thought of protecting its master, in addition to the beings he wanted to protect, Solaris exhausted the entire accumulated energy within its core.

Enveloping Jason and the two Elite, it releasing the flames it had stored within its core for the last few years.

There had always been times when the energy Jason had used to materialize flames was not fully utilized.

During these times, Solaris had simply stored away the said energy.

As such, the flames it released after taking on the biggest shape it could control allowed Solaris to form several additional layers of flames, protecting itself and everyone within it.

The black flames did not harm the two young Elite, let alone Jason in any way.

Rather, they calmed their jittery nerves, while releasing the tension within Jason.

However, it was exactly this fact that caused him to frown deeply as his sight began to blur.

Rather than allowing his tension to be released which would allow his overwhelming exhaustion to get an upper hand, Jason wanted to force his eyes to stay open in order to witness what was about to happen.

Thus, he forced himself to stay awake, at least, until the moment the shockwave hit them.

Severing through Solaris' flames, the shockwave that was followed by searing flames continued to advance towards them. But, Solaris burned through the flames that followed suit and devoured them.

Tremendous amounts of energy were required to maintain the flames but by recycling the energy of the flames it was devouring, everything seemed to work out in a rather advantageous way.

As such, noticing that nothing was happening to them, and that none of his soulbonds would have to sacrifice itself for Jason's survival...not again...he gave in to the exhaustion as darkness took over.

Falling unconscious, he was lying in the midst of the lands that had turned into a burning hell.

The two young Elite from Yinar had noticed that he was not awake anymore, causing a chill to run down their spine.

They were assuming that Jason was on his death bed because they were able to see the puddle of blood forming around his torso, drenching his clothes and the soil below in deep red blood.

Thus, their worry was apparent, and even Solaris, followed by the other soulbonds was slightly worried.

And that was even under the condition that they could already sense a specific trait of Jason's bloodline and the God's Halo.

Jason's wound was serious, something he had sustained while fighting the Mid Ascendion stage beast that had attacked the female Yinar Elite he had saved.

However, despite being a serious injury, the bleeding had just stopped as his bloodline's tremendous healing capacities showed their value.

Additionally, the God's Halo radiated a faint healing sensation, that acted similar to a pain relief and a purified healing potion.

If Jason were to notice this, he would be overjoyed.

Sadly, he simply lay on the ground as his breathing turned shallow after having given in to the utter exhaustion and letting unconsciousness take over.