

## **GREED 1011**

### Chapter 1011 The Call.

Ragnarok experienced peace for the first time in a long while. He isn't being chased by anyone anymore, and he can rest without fear. That doesn't mean that the conflict within the plane has subsided. The giant storm that started to brew when he was born continued to brew within the plane. Only its direction has changed.

The Vampires were aggressive at first when he was born. They attacked the surface from every direction, looking for something important. But they have retreated now. It seems that they have found what they were looking for. They have gone from being active to being passive meanwhile the opposite happened to their enemies.

The retreat of the Vampires didn't make the wood elves happy. They can't be happy since the Vampires still exist and are proliferating silently below the surface. The longer they wait, the weaker the gods defending the plane become and the weaker the Will of the plane becomes due to the infiltration of the plane by the Will of the demon god.

If they want peace to return to the plane, they have to uproot the Vampires entirely. But they can't go underground to fight the Vampires on their home turf. The underground has been a safe haven for dark elves for a long time, and it continued to be so for Vampires. The fountain of life can't see down below, and the Underdark is very dark. There are also little plants for the tree elves to use to aid them in fighting. The debut release occurred at N-ov3l=B(j)n.

Fighting underground is a completely bad idea for wood elves. They have made numerous attempts to test that theory and it has held true. The darkness and the small fighting spaces in the tunnels serve as an advantage to Vampires. Wood elves always return with massive losses after every excursion to the Underdark.

Fortunately, all hope is not lost. A Warrog that is a bane to all vampires has been born. This Warrog is also the child of the plane. The wood elves had to accept a truce between the two races despite their hatred. They are desperate for help so they will take any help they can get.

This truce has a lot of impact on the Warrogs. For one, their mana entities or Alphas of Alphas are allowed to become transcendents now. They won't be hunted anymore. They also won't be forced to live in different settlements without communicating with each other.

The most important change of all is the freedom granted to the two Emperors of the race. This freedom means that Emperors can create an Empire again. They can amass an army onto themselves and become the backbone of a Civilization.

An alpha needs a squad and an Alpha of Alphas needs a park to show their full strength. An Emperor needs an army too. An army is millions of Warrogs that will run with the Emperor and do the bidding of the Emperor. To create an army, an Emperor will have to put out "The Call."

Ragnarok was resting peacefully in his castle when Emperor Rinoz put out the call. He heard it deep in the earth where he was. He would have heard it no matter where he was in the plane. The Call is more of a spiritual announcement than a physical one. It uses the connection between all Warrogs to inform them that an Emperor exists and that the Emperor is calling them to battle. The Warrogs who hear the Call and answer it become part of the army of the Emperor.

The power of the Emperor determines how far their call will reach and how compelling their call will be. The existence of other Emperors will also affect the effect of the call. In the case where there has not been an Emperor for such a long time, then every Warrog alive will hear the call.

In the case where the Emperor making the call is the child of the plane, then every being in the plane will hear the call regardless of their race. The whole of the plane will know today that the Warrogs have a new Emperor and that they are on the rise once more.

And in the case where the Emperor is as powerful as Origin gods, then the call isn't just a spiritual announcement anymore. It becomes a physical phenomenon that can be felt by every living being in the plane. The physical phenomenon in this case was the appearance of a star in the sky. A bright Celestial body rose in the sky in the plane.

The light of this star shone so brightly that, for the first time in more than 100 Origin cycles, people experienced normal daylight again. Some people who had never experienced daylight didn't understand what was going on. They felt fear and trepidation for the unnatural ball of light that appeared in the sky.

This star is a phantom manifestation. It is not real, but it felt very real. It produced light and heat that felt like the light of the real sun. Then this star turned into the bright head of a fox with antlers on its head. The fox opened its mouth and roared.

"Rawrrrr!"

Ragnarok was deep in the earth, so he didn't notice the physical phenomenon. But he did notice the effect of the roar. He was lying down on the earth, so he definitely noticed the shaking of the earth. The roar of the fox caused the earth to rumble intensely all over the plane as if a large group of animals were migrating and stampeding. It caused him to wake up with a jolt.

"What's that?" He asked.

The demon god replied with a sigh. "The Child of the plane has finally been unveiled."

"Is that so?" He asked in mild surprise. "She seems very strong."

He was wondering why the unveiling of the child of the plane would cause so much ruckus when the spiritual impact of the Call hit him. It was like the aftershocks after a massive earthquake. The spiritual impact is also massive, which says a lot about how powerful the force that made the entire plane shake is.

Chapter 1012 Utter Disregard.

He is a Warrog and also an indigene of this plane, so he felt the spiritual impact. It opened up the connection between him and Emperor Rinoz. She used the connection to speak with him directly. A ghostly apparition of a yellow fox with 9 fluffy tails and white antlers appeared before him. This apparition is bigger than him, so it is looking down on him.

"Submit." The apparition said to him.

He snorted. "I'll never submit."

"I am your Emperor and also your child of the plane. You will submit to me." She said imperiously.

"Ha," He laughed.

He truly finds whatever this is very funny.

"I know who and what you are and I am not impressed. I hope you didn't think that whatever you have going on would be enough for me to submit to you. You're an ant compared to a demon god. I didn't submit to a demon god, so why will I submit to you?"

Rinoz said to him as a matter of fact, "It is admirable that you resist the demon god. But you have no choice anymore. You will submit one way or the other. So submit to me. I can save you from being bonded to an abomination."

He was not convinced. "I am not as stupid as you think. I won't be trading one master for another." He replied.

She insisted. "Stop being so stubborn. You have no choice. You are weak. Accept your fate and choose a better master."

He stood up and roared at her. "I am no one's slave. I would rather die than be enslaved. I was named Ragnarok by the ancestors of my pack. I am meant to end worlds. But that wasn't enough for me. I killed those ancestors and fulfilled their prophecy. My potential will not be reduced to the level of destroying worlds and I will not fall so low as to become someone's slave. This world will end before that happens."

She fell silent. Then she left. The apparition disappeared.

Ragnarok snorted. Then he laid back on the ground. He truly feels insulted.

"They just keep coming at me one after the other." He thought to himself.

First, it was Emperiti and the unfair Oath. She took advantage of his compromised situation to fleece him. Then it is this young Warrog who thinks she has the right to be his master.

It is one thing for her to think so, it is another thing to actually ask him to his face. It screams utter disregard and he won't take it. He has to suffer the recruitment of a demon god. The demon god is stronger than him and has him in a chokehold. But he won't suffer the same thing from Rinoz. The debut release occurred at N-ov3l=B(j)n.

The voice in his head spoke, "That was admirable, I must admit. I thought for sure that you would jump at any chance to rid yourself of me. But she is right about something. You have no choice and you need to stop being so stubborn. Stop being a child already and accept your situation. Nothing will change about your situation."

He ignored them both and went back to sleep. He knows what it means to be a slave. Legion-7 is a slave currently. He had to be. He was forced into it. Death couldn't even save him from that slavery. As for him, his situation is bad. He can admit to that. But he is not a slave yet. He is still a free person. And he would rather die or see this world perish with everyone present within it than become a slave to anyone.

The voice in his head urged him one last time. "She is very strong. You won't be safe in the devil's pit if she comes after you. You will need to go deep into the Underdark, but you can't because of your size. Even if you could go down, that won't stop her from chasing after you. She will still be able to get to you. Running is not the way. You need strength."

He didn't say anything. If she comes to kill him, then he will run. If he dies and he becomes a slave, then so be it. But he will not become a slave willingly. He hasn't fallen so low.

---

Emperor Rinoz.

"I must admit." She mused aloud, "I didn't expect that kind of resistance from him."

Fenrir snorted. "I am not surprised by his rejection. I told you that it would happen. All Executioners were once Omegas. They don't bow to authority. They won't submit to any authority no matter how strong it is."

She sighed. "I know, but I thought he would accept my help. He needs help so he should have been glad to receive mine."

"You mistook his resistance to the demon god to mean that he is willing to help the plane. Unfortunately, he doesn't hate the demon god because he doesn't want the demon god to win. He hates the demon god because the demon god wants to enslave him. It is the same thing you wanted to do to him."

"But mine is different. He will be free from the hold of the demon god and within the embrace of his race again. How is that not better than his current situation?"

Fenrir shook his head, "He doesn't care about anything, including the fate or the comradery of his race. I was there when he ate all the past Executioners. Executioners don't care for cooperation and the bounds of society. Your so-called help is just another form of slavery to him because he would have to listen to you and do whatever you want if he is to continue living."

She looked at Fenrir. She could hear what else he didn't say about her. He didn't call her naive, but she heard it in his words and in the tone he used to say them. Fenrir thinks that she was naive to believe that an Emperor would submit.

Chapter 1013 The Drums Of War.

She truly thought that Ragnarok would accept her help. All he had to do was allow the will of the plane to invade his soul through his connection to it. His body would belong to the demon god while his soul would belong to the will of the plane. They would fight for his existence, and whoever wins will become his master.

Ragnarok has a very strong soul, or so she has heard from the fountain of life. His soul should be stronger than his body which will give the Will of the plane an advantage over the demon god. So the Will of the plane should win if Ragnarok works with it and is cooperative. He will have to bind his existence to the plane in that case. It is the price to pay for his freedom.

He won't be a child of the plane like her and he won't gain any other benefits apart from his freedom from the demon god. It should be enough for him since he will be helping the plane. She thought it should have been enough. It turns out that she was wrong.

"Maybe I was being naive," she admitted.

Fenrir wisely chose to keep any agreement he has about that statement to himself. Rinoz eyed him suspiciously but he didn't say anything.

Then she declared, "He has refused my hand of assistance, and that's on him. His resistance is admirable, but we cannot risk him falling into the hands of the demon god. He will become a powerful force of darkness if that happens. So we will assault the devil's pit to kill him."

"Can he truly be killed?" Fenrir asked.

He has his doubts about the need to kill Ragnarok and Rinoz's main reason for doing so. He believes that she might be angry at him because of the rejection and might want to make Ragnarok regret it. He believes it is a better use of their time to attack the Vampires in general rather than a heavily fortified outpost.

But he can't say those things for fear of angering Rinoz. Instead, he asked about the possibility of killing an ancestral Vampire permanently. After all, very few of them have been successfully killed permanently.

"Don't worry. He is not a full ancestral Vampire yet. I can kill him permanently as long as I have the support of the Will of the plane."

"Alright. If you're confident then it is okay. It is good to know that we are not going to waste our time trying to kill him."

Rinoz said confidently, "He and any other Vampire will surely die once I make my move. I am the bane of Vampires. I was crafted for this very purpose."

"What do you think he will do?" She asked Fenrir when he continued to remain silent.

"He will fight. That's for sure. He will fight to the bitter end. But he will also die honorably. That's what an Executioner is at the end of the day."

She nodded. "That will do. His death will still help me. Maybe I can get a tenth tail." She joked.

Fenrir shook his head at her joke. "A tenth tail is not possible. Nine is the limit. Ten is impossible."

"I know, old Fenrir. Learn to get a joke," she smiled and said. "We are at the cusp of war. I am so excited."

Fenrir smiled. "Ah yes. The drums of war have been beaten. The horns of adversity are blown. The Call has been made. It is going to be your first run. It is going to be quite a ride. The rush of energy will be such a wild torrent."

She nodded earnestly. "Yes. I can feel it. I can feel it rising within my body. It is calling to me. I want to run. I want to fight. I want to..."

Then she howled. Her howl reverberated through the air. It descended from the mountain top down to the Warrog settlement below and beyond. Several howls answered her call. They came from all over the plane, wherever the Warrogs were.

The Call has been made, and it is being answered. Active connections are forming between her and every Warrog that has answered the call. Even now, several Warrogs are rushing here to meet her. Those Warrogs have a bright star mark on their foreheads.

They are in their beast form too. They are faster in this form. They will be able to reach her quickly. The mark on their foreheads marks them as belonging to the Army of Emperor Rinoz, the child of the plane. They won't tire or break as they run until they meet her. The boosts and empowerment they get from her increase the closer they get to her. This boost is drawing them towards her.

They feel a thrill as they get closer to her. The star mark on their foreheads also shines brighter and shows them the way. They will be able to run both day and night without exhaustion. The connections also affect her. She feels closer to her people than ever before. She feels their wants and needs. She feels their joy and sadness.

Above all else, she feels their need for freedom. They want to let loose. They want to run with the wind. They want to run unrestricted all over the plane and they want to trample everything beneath their feet. It empowers her. It thrills her.

"We will ride for the devil's pit once the army has fully congregated and take it by ourselves. We will do what the wood elves couldn't do," she declared in her excitement. "We will run, and we will win."



"I hope we will win," Fenrir thought to himself. "I really hope so."

He can see that Rinoz is excited, and he understands why. It is not a fault to be excited. Her determination is also admirable. But taking the devil's pit is going to be very challenging. The wood elves haven't failed for no reason. Sure, the Warrogs will be empowered when they are in her army. But she can only boost them to the transcendent level at most. That is not nearly enough.

Chapter 1014 The Third Great War.

Even if all the Warrog paragons congregate here and join her army, she will only have a few tens of million soldiers at most. But that won't happen because the nameless still have to be protected. So about ten million paragons will come. That means, at best, they will be able to match the Emperiti Primogenitor in quantity. As for quality, they are sorely lacking in that aspect.

Millions of transcents can't compare to a handful of Sovereigns. The Emperiti Primogenitor doesn't have a handful of Sovereigns. She has tens of thousands. Their hope can only be placed on Rinoz and her strength. Hopefully, that will be enough for their victory.

War has erupted in full swing. The wood elves are calling it the third great war for the liberation of the plane. It began with a sudden attack by the Vampires on the surface. The vampires have retreated, but it is the turn of the wood elves to press the offensive. This wave of offense is being led by the child of the plane. She ran with millions of Warrogs to assault the devil's pit. Her aim is clear to everyone. She met resistance as soon as she got there.

-----

She arrived during the day, so the Familiars were the first to face her. The gate of the devil's pit was opened, and thousands of Sovereigns came out to fight her. They flew out of the devil's pit as soon as the alert went up about her presence. They were ready for her attack, so they weren't caught unprepared. Besides, it is very difficult not to notice the rising of the sun in a plane that has been dark for millions of years.

The day became brighter the closer she got to the devil's pit. Her entire body lit up the dim day and chased away the darkness. That is a glaring and obvious hint announcing her presence. The Sovereigns attacked in carefully formed formations. That was their mistake. She howled at them. Her jaw opened wide, and a tiny ball of light was ejected out of her mouth.

It was as if she had shot a shooting star with her mouth. The star flew at a very fast speed. It seemed it had simply blinked to its target. Then it hovered in front of the Sovereigns. They had put up shields because they expected a collision and a subsequent explosion.

The collision they expected didn't happen. Instead, they felt a force pulling them toward the star. The small bright star exerted a pulling force on everything around it. It caused everything to levitate and fly towards it.

Stones and rocks were the first to be levitated, followed by the soil of the ground itself. The wind picked up as air was pulled too. The pulling force increased in range and power too quickly. The Sovereigns were caught off guard despite their preparation.

Their shields weren't helping at all. They were being pulled with their shields too. They tried to resist by summoning the creatures they were bonded with, but nothing helped. Anything and everything within the range of the pulling force was drawn into the small star.

The star was getting bigger as it assimilated everything it managed to suck into itself. It was growing stronger every moment it remained in existence. Non-living things like soil and rocks strengthened it just as living things like the Sovereigns and their summons. Anything would strengthen the star as long as it had energy and mass within it. Even the surrounding air and mana were capable of strengthening it.

The grip of the star on its surroundings increased exponentially. It experienced a jump in strength whenever a Sovereign was absorbed. The star became so powerful that a sort of whirlpool formed around it. The whirlpool was formed mainly by the air. The air howled and screamed as it was ripped away from the world into the star.

"So beautiful," Fenrir said as he gazed at the faraway destruction being wreaked.

The star had become brighter and bigger. The light it was producing had turned from red to yellow. All in all, it looked beautiful despite the havoc and destruction it was wreaking.

Rinoz smirked and remarked, "And also deadly."

The now yellow star reached its limit, and then it exploded. There was a very loud bang. It forcefully ejected all the energy within it after reaching critical mass. Everything within the range of its pulling force and some distance beyond was decimated immediately. The explosion caused the air to expand rapidly, which led to the creation of a shockwave.

The shockwave was so loud that it traveled to the far edges of the plane where it could be heard. So, everyone must have heard the bang that it produced. It also produced a bright light that shone onto the entire plane. A large pillar of smoke rose up into the sky from the explosion site. People could see and feel the effects of the explosion from thousands of kilometers away.

"That is very deadly," Fenrir said in admiration.

"Are you jealous that your divine ability can't do that?" Rinoz asked with a grin.

"I can't be jealous of anything about you if I want to remain sane. We are not the same," he said to her while still looking at the destruction that has been wrought.

There is another crater now beside the crater that leads down to the devil's pit. This crater is much deeper despite being smaller. It is also lined with red-hot molten rock. It makes it look like the opening of a volcano. It is a sight to marvel at. Rinoz achieved it with her Origin energy empowered divine ability and the other perks that she has.

He said to her in excitement, "If you can dish out this much firepower, then we might just win this."

"Don't worry. We are going to win this," she said confidently. "There is nothing that can stop me. We shall trample every obstacle that stands in our way of Victory."

Chapter 1015 Base-full Confidence.

NAME: RINOZ

RACE: WARROG

BLOODLINE: NONE

TITLE: CHILD OF THE LUMEN PLANE

POWER LEVEL: TRANSCENDENT

PHYSIQUE: SOUL-BODY

HP: INFINITE

STAMINA: INFINITE

ENERGY QUALITY: Origin Energy.

ENERGY QUANTITY: 2,421,746

VITALITY: 120,572,925

ENDURANCE: 112,725,783

STRENGTH: 101,668,563

AGILITY: 102,292,878

PERCEPTION: 100,034,031

SPIRIT: 100,101,884

POWER: 1,000,000,000%

AMPLIFICATION: 1

DIVINE SENSE (GRADE): 100,000 (C)

OTHERS

MANA AFFINITY: 60%

LAW AFFINITY: 15%

ELEMENTAL AFFINITY (GRADE): LIGHT (RARE), DEVOUR (EPIC).

LAWS:

LIGHT: 0.001%

DEVOUR: 0.0001%

STATUS: Excited.

She has the right to be very confident. She has a power rating of  $10^{15}$ , which is 100 times stronger than Emperor Fenrir. A new Origin god has a power rating of  $10^{14}$  which means she is about 10 times stronger than a new Origin god.

She doesn't have a bloodline, and her affinities are not special. What makes her special is that she is a child of the plane and also a paragon. That is the only way that a transcendent can match an origin god in power.

The boost from every living being in the plane is not a small thing. A 1,000,000,000% boost is not a small thing at all. And she has enough Origin energy to fully show off her strength. With Origin energy, her stamina and health are infinite. With Origin energy, she can combine all her stats into a single one to experience another boost.

She is not like the previous paragons at all. Just the access to Origin energy is more than enough to beat them. Transcendents don't need Origin energy but a large part of their strength will be absent without Origin energy.

The ability to shift their existence into one aspect such as the ability to fuse the stats of Vitality, Endurance, Agility, and Spirit into Strength will be absent without Origin energy. She has Origin energy, a powerful divine ability to use it with, and many more. So she is confident of victory. Nothing can stop her at all.

----

Back to Ragnarok.

He heard the bang of the explosion and felt the quaking of the earth again. It is more severe than the last time. It is not the silent vibration of the earth but the violent shaking of the earth.

He grumbled. "This is getting out of hand. At this rate, this Emperor will destroy the plane with the frequency at which she is shaking it. Even the plane has a limit to how much stress it can take before it breaks up."

The voice in his head said, "It will take much more than that. The level of power needed to destroy the plane is more than that, and the damage to the plane needs to be more frequent than this. It is very difficult to achieve the amount of damage needed to destroy a plane because those that can output that kind of power are mostly origin gods."

Ragnarok agreed. "That's true. Mother High Heaven will interfere as long as whoever has that power is an Origin god and is also not an indigene of the plane. But that's not my point. This place can still collapse on me and kill me."

The two of them fell into silence again. Other Vampires would be asleep during the day, but he is not a full vampire yet. His body gets too weak to move during the day, but he is very well aware of his environment. So he knows that the child of the plane is right at his doorstep.

"What are you going to do now?" The demon god asked him.

"Nothing. There's nothing to do. I am currently too weak, so I can't even escape," he replied.

The demon god suggested, "You can escape as long as you fuse with your body and complete your breakthrough. You will still be weak during the day, but you will certainly be able to escape deeper into the Underdark."

"I know that," he said.

He knows that and yet he hasn't fused with the heart of Carnage. Ignorance is not his problem right now.

The demon god warned, "She is very strong, Ragnarok. You will die if you don't take this seriously."

"I also know that."

"Then why are you not doing what needs to be done to live?" The demon god asked in exasperation.

"You know why," he replied calmly.

The demon god chuckled. "Yes. I know that. It is because of your short-sighted stubbornness."

"See? For once we are of the same mind."

The demon god was not amused. "This stubbornness of yours is wearing thin on my patience. It has been over a hundred years since you came here to hide. I expected that the reality of your situation would have caught up to you by now."

"You were wrong." Ragnarok pointed out unapologetically.

The demon god scoffed. It was sure that Ragnarok would be convinced by now. Time should have worn down his determination and the sight of the power that the Emperiti Primogenitor wields should have tempted him and convinced him to switch his allegiance to the dark side. But Ragnarok remained stubborn even after a hundred years of helplessness.

This is not enough to deter the demon god though. The more Ragnarok resists the more it wants his soul. Precious things have to be worked for.

The demon god started from another angle, "You do know that it is not a sign of weakness to become the subordinate of the strong. It is especially not a weakness to become my subordinate. I am a demon god after all. A little more, and I'll become a world-ender. Doesn't that make me worthy enough to be your superior?"

Ragnarok sneered and said, "Is it not enough."

"And why is that?" The demon god asked with slight amusement. "Do you even know the kind of power a demon god has or what a world-ender is?"

"I do not need to know that. All I need to know is that you are stronger than me. But that's temporary. Everything changes. I can become stronger than you if given time and opportunity."

Chapter 1016 Lost Potential = Death.

His reply made the demon god laugh. It roared in his head with laughter of derision. "You? You believe that you can become stronger than me? You?"

Ragnarok didn't reply. But his silence is answer enough.

Then the demon god yelled in his head. "Stop daydreaming you ignorant boy. Do you think you can acquire my level of power just because you try or have talent? You must be delusional."

It was CARNAGE's turn to feel insulted.



"Do you know what I had to do to reach where I am now? I will tell you. I started killing right from the moment I was born. I killed every day of my life. For every step that you have taken in your life, I have killed 10 people. I killed a plane's worth of beings and then consumed them to reach where I am."

CARNAGE is truly insulted. It didn't acquire its power through a bloodline and it didn't get any help from anyone. It was born in a hostile environment. Everyone around it was its enemy. It wasn't born special. Every demon is born the same just with different marks of sin. It grew up level by level through killing. It became a demon king of Carnage and then became the first of them to become a demon god.

CARNAGE is a unique existence in the abyss. There is no other demon god like it. And it is all due to its effort over hundreds of Origin cycles. Trillions of demons died whereas it succeeded. It has many reasons to be proud. But some mutt in some plane who has not lived for up to a thousand years believes that it can acquire his power.

It said with disdain, "As for you, you will be incredibly lucky to become an Origin god. And I eat Origin gods as snacks. So why don't you wake up to the real world? You are about to die. Do something to stop that. If you die now then you will never achieve your lofty dreams."

Ragnarok wasn't affected by the mocking laughter. He replied calmly, "I have potential. You can't deny that. I can become anything. I can become great or end up mediocre. But becoming your slave or subordinate, as you call it, will lead to the death of my potential. I will never be great. It is the same as dying to me. So I don't care if I die now to the child of the plane. I would rather die than shackle myself willingly to you."

The demon god grinned menacingly. It said, "You know, I am very curious about how you know about Origin gods and demon gods. You seem to know a lot about them for someone who has never left a backward settlement. It probably has something to do with your powerful soul. Are you the clone of some Origin god?"

"No, that doesn't make sense. The clone of an Origin god can't be this weak. You could be a special enigma. But why do you exist and what could be so special about you? These are difficult questions. Fortunately, I will be able to find out if I assimilate your soul forcefully. I should do that now since you don't care about your life. I might have lied earlier about not being able to do anything forcefully with you. I am a demon, after all."

The demon god ended its musing with a threat.

Ragnarok snickered. "Don't try to threaten me like that. It won't work on me. You are a demon god so you are not benevolent. Everything you do must gain you some kind of benefit. You haven't forcefully assimilated my soul and it can't be out of kindness. Your abstinence must be related to some kind of benefits or you simply can't do it."

The demon god sneered. "Is that so?"

Then it asked, "Do you want to find out?"

Ragnarok ignored the question. He went on to strike while the iron was hot.

"It could be that you are holding back because you won't gain much if you forcefully assimilate my soul. You will destroy my soul in the process. You know that, and I know that. So it is better for me to accept the assimilation willingly. You will be able to get more then. I will even have to answer any question you ask me."

"It could be that you can't assimilate my soul forcefully and have only been bluffing. Besides, even if you can assimilate my soul forcefully, you are not desperate enough to do so. If you were that desperate and willing to lose me then I need to be in actual danger."

The voice in his head was strangely quiet. But that didn't stop Ragnarok.

"For that to happen, you won't make your forces fight the child of the plane. You will let her get to me and actually threaten my life. Only then will you forcefully assimilate my soul. Assimilating my soul is a desperate move that a smart person like you will only do when you have tried and failed at everything to pressure me to accept assimilation willingly."

The demon god fell silent. Then it said, "You are too smart for your own good."

Ragnarok snickered. "That is something that both of us can agree on."

"Being smart is not always a good thing. And it surely isn't the solution to the problem that you are in. Mark my words mortal, I will have my way one way or the other. I always do. I will not be denied my prize."

Ragnarok scoffed. Then the two of them became silent. The sounds of explosions rocked the world around them. But even with danger so close to them, Ragnarok's mind and thoughts are somewhere else. He has so much to think about.

He isn't as carefree as he is behaving. He has been shackled with the heart of Carnage for more than a hundred years now. He was hoping for a miracle to free him but the window for miracles is coming to an end. He is running out of time. So he is testing the boundaries of the demon god and trying to see the limits of its abilities.

Chapter 1017 Unstoppable Child Of The Plane.

His major problem here is not death. He is not scared of death at all. What he is afraid of is having the network of Legion exposed to the demon god after his death. This possibility remains because Legion-1 has gone to inquire about demon gods and has found out that anything is possible with a supreme law.

He is up against an entity with a supreme law so it is possible for his soul to be forcefully assimilated. It is also possible that death will not save him from the demon god. But he hasn't given up. He won't give up until he is dead.

His best bet for freedom was for the tree father to assist him in breaking through. The supply of divine life energy and his powerful soul will fight against his body. The plan is to cut off his body from his existence. It will kill him, but it will also cause his connection to his body to be severed.

He got that idea from Rinoz's stupid attempt to help him. Unfortunately, a lot can go wrong with that plan. The demon god might actually be lying about not being able to do anything forcefully to him. He can't risk the whole of Legion because the demon god said that a blood writ based on itself is stopping it from attacking his soul.

It might be true that the demon god is unable to do anything to him because of the Oath he made with Xigger. But it is also true that the demon god certainly can break his Oath if the benefit is ample enough.

If the demon god was lying about it, then it must be waiting for him to show more of his secrets or do something interesting under his false sense of security. And if the demon god was being truthful about

its incapability to assimilate his soul forcefully, he definitely shouldn't give the demon god ample reasons to break the Oath.

Getting the help of divine energy from his soul will certainly make the demon god curious. It might not be enough for the demon god to break the Oath, but it will surely fight to retain the connection with him. Then he will have to show his overly powerful soul and expose his soul force to fight off the demon god, which indicates his connection to an Origin soul. So that plan was eliminated for being too risky.

The best thing that he can hope for right now is for the demon god to consider him not worth breaking an Oath for when the child of the plane comes to kill him. He is relying on luck which he doesn't like. But he doesn't have any other choice.

Unfortunately, even that is unlikely to happen. He has some guesses about the so-called child of the plane, and he doesn't think she will be able to get to him considering what he knows about the title of child of the plane and the Emperiti Primogenitor's defenses.

His next best bet is for Helios to figure out something useful from the experiment that he is conducting with the body that Beelta left behind in the divine plane of the Zargoth plane after her defeat. Maybe something about Origin energy or Chaos energy will liberate him from the demon god.

That is even too much for him to ask for right now. He will be grateful if he is killed by whatever Helios is cooking up without the demon god being able to do anything to him. Origin energy causes demon flesh to explode after all. Maybe his body and the heart of Carnage can be destroyed, and he can die in peace.

---

Emperor Rinoz is powerful. She managed to kill many Sovereigns of law. Hundreds of Sovereigns died to her in a single attack. Many more were injured. That is very impressive. However, she also has a glaring weakness. Her weakness became evident to certain beings early in watching the live recording of the fight.

No one knew of this weakness before. It is understandable since no one had any information about her. If they had, perhaps things would have turned out differently. The Sovereigns of law that died to her wouldn't have perished so easily.

If her weakness had not been identified quickly, a lot more deaths would have occurred as they tried to figure out her weakness. They might have eventually figured it out after several rounds or by chance. But they didn't need to.

The Vampires, including a demon god and several other Primogenitors, were observing the event. Thus, her weakness was identified after her first attack. The demon god informed the Emperiti Primogenitor of it, who then ordered her familiars to retreat. Instead of fighting Rinoz and defending the devil's pit, they returned to the devil's pit and sealed the opening's gate.

Sovereigns are exceedingly fast, so they managed to escape quickly enough. The other, less powerful familiars were less fortunate. Some were lucky enough to survive, but most were killed by Rinoz, who was shooting Star Novas everywhere in excitement. Explosions rang out again and again because of her.

She noticed the retreating Sovereigns, but she didn't care. She didn't think she had a reason to worry. After all, their reaction is not strange. Her enemies are supposed to run terrified for their lives after witnessing her display of power. Thus, the retreat was not unexpected. Besides, she didn't want to leave the other slower Warrogs behind.

She killed everything in sight and advanced with her army toward the devil's pit. They reached the edge of the crater. She stood imperiously at the edge and looked down at the sealed pit.

The pit was about 1 kilometer wide, indicating that the gate sealing it must be monumental. It had runes that empowered it and even emitted fluctuations of laws. It could be deduced at first glance that the gate is very powerful.

Addressing her army, she declared, "Here we are. They said that we wouldn't be able to take the devil's pit. Yet, here we stand at their very doorstep. It is because we are unstoppable."

Chapter 1018 What Goes Up...

The Warrogs howled in agreement. They had the devil's pit surrounded as they howled in victory. The sound of 10 million beings shouting at the top of their lungs is truly a loud sound. It is as if the Warrogs want everyone in the plane to know of their recent success.

Then they became silent for their Empress to continue.

"The slaves of the Vampires have failed to stop us. They ran away in defeat before the might of the Warrogs. Soon their masters will fall to the death that our jaws will bring. This moment marks the rise of Warrogs' glory forever."

Then she raised her delicate snout and howled. Her soldiers howled with her too. They were filled with confidence and excitement. They had a very strong Emperor who would liberate their race. Nothing could stand in their way.

Emperor Rinoz fired a Star Nova down into the bottom of the crater. The star shot out of her mouth at great speed. It struck the gate and then bounced off of it like a rubber ball. The star bounced to the far side of the gate, where it began to pull and devour everything it could lay its gluttonous mouth on. Rinoz knew it wouldn't work even before it exploded.

"What just happened?" She said in shock when her Star Nova bounced upon striking the gate.

She is powerful, surely. No one can deny that. But she is young. Her lack of time to fully grow is stopping her from showcasing her full potential. One of the limits imposed on her is her lack of knowledge and experience. She can't discern what happened despite seeing it occur.

It was Fenrir who understood why her divine ability bounced off the gate. His heart fell immediately.

"I have heard of this before. This gate is not ordinary. It appears to be an origin artifact," he said to her.

She asked in frustration, "What does that have to do with anything?"

Fenrir patiently explained, "It contains laws within it. The gate was forged with laws. It needs the power of laws to harm it. Do you understand now?"

She understood immediately. She doesn't know any law. The reason why she doesn't know any law is because she is too young. She hasn't been a Transcendent for more than 200 years. Talented people with royal bloodlines and the ancestral memories that come with it will have both the law fragments and instincts to comprehend a law in at least 1 origin cycle. That is 100,000 years.

As for others, it will take longer. Mihila was 50 origin cycles old as a king of law. She had no bloodline whatsoever so it took her a long time to comprehend a law. Her husband, Ghoto, had a royal bloodline of low purity and it took him at least 10 origin cycles to become a king of law.

It is understandable that a young girl like her without any bloodline and poor law affinity will not have comprehended any laws in so little time. It is no shame. In fact, she is doing well enough for herself already. She has much to be proud of. Unfortunately, what she has achieved is just not good enough for what she is currently attempting. Some might say that she has bitten more than she can chew.

Fenrir thinks she has bitten more than she can chew. But he is not going to say that to her face. Especially not when she is currently angry. And she is very angry. It can be seen plainly on her frowning face and her strained demeanor.

Fenrir chose to watch the effect of her divine ability just like Rinoz.

"I hope I am wrong." He thought to himself. "I truly hope so."

All the sound in the world was drowned out by the shrill whistling sound of the Star Nova exerting its influence upon the world. Soil and rocks responded. Wind and mana answered. Everything responded except for the gate.

The gate is a heavy object anchored deeply into the earth. Its foundation runs through the surface down to the Underdark. It refused to budge, and the Star Nova lacked the Authority to move it. Then the Star Nova exploded, utilizing all the condensed energy within it as fuel. The edge of the crater where it was positioned was flattened by the explosion.

The explosion yielded its customary effects: a blinding flash of light, a deafening boom, and finally, an intense blast of heat. All of this transpired. However, the gate remained intact after the dust cleared. In fact, more of the gate was revealed. The size of the gate exceeded that of the pit. Every newly revealed surface remained pristine and unharmed. It was not a sight that the child of the plane wanted to see.

Emperor Rinoz's eyes twitched. She roared in frustration and defiance. Then she fired more Star Novas at the gate in anger. This time, she ensured they didn't have too much momentum. So the Star Novas did not reach high speeds. They stopped close to the gate's surface and did not bounce off.

Several Star Novas detonated very close to the gate. The gate shook, and the environment quaked due to the impact of the multiple explosions. Nevertheless, the gate remained intact. It didn't even shake. It refused to be cowered by her brute force.

The sight of this failure seemed to have drained her of something important.

She struggled to say, "I can't believe it. I just can't believe it."

She can see the result as clear as day, but she can't believe it. The gate's smooth surface shone from being polished by the explosions. It reflected the light that she produces passively back at her. It is as if it is mocking her.

She complained to Fenrir, "But I am as powerful as Origin gods. The fountain of life told me that. This shouldn't be happening."

She sounded aggrieved like someone who has been deceived or cheated. Fenrir remained silent.

Chapter 1019 Brain Vs Brawn.

Fenrir doesn't know what to say. He has only heard about Origin weapons from the other representatives of the fountain of life. He has never needed one and they are also expensive to buy so he has not gotten one.

He is largely ignorant of them which is understandable since only wood elves are capable of producing Origin weapons. Warrogs don't even have the legacy for ordinary spells. Where will they get the knowledge to forge Origin weapons or the Origin energy needed to forge them? They don't even have mana weapons yet and they have ample mana around them.

His silence irked her. It isn't what she wants right now.

"Answer me." She shouted at him. "Give me an explanation now."

He was forced back after she got in his face and pushed him. There is no doubt that she is desperate for an explanation. She must get it or she will take out her frustration on him.



He almost roared back at her. Her behavior is disrespectful to him. It is a challenge that he ought to beat down. But he is not a reckless youth anymore.

"Let me ask the fountain of life." He said to appease her.

He could also ask the demon god and the Vampires. They surely know why someone as powerful as her is unable to break down their gate crafted with the concept of unbreakable defense. This gate is what one will call a top-grade artifact. It is something that needs an Origin god to make. It is more powerful than the high-grade artifact that the Sovereigns that the first Star Nova killed possessed.

While everyone was distracted by the effect and power of the Star Nova, the demon god noticed other things. Those things are hidden and largely inconsequential even if noticed. What the demon god noticed is that the Origin artifacts that the Sovereigns were wearing were not destroyed.

The Sovereigns and their artifacts whether defensive or offensive were absorbed by the Star Nova. The Sovereigns died due to the pressure and heat. They tried and failed to resist with their concepts but the difference in power was too much. Their existence was overwhelmed so they died but their artifacts remained. Those artifacts were then scattered during the explosion.

It is understandable that they will be missed. After all, there was the blinding light, the thundering bang, and the blast of heat to look at. The tiny artifacts that looked like debris were easily missed. But the demon god noticed that they were ejected outwards from the explosion and that they were the same ones that the Sovereigns had.

That led to the conclusion that they didn't need to fight the child of the plane. At least, not right now when she doesn't even have any Authority or concept. If she can't destroy high-grade Origin artifacts then it is highly unlikely that she will be able to damage a top-grade artifact that contains a concept.

Of course, she will become stronger in time when she comprehends laws. She will become terrifying even. But until then, they are safe from her. They will have time to make more targeted attacks that will capitalize on her weakness.

Word came from the fountain of life shortly after. Fenrir relayed them to the frustrated child of the plane. The information contained a lot of knowledge but not one solution to her current dilemma.

"This is nonsense." She yelled in frustration. "What is the fountain of life up to? Why did she let this happen?"

Emperor Rinoz was about to lose her mind because she didn't know what was going on. The news she heard isn't good though. They were informed fully about what Origin artifacts are. But knowing something doesn't mean that she will be able to overcome it.

Origin artifacts are fragments of origin gods. They are like the body parts of Origin gods. This is true because Origin gods are not living things. They are immortals.

Origin gods have been forged through the path of perfection into becoming a concept. They are entities that have fused with concepts. They have to show their mortal forms within the realm. It is because of the suppression on them.

Without the suppression, Origin gods will be revealed to be more of manifestations of concepts than living things. Some of them are weapons and some of them are destruction made incarnate. But they are not living things.

Rinoz heard more from the fountain of life. She found that despite having the power output equivalent to those of Origin gods, she can't kill them without a concept of her own. She didn't know this earlier because she has never fought an Origin god. It is understandable since she was in hiding most of her life.

If she did fight an Origin god, she would find out that she can defeat them here in the plane where they are suppressed but she can't kill them. She won't be able to capture them and neither would she be able to kill them. It is because raw power is not everything. It is the difference between special attacks that target a weakness and an attack that plays to the strength of the target.

Fenrir remained silent in the face of her frustrated yells. He simply shook his head inwardly and lamented, "The downfall of pride. Maybe wisdom is more important than brawn."

Rinoz has a lot of brawn but very little wisdom on how to use it effectively. It is not her fault. She is young and their race is ignorant. Unfortunately, she and them don't know better.

Brute force is great to have, but it is not good to use brute force blindly. It is why tree cutters don't try to fall a tree or chop wood with a club. They use a sharp object that can amplify their strength.

Transcendents can be killed with brute force. Their soul body can be forced to undergo energy and matter transformations beyond their limit by overwhelming their existence with power. But that isn't efficient.

Chapter 1020 Divine Ability Vs Concept.

The best way to kill transcendents is to inject their soul bodies with laws. This will make their existence impure. It will slow down their healing and bring them to their limit quicker. This also has the advantage of using a lesser amount of energy and power.

The efficiency of brute force reduces as life evolves. A Sovereign of law with a body of law can still be forcefully broken apart with brute force. But brute force becomes largely useless against an Origin god.

Laws are what give brute force efficiency. They are what give power the sharp edge needed to cut down a tree better than a club. Rinoz doesn't have the sharp edge needed to efficiently use her raw power. She lacks any sort of Authority. So she will need the assistance of Origin weapons to harm Origin gods at all.

She is but a brute. Power without the means to exert it is power wasted. She can rely on her raw power and her divine ability to bully Sovereigns. Sovereigns haven't fused with their concepts so they can still fall victim to her divine ability.

If not for the raw power that she has, then her divine ability wouldn't be able to harm Sovereigns at all. It is because her divine ability is lesser than the lowest grade of origin weapon. The lowest grade of origin weapon contains at least 1% of fully activated law fragments of a single pure law. Her divine ability doesn't have that. It has scattered law fragments fused together in a facsimile of an incomplete concept.

Her divine ability is similar to that of the concept of a titan of law. The major difference is that her incomplete concept doesn't have any Authority. What's worse is that she doesn't even know anything about the laws that make it up. So how can her divine ability match up with a top-grade artifact with a complete concept?

She got the answer to that question today. No matter how much she attacked the gate with it, it won't break open for her. She tested this hypothesis several times. She refused to believe the word of the fountain of life so easily.

The gate was bombarded with as much power as she could summon. She even drew upon the boost that she bestowed on her army. The Warrogs dimmed while she became brighter. But all her attacks amounted to nothing. There wasn't even any crack on the gate.

Fenrir thought to himself with slight pity, "We have lost."

-----

Back To Ragnarok.

"So she was a bust at the end of the day. There was nothing to fear after all." Ragnarok said. "I was right. The child of the plane was overrated."

He can hear the continuous bangs of ineffective explosions from where he is. They are the evidence of the validity of his disdain for her and her title. He once expressed that disdain to the Emperiti Primogenitor and he was rebuked for it. He doubts Emperiti will do so now.

He expected that she would fail. Others might not have any information about the power that the title of the child of the plane brings but he knows. He knows that the power can only boost what the wielder is already capable of. It can't do more than that. There needs to be a foundation to take advantage of the boost. Rinoz lacks that foundation because of her age.

The demon god grumbled inaudibly in his mind.

Ragnarok asked with a hint of amusement. "What are you unhappy about? Shouldn't you be happy now that I won't be killed by her?"

"I was hoping that she would be able to pressure you with the threat of death and make you finally see reason." The demon god admitted.

"Is that why you wanted me to stay close to the surface?"

The demon god didn't reply. It grumbled again.

Ragnarok laughed. "It is your fault that you found me such a good place to hide. I noticed the top-grade gate but I didn't think much about it. But you, in your infinite wisdom chose this place for me to hide. And you also pointed out her weakness. Your arrangements led to her downfall. I must say that I might have misjudged you. You might be a great god."

The demon god ignored his teasing. It said, "Actually if I was so great, I should have known about her weakness before it became so glaring."

"So you have some gaps in your knowledge after all. No one is omniscient after all. How could you know about her when you haven't ever seen an existence like hers? She is unprecedented. She is not only a child of the plane, she is also a paragon. Tell me, how many children of the plane have you encountered?" Ragnarok asked.

"Several actually. It is the common defensive response of the will of a plane against an existential crisis. So I have actually fought several children of the plane. But I have not seen one created from the fusion of a paragon and the title. Races with paragons are very rare. I expected better from her. She is honestly a disappointment."

"Do you see? You have weaknesses just like everyone else. You might be a big shot capable of making the will of planes quake in fear but you are still ignorant about a lot of things. You still have a long way to go before you are perfect. How can I then become your slave and limit my future forever?" Ragnarok said.

The demon god sneered and said, "You are very lucky that Emperiti cares a lot about the devil's pit and built the barricade around it with top-grade origin artifacts many years ago. If she didn't, then you wouldn't be mouthing off now."

"Then I have to thank her. I find her hospitality to be of the highest quality. The defenses must have cost a lot to make."

"Yes, they cost a lot. Vampires can't forge and they can't use origin artifacts either. Emperiti kidnapped the descendant of an origin god and threatened to turn the descendant into a "soulless vampire" unless the origin god forged the defenses for her." The demon god explained.