

GREED 1291

Chapter 1291 A Rare Law.

He has gone from saying maybe his situation is "not so bad" to saying "maybe it is not bad at all." He may not be in an unenviable situation but he is making the best of it. He even has the confidence that he will grow strong enough to match a Supreme Origin god in the aspect of the soul.

The great-mother has already reached that point since she can leave the spiritual dimension. So he very far behind. But he stole her life's work and he has something she doesn't have so he is sure that he can catch up to her in time.

The major reason why he is optimistic is because of the information he stole from the great mother through her soul fragment. The soul grafting method which is a way to assimilate souls without going mad, is just one of the things he stole. He also stole a law that he couldn't have comprehended on his own from her.

He said with admiration for the great mother and an equal amount of pride in himself. "The great mother is great. Her law of the soul is unparalleled. But she will become my stepping stone at the end of the day."

She deserves his praise because she has great experiences in the spiritual dimension. In a place where soul prowlers struggle to survive, she excelled. She was so excellent that she managed to comprehend the law of the soul. This is a law that just not anyone can learn. It is more mysterious than high laws in that only those with special soul related talents or divine abilities can learn it.

Unfortunately, he stole the law of the soul from her. He now has the law of the soul, soul force, Origin essence, soul sphere, and the other clones to rely on who can help him. If he can't overcome her with everything he has, it will be too shameful for him and Legion.

He has to admit that the law of the soul is great and the great mother that came up with it in this barren world without laws is even greater. But her life's work will only help Legion to achieve perfection. The law of the soul is already paying dividends.

Aeternus is using it to modify his soul into a concept-like structure that can protect him against Chaos energy. So he is not praising the law of the soul for nothing. The law of the soul is a law that most people in the void universe do not know exists much less comprehend.

"Let's get to hunting. Talk is cheap. Action in the sole pursuit of power is the best way to achieve perfection."

He continued hunting and eating souls. He made sure to digest them externally before he added them to himself. The soul fragments formed into a hexagonal structure around him like a beehive. He is the queen while they are the workers. When combined with the tentacles of soul force that extends out of him, it makes him look like a jellyfish. The soul fragments in the cocoon around him also produce different soul lights so he looks like a multicolored jellyfish.

This look is different from how the great mother looks. It is partly because he is not as skilled as her in soul manipulation and because his soul grafting technique is different from hers. She is so skilled that she can modify the soul fragments into feathers before grafting them onto herself.

She chose feathers to create her current form because she used to be a one-eyed raven when she was alive. The memories she used to brainwash the soul fragment made it easier to turn them into the feathers that she lost. It reduced the rejection between the soul fragments.

Her true soul or the core of her form is the single eye on her head. Her body, wings, and feathers are made from grafted soul fragments.

As for him, his memories also transfer his obsession to the soul fragments so they maintain their difference while also empowering him. Then he used Origin essence to cement the grafting between them. This will ensure that they can never be removed from him.

It is like so because his obsession is perfection through combined effort. His aim to achieve perfection is by combining different strengths to overcome the weaknesses of the whole. His obsession is Legion.

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Legion-7's plan for freedom from the spiritual dimension has become feasible now that he has found a hunting ground. His hunting went without a hitch for a long while until he encountered other soul prowlers.

He was at the edge of the expanding gravitational field so the soul prowler he met was weak. It has a small zone of safety. That's why it didn't go further in to hunt more efficiently.

The soul prowler is spherical. It looks like a white gem-

encrusted spherical rock. It has learned a perception method. That is the minimum requirement to survive in the spiritual dimension.

You can't be blind and hope to survive anywhere much less the spiritual dimension. But awareness only means you will be aware as you are attacked and digested. If you fail to come up with a way to fight, then you will die.

This soul prowler isn't dead so it must be talented or lucky. It shot its spiritual energy like arrows in every direction. The arrows return to it when they hit an obstacle. The arrows bring information about the obstacle to it.

This method of perception is similar to the spiritual echo method but it is much worse. It is highly inaccurate because it can't form a 3-dimensional view of the world. The spiritual sense is unidirectional after all.

It is like a blind man groping an elephant. He can only get a little information at a time which might cause him to misidentify the elephant as something else.

The technique also isn't continuous so information is not updated in real time. There is a large period of darkness between each arrow which makes it very difficult to assess position, speed, and direction accurately. It can't do any one of these accurately much less more than one.

Chapter 1292 Acid In The Gut.

The soul prowler's method of perception has all the problems of the spiritual echo method including the short range and many other disadvantages. The soul prowler essentially has a sight disability. If not for the fact that it felt Legion-7's probing with the divine echo, then it wouldn't even know that someone was approaching it. Even then, it couldn't sense Legion-7 because he was too far away from it much less tell his position.

His divine echo perception technique outclasses this shoddy perception technique in every way. But Legion-7 still complained. "The divine echo method is still lacking. Even the lowest soul prowler will be able to sense me when I sense them."

This is not the physical world where the bodies of living things and the world around them encapsulate their souls and make it difficult to sense the divine sense of others. In the world of manifestation, you can only sense a divine sense that is equal to the quality of yours or lesser. You can't sense the divine sense of beings that are more evolved than you.

That is not the situation here. Every riff-raff can sense every divine sense because their soul is directly exposed to the world. It has made it impossible for him to sneak up on them and assassinate them.

"I have to figure out how to make my soul force independent of my divine sense. I will be able to remain undetected by others that way."

He complained a little and promised himself to become better. Then he put aside the problem of the scattering of soul force when it is not accompanied by divine sense and prepared to fight this soul prowler wholeheartedly with all his might.

He chose to be cautious because no soul prowler can be underestimated. They are not the weak soul fragments of the great mother. They are weak versions of the great mother herself.

Each soul prowler is a fragment of someone who is sufficiently obsessed to remain aware after death and also talented or lucky enough to survive the constant and all-encompassing digestion of the nether water. Caution is a must if only for the fact that this soul prowler is at least 10 times bigger than him.

So he didn't get too close to the soul prowler. He stood at a distance while he formed tentacles of soul force fashioned with his divine sense into blades. He swung the blades like whips at the soul prowler from afar.

The soul prowler didn't even see the attack coming so it didn't dodge. The blade made contact and sliced through a portion of the spherical prowler. The defense cocoon around the prowler couldn't block the blade at all.

The prowler shrieked in agony. The cut was bad enough in itself but Nether water made it worse. Nether water rushed into the new opening in its defense and began expanding it. It was as if Legion-7 had cut the prowler open and let its guts spill into the world. Then he poured acid into the cavity evacuated of its guts. It is the epitome of cruelty.

Unfortunately for the soul prowler, things only got worse. Legion-7 has more than one tentacle and he knows how to use them to great effect. He created many cuts all over the soul prowler with his blades. The defense of the soul prowler couldn't stand against the power of soul force. So despite being smaller, Legion-7 was winning by a landslide.

The soul prowler tried to retaliate. It shot out arrows at Legion-7. It could tell Legion-7's position in the brief moment when the tentacles connect with it. So it used that information to make accurate attacks.

The attack was very fast since it was literally sacrificing itself to retaliate. Legion-7 was caught off guard by the first attack. It struck him head-on. Unfortunately, the attacks that it made with its soul essence failed to do any damage to Legion-7. They couldn't get past his armor of soul force.

Legion-7 learned his lesson and increased his speed so as to avoid the fast attacks. He circled around the soul prowler with his fastest speed so he wasn't hit by the subsequent attacks. Meanwhile, each attack from the soul prowler reduced its size because of the expenditure of soul essence.

"Stop wasting soul essence you ignorant buffoon." Legion-7 cried in anguish. "You are wasting my food."

Other soul prowlers aren't like him. They don't have soul force to use to attack and defend. They can only attack with physical contact or at range by expending their soul essence. Even physical contact will expend soul essence because any physical contact between souls is a kind of collision.

In a physical fight, the skilled ones will be able to minimize the damage they incur and maximize the damage they inflict, but they can't stop themselves from losing something. When combined with the enmity of the nether water, fighting is a life and death matter that must strengthen the victor or both of them will lose and die. There is no in-between or draw.

Legion-7 is not in danger of dying but he can't bear to watch the waste of his precious food. He expects to win so the soul essence is essentially his already. He hoped, like anyone would, that this soul prowler would just lie still so that he could kill it without wastage. But the soul prowler refused. It resisted with

everything it had. So Legion-7 could only do the reasonable thing. He sought to grant his enemy a swift death.

Tens of tentacles lashed at the soul prowler and shredded it apart piece by piece. He made sure to use his tentacles to retrieve the small pieces so that the nether water wouldn't deprive him of his hard-earned food. It was at this moment that he realized that it might not be a good thing that the nether water will always participate in a fight.

He produced the maximum amount of tentacles that he could make so that he could digest the pieces as soon as possible. This is because not only is he fighting the soul prowler, he is also fighting the nether waters for the scraps of the soul prowler.

Chapter 1293 Knowledge Over Soul Essence.

That means he was attacking the soul prowler, retrieving the soul fragments, brainwashing the soul fragments, and grafting the soul fragments into himself at the same time.

If he didn't do that then this fight would be a waste of time. The nether water will eat everything and make it so that it is not worthwhile to fight another soul prowler.

"This spiritual dimension is too wicked." He complained as he chopped up the soul prowler trying to flee.

"Soul prowlers can die trying to live by hunting." He said as the soul prowler shrieked and wasted more soul essence.

"This is not the survival of the fittest. This is the survival of no one."

More of the soul prowler disappeared as Nether water ate them.

He complained again, "At least leave something behind for the victor. Don't be so greedy."

He is complaining of wastage when he is not at any risk of death. The soul prowler he is butchering has greater concerns than that. After all, it is not leaking soul essence because it wanted to.

Not only is the soul prowler losing its soul essence to attack, it is losing them to the nether waters and also to the enemy cutting it. It is triple trouble for it which is not a wonder why it screamed shrilly in pain and tried to escape.

But Legion-7 didn't let the soul prowler escape. It was easy to do. The soul prowler is mostly blind and he is faster than it. So all he had to do is keep the soul prowler running about in circles as he whittled it down.

The soul prowler couldn't maintain its consciousness under the constant attack of Legion-7 and the nether water. It was quickly broken apart.

He sighed in relief. "Finally."

The fight has ended. It ended in his victory and he gained a lot from it. He is still happy even though he has to work hard to steal the loot from the nether water and enjoy it.

The difficulty in enjoying his loot is because the soul fragments he cut out from the soul prowler are not unaware. They have sentience and they resisted the brainwashing. But he has a larger memory potential than the individual soul fragments so his memories flowed into them no matter how they resisted.

Soon they were saying, "I am Gehaldirah Oakstein. I want to achieve perfection. I want to eliminate all my weaknesses. I want to acquire all the divine abilities in the world and be without weakness."

He said to himself, "They are a little mad but they will do."

Then he grafted them to the mass around his soul. He gained both knowledge and soul essence from them.

"The soul essence is just 60% of the entire soul prowler. That's with my best efforts." He complained. "I don't like this spiritual dimension at all. I don't like it one bit."

He lost 40% of the soul prowler to the nether waters after doing his best to preserve his loot. Others will be lucky to gain 40% of the loot but he is not satisfied with 60%. That is after they have lost about 20%

of themselves during the fight. So their profit will be even less. The spiritual dimension makes it so that any victory is a pyrrhic victory.

What's worse is that the spiritual dimension has made it uncertain that victory will strengthen the victor. But soul prowlers have to fight. If they don't fight for food, then they might relegate in strength and be digested by the world.

"What could the spiritual dimension be digesting the souls for?" He asked himself as he grafted the last batch of the soul prowler.

"Is it a natural process aimed at eliminating remnants? Or could it all be for the resurrection of Origin gods? Or is there something else that needs a massive amount of energy in the void universe?"

He considered the last possibility. "It is possible but there might be other reasons why the nether water is bent on destroying everything apart from Origin gods. After all, there is a lot we don't know about the void universe. But it has to be a good reason or the 40% that it stole from me would have been for nothing."

He is complaining despite the fact that his size has increased by 5 times because the loss means he could have become 6 or 7 times bigger. So this is more than his hatred for wastage. The nether water is literally an enemy preventing him from growing stronger and that's the kind of enemy he hates the most.

His strength has also increased by 0.01%. That is an increase of 100,000 points. It seems small only because he has a soul with 1,000,000,000 stats. So this harvest is pretty large. It is more than a thousand times better than the soul fragment he ate earlier.

He chuckled and said, "10,000 more of this and I will double my strength. It seems small but the knowledge might be more useful to me."

10,000 fights just to double one's strength seems like an inefficient endeavor but he also gains knowledge from the soul prowlers which might make up for the effort he put in.

If there is anything that is more precious than soul essence, it is knowledge. The best way to gain it is from others. He will need to hunt at least 10,000 of the same soul prowler that he just killed to become twice as strong as when he just entered the spiritual dimension. But a single piece of knowledge can empower him more than two times.

It is just like the knowledge he gained from the soul fragment of the great mother. The techniques he gained changed how he used soul force and enriched his understanding of the spiritual dimension. That increased his survivability more than the little strength he gained from the soul fragment.

Chapter 1294 Leaves And Trees.

A more recent example of the superiority of knowledge over tangible benefits is from the soul prowler he just killed. He gained 60% of the soul essence of the soul prowler, but he gained 40% of its memories.

This 40% might be more valuable to other soul prowlers than the soul essence because it contains memories of a defensive technique. It is a defensive technique that will increase survivability in this unmerciful world more than 60% ever could.

The defensive technique is called soul refining. It is a method to refine soul fragments with soul essence into a denser and more durable state. This process expends soul essence and it takes time.

The cost of soul essence is prohibitive but the return is also high. If done right, even the rate of dissolution to nether water will reduce drastically so the soul fragments will last longer.

This is because the soul fragment will reduce in size which will reduce the surface area and it will also increase its density which will make it sturdy. The soul prowler refined himself into a ball. He also made a cocoon of super-refined soul fragments that look like gems around it. The cocoon protects it from both the corrosion of nether water and the attacks of others.

Legion-7 said in understanding, "So this is why it was able to survive in the spiritual dimension."

Many types of soul fragments from all works of life, different realms, and different races come to the spiritual dimension. But only those with special luck or certain ability can survive for any period of time.

The soul prowler for example had a poor perception technique but it was able to survive and grow stronger because of the soul-refining defensive technique that it created. Maybe it could have become a great entity like the soul mother in the future. Unfortunately, it met Legion-7.

"It is not the feather refining technique of the great mother but it is something." He said after digesting the memories.

lightsNovel com If he were a soul prowler struggling at death's door then this technique would be heaven-sent. But he is not. He is an entity that brings other soul prowlers to the door of death. He is an entity that a hegemon of the spiritual dimension wants to get. He is also an entity that has stolen valuable information from said hegemon. A mere refining technique can't impress him.

He didn't gain a defensive technique from the great mother but he created one with his soul force. His use of soul force is crude and direct but it is still superior to whatever any other soul prowler can come up with it.

Now he knows how to refine the honeycomb of soul fragments around his soul. It will become stronger with the addition of soul force. So while the soul-refining technique is not impressive to him, it will still make him stronger. At least stronger than the 0.01% strength that he gained from eating 60% of the soul prowler.

Legion-7 resumed his hunting while refining the soul fragments he had grafted onto himself. He also tried to create a better way to use the soul arrow attack technique.

The ability to shoot attacks at a distance appeals to him because he can shoot as many as he wants and can. It doesn't take up mental resources needed to control them which will limit how many of them he can use like his tentacles do.

He found many unaware soul fragments which he ate. But he is no longer looking for soul fragments. He has tasted the forbidden fruit that is soul prowlers and he is not willing to go back.

The difference between unaware soul fragments and soul prowlers is the difference between leaves and trees. Leaves are great when you are starving and you don't have any other option. But if you have options and you want to grow stronger, then the best thing to eat are trees. They have fruits of knowledge that might be more nutritious than the whole tree.

So he hunted trees. And he found a lot of trees to eat. Many soul prowlers felt the gravitational pull of the black hole so they came to feast. He on the other hand feasted on them.

Most of the soul prowlers he found were weaker than him. He was able to kill them easily. But he lost a lot of soul essence during the process. So the nether water was the greatest winner because of his fights. His bitterness about it made him decide to devise a means to eat more efficiently.

Soom he became even more picky about the soul prowlers he attacked. He stopped targeting small soul prowlers. This is because they have very little for him to eat even if he wins the fight.

Size is a determinant of strength in the spiritual dimension. The bigger a soul prowler is, the stronger it is. So the large soul prowlers that he wants to eat are more dangerous than small ones.

The risk increased because of his change in targets but his previous fights proved to him that size isn't all that matters when it comes to strength. Skill matters a lot. And most importantly, soul force matters more. So with soul force, he can fight soul prowlers that are much larger than him.

He remained cautious but he stopped being afraid just because a soul prowler is bigger than him. So he went ahead to develop the soul digestion technique. It is a combination of attacking and brainwashing. It does the two of them at the same time.

He is using the technique on a soul prowler that is more than 20 times his size right now. He has grown bigger by 10 times compared to when he just found the feeding ground so this soul prowler is 200 times or more bigger than his previous form.

This soul prowler is enormous, to say the least. But he still managed to cover it up completely in soul force in order to digest it without wasting anything.

Chapter 1295 Pompous But Mad.

His soul force formed a cocoon around the soul prowler. It is the greatest defense in the spiritual dimension. Almost nothing can harm the soul prowler from outside it. But the soul prowler is not happy with the protection.

The blades of soul force shredding it from within the cocoon has made it unable to appreciate the reprieve from the digestion of nether water. It is as if it is within a spherical blender trying to turn its existence from a monolithic solid into a free-flowing liquid.

Legion-7 cut it apart within the cocoon with soul force while simultaneously bombarding the soul prowler with his memories. His digestion technique is that efficient. Even better is that nether water cannot interfere in the fight.

The soul prowler cried out in anguish. Then it threatened him, "Let me go or I will kill you."

Its mental fluctuations were violent and unstable. It ought to be afraid and pleading for its life but it isn't. Instead it is prideful and confident enough to threaten the entity that is currently in the process of turning it into easily digestible food.

Legion-7 would have snickered or rolled his eyes if he had them. Instead, he encouraged the soul prowler earnestly, "Give it your best shot."

The Soul prowler warned, "You are making a big mistake. You don't know who I am. Mark my words. You will not live to see the end of the day if I die."

This time its mental fluctuations were smooth but it was still superimposed with the layer of instability and violence.

"Who are you?" Legion-7 asked with interest.

lightsNovel com That question seemed to have flipped a switch. The soul prowler roared with layers upon layers of superimposed mental fluctuations.

Each mental fluctuation had something to say about its identity. "I am gorgon."

"I am goedoni."

"I am gigi."

If this were the world of manifestation, then people would say the soul prowler was speaking with two voices at the same time. It would be a strange sight. But here in the spiritual dimension, it is a fairly common phenomenon.

Legion-7 said to the soul prowler, "What a pitiful fellow. Stop struggling and let me put you out of your misery."

All the voices refused. They roared, "Let me go."

Legion-7 didn't mind their rejection. He didn't need their opinion anyway. He was just hoping that their onset of madness would have reached the suicidal stage. Apparently, that is not the case. The multiple identities all want to live. The soul prowler has only become muddle-headed. It has become foolishly pompous but it hasn't lost its survival instincts yet.

The soul prowler resisted strongly. It accompanied its resistance with the occasional threats. But that resistance waned in time. Even the threats stopped after it lost too much energy.

Legion-7 didn't stop until it became a mass of delectable and obedient food. Then he ate it happily. He found it to be very delicious. This is most definitely because he didn't lose anything to nether water. The sense that he cheated the system made his loot many times better.

He resumed his hunting immediately after he was done with grafting the soul fragments to himself. The other soul prowlers around didn't run away because they didn't know that there was a calamity close to them.

This is not the world of manifestation. There is no light here to transmit information about the environment for an almost infinite distance and there are no eyes to perceive it either. This is a dark world and the perception techniques of soul prowlers are at best, small torches of light in the infinite darkness.

There is no transmission of sound and there are no ears to hear it either. So this world is not only dark, it is completely silent. The only thing that can be sensed is soul fluctuations.

If the perception technique of the soul prowlers can't sense that someone died a hundred meters away from them, then they will remain oblivious to the fact that someone died a hundred meters from them.

They will remain in their place waiting for Legion-7 to come and kill them. It is not because of pride and confidence. They suffer from a lack of knowledge. Unfortunately for them, ignorance is at most temporary bliss.

Legion-7 was able to kill to his heart's content since no one ran away from the hunting ground. He fought any soul prowler he encountered that was larger than him regardless of their strength. No soul prowler could break through his defense or withstand his attacks. And no soul prowler could beat his speed.

The hunt filled him with a sense of bliss. The fact that he won all his fights and had all the loot to himself increased that bliss to joy.

He declared confidently to the spiritual dimension, "I am not a soul prowler anymore. I am a soul hunter. You can't keep a soul hunter prisoner. I will break free from you very soon."

It is a declaration backed up by the many soul prowlers dying silent but painful deaths. The spiritual dimension is already bad enough for them. But they became unlucky that one of the soul fragments of an Origin god became unlucky and failed its reincarnation. Legion-7's bad luck became their calamity.

He is locked in here in the spiritual dimension, but they don't want to be locked in here with him. He beat up any soul prowler no matter their size including the ones with more than 1,000,000,000 points of soul power. They are stronger than him but they lack soul force.

Soul prowlers might have the same amount of soul power as him or even more, but they are not the same. The difference in state of existence is insurmountable. Their advantage in quantity couldn't overcome his advantage in quality.

The many fights granted him fighting experience to hone his soul-fighting skills. He developed the soul drill technique for fighting soul prowlers who are bigger and stronger than him. He called it the whale killer. Soon he got the opportunity to use it.

Chapter 1296 The Whale Killer.

He saw a tyrant of a soul prowler prowling around the edge of the feeding ground like a lion walking around a sheep farm. Nothing could threaten it. It was literally swallowing soul fragments and soul prowlers whole. Unaware or aware didn't make any difference to it.

This soul prowler is almost a hundred times bigger than his current size. That means it is more than ten thousand times bigger than when he just came to the spiritual dimension.

The size didn't daunt him. He said, "This is the perfect opportunity to use the whale killer."

He produced the maximum amount of tentacles that he could manage. This is 99 which is a lot. He is a hundred times bigger so this is to be expected. Then he brought the tentacles together to form a large spear. Next, he twisted them and shot toward the whale of a soul prowler.

"What are you?" It asked.

The soul prowler sensed him when he got within a thousand meters of it. At first, it was confused by the strange energy around Legion-7 that it had never encountered. But it sensed the threat to its life so it didn't dwell for long on it.

Its shape unfurled to reveal its large tentacles. Apparently, it had wrapped its tentacles around its core. The tentacles are thin and flat. But they are wide so they look more like claymores. It slashed the tentacles at Legion-7.

Legion-7 didn't stop. He continued to speed up and accumulate momentum. He was also rotating like a drill as he shot forward. So the tip of his spinning spear clashed with the edge of a tentacle. Or so the soul prowler expected.

Legion-7 didn't hit the tentacle at all. He slipped right by it after adjusting his direction. Then he stabbed into the whale. The soul prowler used his flat tentacles as defense. It wrapped them around it so he couldn't avoid it this time.

The spinning spear met the tentacle and drilled past it into the soft flesh behind it. He was rewarded with a resounding roar of pain that he felt from within the inside of the soul prowler.

"Go on my whale. Scream for me."

He continued to drill into the soul prowler so more and more screams were delivered. The soul prowler tried to get him out but it was too clumsy. It didn't have hands or fingers. Its sharp tentacles couldn't help it in this situation.

What's worse came next. Nether water rushed into the wound right after him. It caused the soul prowler so much pain that it lost its mind. It began clawing into the wound to expel Legion-7 without regard for its safety.

It roared, "Get out you bug."

Legion-7 laughed. "I can't. I'm lost and stuck. You will have to make me."

He truly is stuck but he is not lost. He knows where exactly he is. And he could have gotten out when nether water expanded the wound he created. Instead, he drilled more into the soul prowler. So he is only partly sincere in his ineptitude.

The whale killer was a success. He can say that with the uttermost confidence after trying it several times. The move causes catastrophic damage to any soul prowler no matter their strength. He can also always count on nether water to make it worse for them.

So he is not only a bully in the spiritual dimension, but he is not even fighting fair. He is always teaming up with the nether water when fighting soul prowlers that he can't kill easily. No one could stand in his way. The one that tried and could have succeeded was pushed into the black hole and destroyed by it.

The soul prowler was too strong for Legion-7 so he handed it over to the dead Origin god to kill. As for the rest that couldn't resist him, they became Geraldiah Oakstein and joined the hive cocoon of soul fragments around him.

He became very big after years of hunting. This continued for tens of years and his food only increased. This is because the gravitational field grew stronger as time passed so it brought more soul fragments and drew more soul prowlers to the feeding ground.

Soverick was born during this period of time. He became the child of the plane and granted Origin energy to all the clones. Aeternus and Helios used Origin energy to great effect but Origin energy is mostly useless to legion-7 since he can't grow stronger with it.

The Origin energy supply didn't go to waste though. He found out that it is a boon to the grafted soul fragments. They are not like him who is a fragment of the soul of an Origin god. They can still grow stronger with Origin energy.

All of the soul fragments are at least fragments of the souls of transcendents. This is because the souls of lesser creatures will be destroyed as soon as they come to the spiritual dimension. No amount of awareness or obsession can save them.

The souls of transcendents on the other hand possess a part of their bodies which grants them a sort of physical resilience. This helps them to resist the nether water for a short period of time.

This short opportunity gives them a chance to struggle for survival. If their obsession is strong enough then they will awaken. If not then they will be doomed.

Unfortunately, there is no Origin energy in the spiritual dimension for them to recover. There isn't even mana. The world wants to kill them not help them grow. So even the ones that become aware rarely avoid a second death.

The soul sphere broke the restriction of the availability of energy in the spiritual dimension. It created a channel from the world of manifestation to the spiritual dimension through Legion-7.

It is nothing new since the great mother has something similar to it. But the supply of Origin energy finally gave Legion-7 the chance to match the great mother in quantity very quickly.

Chapter 1297 Growing Food.

lightsNovel com He used Origin energy to grow the grafted soul fragments in his cocoon without limit. Normal transcendents can't do that because a living transcendent will die when they go beyond a certain limit of expansion. Their consciousness will fracture once they expand past the limit of their consciousness. They need the comprehension of laws and the bestowal of cosmic energy by the law matrix to increase that limit.

But he doesn't care about the limit because these souls are already dead. They fragmented again because of his reckless infusion of Origin energy but he didn't mind. He would just graft the resulting fragments and repeat the process to get more fragments. This way, he converted Origin energy directly into soul fragments."

He chuckled. "It is like growing my food. The great mother won't be able to bully me with the number of soul fragments she has anymore. I will catch up to her in time."

The great mother is not like the soul prowlers who are living from paycheck to paycheck. She doesn't need to hunt at all because of the Phoenix race that she has created. They give her Origin energy and more from the world of manifestation so she is not in danger of dying. She can sustain herself forever and even uses the extra energy to create soul fragments to increase the Phoenix race.

Legion-7 doesn't know how she achieved the creation of the phoenix race but he doesn't envy her too much now that he has his own source of energy. It is also infinite too so there's even less reason for him to be jealous of the great mother.

He said as he watched his cocoon grow, "This reminds me of my days as young, naive, and playful Gehaldirah."

The availability of infinite Origin energy made it so that he didn't need to hunt anymore. No amount of hunting can beat infinite Origin energy. So he stopped hunting and instead, focused on increasing the quantity of soul fragments and refining them with the soul refining technique to increase their quality.

The soul refining technique is costly to use but he didn't care. He became more powerful quickly. His progress was so fast that his strength doubled in a year. He should have gotten bigger but he reduced drastically in size instead. It is because of the soul-refining technique.

The soul fragments he produced were refined into tiny gem-like objects. They became very tough and durable because of it. They also produced light in various colors after being compressed to a certain level. They made his hive cocoon shine brightly with dots of light of various colors. This way his 100-meter form which should have increased in size was reduced to less than 10 meters in diameter.

He used most of his time to work on his techniques. Power is good but without the wisdom to use it, it will become useless brawn. He can't use his laws so he has to focus on his techniques.

The technique he focused on the most is the soul evolution technique. The best thing that soul prowlers can achieve is an increase in the quantity of soul essence. He has already proven that quantity is useless in the face of quality.

It is not that soul prowlers don't know that quality is better than quantity. It is just that they don't have the resources to increase their quality and evolve. They don't even have the resources to live. He on the other is not as limited as them. He plans to evolve.

He intends to evolve himself and attain an increase in his life order. It is not certain that he would be able to achieve it but it is important to do so because he knows that the great mother has achieved evolution.

The great mother is two levels above most soul prowlers if not all of them. He knows this with certainty because of the law of the soul he gained from her. He has never gained something like that from any other soul prowler in his almost hundred years of hunting in the spiritual dimension.

The fact that he hasn't found another soul prowler with that kind of comprehension of the soul doesn't mean there are none of them in the spiritual dimension apart from the great mother. After all, technically the law of the soul can be comprehended by everything with a soul or consciousness.

Even so, the great mother's success is a unique achievement. She may not have the perception of her soul hampered by a body like those in the world of manifestation, but the other soul prowlers don't either. However, all the soul prowlers he has encountered, and he has encountered a lot of them, have never considered creating an all-encompassing explanation for the existence of the soul, its behavior, and its interaction with the world.

He didn't meet one soul prowler with a smidgen of the comprehension of the soul much less the complete law of the soul. On the other hand, the law of the soul is just the stepping stone required for evolution. If the other soul prowlers haven't comprehended their soul, then they surely can't match the great mother at all since she has gone further to achieve evolution.

He doesn't know she achieved this evolution but he knows she did it with uttermost certainty. And he believes it has something to do with how she managed to create a race in the world of manifestation. It could be that she evolved before she created the Phoenix race or evolved after.

He is more inclined to believe in the latter. After all, this world is barren. It doesn't have the resources required for evolution. At least, he can't see anything that can allow for evolution in the spiritual dimension from the memories he stole from her soul fragment. Then again, he can't anything specific about her evolution either.

He said after thinking about it, "Either she didn't let her soul fragments know about her evolution or I didn't get that memory from the portion I absorbed. I wish it were the former but I am more inclined to believe the latter."

Chapter 1298 The Quest For Evolution.

Any one of his conjectures could be why he didn't gain any information about her evolution from the soul fragment. But if it were the first, it would show that despite her confidence in her soul fragments, the great mother knew to keep some things confidential. That may mean that the colony that formed the great mother is not as united as he thought.

He thought to himself, "It doesn't matter now. If she can do it, then so can I. I already know the requirements for the evolution of the soul. The law of the soul and a suitable primal. All I just need is to find a primal."

According to the law of the soul, the soul can continuously evolve. This is not a new or unprecedented acknowledgment. It is even acknowledged in the world of manifestation. The evolution of the soul is a feature of the path of perfection and divinity. It is how the path of the soul leads to the awakening of the soul after the body-forging stage.

Even the souls of demons also evolve. But after the breakthrough to the mana stage and the formation of the soul core in the soul space, soul evolution has always been accompanied by the assistance of the world. This assistance is either in the form of mana, Origin energy, faith, or cosmic energy.

Unfortunately for soul prowlers, that assistance is not present in the spiritual dimension. He could achieve this evolution and dig out the potential of his soul if he had access to the law matrix and law fragments. It would be very easy to do too according to his estimates.

Even Aeternus who couldn't wield laws could use law fragments to turn his soul into a concept. It is a kind of soul evolution based on the law of the soul. But there is no such thing down here in the spiritual dimension.

All those things are primals but he doesn't have access to any one of them here which is why he believes that the great mother succeeded in the evolution after she created the Phoenix race to send her resources.

He didn't give up though. He continued trying to evolve himself. It became extra important to do so when he couldn't increase the quantity of the grafted soul fragments anymore. The grafted soul fragments are not his soul. They are just a part of him in a sort of symbiotic relationship. So there is a limit to what he can handle without it becoming too much of a burden on him.

He complained to whoever would listen, "This is not what I wanted from you."

Unfortunately, there's no one around to sympathize with his woes. In fact, there is probably no soul prowler who will complain about the inadequacy of Origin energy. But he had to complain because he had become a house with a weak foundation.

His core is still the same soul fragment he came with into the spiritual dimension. This is despite the fact that he has increased in strength by 3 times. What's worse is that the shell of grafted soul fragments began to slow him down. The rate of empowerment couldn't keep up with the power necessary to move himself.

He has become a man in a desert who has the opportunity to carry as much water as he can possibly can. He was lucky to encounter a rare Oasis in the desert. But unless he decides to stay in the Oasis forever, he will have limited water and he also has to limit the water he carries away so that it won't impact his speed too much.

He has reached that point now. His size has returned to 100 meters in diameter. His core soul remains at 1,000,000,000 points but his soul force has increased in power because of the soul grafts. Unfortunately for him, he is getting slower with each additional soul graft.

His situation is not without solutions. In fact, he has numerous solutions to choose from. He could absorb the soul fragments completely into his soul with or without Origin essence. In this way, they won't be a cocoon around his soul but part of his core soul.

He can run mad if he assimilates the soul without Origin essence. But if he uses Origin essence to eliminate the risk of madness then he will lose the Origin essence. It might be safe to use Origin essence but he feels it is too important to use for something like this.

At least he is not willing to spend the only Origin essence he has until Legion manages to make more. As it is, it would take 30,000 years for Legion-1 to make another one. It would be regretful if something more important came up in the meantime.

"Should I try Chaos energy?" he asked himself and the other clones.

"Aeternus replied, "As someone who very intimate with Chaos energy, I do not recommend that."

Chaos energy is the other type of energy they have access to apart from mana and Origin energy. Mana and Origin energy can't help him directly but it is uncertain if Chaos energy would have a beneficial reaction with the nether waters.

The feedback from the other clones helped him to make a decision. He decided that it was too dangerous to mess with Chaos energy. He knows how dangerous Chaos energy is to everything apart from Aeternus.

He isn't immune to Chaos energy and Legion also isn't willing to let such a dangerous energy enter the mind network. In fact, Aeternus himself is not immune to Chaos energy and he is a high-grade demon. So he had to continue trying something else.

He spent more than a hundred years on the problem of evolution without making any progress. The failure made him frustrated and angry.

"Will I be stuck here forever?" he lamented.

The stagnation in finding a way to evolve means he didn't grow at all during the 100 years of trying. It is something to be frustrated about.

Chapter 1299 An Unusual Idea.

Not only has his strength been stagnant, he has tried to break the barrier of the spiritual dimension but he failed. It seems he is still too weak to break out despite reaching his limit. If he can't evolve like the great mother, then he won't be able to leave.

His other option for evolution is the fragmented Origin god that is sleeping at the center of the black hole. But it is still too dangerous to attempt to eat such an entity. He has grown stronger but the zone of no return has only grown larger. It hasn't shrunk at all. This is due to the increase in the gravitational force as time passes. That means he is still in danger of dying if he approaches the Origin god.

"I can't approach the fragmented Origin god yet. The only path for me is to try and absorb souls. But I don't want to contaminate myself." He said as he looked at the black hole with longing. "If only I could create a technique for the perfect devouring of souls."

He has not been completely stagnant all these years. He made some progress in his techniques. He created a new movement technique and perception technique. He can now notice other entities around himself without being noticed in return.

His use of soul force has become too fleeting to be sensed by others but it also makes it impossible for him to acquire details and information about the entities other than their positions.

So he has not wasted his time but the technique he wanted above all else is the ability to devour souls. He wants to be able to devour souls like the fragmented Origin god. He wants to mimic the dead Origin god since he can't eat it.

The major problem with this wish is that devouring souls is not a good thing. It is possible to assimilate another soul completely but it comes with the side effect of madness. The memories of others are already enough to contaminate a soul. The soul imprints they have is like a curse to any other soul.

Other souls have soul imprints which is the unique mark of their consciousness. Imbibing these marks will contaminate his own soul imprint and surely make him mad.

He is just a soul fragment and not a true Origin god like the black hole. He doesn't have a concept that to make his soul imprint immortal and indistructible. He can devour souls without having side effects if he decides to use Origin essence but he is not willing to be wasteful.

He believes that it is a waste to use Origin essence which can grant him immortality to devour souls. His stance on that might change after a thousand years of lack of progress in devouring souls.

Desperation might make the use of Origin essence not a waste. In the meantime, he tried to learn how to devour souls from the black hole. His divine sense can only observe the fragmented Origin god from afar. It always gets devoured if he tries to make contact with it.

His lack of progress in devouring souls frustrated him but he is not without ideas.

"Let me pursue immortality then. When I have immortality I will be able to devour souls without any problem. There has to be something that is indestructible in this place that I can fuse with to achieve immortality."

He decided to search for something powerful in the spiritual dimension that might help him to evolve if used together with the Origin essence. It is a good idea since immortality would solve his problem. He would be able to transform himself into a living black hole in the spiritual dimension. Every soul fragment and soul prowler that comes close to him would be devoured.

It is a good plan but it is not one that can be achieved easily. Origin gods achieve immortality by fusing with their concepts. Concepts or seeds of power are indestructible. If he could assimilate law fragments and cosmic energy with them, he would be able to at least evolve his soul if not achieve immortality.

But there are no laws here and no way to get Authority or cosmic energy. So he turned his search towards something that he could use as a substitute. There is no trace of such a thing in the small amount of memories of the great mother he has and the memories of other soul prowlers so he doesn't know where to start looking for it.

lightsNovel com He racked his memories of the spiritual dimension both from his personal experience and the memories that he gained from grafted souls. But he couldn't find anything remotely immortal or eternal apart from the fragmented Origin gods. Even those will leave the spiritual dimension after a while.

"There is nothing in this place apart from nether water. There is only nether waters as far as I can see." He complained.

Then he got an idea. "Nether water." He exclaimed. "It is everywhere. Is it strong enough to raise my existence?"

"There is only one way to find out." He said.

There is Nether water everywhere. He has mostly ignored it because it doesn't affect him. It is a strong energy that is capable of digesting souls so he wants to see if he can gain any sort of power from it. He believes he should be able to comprehend something about it.

He opened a gap in his cocoon of grafted souls and allowed Nether water to reach his soul. Then he removed the protection of soul force so that he could make contact with it.

It was a decision he regretted immediately. "Noooooooo!" He screamed in panic.

He felt death at that point. The docile nether water became unusually active. It latched onto his soul and didn't let go. It tried to drill further into the depth of his soul from the surface. It was as if his soul had been set on fire.

Chapter 1300 Some Personal Reasons.

He tried to cut off the grip of Nether water on his soul with soul force but it didn't work. Soul force couldn't detach nether water from the point of contact. He could feel the intent to bring his death from the nether waters. It made him feel dread from the depths of his existence.

He used everything he had to fight back. It was Origin essence that finally saved him. It managed to distract nether waters by giving it something else to destroy. This created a buffer between his soul and nether waters which he quickly filled with soul force.

It wasn't until he had completely separated himself from Nether waters that he finally relaxed.

"Something is wrong with the nether water." He said with certainty. "Is it alive? Is it a living thing that I can't understand or is it the energy of a living thing?"

Nether water has always felt docile to him but that has changed now. It was corrosive when he first came to the spiritual dimension but it wasn't this retroactive in trying to kill him. Its behavior reminded him of slimes. They eat by corroding matter. They never excrete so they are used by weak beings to clean.

lightsNovel com "Nether water and the spiritual dimension would make sense if I was in a giant slime. Maybe that's why the great mother called the digestion tract of the void universe?"

"Wait a minute. Is the slime the void universe?"

He thought seriously, "It would explain the void universe's hatred for anyone that escapes. We are its food after all."

He always thought the void universe didn't want anyone leaving the void universe because they would be essentially cheating death. It would be bad if death was nullified. It would be breaking a law of the universe and cause Chaos.

All those reasons are impersonal reasons for hatred. The void universe would just be doing its job in making sure those who die remain dead. But it would be awfully personal if those who die were food for the void universe. Then it would not want to let go of them for personal benefits. Especially not when those who are strong enough to escape have souls as powerful as Supreme Origin gods. That would be too much food to let go.

"But why did it suddenly become active? Could it be because I have grown stronger now? Have I been noticed because of my strength?" he asked uncertainly.

He felt slightly amused when he thought about something. "If it is, then I now know why the soul drill is so powerful. I know what the powerful soul prowlers felt when I used it on them. Even the dead should not have to suffer like that."

His experience cost him in soul power and origin essence. That short exposure to nether water took more than 10,000 points of soul power. That is 0.001% which looks small. But 10,000 points is the mark of a transcendent.

That is a lot of soul power to lose in less than a second. Even the knowledge of what his enemies went through when he used the soul drill on them is not enough to make up for his loss.

"So Nether water is out of the question for immortality. It is the energy of death. It is the opposite of mana. I don't know what I was thinking when I decided to try it. This part of the world is meant as a graveyard for souls so I shouldn't have expected that the energy meant to kill me will strengthen me."

"It seems the void universe means business. It wants all of us dead. There is no way to get stronger. Then how did the great mother evolve?"

That is the question on his mind right now. Unfortunately, he can't find the answer to it. So he continued his search for immortality. This continued until Legion-9 awakened and began to accumulate faith.

Legion-9 managed to create the cult of life in the Zargoth plane. This provided him with faith to create his unique divine life energy. All the clones got access to it and it brought hope to Legion-7.

Unlike Origin energy that his core soul couldn't use, divine life energy is like an elixir for his soul. It caused his core soul to grow rapidly which also increased his tolerance for the grafted soul fragments.

It was all good but he felt a strange feeling from the tree father.

"This can't be right." He exclaimed. "Why do I have a feeling of longing for Legion-9?"

He can feel a sort of attraction for Legion-9. It is the sort of attraction that promises evolution. He can feel instinctively that if he eats Legion-9, he will get stronger and evolve. He has never felt that from other clones. It wasn't until Legion-9 awakened and came in contact with divine life energy that he felt this.

"What's different about Legion-9?" he asked. "Do I want to eat him because he is a tree of life or because he is a god?"

He has always been connected to the tree father but it is until the tree father started giving him divine life energy that he felt this sort of attraction. Hence why he believes that the attraction should be related to the Tree father's transformation into a Celestial Hybrid.

Legion-9 is certainly different from the other clones. His body was formed from a life tree grown in the inner world of a world beast and evolved into a Celestial Hybrid. Those are three different things that set the tree father apart from the other clones so what is attracting Legion-7 should be one of them.

Legion-7 couldn't find the answer to that question so he decided to make himself content with feeding on divine life energy. Unlike soul grafts, he can feed directly on divine life energy to strengthen his soul.

This made his soul heal from the damage of the previous experiment and go further to become more powerful. It also made it so that he could graft more soul fragments to himself.