

## **GREED 381**

Chapter 381 100 New Problems.

A god can only create one avatar at a time. The fact that Stelios withdrew his avatar means he is so busy with something that he couldn't spare his attention for the mortal realm, or he has something else to do in the mortal realm, or he is too angry to remain in this place after he was cheated of his son.

He as the Celestial Supreme is willing to forgive Stelios for what he did no matter the reason for it. He has to be magnanimous about it. After all, they did just sacrifice his son. It is not too much to give the sun god some consideration.

"Now let's get back to what I was saying. Bad, unfortunate, and unforeseen things suddenly happen for no apparent reason and there's nothing we can do about them. Such things happen every time. It is normal. We just have to move on and ..."

The Celestial Supreme suddenly stopped. He is sensing some things. First, he became confused. His calm face turned into a scowl, then his eyes widened in surprise.

"Oh, crap." He exclaimed after fully comprehending what is going on.

Something unfortunate has just happened. It should not be for no apparent reason but he can't find one. He has been laid back these past few years but that doesn't mean his surveillance system was brought down or compromised. So he should have had an inkling or two about what just happened and yet he is being caught unawares.

His surveillance over the mortal realm is as sensitive as ever, he will be able to sense the slightest fluctuations of divine power no matter how weak. He is sensing 100 of such weak fluctuations of divine power characteristic of ascension to demigod all spread out within the plane at the same time. It means 100 other entities like the ant queen are about to become demigods simultaneously.

He is so shocked that it is enough for his jaw to slacken and drop. "How is this possible?"

This question is not a question asked by fools who can't comprehend what they are seeing. He can comprehend what he can see and yet he needs an explanation. The question is very valid. How is possible for 100 mana entities all over the plane to suddenly have enough divinity to transform into

demigods after he has scoured the mortal realm of divinity? Only one thing comes to mind and it is the sudden influx of items with divinity that was used to exchange for the demigods.

"No way." He muttered as his eyes widened in realization.

He had suspected such a consequence that's why he didn't stop it but only created a barrier around the ant mound to monitor all movements in and out. He decided to use the items as bait to trap anyone involved with the ants.

And no, he didn't make a mistake or overlook something. No one, not one ant passed that barrier. They all stayed holed up within the ant mound without going outside for the entire time. The only ones to have ever passed through the barrier all these years are Helios, the Colossus, and the priests.

It obviously couldn't be anyone of them that smuggled items of divinity from underneath his nose. He doesn't dare believe that mortals fooled him or that his position as the celestial supreme is a joke. This only leaves one possibility, a god or numerous gods. The fact that mana entities cannot absorb divinity without the help of a god eliminating the resistant Divine Will makes his conjecture that a god is behind all of this very plausible.

He is willing to bet his hammer that the god responsible is that slimy god scurrying about in the shadows like some low-life thug.

"You have gone too far." He roared savagely.

How the god contacted the ant queen without him noticing is a matter for another day. For now, something must be done about the 100 mana entities.

He stood up from his throne in his divine kingdom. His divine kingdom looks like a giant net. The net is made up of thick ropes called chains of order. The ropes are parallel to each other and the space between them is constant. The angle they form when they cross is a perfect right angle so the space looks like a rectangle.

Both the divine kingdom of the god of fate and the Celestial Supreme are made up of ropes. Of course, these ropes are threads compared to their giant form. The similarity ends there. The strings of fate of

the god of fate are multicolored and meshed together haphazardly to form a multicolored river while the chains of Order of the god of order and justice have only two colors, white and black, and are positioned orderly into a net.

But enough of the divine kingdom. The Celestial Supreme is currently angry. He doesn't do well with anger. The only thing that gets him angry is the loss of control, so he tries to regain control when he gets angry.

He roared in a voice that all of creation within the plane heard. "FREEZE."

And the world froze. Well, only SPACE obeyed his command to freeze. MATTER and TIME didn't listen to him. He might have power over Order but that doesn't mean he can boss all three of them around. The fact that he can boss SPACE around is only because he is the Celestial Supreme with the backing of all the gods of the plane and it is only the space within the plane that froze.

Only mother high heaven and the realm lord can freeze all three within the plane. But what he did is terrifying enough. Everything within the plane froze. Children crying or pulling snot from their noses. Balls or stones falling down froze in the act. Butterflies and birds froze mid-flight. Rampaging Sandstorms froze and all the avatars of gods within the mortal realm froze up. All because of one word from the Celestial Supreme.

Chapter 382 Release Yourself.

Everything within the mortal realm froze as if caught in amber. It will continue to be so until the Celestial Supreme releases his Order or runs out of divine energy. Those are 2 of the 3 ways that anything can be released from his Order.

Considering that he has been saving divine energy for millions of years, he can surely sustain the exorbitant consumption that freezing the mortal realm for a hundred years will cost him. It will bankrupt him to do it and it will leave him weakened but he can do it.

The third option for release is for the frozen things to release themselves. The Celestial Supreme is not omnipotent in the plane. He has spread his power all over the plane so his Order can be broken if they are strong enough. They don't have a choice anyway. The Celestial Supreme is certainly not going to release his Order. So if they want to be released, they have to do it themselves.

If they don't release themselves, then they will start dying soon. The plants, bugs, and other things that need oxygen to live will be the first to die. Time is still flowing, it hasn't stopped for them. So if they don't get oxygen soon they will die.

The next ones to die will be the vitality core stage beings followed by mana entities. Those in the vitality core stage need to breathe. They too will die. Mana entities can stay without oxygen but they still need to breathe to get the mana that they need into their bloodstream.

Breathing allows mana in the air to enter their lungs and from there it enters their blood. But their lungs can't move so they have to subsist on the mana they already have in their bodies. The mana entities of the Zargoth plane may be special due to the low concentration of ambient mana and have evolved to get mana through others means but even they won't be able to do that when they can't move.

In less than one hour all vitality core stage living things will die. Mana entities can last longer but they will also die once they run out of mana. All these creatures will die with their consciousness fully intact. The lack of oxygen and mana that sustains life will make them die and they will be painfully aware of it.

Right now, the ones that need air are feeling the suffocation but there's nothing they can do. They are weak and can't release themselves. Their lungs can expand or contract so they will be asphyxiated by the tantrum of their celestial supreme. All because of a conflict that doesn't concern them.

The god of fate is still laying about in his river of fate when he heard the command for the world to freeze.

He chuckled to himself and said, "Oh no, he didn't."

He doesn't care so he won't do anything about it. It is not in his nature to interfere with the world. He has also made a deal with the god of Order and Justice that he won't meddle in the affairs of the plane. That deal was the only way for him to get the god of order off of his back for being a Celestial god.

The fact that they got a stalemate in their fight doesn't mean that the control freak of a god would have left him alone. The god of Order would have tried other avenues to get rid of him. But he is a peaceful god who is laid back and likes to snoop on people. So he convinced the god of order that he is harmless and made the oath to prove it. So he can't interfere with this mess even if he wants to. He is bound by the contract to watch and do nothing.

The other gods of the pantheon can't interfere either. They can only watch what's going on with different reactions. The god of knowledge has a weird reaction to the event. He is most excited to see the frozen plane.

"Wonderful. Marvelous. Simply unprecedented." He guffawed as he scribbled. "Absolutely divine."

He took out a tome and started recording his observations of the situation in the mortal realm. It is not every day that one can observe the consequences of freezing space. The last time it occurred was a very long time ago during the time of an older generation of gods. So he is feeling extremely lucky and excited to witness this.

He is an outlier though. Not a lot of gods are excited by the situation. Some of them, like Harkam, are solemn. Harkam the god of the sky and tempest knows when a storm is coming and for some reason, he can smell one on the way.

None of them know why the Celestial Supreme suddenly froze the world. What they do know is that it happened after Stelios threw his own tantrum. Harkam suspects that the two are related. It is either that or the Celestial Supreme's tantrum is a coincidence. His rival the god of the sun has other things preoccupying him right now, so he doesn't care about the situation in the mortal realm.

Most of the gods are bored and unconcerned. They don't have enough reason to care about the current state of the world apart from the fact that it is spoiling their fun. Where are they going to get their entertainment now that the mortal realm is frozen? Should they start fighting each other instead? Is that allowed now? But no one has enough courage to ask the Celestial Supreme that.

They don't care that millions of entities will die because those that matter will be able to free themselves from the effects of the Celestial Supreme's Order to freeze. The gods weren't affected at all because every god is Sovereign in their divine kingdom. The Celestial Supreme can push his weight around in the mortal realm and most of the divine realm but not their divine kingdom.

Chapter 383 Unknown Transcendents.

Some entities succeeded in freeing themselves. The first ones are the Colossus and the Behemoths. The transcendents of the giants of order began to move as seen on the divine battlefield.

The gods had called a truce when the situation with the decree of the Celestial Supreme came up. They were waiting for the conclusion of that event before they return to their fighting so all the soldiers are on standby.

Right now on the battlefield, all the soldiers have frozen. Then the transcendents began to move. First, their fingers twitched, then their hand moved before their arms and legs became capable of mobility too. The debut release occurred at N-ov3l=B(j)n.

They freed themselves from the stasis and looked at the frozen world in confusion. Their gods sent information to them. They calmed down when they realized what is going on. Then they spread their domain to unfreeze everything within it. The weaker mana entities within their domain became free from the stasis too and went about whatever they are doing.

The other mana entities of the giants of order that aren't within the domains of transcendents will be fine too. They might not be able to move but they can breathe. The law fragments within their body are strong enough to resist most external influences including a watered-down Order of the Celestial Supreme. So the space within their lungs is unfrozen and can be moved.

It is not as if they are as strong as the Celestial Supreme but because the power of the order has spread all over the plane. If it were focused then no mortal can stand a chance. Even gods have been shown to succumb to his Order of silence.

So only transcendents, mana entities of the race of giants of order, and demigods can move. Nothing else should be able to move. The rest will die including those 100 mana entities trying to digest divinity. They are not demigods yet, so they can not move, unlike the ant queen.

The Celestial Supreme might have flipped out but he knew what he was doing. He is trying to choke out the sources of trouble at once. It is either this or starting a heroic quest to remove all of the others but another error like the kidnapped demigods can arise. The only way to prevent that is to send out 100 Colossus to get rid of the aspirants to Godhood but he doesn't want to do that. This way of freezing everything is more efficient and will certainly get rid of the trouble.

He sighed and sat back on his throne when he sensed the full nature of the situation. He rubbed his face wearily with one hand while he muttered, "Ashes to Ashes. I will rebuild a new order from the chaos. Everything will be alright."

This entire thing might be a distraction. The hidden god first used the negotiation to delay. But he was decisive and he allowed the negotiation to take place. Then the ants asked for Helios. The gods would have argued about it and become distracted because of the problem. Another war might be declared too. He stopped the situation from spiraling with his quick response.

Helios was sacrificed. Then the situation of the 100 mana entities suddenly appeared. It is obvious that the hidden god is trying to distract. He could fall for it by trying to snuff out the problems one by one or he could just suffocate everything. The death of the innocent entities is worth it if he can curb the hidden god's agenda.

He maintained his focus on the ant mound and instructed his Colossus to continue towards it. The ant queen is a demigod so she is still moving. The Colossus will get there and kill her. He intends to put out all the sparks of chaos before he releases the mortal realm from its stasis. He doesn't care about the innocent other races that will die because of his order. Only giants are important to his world order.

His wish must be done at all costs, even if that means the death of billions. In any case, only strength matters. He is strong and he wants to freeze everything. If you're strong too then don't freeze when he says so. If you're weak and can't unfreeze yourself, then your opinion doesn't matter.

It is also convenient that the giants of Order will be least affected. They have the only transcendents in the plane because they kill any transcendent from other races. If not for the ant queen, they will also have the only demigods in the plane too. Their mana entities can survive so all is well with the giants of order.

He was about to relax when he heard a noise. It is the noise that occurs when transcendents break free from his order to FREEZE. This noise sounded 200 times. At first, he wasn't concerned. It is odd that there are some transcendents of the giants that were slow to break the bond and it is also odd that these slow pokes broke free at the same time.

But that's just it, odd. Totally nothing to worry about. Still, he investigated. His obsession won't let him relax until he makes sure everything is in order. His investigation came up with nothing. He couldn't sense any of these 200 transcendents that broke free at virtually the same time.

"This is bad." His voice sounded distraught.

The only thing he could sense are 200 small blank zones within the effect of his order. The reality of the situation hit him. He just realized that there are transcendents in the plane that he doesn't know about. So in fact, giants of Order aren't the only transcendents in the plane.

He can't see them, sense them, or recognize any divine power on them which means they are not affiliated with any god. It is only now that he found out about their existence. They have been hiding somehow under his surveillance. If not for his outburst, he would have remained ignorant of their existence. Somehow, the other races have created transcendents and have kept them hidden from him.

Chapter 384 Troublesome Hidden God.

This is something he would never have imagined. Something straight out of a nightmare. He was telling Stelios earlier about some unfortunate and unforeseen things that happen. Here is one horrific occurrence that is unfortunate and unforeseen. Except, it is happening to him and his precious plane.

Then another round of the noise of freedom rang out in his mind as the transcendents spread their domains.

"This is very bad." He exclaimed with wide eyes.

The fact that these transcendents activated domains that are strong enough to break his FREEZE order is simply proof that they are transcendents. It shouldn't be enough to alarm him. What alarmed him is the coincidence in which 100 of those blank zones created by the transcendents he can't sense happen to be where he sensed the mana entities trying to digest divinity.

It means that these unknown transcendents have something to do with the mana entities trying to become demigods. That also means that they have something to do with the hidden god through the divinity given to the ant. Or it could mean that it is all a coincidence. The Celestial Supreme isn't stupid enough to believe in such giant coincidences.

"How did this happen?"

He should have seen this coming. It shouldn't have come to him as a surprise. He began wracking his head for an explanation. It could be that these transcendents are a different hidden faction of the plane. It will explain how they have been able to accumulate so many transcendents but it doesn't explain how they remained hidden from him.



It could also be that these transcendents are working directly for the hidden god. It will explain how they remained hidden from him but it doesn't explain how a new and young god that should be a low god, has accumulated such a following. If this second option is true, then the hidden god is more terrifying and ambitious than he thought.

"I must put an end to all of this." He muttered in an urgent haze.

One thing is certain. All of this is related to the new god. He can't comprehend what this god could be up to but he realized that a lot has been happening in his precious plane with his knowledge of it and that's not good at all. There are truly scary ideas popping into his head about what the god could be up to.

Everything he has seen indicates that this god has been up to something behind his back. From the looks of things, this god is creating demigods. The next step from demigods is gods. If things progress in that direction, then there will be numerous gods from other races.

It is an absurd idea and it is something he cannot allow. He would rather die than see the rise of a new god and he would rather have the world burn to stop gods from coming from another race apart from giants.

He moved into action immediately. He removed the "FREEZE" command from the mortal realm since it isn't working. Then he sent his avatar to the location of one of the mana entities trying to become demigods. He appeared in a tunnel under the desert.

"Boreworms. What a disgrace." He muttered with disgust when he saw the tunnels.

He knows what created the tunnels as soon as he saw them. The tunnel he is in is large and lined with mucus. There are other tiny tunnels that lead off from the main tunnel. Most importantly, he can see the inhabitants of these tunnels. The inhabitants look like round and segmented worms. They have no eyes but have feelers on their head that they use to sense sound, light, and vibrations.

The sight of the numerous tiny things wiggling on the ground and secreting mucus is a horrible sight that can induce vomit. A larger one entered the main tunnel through one of the side tunnels in it. It raised its blind head to the air and sensed the atmosphere by wiggling its feelers. Then it screeched and slid back into the tunnel it came from as fast as possible.

The screech set off a panic among the previously ignorant tiny ones. Their wiggling increases as they try to escape from the supposed foreign thing that is dangerous but they are not as sensitive as the larger one so they are rushing around uselessly. Some of them even rush toward the Celestial Supreme.

The feeling of disgust within him threatened to overwhelm him. He stamped his foot on the ground angrily. A ring of force spread out from the point of impact and pressed all the worms against the ground. Their delicate body was crushed by the sudden 10-fold increase in gravity.

But that didn't satisfy the Celestial Supreme. His scowl hasn't disappeared. The only thing that will satisfy him is the eradication of every organism within this tunnel. So he increased the range and potency of his ability. The ring of force spread out from him far into the distance and the gravity began to increase steadily.

The tunnel began shaking and more worms began to screech in a warning. At this rate, the tunnel will collapse and crush them all. The Celestial Supreme could already picture it and it brought a smile to his face.

Then something untoward happened. Another domain clashed with his and removed his influence over gravity as easily as swatting a fly away. The scowl returned to the Celestial Supreme's face, even deeper now.

"Of course. It is the thorn in my side, coming to poke me."

His voice was dripping with contempt and unconcealed hostility. He can already guess who it is in this area that can interfere with his business and it can only be the enemy he came to see.

"I have thorns too. What a coincidence. I must count myself very lucky." A roaring voice sounded out.

The tunnel shook as the voice reverberated through it. Numerous thorny vines followed right after the voice.

Chapter 385 SWIFTESCAPE THE MIGHTY.

The thorn vines appeared through the holes in the tunnel like water spilling through faults in a container. They then came together and combined to form an enormous plant dragon.

The dragon is made with green thorny vines all layered and meshed together to form the shape of the dragon. The dragon might be made of plants but it is still large. Its entire body filled the tunnel like a wall of power. It stood with equal height as the 100-meter-tall avatar of the Celestial Supreme in a tunnel still larger than them both.

The Celestial Supreme became shocked.

"You're a plant?" He asked incredulously.

Of all the races that he could have suspected of achieving transcendence without his knowledge, plants did not and cannot come to his mind. It just seems absurd on the face of it. Zargoth plane is not a plane conducive to plants. Plants were the first to die out when giants of order started to rise. That led to the death of other races and then the giants of order killed the resilient ones.

And yet, here is a plant transcendent. It has somehow survived as an ordinary plant without water. It grew and somehow became capable of using mana in a plane without mana. Then it subsisted on this unavailable mana for many years to finally become a transcendent. It cannot be overemphasized how absurd and ridiculous it is.

"My my, I am flattered. The Celestial Supreme is so shocked by my power that he is speechless." The plant dragon spoke in a rumbling voice that is stressing the tunnels and threatened to make them collapse. The dragon held its head high with pride beyond what should be shown in front of the Celestial Supreme of the plane.

"It was good that I came here. Now I know that you're working for the goddess of agriculture. She must be the one behind all of this."

The Celestial Supreme tried to wrap his mind around how a plant happened to become a transcendent and the only solution that came to his mind is the goddess of agriculture. A plant cannot become a transcendent in the Zargoth plane without assistance and that is a fact. The goddess of agriculture is the only god that he knows that works with plants. She is the one betraying him and working with the hidden god to undermine his order.

"Why can't I have become a transcendent on my own? Why must a god be the one to allow me to exist?" The dragon asked.

It seemed offended by the notion that its strength is not attributed to its effort.

"Is a god not supporting you? You can't expect me to believe otherwise."

The dragon turned silent for a while before it answered. "You're right. A god is supporting me but it isn't the god of agriculture."

"I see what you're doing. You are trying to misdirect me by telling me something that is true while saying another thing that is false. As if I'll believe anything you say."

The dragon chuckled. "Nothing gets past you oh great and powerful dictator of the Zargoth plane."

He snapped at it. "Don't call me that."

The dragon rolled its eyes and asked, "Then what is your name?"

"I am the one, true God. The only true God in all of the plane. I am not the king of gods but the only true God. I am a Celestial and since I am the only one, I am the Celestial Supreme. You must call me the Celestial Supreme and only that." He ranted at the dragon as if scolding it.

It listened attentively as he spoke, nodding its head occasionally. Then it asked after he was done. "I am sure you were not named the "Celestial Supreme" from birth. So what were you named? Come to think of it, nothing is known about your life as a mortal. You can't make me believe you were born as a god.

The Celestial Supreme's outburst didn't affect the plant dragon at all. It has a mission to do and it will do it regardless of his anger. It's not like the Celestial Supreme can do anything to it.

The Celestial Supreme calmed down and regained his composure. He snorted before replying "You can believe whatever you want. It doesn't change that my name is the Celestial Supreme."

"Okay, so it is Celestial Supreme. I am SWIFTESCAPE the mighty. You can call me The Mighty if you like. I find that name resonates more with me. I, The Mighty, have a message from my even mightier god."

The dragon held its head high and spoke with pride. Then it stopped after its introduction to let the consequence of its sentence sink in.

Except its audience isn't impressed. The Celestial Supreme said impatiently, "Get on with it already."

"Why can't you allow the creation of other gods?"

"I'll tell you why. It is also why I came here. There are three commandments and 10 rules of the church of order and justice. The first commandment is to obey all rules. The second is that the best number for anything is 1 and 0. The third command is that if acquiring the best number is impossible or will disrupt order, then the current situation must be kept constant."

"There can only be 1 true God. There can only be 1 race as gods. The number of gods must be kept constant at 101. Since I am the only true god and I am in control of the divine realm, I am the Celestial Supreme, and as such, my will must be done."

The dragon spoke. "Order must be maintained. But it is your order. Why not make things easier for us by allowing another god? All of this can end if you are willing to allow another god from another race. Just one."

"Never." The Celestial Supreme yelled. "I'll never allow it."

He will never allow it. He can't even picture it without becoming angry. He would have to die first before he allows such a thing to happen.

Chapter 386 We Must Have War.

The plant dragon bared its great sharp teeth at the Celestial Supreme and grinned. "I see. Then we cannot have peace."

The Celestial Supreme did not like that. His voice rose with his anger. "It is not your place to determine whether we will have peace or not. I am here to declare to you and your god to end your plots and schemes or there will be war."

"Then we must have war." It said to him.

"It is not your place to tell me what must be done."

The dragon assumed a fighting stance. It spread its wings and opened its jaws to reveal a green flame burning within it. It said defiantly, "I did it anyway. What are you going to do about it?"

If the Celestial Supreme wants a fight, then it will give the Celestial Supreme a fight. SWIFTESCAPE hasn't had a fight ever since it was created. A fight with the avatar of the Celestial Supreme will do nicely to loosen its bones and remove parts of its boredom after waiting in this location since its creation.

More worms had entered the area around them. They are attracted to the aura of the plant dragon and wanted to be close to it. They find the stray vitality leaking from the dragon to be refreshing. Even the larger ones that can sense the threat that the Celestial Supreme pose can't hold themselves back from coming closer.

The Celestial Supreme found their form to be disgusting. The way they waved gleefully around the plant dragon made his irritation rise like never before. He spread out his domain again on an impulse to destroy them. His domain was canceled as soon as it sprung up. A mana entity, even if it is the avatar of a god cannot maintain a domain in the presence of a transcendent. The situation increased his frustration which bled into his anger.

The eyes of the dragon glowed green as a divine entity empowered it. Then it said, "You are not welcome here, Zernon. Leave or fight."

That damaged the Celestial Supreme more than a physical blow could have. He narrowed his eyes at the plant dragon. Then he canceled his avatar and disappeared.

The dragon settled down. It has done what its creator asked it to do. The tree father had asked it to extend a branch of truce to the Celestial Supreme. It would have been very good if he had accepted. It will give the tree father more room to cheat and screw the Celestial Supreme over. But the Celestial Supreme isn't willing to have peace or the facade of one. His loss then.

"Time to go then."

Since that is done, it has to resume its other duties. So it broke apart into vines that slithered like snakes. The vines passed through the network of holes and tunnels toward their target of protection. They sunk down into narrow spaces below until they emerged into a very large space that formed the heart of the tunnel network.

The dragon appeared within a giant tunnel more than 300 meters wide containing a sleeping and equally giant worm almost 2 kilometers in length and 100 meters in thickness. The giant worm has a weak mind despite its large body so it had to sleep when it was fed the crystal fruit.

The dragon turned into a harmless-looking tree and resumed its watch. If it hadn't been here earlier, the giant worm would have died because of the frozen space. It took the dragon some time to break free from the restriction because it doesn't have the advantage of giants of order. Transcendents of the giants of Order were the first to break the restriction due to the law fragments within their bodies. The other plant spirits took around the same time because they have similar power.

The job to protect their targets has been on for several years. In the case of the plant dragon, it has had this job for more than 120 years. The plant spirits had scattered all over the place and found various targets to nurture into demigods. Others have other missions apart from this. The thorny vine dragon had found this Bore worm before the ant colony was found. The tree father decided to make use of it later since it was not in the prime location that the tree father wanted.

The mission to find different viable creatures to become demigods wasn't easy. The major requirement is finding mana entities different from those of giants of Order. It is a very difficult requirement to meet considering that the plane is barren. There are very few races that have adapted to the absence of free mana in the air.

The ants adapted by becoming able to eat sand and digest the mana within it. Sand and the earth are one of the few things that haven't had their mana absorbed. That's because the mana within them is tightly bounded and the passive mana absorption of the giants can't get to it the way they robbed plants of their vitality.

Species that can take this tightly bonded mana can survive somewhat but they cannot thrive. They cannot become transcendent without help. Even the bore worm who can easily become mana entities in this situation are barely surviving.

Bore worms are a consequence of the thriving of giants of order. They are small parasites that love to live within the intestine of giants. It is very difficult for external things, living or not, to affect giants of order but these parasites have adapted to the task of living within their bodies. Their eggs can be inhaled or ingested. Then they hatch and live within the intestines of giants.

They will continue to do so until the giant dies. Then they are left without a host. Some of them die because of the loss of their host and some don't. The ones that can perform the switch from a parasitic lifestyle to self-reliance after the death of their host become what are known as bore worms.

Chapter 387 Bore Worms.

Bore worms are small when they are just born but can grow to a maximum length of 3 kilometers once they leave their host. They live in tunnels that they make themselves. Their ability to bore holes through the earth is why they are called bore worms. The tunnels have become their new habitat where they give birth to smaller bore worms.

The smaller bore worms have inherited the ability to survive alone and don't need to parasitize giants but they can't grow as large as the mother worm unless they kill giants and feast on their flesh. The parasite then turns into a predator.

The second-generation bore worms can't grow past 10 meters in length but they use their length to their advantage in becoming incredibly deadly. They do this by trying to force their way into a giant through their mouth. That's what the mucus is for. To ease their passage through the gullet. A sleeping giant might just awake to find that it can't breathe because something slimy and slippery is slithering down its throat. Things will end badly for that giant if even a little piece of the bore worm enters the giant.

Bore worms don't have anything else in their arsenal as predators but they plague giants like evils from a nightmare. Their transformation from harmless parasites to predators that hunt them in the night is both a scary story and a real occurrence. The desiccated bodies of their victims are more than enough proof of their capabilities.

"I wonder what changes this will bring." The thorny vine dragon thought to itself.

The sleeping giant segmented worm is the mother bore worm while the tiny ones are her kids. The thorny vine dragon's mission is to protect the mother bore worm which is a mana entity and currently digesting the divinity that it was given.



The mother-bore worm is certain to change after becoming a demigod so will the tiny worms that it gives birth to. The eggs and parasitic stage of bore worms are harmless to giants of order. But that can change after divinity gets involved. It is an unprecedented transformation after all. Bore worms might become the next race to thrive in the plane.

#### CELESTIAL SUPREME'S POV

Zernon the Celestial Supreme returned his consciousness to his divine kingdom fuming and out for blood.

"War. Do you want war? We will have a war!" He roared in anger.

His voice shook his divine kingdom like the shaking of a mountain as an avalanche rolls down the mountain.

He didn't waste time at all. Since the hidden god wants war, he will give them war. He began issuing orders to the priests of his church even before his divine kingdom stopped swaying. They were already on standby to interfere with the world war going on on the divine battlefield but Zernon has a more important mission for them. He sent them to attack all the 100 spots where he could sense the fluctuations of divinity.

Since he can't snuff them out or talk their backer out of this insane plan, he will give them war. They will face the full might of the church of Order. His full wrath will fall on them and drown them to death. They will experience the suffocation that they escaped from his FREEZE order. He won't be placated until he sees their dead bodies.

The army of the church of order began to move as soon as they got their order. About 80% of the total forces of the church were mobilized. Priests and inquisitors as well as soldiers divided themselves into 100 groups each with 2 transcedents. They wouldn't need so much of their forces just to quell 100 transcedents but the problem is that the 100 targets are scattered all over the plane in different directions.

If the church of Order hopes to stop the transformation process to demigod quickly they have to move as soon as possible and attack immediately. They can't afford the wait that will occur if they try to hit

one location after the other. So Zernon had to split his forces to get immediate results and to kill the sources of chaos as soon as possible.

Zernon watched all these while still fuming. He had gone to that location to have a reasonable chat with the transcendent and the god that stood behind them. He wanted to inform them that he wouldn't budge at all on his stance about changes to the current world order. They were to surrender but they can have peace and negotiate on some other things.

He was sure they would fold since he had caught on to them and their activities. He thought the threat of violence from the Celestial Supreme will be enough to make them see the error of their ways. Apparently, he was wrong. The hidden god turned out to be mad enough to declare war against him. What could it be but madness for a god to think he or she has nothing to fear about him, the Celestial Supreme? He will teach that hidden god a lesson that even mad dogs can be put down.

"The Audacity." He roared again.

His voice extended far out of his divine kingdom this time to reach the other gods. The gods became aware that their Celestial Supreme is having a very bad day. The freezing of the mortal realm is a big deal now they know how bad his mood is.

He really is not in a good mood and will not be until he destroys this god. Then he will bury the knowledge of his name with it. That plant dragon uttered his name and it got to him for several reasons.

His name is an important matter. He had made sure to wipe it out of history. He even put out an Edict using his authority as the Celestial Supreme to ban the uttering of his name. The knowledge of his name should have died out so it came as shock to him when that vile facsimile of a dragon uttered his name.

Chapter 388 Preparation.

The strength of the ban on his name is more powerful than his order for space to freeze in the mortal realm because it has a localized effect. Instead of all his power spreading throughout the mortal realm, it focuses on whoever is trying to utter, write, or communicate his name through any means. Only a Celestial god can bypass that ban. So he was surprised that a god knows it when that god should be a new god. It made him worry about how powerful the hidden god really is. He was also chilled when he saw how that god descended onto that transcendent to utter his name.

A god can use others as their avatars only if they are an accommodating vessel for that god. The best accommodating vessels are ones that have been bestowed divinity. But mana entities are too weak to be useful as vessels while transcendents absorb divinity very well and wouldn't become a vessel for a god.

So a vessel is rare and precious. They are protected as valuable assets by their gods. Imagine his surprise to find out that the dragon he was talking to is a vessel. A vessel's identity should be kept a secret, not like Harkam and his troublesome Celestial. He expected better from the hidden god. What's worse is that the hidden god gave him that knowledge freely by taunting him with another knowledge that it knows his real name.

The knowledge of his name means the hidden god might be privy to some sensitive information about his past. He decided there and there that the hidden god and its machinations must be eradicated. The fact that the hidden god can descend with a transcendent as a vessel rang warning bells in Zernon's mind. He couldn't allow the god to continue its rampage in the mortal realm.

"Bore worms. What an insult." He said with bitterness.

He can still remember the disgusting wiggling worms. More than his fear of the hidden god and his anger at the exposure of his name is the unsightly situation he saw when he met that transcendent. Instead of respect and cowering since he caught them red-handed, he got disrespect and embarrassment. His dignity was tarnished and he was exposed to the shame of his race.

It is a disgrace to him and his race to find out that one of the mana entities to be transformed into a demigod is a bore worm. Of all the things to have a chance at becoming a demigod, a parasite is the most disgraceful option. Something that used to rely on them for its continued existence in the most abominable way should not be granted divinity.

The revelation is an insult and will bring down the honor of the divine if such a thing becomes a god. How can he live with himself as the Celestial Supreme when a parasite of the giants of order joins the ranks of the divine? It has to be stopped immediately and the possibility uprooted at the roots. All this anger and humiliation fueled his rage and his determination to start a war. He doesn't mind the expenditure of the immense undertaking because of his anger.

"We will see what is going on in that ant hill soon." He said as he turned his sight to where it all began.

A seemingly normal occurrence and opportunity for a heroic quest turned into a scheme to destroy the order of the world. He can't wait to see what is going on within the tunnels of the ant tunnel and he will get his wish soon enough. The Colossus he sent is about to get there.

Back to Helios.

He was bonded, gagged, blinded, and traded over to the enemy by the gods he believed in and has been assisting faithfully. It was a betrayal of the highest order. It is true that demigods are tools for entertainment, but this time, the gods went too far. They turned a demigod into a commodity for their benefit.

The royal guards took him into the ant mound where the gods are sure he would be suffering immensely. The gaunt features of the demigods that had spent 120 years within the ant mound are enough to clue one in about the "special treatment" that Helios will receive.

They expect his flesh will be removed from his body painfully and with enough care to keep him alive. They expect that his mind will be broken by the pain just like the others. They expect that the story of Helios the son of the sun will end with his capture. Unfortunately for them, they were wrong. All their expectations were subverted.

Helios did receive special treatment. He was carried with care through the tunnels down into the central room. He laid back leisurely on the back of one of the royal guards as if he is not in enemy territory. He was treated like an honored guest who hasn't killed any one of them.

"Hurry it up. A colossus is coming for your queen. We don't have time to dilly dally." He said from his position on the back of a royal guard.

It is not a comfortable position to be in. Diamond carapace doesn't make for comfortable resting material. Unfortunately, it is the only one he can get on such short notice and in this dilapidated condition. Ants aren't exactly known for luxury. His current living condition is worse than his restricted, yet luxurious accommodation in the sun city. So maybe the gods are right about him being tortured.

But is enough for him. Certainly, enough for him to forget his betrayal and mistreatment. That is old news. He played his part and the gods played theirs. Of course, they will pay for their transgression but it is nothing personal. It's just business.

The royal guards hurried up and brought him to the central room where he was dropped in front of the plant spirit like the most precious of cargo.

Chapter 389 Breakthrough To Transcendence.

He is the most precious cargo because Legion's entire plan revolves around him. Helios sat down wordlessly in front of the tree and began meditating for his breakthrough to transcendence.

The plant spirit lit up with green flames as the tree father descended into it. It extended a branch into Helios's back and into the stigmata on it. The branch entered the Stigmata as if there is a hidden dimension within the Stigmata. The green flames spread from the branch onto Helios's body.

The flame is not an ordinary flame. It is created from the burning of faith which a god does. So the flame is the tree father's god fire. Unlike a normal god fire, it is full of divine power, divine will, and divine life energy. It is more of the spark of life.

The flame got to work on Helios. The divine power began to modify Helios' stigmata according to the instructions of the divine will contained within the flames. The divine will of Stelios within the Stigmata sensed some changes within the structure of the Stigmata and was about to resist when it suddenly calmed down when it noticed that the changes are beneficial to the intent of the sun god. It would have lashed out otherwise.

The tree father modified the Stigmata by increasing its capacity and access to the source of divine power that supplies the Stigmata. The changes hurt Helios enough to grimace but the divine life energy within the flames healed all the damage caused by the Stigmata upgrade.

Unlike other god fires which simply burn, this flame reinforced and strengthen his body. It made the cells of his body undergo limited evolution. The next evolution should be transcendence but the divine power in the flames gave the cells a short evolution and strengthened them to the limit of what is possible for them to achieve.

Then the flames began to work on the other runes on Helios's body. Those golden runes written with the divine energy of the sun god were perfused with the divine will of the tree father. This upgraded them to the rank of Stigmata and performed some finishing touches on Helios's body to prepare it for the breakthrough. Now he is decked with Stigmata capable of evolving with him.

Helios took one more look at his status.

NAME: Helios (Legion-4)

TITLE: Child Of The Virut Plane.

RACE: Giant Of Order.

BLOODLINE: Sunfire Royal bloodline.

POWER LEVEL (BODY): Mana Body (Complete)

POWER LEVEL (SOUL): Soul Reformation (Complete)

PHYSIQUE: Half-Divine Body

HP: 100%

STAMINA: 100%

ENERGY LEVEL (BODY ): Mana

ENERGY LEVEL (SOUL): Spiritual Energy

VITALITY: 5000

ENDURANCE: 5000

STRENGTH: 5000

AGILITY: 2000

PERCEPTION: 1,000,000,000

SPIRIT: 5000

LIMITER (BODY): 80%

LIMITER (SOUL): 0.000005%

DIVINE SENSE (GRADE): 500(B)

OTHERS

MANA AFFINITY: 100%

LAW AFFINITY: 50%

ELEMENTAL AFFINITY (GRADE): FIRE (DIVINE), LIGHT (DIVINE), ORDER (DIVINE).

STATUS: Scheming.

He has finally reached the limit of what a mana entity can handle even with the law fragments in his body. That limit is 5 times what other mana entities can achieve. His agility finally moved too with the assistance of divine life energy. It doubled in number from 1000 to 2000. He has divine life energy which he has been receiving for some years now to thank for these changes.

Divine life energy is an energy unique to the tree father that came about as a result of the fusion of life essence with divine energy. It is so powerful that it can make ordinary mortal trees instantly become

transcendent plant spirits. Such transcendents will be reliant on the tree father so they will be perfect vessels for him.

Divine life energy also enables the tree father and his vessels to hide from the senses of others pretty easily. This is because the divine power within divine life energy can hide all the traces of their life energy. They will look no different from a rock under senses different from the sense of sight. It is how the tree father has been able to move secretly under the strict surveillance of the Celestial Supreme.

Helios took in a breath and began to break through. He will not be returning to the sun city to become a transcendent. His loving father might be distraught. Stelios will just have to deal with it.

A mana entity can become a transcendent when their soul core has been reformed into a soul form in the image of the body and when their domain has fused with their body.

The domain of a mana entity is the control of environmental mana due to the fusion of spiritual energy with their divine sense. The divine sense becomes able to manipulate mana on a large scale instead of simply sensing it.

Once the body has adapted to mana and has transformed most of itself to contain mana, the domain can then be turned towards the body instead of the environment. This transfer of external control of mana to internal control is why transcendents have perfect control of their bodies.

To achieve the breakthrough, the domain will cling to the part of the body that has been transformed by mana and hold to it. Then the body will be used to pull on the soul within the soul sphere of the mana entity. So the body becomes the anchor while the domain which is attached to the soul becomes the rope that is used to pull the soul out of the soul sphere.

The soul is flexible, so it will expand as it is pulled from every direction. It is also sensitive and fragile so it must be pulled slowly and with care. The soul will be pulled out of the soul sphere where it will follow the path of the domain.

The domain contains spiritual energy which will serve as a channel for the soul, and since the domain is attached firmly to the body, the soul will be forced to come into close contact with the body, and then they are forced to fuse together. That is the summary of the breakthrough to transcendence.

Chapter 390 The Difficulty Of Becoming A Transcendent.



Becoming a transcendent is not so simple. If it were that easy, it wouldn't claim the lives of the unprepared who attempt it. Becoming a vitality core stage refiner and a mana entity can either be successful or failed. You can't die in the attempt. Things are not so for becoming a transcendent.

There are a lot of factors that determine the success of the endeavor. The first and most important is the control of the mind. There is a need for perfect control of the divine sense. It is easy to control the free ownerless mana in the environment than it is to hold on to the mana tightly bound to the body. But if you can control your mind, then you will be able to control your body.

The second factor is resilience. The soul might be flexible but having it pulled is a very painful process. The soul will not only be pulled but it will also be pulled out of its comfort zone and out into the physical world. The soul sphere is the protection for the soul. It is obvious that bringing the soul out of safety is a bad idea.

You will feel existence crisis and pain as the soul is brought into the physical world. It will feel like you're dying and your entire being will try to resist it. You have to maintain control of the mind through the pain because what is an even worse idea than pulling the soul out of safety is letting go of the soul during the pulling process. The soul will tear if it isn't let go all at once and uniformly or it will break if it is let go far into the process of pulling it out.

The third most important factor is compatibility between the body and the soul. A soul will automatically take on a form the stronger it becomes. This form is based on the familiarity of the mind with the body. The soul will stop being a sphere and turn into the image of the person.

The familiarity between the soul and body can be increased with control of the body. The better the mind can control the body, the more familiar the body and soul become. Certain weapon systems like the momentum-controlling system of the battle sage monkeys provide familiarity.

Familiarity is very important if you want the body and soul to fuse. You would expect the soul of a person to be very compatible with their body but it isn't so. The soul is fundamentally different from the body. One is physical and the other is spiritual.

In a normal setting, they shouldn't cross paths at all. Becoming a transcendent is not normal. The soul and the body have been forced into contact but that doesn't mean that they will fuse because you want them to. A horse can be forced to water but it cannot be forced to drink.

If compatibility is too low, the soul will refuse to bind with the body which will prolong the process of fusion. If the person breaking through cannot bear the pain anymore then they will abort the breakthrough which is almost certain to lead to death as the soul is released. The soul will rush back to take its previous form then it will collapse under the strain.

So it is best to completely reform the soul in the image of the body before the breakthrough. That way, there won't be resistance more than usual.

The fourth most important factor is the mana conversion rate of the body and the strength of the soul. The higher the mana conversion rate of the body the stronger the hold on the body by the domain. And the stronger the soul, the higher the chances of it withstanding the stress of breakthrough and surviving the exposure to the physical world.

The fourth requirement, mana conversion rate, is the easiest requirement to fulfill. You just have to pump your body full of mana to the extent that most of your tissues are composed of mana instead of vitality.

Tolerance to near-death pain, control of the body, and control of the mind are much more difficult to achieve of which tolerance to near-death pain is the most difficult. Anyone can do their best in calm situations. But becoming a transcendent needs you to be able to control your mind and body simultaneously whilst under near-death pain.

All these requirements have to be met before someone can safely go through a breakthrough. Even then, they have to take it carefully and solemnly. Any error can lead to death. The only ones that don't worry are those with royal bloodlines. The law fragments inside their bloodline will mold their body and soul into the image of their ancestor. The debut release happened at N0v3lBiiin.

Those with bloodlines will know when they are ready to break through. Their Instincts will inform them when they have met all their requirements. They can sleep all their lives and their bloodline will meet their requirements for them as long as they have access to mana.

They don't need control because the process will go seamlessly as if they have done it over and over again. Their body and soul will have the highest compatibility and won't resist at all, so they won't feel any pain whatsoever. That's why becoming transcendent is not a problem for descendants with royal bloodlines.

Helios doesn't have a royal bloodline so the process of breakthrough isn't automatic for him. He has to take it step by step but he has nothing to worry about apart from the Stigmata on his back. His soul has been reformed into the shape of his body right from his conception.

The figure of his soul is the form of a golden giant within his soul sphere. It is also complete with an imitation of the golden runes on his body. He made the runes and he is the most familiar with them so even his soul bears them. It is very important that his soul is familiar with the runes because they will be fusing with body and soul during the breakthrough.