

GREED 431

Chapter 431 Here Comes The Trouble Maker To The Divine Plane.

How did the demons trick the divine plane? Why are there demon dukes in the army? Why are the demon dukes bowing to the high-rank demon? Where is the demon king that they should be bowing to? What do Helios and Stelios plan to achieve with the demons? So many questions and so few answers?

All of it reeks of an insidious scheme and he is sure a demon king will show up soon. His suspicion is not baseless paranoia because when there are demon dukes, there must be a demon king. That demon king might even be in the mortal realm right now. It is unlikely but just because he hasn't seen the demon king yet doesn't mean it is not around. Even if it is not around, it could be on its way.

He had most of his attention on the happenings of the mortal realm in order to spot any new danger so he noticed the demons scattering throughout the plane. Unfortunately, his troops are being cornered and eliminated so he couldn't do anything about it. The defense of the mortal realm fell into the hand of the gods who were just at each other's throats a few days ago.

"I just can't catch a break can I?" He groaned and complained.

So many unpleasant events are happening in the mortal realm but he had to return his attention to the divine plane because Helios came knocking. The child of the plane who allowed demons to attack the plane and who killed a large share of his vessels decided it was time to cause trouble in the divine plane too. It is a worthy cause to lament one's misfortune.

HELIOS POV

Helios flew up from the mortal realm into the sky. He appeared in the divine plane once he crossed the void that acted as the boundary between it and the mortal realm. He was warped into the divine city beneath the divine kingdoms of gods as soon as he came near the floating landmass.

Numerous gods started to pay attention to him but no one came forward to greet him. Not even his father's friends or his divine siblings came to greet him. They prefer to stay in their divine kingdom or places of abode where they are safe rather than risk death.

He has a notorious reputation in the divine plane which explains their reluctance to interact with him. It is not that they don't have things to ask him or stuff to talk to him about. They do but they can't look past the attack that tried to split the plane and his act of betraying their race. They will find him to be a pleasant person with some skills in people butchering for demonic sacrifices if only they can look past his traitorous deeds and get to know him.

Fortunately for him, he is not a people's person and those that matter to him think highly of him. In fact, the Zargoth plane loves him. Both the mortal realm and the divine plane think very highly of him. The divine plane did something very odd when he entered it. It announced the creation of another Celestial to everyone.

It is odd because it didn't announce the ascension of Stelios when he became a Celestial. But it finally performed the announcement when Helios came to the divine plane. One might wonder who the true Celestial is between the father and son.

The Celestial Supreme wondered too. His face also turned bitter when he saw what Helios has become. He itched all over to attack one of the people that have turned his plane upside down but he held himself back.

He didn't attack Helios there and then. He is the Celestial Supreme and the only Celestial that is ready to defend the plane so he can't be preoccupied with something else no matter how much he wants to. He has to be ready for the attack of a demon king. He will watch Helios for now and only interfere when he has to.

He allowed himself to mutter, "Who is the sun god now?"

His question is warranted because Helios looked no different from a Celestial since the divine plane embraced Helios like a Celestial. A person on the path of perfection will be suppressed in the divine plane. All their laws and Authorities will be rendered powerless in the divine plane. They will become as weak as transcendents. That is what should have happened.

Only Origin gods can somewhat resist the suppression because they themselves are part of the law. Helios is just a king of law but the suppression doesn't appear to affect him. He is being suppressed but the other half of his half-celestial body was activated. He is a king of law in the main plane, but he is a Celestial in the divine plane.

A force began to pull on the other half of the Celestial power in his body to reunite the two but Stelios would have none of it. The divine plane feels that it is not right for one power to be separated. Stelios is of the opinion that the separation of power is good and nothing could be better so he resisted the pull.

Helios didn't indulge the pull. He doesn't need the other half anyway. What he has is already enough for him to be recognized as a Celestial in the divine plane. He began to transform as his divine body activated.

His humanoid form became bloated and began to enlarge. He enlarged until he became a golden giant of fire more than 1 kilometer in height. He looks like a colossus except he has 6 arms and he also has white armor covering his golden form. He is just like the son of the Celestial Supreme. He is both a behemoth and a colossus except his base is that of a Colossus while the son of the Celestial Supreme, may he rest in peace, was a Behemoth at his base.

Chapter 432 [Bonus] Beelta Vs Helios.

Helios rose above the divine city as he transformed but the divine city still suffered from the transformation. The buildings and creatures around him combusted instantly while the city itself caught fire. He is radiating too much heat to be safe around.

He left the burning city behind without bothering about the damage he caused. The various divine lords living in the city will take care of it. As for him, he has a demon Lord to teach a lesson. If she feels she can throw her weight around however she wants, then she should try that with someone of her own size.

He arrived above Armageddon soon after transforming. The fighting stopped immediately with the sighting of the Colossus lumbering towards them. Both sides suddenly became content with waiting and watching. The gods don't know what he is here for while the demons don't know him at all. But they can all sense that this armored monstrosity with golden runes running across its surface is a Celestial and very dangerous.

The demon lord looked on with dread as the Colossus approached her. The ground of Armageddon is shaking with each step of the Colossus. The quaking synchronized with the sound of her thundering heartbeat. And just like the quaking is getting louder the closer the Celestial is to her, the louder and faster her heart is beating as her dread increased.

"It seems I am doomed. I didn't expect them to feature a Celestial right from the start." She lamented as she looked on.

An invasion war usually starts with skirmishes and probes. It is important to be cautious and to test the waters so that you don't fall into your enemy's trap. She was counting on the prudence of the enemy and the sacrifice of her soldiers to give her enough time to extract herself from this murky situation. But they go and sent a Celestial on the first day.

She may have a large army but it is not giving her any confidence. She knows deep down in her very large gut that she is doomed. If there's anyone that can trust their gut for advice it is her because she has a big gut and it is almost sentient. So yes, she is really doomed.

It is not a conclusion influenced by paranoia. She is the commander of the demon army and also the strongest. A Celestial god won't waste time with the rabble. It will come to destroy the leadership of the invaders. That means it is coming to remove her from the existence of the living. Apart from sound reasoning, one will be hard-pressed to come to another conclusion if they see what she is seeing.

It is a terrifying sight. Angels and demons alike are combusting wherever the titanic being passes. The mere presence of the shining Colossus has doomed them to become nothing but ashes. She is more than strong enough to withstand the heat of the Colossus, it is the source of the heat that she is worried about. A Colossus that is 10 times bigger than her, coming towards her army cannot be good news.

Beelta is just a demon Lord, the equivalent of a grand god. She is at the peak of half-divine rank in all her stats so she can take on the most powerful grand god and maybe a weak sovereign of law. What she can't take on is a Celestial. A Celestial is out of her pay grade but falls to her to handle the Celestial since she has the highest pay grade among the demons. That means she cannot give up.

So she initiated communication with the Celestial.

"Sun god. I'll watch my back if I were you. A demon king is hiding in the army."

Her voice exuded confidence and not a hint of the crippling fear that she is feeling. The trick is to make herself believe that there's a demon king here. The best way to do that is to be afraid of her superior. If a demon king were here, she would be afraid. So she twisted her current fear into the fear of her boss with some confident and slightly sympathetic words.

Helios replied. "Is that so? I don't see a demon king anywhere. I only see you."

"That's because he is hiding. You will be ambushed. That is the plan. Or do you really think we demons are so stupid as to attack a plane with a Celestial without a demon king?"

Helios continued forward even as they chatted privately. Yes, it is stupidity made incarnate for them to attack the Zargoth plane without a demon king. He is slightly inclined to believe her and he is also cautious of that possibility. Legion doesn't know everything so a demon king might really be here hiding somewhere. But if a demon king is truly here and it is hiding then it is a weak demon king. Helios is not afraid of such a demon king.

He is also pretty fast so he believes he can escape. But he decided to indulge Beelta. She might be on to something.

"If that were so. Why would you help me by telling me that?" He asked her.

"I am a decoy to be sacrificed for the purpose of the demon king. I don't want to die. Let me live and I'll give you information about the army's plans. You will be able to know what the demon king is up to. It will help you beat back this invasion and save your plane. I can swear an oath to do this."

She grew more confident the more she spoke. She easily wove lies without missing a beat. Her promise to swear an oath is a fine touch that will express her sincerity. Her wordings suggested that she will rat out the demon king but it doesn't say that there has to be a demon king. She will swear the oath and rat out her army. She will do anything just for some time to leave this doomed place.

Chapter 433 Beelta Vs Helios 2.

"I suppose it is a fair trade for your life," Helios said about her offer.

He sounded agreeable to the deal and yet, he isn't stopping. Beelta noticed this obvious discrepancy. It is what is preventing her terrified heart from calming down.

"Why aren't you stopping?" She asked.

Her voice betrayed her. It contained a hint of the true fear of death. That fear of hers began to surface unbidden. It can't be hidden or modified anymore because the true cause of her fear is ever closer to her. Helios proximity to her has made her fear impossible to control.

"You see. I have been sent by my superior to spring the trap of the demon king. In a way, we are both similar. We are both decoys to be used by our leaders. It is the pain of our existence." Helios answered with slight remorse.

That got her to pause. If there is truly a demon king lurking among the demons, this celestial god believed her bit about being a decoy and also went further than that. He shared his plan with her. Either he trusts her not to betray him just like she betrayed her demon king, or he is lying to her and toying with her.

She sighed and asked, "You're not going to spare me are you?"

"It's nothing personal. It's just a job. Now, do your own part."

Her mind hardened over with the acceptance of death and suddenly her fear cooled down. She has tried but there's no way out of this. That means she must fight. She doesn't have much choice in the matter considering that the Colossus is already close to her.

The giant ball of flesh yelled, "All Existence Erasure."

She roused all her accumulated power to fire her most powerful ability. It is a self-created spell that she created after being inspired when she saw a demon king use something like it.

A giant finger made of energy appeared in front of her. The finger is more than 100 meters in length but it flew forward like it weighed nothing. The fingertip should destroy everything it touches. It should leave behind trails of destruction but it isn't. Because Beelta is not a demon king. But she held hope that it will at least deter the Celestial.

One of the 6 giant arms of the Colossus moved. The arm smacked the finger easily destroying it in the process. Her attack lacks the Authority of a demon king while every movement of his body is imbued with a Celestial Authority. The arm of the Celestial stretched forward to grab her.

The demon lord roared unwillingly but it is all futile. She is out of her league. She decided to blow parts of herself up and escape capture. She will hide her consciousness among her scattered remains. It will

be like she died and she might get away with it if no one searches further. Her body expanded abruptly, but it was forced to reduce in size. The hand exerted a force on her that compressed the demon lord from all sides. She can't explode no matter how much she wants to.

She did the only thing that she can do which is to transfer her consciousness and soul back to the demon plane by using her connection to the energy well. It will leave her weakened enough to be easily killed by a low-rank demon. At any other time, it would be suicide for her. Her enemies will take the opportunity to get rid of her. Fortunately for her, the demon nobles are stuck here so she is safe.

The giant golden hand captured the body that she left behind. Helios smiled to himself as he examined her body. He found it amusing that she tried to con him with a non-existent demon king. If there's someone on this battlefield that knows that there's no demon king, it will be the two of them. But she didn't know that. That's why she tried to pull a fast one on him.

"The struggle of all life to live is truly admirable."

He finds her struggle to be admirable. It is just the thing he expects from her with the information he has about her from Aeternus. She knows her defeat and death are imminent and yet she still tried everything to escape it. She used her words to avoid death. It would have worked if he were ignorant and afraid. Unfortunately for her, he knows he has nothing to fear and he is ready to face the slight possibility that he is wrong.

Then she tried to blow herself up and fake her death. He didn't allow that because he is not just here for her death. He needs her body. Her soul has left it but it is the body that he needs. There are some other things he came to get on this trip to the divine plane. He began to see to their acquisition after getting the demon lord's body.

He captured the demon nobles next. The demon lord couldn't resist, and neither can they. He didn't even need a giant hand to capture them. He simply formed a barrier of force around them with his divine sense and captured them easily.

"Now for the finishing touches."

He looked at the army that has been frozen in fear because of him. A large space has been formed around him because of death due to the heat he is releasing. Still, no one moved. Both sides froze like

prey before a predator. They are afraid of gaining his attention so they stayed still in hopes that he will ignore them.

He looked at the Celestial Supreme who was watching on the far side of the angels. It is unfortunate for these frozen soldiers since he has something he wants to get from the Celestial Supreme and he needs a way to taunt him away from the other gods. So he attacked them.

Chapter 434 Zernon Vs Helios

Sometimes, the strong will attack the weak to get to the strong. Nothing you can do as a weakling can make you immune to violence. Anything can happen to you and you will become a scapegoat if you don't have the strength to defend yourself.

The soldiers both demons and angels alike behaved like prey ought to behave. They know that they are weak and they wish to be spared from the malice of the Celestial god but the Celestial has other plans. Helios attacked them. He didn't attack them with the aim to hurt them. He wanted to hurt the Celestial Supreme.

He proclaimed to the world, "Wrath of the sun god."

It is one of the divine abilities of Stelios. Helios used it by spreading out his divine sense and turning it into a golden cloud. The golden cloud reached his knees in height but it dwarfed everyone on the battlefield. The golden clouds began to produce golden rain. Drops of fire fell from the clouds to the ground and the army below. The drops expanded in the air and crashed into the ground to create explosions that damaged indiscriminately. Both angels and demons suffered his wrath.

The sight made the Celestial Supreme snap. He can watch Helios capture the demon lord and the demon nobles without doing anything even though he suspects that Helios is doing so to bring them straight to the mortal realm for safety. He can even ignore the death that Helios caused to the angels when passing through them but he cannot ignore the willful destruction of the forces of heaven. It is an unforgivable act of aggression. If all of this is bait, he is willing to bite.

He roared and transformed too. He became a black giant with four arms covered head to toe in white armor. His three Divine weapons appeared in his hands. Two giant hammers, one white and another black. A giant net with white and black strings. The last one is a weighing scale with one black and one white scale. He ran towards Helios ready to beat him up. He has been itching to put the young upstart in his place ever since their first conversation that occurred after Helios killed his enforcer.

Helios is eager too. He said, "Finally, we fight."

They aren't the only ones looking forward to the fight. The gods of the pantheon are all watching the fight that decides their fate. If the Celestial Supreme wins, they will return to their normal life, but if he loses, then they might become hermit gods who refuse to leave their divine kingdoms.

Helios freed his hands by using his divine sense to hold onto his captives. He doesn't have any divine weapon so he will have to rely on his body. His body isn't lacking either because of the runes he had carved into them. Unlike other giants that created weapons as runes, he turned his body into a weapon. In a sense, his current divine ability is to be the Celestial God of the sun and he can wield the Celestial Authority like a weapon.

Four of his arms detached and transformed into one shield, one spear, and two cannons. The remaining two will be for grappling.

The Celestial Supreme used his ability to control gravity as the first move. The world shuddered visibly like a weight is pressed on it. The Celestial Supreme's control of the world riled up the gravity of the surroundings and weighed everything down.

Then the Celestial Supreme threw his net at Helios. The net will weaken, restrain, and bind him if it so much as touches him. It should capture Helios since he will be bogged down by gravity. Helios tried to jump back and he succeeded. He wasn't affected by the increase in gravity.

He has been able to manipulate his gravitational field as a mana entity. It is how he was able to fly as a giant of order. He is now a Celestial with more power. Shrugging off the Celestial Supreme's control over gravity is difficult but manageable for him.

But Zernon was prepared for something like that. He used his scales to prevent Helios from moving at all.

He pointed the scales at Helios and said, "The weight of Order is a counterbalance to Chaos."

A black figure appeared on the white scale while a golden figure appeared on the white scale. The scale of Order will judge the two parties based on the amount of order they have brought into the world. Their power will be readjusted for a time. The one with the larger order will get the bulk of it and the one with the smaller order will be weakened temporarily.

The Celestial Supreme fights just like he lives his life. Everything is planned out for him to be in total control. He has a battle outline that he follows step by step. It is like a combo move with one move coming right after the other. Each of his moves builds on the effects of the previous ones and amplifies each other until he finally kills his target.

His first move which is suppression using gravity has never failed him. Its effect might be weak or strong but it has never failed. It weakens his opponent and opens them up for further compromising attacks. Next comes the net and the scale of order that are pivotal in his victory.

The scale ensures that the suppression is certain by redistributing power. The ratio of power distribution is based on the difference in the contribution to Order between the two parties. Zernon always wins the judgment of the scale because he is a stickler for order. He lives his life with Order. The only person that he has ever lost to is the god of fate who is immune to the workings of order. But he doubts Helios will be able to replicate that unfortunate event.

He was expecting the scale to tilt in his favor and for Helios to slow down. Then the net will capture Helios making it easy for Zernon to beat him with his two hammers to death. What he heard was a crack.

Chapter 435 Zernon Vs Helios 2.

There was a resounding crack as if something has cracked.

"Hmm?"

The Celestial Supreme was perplexed about that sound of a crack because the scale is not supposed to make such a sound. It is supposed to make a chime of declaration after the judgment. He looked at the scale and he couldn't believe what he saw. The scale has cracked and split into two.

"What just happened?"

The question is more for him than for anybody else. The scale is not supposed to break as long as he is judging a single person. Putting too much weight past the tolerance limit of a machine can break it. But he is only judging one person as far as he can tell. Could Helios be more than one person?

That's a preposterous question to ask. Maybe the fault is with the scale of it could be the title of the child of the plane that messed with the scale. It could be anything now that the scale has broken. The only other time his scale has failed him is when it failed with the net in affecting the god of fate. He has an explanation for that unfortunate event, but this situation is an enigma to him.

He noticed too late that Helios has escaped the net and his eyes widened further because he noticed that Helios' speed seems to be unaffected. It should not be unaffected. It should be slowed down by the increase in the force of gravity. It dawned on him that he had failed right from his first move.

He looked at Helios strangely and asked, "What are you?"

He asked that question because Helios is not behaving like a giant at all. Nothing about the son of the sun god is normal or easily explainable. So he asked that question with sincere desperation in hopes to wrap his mind around what Helios is. Helios answered the question with a thrown spear to the Celestial Supreme's face.

He had escaped the net by jumping back and avoiding it. It is a simple solution that many Celestials before him failed to execute. The fact that he was able to do it at all stumped the Celestial Supreme. But that doesn't mean he has to entertain him with an explanation.

He morphed one of his arms into the form of a spear and threw it at Zernon. The onslaught did not end there. His arm reformed and he closed in on his opponent right after the spear. Zernon discarded the destroyed divine scale and hurriedly reacted to the attack. He swung one of his hammers and tried to strike the spear out of the air.

He succeeded but his arm was knocked back. His eyes widened in shock again.

He asked Helios again, "What the heck are you supposed to be?"

He had expected to knock that spear away easily but it was much stronger than he estimated. He always thought that he lost unjustly to Helios in the mortal realm because he couldn't use his full body. He had to fight through unreliable vessels so he was sure he would be able to beat Helios outright if he dares to come to the divine plane.

Helios may have the Authority of a Celestial but it is a new Authority that has not been strengthened at all whereas he has supped on the lives of Celestials for a long time. Logic and reasoning dictate that he should win a confrontation between the two of them easily. But Helios came to the divine plane only for his logical and reasonable expectations to be subverted.

The Celestial Supreme would very much like to know what makes Helios very strong. Unfortunately, Helios still didn't answer. He morphed 3 of his arms into large swords leaving the shield and the two cannons still loading their attacks. The three large blades fell from the sky onto Zernon one after the other.

The Celestial Supreme yelled angrily, "I asked you a question you disrespectful shit."

He roused himself with a roar. He understands that he has been on the back foot of the fight since he was caught off guard when his scale of Order broke and that something has to be done about it for him to regain the upper hand.

He is not usually like this but Helios surprised him. He usually has every moment of the fight going smoothly for him. Still, he is in a fight and he might very well die from his lax behavior. Since he cannot underestimate Helios anymore, he has to improvise and bring out his best.

He used his two hammers to defend himself against the falling blades while he recalled his net with one hand and began using another one of his divine abilities with his last hand. The divine ability he activated created a force of attraction on Helios that began pulling him towards Zernon.

He wielded his hammers and knocked aside the first blade. The falling blade broke with the force of the collision and disintegrated. He succeeded in knocking back the second blade too. He struck the third one and he missed. He hadn't misjudged the distance. The sword seemed to have phased through his hammer as it suddenly sped up. The third sword swung down past his raised hammer and cut the two arms on his right side. One hammer and two arms fell to the ground with a thud.

Zernon cried out in pain. He felt pain in his soul, mind, body, and Authority. It's like a large chunk of it was ripped off. This is the first time he has experienced so much pain in his life. No one has ever managed to deal such a heavy blow to him. But he doesn't intend to back down. The pain only sobered him up. His eyes became frosty with anger.

"Come here." He yelled as he pulled on Helios with his divine ability.

He yanked on Helios with the tether between them with a renewed vigor fueled by rage. Helios was pulled to him and he raised his hammer for coup de grace.

Chapter 436 Zernon Vs Helios 3.

The main divine ability of Order is control. Control can be used for many things. He can use it to control gravity, and space, or manipulate forces. Zernon has not been able to close the distance between them so he intends to pull Helios to him. He will be able to use his net and hammer when they are close to each other.

Of course, Helios is not alright with that plan. He combined the two cannons together and fired the attack he has been preparing. He was preparing a star within each cannon and would have fired two beams with the power of a star at his opponent but he doesn't have time to prepare it. So he combined the two unfinished stars.

Combining the two doesn't make them ready. Instead, they reacted with each other and exploded to create an attack with the power of an exploding star. An arc of heated plasma spread outward towards Zernon. Space warped because of the heat as the arc raced toward its objective. The attack is more powerful than what Helios planned but it is also short-lived.

Zernon's white armour began to glow as he infused it with his Authority. The arc clashed with his armor and created an explosion of heat and light but it couldn't harm Zernon. Zernon exerted more force and pulled Helios faster to him. The explosion created shockwaves that destroyed their surroundings. Zernon did not care about that. He single-mindedly focused on getting Helios close to him.

Helios formed more swords that he began dropping on Zernon while he resisted the pull with all he has. He had to stop that when Zernon started throwing hammers at him. The hammers will strike him and fly to Zernon's hands to be thrown again. Even the hammer on the floor joined the one in Zernon's arm to harass him so Helios had to form shields to protect himself from the hammers. Still, Zernon's hold on him continued to increase and he is being pulled closer and closer.

Zernon grinned evilly the closer Helios got to him. He is a fisherman and Helios is his stubborn fish on a hook. His grin faltered when Helios jumped forward all of a sudden. It caught Zernon off guard. The pulling force that was like a rope attached to Helios suddenly went slack. Zernon stumbled but he reacted quickly. He threw his net toward the airborne Helios.

Helios jumped forward and activated one of the runes on his body mid-flight. His body resonated with light and he turned into a ray of sunlight for a short time. He phased through the net and appeared in front of Zernon.

Zernon's eye widened. He recovered from the sudden change of force but he can't react to this. He watched as Helios thrust his spear forward to strike his chest. The spear struck the armor. There was a brief flash as the armor resisted but the resistance failed and the spear pierced through it to enter Zernon's body.

His attack with the spear is not like the previous explosion of a star. It is not a widespread attack of unfocused energy. It is precise, deadly, and unblockable. He had performed a light resonance shift to make sure he nailed it right.

Zernon did not expect it despite being injured by something like that previously. He lost two arms to a blade that phased out too but he didn't anticipate Helios phasing out because he doesn't know that if the blade can do something, so can Helios. After all, they are made from the same thing, which is his body. He is bigger than the spear so phasing out is energy intensive. Fortunately, he has never been in need of energy.

This time Zernon stopped himself from screaming. Instead, he reversed the pulling force on Helios. A wave of repelling force ejected from his body in all directions. He made it explode between them so Helios was blasted and thrown away from him. The two of them stopped fighting and looked at each other.

Helios teased him. He is winning, so he can indulge in chatting with his opponent. "Have you realized that I am much stronger in the divine plane?"

In the main plane, he is a king of law with 100 times the stats of a sovereign and an authority of 100 making him equivalent to a sovereign in power. A sovereign has an Authority of 10,000 but his stats have helped him bridge the gap in power.

Everything changed when he entered the divine plane. The Celestial Authority is the foundation of the power of a Celestial just like a seed of power is to a Sovereign. A sovereign is equivalent to a Celestial but they can't beat a Celestial because of the suppression of the divine plane. Sovereigns lose their authority in the divine plane but Helios gains one.

In a nutshell, in the divine plane, Helios has 100 times the stats of a Sovereign with the Authority of a Celestial. His heritage as the half-celestial of the sun swaps his suppressed Authority of a king of law for that of a Celestial which makes him much stronger in the divine plane than in the mortal realm.

Zernon doesn't need to know the specifics of how Helios is stronger to realize that he is outmatched. The spear that broke his defense and gored him is more than enough clue as to how outclassed he is. That's why he called all of his Archangels to come and assist him.

He called them when Helios cut his two hands. They were at the back of the army so it took a while to get here. He was stabbed in the chest in that period of time so he was right to call for help. The Archangels came in a hurry to support him. They flapped their 12 wings as fast as possible to get to him. They were late to help him but they got to him in time and will hopefully prevent another stabbing.

Chapter 437 The Body Parts Of A Celestial.

Zernon became flanked by 5 helpers as he stared at Helios. Each Archangel is the equivalent of a Sovereign. Their presence renewed their presence.

He asked, "So what next? would kill me and take my position as the Celestial Supreme? Your father must be very proud."

Helios shook his head. "No. I already have what I came for."

He pointed to their surroundings. Zernon widened his eyes in realization. The entire army of the gods and the angels has been wiped out. The cloud of fire rain had continued to fall while they were fighting, it decimated everything on the battlefield, except for the forces that Zernon had held back.

But even the reserve forces were not spared. Zernon may have blocked the attack with the power of an exploding star but those behind him couldn't. That arc of heat and light sheared through his reserve forces and thinned their numbers. So only the Archangels that stood at the very back of the army are safe. Everything else is toast.

Zernon's eyes flared up again. He was about to attack when he remembered that he is not Helios' match.

He said to Helios, "Well done."

Then he began to retreat with his bodyguards of angels. Helios watched him go without doing anything. It was only after the Celestial Supreme left Armageddon that he moved. The first thing he did is to pick up the two arms that he cut off from the celestial supreme. It is the most important thing he came to the divine plane for.

He smirked to himself. "I lied. Now, I have everything I came here for."

He targeted the army of angels to bait Zernon. His real aim is a body part of the god of order. He distracted Zernon with the damage to the army so the god of order did not make sure to destroy the arm before he left. He wasn't leaving on his own accord anyway. He was retreating after a defeat so the two arms that he lost is the last thing on his mind.

In a normal situation, he doesn't have anything to worry about concerning the arms. No one targets a Celestial Supreme for their body parts. At least not in the Zargoth plane. He has never had to protect his arms from someone because they have never been cut from him. Also, the arms should disintegrate soon and become useless. Unfortunately for Zernon, Helios is not normal.

Helios knows that the consciousness, the divine powers of a Celestial, and their bodies are fused. So the body part of Celestials is a very important divine item. He even knows something that he can use the arm for. He also knows that he just has to offer these body parts divine power to preserve them.

He chuckled darkly to himself as he is thinking of all the things he can do with the arms. Next, he took back the body of the demon lord and the demon nobles. Then he left the divine realm and returned to the mortal realm. That marks the end of his short trip in the divine plane.

He can kill the Celestial Supreme at a cost but he should not. At least, not until Stelios is out of the picture. If he kills Zernon, then the title of Celestial Supreme will go to him or more likely to Stelios since he is the real sun god. It might not happen but it is not a risk that Legion is willing to take especially with the cost involved.

Zernon allowed his son to live when he was a baby because that poor behemoth is not a threat to him. Zernon had two Authorities while the boy had one. When he noticed that the boy is reclusive and harmless even with one Authority he decided he can accept the boy's existence.

That's not going to happen if Stelios gets that second Authority. Helios might be stronger than Stelios right now, but Stelios is the true Celestial of the sun. Even if Helios manages to get the title of Celestial Supreme instead of Stelios, he doesn't want to become the Celestial Supreme because he will need to cut off his path of perfection. The tree father is a much better candidate for that not him.

Apart from that, the situation isn't optimal for killing the celestial supreme. Zernon and his 5 angels outnumber him and will be tough to defeat. There's also the multitude of gods around. They might join the fight when he is about to kill Zernon. They didn't interfere in their fight earlier but they might interfere if it is clear that he is winning.

Zernon might be a control freak but he is one of them. Helios is that brat that killed a poor half-celestial, specifically by butchering him and using his body to open a channel for demons to enter the plane. That is a betrayal to all giants of order. The gods will choose Zernon above him anytime. The evil they know and are familiar with is better than the evil that may shine brightly but is unknown.

It is too risky and too dangerous to try and kill Zernon right now. Legion isn't willing to put Helios in danger yet since he is the strongest clone in the Zargoth plane. Without him, they will lose their heavy hitters. He might have to face the entire pantheon if he wants to kill Zernon only for Stelios to get the Authority.

So his job in the divine plane is not to kill Zernon, it is to get a part of Zernon, capture the demon lord and demon nobles, then wipe out the army. Destroying the army of demons means that the 541st plane is at its weakest, just ripe for the taking. Destroying the army of angels has reduced their protection so that it will be easier for them to be attacked in the future.

The demon nobles are for Aeternus to grow his mark of sin while the demon lord and Zernon's two arms are for Helios to practice his Rune making with. He has been able to achieve this much with his knowledge of runes, he believes that pushing the boundary of runes and how they are empowered with Order to create things is the key to finally understanding how the Authority of gods works and hopefully breaking another law of the universe. Zernon was targeted because he is a very powerful source of Order.

Chapter 438 Too Many Worries.

Zernon might be safe for now but he will meet his death in due time. His days are numbered. Legion already has a plan to kill him cleanly without interference. The other gods and archangels. None of them will be able to interfere then.

Helios left the divine plane since he has finished what he came for. He returned to the mortal realm to act as protection for their interests and to conduct experiments. Protecting what they have is very important. Things are going well for them and it needs to be maintained that way. Overconfidence and underestimating the enemy can undo what they have achieved so Legion must be careful and watchful.

Several days later.

The Celestial Supreme gritted his teeth in pain and lamented. "Things are not going well."

He is sitting on his throne but he doesn't feel as comfortable as he should because two of his arms are still missing. The injury was caused by a Celestial Authority backed by a strength greater than his so it should take some time to regrow but it hasn't. The surface of the cut should have healed at least but it is still fresh and hurting as if he just got cut.

It is odd that his arms haven't healed since the wound in his chest caused by the spear has healed but the two stumps of his arms are still bleeding white blood. He is worried about what it means but it is just one of his numerous worries. He doesn't have the luxury to fixate on a single worry anymore. The mortal realm is in official shambles and his established order has crumbled. It is not a sudden thing. One thing led to the other to create the Chaos that is now running rampant.

The mortal realm has just suffered massive casualties because of the world war that was fought recently. The remaining troops of the gods are at the center of the plane leaving most of the plane open to attack. The demons in the plane are taking advantage of that vulnerability to destroy churches across the plane.

Even worse is that the demons are building a stronghold that will create a permanent channel between the demon plane to the mortal plane. If that is allowed to happen then the mortal realm is doomed. Demons will be able to move freely between the two planes.

A stronghold with a permanent channel means that the demons will always be able to get reinforcements as long as the channel is functional. The channel can be destroyed but it is best that it is not built at all. A stronghold cannot be allowed to happen or their losing fight against the demons will become a hopeless fight without any chance of recovery.

He ordered the gods to put aside their differences and work together to eliminate the threat of the demons. Some of them disagreed because of the destruction of their churches. They would like to defend their churches from the demons but the majority of the gods agreed with him because they recognize the threat of a demon stronghold. The destruction of their churches is bad but a continuous supply of enemies is worse.

So all of the church's troops at the center of the plane that was previously at each other's throats because of the insult perpetrated by Harkam have now joined together and are matching to face the demon army. The gods are even sending out their vessels from their various church headquarters. They hope to uproot the threat of the demons in one fell swoop. Anything less than total victory will give the demons a chance to return stronger.

The fact that he had to convince them with common sense before they decided to band together is not sitting well with him. The gods wouldn't have disagreed with him in the past but now they can because he has lost his prestige after losing to Helios. He is not the strongest god as they once thought. He can't order them around however he wishes especially now that his Influence in the mortal and divine realm is at its lowest. The loss is made worse by the fact that Helios is not even a real god.

That isn't where his problems end though. It is going to take time for the army to reach their target because either by coincidence or intention, the location of the ant mound where the portal opened is at the edge of the plane. It will give the demons enough time to get up to their nefarious activities.

The next bad news is the hidden god. The hidden god has become not so hidden. That insidious good-for-nothing god has become proactive after helping to foil his attempt at closing the channel. A church called the church of life has come out of nowhere with promises of a kingdom of peace and happiness. The church promises no war and complete harmony. It is something highly sort after by mortals in these trying times of war and strife. They are further encouraged to make the switch to the new religion since the other churches are being destroyed wantonly by demons and the believers of other gods are being massacred like cattle.

The threat of death is enough to incentivize former believers and non-believers to start a migration toward this kingdom of peace created by the hidden god. The hidden god has also been magnanimous enough to welcome everyone. He opened his kingdom of life up to the world. It was then that Zernon noticed the abode of the hidden god and discovered it to be a sort of divine tree.

Finding out that the hidden god is a tree made him chuckle. It was either that or insanity. He chose to chuckle because it had almost taken him to the edge of sanity to find out that something that shouldn't

exist within the plane is the "root" of his problems. The tree may be large but it is a tree nonetheless and it has made him so miserable.

Chapter 439 East To West.

He giggled when he found out the identity of his enemy.

"It is a tree. Of course, it is a tree. How did I not see that coming? That ugly plant dragon should have clued me in. To think that I will fall because of a tree." He mused to himself sagely.

Then he laughed and laughed. His giggling turned into self-deprecating laughter pretty quickly. What kept him sane is the fact that either by chance or intention, this abode is located at the edge of the plane directly opposite the spot where the portal was created. It indicates that he didn't lose because of incompetence and that everything has been planned from the start so his loss to a tree is not so disgraceful.

The ant mound is to the west of the plane while the kingdom of life is to the east. It might seem like an irrelevant observation but becomes extremely important when the demons are chasing the mortals in the direction of the only place in the mortal realm with protection. That coincidence reeks of a scheme and he didn't need to think too much to know the purpose of the scheme. He can see the effect of this configuration as clearly as day even though his mind is fraying at the edges.

On one end of the plane are demons and on the other end is salvation. The demons kill and pillage, and the mortals then run into the arms of the waiting church of life. This effect has been made especially convenient by placing the church of life in the only direction of safety. This leads to gods losing believers every day as believers lose faith because of the demon invasion.

The third bad news is the state of his church. The church of order used to be the strongest church but it has become crippled. The forces of the church have been scattered to the ends of the plane in different directions where they were picked off one by one. The transcendents of the church of life attacked them proactively when he ordered his troops to retreat. They held back his troops while Helios finished off difficult ones. None of his troops returned to the church headquarters so the strongest church has officially become the weakest church.

Then there is the sun church. It is one of the oldest in the plane if not the oldest. It is also the second strongest church in the mortal realm and most importantly, it refused to join the war in eradicating the demons. That is understandable since Helios is the one that brought the scourge of demons on them.

Helios told the church of the sun not to fight the demons. It produced a peculiar development in the ranks of the church. Zernon had thought that Stelios had a hand in it too but he seems he is wrong about that. The chaos going on in the church of the sun indicates that all might not be well between Stelios and Helios.

The church of the sun has split into two. There is a side among the clergymen that believes in the old sun god and there is a new faction that believes that Helios is the new sun god. The old faction is led by the pope while the new faction is led by a Cardinal named Hak. They even had a civil war that ended quickly and without suspense.

The New faction has Helios while the old faction has Stelios. But Stelios has refused to show himself so it did not come as a surprise that the new faction won. Even the divine lords of the sun god, Helios' older siblings didn't interfere in the matter so Helios easily got control of the church. Then Helios directed the forces of the church to escort giants who are on a pilgrimage to the holy land of the church of life. So instead of joining the fight against demons, the church of the sun allied with the church of life.

The state of the world made the Celestial Supreme lament ruefully. "They played me and they played me well. It was gradual and I didn't see it coming. Now I am about to be checkmated.

It is one bad news after another. It reminds him of his battle plan where he uses one move after the other to push his enemy into certain death. The bad state of things didn't happen all at once. It started when he noticed fluctuations of divinity at the ant mound. It has become obvious that it wasn't coincidental that he noticed the divinity.

The god of life can hide from him and has hidden many things from him. The god of life could have hidden the divinity but the snake for a tree wanted him to notice and send demigods. No one can convince him otherwise. The location of the ant mound relative to the position of the kingdom of life is enough proof to him. That ant mound was chosen specifically to be his doom right from the beginning.

"Something needs to change for the better or I will have to use the doomsday weapon."

In summary, the mortal realm is heading toward total loss of control. If the gods can't flourish in the mortal realm then they will die out as they are starved of faith. They will become easy prey to the demons then. Right now the demons are still cautious of attacking them but that will change when the gods run out of believers.

He has a last card that he can play but it will damage the gods a lot to use. If they don't succeed in rooting out the demons by destroying their stronghold then he will have to use it. It is either that or no future at all for the gods.

He will try everything within his means to protect himself and save the future of the gods. He is not dead yet so he has not lost yet. It is his turn to show up the invaders and prove to them why he is a great Celestial Supreme. There are some things in Zargoth plane that only those that have lived its history know about. He will unearth one of them to end the scourge of demons.

Chapter 440 Evolution For Aeternus.

Back to Aeternus.

He has started the protocol to build a stronghold within the plane. This protocol is basically the creation of another abyss altar here. This abyss altar will form a direct connection between this plane and the abyss altar back in the abyss which will create a permanent channel between the two planes. The process is slow and has to be destroyed before it is finished or else it will become potentially impossible to destroy after its creation.

If the altar is allowed to form, then demons will be able to enter the mortal realm directly from the abyss altar. Then there is the fortress that surrounds the altar which gives it its name as a stronghold. A fortress is usually built around this altar to make defending it easy. It is what numerous mid-rank demons are currently building. The demons are already getting ready to defend the altar before it is even completed.

Meanwhile, Aeternus himself is getting ready for evolution. Someone with a kind heart dropped off demon nobles to him. The gift of demon nobles is very valuable but it was given to him free of charge. Now, Aeternus is not someone that receives handouts from others. But there's nothing wrong with it if it is a gift from himself. It will also strengthen him so that he can play his role in eliminating the gods. The best predators of gods have always been demons.

The demon nobles were brought to him bound and helpless like fresh meat to be chopped. He had hoped to recruit some of them to his house. The 8 prime demon nobles among them are very good candidates as subordinates. The fact that they tried to capture him for the demon lord is old news. He is an accepting and forgiving demon. He is willing to bring them into the light but a pesky contract stopped him from accepting them into the house of chaos.

Though they are bound and helpless, the contract forbids them from helping him in any way even if it is to save their lives. So he killed all of them. The other option is to kill the ones he needs for Evolution

while leaving the rest alive until he has killed the other party of the contract, the demon lord. But they might still be in communication with the demon lord and he doesn't want a traitor around telling her of his situation.

"Better to do this before the god's liberation army comes." He said to himself.

There's no need to wait to evolve. He has everything he could need including 2,000 divinity which he got from the divine fruits that a plant spirit dropped off. Evolution will make him stronger and more prepared for whatever the gods will throw at him. Their army is a few days away. It is best if he is completely prepared for them so that he will be able to defend the stronghold.

Only he and Xander are here to defend the stronghold. He made the others leave with their legions to destroy the churches. They are doing a good job of it from what he has heard.

He sank into a deep sleep as he activated his mark of sin for Evolution.

(CHAOS ENERGY HAS REACHED THE LIMIT OF NATURAL EVOLUTION.)

(WOULD YOU LIKE TO FACE THE TRIAL OF ABYSS NOW?)

(REFUSAL TO UNDERGO THE TRIAL WILL PREVENT CHAOS ENERGY FROM REACHING THE DIVINE STAGE AND IT WOULD AFFECT YOUR POTENTIAL FOR EVOLUTION)

He received this same message when he was just a mid-rank demon trying to evolve into a high-rank demon. Back then he couldn't accept the trial because he was terribly injured in body and soul. Now he can, so he did.

He felt his mind begin to fall as if being pulled by something. His consciousness darkened for an unknown amount of time. He found himself in total darkness when his consciousness returned. Something had woken him up, it felt like an itch.

A voice spoke to him in the demon tongue. "Who are you?"

Each word slammed into his mind like a hammer. But all he feels is a slight itch. The hammer struck his mind and felt really soft.

'So that's what woke me up.'

To others, the force of the words will be the most painful thing they have ever felt, but to him, it felt like an itch. He looked to figure out who spoke to him but he saw nothing. He can't see himself either. So maybe he is blind or there's nothing to see but total darkness here.

The voice asked him again, "Who are you?"

He asked in return, "Who are you to question me?"

Not just anyone can ask him for his identity. Besides, you can't just answer a question because it was asked.

The voice Introduced itself, "I am the will of the abyss. Who are you?"

"I am Khaos Aeternus, the Eternal Chaos."

It asked in that same heavy and compelling voice. "What are you?"

"I am a demon of chaotic envy?"

"Why are you here?"

He replied. "You should know that."

"Why are you here?" It asked again.

"I am here for the abyss trial."

He decided to answer since the will of the abyss seemed intent on grilling him for answers that should be obvious.

"What is a king?"

"A demon with the Authority of a king."

It asked, "Do you deserve to be king?"

Aeternus replied, "It doesn't matter what I deserve. I am strong enough to be king therefore I am to be king."

"An immaculate answer, but I shall not take your word for it. Demons lie. I know that and you know that too. But it doesn't matter. I'll see for myself if you have what it takes to be king."

Aeternus shrugged and said, "Suit yourself."

"I plan to do just that. You be tried and tested. Your worth will be determined and if it is found wanting, then you will join the ranks of false kings. Mind you, false kings are imposters and what happens to imposters?"

He replied immediately, "Imposters are killed."