

GREED 531

Chapter 531 The Conflict For Origin Energy.

The alternative source of origin energy apart from the ambient one is the Origin stone. People want the instant availability of energy it offers. It can provide a quick top of energy during a fight is why they are so fiercely contested.

But Origin stones are short-term tools. They become useless after they are used. So the fighters use their origin stones to empower themselves as they fight for locations of higher Origin energy concentration. It is using the short-term benefit to fight for long-term goals. It has formed a cycle of conflict.

The conflict for better resources has led to the significant destruction of the landscape of the plane. Mountains are cleaved and crushed. Rivers are dried up. Craters are smashed into the earth everywhere. Fire is ravaging the beloved forests of the plane. The destruction to the plane cannot be understated. It is not a wonder that the ancient sages said the plane is in danger of destruction.

The current situation can't be allowed to continue as it is. Something had to be done. The racial council had to come in and take charge. They had to do something as the leading force and authority within the plane.

The destruction of so many trees spurred them into action. They cannot sit by and watch as their beloved trees are destroyed. They remember the times when they use to fight over those trees. They were primitive back then but that doesn't mean they still don't care about the trees now that they are a powerful civilization. Trees might not be as Important as it was nowadays but they are still important to some very powerful entities.

The racial council did something that they have never done in the history of the plane. They took control of some land and its distribution. In the past, any land can be acquired by anyone that wants it. If there's someone on the land, then you evict them forcefully. The only safe places are the sanctioned empires for the common people. No one can touch those places. Anything else is up for grabs.

Those three empires are under the rule of the racial council and cannot be interfered with by anyone. The three ancient empires are the origin of the culture of battle sage monkeys and as such should be preserved. The racial council has decided to take control of the areas of land around the tower of trials so that the stability of the plane will be preserved too.

Only the area around the tower of trials was commandeered. Those lands are fiercely contested due to the high concentration of Origin energy there. The contest of ownership in those places is the major cause of conflict. The racial council took control of them and then decided to distribute the land based on strength and luck.

Strength will be determined through competition while luck will be determined through a lottery. 90% of the space will be given to the best kings of law, lords of law, and transcendents that participate in the competition. The remaining 10% will be given to the lucky few who are not strong enough through the lottery. This lottery is open to only those without a royal bloodline. The others have to fight for space.

The land is divided into plots and control of the plots will change hands depending on the results of the competition. The competition will occur every 10,000 years so control of the lands will change hands every 10,000. Even the famous child of the plane that caused this whole situation is not exempted from this rule.

Soverick doesn't need space there because he has infinite energy so he declined to join the competition but the racial council doesn't want to take no for an answer. They want him to participate in the competition so they sent representatives to change his mind. They didn't look too hard before they found him. He is always in his forge and has been staying there since he became a transcendent about 200 years ago.

His forge was built for him by Hadrick and is situated in the Ghastorix main city. It is a state-of-the-art facility used for forging Origin artifacts. It is a large reinforced structure built in the shape of a hexagon. Most of the structure is filled with arrays and equipment leaving space in the center where the forging takes place. Soverick is in that space right now coordinating the forging of an Origin artifact.

A spherical structure is hovering at the very center of the forge. This structure is made of a red viscous liquid that looks like lava and behaves like thick oil. It is constantly shifting as it rotates but it is prevented from scattering by an external force holding it together.

There are visible blue threads surrounding the sphere of red material and marking it as it spins. These threads are in the thousands. They are tiny and extend from a visible circular array surrounding the sphere. The array forms a halo around the sphere.

Soverick is sitting at the control point within this array. There are other arrays behind him that fuel the entire forging process. There's an array for computing and assisting modular transformation. There are energy banks beyond these arrays. Behind all of them is the magnetic pillar.

The magnetic pillar is the major structure that takes up the most space in the forge. It is a hexagonal structure that gives the building its shape. It produces a powerful magnetic field that makes the sphere at the center levitate and hold its shape. The energy banks power the arrays which Soverick then controls. The infusion of his divine sense into the arrays creates the threads that mark the sphere.

This arrangement for forging Origin weapons was created by Hadrick while Soverick is responsible for the improvement of the arrays. He has always been an excellent array master. He built a special array responsible for the teleportation of his soul fragments into the law matrix for reincarnation. His expertise with arrays has only gotten better with Soverick's eyes.

Chapter 532 Soverick The Forger.

The forge is a creation of near perfection. There are other methods for forging but this is probably the best. It is also highly dangerous. There's always energy loss during energy conversion and in a situation like this, the energy loss is huge. It needs an absurd amount of control and redundant fail safes to prevent an explosion of cataclysmic proportions.

If care is not taken then an accident strong enough to kill a titan of law can occur because of the reactions of the forge. The major reason why the Ghastorix family allowed such a dangerous structure to be built in their city is that if an explosion does occur, the magnetic pillar will keep it localized. That means, whoever is within the forge can kiss their sorry life goodbye while everyone in the city will feel a minor earth shake. It is a good thing that his teacher is by his side to warn him.

Hadrick told him. "Watch out for the energy discharge. It's over the safe limit."

"I know," Soverick replied.

His 4 multicolored eyes remain fixed on the sphere. The tiny shifts in the multicolored multifaceted gems he has for eyes are more than capable of tracking all the minute changes in energy level and signatures.

The rotating sphere is the recipient of the forging process but it is not a willing participant. Action will always produce an equal but opposite reaction. The sphere is resisting changes and it is pushing back. The friction and its motion within the magnetic field are creating a ton of energy that is bent on escaping and will do so if they are given the smallest of chances. The energy runoff needs to be safely siphoned from the interaction or an explosion to cook a titan of law can occur.

This energy is mainly in the form of electricity. A cloud of charged particles has formed above the sphere releasing lightning bolts downwards. The array above the sphere collects the lightning and redirects them to the energy banks for reuse. But the process is not direct or automatic. It has to be done carefully.

Soverick carefully operated the discharge array to convert the wild lightning into usable electricity for the energy bank. He has to do it periodically during the forging process. The problem with it is that it has to be done by the same person. Only a single mind will be able to maintain equilibrium in the system by sensing the impacts of the changes to it. The need to pay attention to the forging and siphoning of energy stretches the concentration of the mind to dangerous levels. A slip can lead to disastrous consequences.

The vine beside him spoke up again. "Don't get distracted. Watch the artifact."

"I never get distracted," Soverick replied confidently.

The sphere wobbled slightly. The energy discharge affected the magnetic field holding it together but it is quickly restored to its proper shape. Soverick wasn't distracted by the increase in demand to siphon the discharged array. He has a powerful mind that is not taxed by the rigorous demands of the forging process.

"The kink is coming up. You have to be careful with the kink. Remember what I told you, just ease it into..."

"Done," Soverick said.

The vine floundered about for a while in irritation. Hadrack grunted and said, "I can see that. But you didn't use the 3 visor 3 order 7 step approach."

"I used a new method. It's the 9 visor 9 order 1 step approach." Soverick replied easily able to keep up with the conversation while handling the mental requirements of forging.

"I saw that too. The 9 visor 9 order 1 step is too dangerous."

"It was easy and it was quick."

"Hmmm." Hadrick grumbled, "Only you can say making 9 changeovers 9 times in one step of rune augmentation is easy."

The 9 visor 9 order 1 step is very efficient in terms of work output and time. With it, rune augmentation can be completed in 1 step instead of 7. But it has a prodigious requirement for mental effort though which makes it very dangerous to attempt in a situation where the mind is already being taxed by the forging process. Soverick can do that and more. He can still track movement outside his forge.

One of his four eyes turned to the left while the other three focused on the forging.

He said to Hadrick. "I have visitors."

"Yes. I think they are here to make you do something. I can't remember what it is."

Hadrick is aware of their presence. It was made aware when they entered the city but it disregarded them.

It said to Soverick, "They will have to wait. Just focus on your forging."

"I am always focused."

"Then why is one of your eyes off?"

The two eyes on the left side of his face focused on Hadrick. One of them looked at the vine beside him while the other looked at Hadrick's main body at the bottom of the city.

The eye said to Hadrick's main body. "I can focus on many things at once."

Hadrick became spooked. It used the vine to slap Soverick. "Stop doing that. You weirdo."

Soverick chuckled. He has changed over the years. The obvious changes are the new eyes that he got when he became a transcendent. Each eye has a different purpose and is independent of the other. They also don't change colors anymore. They have a white pupil surrounded by a multicolored iris and gold sclera.

Apart from them, the obvious changes, there is a less obvious change to his emotions. His eyes have seen a lot and he has been changed by what they saw. He has become capable of seeing the world in a different way and has become different as a result. It is difficult to think of people as living things when you can see down to the cells within them and analyze the transfer of energy within them.

Chapter 533 Talented Master And Hardworking Student.

People are more like objects with numerous systems working in tandem. When you look deep enough, people are just made up of stupid cells that do the same thing over and over again. He sees this every day and has become colder and dismissive of mundane things because of it. There are very few that he interacts with because of his new preference for special things. Hadrick is one of those few.

"It is just beautiful. How many threads are you using for the edification?" Hadrick asked.

"7,319. I can go above that but that is the optimum number for perfect control and synchronization."

Hadrick couldn't help but be impressed. "Wow. That is marvelous in and of itself. A sovereign can only use a maximum of 6,000. Heck, I can only use 1000. That's if I really push myself."

"But you're the best forger. Slow and steady wins the race." He said to compliment his teacher.

"You're just making me look good. And I might not be the best forger anymore."

Hadrick tried to play down his ability but Soverick insisted. He said, "I'm sure you're the best forger. No one can beat the level of energy transformation that you achieve. You don't even need the discharge array."

Hadrick became smug. "Well, I was being humble. I know that I am still the best. I just wanted you to say it first."

Soverick smiled. What he said is the truth. Hadrick is the best forger. There's no one that Legion knows to be better than Hadrick at making artifacts. While others try to force raw materials into the shape and function they want, Hadrick shapes them like a potter shapes clay.

Forging happens seamlessly and effortlessly for Hadrick. It is due to Hadrick's ability to influence energy transformation to a high degree. He can make water at 99 degrees reach 100 degrees by using just a tiny fraction of latent energy required to do so thereby transforming water to steam seamlessly.

It is an ability that is based on pure talent. The ability is a big deal in forging. The only person more talented than Hadrick is the tree father but the tree father doesn't have the tools for forging yet. Hadrick also has a rigid mind that's why he can't handle more than 1,000 threads of edification.

Soverick on the other hand is the epitome of skill and hard work. He has gotten the processes and mechanisms for transformation down to perfection. He has reached the limit of that perfection. If his knowledge and control can be combined with the talent of the Tree father, then there will be no limit to what they can achieve.

The two of them returned to their normal exchange. Soverick will forge while Hadrick will give pointless advice. They did so until the forging was completed. Then the magnetic pillar began to shut down. It shut down ring by ring thereby reducing the magnetic field layer by layer instead of all at once.

Soverick shut down the other arrays and brought the forged artifact towards him with his solidified divine sense. The large red shower at the center of the array has changed. It shrunk and its color changed. It has become a small black sphere about 20 centimeters in diameter. It has red runes written all over its surface. Soverick made it fly all the way to him and he inspected it closely with all his eyes.

Hadrick remarked like a wise sage. "Your workmanship isn't bad but we are not sure it will work as you planned. It might not even work at all."

Soverick said confidently. "It will work."

He has confidence because of his eyes. He saw the forging process, so he knows it will work. He can track cause and effect.

"Just activate it and let's find out," Hadrack said eagerly. It wanted to see if it can work.

Soverick shook his head. "That can wait. Let's not make my visitors wait for too long."

Hadrack was disappointed but it recovered quickly. It said, "Fine. But be quick about it."

Soverick paused and asked himself. "How do I make this meeting as fast as possible?"

He took six sheets of paper and began writing some stuff on them. It didn't take long for him to finish. Then he left his position from within the array and went outside the forge to see his guests. There are five of them and all of them are battle sage monkeys except one. Hadrack didn't follow him but he is aware of what's going on in the city.

One of the five of his guests, a king of law, bowed to him and spoke. The others just watched.

"Greetings, Child of the Plane. Permit me the honor of doing the introductions. I am..."

Soverick interrupted him. "I know who you are and I know why you are here."

All four of his eyes focused on each one of them in turn before he gave each of them a piece of paper. There is something written on each paper. They read what he gave them.

The sheet he gave to the one that spoke first read. "You are from the Ghastorix family. There are several reasons why you are here. You were sent here by the Diplomatic department of the family. They chose you because you're a king and because you're the only king of law to volunteer when your department was asked. You volunteered because you want me to sign a souvenir for your daughter. You were the only one to volunteer because you bribed and intimidated the others from volunteering. I won't sign the souvenir for your daughter but you can take this piece of paper to her. Don't thank me."

The king of law has the telltale sign of blue fur with an air of electricity around him indicating he is a king of law that has mastered the law of lightning. His blue fur and the familiarity of his bloodline can allow an observant person to determine that he is a member of the Ghastorix family but Soverick determined he has the Ghastorix bloodline by looking into his body and seeing the law fragments of lightning within it.

Chapter 534 The First Three Notes.

As to how he knows why the king of law is here, it is because he can see cause and effect. He can see how the events played within the streams of mana that clung to the king of law. He saw how the king of law got to be here and what he wants so the sheet of paper fulfilled the task of talking between them and the souvenir that the king of law wants for his daughter.

The king of law began to grin from ear to ear after reading his piece of paper. He came for an autograph but got an entire sheet of paper with many words written on it. And he didn't even have to ask for him to get it. The Child of the plane already knew what he wanted.

He felt like thanking Soverick but the note said he shouldn't. So he kept quiet, for now. This experience is a story he will share with anyone that so much expresses half an interest. His daughter will be very happy when he gives this to her and tells her. He can just picture it.

The second piece of paper went to the female battle sage monkey with white fur and eyes that shift colors. She smiled when she received the sheet of paper but didn't read it. She doesn't need to read it to know what it says.

It says, "Stop trying to scry me, Salvini. You won't get anything from me and no, that doesn't prove that I am your soul mate. It just means you're incapable of manipulating me. Now let's get to the serious matter of why you're here. Salvos didn't come because he doesn't care and Salvin wanted to but you tricked him to go to another city. You're here to convince me to join the first Unified Skill Index competition. You have reasons to believe that you will succeed in this endeavor. I do not know your reasons for your confidence but I know that you will tell me soon."

Salvini is from the Empire of sages, one of the three sanctioned empires created by the racial council. It was established in honor of the sages. The empire of sages revolves around the family of sages and their descendants. It is the mouthpiece of the sages in the Virut plane. They have sent the current generation of sages to convince him to join the competition. There are three of them in this generation of sages all litter mates.

Salvo and Salvin are her brothers. They were supposed to come together but Salvini made it so that only she will be here. She wants to have him all to herself because of some weird reasons. One of those reasons is that the two of them have the same amount of litter mates which is not a coincidence but a hidden message that they are alike and were made for each other.

The third note that he wrote went to the male golden-furred battle sage monkey among them. He and Soverick have the same color of fur but their similarities end there. This battle sage monkey has a mane around his neck and head that makes him look like a lion. He has two eyes and they are yellow with vertical pupils.

His piece of paper said, "Stop disturbing me Jarkon. I am not in the mood for a fight and no, I am not going to accept your challenge at a later date. You're supposed to be here to protect Salvini but you're going to try and push your agenda about that time I killed a lot of people. Now keep quiet and let the adults talk."

Jarkon is from the Empire of Justice. It was created around the Drastfarth family, a family of justice seekers. They have the bloodline of the lion of justice. They are goody too shoes that the racial council has given the power to police the Virut realm.

The rules of living in the Virut plane are lax. There's a lot of freedom and there are no taxes for those that aren't origin gods with a family in the plane. Might make right in the plane but there are some acts considered crimes.

These crimes are mainly crimes against the race, not the individual. Like poisoning and massacring mortals, or interfering in their government. Mortals are people that have decided not to refine themselves and evolve. They stay in empires and live their lives away from the world of refiners.

Mortals are the bedrock of the battle sage monkey society. Their reproduction rate is unhampered due to their weakness, so if anything were to happen to the cultivators where they die en mass, the mortals will be able to replenish the population and prevent the extinction of the race. The three sanctioned empires are where mortals live in safety and protection. To harm mortals is to offend the racial council.

The other crimes are like destroying property belonging to the racial council or breaking the rules of the race. He hasn't done any of that but Jahkon has it out for him because of the time he killed a lot of people who came to challenge him. It is not a crime but Jahkon considers it one since one of his brothers died in that incident. Now he is hell-bent on revenge.

Jahkon read his paper and became silent. But he is seething and bitter about it if the glare on his face is any indication. Unfortunately for him, his eyes can't kill or harm others. He doesn't have the right bloodline for his gaze to harm Soverick. So his glare is only hateful and not harmful to Soverick.

The fourth note went to the heroic spirit. This battle sage monkey also has pure white fur. The heroic spirit doesn't have a bloodline. That's due to being alive in an era where royal bloodlines were things of dreams. This particular heroic spirit was a sage that died during the war against the Vipers.

Chapter 535 The Fourth And Fifth Notes.

The fourth note read, "You are from the Empire of heroes. You were chosen by chance and you're here to tell me that the Empire of heroes supports my decision whatever my decision is. I appreciate the Empire of heroes for their continued support. It is a pity that I will never join your ranks because I'll achieve eternity. But I do honor and respect the sacrifices you have made for the race."

The empire of heroes is the last empire sanctioned by the racial council. It is the oldest battle sage monkey empire in the entire plane. It started as a shrine for dead heroes before the era of transcendents. That era was full of strife. There's the internal conflict for Origin waters and the race-threatening conflict of the Vipers. The strife produced heroes that were remembered even after their death and worshipped for their sacrifice.

Those heroes returned through the power of faith and worship as immortal spirits who continued to fight for their tribes and race. Then the heroic spirits worked together with the sages to unify the race against the vipers. After the war of races, the numerous shrines of different tribes and families were then combined into the Temple of heroes which then became the empire of heroes.

It is the dream of any self-respecting battle sage monkey to be enshrined in the empire of heroes after their death. They will never be forgotten and their sacrifices will enable them to be given life as heroic spirits. In a way, it is a path to achieving eternity but it will never be for him.

The heroic spirit smiled after reading the note and bowed. Its mission is just as it has stated. It is here to make sure that Soverick is not pressured into attending the competition. Soverick has already met the requirements to be enshrined. His act of destroying the divine dungeon and letting origin energy enter the plane has made him worthy.

The last person in this 5 person group is the one that is not a battle sage monkey. It is a mole. The mole is almost 2 meters tall. It has black fur and white eyes. The white eyes are the equivalent of the eyes of

sages. It signifies royalty among the race of moles. This mole also has a long thin hairless tail that is ringed with black and white colors.

Soverick wrote on the note, "Greetings prince Shakbu. I am honored to have you visit me. I know you're here to convince me to allow the moles to partake in the competition but I can't. I might be the child of the plane and as such belongs to the entire plane not only to the battle sage monkeys, but I can't change the circumstances of the competition. I am not strong enough and I do not have enough support for it. The current conflict for Origin energy will be good for your race."

The moles are the second most powerful race in the Virut plane. The Virut plane has seen a lot of violent wars in the past. Some planes rarely have a race with a divine ability but the Virut plane has four races with innate divine abilities. The Viper race was the most terrifying. They were predators of both the battle sage monkeys and the moles that lived underground.

The versatility and adaptability of the vipers made them distribute their attention toward both the moles and the battle sage monkeys. It gave the pioneering sages the time to rally the battle sage monkeys without being noticed. The Vipers were eventually wiped out and the battle sage monkeys went on to subjugate the entirety of the plane.

The only reason why the moles are still around is that they live underground and rarely interfere with the battle sage monkeys. Their choice of habitat makes it difficult to fight them which makes it impossible to wipe them out. It also makes them an unappealing target for elimination. Battle sage monkeys don't want to live underground. They have always loved treetops.

The moles may have survived and thrived in the Virut plane but they are nowhere close to the battle sage in power and prosperity. Their disparity in strength has been made obvious now that Origin energy has entered the plane. Origin energy reaches their subterranean abode but the concentration is at its lowest. Their only option is to come above ground which they did. But they can't compete with the battle sage monkeys for space with a higher concentration of Origin energy.

Their luck didn't change when the racial council decided to take control of the rights to the area surrounding the tower of trials. The racial council decreed that only the battle sage monkeys with royal bloodlines can participate in the competition. Battle sage monkeys without royal bloodlines can't participate. Moles are of an entirely different race so they are not welcomed at all.

The racial council might be for the entire plane but it is dominated by battle sage monkeys. It doesn't help that the moles don't have any world gods. Even the fourth divine race, the stone race has a world

god but those don't care about some competition. The members of the stone race only care about Sleep and quiet.

So the moles sent their prince to ask the child of the plane to assist them. They want Soverick to speak for them and convince the racial council. Unfortunately, it is not possible for Soverick to move a Behemoth like the racial council. Even if he could, he doesn't care enough about the moles to do that.

He doesn't have any interest in the well-being of the moles and there is no benefit for him in helping them. It isn't all bad for them though. As he said to the prince, the conflict will be good for them. They avoided the conflict of Origin waters and were content with staying underground with rare underground streams. They can't avoid the competition for origin energy this time around or they will be eliminated in time.

Chapter 536 6 Notes Were Given And 6 Notes Were Received.

Their decision to stay underground during the era of Origin waters kept them safe from the conflict but it also made them one step behind the battle sage monkeys. That lag increased until they have no world god while the other races do. This conflict for Origin energy might be their chance to progress. War is bad but it creates heroes, it also brings the actualization of potential.

The prince's shoulders fell after he read the note and his head drooped in disappointment. If they don't participate in the competition then none of their talents can have access to the high concentration of Origin energy. They have to fight with the other races both native to the plane and immigrated from other planes for the leftover areas.

Soverick asked. "Now, that that has been taken care of. What do you have for me, Salvini?"

She didn't say anything. She smiled, took out a sheet of paper, and gave him. He frowned when he saw the paper but he took it. There is something written on the paper that he began to read.

"As you know, the competition will be hosted by a world god. You might not know what that fully means. For one, the competition won't be held in the Virut plane. It will be held within a special artifact that the world god built. The artifact will ensure fairness. Only skill will be tested. The reward for becoming the first in the competition is sure to change your mind about participating. You can ask the world god for anything including allowing the moles to participate in the competition, learn the art of making world fragments, or even ask for my hand in marriage *wink*."

Of his four eyes, only one read the note. The rest were busy with other stuff but all of them were frowning after he read the note.

He took out the sixth note he wrote in the forge and gave it to her. He had written his answer on it. He knows why she came here and that she must have a very convincing reason to change his mind. He prepared this sheet just in case. He can't pass up the chance to ask a world god for something.

Salvini's read the note. It said, "I Will Participate."

Then she smiled at him and gave him another note. This one said, "The note was my idea and so were the rewards. I knew the rewards will change your mind. I might not know what you will do, but I can predict and anticipate it."

All four of his eyes focused on her. He said, "You spent 93.2 hours coming up with this idea."

He doesn't have another note so he had to speak. He didn't predict that she will try to boast to him especially when he doesn't find anything impressive or worth bragging about her notes.

She gave him another note which read, "You're correct."

"I assume you're going to read too much into this." He said to her after reading it.

She gave him another note in reply. "Yes. This proves that we are meant for each other. We are soul mates who know each other's mind."

He scoffed. "This means nothing."

Her eyes twinkled as she gave him another note. "We'll see about it."

Then she turned to leave. The others followed after her. Some bowed respectfully and others like Jarkon only gave him a very venomous stare. Salvini gave Jahkon a note which he passed on to Soverick.

"I'll see you in the competition. Then I'll avenge my brother."

Soverick ignored the foolhardy guy. So he killed the guy's brother. He should get over it. It's his brother's fault for being around the wrong crowd. His brother was at the wrong place at the wrong time and he got beheaded for it. You shouldn't hate the beheader, hate the blade.

Soverick is more concerned about the exchange of notes. He gave them notes and they happened to have prepared notes for him too. What are the odds of that? He gave them 6 notes and he received 6 notes in return. It is a little on the nose.

"What a charlatan." He said unimpressed with the display.

The event seems like she predicted his actions and prepared the notes but they are not as magical as it looks. She prepared for numerous scenarios by calculating the odds of some things taking place and then planned for them. She spent 93.2 hours preparing for this meeting with him whereas he came up with using notes on a whim not to waste time.

He gave them 6 notes and she gave him 6 notes in return. Her aim is to wow him but he is not fooled. He is not impressed despite the amount of time she spent on it. The notes are just one of her various preparations and she didn't even do it well.

"Something is up with these notes." He muttered to himself as all his eyes focused on the sheets of paper.

He feels a different mana resonance from each of them. The sheets themselves don't have any physical difference. They are all white and have the same physical dimensions. They might look alike but they have varying types of mana at different levels of concentration. It is also not the normal and random discrepancies that you will expect in nature during production.

He finds it odd that there's a significant difference in the composition of mana in each paper.

"Fire, earth, water, air, light, and finally darkness." He muttered to himself as he observed the sheets of paper.

He was able to quickly identify which element of mana is the highest in each paper. Each sheet has an element that stands out while the rest of the elements are the same quantity. It is odd because each paper has one element for each of the basic elements of mana while the rest are equal in concentration. It is like each sheet represents the 6 basic elements of mana.

Chapter 537 The Mystery Of The Sheets.

"Hmm. This has to be intentional. But why?" He said in wonder and confusion.

The more he inspected the 6 sheets of paper, the more he is certain that their weirdness is intentional. Each of the particularly odd elements are also in the same quantity as the others in each paper.

It might be a coincidence that two different elements which are highest in two papers are of the same quantity but it is unlikely that it is a coincidence in 6 sheets of paper. He has a rather convincing reason to believe that it is not random but why would someone do it?

Most glaring of all is that the elements are vibrating in sync too. It might be invisible to other battle sage monkeys but it is clear to him. He can see the fluctuations of mana with his eyes. Fire mana will reach its crest and then begin to fall. Earth, water, and the others will reach their crest in the period that fire is falling to the trough of its wavelength. All of them will reach the crest by the time fire reaches its trough, rises, and is about to reach its crest again. Then the cycle will start again.

All his eyes glowed with realization,

If by chance, it is a coincidence that all six high elements have the same quantity, it is definitely not a chance that they are synchronized like this. Their behavior suggests order. These sheets of paper are not natural. If they are natural they should be chaotic. But their behavior is too orderly. There is an order to their behavior that cannot be found in nature. That means that they were made this way intentionally by someone. It roused his curiosity.

His eyes began working on deciphering the information held within the mana that makes up the papers. Unlike Salvini, he is not a hack. He doesn't prepare for random future events. He predicts them based on solid data and he acquires this data through his eyes.

What she did is the only thing that she can do since she can't foretell his actions. He became more difficult to scry ever since he became the child of the plane. It is one of the benefits of that title. She couldn't scry him before because she is weak and he has an Origin soul. Origin gods have broken the

strings of fate on them by overcoming death. It will take an Origin god with a specialized concept to see anything about the future of another Origin god.

Then he became the child of the plane and had his fate intertwined with that of the plane. That means anyone that tries to predict him will be looking at the billions of lives in the plane. They will have to sift through the deluge of information of everyone in the plane to get anything out of him. Now, even if Salvini does become an origin god, she wouldn't be powerful enough to predict his actions.

Those with the eyes of sages foretell the future or bring to pass a favorable future through their actions since they can foretell the effects of their actions. He on the other hand cannot foretell the future, at least not yet. But he can tell the present with utmost certainty and he can read the past through the marks they have left in mana. His eyes can trace the cause of the past to the effect of the present.

Mana is everything and everything that occurs involves mana. He can communicate with mana so he knows about things that are happening with mana and have happened with mana. It is how he was able to tell how long she spent trying to prepare for his meeting. Some mana clung to her and he could communicate with them. It also means he knows a lot of things about people that they will rather keep secret.

He can read the information that occurred thousands of years ago but that doesn't mean he can read everything. Mana itself is not stable. It is a vessel for change so it changes pretty easily. Mana also doesn't stay in a single place. It ebbs and flows and mixes with other streams of mana thereby scattering the marks of history all over the place. If not for the law of causality, then it will be nearly impossible to trace past events with mana.

With the law of causality, he can form links with the other marks of an event left in mana wherever they may be. Even then, some events are still untraceable because they leave faint marks in mana that fade with time as opposed to some events that leave glaring marks in mana.

Like eating and killing someone. They have different levels of mana significance. Eating leaves a very faint mark while killing leaves a deep mark in the history of mana. Killing someone doesn't leave a deep mark because it is a significant act as compared to eating. The general rule is that if the event is mana intensive, then it will have higher longevity.

The act of killing is mana intensive. The spells that you use to kill or the special mana weapons used will leave long-lasting trails. Then there is the amount of mana that is released into the environment upon

the death of someone. All of these make the act of taking the life of someone easy for him to see. Eating something that is full of mana will also leave long-lasting trails.

He reads those events and then uses that information to predict the future. If you know the past and learn from it, then you will be able to predict the future because more often than expected, events always come in a full circle. The start of a thing is similar to its end. If the end and the beginning are not alike, then they are not the end or beginning. The universe will end just like it started. It might be in reverse but they are both similar.

Chapter 538 Visions Of The Past Through Mana.

He decided to get to the bottom of the anomaly that is the sheets of paper and figure out how they came to be. His divine sense came out of him through his eyes instead of directly into the world through his soul. So he senses the world through his eyes, not through his soul. It is a technique that ocular bloodlines use that unifies the power of his powerful soul and his unique eyes. He activated this technique and focused his eyes on the strings of mana within the sheets of paper. eyes can see mana and his soul can sense mana. But his eyes can be blocked sometimes by mana itself. It is like a wall of mana. His eyes can see the wall and can even see through it but only to a certain level. It gets to a point where he can't see beyond it. His soul comes to assist by pushing aside or parsing what he is seeing as he is seeing it so that his eyes won't be clogged up with too much sensory information.

The signatures of events are on these strings of mana. Deciphering them is not an easy job. Mana itself is talkative. It will tell you everything it knows no matter how useless or irrelevant it is. It is his job to determine the useful information in the ocean of data that is being presented to him. What's worse is that he won't know what's useful until he deciphers the information.

It is why seeing the present is easy and can be done with 100% certainty but seeing the past is a challenge. Looking into the past is like searching through different time vaults. You have to crack the time vaults to access their contents. Sometimes vaults have trash in them but you won't know until you have gone through the effort of cracking the time vaults. If you're lucky to find the time vaults you have, they might be too old and are already falling apart with their contents being compromised. It is honestly a hassle but it is handy.

He broke the code that is the language of mana and his vision narrowed into a world of intent. The intent is from mana itself and from the events that have occurred to mana. The intent will tell him what he wants as long as he can find it and can understand it. It is a difficult thing because all he can see here are broken fleeting emotions occurring without rhyme or reason. This is where the law of causality helps. It gives Order to what he is seeing.

The scattered emotions linked together and began to inform him of shapes, tastes, sounds, and images at the same time. Even with the order he imposed on it, the world of intent is still chaotic. It's like tasting, touching, hearing, and seeing past and present events at the same time. It is not a wonder that his eyes get overloaded with too much information. If not for the time frame that causality provides, he will never be able to get anything meaningful. So he narrowed his focus by looking at the intents with Salvini in them and then rewinding the flow of events until he zeroed in on what he wanted.

He felt a sheet of paper within a space with a confined sub-level spatial coefficient. There are other sheets of paper around in the foggy world, hundreds of them. Then the spatial coefficient was normalized. The sheet of paper was then modified by a certain substance. The substance is a mixture of materials that scar and blemish the paper in several spots that he deciphered to be letters.

So far he has gotten that Salvini kept the paper in a pocket dimension before she gave it to him. There are hundreds of sheets of paper that she made to give to him. All these sheets of paper have been modified with ink so they all have something written on them. She only took out the ones that fit the situation to make it look mystifying. But that's not what he is looking for.

He searched deeper. His mind moved farther through time into the depth of the world of intent. Then he discovered something. The sheets of paper came from someone or something. Whatever it is, the mana is saying it is massive and very powerful. This thing was warping everything around it including mana so he couldn't see what was going on at all. It looked like an indescribable maelstrom of mana

He was trying to wrap his head around the chaotic signatures when everything suddenly became clear. His mind suddenly encountered an area of clearness. The abrupt change didn't end there. His mind was pulled into the raging maelstrom of mana within the world of intent against his will.

He had been fully invested in trying to pry the information open so he couldn't pull his mind back. Not that he can even if he was prepared. It was a carefully laid trap for him. The 6 sheets of paper were not given to him at random. Their oddness didn't occur by nature. It is so that he will investigate and end up here.

His mind was sucked into the maelstrom. He entered it and continued to fall into it. His world became chaotic. He couldn't tell up from down or anything from anything else. It was all a confusing deluge of data and mana. His heart sank within him because he could feel that the force pulling him is behind his capabilities. But there's nothing he could do. He has no other choice but to go along with the flow.

The pulling force ended abruptly too. He seemed to have appeared within a large world of pure white. There's no sense of length, breadth, or height. He can only see whiteness as far as his eyes can see. There's only him and a giant eye in this white world. The eye is white with several layers of different colored rings around its pitch-black pupil.

Chapter 539 Meeting The First Sage.

The eye is looking at him but it looks like it is looking down on him because of the difference in size. He is very small compared to the size of the giant eye. The eye must be more than 100 meters wide. He just stared wide-eyed at the eye and his surroundings.

"Welcome Child of the Plane. It is time we meet. I am the first sage, the first of my kind, the first battle sage monkey."

Soverick's eyes widened in realization. Now he knows who made the sheets of paper and gave them to Salvini. It is also the person who trapped him. The first sage is the maelstrom that he sensed within the world of intent.

"Where are we now?" He asked calmly.

He is not calm. He is nowhere near calm. A world god is a world god, not an Origin god. Legion-1 still has to run from some Origin gods and here he is, facing a world god. He might be in big trouble and it is all because he was too curious for his own good.

The eye answered, "You have to be specific with your question. If you mean our current location in time, then we are in the past. This is not happening now. It is happening in the past. So it has happened. If you mean our location in space, then you're beside your forge in the main city of Ghastorix and I am somewhere on the dark side of the universe."

His tense mind reeled. That answer contains a lot more information than he expected. It also contains some information that is not doing anything to assure him of his safety. He above everyone else understands what it means to be in the past. What he finds mind-boggling is that the past of the first sage has become his present and it was done forcefully without his consent.

He has a lot of questions. They are too much and they want to overwhelm his mind. The questions with the highest priority on his mind are two. He couldn't answer or pay attention to every question in his

mind so he indulged himself with those two questions. The two questions can also be summarised with a single question so he asked himself, 'What is taking precedence here?'

Is the past the dominant one where he has had this meeting before but he didn't know about it and he is just realizing that he had this meeting because he looked into the past of the sheets of paper? Or is the present the dominant one where he pulled the past of the world god into his present to have this meeting by looking into the past of the sheets of paper? He doesn't know and he doesn't even know how to ask. He tried his best in asking though.

Soverick nodded calmly before asking. "Did you predict that I will look into the sheets of paper and set up this meeting?"

"I couldn't predict it so I didn't. I am not a charlatan as you've called my daughter. I created the sheets you used and left my will within them. Since the sheets are of my will then my order reigns supreme pertaining to it. So you would have met me one way or the other. This method is pretty much more convenient. There is no need to predict when the end is inevitable."

"I see. Am I talking to you or your will within the sheets?"

The eye chuckled. It asked him, "What does it matter?"

Soverick shook his head. It matters to him but it changes nothing at the end of the. His situation is set. This entity set up a meeting with his future self in the past. The fact that it happened at all means he is out of his depths.

It does answer some of his questions though. This meeting is both the past and the present. It is a fusion of the world god's past and Soverick's present. It is responsive because of the will of the world god in the sheets of paper but since there is no difference between the world god's will and the world god, Soverick might as well be talking to the first sage right now.

"If they are all the same then you must know about the ability of my eyes. What else do you know?" He asked the eye.

He hasn't informed anyone of the abilities of his eyes. Not even Hadrick. The only ones that might have an inkling are the realm lord and mother high heaven. But he is currently in the presence of a world god. His secrets are not safe at all.

The eye gleamed. "So you're concerned about your secrets. Yes, I know about the ability of your eyes to see mana and I know it has more potential than that. I also know that your soul has a fragment of eternity but you're just a king of law that reached that level of power in less than a thousand years. Which do you think is the biggest secret?"

Soverick turned silent. He didn't put it past such a powerful entity to know about his strangeness but that doesn't mean the entity knows everything. He chose not to be caught up in a trap by remaining silent. He realized that this might not be a cordial meeting but an interrogation.

He has heard a lot about the first sage but he has never met the great hero of the race of battle sage monkeys. It wouldn't have mattered that he has never met the first sage were he an ordinary battle sage monkey but he is not ordinary. He is far from ordinary and he is also the child of the plane.

So it matters a lot that he has not met the first sage. It is also important to know that the first sage is the head of the racial council and also the former child of the plane of the Virut plane. The two of them are important extraordinary people so this meeting cannot be ordinary.

Chapter 540 Bait And Switch.

This meeting must be very important. He is also not meeting with a friend. They are not buddies and there is no reason for the first sage to like him. Anything he says can and may be used against him. It is best if he observes instead of participating in whatever this is. Those that listen and observe see more than those who talk. It will prevent him from falling into a trap.

"So you have decided to keep quiet. That is smart. To prove that I mean you no harm I'll tell you how I found out about your secrets. Your soul is powerful, very powerful. Anyone that can't see how powerful your soul is is simply blind. I am not blind. As such, I can tell that you're a king of law even though you haven't left your forge since you broke through."

"You will like to believe that no one will find out if they don't see you or if you don't interact with them but you're basing that premise on others being blind. Not everyone needs to meet you to know about you. Look at you for that matter. You don't need to meet people to know how they happened to come and visit you and what their purpose is. It is all because of your eyes. Do you think you're the only one that can see?"

Soverick felt embarrassed. He honestly felt himself to be unique and special but today's events have led him to know that it might not be so. What he thought was an ordinary meeting to convince him to attend a competition turned into fulfilling an appointment that he made in the future for a meeting in the past with a world god.

He made this appointment the moment he decided to write 6 notes to give to the 5 people that came to see him. Salvini gave him 6 notes in return and now he is here. One thing led to another. So he should not become too prideful or he will be burned.

The first sage continued. "It is not exactly your fault. That's the thing about people with ocular abilities. They always believe that they are the only ones that can see. They think others are blind. But that isn't true. Your sight only makes you see better than some since you can't see everything there is to see. Only a perfect eye can do that and you don't have that. In fact, a perfect eye doesn't exist."

Soverick considered the first sage's words and found them to be humbling. He doesn't have a perfect eye. He knew that but he never considered the ramifications. He has done some pretty remarkable things with his eyes but he didn't break any rules of the universe by doing them. That means his eyesight is not behind the limits of what's possible. It is dawning on him that his eye might not be unique. The void universe is a very large place after all.

"I appreciate the advice. It was 'eye-opening.' But I am sure you have better things to do than to orchestrate a meeting just to advise me. I don't think I am that worthy." He said to the eye.

The advice is good. It enlightened him but it also made him wary. They haven't even gotten to the purpose of the meeting and he is already spooked. He would very much like for this meeting to be over. So he wants them to get to the agenda of this meeting quickly. If it is bad, then he wants to rip off the metaphorical band-aid and get the painful experience over with.

The eye said to him, "I wanted to encourage you to attend the competition in case the daughter of my lineage failed at doing it but that isn't needed apparently. What convinced you to go? Was it the reward?"

Soverick began to feel regret that he decided to go. It was not a soft and shallow type of regret. He felt a deep and uneasy regret for making that decision. If he knew the matter is of such importance he would

have refused to participate no matter what. He wouldn't have allowed himself to be tempted by the opportunity to make a request from a world god.

Apparently, he has been played again. Those 5 guests of his were not the true ones to convince him. They were just the bait, the smokescreen to obscure his vision and drag him here. He took the bait far too seriously and wasn't wary about the pitfalls that might be present in the odd sheets of paper. He can't really blame himself too much on that side. After all, who knows that they should be careful of sheets of paper? He certainly didn't know. Now he knows. Truly, experience is the best teacher.

He thought to himself, 'Note to self, seeing is believing. Suspect everything. Question Everything.'

He rubbed his forehead as he answered honestly, "It wasn't the reward."

The reward to ask the world god for something was appetizing but it isn't the reason why he decided to attend the competition. He will surely gain something else apart from the reward if he attends the competition. So if he didn't win the competition and get the reward then his trip will not be a waste. The reward is just a smokescreen to mask his genuine interest.

The First sage was extremely surprised. He asked, "Really? I thought she would fail but if she succeeds it will be because of the reward. Are you lying to me?"

The eye bored into him seeking to determine the veracity of his words. Maybe it is also seeking to sniff out more of his secrets. You can never know with a world god. It might as well be that all his secrets have been exposed already. He doesn't know. But one thing that he knew with uttermost certainty is that he doesn't want to be here.