

GREED 611

Chapter 611 Aura Of Victory.

Ameglia waited patiently while the unknown person wandered clumsily through the forest. The noise the person is making lets her be aware of their location and their progress toward her. This person, whoever it is, doesn't bother to pass silently through the forest. They are always stepping haphazardly on the ground, slapping branches, cutting plants, breaking twigs, and generally being a buffoon. This little information she has about this person filled her with confidence.

She said to herself, "Such an unskilled person can't be a threat to me".

She believes that she has nothing to fear about the person themselves. If the person is not a danger to her, then they might bring an opportunity that can help her or lead to her death. Something like this happened several times in the past. It is called a turning point. The only difference is that her bloodline is telling her that this turning point is very important. She can avoid it but she chose to wait.

The person came out into the clearing that she was in. She finally saw who it was and her narrowed eyes widened immediately. The person seemed shocked to see her too. Then the person leaped menacingly towards her.

"How is he my rival?" She asked herself in confusion.

That's what went through her mind as the blue-furred battle sage monkey attacked her. She has never seen this person before and yet, her Eternal Battle Bloodline is saying that he is her rival. Having a rival is not a small thing. Especially when her rival can turn into a lightning bolt. She surely has to remember when she made such a notable person her rival. Now she realized why this person is a turning point for her. There is a real possibility of death and she has to win or calamity will befall her.

She activated her battle armor. Brown phantom armor encased her and a sword appeared in her hand. The lightning bolt reached her before the armor formed fully. Then the lightning bolt materialized into the blue-furred battle sage monkey. A punch slammed into her face and knocked her off her feet. She was propelled into the air by the force of the punch. Their first interaction in this encounter has not gone in her favor.

She was made to levitate against her will in the air. But that wasn't the end of her ordeal. Her eyes widen in fear when her opponent materialized above her with a hammer made of lightning ready to smash her. It was the wild feral look in the eyes of her opponent that frightened her not the hammer. The hammer is a weapon but the person's eyes were full of glee, anticipation, excitement, and desperation. It is not the eyes that promise something good to her.

She raised her hand and a phantom shield formed on top of it. The hastily made barrier formed between her and her foe. The barrier is not strong or well made but it will have to do. Beggars can't be choosers. She is even lucky that her bloodline allows her to materialize her aura of victory into weapons. Or else, she would be defenseless and unable to resist in any way.

The resulting collision of the hammer against her shield didn't happen. Her opponent became a lightning bolt again and disappeared from her vision. She saw him appear beside her with her divine sense but is helpless to react this time. Her opponent had fainted with that attack and she had committed with a shield. She could do nothing to stop the hammer that smashed into her side.

The collision created an explosion with a loud thunderclap accompanied by a discharge of electricity. It didn't hurt her because of her armor. The faint had given her armor time to form around her body. Her armor protected her from blunt damage and the explosion. It prevented her side where the hammer hit her from evaporating but it couldn't stop the electric shock that stunned her as the lightning crept into her body.

Lightning is incredibly powerful. It is destructive and also has mind-numbing properties. People rarely experience the mind-numbing properties of lightning since they can't feel anything from their body parts that have been destroyed by lightning. As for those that succeed in protecting themselves from the destructive power of lightning, they have to deal with the intrusion of lightning energy and the shock that comes with it.

Her mind slowed down to a halt and made her vulnerable to what happened next. Her opponent began cycling around her taking turns hitting her and kicking her so that she will stay in the air.

She became a ball being tossed around and batted with a hammer. What saved her from damnation is her armor. It protected her from damage no matter how many hits she received. The armor is the second ability she awakened when she became a transcendent. Her first bloodline ability allowed her to sense the talent in someone and to lock on to them as a rival. She then steals their talent if she defeats them.

Her second ability allows her to combine the talent she stole into an aura that she can use for a variety of things like armor. Talent is of no use if it doesn't grant the power to protect its owner. The armor protects her and can not be broken easily. It is a materialization of her victories and the confidence that she has in her bloodline. One will have to undermine these things if one wants to weaken her armor.

Her opponent realized the futility of their actions and suddenly stopped attacking. She fell from the sky toward the ground. Fortunately, her sluggish mind recovered quickly enough so she was able to soften her landing. She rolled on the ground and shot up on her feet to stand. She can see what her opponent is doing so she knows that the battle isn't over yet. No, this fight is far from over. It is just getting started.

Chapter 612 Stepping Stone.

Her opponent has materialized a short distance away from her. He is standing still watching her and preparing his next move. A blue ball of lightning is rotating rapidly in his hands. She can sense the accumulation of a terrifying amount of energy from the ball. It didn't help her trepidation when she noticed the ball getting bigger and changing color from blue to purple.

"It's nice to see that I didn't fry your brain too much." Her opponent smirked and said to her.

"Who are you? Have I met you before?" She asked as she readied herself for battle.

She held up the shield in her left hand while her right hand gripped her blade tightly. Her brown armor began to glow forming a domain of pressure around her. Anyone that enters the domain will be physically suppressed by her talent.

"You don't know me but I know you. I saw my brother defeat you. It was a quick fight. He played with you as one will play with a toy. Then he impaled you on his spear."

His words brought back very unpleasant memories. Her eyes widened at that revelation. There's only one person that has ever defeated her like that.

Her opponent continued, "I decided that day that I must also defeat you. But you ran away. You left the academy and disappeared. It is understandable behavior since that defeat is so shameful. I can only

imagine what it feels like to be defeated by someone several years behind you in training but I want to know what it feels like to defeat you myself. I am sure I'll get my wish soon

Her eyes glowed with anger when she heard what he said. Apparently, this person has decided that she will be his stepping stone. Her armor pulsed with that anger and her blade hummed with indignation. It is one thing to be defeated by Soverick. It is another thing to be defeated by Soverick's brother. If she is defeated now, then she can kiss ever defeating Soverick goodbye.

So she feels a certain amount of fear. But the major emotion she is feeling right now is anger and indignation that her opponent thinks it will be easy to defeat her and he spoke as if victory is already his. She intends to show him that she will be no one's stepping stone.

"You made a mistake giving me time. I grow stronger the longer I am in battle." She told him.

It is the truth. Her domain of pressure around her has grown stronger. It will certainly suppress her opponent more.

Her opponent said to her, "I know it is a bad idea but you're a tough nut to crack. Don't worry about me though. I have just the right thing to fix it."

He is surely referring to the ball in his hands. The ball has grown to be 30 cm in diameter. It is his source of confidence and she can not help but admit that it is frightening to look at. Lightning wielders are very rare because lightning is not a basic element of mana. It is special and it requires special individuals that can take it to wield it. She has only heard tales of lightning wielders because of their rarity. But it seems she will personally experience their might today. It is not an experience she is looking forward to.

He gave her a piece of advice. "Don't bother to run. I am much faster than you. Today, we will fight to the death. And today, I, Ghaster Ghastorix, will use you as my stepping stone to defeating my elder brother."

His words clued her onto something. She decided to take it.

She said to him "So you don't like your brother. I don't like him too. Let's work together to defeat him."

A turning point doesn't mean that they have to fight to the death. They both hate Soverick so they can help each other to remove Soverick. Her chances of defeating Soverick will be higher if she gets some information from his brother or if his brother decides to assist her. She let herself smile at the prospect.

Unfortunately for her, the opponent is a muscle head. He is stubborn and rarely changes his mind. He didn't even think about her proposal.

"No. I don't need your help. If I can kill you then you will be useless to me. So try and survive. Maybe you will be able to convince me to corporate with you when I fail to kill you."

She didn't let the disappointment of the refusal lead to despair. Instead, she turned it into anger. She is not a normal battle sage monkey that can be disregarded like that. She has the advantage of her talent. She can surely defeat him or at least survive. That's what she told herself as the ball grew to be 50cm in diameter.

'I must master the fourth step of weapon mastery if I survive this.' she said to herself silently.

She has not really bothered with skills because of the advantage of her bloodline. She replied mainly on her bloodline and her innate abilities as a transcendent. Her bloodline helps her to use talent better than those that have it naturally. Talent doesn't equal power. A dead genius is no genius. But her bloodline aims to prevent her from becoming a dead genius.

It is because she is a transcendent that she was able to learn the third step of weapon mastery so quickly. Perfect control of the body and mind is very useful. They helped her to learn the third step with minimal effort. But she is promising herself to put in the time and effort required to learn the fourth step.

Ghaster said to her, "I hope you're ready. This won't take long. You're tough so I am going to crack you open like a nut."

Then he shot towards her with a large ball of barely contained lightning in his hands. She raised her shield to defend herself and her sword to retaliate. And so the fight resumed.

Chapter 613 Baited.

Ameglia and Ghastorix might join hands against Soverick but it is certain that many are already joining hands against Soverick. The notifications have made people aware of the difficulty of taking him down so many people are inclined to cooperate in defeating him. Two hands working together can bring down a tree faster and easier. Soverick is this tree to be brought down. He is taller than them and the shade of his leaves is overshadowing those beneath him. Many people have had enough of him.

There is a large undercurrent within the competition going on in the background of such cooperation aimed at defeating the child of the plane. A volcano is silently brewing in the background of the competition. It will erupt when the pressure has reached its Apex or when an outlet is provided for the boiling inferno contained within the volcano.

Back To Soverick.

He landed on the mountain at the center of the arena. It was not by chance. His body flew in the direction of the mountain and crashed into it because he selected that direction to attack the dragon. His flight was not interrupted by any monsters because he has defeated a rank 9 monster. He is the only one to have done so and the next monster is on the mountain. So he is safe on the mountain for now.

If he had landed anywhere else in the forest, he certainly won't be safe in his helpless situation. His previous lesson to the people that tried to kill him will not save him. He might have killed more than ten thousand competitors but there will still be others that will come to kill him. It is an event that he can't handle in his current state. He is at an all-time low.

It can be stated as a fact that Soverick has never been this close to death. It is not the type of death that the competitors can be saved from either. This is a permanent death because there will be nothing to save. He received the same type of injury that he inflicted on the dragon only in a lesser amount. It is expected that he will suffer some damage as a consequence of his actions. After all, an action will always produce an equal and opposite reaction.

Their collision is more of an axe cutting into a rock. He is the axe. He has a sharp edge and he was able to split the rock but he also incurred serious damages. It is expected that he will suffer some damage as a consequence for his actions. After all, an action will always produce an equal and opposite reaction.

In the lightest situation, the axe losses some of its sharpness. It becomes blunt. In the worst situation, the axe is shattered by the force of the collision. He experienced the worst situation. His existence

smashed into that of the other by splitting himself into 128 streams of power. It is certainly efficient but he still got broken nonetheless. He crashed into the mountain as a blob of matter and energy incapable of sentience.

He looks like a slime within a crater but he can't even be called a slime because slimes are capable of thought no matter how little. For him though, he can't think of anything. Thinking hurts him. The pain he is feeling can only be likened to the pain of mortals with a disease that fries the nerves in their brains. The act of simple thought is too painful so it is best that he thinks of nothing. Not that he has a choice either way. His mind is too broken for thinking anyway so he can't make a decision not to think.

He should have died. That stunt that he pulled should have killed him. Even his immortal soul shouldn't have saved him. If not for the soul sphere within him, he would have frayed and scattered into the winds of oblivion. But he has the soul sphere and the supply of divine life energy that comes with it so he survived and he is healing.

He stayed within the crater at the foot of the mountain for weeks as his body recovered. He didn't move throughout the entire period. The amorphous blob of energy and matter reformed into his figure. He was still unconscious when a certain someone decided he couldn't wait for him anymore.

An eye appeared within Soverick's mind. The eye did not bypass his mental defenses. It had pulled his consciousness out of his body. It was sudden and irresistible. It was like he was suddenly jerked into a room. He didn't know it had happened because he was busy meditating on the law matrix of the world fragment.

The eye said to him, "That should be enough for you. You have things to do."

The voice of the first sage startled Soverick's mind. He found himself in a familiar white space. Except that this time he knows what the white space is. It is the manifestation of the supreme law of the first sage. In a way, this white space is not in the void universe.

The sage asked him, "So how do you like my law of order?"

That question made him falter a little. He regained his composure and answered. "Honestly I am not surprised you know about it. I found your law of order to be informative."

"I am glad you like it. I hope you didn't think I wouldn't know that you have been trying to decipher my own law of order. I told you not to consider others blind or foolish. I didn't think you were blind or foolish when I brought you here last time."

Soverick sighed. "So you did it on purpose."

"Yes, I did. I offered you bait and you sank your teeth into it no questions asked. Luckily for you, it is not poison that you swallowed. You should be more careful next time."

Chapter 614 Why So Suspicious?

The sage words is an admittance of baiting him and also a warning to him. The sage said it with a jovial attitude but he couldn't be jovial about it. Instead, he became alert and cautious immediately.

"What do you want from me then?" He asked the sage.

He thought his reason for attending the competition is hidden. He didn't think that the sage will set what he thought was his original and secret intentions to be bait.

The sage replied. "I want a lot of things from you but you don't need to worry about what I want. You will do them anyway."

Soverick rubbed his hands over his face and shook his head. Finding out that his recent endeavors are not as covert as he thought but were anticipated made him start to question himself. The Sage's statement that he will do what he wants anyway certainly didn't help his self-doubt. He doesn't know what's going on but he knows that he is being played and it definitely has something to do with this competition.

Unfortunately for him, that knowledge has not given him an inkling of how to stop being a pawn. Apparently, he will do what the sage wants either way because of his interest. After all, he thought he was attending this competition to steal the law of order of the world god that forged this world fragment. It turned out that he attended the competition because the sage knew he will be tempted by the law of order.

'I should never have met Salvini at all.' He grumbled in regret.

He got interested in the competition when he heard Salvini said that the competition will be held within an artifact outside of the plane. It turns out that everything she did and said we're part of the ploy to bait him. He can't do anything about that now. He can only look forward and act better.

So he asked, "Let me rephrase my question then. Why are you meeting me now?"

The sage chuckled. "You sure do move on fast. That is good. It will allow what is going to happen to proceed without problems."

Soverick frowned at what the sage said but the sage ignored him and continued.

"I know that you have completed the analysis of the derivatives of my law of order within the law matrix of this arena. I also know your effort to complete this analysis is why you took so long to heal from the injuries incurred from fighting the dragon. I want you to know that I don't mind you using it and that you can even learn more about my law or any law you come across within this competition. I don't mind at all."

His frown didn't ease up. What he just heard didn't fill him with joy or happiness. It is true that his healing was delayed because he was using the cover of his injury to dig into the law matrix of the arena. He was then pulled into this white space as soon as he finished cracking it. It is clear proof that his progress in his endeavor is being monitored somehow and very accurately too. It is disconcerting to know that the sage has all the information while he is in the blind. He is like a fumbling idiot and he doesn't like it one bit.

"And if I refuse?" He asked.

The eye sighed, "I won't punish you if that's what you're asking about. I already promised you safety and hospitality during the duration of this competition so no, I will not lash out at you for refusing. But am confident you will do what I want because there will be good pay for it. Knowledge is power. I am sure you want more power. If you don't, then I was wrong about you."

He asked suspiciously, "So it is my choice and you are not coercing me?"

"Coercing you? No, I am not doing that. Our deal is for you to attend the competition and for you to win it. Then I'll give you the support of the racial council and I'll fulfill a wish of yours. You have participated and you are doing well. Your performance is so good that you might be named a sage after this competition. You will get access to the racial council as a sage and my support will go a long way in helping you."

"This meeting is happening by chance. I laid a thread and you picked it up. You followed it to the end and found this. This is the end. It is a message that you are doing well and that you are free to pick up other threads in this competition. That is all. Can't an ancient senior give an impressive junior a pat on his back for his wonderful performance? Why are you so suspicious?"

The sage spoke without the air of severity of their last meeting but Soverick didn't feel relaxed. He knows that he is not the Sage's match when it comes to tricks and schemes but that doesn't mean he has to like it. He considered what to do and one thing came to mind.

"I have one more question to ask. How did you know I was deciphering your law of order? Did you simply anticipate it or do you have a way of knowing?"

He has to accept that he was baited and he didn't know it. Now that he knows that he was being baited, he has to accept it and move on because it wouldn't have mattered if he knew he was being baited. He would have attended the competition after getting that small exposure to the law of order from their previous meeting. So he wants to know how to avoid being caught in the future. There's nothing he can do if the sage anticipated what he was doing but there's something he can do if there's a method that the sage used to determine what he was doing.

Chapter 615 Brutal But Lethal.

The sage answered his question. "I see. You're trying to learn from your previous mistake. I will do you another favor just like I did during our last meeting. It seems fitting. I anticipated and I also have a method to know. My method shouldn't fail, but I planned for some indications to prove my anticipation right. Call it covering my bases if you will. The method I used is simple. I just have to sense your gaze."

"Sense my gaze? What do you mean by my gaze?" He asked in confusion.

"My law of order is my body. It is vast. It is a world. It is me. It is my vast world. So you have been watching me ever since our last meeting. Looking at me like some lovesick idiot. You weren't even taking furtive glances or stealing quick looks. You had your eyes fixed on me the whole time. Now, wouldn't you know when someone is staring at you right in your face?"

He shook his head and sighed in defeat. His very act of observing the law of order caused him to be found. There's nothing he can do about that. It seems he was bound to be found out right from the start.

He sighed and said. "So there's nothing I could have done to avoid detection."

The sage tutted. "Now don't say that. There's a lot you could have done to hide yourselves. You just don't know them and maybe you can't do them even if you knew them. I am a world god after all. But there are some things you could have done to avoid detection. Your other acts certainly didn't help you. That move you used against the dragon showed that you have a high understanding of the law matrix of this arena. It is a shout to anyone that can hear it that you have been deciphering my law of order. What is the name of that move anyway?"

He answered. "I call it WRAITH OF DEATH: WORLD BREAKER."

"World Breaker hmm? Sounds fitting. Breaking the world with yourself as the tool. Brutal, inefficient, self-harming but lethal. I assume it is part of your skill set. How many moves do you have in your skillset?"

"Just 6 steps."

"I am impressed. You really have everything it takes to become a sage. You have the talent and the skill usage ability of a sage. You have also created your own skill set. Creating a skill set is the most important quality of a sage. I created the 6 steps of weapon mastery and proved myself worthy of the title of the first sage. The other sages have their own skillset too and you already have one."

The sage paused to consider something. Then he said, "You know what? I have decided that you will be named a sage after the competition. Show me more of your skill set so that I can pick the best title for you. Now go and have fun."

The white world shattered into pieces and he woke up in the arena. He looked around and found himself in a crater. He found a white robe and pants beside him. The robe has the word "263TH SAGE" written on its back. He shook his head and picked it up to wear. His clothes had been destroyed in his last fight. His descent into the law matrix would have destroyed his clothes if the explosion of his phantom spear didn't.

He muttered as he wore the white robes. "Brutal, inefficient, self-harming but lethal."

Thoughts of his last fight brought to mind the sage's evaluation of his move. It is a correct evaluation that he has to agree with. WORLD BREAKER is brutal because it is meant to be and it is inefficient because he did not perform it very well. He was suppressed so he couldn't use his body for it. He had to use the power of this world to do it and even then his body was already straining before he made the attack. It wasn't supposed to be like that.

As for it being self-harming, that cannot be changed. Even if he had the full power of his body, it would have still harmed him. The injury wouldn't be so severe and he will still be conscious after the move but the move is self-damaging. WORLD BREAKER is lethal just like the other moves in his skill set. Each one is meant to kill or injure critically.

"It was a gamble but it worked." He said after dressing up.

He didn't want to use it but he had to. He had no other option if he wanted to defeat the dragon. It is just like the sage said, using it is proof that he is familiar with the law matrix of this world fragment. He wouldn't have been able to descend into the law matrix if he didn't have the knowledge of it. But that isn't the major reason why he didn't want to use it. His skill set is an advanced set of moves if the steps of weapon mastery are called basic. Its requirement for usage is also higher.

The steps of weapon mastery require a lot of skill and power to pull off. Anyone can learn them with hard work and talent. His skill set requires more skill and more. No one can use it no matter how much they train themselves. They will need his comprehension of laws and most importantly, they will need his eyes. His eyes are the major reason why he can create something more powerful and tasking than the famous steps of momentum that the first sage created.

He had his eyes. But that's just half of the requirement to use the WORLD BREAKER. He also needed strength but he didn't have that. The suppression of the world fragment robbed him of most of his strength. He can't even use the 5th and 6th steps, nullification, and world weapon of weapon mastery because of the suppression. So using his skill set was very dangerous.

Chapter 616 Eternal Hatred.

His first move starts where the 6th step of weapon mastery ends and as such needs a lot more power than what he had. He had to supplement it with the power of the world. World power was forcefully infused into his body without having a body of law to contain it. It caused his body to crack. He went behind what he should be able to do. It is remarkable but it could also have led to his death.

His other reason for not using it is the lack of synchronization between his body, mind, and eyes. He needs the three of them to work in tandem to use the WORLD BREAKER but this world has placed a limit on his body and soul at 10%. 90% of his body and mind have been shackled preventing him from wielding his skill set properly.

If you have a weapon that can harm you even when it is in perfect condition, you better hope it is in perfect condition because the damage it will do to you when it is not working well can be fatal to you. The risk of death is the major reason why he didn't want to use it. But he used it anyway and he survived the ordeal. Because unlike everyone else, he is not alone.

"Anyway. Progress is always difficult to achieve. I have achieved this. It is time to move." He said as he looked at the peak of the mountain.

He can see his next target at the top of the mountain. What he saw there made him narrow his eyes.

"Viper race? This is certainly unexpected and also expected. It is just like the sage to create an enemy that we are weak to. I wonder what its abilities are." He said in anticipation and he began ascending the mountain.

What he saw reminded him of the mortal enemies of battle sage monkeys. Images of them exist but their entire race was killed until extinction in the Virut plane. Their warriors were slain so were their young and old. Even their eggs were broken wherever they found them. It helped that the Vipers were communal and liked to lay eggs in the same location. The Sages mobilized the entire race to wipe out each community of Vipers and their future generations too.

There are rumors of why the order for killing the race of Vipers into extinction was made. It is one thing to defeat a race and subjugate or enslave them. It is another thing to hunt them to extinction. There had to be a reason why the sages decided that they couldn't allow the vipers to live. That reason also had to

be very compelling for them to actually go through with killing them all to extinction without stopping at all.

Anyone can hate a race for whatever reason and decide to wipe them out but that doesn't change the amount of effort, resources, and time it will take to actually go through with it. It is not strange that most will lose motivation and hatred will cool over time. It happens most of the time that those that start something with dedication will give up as time passes and even forget the reason for their hatred.

It is not the case for the battle sage monkeys. They never gave up. They forgot why they hated the Vipers but they continued to hunt them until they killed every last one of them. The hatred persisted through time and generation after generation of battle sage monkeys worked to wipe out any trace of the Vipers until the Vipers became history. It is only something that can happen due to a deep eternal hatred of the Vipers.

The feat of hunting a race into extinction is commendable. Battle sage monkeys have forgotten what is so dangerous about the Vipers. It could be that it was intentionally done so that Vipers and everything related to them will be forgotten. Either way, there are a lot of rumors about Vipers and why they had to be completely eliminated.

The rumors generally agree that it is because of the divine ability of the vipers but there are different opinions of what that divine ability is. Information about them cannot be found in history books. So no one knows exactly what makes the Vipers fearsome. Soverick is looking forward to seeing that divine ability in action.

He stopped his ascension and asked himself, "What's this?"

He was using his eyes to scan the Viper at a deeper level to figure out its properties and any weaknesses. But he was shocked to discover that he can't recognize anything or understand what he is seeing at all. It is like he is reading a book written in a completely different type of language.

His eyes narrowed. "This is not supposed to be here. Is there another world god involved in the competition?"

Further inspection of the viper made him realize the strangeness of his next opponent. His opponent is not made with the same law of order as the sage. It is not the law of order of the universe either. It is a new previously unknown law of order. He decided it belongs to another world god because this law of order doesn't look like the Sage's at all.

His suspicion turned into excitement. "Now I am looking forward to this fight. I must have this new law of order. Is it safe though?"

The sight of new knowledge is tempting and very appealing to him. It is why he decided to participate in this competition in the first place. He doesn't know what use this new law of order might have but knowledge is power so he wants to get it. But he is afraid. The sage might have been relaxed about him spying on his law of order but this is a different world god. Things might not end well if he tampers with this new law of order.

Chapter 617 Pick Up A New Thread.

There are a lot of bad things that can happen to someone that draws the attention of a world god. That is just for drawing the attention of the world god. Those bad things get particularly nasty if that someone angers a world god. He is already dealing with one world god, attracting the ire of another world god is both a line and suicidal.

Ignorance is not an excuse to make such a foolish mistake. It will not save him from the retribution of a world god and he is not ignorant either. He wouldn't have gone ahead to acquire this new law of order before when he thought he had been undetected when analyzing the sage's law of order.

So even in his ignorance, he would stay away from trouble as far as possible. But now he knows that he will be detected as soon as he tampers with this law of order in any way. He is a king of law. And a world god is a world god. The gap is very large so he has to be very careful when interacting with a world god. Stealing from a world god is the opposite of being careful. It is suicidal.

Furthermore, this is totally different from what he was doing with the law of the sage. He was inferring the law of order of the sage from the derivatives of that law in the law fragments of this arena. He was not analyzing the true law of order of the sage and yet he was found out. Meanwhile, in this situation, he can see the true law of order of this new world god in all its glory within this Viper.

What he can see is not large. It is just a tweak of the law matrix by the new law of order. But it is more valuable than what he got from analyzing the derivatives of the law of order of the first sage. This law is in its pure unadulterated form. Getting it will make the Sage's scheming and baiting worth it.

But trying to analyze it directly and in the open like this will mean he has to expose his ability to do so. So he knows that there's no way it can be hidden even if he is ignorant about how the law of order of world gods is like their body. Now he knows that taking this law of order is stealing a part of a world god. It is not suicidal anymore. It is grounds for an eternal curse of pain and suffering.

"What should I do?" He asked himself.

He is undecided on what to do. He wants the new law of order but he doesn't want to anger this world god. The law of order will be good for all of Legion but an angry world god is an enemy that can jeopardize the entirety of Legion. He is not the only one at risk here so he is very reluctant to create an enemy on the level of a world god. Then he remembered what the sage had said during their last meeting.

The sage had said, "This meeting is happening by chance. I laid a thread and you picked it up. You followed it to the end and found this. This is the end. It is a message that you are doing well and that you are free to pick up other threads in this competition."

His eyes shone with unrestrained greed. The sage gave him the permission to pick up other threads. This is a thread that he very much wants to pick up. It is not much but it is better than the scraps he has been getting from the law matrix of this world fragment. So he discarded his fear and apprehension, then he sped up his ascension up the mountain.

He appeared before his enemy soon after. He stopped about 100m away from the viper to examine it. The distance is small enough to be covered in the blink of an eye but the major reason he didn't rush in at once to fight is that he can sense a haze around the Viper. His intuition is telling him not to come too close to it. It is the same danger he can sense from other monsters but he can't pinpoint which part of the Viper is dangerous.

So he chose to examine it at a distance. It is a serpentine humanoid. It has a long tail connected to its torso. It stands on the tail while its upper half is humanoid. It has six arms each holding similar long but slightly curved blades. Its head is reptilian and covered in black scales that also cover its entire body. It also has a crown on its head. The crown is white, unlike the black crown on his own head.

The Viper is also examining him. Its vertical pupils focused on him. The yellow iris of the eye seemed to shine with either curiosity or intelligence. He tried to figure out what could be dangerous about the Viper but he can't tell anything due to the influence of the new law of order. He doesn't know anything about this new law of order so he can't inspect this creation of it and understand it.

The Viper spread its six arms wide in a welcoming gesture after it was done examining Soverick. It said, "Welcome Soverick Ghastorix. I have been waiting for you."

Soverick was surprised. "You can speak?"

No other monster has been able to speak. They were not created with intelligence. They were monsters without a divine sense or a soul but this one has a divine sense and it also knows his name. He always thought the monsters being unintelligent is either intentional or intelligent living things can't be created. Apparently, he was wrong. World gods can create living and highly intelligent beings with souls if they use their law of order to do it directly.

Chapter 618 The Cheeky Viper.

"Yes, I can speak. Are you afraid?" It grinned and asked him.

He replied confidently, "I am not afraid. Your intelligence makes no difference. Power is power. There is no need to be afraid of a weakling that can speak. I have met a lot of them today. In fact, I killed tens of thousands of them at once."

He is not afraid of the Viper but he has more reasons to be careful and cautious with it. It is not encouraging that it has intelligence. The dragon didn't have intelligence but it was able to use skills. He knew to expect skills from a monster that is rank 10 but the intelligence caught him off guard. It having intelligence could mean a lot of things that he doesn't know so he will be extra cautious with the Viper.

"You should be afraid. You should be very afraid because I am not some ordinary opponent that you will face. I am the last barrier, a wall created to be your end. You will go no further. No battle sage monkey can go further. So I will be the last opponent you face in this challenge and the next."

Soverick smiled, "So you're a barrier. Do you know that barriers break? Let us find out what can break you."

He doesn't consider the Viper a threat. His WORLD BREAKER can shatter the Viper but he doesn't want to use that because he wants to preserve the code that makes it up. But he has other tools at the ready

to slowly chip away at the manifestation of the Viper in order to get access to its root concept which is the new law of order.

The Viper settled into a stance and narrowed its vertical pupils at him. It didn't move to stop him from attacking. It still didn't move when Soverick shot ten arc blades with his spear. The Viper stayed still until the ten blades reached it. Then its six arms moved in a blur of motion. The swords in its hands turned into an impassable wall that deflected the attacks. All ten arcs were redirected to slip by the Viper.

Soverick narrowed his eyes. The fast movement of the arms isn't confusing him. He saw something more than simple deflection. There is a power at play here that is more than just speed and skill but he can't tell what it is because he doesn't understand what he is seeing. He can see the mana but he doesn't understand them. It's like they are speaking to him in a different language.

Now he understands the struggle that the other competitors are going through by having to deal with a foreign world. He didn't have to go through this problem because he already spent some time analyzing the law of order of the sage before the competition.

He stretched forward his left hand to the Viper and invoked flames. He decided to use what he has gained to acquire what he lacks. He has already comprehended the law matrix of this world so he can use his Origin spells now.

Fire poured forth from his hands towards the Viper. The Viper didn't move until the attack came. Its hands moved again in a blur but this time, he shredded the attack. The flames hit its sword defense and couldn't pass through. They were torn to pieces, worn out, and scattered into the wind before his attack died down.

Soverick tried Earth then. Large Earthen spikes appeared from the ground and tried to impale the Viper but they were deflected by its blades. The spikes were far larger than the Viper. They ought to bury the Viper but they turned away when they come in contact with its swords. Even the ones that appeared beneath it only made it move out of the way a little. It's as if he could tell where an attack is as long as it is close to him.

The same thing happened to air and water attacks. Wind blades and water whips are disabled without much effort. Phantom weapons and gravity manipulations didn't work too. Anything that comes near the Viper gets resolved easily. It looks like skill and precision but Soverick could tell that there's more to it than meets the eye. He can also disable spells. In fact, he can stop people from using origin spells at all. But he can't do it like the Viper is doing.

He asked an unrelated question. "Why don't you move? Is that all you're going to do? Just stand there and block?"

"A wall doesn't move."

"It will move when it is broken down." He retorted.

The Viper smirked at him. "Why don't you make me move then?"

He snorted. He can see a pattern here. His opponents are always cheeky. They believe themselves to be unbeatable. The Ravens did it. So did the armored rhino and the dragon. But he is the one still standing. It is because he is better than them. They don't know it yet so they act cheeky.

"I'll just have to enlighten this Viper." He said to himself before activating a move.

"WRAITH OF DEATH: DANCE OF THE SPECTRAL WIND."

Soverick decided to try something new that will push the limits of his opponent. He used the second move of his skill set. He waved his spear around his body. Nothing seemed to have happened from his actions but the Viper moved its entire body for the first time. It seems to be blocking some unseen attacks coming at it from every direction. Its swords clashed audibly with these numerous unseen attacks as if two metals are colliding.

Sparks appeared in the air due to these clashes. Small tears appeared in the location of the clashes and they surrounded the Viper as it weaved around blocking unseen attacks and creating more tears. These tears healed quickly but they were so much that it is difficult to notice them healing. They continued to increase in amount and threatened to overwhelm the Viper.

Chapter 619 Absolute Domain.

There is a very short time between the time the tears heal and the time that another tear appears in the same place. This time became shorter as Soverick moved his spear faster and faster. But no matter how

fast he reached, the Viper could always respond and defend itself. Light flashed around it as its sword clashed with an unseen enemy. From afar, it looks like the Viper is fighting with small random explosions occurring around it.

Soverick stopped and accessed the situation. His second move uses the law of space to attack except he doesn't attack from the physical world but through the law matrix. An attack in the physical world can be sensed even if it is with the law of space. But one needs to be a Sovereign of law with a seed of power to be able to sense an incoming attack from the law matrix.

So his attack should have been unseen and undetected. The Viper should have been shredded apart but it was able to react whenever the attack gets close to it. Then it went behind sensing it. His swords disrupted the law matrix in the exact path of the unseen attacks so the attacks had to resurface in the physical world of manifestation.

"This is tricky." He muttered.

The Viper is undoubtedly impressive. It reacted well and resolved the attacks appropriately. But Soverick is not discouraged. His attacks might have failed but he learned something about the Viper. He has learned that whatever the Viper is doing, it is not skill-based or natural. He decided to try something and clear the field. Some things are better seen with a white background for them to be able to stand out.

"Nullification."

His divine sense froze the world. His familiarity with the world allowed him to freeze momentum with his divine sense and absorb it into his pillars of momentum. The air froze and everything within it. The freezing spread out from him but it hit a barrier when it reached the Viper. Its six arms are moving again in a blur of speed. Whatever they are doing with the swords in their hands is stopping the nullification effect from affecting the Viper.

The field of nullification effect extended beyond the Viper but it didn't affect it creating a bubble of motion within the frozen space. The Viper continued to move within the nullification effect. It only stopped when Soverick stopped using nullification.

It smiled at him and said, "Like what you see?"

"I do." He replied. "Your arms are very fast and it seems that you can control whatever it is that you come in contact with. What is your ability called?"

The lack of momentum in the surroundings made what the Viper is doing glaring to him. Those arms move too fast, almost instantaneously. It is partly due to a technique and has more to do with the way the Viper is manipulating world power. It has intricate and perfect control over world power on par with a Sovereign of law.

This control is similar to the domain of a transcendent but more evolved. It is just a step lower than the domain of origin gods but it is better than the control of normal Sovereigns. The Viper has reduced the area of control even further to be just within reach of its very fast arms so that whatever enters that domain falls under its control. So being near the Viper is very dangerous. It is what his intuition was warning him about.

The Viper grinned and said, "Good eyes. It is called an absolute domain. What do you think about it?"

It is not surprised or concerned that Soverick has managed to figure out what it is doing.

"It is not a bad idea. You were right. You are a wall that seems impassable. You can stop all attacks and subjugate everything you come into contact with. But your domain is not absolute. It is far from absolute." Soverick replied with scorn.

He can't help but be scornful because of the hubris shown by calling a domain absolute. The domain is merely better than a Sovereign's. It can't compare to that of an Origin God's. An Origin god's domain is not even absolute. So this domain is far from being absolute. But that is not the major reason why he is scornful.

He said to the Viper, "Let me give it a try."

He activated MIND OVER POWER and shot toward the Viper to engage in close combat. Six phantom spears appeared around him making a total of 7 weapons at his disposal. The 6 Spears rotated in sync with the spear in his hands to form a small domain of control. The two of them clashed and began fighting. They became a blur of movement with one defending and the other attacking. They are also evenly matched. His domain couldn't be overcome by the domain of the Viper.

The threat of the absolute domain disappeared once he understood how it works. He is not a sovereign of law so he doesn't have perfect control of world power as they do. He is not even a titan of law so he should not have access to world power but his weapon gives him access to it. His eyes then manipulate the world power that his weapon grants him in the exact way that the Viper controls it to mimic its absolute domain.

The two of them began to tussle with the control of world power because it determines who wins this contest. It became a tug of war instead of a clash of blades. The flow of world power went to both sides several times but no one could hold on to it for long.

The nature of the absolute domain is based on a foundation of constant movement within a closed loop. It means that one cannot hold on to world power for too long but whoever is in control of it the most will overwhelm the other.

Chapter 620 WRAITH OF DEATH: EYE OF BEGINNING.

Control of world power is the key to winning this struggle. Whoever can control the world power better will win the match. But control is not absolute as the Viper would like to think. They have to let it flow and use the period when they are in control of it to strike their enemy but both of them are too fast.

The window of opportunity is difficult to take advantage of because of their speed and the limited interval of control that they get. The two domains couldn't outmaneuver the other. It is proof that neither domain is absolute. The two of them fought for over 5 minutes without much progress in hurting each other. The ground they are standing on has changed though.

Their clash whittled at their surroundings like sandpaper. The air was whipped into a frenzy because of the friction between them but the ground has no way to go. So the ground began to peel away. The rapid change in the flow of world power peeled the ground away layer by layer around them. The two of them began to sink into the ground without them noticing. They are drilling a large hole into the mountain with the spillover of their power. Soverick pressed his opponent from above so the direction of the erosion shifted their battlefield into the mountain.

Their environment became darker as they tunneled into the mountain but they continued to fight. They didn't need light to see and fight so they continued to fight. The battlefield shifted again as the Viper decided to rise into the air. It pushed back against Soverick's downward force. They began digging their way out slowly and surely. They came out of the mountain in another spot. Their fight continued even after they reached the surface. They rose into the air still tugging at each other's control with their weapons.

The spears clashed with the swords like two whirlwinds but none could overcome the other. Lights flashed and energy was discharged into the surrounding. The shockwaves from their clashes created a visible ripple that spread out from them like the ripples on the surface of the world. These ripples show two different points of origin that coincide with the position of the two fighters. The ripples are in the form of two circles that pull and push on each other without progress. So they disengaged and stopped fighting. His enemy let him go with a smile.

"I have seen enough." He said to it.

The Viper's smile widened in elation. It said, "So you see. You cannot defeat me even if you copy my ability. I was created to be undefeatable. I am an impassable wall as I said. If you can't kill me, then you can't move on."

Soverick regarded his opponent and smiled too. "You're right. You can stop every attack that you can come in contact with but not every attack can be touched. They can only be understood and felt. I'll let you feel one attack that can't be stopped. It was nice fighting you."

His four eyes came together on his face and fused into one. He became a one-eyed cyclops. His single eye focused on the Viper and only the Viper.

"I have seen enough and because I have seen what you are, I demand to see what you were."

His words are not ordinary. They contained a sort of indescribable power. The Viper sensed danger but it didn't know where it is coming from. Even the words fill it with dread but it can not stop words even though it can stop the wind. Unfortunately for it, this power is more subtle than the wind.

Soverick's words and his gaze made the intangible power settle on the Viper from every direction like a blanket. The Viper couldn't escape so it targeted the source of the danger. It rushed forward to interrupt him.

"Be unmade before my very eyes. Return to your roots. Return to your Origin. Return to your beginning."

The Viper froze halfway to Soverick as the single eye on his head turned violet. It began to flow a violet light that shown on the Viper. The brightness of the violet light increased as he said each word until the Viper itself began to glow a Violet light in synchrony with the eye.

"Experience the WRAITH OF DEATH: EYE OF BEGINNING."

He activated the 6th step of his skillset. The Viper froze this time. Then its form began to soften and melt like wax. It lost its sharp definition until it melted into liquid energy and law fragments. The liquid formed a ball in the air that contains the law fragments that make it up. He had made the Viper revert to its basic form. The Viper couldn't stop that because it can't touch time.

The ball is still glowing the Violet light and it began to approach him. It moved closer to him then it shrunk and entered his eye. The violet light of his eye died down after swallowing his prize. His single eye then separated into its four components and became blind after the change. He is blind but he can't help but smile. Happiness is an understatement for his current emotions.

"I sure hope I met enemies like that." He muttered to himself.

That Viper is unique. It was not created by the core of the world fragment like the other monsters. Other monsters are created using laws that are derivatives of the law of order of the sage. The arena spirit performs the designs and manifests them for the competitors to fight.

But the Viper is an oddity. It was created directly by a world god. It contained pure law fragments of the false law order instead of its derivatives. He doesn't know why that happened but he definitely wants to see more of it. It is a gift that he will appreciate no matter how much of it is sent his way. He won't get tired of it at all.