

GREED 671

Chapter 671 Golems.

Those are pretty obvious problems and warrant multiple lives for the people who have a lot of feats. They will be skilled and they might want a crown. That means they have to face off against the world even if they get the crown. No matter how skilled they are, they will always be vastly outnumbered without being able to hide.

Anyone with a crown can run but they can never hide. That doesn't mean there can't be any hidden problem. So he decided to be vigilant and very careful. Salvos is already a hidden danger. If the hell bringer is not enough to make him alert, then the problems that he can't anticipate will do the trick. There's also Salvini and the people banding together to make his life very difficult in this challenge. So he has a lot to look out for.

He continued to run towards his target. The rainbow pillar is unmoving which means that no one has gotten to it yet. It is a very long distance away from him so he still has a long way to go before he gets there. The odds are someone else will reach it before he does. But he can't give up. So he ran as fast as he can. That's the only thing he can do. His feet stomped into the rocky ground as he ran. He left cracks behind as his footprint.

The first hidden problem became known as he was running toward the rainbow beacon. Someone reached the summit of a pyramid along his path and grabbed the crown on top of it. Then the person began running in his direction. Soverick wouldn't have cared about that at all. It was the crown of a king. The golden pillar that it produced indicated as much.

The crown of a king is below that of an emperor and further below that of the divine. It is beneath him and there's nothing to gain from killing the lady that acquired it. He doesn't want a crown that is of low value and will draw problems for him so he ignored the lady. His opinion of the lady changed as soon as she stepped off the pyramid completely.

The pyramid began to shake immediately after the crown left the boundary of the pyramid. Then it broke apart into individual cubic boulders. The giant boulders then morphed and turned into giant earth golems. The pyramids are made up of assembled golems.

Each golem stood at least 5 meters tall. They have different shapes and sizes but all of them are dangerous looking. He can tell that much because they all bear weapons of various kinds. Anyone carrying a weapon is dangerous. And that's just what's visibly dangerous about them.

These golems began chasing the thief that stole their crown. Their thin sturdy legs hit the ground in quick succession and gave them incredible speed that they used to give chase. The blades that they have as arms were used to kill the people that were on the pyramid before the crown was taken off the pyramid. Those sharp blades also promise painful retribution to the crown thief.

The sharp spikes jutting out of their armored body made them look fearsome. That fearsomeness is further exacerbated by their number which is in the thousands. They chased her like a tide of vengeful spirits intent on delivering retribution.

Her situation doesn't concern him so he would have gladly been on his way. It just so happened that she is running his way. The rocky ground began vibrating with increasing frequency as she ran in his direction. The golems are heavy and strong enough to make the ground shake as they stumped after her.

Soverick took one look at her and said, "She won't make it."

Her behavior irks him but he has nothing to fear. Those golems are fast. They also have ranged golems with bows for arms and mana-created arrows. The lady has to constantly dodge the projectiles or risk turning into a porcupine. It slowed her down further. The horde of golems will be able to reach her before she brings her trouble to him. It seems that his serene life will not be disturbed despite the evil wish of others to do so.

He remained alert though. She might do something stupid like throwing the crown to him to redirect the ire of the golems. He was expecting something to go wrong and something did go wrong. She jumped in his direction.

He can run away and escape. But doing so will derail him from his straight path toward the rainbow pillar in the distance and it would also give her the opportunity to do something troublesome again. He decided to end this right here and now.

He leaped into the air to meet her. He brandished his fist for a punch that will blow her to pieces. She noticed his hostility and his intentions. But she couldn't dodge him. Flight is still banned and she has

surrendered her mobility for a brief respite from the golems. Unfortunately for her, she has jumped from the frying pan into the fire.

"Please, let me go. We can work together."

She panicked and begged him as he rose to meet her. Her words didn't save her. One punch to her chest and she was pulverized.

He caved in her chest and grabbed the crown in one smooth series of movements. Then he threw the crown far away and out of his way. The golems followed the crown and left him alone. Their priority is securing the crown. He landed and continued his trip peacefully.

"Shit." He swore when he noticed that the rainbow pillar had begun to move. "I have to move at max speed."

The rainbow pillar is moving directly opposite his position. It is increasing the distance between them and he has only 24 hours to secure it. The arena is large and the pillar might be very far from him. If he intends to get it then he has to continue chasing it through thick and thin.

Chapter 672 Crown Chaser Or Score Chaser.

There is no assurance that what he is doing will be of any use or that he will be rewarded for it. That's another hidden problem. He might just run through the entire challenge with nothing to show for it all because he has his sight set on the divine crown. The only thing he can do is run and stick to running. He can also hope that the golems protecting the crown will kill the person with the crown and retrieve it for him.

The problem of the golems ended pretty well. The crown was thrown away from him and it landed very close to someone else. This person had seen what happened when the first person took the crown. The sight of the horde of golems and the arrows that sailed toward those that are close to the crown discouraged this person from grabbing the crown.

More arrows were fired toward this bystander. They barely survived the hail of sharp arrows and that's when they had chosen to run at the first sight of the crown instead of grabbing it. They would have surely died if they had decided to move closer to the crown.

One of the golems grabbed the crown. The others surrounded this particular golem and escorted it back to their original spot. Then they climbed on top of one another and became a pyramid again. The crown returned to its rightful place at the top of the pyramid as if nothing happened. Only the ones that saw everything that happened know that the pyramids are not as innocent as they look.

This kind of thing happened everywhere in the arena. It turned out that the competitors aren't the only enemies that they have to face in regard to keeping the crown. The number of golems that the pyramids create is constant for all types of crowns. But the strength, speed, defense, skill, and intelligence of the golems increase drastically the higher the rank of the crown is.

"What do we do now?" Someone asked.

A lot of competitors came out and surrounded a pyramid. They know what will happen if the crown leaves the pyramid. The only way to prevent the pyramids from transforming is to never let the crown leave the boundary of the pyramid. That means whoever has the crown will have to stay on the pyramid while enemies hound them from every side. It will make defending the crown very tedious to do.

Defending the crown on a pyramid as thousands of people rush towards you from every direction is not a one-man business. You will need a group of people to defend you against the onslaught of enemies. Even those with a faction and an army will be hard-pressed to defend a crown on a pyramid. The loss of mobility due to the restraint is critical and will make keeping the crown nearly impossible.

"How about we destroy the pyramid before taking the crown?" Someone suggested.

Another observed, "I have already tried. Whatever makes up the mountain is nearly impossible to destroy unless it becomes golems."

"Even if we could destroy it then we will not be able to get weapons." Someone else interjected.

The competitors didn't know about the golems when the challenge started. They just know that weapons can be acquired by killing monsters. It is in the guidelines that were sent to their brands. Only the last people standing during the previous challenge have weapons so everyone else needs weapons and armor. That means they need to kill the golems as they are the only monsters available in this challenge.

Besides the need for weapons, they also need high scores to qualify for the next challenge. It is obvious that getting any crown, no matter how low its value, is a pipe dream for most of them. The number of crowns cannot satisfy up to 200 out of the millions of competitors.

The rest of them have to be realistic and prioritize their scores. Killing golems will give them marks and improve their chances to qualify for the next challenge. That's the smart decision to make. It is the decision that most of them will make since there are very few who want to be disgraced and sent home disqualified.

Some competitors with feats or some others with confidence want crowns while others want a good score. All the competitors can always check their scores and position so they know how well they are doing. The need for crowns or scores classified the competitors into two major groups. They are the crown chasers and the score chasers.

The different needs and motivations of the different classes of competitors spurred cooperation. They can work together to achieve their aims. Crown chasers need defenders and defenders need scores. So the competitors began to form groups and factions. Crown chasers found score chasers to work with.

There is nothing that says that a person can't be both after scores and crowns. Anyone can do that but it is not realistic. And neither can the two be done very well. One will have to focus on one and give up the other. Take Soverick for example. He is chasing after a crown. All of his time is spent on that instead of killing people for scores.

If he becomes lucky to get a crown. Then he has to make the decision between running to keep the crown or fighting to keep the crown. Fighting to keep the crown will give him scores but it will make it easy for him to be surrounded and overwhelmed. So he might lose the crown because he chose to fight.

It is best to focus on one thing. That will provide a higher chance of success in that thing. But investing all of one's attention on a single thing means that one will get nothing if one fails at it. All of these problems can be solved if one has a group of people to rely on. Hence, the recruitment of score chasers by crown chasers.

Chapter 673 Dilemma Of The Crown Thief.

Some competitors decided to band together and eliminate the golems first. Someone will take the crown and taunt the golems with it. The rest will kill the golems and they will compete for the crown after the golems have been eliminated. They faced the first problem immediately. Who will hold the crown while they eliminate the golems?

Who will be the person to hold the crown? Can that person be trusted not to try and use the golems to eliminate the others? Can they be trusted not to run away with the crown? Who is ready to hold the crown knowing full well that they are next to be vanquished after the golems have been destroyed? Even if all these questions are answered and a solution is found, the next problem comes along quickly after that.

The person that grabbed the crown in this particular group is a lady. They were quick to find a solution because they swore oaths. Oaths are a good foundation for cooperation. You might not trust the person, but you can trust that they will fulfill their oaths as long as they don't want to harm themselves critically.

The lady picked the crown and escaped the boundary of the pyramid with it. The golems formed up and gave chase. The group began fighting the golems as soon as they transformed. That was a bad idea. The golems have low levels of intelligence but they are not stupid. They know how to prioritize well enough.

The crown is very important but it is not as important as the obstacles blocking their path to the crown. The golems understood that they need to clear the obstacles if they want to get the crown. The assailants are the obstacles so the golems turned on their assailants and began eliminating them quickly. They ignored the crown thief no matter what she did. No amount of flaunting or taunts turned their attention from destroying the obstacles.

Some groups faltered at this point. They expected the golems to be drones with a single-minded focus on regaining the crown. They were shown the errors of their ways by being quickly overwhelmed and defeated. Watching their mates being cut down easily and in large quantities made their morale plummet. So they gave up and ran away. They scattered with the golems cutting more of them down with arrows and such.

It was only after the crowd of competitors had dispersed that the golems turned their attention to the crown thief and began hounding them. Their plan to cooperate failed spectacularly because the golems are not fools.

Fortunately for other more fortunate groups, they are large in number. They were not prepared for the intelligence that the golems showed but they met the challenge with equal power nonetheless. They fought the golems and destroyed some of them. Some of them gained weapons which made fighting the golems easier. The second problem reared its ugly head soon after. They were betrayed.

The betrayal came in different forms to the different groups who were able to reach this stage. For some, it turned out that their solution was in fact wrong. The crown thief ran away with the crown. Nothing in the path said that the crown thief had to stop when running away. The oath only said that the crown thief has to give up the crown once the golems have been eliminated.

The crown thief ran away from the golems and continued to run while the others fought the golems. If the crown thief isn't here, then they wouldn't be able to ask it to give up the crown for fair competition. In such situations, the people left behind have to choose between continuing fighting or chasing after the crown. Most people actually want to continue killing the golems. They know their worth and don't think themselves worthy of having a crown.

The problem comes with the ones that believe they should have the crown. These groups of people are few in number and it shouldn't be a problem if they leave. The issue is that some of these people are smart enough to realize that even if they get the crown, they need a group to defend it from others. Or they will be submerged by enemies from every side. So these people take their group with them and break up the fighting force. Their corporation failed at this point as the golems overwhelm the rest. Then the golems began chasing after the crown thief.

In other situations, the betrayal is not from the crown thief. Most people selected to be crown thieves are weak or without allegiance to groups. It is a precaution in case the crown thieves betray the rest. They will be easy to subdue.

It easy to overwhelm weak crown thieves. It also makes it easy for the crown thief to be overwhelmed by a few people who are not part of their cooperation while the others are busy with the golems. So they were attacked by opportunists and the crown was stolen while most of them are busy with golems. Then the decision to give chase or stay put is put forth again.

Even if betrayal doesn't take place because of the cohesion, oaths, and coordination of the group, it doesn't stop another group from lying in wait. These opportunists will wait for the first group to fight the golems. Then they will pounce when they are weakened. It is a pretty common occurrence in the Arena.

Two things soon became clear as people fought against themselves and against the golems. It is that a group is needed and that a powerful being is also needed. If a crown is to be secured, there is a need for strong cooperative strength and powerful individual strength.

The perfect group must have large numbers of foot soldiers and a very powerful person as the leader. Having numbers is obvious. The more people are in your group, the more powerful it is. But that alone is not enough to secure a crown. A group needs someone very powerful to keep the crown secure.

Chapter 674 A Subtle Coercion.

A powerful person doesn't mean a skillful person or someone with a powerful divine ability, it means all those things and most importantly, it means having feats. It is that powerful person that must carry the crown. They are to command their group from afar where they are safe so that the golems don't focus on them. This person will also be very difficult to ambush and they will be able to respawn if they are killed.

A group that lacks numbers will be overwhelmed easily and a group that lacks a powerful leader can be eliminated by someone who has both powerful skills and divine abilities and can also respawn. The respawn became a cheat for those with feats. It granted them the chance to return after death and fight again. Powerful individuals with feats have no problem acquiring a crown but they need a group to maintain the possession of the crown.

The third challenge started with chaotic engagement. Everyone was fighting everyone else and they also fought the golems. People were snatching crowns from each other and running about trying to hold onto the crowns. There was violence and mayhem everywhere. But that changed quickly after the first hour. The reality of the situation and the difficulties of keeping a crown set in.

The reality of the situation is that not everyone can get a crown and most are better off prioritizing scores. The violence simmered down and people began to form groups. Then conflict slowed down. The leaders of groups had to think very carefully about who to fight and how to fight.

A group is more complicated than an individual. A group is strong but it lacks the mobility of an individual. You can't just attack someone and run away. The leader has to take into account the safety of their subordinates. The dynamics of a group created the need for structure and the efficient transmission of orders. The chain of command was then introduced.

A group needs Order to function efficiently. Order was introduced by the lieutenant system. Lieutenants are the executors of the one that bears the crown. They execute the will of their leader either through personal action or delegation. They are the second in command of the leader.

Each crown has a limited number of lieutenant slots. The lowest rank of commander has a single lieutenant slot. The number of slots is in inverse correlation with the number of crowns. Commander crowns are 100 in number and have 1 slot each as opposed to the single divine crown with 100 lieutenant slots.

The lieutenant system fostered cooperation and the formation of a hierarchy within a group. Most importantly, it allowed for the unification of two or more groups. Different groups can join hands using the lieutenant system instead of fighting. They will be able to defend the crown better.

The slots of lieutenant are used as negotiation and bargaining chips because those slots are valuable too. Lieutenants will also receive the assistance of the world in the next challenge so they are also coveted.

There are some rules that govern the use of the lieutenant system. Only those that are in possession of the crown for at least 1 hour can appoint lieutenants. Lieutenants can not be changed by the bearer of the crown once they have been appointed but all slots will be open for reappointment as long as another person gets hold of the crown for an hour.

The lieutenant system allowed large and vast armies to be created. The chaotic individual fights became structured skirmishes and engagements between armies. Many groups combined their might when their leaders come to an agreement with the crown and the lieutenant slots.

It made a single person fighting for the crown a disadvantageous endeavor. An army can kill a feat owner several times over. The total number of competitors is after all more than 4 million. There's only so much a single person can do against an array of 100,000 people.

So the crown and lieutenant system is subtly making competitors put themselves into leadership roles and enforcing the order needed for an army to work. The competitors are largely unaware of this coercion. They will just suddenly realize that whoever doesn't conform to this system of cooperation will find it difficult to either be a score or crown Chaser. This realization will then pressure them to conform.

Soverick became aware of this trend early on. He didn't ignore it because he thinks he is above it. Even he knows that he might need the help of an army for the upcoming challenges. But his job right now is to secure the crown. Someone else is already taking care of getting him manpower.

He said to himself, "It better be enough or my enemies will drown me."

The conflicts raged on all around Soverick. He ignored all the conflicts as he passed by. His eyes remained focused on the rainbow pillar. The conflicts didn't disturb him much. It helped that he is a blur most of the time so people didn't notice him at his full speed. He didn't face much opposition but his path was blocked sometimes. He can always avoid small blockages but large blockages like a horde of golems or two clashing armies can not be avoided. He has to go through them which he always did.

He would just swing his blade and create a massive arc of energy to precede him. His attack tore every obstacle apart. It didn't spare the ground either. It carved the hard rock of the ground creating a canyon. He would then pass through the deep canyon unbothered by the fight on either side of it.

Most of the fights he passed by get interrupted whenever he passes by despite his effort to ignore them. The competitors can't be blamed for scattering to the winds when a deadly attack tears through their numbers like a knife through butter. That's just common sense.

Chapter 675 An Underlying Problem.

People get scared by the unknown. They get extra scared when the unknown is very dangerous. So it is common sense for them to scatter when something unknown and dangerous kills a lot of them in the blink of an eye. They still don't relax after he is gone if they find out that it is the child of the plane that just wrought destruction among them. If he can creep up on them the first time, he can do it again.

The only time he has ever stopped is when he has to. That happened quite often. He would be running when all of a sudden, the world in front of him turns into a fiery inferno. It was always like a wall of fire suddenly appeared to block him. This wall reaches the limit of the sky and is entrenched deep into the rocky ground.

He has to stop if he doesn't want to injure himself. He would simply sign at the sight. Then he would resume running across the devastated ground after the attack is over. There is nothing that he can do about it that won't negatively affect his aim for the divine plane. Besides, this problem is not only his.

Everyone in the Arena is suffering from it too. If they care a lot about it, then they should fix it themselves. The odds are that they will fail at it.

Soverick ran and kept his eyes on the rainbow pillar throughout his dash. He kept his eyes on his prize and didn't stop for anything. He saw the rainbow pillar move back and forth as people took it and lost it. There has been a lot of activity with the divine crown but it mostly stayed in the same spot.

"The golems protecting it must be very strong. That is both good and bad." He observed to himself.

The fact that the divine crown has not moved away from its original position means that the golems have always been able to recover the crown. It is a good thing since he won't have to run around the arena like some unfortunate stalker. It is a bad thing because the golems have to be very strong for them to always recover the crown despite the activities around it. They might become a big problem for him when he goes there to get the divine crown.

He didn't let that observation stop him. It isn't pride to believe that he is the person most likely to get the divine crown. It is not because he deserves it. It is because he is the strongest. If he, as the strongest can't get the single most powerful crown guarded by the most powerful golems, then who else has the chance to get it? Maybe Salvos but Salvos will need to contend with him after that. He is probably the only one that can stop Salvos in this competition. Numbers don't matter against him.

Soverick continued on his mad dash towards what can be considered his destiny. Even the strange fluctuations that his brand is producing didn't distract him. The fluctuation is mostly harmless. It only makes people aware of his identity when he is close to others. The other function is unfavorable to him but it is ultimately harmless.

Every beacon starts to glow brighter the closer he gets is them so everyone will know when the child of the plane is coming for their crown. It is an announcement of sorts. He doesn't care about the announcement of his presence. He is inevitable. Nothing can escape him even if they know he is coming for them. He will get what he wants unless he is stopped. Running away will not save them from him.

The fluctuations he is producing can be used to track his location. So the competitors that are too far away from him know which direction he is in. Some decided to use this nifty arrangement to track him. An undercurrent has been moving beneath the conflict for crowns. Some people have issues with Soverick which they hope to hash out during this challenge. It is these people that are very interested in knowing the location of the child of the plane.

People from all over the arena began to converge on his location. He is mostly ignorant of the large mobilization. He is aware of what's going on around him but since no one can keep up with him it doesn't look like people are trying to converge on his location. The arena is massive so despite his ability to sense the things around him with the law matrix, he is not able to figure out the massive amount of people converging toward him.

But he does know to expect a combined attack soon. He knows a lot of people hate him and he has seen enough in the first challenge and the second challenge to expect it. It will probably be this challenge because everyone has been placed in the same arena. People of like minds can come together easily now. There is no barrier in the way of forming a coalition meant to put the child of the plane in his place.

He met some people on his way. They usually stop as if waiting for something. But they never notice him pass by unless they are close enough to his path to sense him with their divine sense or they are very far from his path to notice the blur. Sometimes they chase after him but he will lose them with his speed. So he didn't worry about anything. Not until he sensed a threat that put his entire being into overdrive. He has to move immediately or he will die.

It happened without any warning. There was no sign or indication of it. But his intuition blazed an alarm like never before. He felt the law matrix becoming turmoil around him. He activated WRAITH OF DEATH: WORLD BREAKER immediately. He took a step forward, his body flashed and he disappeared only for where he was to suddenly become submerged in flames.

Chapter 676 Errors And Limits.

Actually, an entire area in the shape of a cone for thousands of kilometers was converted into flames from the sky to the ground. Everything burned. It was an act of self-combustion. The world was forced to burn itself.

The attack lasted for one second before it ended. It had done cataclysmic damage during that time but the flames persisted for a while before disappearing. The ground had turned to lava because the rocky surface melted.

The pyramids are intact and undamaged but the environment has been scarred. The air has become hot furnace air and all the oxygen was consumed by the flames. This entire place has become uninhabitable and hostile to life all in the space of a few seconds.

Soverick appeared soon after. He appeared some distance away from where he disappeared. He is not unscathed. His entire body has been seared by the all-encompassing flames. He lost a layer of flesh. He survived because he escaped the worst of the flames but he is terribly injured.

His golden fur has become black and burnt. It has even disappeared in several places to show the bland flesh beneath. The white robe that the first sage gave him has burned away. He has what can be considered fourth-degree burns. It would be fatal to a mortal. But he will survive it easily despite the aggressive nature of the attack.

His burns want to spread all over his body. They want to burn and burn until there is nothing left to burn. But he is much too strong to be troubled by the residual effects of an attack after he survived the main effect. He willed it and he began to heal.

The danger is not completely over. He has to protect the sole of his feet with momentum so that the lava on the ground won't do more damage to him. In fact, the entire shield of momentum on his body is being strained to protect him from the heat that can melt metal. He looked around with a scowl as his injuries healed.

He muttered angrily. "He is not even here and he still damaged me. That boy has become more than a nuisance."

Staying in the law matrix didn't protect him from the attack. It only made him take control of his essence and actively resist the flames. Salvos isn't here and he wasn't aiming at Soverick. Soverick and everyone within Salvos's range of attack are just bystanders. And yet, he almost died. As for the others, they surely died.

Salvos' attack is actually rooted in the world of concepts in the law matrix. The attack manifests in the world of manifestation as hell on earth. It is an unavoidable, undodgeable, and unblockable attack. No matter what you do, you will be hit by it. You can survive it though. But that's if you're strong enough. Those that aren't strong enough will turn into flames and die.

"Come what may. I'll show that guy who is the boss." He promised vengeance. "I beat him before. I can do it again."

Soverick shook himself free after healing. His golden fur became shinier than ever. Then he continued his journey toward his objective. If there's someone who can use the fluctuations of his brand to harm him badly, that person is Salvos. Salvos has the best chance of killing him singlehandedly. It will be a tough fight if they fight but he has a good chance of winning.

Transcendents have conditional immortality. They can easily convert Origin energy into health, stamina, and power. It is like they are an engine that consumes Origin energy. They might as well be golems with Origin energy as their core. They can reinforce their defense and increase their strength with Origin energy.

The major problem that transcendents face is that there is a limit to how much they can do. Like any engine, the soul body has a power output limit and efficiency. That limit is why they are still killable. The limit is not imposed on them by the world. It is an intrinsic value based on their existence.

Even the universe has its own limit. Everything you do changes the world. Simply existing changes the world. The universe can accommodate these changes up to a limit before entropy and chaos become too much for it. It is then that the universe ends.

Any system has a limit on how much change it can accommodate before it loses structural integrity. The soul body is like that too. Your existence has fused with your consciousness so any changes to you affect your consciousness. You can morph your body and rapidly heal due to this fusion but changing your existence too much will cause your consciousness to crash.

Your body is fused to your mind so your identity, personality, and concentration are affected by the changes to your body. The mind can break once you reach the limit of its malleability by changing the body too much. Healing becomes easy but pain can reduce your concentration and fighting prowess because your consciousness is not whole until it has also fully healed.

This weakness of existence is exploited using laws. Your consciousness is forced to change by injecting the laws of the world into your body through attacks. You gain a certain amount of control when you comprehend laws. You can use that control to attack someone from the law matrix. The errors in their existence need to be purged and corrected before the injury can be healed.

The presence of errors within their existence slows down the healing of transcendents and pushes their existence to the limit of what they can do. They become weaker and weaker. Their existence will then break once they have reached the limit of their tolerance to errors. That's how laws are used to kill transcendents.

Salvos is terrifying because everything within his sight starts to be overwritten with the law of fire from the law matrix. He injects a large amount of the error of fire into everything he sees both living and inanimate. He practically drowns everything in the error of fire. This quickly overwhelms the limit of everything.

Chapter 677 Common Sense Is Uncommon With Them.

The world is a complex mix of concepts and concepts are made of blends of laws. These then manifest as the physical world that we see. A person is made of several concepts of life, matter, energy, and soul. Salvos's attack makes the law of fire overwhelm the other laws and throws everything out of balance.

But it is worse than that. He doesn't just create random errors, he infuses everything else with fire so that even if you survive his attack, the damage of the law of fire will still be lingering in your body. And fire wants to spread as long as it has been started. So even if you survive being dunked in a lake of fire, the lake of fire will continue to be with you.

Only those that can actively defend their essence from manipulation can resist him such as titans of laws with their body of laws. None of the competitors are titans of law. Which makes Salvos a very terrifying force. Soverick can admit to that. But Salvos is not unbeatable because everyone has a weakness. Every system has a limit to the amount of changes it can undergo so Salvos must have a limit.

If Soverick can admit that he has a weakness then everyone else has a weakness. Even world gods have weaknesses. World gods are terrifying but they are also terrified of Chaos entities. Chaos entities have been designed to capitalize on the weakness of world gods. Ironical enough, the strength of world gods is also their weakness. It is just that others can't use it against them but Chaos entities were made to be world enders. They destroy realm trees and can infiltrate the world of world gods.

If World gods have weaknesses, so does Salvos. You just have to be able to survive his attack for a very long time before you can get the chance to use it. That's if you can even find his weakness. If not, then it will all be a waste to endure having your existence pumped full of the law of fire.

Again, it depends on the person. If you can't use the weakness then it is not a weakness. It might even be their strength as seen in the case of world gods. If the child of the plane can't exploit Salvos's weakness, then it is unlikely for Salvos to be defeated by anyone in this challenge. Then they are all done for. He has to defeat Salvos for the good of all battle sage monkeys.

Soverick ran and ran moving ever closer to the beacon. He doesn't know what he might meet there so he feels a little anxious. Salvini's message is the major cause of his anxiety. He can't trust her so he has to keep his mind sharp and his blade ready.

The closer he got to the rainbow beacon the brighter it shined. Then it began to pulse as if to herald his coming. Whoever is holding it has to know by now that he is very close. He turned around a pyramid to the location of the crown and he saw the current bearer of the crown. He couldn't help but frown.

He expected a group or an army arrayed before him ready to thwart his objective of acquiring the crown. But he is only partially right. There is a group here not an army. They are very few in number and it just happened to be the worst group to antagonize him.

They are currently fighting the golems of the pyramid but they tossed the crown to the golems when they saw him. The golems were appeased as soon as they received the crown. They retreated and formed back into a pyramid. The dead golems were healed by the arena and put back into place to make the pyramid whole again. As for his enemies, they came together to form a squad as they watched him. It is obvious that he is their objective, not the crown. They were waiting here for him.

He smiled despite their enmity. He couldn't help but ask them. "When did those of the bloodline of the Lion of Justice begin to use their common sense? I know it is common and all but I thought you lot were allergic to common sense."

It is Jarkon. He brought members of his family to fight him this time around. They have the characteristic golden fur with a mane around their necks. They are also equipped with weapons and armor. It is not the barrier armor but it will protect them from being instantly killed by one of his attacks. They even have two shields.

They are a small squad of 5 but they are terrifyingly effective. Their divine ability makes them very potent against both people and golems. They have had success against other competitors and they can surely take a crown for themselves if they try really hard. Numbers don't work on them after all. But they aren't satisfied with that. They have a much greater goal.

His question is warranted seeing as they came to oppose him in a group. He wouldn't have been surprised had Jarkon come to attack him again and alone. Common sense has never been their strong suit. It is not an insult but a verified fact that anyone else can observe to be true.

One of the common sense and basic survival instincts that they lack is self-preservation. They always throw their heads into dangerous matter that doesn't concern them all because of justice. They will also continue to pursue that ideal regardless of the danger to their life. So he is surprised that they chose to fight him together instead of coming at him separately like a bunch of idiot. Common sense is not common with them.

Jarkon didn't answer him. He looked away from Soverick. The guy seemed to be sulking about something. It might have something to do with his previous defeat.

Chapter 678 Confidence In A Rushed Plan.

It was someone else in their group that answered him.

A large female spoke. She towered above the others and is also in front of their group. So she might be their leader.

She said with a sneer, "Unworthy child of the plane. Do not mind our presence. Just go ahead and take the crown. It is what you came here for after all."

She chose to ignore the question because he is right. They didn't become a group on purpose. They were just lucky enough to be deployed close to the divine crown. They all thought of the same thing. They might be able to track him but they also know where he is headed. They know that he will surely come for the divine crown. So they switched things up and decided to come here where they met each other.

It was a coincidence that they met each other. It happened because they all think alike. They became happy at seeing each other because their plan is more likely to succeed together instead of alone. Members of their family get stronger the more there are in a single location hunting a single target.

They used their powers to kill the golems and equip themselves. They have also been able to rebuff any riff-raff that tried to claim the divine crown. One use of their divine ability and people with common sense who were lucky to survive always run for their life. The rest were unlucky to survive their divine ability.

Several groups came to take the crown too but they all failed. The 5 of them would always return the crown to the golems any time they are about to be overwhelmed by numbers. Then they will use their divine ability to fight back and eliminate the group.

Now they are going to do the same thing. Soverick will have to take the crown from the pyramid himself while they will try to hamper and sabotage his efforts.

He asked them. "Why don't I just kill you first?"

Soverick gleaned their plan as soon as he saw them return the crown. He expected them to throw themselves at him headless of caution. Their planning surprised him. He didn't expect them to plan at all. He thought they would just throw themselves at him. Still, their plan is full of holes. He can just get rid of them first.

"You're welcome to try." The lady that answered said to him with confidence.

They are ready for him. He has to fight them or they will interfere with his efforts to get the crown. It will be more difficult for him to acquire the crown while fending him off. Even if he does acquire the crown, then they will always be able to track his location with the beacon. That means he has no choice but to try and get rid of them now.

They know what he will do since he is smart and they are ready for it. It might not be the best plan but it is the only one they have against him. If they can't beat him in a 1 vs 5 fight then they can't beat him at all. There are only five of them in this competition. So unless they get allies to help them, this is all they've got.

Jarkon sighed as he readied his spear. He thought to himself. 'This is stupid. We could have gotten allies if we weren't so picky with the people that came here.'

He hates this plan. He thinks it is stupid. They can do better but they have been in a rush just making things up as they go without proper planning. The major obstacle to proper planning for them is their one-track mind. For example, they can choose to run away and harass Soverick as he gets the crown instead of forcing him to fight them immediately. That will be more efficient but it also means that Soverick can choose to escape which they can't have. So they have to confront him right here and now.

They also didn't need to confront him alone. Some people came here earlier with the proposal to join forces against Soverick. It was a good idea but the 5 of them refused because they would have to leave the crown and join up with the others in this coalition. The gathering point of this coalition is farther away from here and they only plan to attack Soverick when they have a large enough army.

They refused because leaving the crown means that they won't be able to fight Soverick as soon as possible. The people that came with the proposal tried to convince them but that ended when two of them were attacked by all 5 of them. It turns out that the ones that brought the proposal had bad Karma. The 5 of them can't go out of their way to hunt others with bad karma since Soverick is their current target but that changes when the people with bad karma come to them.

What else are they supposed to do? Are they to ignore the glaring bad karma and be patient and work with this large army that they are creating to take out the greater evil that is Soverick Ghastorix? No. They have to be short-sighted and quick-tempered and they have to attack Soverick with their small number. Jarkon thinks this plan is stupid but here he is, a semi-willing participant in the stupid plan.

Jarkon was lamenting inwardly about his circumstances when his eyes narrowed all of a sudden. He braced himself for battle.

Then he swore inwardly, 'Shit. Here we go again.'

Soverick has disappeared from his vision again. It is uncanny how there are no signs of it going to happen. He will be standing one moment totally carefree and talking. Then he will be gone the next. There is no shift in his posture at all. You will literally blink and you will never be able to open your eyes again because a blade has gone through your head. You won't see how you died much less when he moved.

Chapter 679 Luck Or Not.

Soverick's speed and the way he moves are mind-boggling because it is something one should see if flying were not banned and they can use their mind to levitate. But that is not the case here. Everyone needs to move their body to move. Except it seems that Soverick is already moving without any changes in his posture.

They were not caught off guard by the sudden development. They were ready for him.

Soverick is too fast for their eyes to track. You have to keep your eyes constantly open and focused on Soverick. But even that won't help you. Thankfully, they expected this because of the information that Jarkon gave them about their last fight.

He was about to reach them but he stopped all of a sudden. The lady in front of the squad of 5 had activated her divine ability. She was hoping to catch him within the range of the destruction wave but he stopped just at the edge of the field of destruction.

There was a flash of bright golden light. Then an invisible wave of destruction was expelled from her body. It destroyed the ground that she is standing and everything for 100 meters. It also obliterated everything within that range except for her 4 other companions with the same bloodline as hers. All five of them are levitating just above the smooth crater that she has formed while Soverick is at the edge of the crater looking at them with a smirk.

"Nice try." He said to them.

They didn't say anything in reply. He wasn't caught in the trap but they weren't disappointed. The other 4 used the opportunity when he stopped to try and corner him. They dashed forward using the empowerment of the wave of destruction to approach him from the sides even as the destructive wave rampaged about hoping to corner him.

This exchange happened in less than a second. Soverick seemed to have been suddenly catapulted forward only to hit an invisible wall that protected him from entering a zone of death. He had moved from his top speed to zero almost instantaneously. It also happened to have occurred at the very edge of the range of her divine ability.

It proves their suspicion that he can somehow tell when they are about to activate their divine ability and he can also predict the range. Jarkon told them so but they didn't believe it. They didn't believe it either when he said Soverick copied his divine ability.

They didn't believe it but they were hoping that Soverick will try the same thing now. He will find out that 5 of them using their divine ability against his 1 will be an unfortunate match-up. Unfortunately, he didn't do that either. He was either lucky which is good for them. Or he could tell that it was a bad idea. Which is terrible for them.

They are prepared for him either way. Jarkon's loss was not a waste. They are hoping to corner Soverick now with the information they gained at Jarkon's expense. The bloodline of the lion of justice will be glorified through them.

Their divine ability doesn't harm them and the members of their bloodline. Instead, the power of the wave is amplified. It resonates with their bloodline and is amplified. Every member of their bloodline that is within the range of their divine ability acts as an amplifier and a new focus. So it spreads farther than normal and is stronger too.

The destructive wave should have a single source which is the person that activated their divine ability. It will then extend from that source and die down when it reaches its maximum range but each one of them can reflect the wave and act as another source to further extend the range of a single use of their divine ability. This will allow them to maximize the use of a single destructive wave to make it seem like 5 of them used it at the same time and after one after the other simultaneously.

They use their numbers to maximize their divine ability so if they manage to surround Soverick then he won't be able to escape them. The wave will ping around each one of them and box him in. So while Soverick stopped at the edge of the first wave, the other four moved closer to him to catch him off guard.

They had to stop to defend themselves when he swung his blade several times at them. Thin and fast translucent blades shot at them. If not for the way the air warped with their passage, they wouldn't be noticed until they enter the range of a divine sense.

The 5 justice seekers stopped and prepared to defend themselves. Their courage returned when the translucent blades entered the divine ability and were ground down by the destructive wave still around them. Their divine ability could protect them from his attacks as they thought.

They stepped forth again to corner him. But unfortunately, the wave had died down leaving a crater around them. Soverick stood at the edge of the crater and smiled at them. It was a bright and radiant smile. For the first time, they noticed that Soverick was actually handsome.

They didn't notice that fact about him before because his face was always frozen cold and his eyes were always looking down on people. But now, he looks terribly handsome. His smile animated his perfect face and his twinkling golden eyes are mesmerizing. That just made them angry.

Then he said, "I've got you now."

They got even angrier. The fact that he is handsome didn't change the dangerous situation that they are in and his white teeth did not ease the tension they felt. He is still a liar, a cheat, and a killer. Most importantly, he is still trying to kill them. The threat to someone's life has a way of keeping them focused. And in this case, they are more focused than ever before.

Chapter 680 One Down.

Soverick made the next move. He began running around the group and bombarding them with attacks. Fast and thin translucent blades rained down on them from above in every direction. The 5 of them are within the crater so the attacks seem to be coming at them from above and from every direction.

It is as if a rain of death is falling upon them. But they are not afraid. Another one of them used their divine ability to protect them. Light flashed and a wave of destruction was expelled. No physical or magical attack can harm them when the destructive wave is active.

This becomes even more so when there are five of them close to each other. The duration and power of the wave of destruction are amplified. The translucent blades become too weak to be a threat to them after weathering the power of their divine ability. They were able to push forward towards him but Soverick kept producing more attacks.

The second divine ability expanded the crater because of their attempt to get closer to him. He has to run a longer distance around them now but that didn't deter him. He continued to harass them with his attacks.

One of them said to the others. "This is bad. He is boxing us in."

It was then that they realized their problem. Soverick was boxing them in. It looked like they are slowly pushing him back but they are being prevented from doing more. They can do more if they are allowed to spread out between the intervals of using their divine ability unfortunately for them, Soverick is pressuring them with his attacks at every moment. They don't have any moment of reprieve.

They can't rest at all. They either have to defend themselves against him the natural way with their own power or use their divine ability. They can't continue to use their divine ability because it is too energy consuming and it weakens them. With the situation of things, they will run out of power soon and then they will have to face his attacks on their own while also weakened.

They can also scatter. He can't stop all of them from getting away but getting separated is a bad idea. It will render the advantage of their numbers useless and he will be able to pick them off one by one. Increasing the distance between themselves will increase their range for a while but they won't be able to defend each other from him until they become too separated to amplify each other.

They can't see him because he is a blur around them but they can hear his haunting voice. "Have you realized it now? I told you that I have got you."

They ignored him and made up their minds quickly. They decided to stop using their divine ability for a while despite the fact that they hope he will simulate it as he did with Jarkon.

It is a good idea. It is common sense to stop using their divine ability right now and prevent Soverick from pushing them to their doom. But no sooner had they stopped that someone was sent flying. You can't expose any weakness to Soverick or you will regret it. That is also common sense.

They stopped using their destructive wave so the translucent blades came through unhindered. They used their weapons and shields to block the attacks. There was the sound of weapons clashing as they defended themselves. His attacks were deceptively strong so they were pushed back as they defended. Each one of them had their issue to deal with so they didn't notice that Soverick had sent a lot more attacks toward one of them. He didn't attack them equally.

Before, he was harassing them, keeping them on their toes by attacking them from every direction. He still did the same now but he swung his blade several more times in a second in the direction of one of them. There was no difference in his speed or the frequency of attacks of the others so they didn't notice that he gave someone special attention until it was too late.

While the others received 3 attacks and had to do all they could to defend themselves, only for them to be pushed back, one of them had to block 10 attacks alone. She tried to defend herself with her shield but she was quickly overpowered by the strength of the attacks. She lost an arm and part of her legs to the attacks. She was also sent flying out of their squad formation like a rag doll.

Soverick anticipated it. He was waiting for it and he was ready when it happened. He appeared like a phantom behind her back as she was flying out of the crater. She was dazed so she couldn't react when he attacked her. He swung his blade and cut through her body from shoulder to hip. She was wearing armor but it did nothing to protect her from physical contact with his powerful blade.

The world power-infused blade cut and kept cutting. There was no resistance whatsoever. It came in contact with her shoulder, traveled through her body, and finally exited through her hip. Her mind and body were split apart. She opened her mouth to scream only for her to black out. Her body was ripped apart by the world power that has invaded her existence. She was hurriedly saved by her brand from taking further damage so she disappeared before she exploded into gore.

"Noooooooo!" One of the remaining 4 screamed.

The rest of them had just seen one of them get killed. It made them angry and furious but they can't lose sight of what's important. They have been weakened by the loss so they held back despite the fury within them to rush at Soverick and butcher him. Their self-control threatened to slip when they heard his casual remark.

He said, "One down, four more to go."