

GREED 681

Chapter 681 Not Lucky.

He believes that victory is already his and he spoke as if the outcome of their fight cannot be changed. He has been saying so and nothing has happened to indicate otherwise. He said he has got them. Then one of them dies early into the fight. At this rate, they will be defeated. It incensed them and threatened to overwhelm them. Their golden fur began to shine and vibrate. It was releasing a low humming sound into the air.

If there is something apart from crimes that make those of the lion of justice bitter, it is seeing the wicked strive and prosper. It is their life's mission to cut down the wicked and it seems they will fail here. Even worse, they know that their failure is because they are not capable enough. They are too weak to put the child of the plane in his place.

They also know If they are to cut the child of the plane down, it will not be by strength since they are lacking in that aspect. So their bloodline sought to empower them more. Unfortunately, wishes are not horses. Wishing for something doesn't make it true. Soverick is still stronger than them even after the boost in power.

Soverick resumed harrying them. Attacks came at them from every direction. They had to use their divine ability to protect themselves. Otherwise, another one of them will be separated from the herd and promptly culled.

The fight continued with Soverick pressuring them. One misstep and they will lose their life. So they remained focused. They had to be. However, it also wasn't enough. Despite their resolve to see justice served and their willingness to do anything to achieve it, they got tired. One of them faltered while trying to activate their divine ability. It left them vulnerable to his attacks for a moment and another one of them was sent flying.

Soverick activated WRAITH OF DEATH: DANCE OF THE SPECTRAL WIND instead of attacking directly. His attacks were transported through the law matrix onto the separated person. They were attacked from all around and torn to shreds. Their armor and body suffered the same fate. Their body disappeared but the armor remained because it doesn't have a brand. The pitiful state of the armor is an indication of what they were spared from.

"Damn you Soverick Ghastorix." The remaining 3 roared bitterly at the top of their lungs.

Soverick smirked at them. "You thought you could fool me. You failed."

It turns out that he wasn't lucky earlier when he stopped at the very edge of the divine ability. That's why they failed to trick him now.

The person that faltered didn't really falter. It just looks like it. They were hoping that will fool him but apparently, it didn't.

The person failed to activate the divine ability intentionally. Soverick saw didn't know that at first so he simply took advantage of the opening. He selected one of them and separated them. The shoddy performance of the person he selected in defending themselves clued him in that something was up.

That person defended well enough to protect themselves from harm while also making sure to be propelled outside. That made things obvious to him. You can't eat your cake and have it. You can't defend yourself well and also act incapacitated without cluing him into the fact that there is a scheme afoot.

They had communicated amongst themselves to bait him. So they were all eager to be separated. If he had capitalized on the separation by moving close to the person to cut them down as he did to the first victim, then he would have received a prepared divine ability to his face and the others would have used that opportunity to try and surround him. That is if he doesn't die outright from the blow.

Their plan failed because they can't fool him. He saw that the person that was sent flying wasn't injured. His eyes saw through the armor down to their body. He also saw the activation of the law fragments within the bloodline in their body. Fragments of light and destruction were being infused with Origin energy and loading up on power.

It was as clear as day to him. So he knows that the person is not in fact dazed and vulnerable. They are just pretending to be so while secretly activating their divine ability. That's how he was able to stop in time when the first lady tried to trap him with her divine ability. The future is a mystery to him, and the past might be fuzzy, but the present is ever clear to him.

He also knows that each use of their divine ability weakens them. The law fragments in their bloodline that activate their divine ability is not a complete concept. Using a higher law like destruction is having its toll on them. He just has to keep the pressure on them and they will cave in.

He exposed his nice teeth with a charming smile and said to them, "Two down, three more to go.

The remaining three changed their plan. They stayed together but they began moving about to prevent him from using that strange unseen attack on them. He didn't bother to waste DANCE OF THE SPECTRA WIND on them. Any strong attack that he uses on them will be nullified by their divine ability so it is more efficient to use up their divine ability with simple but dangerous attacks. Then he will take advantage of any vulnerability that they show.

He resumed harrying them knowing that they will fall soon enough. They have been fighting for less than 5 minutes but they are already weakened. The constant activation of their divine ability has left them weakened. Their spirit is worn out. The range and duration of the destructive wave have also reduced now that they are three. Their defeat is only a matter of time whether they believe it or not.

Chapter 682 A Second Chance.

They don't need him to tell them how bad things are but he did. He is considerate that way.

"Can you feel it?" He asked them.

"I can. I can feel it. It is in the air. I can smell the dank odor of defeat and also taste the sweet taste of victory."

His voice settled down into their minds like an anchor. And like an anchor, it weighed them down. They became heavier emotionally and mentally. They can't hold on anymore after being pressured constantly. One of them failed to activate their divine ability so they were unprotected.

He swooped in like a shark. He bared his sharp teeth at them and took a large bite out of them. His blade flashed several times in a second. They faced a barrage meant for 5 as a consequence of that mistake. The 3 fell at once. They can't defend against his barrage of attacks after becoming weakened so they were shredded.

"Five down and none left." He remarked at the devastated ruins of their battle.

There are several large and smooth craters everywhere with several thin cuts on the surface of the ground. The rocky ground has been smashed, ground into dust, torn, and stripped to create a scene of destruction.

Most of the damage is not his fault. He didn't do much damage to the environment compared to them. His attacks were sharp and targeted. He ripped grooves into the ground to create the thin cuts but their divine ability demolished the ground with craters everywhere.

He would be hard-pressed to survive a full-on blast of their destructive wave. Despite their formidable divine ability, they lost because they couldn't bring it to bear against him. His eyes see more than others do so he can counter abilities and plans even before they are executed. It is another situation in which information trumps raw power. They were ignorant. So they became enemies to be toyed with.

He turned his back on the ruins of their battle and began making his way to the pyramid. The fight has ended and it is time to reap the benefit of his hard work. The rainbow pillar shined brightly on top of the pyramid. He looked at it with a smile as it thrummed audibly.

Something happened behind him. The three that he killed last were respawned. One of them has 3 feats while the others have 2 feats so they have an extra chance.

Respawning is a tricky business. You can't know who can respawn and even if you do, it won't be helpful because there is no strict rule that determines when someone that dies must respawn.

If you die, you can't respawn immediately. You have to wait for at least a minute. You will be in an ethereal form on the battlefield for that period of time.

You will be aware of what's going on around you but you won't be noticed or be able to interact with the world. Once one minute is up, you can choose to respawn or not. You can decide to wait for an hour before you respawn. It is up to you.

Some use this opportunity to catch people unaware. For example, you can wait for when they have let their guard down and turn their backs to you. Then respawn to deliver the coup d'etat grace on them.

How do you know when they have let down their guard? If they say something like "five down and none left" then it is an indication that they have let down their guard.

The 3 of them were respawned with renewed vigor. Their armor is in tatters and it is laid at their feet. It didn't disappear with them when they were saved by their brand so they will have to pick them up and equip them again if they want to use them. They didn't bother with them anyway. They have been given another opportunity and it is one that they can use to catch their target unprepared. They couldn't be bothered with weapons or armor. Their divine ability is more than enough for them.

"We separate now and nail him from every direction at once. He won't be able to escape us. I'll take the center. You take the left and you take the right." Their appointed leader informed the other two.

The others nodded in agreement. It is a good plan. They will corner him and nail him from every direction with their divine ability. They can't use their previous plan because it has been proven that it won't work. Their number has also been reduced for their previous plan to be effective. They have only one chance now and they intend to make good use of it.

If only wishes were horses, then even justice nutjobs can ride. They wish to kill Soverick Ghastorix. It is clearly a wish because they are not putting in the necessary work needed to bring it to pass. It is also a stupid and unrealistic wish. What will their attempt change even if they succeed in killing him once? He has more feats than them so he can always come back. Are they hoping to kill him again and again? What will they use to achieve it?

They are clearly just wishing for his death and downfall. It is simply wishful thinking. Thankfully, reality has a way of drowning dreamers. Their wish was not fulfilled. In fact, they didn't get to move before they died again.

Soverick "somehow," noticed them despite being out of divine range. He attacked them as soon as all 3 of them respawned without turning back. They prepared to defend themselves only for translucent blades to tear into them from every direction again. They didn't have armor and they were caught unawares by the attack. They died quickly.

They yelled at him before they were killed. "You have not seen the last of us. You haven't seen the end of justice. "

"We may have failed but the world will move to punish you. Others will do what we couldn't do."

"Retribution for your crimes and sins is coming to you soon. You will regret what you did."

Chapter 683 Let Them Come!

They swore and cursed at him. He didn't pay any attention to what they are saying. They are ignorant fools warning him about the trouble coming his way. He doesn't need their help. He is more than capable enough to notice the upcoming challenge. He simply shrugged after killing them. Then he resumed his attempt to secure the crown. He is sure that none of them will respawn behind him this time around.

Unfortunately for this sorry 3, Soverick knew the number of feats they had so he knows that they can respawn. In fact, he made sure that they will respawn together by eliminating the other two who didn't have feats first so that he can eliminate them all at once again. It was not a coincidence that the 3 of them that could respawn were killed the last.

Jarkon was one of the useless two. He came chasing after Soverick and had all of his feats taken. It is a wonder that the others even have enough feats for respawning since they are such busybodies that prioritize chasing bad people over doing well in the competition.

They respawned after he has gone some distance away from them so his divine sense can't sense them. It is a good plan but he sees with more than his divine sense. In a twist, they were the ones to be caught unawares.

He soon reached the pyramid. It is a very tall and large neatly constructed structure. It would take a long time to climb it. So he bent his legs down and he jumped. He jumped up and reached the 1,000 meters height of the top of the pyramid. Then he landed beside the divine crown.

His feet struck the stone used to make the pyramid with a large force but it didn't crack. The ground he jumped off from has been cratered. That's what should happen when a great force beyond the limit of a material is applied to it. The stone of the pyramid on the other hand can handle the impact of his fall. His eyes examined the pyramid before he shifted his attention to the divine crown.

The divine crown is a crystal crown. It is transparent and it refracts light into various colors which makes it look like a circlet carved out of a precious gem. He bent down and picked it up. The beacon of the divine crown began thrumming stronger as soon as he touched it. It also started creating a visible wave of multicolored light that spread out from the beacon in every direction.

"What a snitch." He said then he sat down. "What I have to do now is defend it."

If anyone doesn't know that the child of the plane is very close to the divine crown, now they must know that he has acquired it. The crown is announcing that the child of the plane has laid its hands on it so that those that don't want exactly that to happen will hurry on over to take the crown from him.

Even now, people have started to surround him. They stayed far away from him but a ring of people has been formed. That ring is getting thicker and thicker by the moment as more people join it. They are not here to congratulate him. There are some that will actually like to congratulate him but they are in the minority. Most of the people that have formed a ring around the pyramid are here to have a piece of him.

"This isn't going to be easy. But nothing good is easy to acquire. Then again, I am not so easy to beat." He said to himself.

He looked at the enemies that have come to besiege him. His eyes hardened in determination. Then he said confidently, "They want to bring me down. Let them come."

He looked to the west where his major adversary is coming from. "They don't think I should be the best. Let them come."

He looked to the north where the foolish are coming together to beat him with numbers. He smirked and said, "They want to drown me. Let them come."

Then his eyes found Salvini in the arena. She turned to look at him despite the great distance between them. A savage smile appeared on his face. His eyes glinted sharply. He said again. "Let them come."

Let them come. He is ready for whatever they will throw at him. He might die. But he will never be disgraced.

He is surrounded on all sides by enemies. He should run. That is a good idea. Staying in a single location without moving will make him a good target. But he decided not to run. They will come to him. And he will put them in their place. Or at least show that if he can be taken down, it will not be easy.

His decision to stay is not solely because of pride. If his life is in real danger, then he will consider running. In fact, he will already be running if he is outmatched and outnumbered. Fortunately, his life is not in any real danger. He will resurrect if he dies. So he will give it his all.

But he is staying for three major reasons. The first reason is his image. Running denotes weakness and the weak are hunted. He managed to kill the 5 stubborn muscle heads that held up the pyramid so his enemies are currently afraid of him. They will stay away from him for now until they have the confidence of overwhelming him.

If he runs now, the table will turn. All these people will think he is afraid of them and will give chase. With his position constantly broadcasted, they will try to box him in and they will succeed in it. He is not afraid of them so he won't run. He will sit here and make an example of whoever is foolish enough to oppose him.

Chapter 684 The Enemy From The West.

This is a very important moment for him. A lot of people are watching this currently. Whatever he does will define his image for a very long time. If he is to rally people behind his banner when the era of conquest comes, then he can't show any weakness. It will not do for the child of the plane to be seen running for his life.

The second reason he is not running is the golems. The pyramid will turn into golems once he leaves the boundary with the crown. He saw them fight before the justice nutjobs returned the crown to them and he has to admit that they are very powerful. Their defense is ridiculously strong. A powerful attack is needed to deal any damage to them. The justice nutjobs were able to kill the golems and earn good weapons from them due to their powerful divine ability.

Then there is the speed and power of the golems. He can surely handle them if given time but he doesn't have time or leisure. He is currently surrounded by vultures and opportunists. No one has come forth to challenge him yet because of his reputation. They all heard the announcements of his feats so they know what a tough nut he is. Word of his battles has also spread to some extent so people are wary of him. That will change when he is preoccupied with golems.

They understand that he is an unstoppable force of nature. But he won't remain unstoppable when he is busy with golems. At the least, he will become less unstoppable. All they have to do is make him slip up or make a mistake, then an arrow can nail him or a blade can cut him. If they attack him enough, the golems will do their work for them unless he gives up the crown. So it will be like what the justice nutjobs failed to do but on a grander scale.

He doesn't want to give up the crown because to give up the crown is to give up the initiative. Anything can happen to the crown as long as it is not within his hands and he won't entertain that possibility. He also doesn't want to fight golems and be besieged by people from all sides so he will sit on the pyramid and wait. The one that gets the crown is the one that has it when the competition ends not the person who kills the most or holds the crown for the longest. So he will wait.

The third reason why he won't run is currently on its way. It is a compelling reason to stay here on a pyramid with the crown in his hands. Everyone in the competition knows that he has the crown now so the ones that were late to the position of the crown or those that have issues with him will come to him.

Selecting a battlefield is important to achieving victory. He knows himself and he knows his enemy. He intends to take advantage of the information he has about his enemy at his current location. So he will wait and let his enemy come to him.

Meanwhile, more and more people arrived to join the circle of observers around the pyramid. He continued to wait unflustered as people arrived. Then all of a sudden he moved. He activated WORLD BREAKER and he disappeared leaving the crown behind. The world turned into an ocean of fire immediately after he moved. Hell suddenly descended on the pyramid and its vicinities.

The world was baptized in flames for a second before the attack ended. Soverick reappeared on top of the pyramid to find that almost half of the ring of the multitude of people around him have disappeared. A patch of smoking lava ground has replaced where they used to stay. Behind them, some distance away is the first enemy that he is waiting for. This enemy came from the west bearing death and fire.

Soverick assessed his situation calmly. His body is damaged a little from the attack but he survived. Most of his strength is conserved and he is ready to fight. He stood at the top of the pyramid calmly as he healed while Salvos came matching to him.

Salvos, the hell bringer, the herald of fire. He has white fur like those of the bloodline of the sages. He doesn't have the bloodline of the first sage but that of another sage. That has not weakened him though. He is the strongest of the three current generations of sages for a reason.

Evolution causes changes but only favorable changes that provide strength and improve chances of survival are transmitted from one generation to the other because the weak are eliminated.

If the Origin ancestor of Salvos's bloodline was weak, he wouldn't have become an origin god in the first place and his descendants wouldn't have survived. The ability to increase the concentration of the law of fire in everything is a strong ability. The sage that is the Origin ancestor of Salvos made it his concept. Now Salvos is privileged to wield such a powerful divine ability without working for it.

Salvos matched towards Soverick with utter confidence. He didn't walk in an imposing manner. That is for those with something to prove. He doesn't have anything to prove. His dignity is innate and the world is beneath him. Everything bows to his flames so why should he be concerned about them or their opinion? They will eventually succumb to his flames so they might as well be dead men walking.

He didn't spare the multitude of people around him a glance. His closed eyes remain focused on the top of the pyramid where most of his attention is. The only one who is worthy of his attention is on the pyramid. The remaining people are but chaff to him. He killed half of them now without even trying. That's about 150,000 thousand people in less than a second.

Chapter 685 A Case Of Loser-Blindness.

They stepped back in fear of him. Some of them turn around and escaped for their lives. He watched them go without feeling any joy or pride for the fear that show for him. They are weak dregs. Their opinion doesn't matter at all whether it is positive or negative. They are to be discarded or fed to lowly beasts.

It is not pride to feel the way he feels about them. It is but the nature of the world. Those people are simply not worthy of being graced with his attention. It is a fact that no one will want to look at or eat chaff when there is something better to look at and feast their eyes on. So Salvos ignored the retreating weaklings and focused on Soverick.

He frowned a little when he noticed that Soverick is still alive. Not only is he alive, but he is also rather unharmed. It made him displeased and also rather pleased. He is displeased because he had wanted to take out the child of the plane with an ambush attack but he failed. Soverick suffering serious injuries from the attack would have also been good enough. Unfortunately, his attack amounted to nothing.

The people that died are just mere insignificant dregs. They are like the ants that one kills as one walks. He doesn't bother with them just like one wouldn't bother with the ants. So he is not happy that he managed to kill tens of thousands of them. But he is somewhat pleased that Soverick didn't die with just a single attack. It proves that Soverick is truly different from the riff raffs and he is worthy of his attention.

Salvos isn't wearing his blindfold anymore. His eyes are closed and ready to be opened at a moment's notice. He approached the pyramid with the caution that a fellow apex predator deserves. He is not going to take any chances with the child of the plane. He is confident of victory but that doesn't mean he will underestimate the child of the plane. That's why he tried to ambush his target.

He clapped his hands as he moved closer. He can still see with his eyes despite them being closed. It is how he knows that Soverick survived that inescapable attack with only some injuries which are already healing. He has to admit that he is impressed. So he clapped to show how impressed he is.

"It seems you haven't changed. You are as strong as ever. You're even stronger. You have also become a sage." He said to the child of the plane.

He can recognize the robe that Soverick is wearing despite it being in tatters.

Soverick jumped down from the pyramid with the crown in his hands. His two feet stumped the ground when he landed. He allowed the force of his descent to disperse into the ground. It created an explosion of the ground. Stone and rock were ejected around like shrapnel.

He walked out of the crater that he created. Then he squinted as if he has difficulty seeing. He even placed his hand above his eyes to help him see better.

Then he said, "Salvos, is that you? I almost couldn't recognize you. It's no fault of yours of course. I just find it difficult to notice those that I have defeated before."

Soverick paused. Then he wondered aloud. "Maybe it is your fault. If you hadn't lost last time, maybe I would have recognized you easily. It is a shame really. So how about we agree that is both our fault that I can't recognize a loser?"

Salvos didn't get angry. He can't get angry. He is like a walking torch carrying a flame. The torch doesn't get angry. It just feeds the flame silently and does its job. In this case, Salvos's job is to see the world in flames. So he didn't get angry because of the jab.

It is his life's mission to impose his sight on the world, not the other way around. The world doesn't influence him so Soverick's mocking won't get to him. His emotions remained cool and tempered like steel forged within the fires of the abyss itself. But Soverick is right though. He did lose to the child of the plane the last time they fought.

Not a lot of people were impressed when Soverick became the child of the plane. The opportunity to become the child of the plane was given to only vitality core stage refiners. Mana entities and above couldn't enter the divine dungeon. There were a lot of people who believed him to be lucky.

They were not there to witness the events that preceded the formation of the army and his fight to help the battle sage monkeys get a foothold within the divine dungeon. They thought his achievement was undeserved despite the tales that vitality core stage refiners that witnessed the events told.

They didn't trust the reports of the other vitality core stage refiners not because they thought they were lying, but because they thought they might have exaggerated things. Vitality core stage refiners are mostly blind. They can't see mana as mana entities do and they can't see laws like transcendents do. So how are those that can see better believe the blind?

Salvos and his siblings were one of those people. They wanted to see what is so great about him. They wanted to test his worth so they challenged the child of the plane. Theirs was just one of the many challenges made to the child of the plane. Soverick didn't pay attention to the numerous challenges that came his way and he wouldn't have paid attention to the three of them if they were not the current generation of sages.

Soverick was genuinely interested in them so he entertained their challenge. All three of them lost to him and they lost spectacularly. It was a victory by a landslide. They were old accomplished mana entities and they couldn't beat a new mana entity. That knocked some sense into their heads.

Chapter 686 Drowning In An Ocean Of Fire.

Salvos replied to Soverick confidently, "That was in the past. Things have changed. I have changed and I will defeat you today."

He has no shame. Besides, things have changed. Soverick was a beginner mana entity back then while he and his siblings were about to become transcendents. Now they are transcendents while Soverick is a king of law. Things have changed since then.

Their divine abilities have increased in power after awakening further. Salvos has only ever tasted defeat once and that was to Soverick. He will wipe out that blemish by defeating Soverick now and taking the crown for himself.

Soverick spread his hand wide and said, "Is that so? If you've not noticed. I survived your attack."

Salvos spoke as he walked closer to the pyramid. "I noticed. But that only means you require a longer attack for you to be defeated. It is something I can do. Today, I will defeat a sage."

Not only is Soverick the child of the plane, he is also a sage. That is double titles that bring double honor and glory. It also means the one that defeats Soverick will get to be honored too. He will be that one today. He is not a sage or the child of the plane, but he will make do with the title of the one that defeated both.

He stopped 10km away from the pyramid. This is where he plans to attack Soverick from. While others are suppressed to a range of 100m and their best have a range of 120m, his range of attack can reach 12km. He knows that the child of the plane is strong and fast so he won't tempt fate by getting close to him. So he will stay here 10km away where he is safe and he will bombard Soverick from afar.

Soverick sneered at him. "Why don't you give it your best shot then."

"I will," Salvos replied curtly. "Don't die too soon."

Then Soverick waited for the attack. If his heart could beat then it will be thundering in his chest because of nervousness and if he still has hormones then his bloodstream will be flooded with adrenaline right now. He doesn't have a heart so he remained calm and stoic.

But under his layer of calm is the coiled impetus for violence. He doesn't need adrenaline for him to be more than prepared for fight or flight. He is always ready to output 100% of his abilities and more when he needs. He is a perfect engine of destruction ready to be unleashed.

The perfect control of transcendental is a peculiar thing. It is a result of the fusion of the mind and body. He doesn't need to be nervous for his body to be ready for peak performance even though he has a lot to be nervous about. Salvos is not an easy opponent. Any opponent that can harm him is not easy at all.

Soverick has won all of his fights without his enemies being able to harm him in the slightest. They hardly even touch him much less harm him. Salvos on the other hand is more than capable of killing him. If it will be damaging to his image for him to be chased around by people, then it will be cataclysmic to his image for him to be bested in combat by a single person. He is confident though because he has a plan. He just has to wait.

His patience was soon rewarded. He felt it before Salvos attacked. Then he saw it as soon as Salvos attacked. A massive spring of fire erupted from Salvos within the law matrix. The spring of fire ejected an ocean's worth of fire into the world. The ocean of fire flowed out of him to drown everything else.

Salvos looks like a volcano within his vision. He doesn't need his intuition to tell him that he is in danger. He can see it coming even before it was created so he sprung into action immediately. He was gone into the law matrix before Salvos opened his eyes. The world turned into flames soon after.

Soverick reappeared in less than a second on the slopes of the pyramid in the opposite direction that the attack came from. Even with his anticipation and speed, he was still struck by that attack. His fur is slightly burned but not by much.

The major problem is that the burn wants to propagate itself and spread further into his body. He can handle and purge it. It would have been worse had he not seen that the attack was coming. It would have also been bad had he remained in the law matrix. He would have more to deal with than some stray effects.

He purged the errant law of fire from his body quickly while the pyramid protected him from the rest of the attack. Then he waited for his opportunity.

He can see fire all around him. The left and right side of the pyramid is currently submerged in flames. The flames reach the sky from the ground. The fate of whoever is in the flames can not be pleasurable. An ocean of water can drown someone. The pressure can even crush them to paste. So an ocean of fire is an overkill. It is just cruel.

The attack lasted more than a second. Soverick smiled as the clock ticked by. The world was wrung and twisted into producing flames against its wishes. It made him smile the more it went on.

Salvos extended the duration of the attack to make sure that Soverick will die. It has been proven that the child of the plane is a tough cookie that needs more than a second of exposure to his attack for him to be killed. He wants to make sure he gets Soverick this time. It will not do for him to fail at killing the child of the plane again especially since he has a direct line of sight to Soverick this time.

Chapter 687 Concept Of Immutability.

Soverick began to accumulate power as he waited. World power and momentum fused with his being. His existence engorged on power to its brim. Golden cracks appeared on his body. He gripped his blade tighter in preparation to strike. He waited some more for the opportunity.

The attack lasted a whole 10 seconds. Soverick felt it as the insidious infection of the law matrix receded. The world relaxed as if to breathe a sigh of relief. That's when he struck.

He activated WRAITH OF DEATH: WORLD BREAKER fully this time. He took a step forward instead of submerging himself into the law matrix immediately. His being split into two. Then he split again as he took another step. Then the four mirages he has become fused and submerged into the law matrix.

He saw his target as soon as he entered the law matrix. Salvos is a sphere of fire in this world of concepts. He is not an active volcano anymore This sphere of fire is large and brimming with barely contained power. But it won't be able to eject fire into the world for the time being.

There are several other concepts around Soverick. The closest one is the concept of immutability that covers the pyramid he is standing on. This concept of immutability protected the pyramid and also served as a shield for him.

It is a rule that the pyramids cannot be damaged before they turn into golems. Soverick counted on it or else he would have been roasted by that 10 seconds attack. It is not a coincidence at all. He chose this battlefield for this exact reason.

Now that he has survived the attack, it is time for him to strike back. It is time for a counterattack. He locked onto the large sphere of fire. It has dimmed. It is an indication that Salvos cannot use his ability soon. Then Soverick shot forward.

Salvos used a 10 seconds attack. It is the first time in a long time that he used that. He usually used a second or two at most. He has never needed more because those that survived a one-second attack usually succumb to their wounds. Even kings of law can be killed by a two-second attack. All it needs is a single touch of his flames for their existence to be infiltrated by flames which will cause their consciousness to become crippled. They won't be able to resist at all with a crippled consciousness.

He had to use a ten-second attack now despite the short period of weakness just to be sure of defeating the child of the plane. It is practically overkill but he isn't willing to underestimate the child of the plane at all. It shouldn't be a problem. He will be ready to go before Soverick respawns.

His eyes dimmed and closed when he was done. It was then he realized that he couldn't see the child of the plane anymore. He smiled for the first time in a long while. He had to. It is a momentous occasion to have defeated the child of the plane. "Looks like I'll be the divine..."

He didn't get to finish that statement before he blacked out. Four unseen attacks struck him. It was like his existence was punctured by 4 spikes. Like a balloon impaled by 4 nails, he burst into pieces. That would have been the end of him if not for the brand on his body. The brand removed him from the arena as soon as possible preventing him from sustaining more damage. Then it infused him with restorative energy to help rebuild his body.

His body healed in less than a second but he wasn't paying attention to it. His consciousness awakened still confused and stunned. People don't just die for no reason. So there must be a reason why he died.

"Maybe someone snuck up on me." He reasoned to himself. "No that's impossible. I would have noticed an ambush with my divine sense."

He was still wondering what had happened to him for him to become an apparition. His new existence as an apparition allowed him to witness the scene of the child of the plane popping up beside where he died. He realized that Soverick is still alive and it must have something to do with his death.

He cocked his head in confusion. "What happened? I thought I killed him."

He can't see when he uses his attack. His eyes become blinded by the radiance of fire. It is a perfect reflection of what is going on in the world. He can only hope that what he is looking at dies before he closes his eyes. It has never been a problem before. Everyone that he opens his eyes to always disappears. So he thought he had killed the child of the plane when he didn't see Soverick standing in front of the pyramid anymore.

He realized what he did wrong soon after. "The pyramid. I see."

He had rampaged throughout the arena without a care in the world. Golems and people fell to him without much effort. One thing that he noticed was that the pyramid didn't get destroyed. He knows that the pyramids can't be destroyed before they turned into golems but it has never mattered because whoever he looks at disappears.

Somehow Soverick had survived contact with his flames and managed to get behind the pyramid to use it to block the rest of his attacks. Then Soverick somehow crossed the distance of 10 kilometers in a second or so and managed to kill him without him knowing about it.

"But how?" He asked himself.

He can't figure out Soverick did it. The pyramid is very large. So Soverick had to move a large distance to hide behind it. Soverick wouldn't be able to do that while enduring his divine ability. The only possible explanation is that Soverick managed to evade his divine ability.

Then he shook his head. "It seems my divine ability attack is not unblockable as I once thought." He wondered to himself.

Chapter 688 I Can See You.

Salvos hadn't thought the pyramids significant since no one has ever used them when he targets them. For one, he won't be attacking someone behind a pyramid since he can't see them. Whoever he attacks never survives it because his attack is nearly instantaneous.

A single touch of his attack will infect their existence, slow down their mind and concentration further making them susceptible to the rest of his attack. He had thought anyone he attacked was doomed. It seems he was wrong about that just as he was wrong about his attack being unavoidable.

Soverick's eyes locked on to him while he waited.

"Didn't expect that did you?" Soverick asked smugly.

"I'll just respawn and we'll go again," Salvos replied indignantly.

He was the last man standing in his arena too and he has many feats. He can afford a death and more so he hasn't given up yet. Their fight isn't over till none of them can respawn.

Soverick said again. "I'll just have to kill you again."

Salvos shot back, "Not if I kill you first."

"You can't kill me when I am this close to you. You're doomed."

Salvos was about to retort when he realized something odd. He is communicating with Soverick. He shouldn't be communicating with Soverick or anybody. He is an apparition right now. He can see and hear the world but he can't interact with the world in any way and those on the other side can't interact with him. Soverick shouldn't even be able to see him much less communicate with him.

·c0m Gears shifted in his head quickly. Realization dawned on him. Then he looked at Soverick again. He saw the smug look on the child of the plane and he had to reassess Soverick again.

"What is your divine ability?" He asked curiously.

"I can see you." That is what Soverick said.

Salvos felt fear as those four eyes focused on him. They are actually staring directly at him. Soverick isn't just looking at a random spot as he thought. He won't back down because of fear though. His face grew cold and his eye narrowed. His eyes blazed into life as soon as 10 seconds passed after his last attack. He became ready to fight again.

He said with confidence, "We will just have to see if I am really doomed or not."

His voice contained an emotion for the first time since they started talking. He thought the outcome of their fight is set in stone. He would attack and Soverick would die. After all, no matter how special Soverick is, he can't survive a 10-second attack.

He was right about that but the fight didn't go his way. Soverick avoided the majority of the 10-second attack by using the environment. It is not fair to him and he feels cheated. He wanted to beat Soverick so badly but he has been cheated out of his victory.

Soverick nodded and waited for him to respawn. Salvos respawned a minute after his death. He respawned less than a meter away from Soverick. His eyes were already opened before he was respawned so the world turned into flames as soon as he returned to it.

He died immediately after so the flames died down and the world returned to peace again. Soverick was ready too. He didn't have to activate the wraith of the world with them being this close. One swift swing of his blade decapitated the hell-bringer. The pain of the law of fire burning him didn't hinder him in any way.

Salvos was saved from further damage by becoming an apparition again. He has to admit that he is doomed as long as Soverick stays close to him. Soverick was damaged by that attack. The full brunt of the attack fell on him for a split second. He can see the child of the plane healing the burns both internal and external without flinching.

Soverick has shrunk into a burnt and black husk of his previous self. So he managed to damage Soverick but Soverick endured the pain and beheaded him. His only hope is to respawn faster than Soverick can heal.

Unfortunately for him, 1 minute is more than enough time for Soverick to heal. Soverick can see him and Soverick can speak to him. It also seems that Soverick can determine exactly when he decides to respawn. As long as Soverick stays close to him, he will always be able to decapitate him again and again. So yes, he is doomed.

Soverick asked with a grin that showed all his teeth, "What do you think?"

He has Salvos checkmated. Salvos has numerous weaknesses when compared to him but the most important two are what Soverick used to beat him. The first weakness is not really a weakness but more of a trait. It is that Salvos' attack is not instantaneous. His eyes induce the invocation of the law of fire in the things he sees at the speed of light and the changes occur starting with the things close to him first and then it spreads out.

The speed of light is very fast but the problem here is that his attack takes time to induce the law of fire. Objects close to Salvos must change first before the object farther away does. So there's a slight delay between the changes. The speed of light is very fast so this delay is not noticeable in short distances.

Whatever he sees doesn't just go up in flames, the effect spreads outward from him at a speed much slower than the speed of light. So while the attack reaches everything almost instantaneously, its effect is delayed. Heavier and more durable objects with more complex concepts take more time to be compelled. But in the short term, the delay is too short to be noticeable.

So he decided to focus on the delay in the effect of his attack and the only thing that can give him enough delay are the pyramids.

Chapter 689 The Situation Fits.

The concept of immutability on the pyramids prevents them from being changed by any attack including Salvos's powerful divine ability. This stall in the process increases the delay time for the divine ability indefinitely and will thus protect whatever is behind them.

Soverick just has to be able to anticipate when the attack will come so that he won't be overwhelmed by the divine ability. That is something easy for him to do. He can literally see the attack brewing before it is activated. So he was able to run and hide in time.

The second weakness that Salvos has is that he must rest his eyes for every second that his eyes are open. He can't keep his ability constantly activated. His eyes need to cool down after each use creating a window of opportunity for him to be approached.

The problem is that the range of his attack is very large and people can't survive long exposure to the gaze of his attack. So Soverick needed enough time to close in on him. 3 seconds would have been more than enough.

If his plan hadn't worked then Soverick would have had to use his power as the child of the plane to survive the divine attack and get close to Salvos. Salvos will be done for as long as he gets close enough to him. He is faster and stronger. Salvos couldn't defend the blade strike because it cut him as soon as he respawned. There's no escaping for the hell-bringer now.

Salvos knows that but he replied. "Anything can still happen. I just have to be patient."

He refused to admit defeat. Yes, he is doomed right now. But that's as long as Soverick is next to him. Anything can happen to change that. One such thing is the struggle for the ownership of the divine crown. It is currently in Soverick's hands. Anyone can come up anytime to challenge him for it. And by the looks of things, that is highly likely to happen.

Soverick has a lot of enemies after all. In fact, he is literally surrounded by them. So Soverick will have to make a decision between staying here and fending off those that want the divine crown. Salvos believes that he just has to be patient and he will get his due.

Soverick nodded as he had expected that answer. "It doesn't matter what will happen. The truth is that I killed you twice in a row already. Even if I am distracted in the future, anything you achieve will be with the aid of someone else. It is undisputed that you can't beat me on your own."

Salvos shot back. "And neither can you. You used the pyramid against me."

"I used the environment. It is not cheating. It is outsmarting the enemy" Soverick corrected.

Salvos didn't back down. "That's just semantics. I will also wait for an opportunity to come from the environment."

He should have defeated Soverick if not for the initial advantage that Soverick gained by using the pyramid. So he will also wait for an advantage offered to him by the environment. He has never relied on the environment before but if Soverick can use external objects to his advantage so can he.

Soverick sighed and rubbed his face with his hand. "Alright. I hope this works out. Salvini said you owe her. She said I should tell you that the password is X1av7-ujk3+l9ei"

Salvos was stunned. "Really?" He asked in surprise.

"Really."

"How can I be sure you're not lying? For all I know, you might have used your eyes to help you determine the secret." He asked skeptically.

Soverick shrugged. "She said to tell you that the situation fits

Salvos thought about it. He thought very hard about the competition but he didn't find anything odd about it. So he said to Soverick, "Fine then. You win. I'll leave you to it."

He had to admit that the secret code is valid. The security question also convinced him. If he had sensed anything odd about the competition then he would have refused to accept the code or defeat. It will mean that Soverick got the code somewhere else not from Salvini. But the code is valid since he can't figure out anything odd about the competition. He can trust Salvini to be more perceptive than him in determining if the situation is serious or not, odd or not. So he will back down for now. It is because "the situation fits."

As descendants of sages, they have different codes for various scenarios. It is something like a private language between them but of a higher significance. The three of them aren't ordinary people.

They might not look like much but they are the current rulers of the empire of sages. They have advisers but the point is that they hold important positions in the plane and there might come a time when their actions and decisions will have a large consequence on the fate of the Virut plane. This moment is one of them.

In a way, Soverick has invoked a truce by using one of their codes. Salvos is to stand down for a greater purpose. He doesn't know what that purpose is since he can't see the future as Salvini can but he still decided to accept defeat because Soverick actually defeated him and he is currently doomed. Dragging the fight will waste time and power that will be better used if there is a greater purpose at play here.

If he had won their fight, he wouldn't have backed down at all. He will continue until Soverick is finished. But for now, he will back down and pick up their fight another time.

"Swear it." Soverick insisted.

Salvos made the Oath, "I swear it on my Origin that I will not attack you or antagonize you intentionally for the rest of this challenge if you do not attack me or antagonize me for the rest of this challenge."

Chapter 690 The Warning.

Salvos didn't go back on his word. His eyes remained closed after he respawned. He snorted and turned away from Soverick. He felt disrespected that Soverick wouldn't relax even after he swore an oath. Swearing on your Origin is the harshest and strictest oath that you can swear. It is unbreakable. Breaking the oath will lead to the breaking of your Origin.

It is so severe that Origin gods will die immediately and never resurrect if they break that kind of oath. Yet Soverick is still looking at him with calm wariness. He can see it in the child of the plane's posture that he can attack at the drop of a hat.

He didn't say anything though. He promised not to antagonize Soverick so he will leave calmly with as much self-respect as a defeated man can muster. At least, now he can say that their fight had not officially ended and his defeat is not set in stone.

Soverick watched him go while still on alert. He is ready to move as soon as something suspicious happens. What he was afraid of happened. Salvos turned to him so he bolted forward. They were still close enough for a physical attack so he used his superior speed to reach him. He braced himself against the torrent of fire that Salvos's eyes produce but it didn't come. His blade stopped at Salvos's neck when he saw the smirk on his face.

"Don't test me," Soverick growled at the smirking idiot. "Or you might just regret it."

He was very close to beheading Salvos. If not for the absence of that glow in his eyes or the telltale signs of the activation of the divine ability, he wouldn't have stopped at all.

Salvos grinned. "Just wanted to see how quick you are."

Then his face grew serious. He said to Soverick. "It seems you are working hand in hand with Salvini. Note that I said "It seems you are" and not "You are". It is because everything is not what it seems with Salvini. The only thing that is certain with Salvini is that she will do what's best for the plane and what is best for her, not what's best for you. So you should watch your back."

Soverick withdrew his blade. "Thanks."

"You're welcome. I have lived enough with her to know that she can sacrifice anyone to achieve her aim. You are not above that. I wouldn't want my rival to suffer ridicule now. Only I should ridicule you."

Then he waved goodbye before leaving. Soverick also returned to his pyramid. He did a lot of thinking along the way.

He is suspicious of Salvini but he has to admit that he is grateful for Salvini's tip. It prevented the worst of a full-blown clash between him and Salvos. A clash between them without external aid is sure to lead to his victory but he will have to use powers and abilities that he would prefer to keep hidden.

Salvini's tip saved him from going all out on Salvos and wasting some of his respawn chances. Salvos is the only one that can kill him. Even if he brings everything he has to bear, there is still a chance of death because Salvos' attack cannot be dodged. You have to survive it. If he were not so suppressed then

things might be different but he is. The two of them can't be fighting when there's a third enemy. So it is smart to avoid wasting his time and powers on Salvini.

It is not that he suspects a third enemy who might take advantage of their fight. He knows with full certainty that there's a third enemy who intends to take advantage of any weakness that he displays and he also knows who the person is. The person has not been in his arena previously but that has changed now that everyone is in the same arena.

He knows that they are planning something big for him. He saw traces of it around the arena and around the justice nutjobs. Someone is recruiting people en masse to deal with him so he is grateful that his fight with Salvos ended without too much trouble. He just doesn't trust Salvini yet. Even her brother said he shouldn't trust her.

He knows his enemy and he knows their aim but he doesn't know why Salvini is helping him or what her aim is. He saw what Salvini did and how she defeated Litori and the others so he knows that it is folly to trust Salvini. It doesn't help that his enemy is very similar to Salvini. They are both scheming female battle sages.

It is also suspicious that Salvini told him not to go and hunt his enemies. She claims that going after the hidden enemy to disrupt their plan will be time-consuming and distract him from securing the divine crown. The reason she gave is correct and sounds reasonable.

It seems like she is really helping him since her message has been useful so far. But he will wait until she makes do with the rest of her promise before he dares to make up his mind about her. For now, he will wait for the inevitable clash.

Several situations flashed in his mind about the upcoming events. It might just turn out that he has been played all along and that it would have been better for him to go all out to destroy Salvos right now. Salvos is terrifying on his own. He and Salvini working together is a threat that can surely end him.

Salvos is stubborn and innately proud. He came to fight Soverick and failed. Soverick might just have convinced him to work together with Salvini with the code he gave. After all, he doesn't know what the code means. Salvini didn't tell him what it means in her message. He can't even trust her if she told him the meaning.

"I hope I won't regret this." He thought to himself.

