

GREED 721

Chapter 721 Winning From Failure.

He is not going to try and win the competition just because of his greediness. There's another reason why he should win. The sage gave him the carrot in the form of more requests. That is tempting, surely. But there's also the implied stick.

The offer of more requests is tempting because the favor of a world god is precious. It is a must-have. That means that the anger of one is very precious too. But it is something to be avoided at all costs. It is doubly so when that world god is effectively in control of the plane you reside in.

Back To The Sage.

The sage continued watching the proceedings of the competition as if nothing happened. He thought about the change of prospects, and he couldn't help but smile. He knew that Soverick could get access to the core before the end of the competition. He could have doubled down on that possibility to prevent it, knowing that he might fail, or he could prepare for it and sought to benefit from it instead.

He chose to prepare for it and benefit from it. Time has shown that he made the right decision. He didn't need that confirmation to know it was the right decision. He is always prepared for his failure, so it is common sense to win from his failure too. To prepare for something and not take advantage of it is just foolishness. And he is definitely not foolish.

That is one of the reasons why he allowed the serpentine world god to tamper with the rank 10 monster in Soverick's arena. The first sage believed that Soverick would see the true value within the monster. The first sage was right. Soverick saw it, and in his greed, he sought to make it his own.

Then Soverick went ahead to make the law of order his own because of the first Sage's subtle encouragement during their second meeting. Now he has gained access to the cores and their information. It is not allowed, but it is also not against the rules. The debut release happened at N0v3IBiin.

It is not against the rules because the serpentine world god didn't anticipate that something like that was possible at all. He did not think that a king of law under the suppression of the world fragment could in any way threaten the integrity of the cores of the world fragments, much less break past their defense and gain access to them. The first sage anticipated it, and he is gaining the benefit of that anticipation now.

Gaining access to the core is like gaining administration privileges within an organization or within a world. The two world gods created the world and set instructions for the game played within it. They set the rules. Then they stood back and watched. Everything went well until someone broke into a core. Someone gaining administration privileges is very bad and should be prevented. But it is not such a bad thing if that person is on his side. I think you should take a look at

The first sage could have lost everything if Soverick had decided not to win the competition. That's why it was important to convince Soverick to win the competition. Soverick could already do a lot with just control of the law matrix. He will be able to do more now that he has control of a core. The sage made sure he would use his privilege to the best of his abilities to win the competition.

'I have to admit that he is competent.' The sage said. Then he shook his head and said, 'But I don't want someone that I can't work with to be the child of the plane.'

The sage thought of what will happen at the end of the competition, and he couldn't help but pity Soverick. He is a picky person with a very high standard. He is a world god, after all. It will take a lot just to draw his attention, but he has to admit that Soverick is one of a kind.

He really respects Soverick, and he thinks highly of him. If he didn't think well of Soverick, then he wouldn't have allowed him to become the child of the plane at all. But that doesn't mean that he cannot work towards Soverick's death. Admiration and murder are not mutually exclusive. Soverick is great and all, but he will be discarded for who the sage believes is a better candidate.

Being a world god means that they usually consider things in the long term. By the long term, it means millions of years. Being a sage with the ability to see the future means he has more foresight than most world gods. World gods don't care for little things that will be dead by the time they wake up from a nap. He does, and he makes those little things align with the business of the future that he desires.

Things change rapidly for world gods, and if they don't expect you to still be around when they come out after getting busy with their inner world, then you don't matter. It is why world gods only listen to origin

gods and those with the potential to become one. They also only respect the opinions of Origin gods that have the potential to become world gods.

The sage can say with uttermost certainty that Soverick has the potential to become a world god. That potential is more than enough for him to be respected. It is just a pity that he became the child of the plane. His fate is intertwined with the plane's too much. Soverick may be disregarded by the racial council for being young, but the truth is that he is very important to the success of the plane during the era of conquest.

The first sage cares a lot about the performance of the plane during the era of conquest, so he cannot watch on without meddling in the plane. That includes meddling with the life of the current child of the plane.

Chapter 722 Cheating First Sage.

The first Sage needs someone with whom he can work hand in hand to improve the plane. Preferably someone that knows his will without him speaking about it. Someone that cares deeply about the plane and doesn't need to be baited or bribed to do something for the good of the plane. Someone that can be completely trusted. Soverick is not any of those things.

Soverick became the child of the plane because he had a use, and he can be removed when they consider him no longer useful. It is not because he is a bad child of the plane. No, it is the fact that there could be a better alternative. Soverick is on the path to becoming a world god, while Salvini doesn't have a definite path to that level of power yet. But Salvini can make that path possible. That's the difference between the two of them.

The Sage is particularly impressed with how Soverick controlled the overflow of power when he summoned assistance from the plane. It was his first time, but he got control of it perfectly. The Sage didn't have that kind of control when he was the child of the plane. He had to train it to get it. It was difficult, but he managed to do it because he could achieve anything as long as it is possible. That's the innate advantage that foresight grants you, which Soverick doesn't have.

Soverick is great and all. He is strong, and he is talented. But power means nothing if you can be bossed around. He has been pulled along the Sage's scheme like a mule. He is a pawn. He may be a very valuable pawn, but he is a pawn nonetheless. He could have asked for three requests from the Sage, and he would have gotten them if he insisted. He is that valuable, but he didn't know his worth, so he was taken for granted.

Soverick could have gotten four requests if he played his cards right, but he settled for 2. That wouldn't have happened to Salvini. She may not be able to predict the outcome of her words during a negotiation with a world god, but she can predict her emotions and reactions to what the world god would say if she said some things. That would have helped her to make the best of the situation. If something is possible at all, then Salvini can achieve it. Meanwhile, Soverick doesn't know what's possible and what isn't. It is a shame, really.

Besides that, the first Sage wouldn't have needed to convince her or bribe her with much since it is for the good of the plane. She can be trusted to always put the plane first. Soverick, on the other hand, put his self-interest and self-preservation first.

He can't be faulted for it since everyone does it, but it becomes a flaw when there is someone else who wouldn't have done it. It gets worse when he doesn't take full advantage of the situation despite putting himself at risk.

Soverick can't make the best of the situation, so he will be replaced. It is not done out of hate for Soverick or love for Salvini. It is done for the good of the plane. They don't need to kill him to do it, thanks to the Sage's ingenious plan, but it is best if they do so. It will make the person that his title is grafted to be in complete control of the title.

The first Sage remained calm as he thought about his plans. He didn't show any indication that he had a meeting with Soverick, and there's no way for his co-administrator to tell. The serpentine world god did find out that Soverick gained access to a core though. It is an event that cannot be hidden.

"Look at that. Your so-called champion finally succeeded in breaching the core of an arena." The serpentine world god grumbled to the first Sage. I think you should take a look at

"I see." The Sage responded without enthusiasm.

"That's all you're going to say? Someone from your side just breached one of the cores of the arena, and all you have to say is I see."

"What can I say? That I am sorry that my champion is so brilliant? That I am sorry that none of your paragons are talented enough to do the same? Or that I am not showing enough happiness at cheating you? Which do you want?" He spoke with the same bored countenance.

It is not the reaction that the serpentine world god wants. For one, it is not a reaction that someone that is sorry would show. Then there are those insulting questions. It made him angrier than he already was, but the Sage continued to fan his flames of anger.

The Sage said, "You know what? Maybe I shouldn't apologize for that first one. Soverick is one of a kind, after all. It is not your fault that none of the billions of Vipers in your plane are this talented. It is a shame, really. I mean for you. It is a shame for you. It is my luck to have someone as talented as Soverick on my side. As for you, it is a shame."

The serpentine world god couldn't take it anymore. "Bullshit. What luck? You obviously exposed him to your law before the competition. How else would he have cracked the law matrix? He was overly familiar with it right from the start."

The Sage shrugged. "Maybe he has been exposed to it. What would it have changed had you also exposed your law of order to one of your race that is a king of law?"

That made the world god pause. He knows the answer to that question, and it made him shut up. A king of law that is exposed to the law of order of a world god will have their existence overwritten. That is another way to say that they will die and cease to exist.

Chapter 723 The Indignance Of Prey.

To be exposed to a false law of order is both a good thing and a bad thing. It depends on whether you can handle it or not. Kings of law surely cannot handle it. First, they will be enlightened when they see the Secrets and truths that the law of order represents. Then their minds will expand as it tries to fit the enormity of what they are seeing into their mind.

Infinity is a known concept, but it is only a concept. It is not a reality. Visualizing infinity is an act beyond weak beings. There's a limit to the size of numbers that their mind can grasp accurately before it begins to blur. 1000 is larger than 100 and 1,000,000,000,000,000 is much larger than 1,000,000,000,000. That much is sure. But at some point, the large numbers don't make much of a difference. They are all large.

To see the law of order of a world god is to try and visualize the infinite. Weaker beings think that the universe is infinite. It is not infinite. It is just expanding faster than their mind can keep up with. So there is always more to see when they try to quantify the size of the void universe. They can't even quantify how large it is in the past, much less how large it is in the present.

To weaker beings, the void universe is effectively infinite. It doesn't really matter to them if the void universe is infinite or not. Their lives are not changed by that information. It makes no difference to their peace of mind if the void Universe is infinite or not. That changes when their mind is forced to expand way beyond its limit for them to visualize and comprehend how large the universe is.

World gods are not as large as infinity, and their law of order is not infinite, but it is still very large, and unlike infinity that can't be made manifest, their law of order exists. Trying to stuff it into the mind of a king of law is sure to make their minds explode. The information will overload their minds and stretch their consciousness until they explode mentally and physically.

Even titans of law are not safe from it. They have a budding concept, so they can resist somewhat, but they will not be able to help themselves from trying to comprehend the ultimate concept. Their incomplete concept will be overridden as they go mad. Sovereigns of law will be able to resist the impulse to look at the supreme law, but that means that they can't comprehend it at all.

The threat of a broken mind is just the minimum. They won't be left alone with their broken minds and bodies. Their broken existence will be forcefully commandeered by the law of order, and then it will begin to rewrite their existence in its image. After all, it managed to rewrite a corner of the void universe into a world. It will be easy work to overwrite a broken entity that is not offering any kind of resistance.

In summary, the person that witnesses his law of order will become a mindless or raving lunatic with mutations that have warped their existence. That won't be of any use to him in the competition.

So no, it wouldn't have helped the serpentine world god if he had exposed someone to his law of order so that they would be able to crack the law matrix of their arena. That is a very dangerous idea bordering on stupidity. He wouldn't subject anyone to be exposed to his law unless he wanted to kill that person.

That, in turn, begs another question. How come Soverick is not some raving hideous mutated lunatic? How come Soverick is capable of looking not only at one law of order but at two laws of order? That question occupied the serpentine world god's attention and smoldered his anger. I think you should take a look at

He noticed that Soverick's soul was very powerful for a king of law. His soul can match even Sovereigns of law, but he doesn't have a concept to protect him at all, so it is still strange that the laws of order haven't had any visible effect on him yet. Soverick ought to be a horrible-looking thing warped by the laws of order. He should look like an entity with many tentacles, limbs, or many eyes and not the well-composed person he is seeing.

It is honestly extraordinary that someone like Soverick exists, but that doesn't help his situation. He would have marveled if he were a spectator and not someone who has a lot to lose by Soverick being special. His grievances with the Sage are still there, and his feeling of being cheated hasn't gone just because Soverick is capable of extraordinary things.

So he managed to grumble despite feeling slightly impressed with Soverick. He said to the first Sage, "You're more of a snake than I am."

"Why, thank you." The Sage replied with a cheerful smile.

The Sage replied with more display of emotion than he had expressed since their conversation started combined. He knows that the serpentine world meant it is a derogative remark, but he chooses to take it as a compliment. He is a snake, and they are all tiny mice running for their lives, trying to hide from him.

He chooses to believe that he is a predator while the serpentine world god is expressing the indignance of a prey. Unfortunately, the indignance of prey is worth nothing in this world. Predators won't even get indigestion from the indignance of their prey.

'I haven't lost yet.' The serpentine world god told himself.

He chose to encourage himself instead of indulging his urge to attack the first Sage. They made a pact not to attack each other or make any move against the other side during the competition. That means he cannot kill Soverick despite how easy and indirect it will be. He also cannot attack anyone in the Virut plane for the duration of the competition.

Chapter 724 Target Soverick Instead.

Attacking the first Sage wouldn't end well anyway. The two of them have fought before, and it was a draw. The serpentine world knows that the two of them were holding back during that fight. He had thought he had the upper hand though. But now he is not so sure. The Sage might have been playing him then so that he wouldn't look like a threat.

'Now I am second-guessing myself. Fuck that snake.'

He turned his eyes to the first Sage as the anger boiled within him. Recent events have shown that everything is not as it seems. He can't be sure about anything until it has been confirmed. Even then, it might have an ulterior purpose. It is making him unsure of himself, and he hates that. He is very angry at the Sage because of it. He would like to fight the Sage to the death here and now just to be sure of who is stronger between the two of them. He would like to know for sure whose world is larger and whose Will is more powerful.

He is a world god, and he has never heard of a king of law capable of looking upon the law of order of a world god. So it can not be a coincidence that such a being just happens to exist when there is such a bet between two world gods of two different races with a very heavy stake.

Something like Soverick doesn't exist in nature. That means Soverick was engineered for this very purpose. Meanwhile, he doesn't have anything secret planned or a trump card to win the competition. All he had and still has are his paragons.

Now Soverick has gained access to the core of an arena. He can do a lot with that. For starters, he can convert all the crowns except the divine crown into Emperor crowns. Imagine that? Now the battle sage monkeys will have 117 Emperor crowns at their disposal while his side will have just 2.

He has faith in his paragons. Having an emperor crown is not nearly enough to match a paragon, but 117 people who have the highest level of assistance from the world fragment is too much for the rest of the Vipers.

'I can't believe I mocked him for having only one champion. Now the jokes on me.'

He didn't prepare because he thought it was a simple competition. The three challenges before were just preparation, and they didn't matter much. That's why he let the Sage design the first three

challenges while he took care of the fourth challenge. He didn't care that the Sage got to prepare three challenges while he only prepared one because he thought the fourth one was the most important one while the first three were fake preparatory challenges.

He was right about that, at least. The first Sage used the first three challenges to prepare for something. It is apparent that the Sage put a lot of thought and consideration into his own section. All of the first Sage's preparation is now coming to bear fruit. Meanwhile, the things he planned for the fourth challenge are definitely not enough now.

He thought that the fourth challenge was the main challenge since it was the challenge that would determine the outcome of their bet, so he designed it to be favorable to his Vipers. He just didn't expect 117 emperor crowns and the 10 king-level lieutenants that would come with each Emperor crown. Who could have expected such an overkill? Certainly not him. I think you should take a look at

The only reason why Soverick can't make all the other crowns divine crowns is that he can't. The world fragment can only support the assistance up to the emperor level. It was the first Sage that introduced the divine crown into the system. The serpentine world god didn't care when the Sage set the power of the divine crown to be the sum total of the other crowns.

He didn't think much about it because the highest amplification it can provide is up to the level of a paragon, and both sides were supposed to have a divine crown. That will change now that Soverick can upgrade the other crowns.

Both sides will have the same divine crown, but one side will have 117 Emperor crowns as the base of its strength, and the other will have 2 emperor crowns or less. That means Soverick's divine crown will be several times more powerful than the divine crown of the Vipers.

Unlike the other crowns that are part of the world, the divine crown is an external item that was plugged into the world fragments. So it cannot be changed even with administrator privileges of the arenas. Its function is already set. Now he knows that the Sage made it that way so that none of them can tamper with it. If not, he will try something right now and be willing to pay the price to change its function.

'I must remove that Soverick no matter the outcome of this competition. He is a thorn in my side, and it will hurt the cunning Sage.' the serpentine world god promised himself.

The serpentine world god directed his anger at Soverick. He will make Soverick pay for the pain and trouble that he has gone through instead of the Sage. If his suspicion about the Sage being capable of predicting every situation is right, then it will not be a good idea to target the Sage.

A world god is supposed to be immune to scrying of any kind. Even origin gods are highly resistant to scrying. Scrying a world god is to scry the different things that make up their world, including all the living things within them. It should be impossible to do, and any person that attempts it should receive a backlash for it.

The backlash is so powerful that it can be likened to colliding with a world god. Origin gods that attempt it die straightway while world gods get injured. So if the Sage managed to do it, then he should not be messed with.

Soverick, on the other hand, is a very easy target. Soverick's death won't even cost him much effort to execute, so he will kill the child of the Virut plane even if the Vipers win this bet.

Chapter 725 The Fourth And Final Challenge.

Soverick and the others were spawned after the arena was set. The battle sage monkeys with ancient bloodlines all felt it immediately. They knew as soon as they were spawned that a fated enemy was among them. It started as a chill from deep within them and extended to an uncomfortable tingling in their extremities. Then their bloodlines became agitated.

"Do you feel that?" One of them asked the people around them.

"What is that feeling?"

"Something is wrong."

"I feel weird."

They clamored amongst themselves, looking for the cause of their discomfort. It is a disconcerting feeling to have their instincts warring against reality. Their bloodline is activating the mode of fight or

flight that weak creatures feel. As transcendents, lords, and kings of laws, they have soul-bodies, so they shouldn't be affected by such a thing.

Yet, they feel as if an enemy is near, and they should get ready to fight or escape. But they can't see their enemies either. The major problem is not the absence of an unseen enemy. It is that they should have perfect control of their body even if an enemy is around them.

All 3 million of them that qualified were spawned on a single side in the arena. They are close to each other, so the confusion that a portion of them are feeling is causing spreading amongst them and creating a disturbance.

"Stay away from me. Stay away from me, or we'll fight." One of them said to those around them in agitation.

This person brandished his weapon and forced others to stay away from them. This occurrence is not unique. The instinct to prepare for a great enemy is making them lash out at their surroundings. They can't see what's causing them to be this irritated, so they are directing their aggression toward what they can see.

It is not their fault. They know that the battle sage monkeys around them are not their enemies. That's why a great fight has not started yet. It is not every one of them that is feeling paranoid and agitated. Actually, only a small portion of them are feeling weird. The rest of the battle sage monkeys are just on high alert and ready to fight.

The highly alert battle sage monkeys were startled at the reaction of the weird people, but they didn't take offense due to their aggressive behavior. They are aware that something is wrong and that there is something dangerous around them. They also know that the dangerous things are not the battle sage monkeys around them. The battle sage monkeys around them are the only ones that they can trust in this weird situation. So they held themselves from going all out. I think you should take a look at

The feeling of aggression is just one of the reactions to the presence of a sworn enemy. Some other people aren't taking it so well. Their bloodlines activated within them with a boiling sensation. It is not a pleasant feeling at all. But it is also making them recollect some things. These strange memories are shutting them down. At least they aren't becoming violent.

Ghaster is shaking. He has been spawned at the very front of the battle sage monkeys. Other battle sage monkeys with crowns were spawned in a single line in front of the others. Their lieutenants were spawned behind them, followed by groups. People in a faction were spawned close to each other, so everyone has someone familiar close to them.

Ghaster has the crown of one of the 5 king crowns, so he was spawned at the head of the battle sage monkeys. He has not examined his environment since he was spawned. He doesn't know their spawned arrangement or who was spawned close to him. He started shaking immediately after he was spawned, and that shaking only increased with time. His body is reacting violently because of the memories that have been invoked within his bloodline.

Ancestral memories are never clear. They are called memories, but they are more like intents or wills. You don't remember how your ancestor learned to fight with a sword with your ancestral memories. You only instinctively know how to fight with a sword like your ancestor.

Ancestral memories just make you fight better, as if you're remembering how to fight. It is like someone with amnesia doing things that they have forgotten how they learned. It is like muscle memory. You fight without really thinking about it. It is something ingrained in your psyche. It is never clear, but the memories Ghaster is getting right now are different. They are clear memories with vivid images and distinct emotions.

The memories came to him unbidden. He lost his perception of the present. The past came rushing to him like a tide. He didn't resist, so it drowned him easily. But he didn't suffocate. There are no issues with compatibility, so the memories embraced him. The memories are his, and he is the memories. They are one through all of time as joined by the immortal lineage of Heavenly Punishment And Destruction.

FLASHBACK

He can see himself running. He is running, and he is angry. His heart is beating wildly in his chest. It is threatening to burst out of his chest cavity. His beating heart is pumping blood through his body. This blood is saturated with Mana. So his heart is responsible for pushing Mana into every part of him.

He accompanied his heart in its efforts by breathing rhythmically. He is not breathing in a random manner. He inhales and pulls mana-rich air into his lungs. The Mana is then absorbed by his blood, where it flows to his heart and is pumped through his body. His rhythmic breathing ensures that Mana cycles his lung in sync with the beating of his heart. It makes his body a deep well that Mana enters without pause in an unobstructed flow.

He can feel energy thumping through him. It is thrumming wildly through him. The cycling of energy is immense. He is taking in too much energy because his heart is beating too fast. While there is no obstruction to the flow of Mana, he can't control this much energy. But he needs it for what's about to occur.

Chapter 726 Must Not Stop.

He can't control his heart either. It thumped wildly in his chest. If his heart were not beating so fast, then he won't have this problem of having too much energy and being unable to control it. Unfortunately, his heart is beating so fast because of all the adrenaline flowing through his body. He can't control that too. Adrenaline is flowing so much because he is afraid.

He is in fight or flight mode. It culminates in having too much energy in his body. The energy within his body threatened to go out of control. No one should wield energy like this. It can damage his body. It is not safe, and yet he is pumping even more Mana through his body.

He held on to his energy by sheer force of will. There's a lot he can't control already. He can't control his heart, and he can't control his fear, but he will be damned if he doesn't control the energy within his body.

But stubbornness doesn't make everything all right. Having this much energy is having its consequences whether he can control it or not. The strain is making his body shake. His mind is fraying at the edge despite keeping things together. He is losing it.

He didn't let go though. He just knows that he has to fight. He has to fight, or all is lost. So he continued to run forward. He has to find them. He must find them now and use all the energy he has to fight them. It is his part, and he must not fail.

His determination helped to hold him together mentally and physically, but its effect was minimal compared to his anger. He is angry. He is so very angry. Being angry is good. The anger helped him maintain focus.

It is dark all around, but he can see with his glowing eyes and with his divine sense. They are currently in a forest. There are more ocular monkeys like him with bright eyes, all running towards the same thing.

They are his brothers and sister-in-arms. Joined together by a common goal. A goal that only death will stop them from. And he is at the head of the group, so he can't stop. He must not stop for anything.

His eyes continued to burn with a blue glow fueled by too much Mana and maintained with anger. He is so focused that he almost doesn't feel his serious injuries. A missing arm is a very serious injury. It makes him feel a little off balance. That is something that focusing cannot help him ignore. Still, he made sure to step forward surely, or he would fall behind.

He created footholds in the air with his abundant Mana and stepped on them instead of the forest floor. Then he put one foot forward, followed by the other. Slow and steady, they say, wins the race. One foot after the other, when combined with a rhythmic breathing pattern and overflowing Mana, does not create a slow mana entity. He is bolting through the forest like a passing gale. If not for the forest trees that he has to watch out for, he would be even faster. I think you should take a look at

His narrowed as his divine sense spotted a tree. He had to swerve a little to avoid it, so his speed dropped. Having to avoid the trees is delaying him, and it is not good. It is preventing him from venting all the pent-up energy within him. His energy overload problem will ease off if he is allowed to actually use his energy to its maximum capacity. Unfortunately for him, it is dark, so he has to be extra careful. Too fast, and he would slam into a tree. That will be bad right now. He mustn't stop for anything.

If it were in the daytime, he would be able to use his eyes to see better. His divine sense is very accurate, but it has a very short range of 100 meters. That's a distance he can move in a second or less. If it were daytime, his less accurate but farther-range eyesight would enable him to navigate the forest better. After all, they are not called ocular monkeys for nothing.

It is common sense that it is a bad idea to fight at night. But they had no choice. He is angry because they have no choice. It is another thing that he just has to do. They had to attack at night. They were the ones to initiate the attack, and yet they were the ones struggling. They ambushed their enemies at night, and yet they were struggling. He is so very angry that they are struggling.

He thought to himself in anger, 'One shouldn't have only a single choice and yet be failing at the only choice they have. It is not fair.'

Their enemies can see very well at night better than they can. In fact, their enemies can track prey better at night than during the day because of their ability to sense heat signatures from living creatures. So it is obvious that the ocular monkeys didn't choose the nighttime to attack because of the advantage of visibility. They chose the night because it is colder.

The cold affects their enemies. Their enemies can see better, but they are sluggish at night. Their enemies are sluggish, and yet the ocular monkeys are still struggling against them. It is a pity. It is also unfortunate, but he cannot stop. He must not fail, or they will all fail. It is his part, and he mustn't fail. That's what he kept telling himself that.

He is not the only one running forward. He can see them. His comrades are also rushing ahead. They are members of his squad. They used to be 100. Now they are 42. They faced a hurriedly mounted defense from their enemies and overcame it. They lost 58 of their members to the 60 defenders. It was a victory, but it was a shameful victory.

Chapter 727 So Very Angry.

One hundred prepared ocular monkeys fought 60 sluggish and unprepared defenders and lost 58. It is a shameful victory. What would have happened if they had fought their enemies in the day when their blood was hot? What would have happened had there been 60 of them to fight against 60 of their sluggish enemies? He doesn't like the answers to those questions. So they had no choice but to attack at night, but they were barely able eeking out a victory. It is making him angry.

They won the first encounter, but he is still angry. How many of them will survive this encounter? He is durable for a mana entity, but he is not in good shape. He is missing an arm and part of his chest where the arm was connected with. There is a large wound on his skull where more than 20% of his head is missing.

He is in a critical situation, and his situation is not getting better the more he loses blood from his injury. Running through the forest so fast is causing the wind to peel at his wounds. Pumping so much energy through his body is preventing him from healing. He should be in pain, but he is not. He is just angry.

Anger is easy. Anger is good. It occupies the mind and stops you from thinking too much about things. Memories of the gruesome death of your brothers-in-arms won't fester in your mind. The cries of pain that your comrades made as they were shredded won't bother you. The screams were torn out of them just like his arm was torn from him. But it doesn't matter anymore. He can't think of that. He must focus, and anger is good for that.

He needs focus now more than ever before. Losing blood is making him feel lightheaded, and he needs to focus right now. He can hear their enemies just ahead. They are rushing about in the dark. It is

probably another defense for their settlement. So the fight is almost upon him. He can't falter now. Neither can he stumble. He has to focus, and the anger is good for that.

The enemies are close, so he followed protocol. He created a signal with his divine sense. It rippled slightly against the divine sense of those around him. His comrade beside him sensed it. Then she transmitted it to the others. The ocular monkeys beside her sensed her signal and transmitted it. Soon their whole company knows that their enemies are ahead.

He is at the head of their company, so he is the first person to sense the enemies. His warnings are good. They are needed if they are going to have any chance against their enemies. No one should be caught off guard in the kind of dangerous battle that is to come.

He rushed ahead, only for his pupils to shrink suddenly and for his speed to slow down. Something in front of him moved. It was standing still before. It was still like a statue. Then it moved, and that was the end of things, usually. It went from being still to being in front of him in the next movement. Its yellow vertical pupils glowed brightly in the dark and served well to accentuate the state of hatred that the Viper fixed on him as it sought to rip him apart. I think you should take a look at

He knew that it moved, but that's all his divine sense gave him. If not for his special glowing eyes, he would only be able to see who tore his throat out and how it was torn out. If not for his eyes, he would never be able to react to the absurd speed. But the world was slow in his vision, so he saw the Viper move slightly slower.

Fortunately, he has a strong body. His good friend Hadrick made sure he could create the best vitality core in his previous stage. He also has a mana focus of the element of wind, so he is also fast. His eyes saw the incoming threat, and his body was strong enough to react to the incoming threat, so he was able to react to the attack.

The same cannot be said for his comrades. They don't have the advantage of a strong body like him. The vipers tore into them with reckless abandon. Have you seen a hungry dog of any kind go at a piece of flesh or bone? The dog will use all of its teeth with gusto to tear its prize apart. The same thing happened here. His comrades became the prize to be torn apart.

If not for their ability to cast spells which the Vipers lack, then they wouldn't be able to match up to them at all. Even so, their resistance was pitiful. Arms were slashed and cut off or gripped and ripped off from the body. Body parts were crushed or torn easily. Chests were caved in, and heads were smashed apart. The ocular monkeys were dying en mass.

He has to focus on his attacker so he can't spare them any attention, but he can hear it. He can hear the sound of flesh being dug into and torn. He can feel the sudden spike in the concentration of Mana in the air as mana-laden blood came free from the bodies of his comrades. He can sense the snap of bones caving in under the encouragement of external pressure.

He can hear it all, so he knows that they are losing for sure. That made him even more angry. The ambushers have become the prey. They have special weapons that can use Mana. The vipers only use their bare hands to fight. They have the advantage of the initiative, and the vipers are sluggish.

They are 42, and the vipers are only 20. They should be winning. They should be winning by a landslide. But reality is not a matter of wishful thinking. They have done everything to prepare, and yet they are barely able to survive. It is not fair at all. It made his anger erupt from within him. It threatened to overwhelm him.

Chapter 728 Features Of Vipers.

He is so angry. He roared to the sky because of it. He fought and fought. He swung his battle axe and gave it his all. He has to win. They have to win. It is their part, and they must not fail. They must not fail. He knows this, so he fought with all he has.

He swung his axe and created vales of wind blades with every swing. He tore the ground asunder and fell trees in waves. He and his enemy moved through the forest like twin bolts of lightning. He tried his best. He really did. But he couldn't put his enemy down.

He stepped on the air and walked on it as if it were the ground. His affinity with the wind also makes him very light and fast. The ability to walk in the air allowed him to attack from every direction. He became a whirlwind of rage and violence. His blood sang within him. It roared in his ears. He could hear what it wanted clearly. It wanted vengeance. No, it craved vengeance.

Unfortunately, his enemy can also utilize air walking and is even doing it better than him. He has two legs, but he can't surpass the range of movement that the single tail grants the Viper. A single twitch of its muscular tail is capable of shifting its position and posture in a myriad of ways.

The Viper is capable of matching his omnidirectional movement in the air by simply slithering, and if he gets too close to the tail, then he will receive a lashing capable of tearing chunks out of him for his error. So he has to be wary of the tail and not let his anger get the best of him.

The movement of the tail and the body aren't independent either. Sometimes, the tail stays still while the body is made to move and bend as if it were the tail. The Viper was able to use this ability to weave through this attack without being touched. Vipers have somehow made having a single limb better than two.

Vipers are weak. They lack physical strength. That's why his enemy didn't try to parry or block his attacks. They also have poor talents for magic and weapon innovation. So the Viper isn't capable of ranged attacks either through spells or through ranged weapons. But that's where their weakness ends. The rest of their features are strengths.

Vipers are fast. They are very fast. They are mind-boggling fast. Whatever is important should be repeated for emphasis, and it is important to know that Vipers are fast. Their speed is the type that makes you widen your eyes in shock moments before you die.

They don't have an abnormal top speed for their level, but they can accelerate to their top speed in a flash. That's why this Viper can dodge his attacks very easily and why it can always counterattack. This speed is not a product of their divine ability. Meanwhile, he needs the use of his divine ability to keep up with the Viper.

Vipers also have sharp claws. They have four fingers on each of their two arms, unlike ocular monkeys with five fingers. Ocular monkeys have the numerical advantage of appendages, but their fingers are blunt, while the claws of Vipers can shred rock into pieces. That's why he is losing more of his flesh the longer the fight is going. I think you should take a look at

He is strong and fast, but it is all for naught if he can't hit his prey. Meanwhile, his prey is always able to get within his guard and counteract. The Viper just needs to touch him to gorge him of his precious flesh. He, on the other hand, has a powerful weapon, but it is going to waste in his hands. He is angry because of it.

The battle ax in his hand is not a complete waste. At least it is dangerous enough to make the Viper evade. If not for the battle-ax, then he won't be standing right now. He is just dying slowly instead of dying immediately against the Viper.

Vipers have highly defensive scales that make injuring them very difficult. They are like Apex predators. They hunted the ocular monkeys with impunity. The creation of weapons that can harness mana is a boon that gave ocular monkeys the opportunity to fight back. But that's all he has been able to achieve it. Unfortunately, fighting back is not nearly good enough.

He is trying his best, but his best is not good enough to kill his enemy. His best is good enough in the grand scheme of things. He may not be able to kill this Viper, but he is at least holding it back. This Viper is one of the favored of their so-called gods, so it is very strong. By holding it back, he is giving his comrades the chance to eliminate the others.

So he is not wasting his effort and his lost flesh in a futile fight. He knows that, but he is still angry. If this is the strength of one that is favored by their gods, then what about their so-called gods?

He didn't think about the answer to his question. He focused on his anger, and his anger made him focus. He pushed his enemy back as they fought. He looked to be the superior fighter, but he was the one losing flesh and bleeding. He didn't feel pain, but the accumulating wounds exerted their toil on him.

Bleeding means he is losing blood, and losing blood means he is losing mana. Mana needs his blood to get to his muscles. So while he feels like he can fight forever, his body can't. He is slowly weakening, and that means death.

Fortunately, there are others besides him. They have finished killing the other defending vipers, and they have come to help him. 3 ocular monkeys appeared beside him and tilted the battle in his favor. They whittled down the Viper even as it slithered and curled away from their strikes. It couldn't avoid all of their attacks, so their new weapons could finally cut into it.

Chapter 729 2 Ocular Monkeys = 1 Viper.

The fight continued, but he wasn't paying much attention to it. He has lost too much of his blood, so his mind is straining to remain conscious. But that isn't why he wasn't paying attention. He was too angry to pay attention. All he saw was red in his vision. His body went through the motions as he hacked and slashed, but he wasn't paying attention. His mind kept replaying the information of their ambush. He needs it to fuel his anger.

42 ocular monkeys fought 20 vipers. He held one down, so 41 ocular monkeys fought 19 vipers. They outnumber their enemies 2 to 1 and even have some left over. But only 3 out of that 41 survived. The ocular monkeys had to sacrifice 2 of their numbers for each Viper that they slayed. It is pitiful, and it is worth getting angry over.

He is angry at the world. The world is cruel. The world is not fair. It doesn't favor anyone, no matter how hard they worked for something. You get what you get, and that's that. Vipers have been blessed too much by the world. They are far from perfect, but what they have is already too much.

Each Viper that he sees reminds him of the more talented ocular monkeys. They were born blessed too, and no amount of effort on his part could breach the gap between them. He would be a nobody without Hadrick. He is angry at the unfairness of this world, and he will remain angry at it until he can break the shackles of the world. His anger reinforced his promise to himself to never give up.

"I will always fight. I will never give up. As long as I have a breath within me, even the heavens won't be able to put me down." He swore this very oath in anger. And it will stick with him forever.

They won. They finally killed the favored Viper. They lost 2 of their number to kill it because of its last-ditch effort. Four of them surrounded it, and they still had to sacrifice two to kill it. It has been proven again that a single Viper is as good as two ocular monkeys, even when outnumbered. Things would be worse if the Vipers were not outnumbered. They would shred through the ocular monkeys like a farmer harvests wheat. After all, their claws are as sharp as shears.

The two last survivors of his squad of 100 stood watching silently. They know that their mission has not ended, and they have to keep moving, but they are tired, and they are worn out. He knows he can not take another step forward, or he will collapse. His body has been pushed beyond the limit, and it cannot do anymore. He is giving it all he has just to keep standing. Asking for anything else from him is simply unreasonable and ridiculous.

The other survivor was saying something, but he didn't hear it. It could be that he is too weak to hear what is being said, or the speaker is too weak to speak audibly or coherently.

"...survived, huh?"

He was able to catch the last part of the sentence. It was then that he realized that he was being spoken to with a divine sense. That made it obvious that the fault in the line of communication was on his side. It turns out that his mind is too scrambled to parse mental communications. I think you should take a look at

The realization that his mind was breaking down didn't do anything to him. He can't feel any emotion right now. Even anger is seeping away due to physical and mental weakness. If he had the strength, he would shrug because of the understanding that he can't process information through a divine sense anymore.

He is too weak to care about anything right now. But his companion seems to still possess strength and activeness. He spared his companion a side glance. Even that took a lot of effort.

He doesn't recognize the person. It could be that the injuries on the person made them unrecognizable to him. The person is also covered with claw marks and blood. They are missing most of their face. Their nose and lips are gone, and one of their cheeks has been turned into a useless flap of flesh hanging by the side of their mouth. So no, this person couldn't have spoken with their mouth even if they wanted to. He is definitely losing it.

They have other injuries too. Broken ribcage with ribs jutting out of their chest beneath torn armor. The Viper's claw had passed through the new armor in an attempt to destroy the heart. He can even see their heart beating through their chest. So the Viper failed. If this person didn't have the armor, then they wouldn't be standing now. Mana weapons and artifacts didn't turn the ocular monkeys into unstoppable killers. They have only made them stand a chance at defeating their enemy.

The person continued talking, but he wasn't listening. He can't listen even if he wants to, so it is best that he doesn't bother to strain his frail mind.

"Yeah." He managed to return after a while.

They survived, and he would very much like to spend this time recovering, not engaging in conversation. His receding anger threatened to rise again, but it fell flat. He just doesn't have it in him anymore. His lack of anger made him amenable to the conversation. It also made him think a conversation with someone that might die soon is a waste of time.

He grimaced. He really hated thinking. Thinking made him unsure and indecisive. He prefers to be angry. It makes him decisive and focused. He was thinking about what to do when he felt the incoming threat. It is like a star hurtling towards his position, and it is very angry. If he had any doubts about what was about to happen, then the angry shout that came next dispelled them.

The incoming entity yelled. "I will end you!"

Chapter 730 A Viper Paragon.

He didn't try to escape his fate despite the feeling of impending doom creeping up on him. He is too weak to do anything anyway. He didn't even turn to look at his executor. No, he stood still and sighed. He has given his all for his race. He doesn't have anything to give to save himself.

"I was right. Talking was a waste of time." He thought to himself.

He indulged himself with the thought that he was right about not engaging in a conversation. It really is irrelevant to engage in a conversation with someone that is about to die. All that talking will mean nothing now. The only difference is that he is the one that is about to die. All that talking was a waste to him regardless of his death. He didn't hear a single word of it after all.

He was so detached from the world that he didn't notice his companion rushing towards him. Then he suddenly shifted. He was pushed aside, so he saw the attack meant for him cleave his companion apart. The blade of light went right through his companion from head to toe. Blood splashed onto his face. The look of surprise remained on his face as he fell.

He hit the ground only to be joined by his companion soon after. His companion wasn't smiling or chatting anymore. They just have a grim look frozen on their face. It is a pure look of determination and sacrifice. The look wasn't diminished by their split torso and their organs spilling out of the safe confines of their body.

"What now?" He asked himself.

He doesn't know what to say or what to do. He was supposed to die, and he had accepted that. But his companion chose to save him. Why? What use is him being alive? He can barely move. He could die any moment now. He almost died when he was pushed roughly to the ground. Slamming into the ground almost made him lose what little life he has left within him. So of what use is him being saved?

He decided not to worry about it since he is not completely safe yet. The entity that attacked him is getting closer. That feeling of impending doom returned. It crept all over his body and made him shiver involuntarily. He also felt warmer as the entity came close to him. The entity is the source of the heat and the fear that he is feeling. One made him warm, while the other made him shiver despite the warmth.

The entity came. It is big for a Viper. It was 4 meters tall, so it towered above him. That is too big for a mana entity. It has four arms instead of two, and it is shiny. It is very shiny. That's what he saw. He was looking at the Viper with his divine sense since his eyes were focused on the ground. His divine sense couldn't sense anything apart from size and energy readings.

The Viper is big, but it contains enough energy to make it titanic. The quantity of energy he was struggling with earlier looks pathetic compared to the amount of energy that this being is simply giving off. It is unnatural that a mana entity should contain so much energy. They should explode with nothing left of them. I think you should take a look at

'So this is their god. What could be holding its existence together and keeping it from bursting apart?' he thought to himself.

It is a mana entity just like him, but it has so much energy interwoven into it that it should be a Colossal being. Its already big size is not nearly enough to contain the amount of energy that he can sense from it. The energy he was struggling with and was making his body shake in pain looked like a candle to the bonfire that is this Viper. This being shouldn't exist. Something like that shouldn't exist as a mana entity. It has too much energy woven into its existence that it looks like a small star made of mana.

There is no way he can face this entity, even if he is whole and brimming with energy. The situation is hopeless for him. He will die immediately after being saved. His companion saved a dead man walking. His companion's death will be in vain. It is an unfortunate pity.

Another person suddenly appeared. It is an ocular monkey like him. This ocular monkey struck a blow at the Viper. The Viper wanted to kill the ones that murdered his partner, but he had to protect himself from the attack, so it turned its attention to the assailant. Their fists struck each other. Thunder cracked, and light flashed. Then the two of them began a fast pace bout.

Thunder boomed as they clashed. The air howled. It was rilled up into a frenzy. Energy was discharged in bursts of light. A storm of destruction descended. The energy discharge shattered everything they came in contact with. Trees were felled. They broke like weak twigs and caught fire like kindling.

The collisions between the two combatants created shockwaves that rocked the forest. They circled each other at speeds that left him reeling. He couldn't keep track of them. He only saw flashes of light like solar flares from a star. He held his breath and only released it when the two of them moved away to fight somewhere else.

"What kind of power is that?" he asked himself in disbelief. "Just how is it possible?"

He knows that the Viper is a paragon. That's what the sages called them. He also knows that the battle sage monkey that interfered was a sage. He always wondered how strong those paragons are, so now he knows that it will take a sage to hold one of them back. That means that a mana entity paragon of the Vipers is equal to a very talented battle sage monkey that is a transcendent.