

Heaven 971

Chapter 971: Encounter With Star Beasts.

Tatyana spoke to them with crossed arms and a smile. "So, how is it going? Is the vacuum of space making you two feel welcomed and at home?"

Kali rolled her eyes and looked around. "This is very unsettling. The lack of... everything. It makes you feel like you are naked in front of an infinite span of danger. Not to mention..." Kali looked toward the Sun, protecting her eyes with energy, and snorted without a sound. "The Sun is annoying. I didn't know how much the atmosphere of the planet really protects us from it."

Yasenia blinked and commented. "Really? I feel quite comfy now. Even more than when I was down there."

Tatyana tilted her head. "Really? I mean, having the sun attribute should not affect the way you feel when the actual source of life hits you. The energy released by a Star is incredibly high, even for most Transcendence Realm cultivators."

Kali hummed. "Source of life?"

Tatyana smiled. "Of course. Without the Sun, life can't have that initial spark. The most basic life needs light to exist. Of course, things can then evolve to work in its absence. However, I don't think that life has ever developed in a place without a Sun."

Kali didn't have real arguments against that. Yasenia asked while looking at the Sun. "Mom, how do you navigate space? I mean, you can have the Sun as the anchor of your point of view, but..." The dragoness looked back and commented. "Celestial objects move relative to the Sun, not to us."

Kali looked back and exclaimed. "Wow! That's... fantastical."

Behind them, Distancia was slowly moving away. Thanks to the [Profound Skeletal World Jumping Warship]'s anti-gravity field, Distancia was moving away at its traveling speed instead of dragging them with it. The speed was incredibly fast, but not faster than the speed their warship could move at.

Speaking of antigravity, the sun's effect on them was still affecting them. If not, it would be quite bothersome to pursue it. The way the ship managed to distinguish which gravitational bending to ignore was through complex Gravity Intent Domain effects that were added to the ship.

Yasenia looked at Tatyana, waiting for the answer. The Death Empress answered. "Well, the way you navigate space is quite simple, really. In the vastness of space, the only places with energy are those that would be interesting. Therefore, we send out a pulse from time to time, and each time an energy source is detected, we will receive information on its location."

Interested, Kali looked at the place Tatyana was pointing at. "This is similar to the echolocation some animals have. Fascinating."

Tatyana nodded. "Anyway, let's get our coordinates for the nearest planet. Do we go toward the Sun or away from it first?"

The dragoness asked. "Which one is easier?"

Tatyana muttered. "Going closer is harder. There are many more complications."

Yasenia smiled. "Let's go closer then. If I were that merchant, I would try to hide myself in a location that is harder to find, right?"

Tatyana shrugged. "It depends. Some people actually think that hiding in plain sight is more effective. So, they might've gone to the outer worlds."

"Hm..."

"What's wrong, Kali?"

The fox woman spoke. "Can't we use this echolocation formation to follow his tracks? I don't think that he has a stronger flying treasure than ours. So, he might still be in space, right?"

Tatyana chuckled and activated the formation. An invisible pulse scattered outward with exponential speed, surpassing the speed of light several times by using the sub-spatial dimension to travel.

After three minutes, an image appeared around them. Kali's face crumpled as millions of different dots with different sizes appeared one after another. Tatyana laughed. "So, which one do you think is our man?"

The dragoness chuckled and ordered. "Alaia, speed toward the planet closest to the Sun!"

"Understood, Young Miss."

The Warship's aura deepened, and then, it silently blasted forward. Alaia spoke. "Ten minutes to reach it, Young Miss."

Yasenia blinked, stunned. "Ten minutes? What's our current speed?"

Alaia answered. "Our current speed is nearly 600,000 kilometers per second."

The dragoness was stunned. "That fast? If this thing's top speed is that much, no wonder we could move around Distancia in just a few seconds."

Kali muttered. "Isn't the speed of light around 300,000 kilometers per second? How can we be going twice as fast?"

Alaia laughed softly. "While those kinds of limits are difficult to overcome, energy shields us from most things that would seem impossible otherwise. For example, have you ever been fighting, and suddenly, you make an abrupt 100 to 0 stop, only hurting your muscles and such? Energy is an infinitely profound concept that is filled with wonders."

Tatyana leaned on the side and laughed. "Not to mention, that's not the top speed. This ship specializes in making world-to-world jumps, hence its name. However, it can also help with interstellar travel."

Yasenia hummed. "Quite a big present, no?"

Tatyana laughed. "Well, it doesn't really increase your personal strength, so gifting it to you had minimal Fate variances. It was completely safe to give."

The dragoness smiled. "I see." Yasenia looked at the [Five Realm Spatial Ring], and sighed. "I've really been pampered, haven't I? I just didn't notice."

Flora smiled. "What's wrong with Lady Tatyana pampering her baby daughter? Will you stop pampering the Little Misses, Young Miss?"

"Touché."

The dragoness laughed. Then, she swished her tail, pensive. "So, when you say hard, you didn't really mean it, no? We'll take just ten minutes, after all."

Tatyana beckoned both of them and pointed out. "Do you see those streaks of light going around us from time to time? Those are asteroids. Imagine if we crashed frontally with one of those. Or, imagine if one of those was a [Star Beast]. You can die even before you realize if you don't pay enough attention. Your maids are heavily trained, so there is no need to worry, though."

Alaia spoke aloud. "Lady Tatyana, Star Beast Herd ahead, orders?"

Tatyana asked. "Strength?"

"Between Four to Seven Level Legendary Beast Core Realm strength."

Tatyana asked again. "Numbers?"

Alaia commented. "Between five to twenty."

Yasenia commented to Kali. "Those are not very accurate numbers."

Kali chuckled, and Valeria appeared by their side, explaining. "That's the main risk of space exploration. You can never know for sure. You might think there is a source of harmless energy in one place, but when you approach, it turns out to be a slumbering giant beast that eats you with just a single bite."

Both girls nodded, understanding. They heard Tatyana say. "Let's approach. It feels like a good herd to show Little Treasure and Kali about them."

Kali coughed. "Don't we have more pressing matters?"

Tatyana smiled. "Don't worry. It won't take longer than a few minutes."

Kali sighed. "Sure, sure. I don't think anyone is more worried than you, so if you feel it is right, let's do the stop."

Alaia slowed down the ship, and after one more minute, the speed lowered to the point that the asteroids and everything else didn't appear like streaks of light.

Once they arrived before the herd, they spotted a group of 11 creatures floating through space quite swiftly. They were a mix of fish and land animals, combining an elephant with a tortoise.

The dragoness asked. "Weren't [Star Beasts] supposed to be huge? They don't look too big, no?"

Alaia smiled. "Young Miss, we are far away. The smallest of those Star Beasts, that small one over there, is nearly 40 kilometers long and 30 kilometers wide and tall. Young Miss would look like a small little fish they can eat in one bite.

Kali was stunned. Yasenia was one of the biggest beasts she had ever seen level-wise, but these star beasts were enormous on a completely different scale.

Yasenia hummed. "I see. No wonder they are so strong. With such massive bodies, their natural defense must be incredibly high. Right?"

Valeria chuckled. "That's right. Their size is both their biggest advantage and weakness. Because of their size, not many people dare to hunt them. On the other hand, because they are so big, living on planets where gravity would almost crush them is not very fun.

"Right..." Yasenia smiled. "If I were that big, don't speak about flying; walking in my dragon form would be difficult."

Tatyana rubbed her chin and commented. "Do we hunt them? Their carapaces seem like quite nice materials. Star Beast flesh is very insipid, though, so I don't know about cooking it."

Yasenia grinned. "Is that a challenge? Hehe~." She paused and asked. "What about their intelligence? Are they considered sapient or sentient?"

The Death Empress shrugged. "Some are more intelligent than a human. Others are stupider than the asteroids they eat." Looking over, she said, confused. "These ones... They look as dumb as bricks, to be honest. Like, look at those faces, don't you have an urge to punch it? However, who knows?"

Everyone looked at Tatyana with a deadpan, making her ask. "What? Don't tell me that you didn't think that their face was stupid. Look! Even their eyes are not looking straight! I mean, there is probably an evolutionary reason for that, but if looking like my left eye is admiring the sky while the other one is admiring the worms in the earth is the result, I don't want it, thanks."

Valeria burst into laughter. "I mean, those poor darlings look quite silly, indeed.

Tatyana asked. "So, what do we do? Do we take a trophy back home, or do we spare them from their ugly existence?"

Kali coughed. "How about we give them a chance, and we ask them?"

Tatyana stepped aside and pointed at the beasts. "They are all yours."

Kali blinked and looked over. "They are so far away. How can I communicate?"

The Death Empress blinked. "Spiritual sense?"

Kali was speechless. "That's at least 10,000 kilometers. I don't have such a monstrous Spiritual Sense, mother-in-law."

Tatyana smirked. "Try it."

Kali rolled her eyes and expanded her Spiritual sense outward as much as she could. However, the second she did so, her eyes widened. "W-What is happening!?"

Her spiritual sense expanded from one hundred kilometers to one thousand. Then, it continued going outward, reaching five thousand, ten thousand, twenty thousand kilometers!

Kali felt like she could go on effortlessly, which baffled her. Tatyana explained, "When you are in a World, your Spiritual Sense is limited by everything around you: the air, the earth, plants, insects, birds, people, other spiritual senses, and the world's energies. It doesn't have all the small things to look out for here. Therefore, it can go outward very easily. "

Tatyana pointed at them and smiled. "Now, try to communicate."

Kali coughed and sent a pulse of energy. "Um. Hello."

The Star Beasts stopped munching on the asteroids and looked over, their stupid faces looking even funnier when they were directed at them. Kali almost broke out into laughter. 'They are so cute.'

"So, can you understand me?"

Sadly, Kali didn't receive an answer. Instead, one of the largest ones opened its mouth and roared, creating an actual shockwave of pure energy that impacted them, pushing the warship several hundred meters back.

Yasenia whistled without making a sound. "That's a powerful roar. So, the poor bastards are as stupid as their faces make them out to be. What do we do?"

Kali realized that everyone was looking at her, making her shift a bit. "U-Um, why are you looking at me?"

The dragoness smiled softly. "You seem to have taken a bit of fondness towards them, so... Well, what do you think?"

Kali looked at the group of Star Beasts and struggled. "Um... Let's let them be. It's not like we won't find another Star Beast herd, right?"

Yasenia kissed her temple and laughed. "Sure. Let's continue toward the closest planet!"

"Understood, Young Miss."

Chapter 972: Soluna's Help. Tatyana's and Valeria's Mistake.

After leaving the Star Beasts behind, it took them very little time to reach the planet closest to this solar system's sun. Getting closer to the sun was obviously not comfortable for them. Nevertheless, Tatyana purposely did not unfold the protective bubble of the warship so that Yasenia and Kali could experience the harshness of space.

It was an excellent way to get their bodies accustomed and also gain resistance to outward damage. With limits, the fastest way for a cultivator to get accustomed to different environmental hazards was by getting exposed to them.

Now that they were so close to the sun, the temperature had significantly increased, while the stingy feeling of the sun's radiation attacked them. That stingy feeling was the most dangerous, as it was the high-energy particles trying to mess up their own body's genetical code.

Thankfully, a cultivator's regenerative power went as deep as genetic reconstruction as long as the soul was not damaged. Even then, Tatyana asked. "How are you two doing? Is there anything that you feel is wrong or uncomfortable? Approaching a star is not an easy feat that all Dantian Spiritualization Realm beings can do."

Yasenia moved her hand and swished her tail, feeling her own body and closely looking at it. After a few moments, she spoke with a relaxed tone. "I am not feeling uneasiness. I honestly feel increasingly comfortable."

Tatyana puzzledly looked at Yasenia, but knowing her daughter's bloodline and special energy, she could guess that their particular characteristics caused this strangeness. "I see... What about you, Kali?"

Kali was slightly frowning as she turned 90 degrees. "I feel quite uncomfortable. The side of my body that's hitting the sun feels hot, while the other side feels terribly cold. The sensation of burning and freezing is far from "increasingly comfortable" as Yaseniasaid."

Tatyana nodded twice. "Yeah, that's the normal reaction. You don't get accustomed to space in just a few minutes. That's not normal."

Yaseniasmirked. "Sorry for being excellent even in this."

Kali and Tatyana deadpanned at her, making the beautiful dragoness chuckle without a sound. Tatyana sighed with a smile and looked at Kali. "By the way, the reason you are feeling that way is because there is no air to spread the heat evenly. Therefore, you will only feel heat on the surface where the sun's rays hit you. The other side is literally freezing. A normal mortal would be cooked on one side while their other side turns into an ice cube."

Yaseniasaw how Kali turned around amusedly, making her back face the sun. Kali looked at the dragoness and asked. "You don't feel like that? How?"

Yaseniasexplained. "I am just using my energy to carry heat around my body in an even manner. I also regulate my blood flow to keep the cold blood on my hot side while my heated blood goes to my cold side. Everything together creates a balance that is very close to what the air does. While the sensations are uncomfortable, I am getting better at doing that by the second. I think I'll be able to feel actually comfortable after one or two more hours."

Kali looked at Yaseniasbody with wonderment and surprise. "Love, can I feel what you are doing by entering your body with my spiritual sense?"

The dragoness didn't even hesitate and agreed. "Of course!"

Tatyana laughed and gave context. "Of course you would let her enter the weakest part of your body with her spiritual sense where she can create permanent damage if she ever wanted!"

Yasenialooked at Tatyana and raised one of her eyebrows. Tatyana asked. "What?"

The dragoness laughed. "If you want to do the same, just ask. Come, come~ my body has enough space for more than one Spiritual Sense."

Valeria at the side blinked. "Can I go in too?"

Yaseniasblinked a few times and looked toward the maids that came with her. "What about all of you?"

Seeing them nod with starry eyes, Yaseniasighed. "Okay, okay. Be careful, though."

The dragoness trusted all the people here with her life, so she had no objections to it. If any person saw it, they would honestly freak out. The level of trust one needed to allow another person's Spiritual Sense to go inside was incredibly high.

The remaining of the travel toward the first planet was silent as everyone observed the incredible control and things happening inside Yasenias.

When they were arriving, Soluna suddenly appeared and snorted. "Hey, can all of you be a bit less noisy? I am trying to sleep... huh?" Soluna blinked a few times and looked at Yaseniasup and down. "Yasenias, you are poisoned!"

The dragoness smiled. "Good morning, Soluna. And, yes. I am poisoned."

Soluna frowned and floated in front of Yasenia, touching here and there. "Why didn't you tell me? I could've helped!"

Yasenia pinched her cheek. "You were sleeping so comfortably that I didn't dare wake you up."

Soluna pouted. "Yasenia! Have you forgotten that I am not a child? I am more than 3000 years old!"

The dragoness blinked. "Well..."

Soluna puffed her cheeks and extended her hand. "Silly!"

Then, the dragoness was engulfed in Soluna's flames. The maids tensed and reacted, but Tatyana lifted her hand, stopping them.

Kali hurriedly spoke. "Soluna! D-Don't burn her! She is already weak by the poison and... and... Huh?"

Soluna stopped roasting Yasenia, but instead of a burnt dragoness, the usual gorgeous dragoness welcomed them.

Valeria's eyes widened, and she muttered. "She burnt part of the Soul Poison? How?"

Yasenia looked at herself and was similarly stunned. While she was not cured, her poison's spread was greatly reduced. "Um..." Yasenia looked at Soluna and asked. "What happened?"

Soluna looked around Yasenia as she spoke. "Have you forgotten that I am a spirit? I am a being without a body, so soul interaction is as easy for me as it is for Kali to open you up with a knife and take out an infected organ!"

Yasenia looked at Valeria and asked. "But... Valeria couldn't do this."

Soluna bonked Yasenia's forehead with her hand and floated in front of her with her arms akimbo. "I am your soul companion, silly! Navigating your soul is as easy as walking!"

Tatyana rubbed her forehead, and Valeria scratched her chin.

Kali looked at them, and she deadpanned. "You could've erased her poison if she was treated a few days ago by Soluna, right?"

Both seniors nodded. Kali's face cracked, and the gentleness disappeared. "Sit down."

Valeria instantly went to her knees, and Tatyana sat cross-legged with a resigned face. Kali looked at Yasenia and pointed at the ground. "You too!"

With a start, Yasenia went to her knees obediently. "What's this situation? Can someone tell me?"

The dragoness smiled. "Honey, mistakes happen, so..."

"So what?" Her ears straightened as her four tails danced menacingly behind her. "So I should ignore that someone with hundreds of thousands of years of experience and another with tens of millions of years or more have missed such an OBVIOUS thing!?"

Tatyana coughed. "You also missed... it..." The Death Empress saw Kali's death stare and decided that silence was her best option.

Kali snapped at her and with reason. "Are you really comparing ME, a woman who has barely reached HALF a century in age, with yourself and the literal Nature Spirit Queen!?"

Tatyana raised her arms. "My bad. I admit we made a mistake. However, even Mirrory forgot! You can't blame us; she is the super ultra senior!"

"And that's baffling, and I'll scold her when we get home with that antidote! However! You both are still as guilty! Did you two forget about Soluna's existence or something!?"

Tatyana and Valeria honestly admitted their mistakes. "We did."

Kali crossed her arms and pointed at Yasenia. "And you!? How couldn't you think that your SOUL COMPANION could have probably helped a little!? Why are you always so careless when it comes to things regarding yourself!?"

The dragoness really had no retort. Kali pointed at Soluna next, making the little spirit straighten her back. "AND YOU! You didn't notice YOUR soul companion coughing up blood or feeling bad or something!?"

Soluna stuttered. "I-I thought Yasenia was doing another of those baths she does. It wasn't as bad as usual, though, so I should've realized..."

Kali's heart twitched when she heard that. "Her reinforcement baths are worse than a Soul Poison?"

The fox woman sighed, feeling a bit helpless. She rubbed her forehead and saw that Alaia was looking at her, wanting to say something but not daring to interrupt. "Speak, Alaia."

Alaia cleared her throat and said respectfully. "We are here, Madam Kali."

Kali looked sideways and saw an enormous rocky planet that had a black and glowing red surface. She could spot the constant volcanic eruptions from where they were.

Kali looked at the three women sitting formally in front of her and snorted. "Get up! We need to find that person called... called... Right, what's his name? You never told me, Tatyana."

Tatyana stood up and smiled. "Quite a unique name, to be honest. The name of this merchant is Ayanduin. Quite a classy but kinda old name?"

Yasenia asked, confused. "Old?"

Tatyana shrugged. "It gives that vibe to me. I don't know."

Kali asked. "So, what's the plan after we find him?"

The Death Empress pondered. "We ask for the antidote. If he says he doesn't have it, we torture a real answer for it. Then, we loot his possessions, kick his ass to another dimension, and hopefully, he dies."

Yasenia commented. "I mean... Killing him might not be it."

Tatyana, Kali, and Valeria asked, confused. "Why not?"

Yasenia commented. "He could get something so unique that even your 'Just in case' stock doesn't have an antidote for it. Don't you think he might be quite a nice asset to guide us through this lower dimension?"

Tatyana rubbed her chin. "So, we use him, exploit him, and then kill him? That sounds nice."

Yasenia rolled her eyes. "Why kill him? If he is talented, we can hire him for the Astral Sky Alliance. We don't really have a lead merchant, do we?"

Tatyana hummed. "I thought you were getting separated from it after you left Distancia."

Yasenia shook her head. "I will leave it as a safety net. If we get into trouble, we can always come back and seek aid. Giving them liberty and tools to develop as they want is enough for them to owe me one, right? Who knows, they might become an intergalactic power or something crazy with enough time."

Tatyana clicked her tongue. "Why not use my..." Tatyana paused, and Yasenia raised her eyebrow. "Your...?"

Tatyana coughed. "Nevermind. That's a good idea."

"Tsk." Yasenia sighed and pointed at the burning planet. "Go. Let's see if Ayanduin is there. If not... Well, let's hope he is not hiding enough that I lose my patience and agree with Mom."

Kali laughed. "Let's hope he hears you and comes out soon."

Chapter 973: Flaming World and Mortal Worlds.

"We are entering the outer influence sphere of the planet."

Alaia's voice rang through the ship. Tatyana commanded. "Information about the world's properties before entering the world's influence."

Alaia answered right away. "The world is mostly spherical. It has a fast axial spinning with a five percent tilt relative to the sun. The size is small, with just over four thousand kilometers in radius. The average surface temperature of the planet has reached 400, while the above cloud temperature is about 600."

Kali asked. "What are those temperatures measured in?"

Alaia explained. "We are using the scale where 0 degrees is when water changes from ice to water, and 100 is its boiling point."

Kali nodded. "I see. So you are using Celsius?"

Alaia smiled and confirmed it. "Yes, Madam."

Tatyana hummed. "So, we have a thick layer of clouds that has somewhat reduced the ridiculous temperature, but even then, the strong volcanic activity due to the proximity to the sun has made the surface temperature a literal oven."

"Correct!"

Tatyana hummed. "Approach cautiously. It shouldn't have a Heaven, but let's be cautious."

"Approaching... Entering World's area of influence in 10... 9... 8..."

The warship approached, and soon, they reached the outer area of influence of the world.

When they crossed it, they felt a pulse of energy surrounding them. This came as a surprise to Tatyana and Valeria as only worlds with an active Heaven would give this sensation. Tatyana frowned. "It seems I was wrong."

Tatyana and Verdantia got alert, and the Death Empress shouted with a regal aura. "Activate all defensive formations! Go to your defensive positions and be ready for combat!"

"Yes, Lady Death Empress!"

Yasenia looked around attentively and asked. "What's wrong? Why the hurry?"

Tatyana explained swiftly while walking toward the warship's primary formation. "We've entered a world with a Heaven of an unknown level. If we are too far ahead cultivation-limit-wise, we will be attacked by them. If we are not, the residents of this world might be stronger than us. Either situation warrants our defensive formations to be activated."

Yasenia noticed and remembered. "Understood."

The warship stayed in the outer layer of the world's influence, and after seeing that there was no retaliation or signs of aggression from the world's Heaven, Tatyana commanded. "Go ahead. Keep the stealth formation active."

The warship approached the thick layer of clouds and quickly dove through them, going through them and revealing the hellish landscape below them.

It was literally a world of fire. The land was filled with rivers of pure boiling magma, while the only wind currents in the nearby area were powerful fire storms and fire tornados.

Kali muttered. "Incredible. There is life in this world? I can't believe it."

Tatyana laughed. "Life is extremely adaptable. I've even met creatures that live in the void. The Void, meaning the interdimensional space where nothing exists. If there are beings that can adapt to live there, there is no place between heaven and earth where life can't thrive."

Yasenia had a pensive face when she asked. "What about a star? Are there creatures living on or inside stars?"

Tatyana shrugged. "Probably somewhere there are? I am not sure, though."

While they discussed, Soluna looked around with an interested face as if she were discovering new information each moment. Yasenia felt Soluna's intrigue and looked over, also noticing that Valeria was looking at Soluna with a gentle smile.

After a few moments, Valeria asked her. "What do you feel, little one?"

Soluna's spiritual sense expanded outward, and the World opened in her eyes. "I feel very pure energy... creating forms, creating life..... this world's life... spirits? Yes. Magma, Fire, Light, and Sun spirits inhabit this world!"

Valeria's eyes shone with gladness, and she extended her hand, gently caressing her head. "Great job, Soluna. You really are an extraordinary spirit, aren't you? "

Soluna laughed happily and ran toward Yasenia with an eager expression. The dragoness chuckled and opened her arms, welcoming the excited spirit. "Valeria praised me!"

"I heard. You did great, Soluna."

Soluna giggled and rubbed her face against the dragoness's softness. Tatyana and Kali raised their eyebrows, but both of them said nothing.

Valeria looked at them and said. "As Soluna said, this world hasn't developed fleshy life. There is spirit life. Well, if there was fleshy life at any point, it has been so long that not a single trace of aura remains in the atmosphere."

Kali rubbed her chin. "How often do solar systems have more than one world with a Heaven?"

Tatyana shook her head. "Not often. On average, each solar system has 0.1 worlds with a Heaven."

Kali questioned, surprised. "Really? Only one world in every ten solar systems has a Heaven?"

Tatyana nodded. "That's on average. Oh, and remember that worlds can have life without a Heaven. The rate is actually higher for worlds without a Heaven than those with them... Well, it was in the past. I don't know how it is nowadays."

Yasenia understood. "Are cultivators going to those Worlds and acting like overlords by abusing the mortals there?"

Tatyana nodded. "It is a taboo. It's a taboo that's even looked at badly by the Heavens themselves. Those who mess with mortal worlds on purpose accumulate A LOT of bad karma. I mean, what can you gain from a world that doesn't even have energy crystals like Parus or Purple Crystals? Their materials are soft and weak, their people can't cultivate, and their world produces so little energy that cultivating the first realm would take a hundred years."

Tatyana sighed. "A cultivator messing with mortal worlds is just pure evil. Nothing more, nothing less."

Kali raised her eyebrow. "Oho, if even you call it evil, it must be considered REALLY evil."

Tatyana smiled. "Any senior with more than two neurons in their brain understands that messing with mortals is something that cultivators should not do."

Yasenia rubbed her chin. "Is visiting them frowned upon?"

Tatyana shook her head. "It isn't as long as you don't mess with the natural order there. Visiting it and traveling around and interacting is okay."

Yasenia smiled. "We should go to one with the children. A world with literally zero threat! That's nice~."

Tatyana grinned. "Oho~, don't underestimate mortals. I've seen technologies that can rival Unification Realm strength and even Dantian Spiritualization Strength."

The dragoness asked, baffled. "How?"

Tatyana laughed. "Well, they have their ways."

Kali asked. "What about transcendence?"

Tatyana hummed. "I would say that finding a mortal civilization with that kind of strength will be harder than finding a second world that practices Body Cultivation... Oh? I can feel the spirits approaching. Alaia?"

Alaia spoke. "There is a group that's traveling around seventy kilometers from where we are. They aren't moving towards us."

Valeria agreed. "These spirits seem a bit primitive. They probably haven't developed enough intelligence to be considered sapient. Can I guide your maids, Little Yasenia?"

Yasenia had no reason to say no, so she readily agreed. "Go ahead. Listen to senior Valeria as if they were my words!"

"Understood, Young Miss!"

Valeria's voice spread through the ship with a heavy and authoritarian tone. "Activate the world compass and go northeast."

Her tone left zero room to refute or doubt, allowing everyone to move like a well-oiled machine.

When the warship started moving, Valeria didn't speak until they saw a pair of very tall volcanos in the distance. "Go through those mountains, and when you arrive above the center area, dive straight down into the lava lake."

While the maids didn't understand, they didn't hesitate and moved the warship according to Valeria's orders.

After reaching atop the middle of the two lava-spewing mountains, Alaia and the rest turned the warship with zero hesitation and dove straight down.

Kali grabbed onto Yasenia as they approached the lava lake. When they were close, Valeria looked toward the approaching lava with serene eyes and ordered. "Accelerate. [Nature Queen's Protection]."

The warship accelerated with a large boom while a green aura enveloped them. Then, they smashed against the lava lake.

BOOM!

Lava flew upward as they dove through the viscous liquid. The surroundings were red as the magma pressed against the protective barrier.

Alaia spoke. "The bottom of the lake is approaching."

Valeria commanded. "Don't stop."

They followed her orders, and the descent didn't last long. After a few seconds, they reached the bottom of the lake. Yet, unlike the solid rocky lakebed they expected to hit, their ship continued down and exited the lava lake.

Valeria ordered, her voice carrying a compelling aura. "Stop."

The maids stopped the warship and looked around. Everyone's eyes opened wide as an unrealistic world welcomed them.

Yasenia asked, stunned. "A subterranean world?"

Tatyana raised her eyebrow and looked at Valeria. "How did you know?"

Valeria smiled. "I analyzed the world's crust with a life energy pulse. I detected a few creatures far below the surface. I guessed there must be something below, so I asked to move in a random direction while analyzing. When I found an entrance, I guided us through it."

Tatyana laughed. "Impressive."

Kali looked upward and asked, baffled. "Why is that magma lake not flowing downwards? It's weight alone should've made it flow down, no?"

Tatyana pondered, and Valeria spoke. "I think there are some strange Heavenly Laws that rule this place. Have you ever seen floating islands? This is something similar."

Tatyana sighed and nodded. "Sadly, I must agree. There is no logical explanation other than that."

Yasenia laughed. "Why 'Sadly'?"

Tatyana blinked. "Well, things with no explanation are more dangerous than things with one. Who knows if that thing will suddenly flow down at the speed of light and crush us, killing us on the spot?"

Yasenia's smile disappeared, and she ordered. "Move us out of the way to a safer spot."

The maids laughed. "Yes, Young Miss."

Tatyana smirked and looked around. "So... Do we have anything interesting around here? Any trace of Ayanduin?"

Doriel spoke. "Young Miss, Lady Tatyana, Madam Kali, Lady Valeria, look at this."

The women approached and examined the energy signals that Doriel was observing. The second they realized what it was, they were all excited. Yasenia grinned. "Natural Treasures... And there isn't just one!"

Valeria smirked. "We might've hit the jackpot. This place is a breeding ground for Natural Treasures. I guess the proximity to the Sun, the spiritual life, and the decently powerful Heaven is enough of a combination to create Yang attributed Natural Treasures."

Kali muttered. "Right. Since spirits don't consume Natural Treasures and instead just use them as a source of energy for themselves, the Natural Treasures have accumulated over the years. No life could've ever made it here because Distancia is the only world we know of with cultivators that are close to being strong enough to... Wow. Perhaps the rest of the worlds are similarly full of treasures!"

Yasenia pointed forward and smirked. "Let's plunder these worlds! Then, we'll plunder Ayanduin!"

Chapter 974: Arriving at the Natural Treasure Location.

Yasenia's group approached the more significant energy signals. They were Kali, Tatyana, Valeria, Yasenia, and forty of her maids. Just in case, Yasenia left behind 10 of them in Distancia.

The main maids that came with her were Doriel, an intelligence-gathering maid; Alaia, the maid's leader; and Flora, Valeria's main helper. Then, Eira was here for pure offensive power and Selena for the defensive power. The rest had a broad spectrum of skills covering almost all possible situations.

Once their boat arrived, Yasenia asked. "I don't think that the Natural Treasure will be unguarded. The Heavens also didn't prohibit our entrance, meaning that there are creatures at least as strong as fifth-realm beings."

Tatyana asked. "What do you suggest?"

Yasenia looked at Tatyana and Valeria and asked, "Can both of you use summons to check the area? I don't really want to meet with a Sixth Realm creature out of nowhere "

Tatyana smiled. "On it."

Valeria nodded. "Give me a moment."

Their auras swelled for a second and pierced the space before them, bursting space into smithereens. When the rift opened, several hundreds of creatures powered outside.

A wide array of plant creatures sprung out from the spatial fissure on Valeria's side. Their bodies didn't bother to maintain an anthropomorphic shape, as functionality was their primary concern in combat.

Meanwhile, on Tatyana's side, skeletal humanoids appeared one after another. They were clad in black and green armor that leaked a dark mist and gave a chilling aura. Then, the last undead to step out of the spatial rift did so with much more control than the previous ones.

Moreover, that humanoid was different. She had a perfectly preserved body with white skin, ghostly green eyes, and white hair. She was very different from when she was alive. However, Kali and Yasenia discerned her almost instantly. Kali, especially, knew that face nearly better than her own, as it was burned in the back of her head.

For a second, the fox woman felt her chest constrict as the armored female undead general walked with measured steps toward Tatyana and kneeled. "Lady Tatyana."

Tatyana nodded and ordered. "Rise, Alyssa."

Yasenia approached Kali, but she didn't hold her hand. Instead, she made sure that the fox woman knew that she was there if she needed support. "I am here, Honey. That's a ghost of the past. Face it."

Kali was stiff, her fist clenched as she looked at the woman who was the origin of all her suffering. The jealous, evil woman who threw her to the wolves just because she was more beautiful than her. Envious of what she couldn't have.

Tatyana looked at Kali, but she didn't cover Alyssa's presence. She had chosen Alyssa for two reasons as her Undead General.

The first reason was that Alyssa was about to enter the Transcendence Realm; she had been about to enter over the last decades. If Tatyana pushed her cultivation, she might've entered, but she was leaving her there, just in case this body needed a powerful non-transcendence undead.

As she was, Alyssa had peak mortal realm strength. No one other than Transcendence Cultivators could beat her individually, thanks to Tatyana's buffs.

The second reason was naturally that Kali was due to face one of her primary traumas. Tatyana had seen the fox woman grow from a timid woman who felt afraid of letting others see part of her face or skin to a mother who could laugh genuinely, not caring about the scars on her face.

Tatyana spoke. "Kali, Alyssa is dead. When she faced Yasenia, I took her corpse and then went and slaughtered her family to become her servants." The Death Empress pointed around her, where thousands of undead were gathered. "They are them."

Kali looked between Tatyana and Alyssa as her body refused to move. However, while she was outwardly paralyzed, her mind was not. On the contrary, she was fighting. 'Move!'

Kali looked at Alyssa, and her body froze as flashbacks of that time appeared in her mind, along with Alyssa's laugh and mocking. Nevertheless, even when her body was paralyzed, Kali didn't show fear in her eyes. She was showing defiance. 'I already got over you years ago. I need one more thing before I completely erase your existence, so move out. You are a worthless fear. You have nothing against me.'

Alyssa's face in front of her seemed to morph into her mocking and arrogant face. "Are you sure? Or are you not erasing me because... you can't? You're afraid of being free of baggage, aren't you?"

Kali sneered. "Keep on dreaming. Heart Demon, you are the only one left."

Alyssa shook her head. "Me? The only one left? Even you don't believe that."

The fox woman looked at Alyssa and took a step forward, her body somewhat trembling from the exertion. "I told you, Heart Demon. I am in control; you aren't." The Heart Demon felt the predatory verdant green fox eyes and felt extremely threatened. "Go back where I left you. I am almost done with my pill recipe. Once I am done, you are going to disappear. There is no other ending. There is no reversal. Even if you threw me into the same situation a thousand times over, the result wouldn't change as long as I have Yassenia standing by my side."

Alyssa blinked and smirked.

"Oho~? What if she disappears?"

Kali's surroundings went black, and her sensation of anything around her disappeared.

"What if everyone disappeared?"

Kali's mind froze for a second, but she took a deep breath and said. "They aren't gone."

"You are right. Yassenia is faithfully standing by your left side. Valeria is heroically standing by your right side. Your mother-in-law is looking at you... And yet, you can't see them."

Alyssa reappeared by her side and whispered. "You can't feel them."

Kali wanted to move and touch the people around her. But she couldn't, making her frown. "When did you gain so much strength?"

Alyssa laughed and leaned forward, almost kissing Kali. "Losing strength? I never did. You just placed me in a deeper part of your soul."

Kali frowned for a few moments, and then, her face gained a serene expression. "Really?"

Alyssa raised her eyebrow. "If not?"

Kali smiled. "Lies. All you say are lies. Look, my wife is here." Kali extended her hand to the right side, not the left, and grabbed Yassenia's hand. The darkness was blasted open, and Alyssa's figure was blown apart into black miasma.

Her verdant green fox eyes moved and landed on Alyssa's undead figure. However, unlike the expressiveness of her vision, she only saw an emotionless expression of a creature bound to eternal servitude under the Death Empress. "It has been a while since I saw her." Kali smirked. "She looks as bad as always."

Tatyana clicked her tongue. "Lies~. She looks much better now that she is my undead! She doesn't have that arrogant and nasty personality."

Kali laughed and approached. "This really came as a surprise. Even if you gave me a thousand years, I wouldn't have guessed it."

Yasenia crossed her arms under her prominent bosom, highlighting the prominent curve. "I was wondering when you would show her to Kali. I am surprised you chose now and..." Yasenia looked around at the magma-filled environment. "... in this place."

Tatyana smirked. "We might die, so when's a better moment to surpass our past fears!?"

Valeria raised her eyebrow. "Oh yeah? Now, it is your turn. What past fear are you going to overcome?"

Tatyana pointed toward the energy source, ignoring Valeria. "Let's go!"

The girls and maids deadpanned, but no one disobeyed, and they started moving again.

Once they were close, Valeria and Tatyana ordered. "Scouts."

Ten undead and twenty plant creatures rushed forward, disappearing right in front of their eyes as if they hadn't existed in the first place.

Yasenia felt the air fluctuations stopping, giving her nothing to work with, and complimented.

"That's some impressive stealth. Can you detect them, Doriel?"

Doriel hummed. "Barely. They would be very annoying to deal with."

Kali asked. "How much anti-."

ROAR!

A beastly and gurgling scream spread from the inside of the cave system they wanted to enter, followed by tremors that shook the underground.

Tatyana smirked. "Prepare to enter combat. We have a big fish!"

What the dragoness didn't expect was that, from the mouth of the cave entrance, an enormous fish that was swimming in the solid magma appeared.

The body was made of a rocky surface that constantly spewed magma. Yasenia commented in awe. "That's, quite literally, a really big fish. What's its realm...? Oh! Tenth Level Legendary Beast Core Realm! No... It is not a beast!"

Valeria chuckled. "Yeah. That fish is a spirit! Spirits don't all take a humanoid form. Some take other ones, and even their size varies tremendously. After all, spirits don't have the limitations of flesh. That fish is at the peak-level of the Spirit Core Harmony Realm."

Soluna looked at Yasenia and smiled. "That big spirit is so strong and old! I can't beat it!"

"Why are you so happy?" The dragoness asked, baffled.

Soluna hummed. "I am happy that there are spirits doing well outside my world!"

Yasenia looked at the fish and said. "Well, Doriel, go with Valeria and take the treasures inside. The rest, let's hold off that thing here."

Tatyana extended her hand, summoning a beautiful longsword with gorgeous accessories. "We don't kill it?"

Yasenia asked. "Can we kill it? That thing has been absorbing the power of a Natural Treasure for who knows how long. I think it is better just to steal the Natural Treasure and flee."

Tatyana raised an eyebrow. "What if the fish follows us around the World as we steal treasures? Won't it become an annoyance?"

"..." Yasenia really couldn't argue with that one. "Soluna, Kali, I can see that you find it cute, but we need to kill it."

"Aww..." Both of them pouted and looked at Yasenia. However, the dragoness really didn't want to deal with that giant fish following them around the planet and perhaps beyond.

All forty maids and Tatyana's army swarmed forward, accompanied by Yasenia and supported by Valeria's army. The environment would usually not be ideal for Valeria's army. However, the plant life she had summoned was all volcanic plant life. While not immune to harsh temperatures, they were much more resilient than usual plant life.

The giant spirit fish roared, and then Yasenia and the rest saw the world turn red.

ROAR!

A gargantuan beam of pure magma energy swallowed them all, leaving no sight of them.

However, the spirit fish was confused. The second he stopped firing his massive magma stream, an unharmed group appeared before its eyes.

At the front of the group, Selena stood tall and strong, fully equipped in her maid-armor and holding a giant shield. Around her, an aura that protected everyone could be seen.

Kali smirked. "No matter how often I see it, it is always incredible."

Yasenia shouted, her auras bursting outward with violence as her [War Intent Level 9] enveloped everyone. "Attack!"

Chapter 975: Treasure Acquired!

The enormous fish got angry when his attack was blocked, and he charged forward, "swimming" through the rocks as if it was water and turning everything into molten magma.

Yasenia was quick to give orders. "Defensive group, stop it. Offensive group, target the fins. Assassin group deals with its secondary attacks. Our objective is to kill the magma spirit."

Selena led the defensive group of maids. They all rushed forward and deployed their skills, summoning a mix of elemental defenses that supported Selena's glass shield.

BOOM!

When the fish collided with the defense, the ground rippled like water. Still, Selena and the other maids stood their ground with stoic faces while the defense remained solid.

Using Selena's group's feat, Alaia led the offensive group and rained attacks on the creature's fins. The bombardment was incredibly powerful, exploding large parts of the magma fish and creating holes everywhere.

Kali frowned. 'Why is no one targeting the most important fin, the tail?'

She got the answer almost instantly. When the fish roared in pain, Eira appeared at the back of the fish, her posture slightly leaning sideways while her hand gently clutched the hilt of her sword.

"[Sword Intent Level 9]."

The world around the white-haired maid split into pieces as her Sword Intent appeared.

Kali's body burst into chills. 'T-That's a Level 9 Intent!?' Kali knew that Level 9 was the mortal limit an Intent could achieve. However, the potency and pressure that Eira's intent released felt as if she had broken some kind of barrier and arrived at a tenth level.

Yasenia looked at the magma fish and ordered. "Cut."

As her faithful sword, Eira unsheathed in an upward arc. "[Sky Splitter]."

SLASH!

The magma spirit fish released a terrifying roar of pure agony.

ROAR!

Unlike the other attacks that deeply hurt it, they didn't manage to injure it heavily. This strike, though, completely severed the tail from its body.

It was severed in all senses of the word, be it the spiritual, soul, or physical connection; everything was cut.

Kali asked, looking as Eira sheathed her sword. "Can't she kill this thing alone?"

Yasenia continued giving commands, but she answered Kali through her spiritual sense. Maintaining two simultaneous conversations was not hard for her. 'She probably can. She has been improving her sword as much as possible during the last few years. Oh, and she is at the peak of the Ninth Level of the Dantian Spiritualization Realm. She should enter the half-step soon as well.'

Kali's lips twitched. 'She has yet to enter the half-step realm? What a monster.'

Angered to the limits, the creature began attacking indiscriminately. Of course, no one got injured with the maids defending in addition to the undead and plant creature's intervention.

As they controlled the creature, it suddenly turned and jumped with an open mouth, rushing at an assassin maid who was hiding at the side.

The dragoness joined the battle, using [Pegasus Gallop] to instantly cross the distance and appear above the giant fish. Soluna also materialized by her side with a cold expression.

Then, both of them attacked.

Yasenia swung down her sword with everything she had. "[Moon Core Shattering Strike]."

Soluna waved her hand and added to the attack. "[Spirit Moon Beam]."

BOOM!

Two silver waves with terrifying Moon energies slammed against the spirit fish's head, forcing the flying fish to crater into the ground. The impact was strong enough to force the surroundings to rise in a magma tsunami.

Taking advantage of the situation, Tatyana waved her hand and regally commanded. "Smash it. [Undying Flesh Reinforcement]."

With her words, Alyssa instantly appeared right by Yasenia's side. The undead general raised her hand, and a giant wave of Death energy gathered above her. The cloud of Death Energy was absorbed by her hand, and Alyssa descended like a black meteor.

BOOOOOM!

The world around them quaked, and a second wave of magma rose far taller than what Yasenia's and Soluna's combined strike created.

The shockwave pushed back Yasenia and Soluna, making Yasenia chuckle. "Strong."

Soluna nodded twice, looking curiously at the crater of bubbling magma that was slowly closing. "That undead general is really strong!"

Yasenia hummed. "Undead Generals are quite highly ranked in Tatyana's army. Honestly, she can only summon Alyssa because she is weak compared to the rest of her generals. Oh! And because her secondary body is particularly created for summoning. The body she is using is not specialized for hand-to-hand combat but to command armies."

Soluna blinked twice. "I see."

Yasenia ordered. "Finish it off!"

All the maids rushed forward and dove into the magma lake. The ground trembled as blows cracked the ground and created tremors.

After a few seconds, the ground burst into a massive pillar of magma that, when it dispersed, revealed the unmoving magma spirit. The dragoness smiled. "It was really strong."

Kali appeared by her side and nodded. "It resisted for a while, even when attacked by all of us."

Yasenia approached and asked Soluna. "It is dead, right?"

Soluna nodded. "Yes. Its core has stopped generating energy. It is dead."

The dragoness rubbed her chin and said. "Dig out the core. I'll store it and leave it back in the sect as a source of magma energy."

"That won't be necessary."

Yasenia looked to the right and saw Valeria returning with Doriel. On Valeria's hand, a ball of flowing blue magma moved cheerfully as if Valeria's touch was delightful for it.

The dragoness raised her eyebrows. "A [Lava Soul]?"

Valeria laughed. "Yes. It is a natural treasure of magma energy, a [Lava Soul]. A cute one at that~."

Yasenia hummed. "I see~. That's nice, now we have... Hm."

Kali saw Yasenia's hesitation and asked. "What's wrong?"

The dragoness commented. "Natural Treasures... I feel that they are too valuable to leave behind in Distancia. We'll use the spirit's magma core as I planned initially."

Valeria couldn't really deny that and extended her hand while leaning down. "Here."

Yasenia extended her hand and absorbed it into her Five Realm Spatial ring. The ring quickly accepted it and placed the magma soul in the volcanic environment it had inside. The dragoness looked at the Lava Soul to see how it did.

Meanwhile, the Lava Soul observed the new surroundings for a few moments. Then it flew toward the hottest area and snuggled there, bubbling in apparent happiness.

The dragoness smiled and laughed softly. "Quite cute."

Tatyana and Valeria waved their hands, opening another rift, and sent their troops back.

Kali looked at Alyssa kneeling before Tatyana and followed her with her eyes until she jumped into the rift.

The dragoness's orders snapped her out of her daze. "We are going to the next treasure! We'll be in this world for a while."

Tatyana smiled. "Are you not afraid that Ayanduin will leave this Solar System?"

Yasenia shook her head. "What is he running away from? He doesn't know our strength. Moreover, he looked like someone who was quite proud of himself. Even in front of those people, he was calm and negotiated a very good deal for himself. A single poison in exchange for being liberated from that Secret Realm."

The dragoness commented as they all boarded the warship again. "He won't leave because he is strong. As a merchant, he is in a Solar System with the long lost Body Cultivation Methods. Ayanduin will stay around and get as many treasures as he can, like we are currently doing."

Kali tilted her head. "Why are you so sure?"

"Because he is strong. Because he is greedy. Because he is cunning." The dragoness smirked. "He is arrogant and thinks that he is safe. He won't leave a treasure trove because he is worried."

Kali asked again, not convinced yet. "What if he is afraid of something? Afraid that the people who placed him there would come and get him? He left Distancia as fast as he could, no?"

Yasenia looked at Kali and pondered. "Do you feel uneasy if we don't search for him?"

Kali opened and closed her mouth. Then, she sighed and nodded. "Yes. I am. You are currently in pain, and I don't care that you can bear it. Knowing that you are in pain, and instead of searching for someone who can fix you, we are taking treasures... I am worried. I am impatient. I want to see you healing, Yasenia. You only have eight years."

Yasenia looked around her and sighed. "Well, no one other than us can come here in the first place. We can come at a later date and take the rest of the treasures, right?"

Kali knew how much Yasenia loved treasures in general. She would always light up with pure joy each time they got something valuable or precious. It didn't matter how valuable it was relative to Yasenia's entire wealth; as long as it was valuable, she would be happy. "Love, I am sorry. I just... I am worried."

The dragoness patted Kali's head, caressing her fox ears gently. "Don't worry. I understand, love. Your happiness is more valuable than any treasure."

Kali looked up at the gentle and honest expression of the dragoness, and she walked forward, diving into Yasenia's arms and hugging her tightly. Even her tails surrounded Yasenia. "I love you."

Yasenia chuckled and kissed her head. "I love you, too." Then, she ordered. "Let's go to the next world. We need to find Ayanduin as fast as possible."

"Understood, Young Miss."

Tatyana and Valeria smirked while looking from the side, but they said nothing. Natural Treasures were precious to them as well. They were always valuable, regardless of what cultivation realm a person was in. The warship went back to the magma lake and dove upward.

Before they left the world, Tatyana said. "Wait."

Yasenia ordered. "Stop." Then, she looked at Tatyana and asked. "What's wrong?"

Tatyana stuck out her tongue and hit her head softly. "We can't leave yet~. I need to place the formation to conceal the Solar System."

Everyone looked at Tatyana, trying to act cute, with a speechless expression. Kali deadpanned, but it was quite an important thing, so she sighed. "Go on."

Tatyana giggled. "Don't worry, it won't take long. I need... Hm..." Tatyana looked at the size of the world and commented. "One month!"

Kali looked at her for a few seconds in pure silence and sighed. "Then, can't we use this time to loot this place?"

Tatyana coughed. "You don't need to remain here." Tatyana walked to Yasenia and tiptoed to kiss her lips. "As Kali said, you really need to find that person."

The dragoness asked, confused. "You are staying behind?"

Tatyana shrugged. "One month is enough for you to search all of the worlds, at least superficially." Then, she smiled. "Also, don't worry about transportation. I have Undead ships, or I can travel with my sword as well."

Kali exclaimed. "You can travel between worlds with your sword?"

Tatyana shrugged. "Space has no speed limit. You are safe as long as you are cautious with the distance and don't smash into anything."

Yasenia asked with a raised eyebrow. "Hey, didn't you come to space with me to protect me?"

The Death Empress shook her head. "Protect you? As if you can't deal with a merchant. Little Treasure, I am not going to hold you by the hand forever. I won't say no if you need me to visit this merchant. However, that would say a lot of things."

The dragoness smiled. "I just asked because I was curious. Don't worry."

Tatyana nodded and flew off the warship. "Have fun~! If you don't find him, there is no need to come and get me. I'll be back in Distancia in one year at the latest."

Yasenia nodded and ordered. "Set off!"

The warship gathered energy, and then it flew off into space.

Chapter 976: Using A World As A Resource.

After Yasenias and the rest left the world, Tatyana looked around with a pondering expression. 'Let's see if my thoughts were right.'

The resistance was very light when she summoned Alyssa and the other undead. Surprisingly, the Heavens of this World were at a higher level than Distancia's. However, because the creatures of this world were not intelligent and took a lot of time to cultivate, it appeared like none had managed to break through the mortal realms.

Without guidance, breaking through into the sixth realm was extremely difficult. One needed to comprehend how Heaven worked with the surroundings and transcend it. The reason for the name Transcendence Realm was that the cultivators managed to become one with their surroundings and truly transcend mortality.

A creature made out of Heavenly Energy that peeked at the truth of the universe, that was a Transcendent Level cultivator.

Tatyana crossed her arms and got thoughtful. 'I guess I lose nothing from trying, right? This body is already at the peak of the mortal realms either way.'

Tatyana was not planning to break through. Not that she could, as she still lacked a large amount of accumulation before doing so. Regardless, even if she could, reaching the Transcendence Realm would mean that she couldn't enter Distancia anymore.

"Let's see~. Can I summon you?" Tatyana started gathering energy, slowly filling her surroundings with Death energy.

This planet was a heavily Yang-attributed world. After all, being so close to the Sun meant that the Yin element could barely even exist.

However, there was something that everything needed, and that was balance.

Therefore, where such a deep and profound concentration of Yang energy existed, Yin energy would only need a spark to swallow that light.

Tatyana knew how to create that spark. Her eyes started glowing red as her aura skyrocketed. Tatyana's presence expanded several kilometers around her and continued growing outward and accelerating with each second.

Her Death Attribute devoured the Yang attribute of the world and caused it to grow exponentially.

Tatyana smiled as her red eyes glowed with an insane spark. "World, how about I use you as a source of energy for my skill? Would you like that?"

RUMBLE!

The second she spoke, a massive tribulation cloud appeared above her, making Tatyana laugh aloud. "You want to resist!? HAHAAHAHAHA! PUNY HEAVENS."

With her exclamation, the black clouds above her gathered a terrifying lightning bolt that would probably split Distancia in half, and then, it fell.

Space in its way got annihilated as the lightning bolt rushed at the mortal on the world's surface.

However, Tatyana was not a normal mortal. Her body was the [Divine Lich Empress Body], a body created from Death Essence so pure that a single particle of it would probably annihilate life in an entire world.

With a shout that reverberated across the world and beyond, Tatyana chanted. "[Divine Lich Empress' Absolution: Underworld's Descent]!"

Everything came to a stop, the lightning in the sky stopped, the roaring magma around Tatyana stopped, and even the time flow around them seemed to slow down to a crawl.

Behind Tatyana, a gigantic pair of gates appeared. The obsidian gates, decorated with an arch made of skulls of all types of creatures, opened with a rumbling sound that made the entire world quake.

From the Underworld, a black lightning bolt several times larger than Heaven's attack bolted out and crashed into it, blasting not only the heavenly lightning bolt but the entire Heavenly Tribulation above Tatyana apart.

Tatyana grinned widely as if her lips would suddenly split and reach from ear to ear. "Fighting against me!? You are too young for this!"

Then, using the egregious amounts of Death Energy that poured out from the Underworld, Tatyana pushed her current body beyond anything she had done before with it.

Her smile disappeared, and her face turned solemn. Her dress changed, becoming the royal red dress she wore with her main body, and the tiara appeared on her head.

The green gems adorning her body released a phantasmal glow, while Tatyana's presence became imperial.

As if a goddess had descended, the Death Energy around her bowed to her will. Then, her chant started.

"You who had peered at the secrets of the Heaven and understood them."

The Death Energy in the surroundings expanded, covering more and more of the world with each second. Like an unstoppable tide, everything that it touched died. Moreover, it was not only the surface that was affected. It also pierced deep into the world, swallowing everything like an unstoppable force.

"You who, after death, continued your insatiable hunt for knowledge."

Tatyana's voice rumbled throughout the world like the command of an absolute being.

Heaven, who was trying to resist, could do nothing as the enormous Underworld Gates behind Tatyana suppressed it to the point of helplessness.

As Tatyana's aura increased, it transcended. When the entire world was covered in Death Energy, and Tatyana controlled that energy, her energy reserves were already well into the Transcendence Realm.

Using the ridiculous amounts of Death Energy around her, she used her constitution, [Death Devouring Seer Embodiment], to swallow a large part and transform it into Fate energy.

The Death Empress waved her hand, and her own Fate Threads appeared right before her. She reached towards them and grabbed one of them.

"You who peered through Fate."

Her fingers moved, and the Fate thread was sliced. A turbulence occurred around Tatyana as she severed one of her own Fate threads.

"You who created Life."

Tatyana reached out and pierced her own heart, bursting with blood and life disappearing from her body. However, with her dying breath, she continued.

"You who traversed Space."

Behind Tatyana, a gigantic portal appeared, darker than the void, like an all-consuming maw. From it, a powerful Life Energy surge surrounded Tatyana, healing her dying body enough to continue her chant.

"You who burnt the Sun."

From the portal, a terrifying flame surged, consuming half her body.

"You who froze the Moon."

Similarly, a freezing wind flowed forward, freezing Tatyana's other half.

Even then, while flames and ice were consuming her body, her chant continued uninterrupted as the life energy regenerated her body.

"You who gave meaning to the Stars."

Tatyana's aura inflated, exploding outward like an unstoppable tide and making the earth below her sink from the pressure she was releasing.

Then, the Death energy that had consumed the world started rolling back toward her.

"You who ruled Death!"

When the Death energy arrived and got absorbed by her body, unlike a living being would, Tatyana's body healed at a terrifying rate. In just a few seconds, all the injuries she received disappeared while something else materialized around her body.

A dark aura, darker than a starless night.

Her eyes glowed red, illuminating the darkness like two bright red suns, and she chanted with all her being.

Then, the World died.

As all the auras that had accumulated around Tatyana condensed into the portal behind her, an aura of death so thick that it made even Tatyana have some difficulty breathing spread around.

From the portal, a being... no, a ruler appeared. It was a being with such a profound aura that no one would think of facing it.

He wore a deep black tunic with skeletal accessories adorned with gorgeous imagery of the elements. His eyes glowed with a ghostly green glow, like all of those that fell under Tatyana's rule.

A skeletal face that looked neither human nor beast-like. It was a pristine white skull that forced anyone looking at him to lower their gaze.

Tatyana's strongest summon and master, the Heaven's Calamity Overlord.

Tatyana smiled faintly. "Long time no see, old man."

The Overlord's voice was mystical and deep as if he was speaking in the language of the stars. "You killed a world and a Heaven to summon me. Speak, this is too small of an offering to keep me around for long."

Tatyana crossed her arms, looking up at the three-meter-tall being. "I wanted to ask you, can you help me create a formation in this place to cover the Solar System from the Divines? Oh, and by the way, tell me where I am. I could connect this place with the Sky Continent in the past, but that was blindly poking a hole in the universe to carry over a few people."

The Overlord looked at Tatyana and snorted. "Just that? You killed an entire world just for that?"

Tatyana blinked cutely and approached with a coy expression. "Won't you help your hard-working disciple~?"

The old man flicked Tatyana's forehead, but instead of a gentle tap, Tatyana literally flew away like a shooting star. The Overlord turned around and extended his skeletal hand.

Then, from the other side of the world, having circled it, Tatyana appeared and slammed against his hand.

BOOM!

"..." The Overlord commented with a sigh. "You are so weak."

Tatyana, who had her facial bones broken, couldn't really speak, but she protested with her spiritual sense. 'COULD YOU NOT SMASH MY PRETTY FACE AS THE FIRST GESTURE YOU DO TOWARDS ME AFTER SO MANY MILLENNIA!?'

The Overlord naturally ignored Tatyana's indignant screams. "If that's the only thing you want, sure. I can do it with ease." Then, he looked around and hummed. "So, where is the Little Princess? I want to see her."

His aura pulsed outward, covering the entire Solar System in an instant, and he hummed. "I see... Huh? She is poisoned?"

Tatyana realized that she forgot to say it and said. "WAIT!"

The Overlord, who was about to heal Yasenia and annihilate the one who did it, paused and looked at her. "What's wrong? The Little Princess is poisoned, and you dare not heal her!? Do you want me to smack your real body's butt until it is red for a hundred years!?"

Tatyana stuttered. "D-Don't do that! Do you know how awkward it was sitting like an Empress the last time that you did that? It hurts like hell!"

The Overlord sighed. "So, what's wrong?"

Tatyana cleared her throat and explained. "The person who inflicted the poison is already in my grasp and is being tortured. We were searching for a man called Ayanduin. I want to find him so that he can become Yasenia's lead merchant, but don't say this to Yasenia."

The Overlord rubbed his skeletal chin and guessed the rest. "I see. You have not caught that man yet because you want Yasenia to fend for herself and do it by herself. Although... Ayanduin is quite strong for Yasenia to face, right? He is in the Transcendence Realm."

Tatyana exclaimed with a smile. "Aya~! That's unexpected! So it turns out that my dearest daughter will need things other than brute force to convince him to join her group!"

Speechless, the Overlord said. "Hey, your happiness is too palpable and annoying. If you can be happy, you should be training or something."

Tatyana humped. "Either way, your time is running out! Can you do what I asked you before you disappeared and I killed this world for nothing?"

"Sigh... [Star Concealing Formation]." Then, he waved his hand, and the entire solar system got covered into a concealing formation.

"Hmm... You are actually in the lowest Heavenly layer? How did you come here?"

Tatyana was about to answer, but the Overlord's eyes flashed white and he said. "Ah. Those demons? Why didn't you call me?"

Tatyana pouted. "Can you let me answer!"

"No. I want to go and present myself to your daughter... daughters?"

Tatyana blinked a few times. "Oh? You discovered Estrella!" She grinned. "Isn't she cute!?"

"Attributeless..." The man's eyes glowed dangerously. "Heavenly Influence?" Then, he scoffed. "No wonder you chose this way of summoning me. Taking a little revenge?"

Tatyana smiled coldly. "Can't I? Heaven makes my daughter like that. Well, I'll kill one of its children in return."

"Hahahaha." He laughed and patted Tatyana's head as if she were a naughty child. "Great job."

Tatayan giggled, and she hummed. "Hey."

The Overlord looked at her, and Tatyana smiled. "Thanks for everything."

"Oh?" His skeletal face gained a semblance of a smile, and he gently patted her head. "Don't worry, little one." Two orbs, one flaming red and another one black with starlight, appeared in Tatyana's hand. "Here are the coordinates of your location. Also, be careful and don't underestimate the Lower Heavens. There are many rogue cultivators that want to become the kings of a dirt mound."

Tatyana nodded seriously. "I will."

Then, the Overlord disappeared, leaving one sentence behind. "I hope you summon me properly next time. I want to hold my granddaughter and great-granddaughter."

Tatyana laughed. "Sure~." She looked at the flaming orb that appeared in her hand and smiled. "Thanks for collecting the Natural Treasures~."

Chapter 977: Cosmic Trip And Breakthrough.

Yasenia and the rest went from world to world, but they didn't locate a signal from Ayanduin. The dragoness looked out to the vast outer space. Her Spiritual Sense spread out for hundreds of thousands of kilometers.

As she looked at the celestial bodies passing by and the occasional Star Beast, she couldn't help but feel like everything was so... relaxing.

At the start, she felt uncomfortable out in space. However, day by day, that uncomfortableness disappeared, and a sense of freedom replaced it.

Her senses caught everything easier, and even when the maids didn't recommend having the Spiritual Sense spread out, Yasenias didn't listen this time. The reason the maids gave her was that she could have a sensory overload if they suddenly passed through a cluster of matter.

At the end of the day, Spiritual Sense was a cultivator's mind's eye. It was a way of looking at the surroundings. Too much information could overcharge it.

Kali approached Yasenias and looked at her with curious eyes. "What are you looking at? Isn't it a bit boring to see, love?"

Yasenias smiled. "Boring? It is fascinating. I could probably spend years to no end and never get tired of looking at this scenery."

Kali tilted her head and asked. "Really? I can't find the appeal... Why don't you tell me about what makes it so interesting for you?"

Yasenias looked at Kali and walked behind her. Then, she hugged her fox and looked ahead with her. "I find the hidden traces of life in such a vast void interesting. Unlike a world that is filled with beings and energy all around, everything out here is so thinly spread. Why is there so much... nothingness? If life only thrives in world-like places, why is the universe different from a secret realm? A big landmass full of life that's trapped in a spatial bubble, so to speak."

Kali hummed and got thoughtful, leaning back on Yasenias and feeling the dragoness's soft body. "Looking at it that way... We live in islands that are sparse in an ocean that can only support extremely resilient life."

Yasenias smirked. "Right? If worlds suddenly stopped existing, how many creatures do you think could thrive?"

"Humans? Their younger generations would perish in the void of space."

"Beast humans? Most of their infants can't really live as infants outside certain environments; space is a big graveyard for them."

"Beasts? Only a few could survive."

Kali asked with a small laugh. "What about Divines and Demons?"

Yasenias chuckled. "Who knows? But what I mean to say is that space's emptiness is... strange."

Kali tilted her head upward to look at her tall dragoness. "Strange? How so?"

Yasenias got thoughtful, organizing her thoughts. "I mean... Why isn't the entirety of space covered by the Heavens?"

Kali understood the depth of that question, but she asked back. "What if it is?"

Yasenias paused, and her pupils shrank. Kali smiled and looked out to the vastness of space. "What if everything is covered, but we are so incredibly small. So incredibly weak and insignificant, we

cannot even gaze upon it? Can a mortal look at or understand the vastness of their world? Many primitive lifeforms think that the world ends after their previously explored maps."

Kali looked at Yaseenia's face and smiled. "We have a lot to learn, love."

Yaseenia looked at Kali and kissed her lips with a smile. "We do. Now, can you go inside? I need to meditate here."

Kali nodded and ordered aloud. "Give space to your Young Miss! Don't let anything interrupt her thoughts!"

All the maids answered as one. "Understood, Madam Kali!"

Kali caressed Yaseenia's face and smiled gently. "Go."

Yaseenia chuckled and jumped out of the ship, not caring about their current speed. Somehow, she knew that nothing would go wrong.

Her energy surged around her, and her voice echoed through space even without air.

"[Empyrean Cosmos Dragon Transformation]."

The faint energy in the void of space was transmitting her voice, not air. And right after she did so, Yaseenia's dragon form manifested.

Her majestic body blended with the surroundings in perfect harmony, surreal and illusory.

Meanwhile, the maids who didn't expect Yaseenia to jump out were stunned for a fraction of a second before Alaia barked out orders. "Turn around! Activate the energy radar! Scouts, I'll kill you if you lose Young Miss's energy traces!"

"UNDERSTOOD!"

Kali blinked several times, looking at the place Yaseenia jumped from. "W-Why did she jump!?"

Valeria laughed. "Young people are surely energetic."

Kali blurted. "Energetic!? Who jumps into the void of space without a single safety net!? I swear that if she has even a single scratch, I'll smack her butt until it is red!"

Kali imagined her hand sinking in Yaseenia's bouncy, jiggly, and large buttocks and corrected herself. "I'll smack her butt even if she isn't scratched!"

Valeria looked at Kali's opening and closing hand with a deadpan. 'Well, I guess that even the most reserved of people will become perverts if they have Yaseenia as a wife.'

Of all the bodies she had during her years, this one was the most voluptuous, without a doubt. The main reason was that, usually, when people summoned her in the past, they imagined her as a motherly and elegant creature. While she had curvy figures in the past, none were as shapely as Yaseenia's.

Kali looked at Valeria and saw her using her hands to lift and release her giant twin green mountains. She asked, stupefied. "What are you doing?"

Valeria blinked and answered. "Admiring the bounciness of your lover's body. Look."

Kali looked, and Valeria lifted her breasts, letting them down after that. The small gravitational field in the ship wasn't strong enough to stop the jiggle of Valeria's breasts until they bounced almost seven times.

Kali cleared her throat. "Impressive indeed."

Meanwhile, Yasenia let herself float through space, not moving as she slowly drifted into her dragon form.

Her eyes were closed as she felt the movement around her. While there was no wind or any other indication that she was moving, her enormous spiritual sense could detect the shifting of the asteroids in space, giving her a sense of movement.

'Hm?'

When the dragoness was standing on the warship, the ship's anti-gravity field blocked her from feeling the cosmic forces. Now that she was allowing her body to drift, there was a very faint sensation of the Sun's gravitational pull attracting her into an orbit around it.

The sensation was so vague that almost nobody else would have felt it, but Yasenia did. In addition, the nearly untraceable pull of nearby Celestial objects started affecting her, making her body deviate from her previous straight path while slowing her overall speed. 'Slowing down? Why? There is no friction here to slow me down.'

What Yasenia was feeling was a phenomenon that usually would be impossible. After all, Yasenia appeared out of nowhere and was suddenly influenced by the gravity of the Celestial Objects around her. This meant that the gravitational pull was slowing her down and trying to guide her into an orbit around the Sun.

As a relatively large star, the Sun of this Solar System had an incredibly large gravitational pull.

As Yasenia was mesmerized by all of this, she couldn't help but think of what she represented. "A dragon that represents the endless firmament. I should be like this Sun, pulling everything towards me and keeping it under my control, for I am the [Empyrean Cosmos Dragon]."

The dragoness's aura swelled as she absorbed the cosmic energy around her. Not having been purified by the Heavens, it was not recommended to absorb lots of it unless it was a life-or-death scenario. However, Yasenia couldn't stop, and even if she could, she wouldn't.

As the raw cosmic energy entered her meridians, it acted like a wild creature trapped in a cage and ran wild inside Yasenia. Still, it could not escape or even do damage.

[Celestial Yin and Yang Body] was an equalizer of everything. The constitution that could balance even pure [Celestial Energy]. Yasenia's biggest and most important strength was not her energy, comprehension, or any other quality.

It was her constitution.

Without [Celestial Yin and Yang Body], not to mention growing into what she had become, even starting her cultivation journey would've been nigh impossible.

So, when the cosmic energy tried to cause trouble inside Yasenia's meridians, a terrifying pressure fell upon it, stilling the energy into shock.

Nothing seemed to happen from the outside, but inside, a presence that made even the [Celestial Energy Star] tame manifested. With it, the energy fell into the Dantian, and a terrifying suction force came from one of the treasures there.

The [Primordial Energy Core] sucked in those energies and quickly refined them. Like many of Yaseenia's treasures, the origins of the [Primordial Energy Core] were anything but ordinary. It was with it that Yaseenia could rebirth, and it was with it that Yaseenia could absorb almost any type of energy and quickly refine it into her own energy.

Moreover, her own energy, thanks to the Core, never really had Heavenly Influence. Therefore, the peculiarity of the cosmic energy fell into fancy and new energy, not a hazard of any kind.

As Yaseenia absorbed torrents of energy, she felt her connection with the cosmos around her deepening, and her understanding of energy increased.

Yaseenia muttered. "A sea of nothingness when seen from a mortal's eyes, A sea of life when seen from the eyes of an immortal. Celestial Energy is not just about destruction. It is about creation as well."

With such thoughts, the blockage that had been stopping her weakened, and Yaseenia managed to break through the bottleneck.

A ripple of energy spread outward as Yaseenia reached the [Celestial Intent Level 8]. Moreover, she could feel that it would just be a matter of time and a deeper comprehension of what she understood now to reach the ninth.

Yaseenia returned to herself and started moving, spreading her wings and using energy to turn in what felt "right" to her. She then looked around and blinked. "Well... Where am I?"

She looked toward the Sun in the distance and tried to calculate how far she was. However, she didn't really know how to do that, so she gave up. So, without thinking much about it, she looked around her body and found the Communication Device she always had on her. "Hello? Kali?"

Kali's voice reached her from the communication device. "Have you finished?"

Yaseenia answered with a happy tone. "I did! I also broke through into the eighth level of the Celestial Intent!"

Kali hummed. "I see~."

Yaseenia blinked twice and asked. "Why don't you sound as excited as I thought you would?"

Kali laughed a bit. "Well, you took four months. It's not quite a good thing when I know that you have so little time to live, right?"

The dragoness sighed. "I am sorry, Honey. I'll return right away."

"Don't be, love." Kali's soothing tone was heard with a bit of malicious intent. "When you come back, I decided to slap you one time per hour you were outside the warship."

Yaseenia's forehead started perspiring even in the void of space. "T-That's 2880 slaps..."

Kali laughed a bit more. "2893, love. We are in the 13th hour of today."

Yaseenia saw the warship approaching, and she had an urge to flee. However, like an obedient wife, she resigned herself to her fate. "Please, be gentle..."

Chapter 978: Arriving at a Fallen World.

Yasenia's group continued their search, and soon, they visited all planets before Distancia without any success. Yasenia crossed her arms, thoughtful, and saw Distancia passing by.

She had ordered the maids to travel near Distancia for a few moments, even if she didn't want to go and appear on the planet. Kali hugged Yasenia's arm and smiled while looking at the gigantic planet. "What are you thinking, Yasenia?"

Yasenia answered softly. "Well, I am thinking about what our babies are doing, what my darlings are doing if there have been any complications because of my absence..."

Kali raised her eyebrow and looked toward Alaia. "Can we take a look? This ship should have a way to zoom into the world's surface, right?"

Yasenia answered instead. "It does."

"Oh?" Kali looked at Yasenia, surprised. "Then, why aren't you doing it?"

Yasenia placed her hands behind her, caressing the base of the tail as she spoke measuredly. "Well, I want to show trust in my lovers. They have a communication device, right? So, if they were in trouble, I want to believe that they would contact me, regardless of my situation."

Kali realized and smiled. "Do you want to trust them and not look? Do you think that checking on them means a lack of trust in their abilities?"

Yasenia shook her head. "No, that's silly. How could making sure that they are okay be a sign of distrust? If that were so, I'd rather become the most distrustful lover in the world."

Kali blinked and burst into laughter. "You are adorable, love. I love you."

The dragoness blinked twice, not knowing where those words came from, but she was happy regardless and used her tail to entangle Kali's four tails and play a bit.

"Either way. My reason for not looking is the opposite. I think that if I look, I won't be able to hold myself from going down and meet all of them. After all, I miss them dearly."

The dragoness sighed, looking at the green and blue pearl that shone in front of her. Having studied the geography of the World, she could effortlessly locate the area where the Astral Sky Sect was located.

Doriel asked. "Young Miss, thanks to Soluna's purification, you have a lot more time. Do you want to go down and relax for a month before you leave again?"

Yasenia shook her head. "It is easier to accept a long parting than constant goodbyes. Coming back home now will make all my babies excited and hopeful, but if I say that I'll leave in a month, they will spend the entire month trying to be with me as much as they can. When I leave, it will hurt them."

The dragoness sighed with half a smile. After Yasenia gave one last look to Distancia, she smiled softly and commanded the maids to leave for the outer worlds in this solar system. "We need to depart."

The skeletal warship turned around and then soared into the void while aiming for the next world orbiting this sun. The journey was not a problem at all, even when there were dangers.

Alaia looked at their spatial map and spotted a strong energy signal nearby. She stretched her fingers and touched the illusory three-dimensional star map, zooming in on the place where the strong signal was detected. 'This is from a Sixth Realm being. Did I find you, Ayanduin?'

However, once the lightning-attributed dragon woman zoomed in on the location, she realized that it was a herd of Star Beasts. Clicking her tongue, she quickly used the formations to calculate the route and average detection range of a Star Beast of that level. 'At this pace, we will enter its detection range in thirty seconds. She quickly ordered. "Activate stealth. There is a Mythical Core Realm Star Beast in the distance."

"Understood."

The maids in charge of manipulating the core formation that Tatyana was in charge of in the past moved with ease and familiarity. In less than a second, an energy pulse ran through the warship while runes lit up on the vessel's hull.

Kali asked. "Are Mythical Core Realm Star Beasts common?"

Flora answered. "Depends on what part of the universe you are in. Imagine that each star is a group of trees, and these beasts are beasts that live in the area. Naturally, their strength will depend on the environment." Flora looked toward the Sun while protecting her eyes and said. "This Solar System's star is quite strong and nourishing. Therefore, I would expect the average Star Beast to be Level 10 Legendary Core Realm to Level 2 Mythical Core Beast Realm."

Yasenia hummed. "That's interesting. I wonder how the defenseless worlds are still whole. Don't Star Beasts like to attack worlds?"

Flora shook her head. "While some aggressive ones do attack worlds, not all of them are aggressive towards them. They are good sources of nourishment, but Star Beasts are not stupid and know that retaliation is very possible. So, only if they have no other choice do they usually attack Worlds." Flora smiled. "Furthermore, a World without energy is just a floating big rock. The nourishment value is too small."

While speaking about those things, they crossed the powerful Star Beast's detection range without any hiccups and arrived at the first world. Yasenia looked at the gigantic mass of gas and asked. "Um... do gaseous planets have life in them? I don't remember reading anything about it."

Valeria spoke. "Some do. Creatures that live on those kinds of planets are usually not intelligent beings because of the lack of... triggers to develop intelligence. Intelligent species, most of the time, start as ignorant and evolve over millions of years, gaining intelligence at a slow rate, and eventually become what we classify as sapient beings."

Valeria pointed at the massive ball of gas and laughed. "There, the only thing a creature can learn while evolving is to survive."

Kali asked. "What about the planet's core? Can't a being develop and live there?"

Valeria shrugged. "Perhaps, perhaps not. I have personally not seen any civilization successfully choose that kind of place to settle permanently. The environment is too harsh. Terrible gravity, temperature, pressure, winds, lack of essential gasses, and if you want to leave the planet, you need to cross several layers of cloud formations."

Kali was confused. "People have lived on the surface of stars but not gaseous giant worlds?"

Valeria laughed. "It's different, Kali. A star is a source of pure Yang energy that can be constantly harvested to support formations and all kinds of wonders. A gaseous planet, on the other hand... It is not that easy to exploit as a resource."

Yasenia asked. "Should we check if it has a Heaven at least? If it doesn't, we should move on to the next one... Although, wouldn't Gale Soul Natural Treasures be born there in large batches? Wind elementals, Water elementals, and other kinds of elementals should love such an extreme environment, no?"

Valeria nodded. "You are right. But Spirit Civilizations are a new concept for me, so I can't really tell you what those spirits would do based on my experience."

The warship approached the gaseous giant, but even after crossing the atmosphere for a few seconds, there was no trace of Heaven. Therefore, Yasenia shook her head and spoke. "Let's leave. If there is no Heaven, I doubt there is enough energy for a Natural Treasure to form. Are there any signals, Alaia?"

Alaia looked around with the map and shook her head. "There are no large energy signals. Sadly, it is a sterile world, Young Miss."

The dragoness looked around for a few more seconds, observing the violent winds that made pressurized metal rain almost horizontally. 'We can skip this planet. Searching this place will give us nothing at all. If we don't find anything in the rest, we should come here to inspect in detail, though.'

"Depart!"

"Yes, Young Miss."

The warship accelerated and left after a few seconds, driving into the vastness of space once more.

The journey continued to be a very relaxing one, and even before the day ended, the girls arrived at the next World. Yasenia sighed, looking at the illusory map that Alaia was using. 'Only two more worlds to inspect... Where are you, Ayanduin?'

Alaia reported. "Young Miss, we have arrived!"

Yasenia looked over the railing and raised both her eyebrows. This rocky world was large! Larger than Distancia. However, when the warship approached the enormous reddish, greenish, and blue world, Yasenia's excitement died together with the lack of a Heavenly Layer. She sighed. "Another dead world."

Alaia informed. "Wait, Young Miss. You are incorrect. Look at the energy signals."

The dragoness approached and looked, being surprised once more. "The World is creating energy? How? It doesn't have a Heaven. Moreover... are those small energy signals people?"

Alaia nodded. "Yes, Young Miss. This World is not a sterile world. It has life. Moreover, it is not mortal life; there are cultivators, and the estimated population ranges between 100 billion and 500 billion."

Kali chuckled. "So vague. Why is that?"

Alaia sighed. "While there are cultivators, the number of mortals is staggering. Detecting mortals is very difficult. Even the approximation I just did is quite unreliable."

The dragoness shrugged. "It is good enough to tell us that many people inhabit this world... Also, what's wrong with this planet? Why doesn't it have a Heaven?"

Alaia answered with interest in her voice. "It is a rare situation once more, Young Miss. To think that this Solar System not only has a Spirit World and a Body Cultivation World but also a Fallen World. Something big must've happened in the past."

The dragoness remembered about Fallen Worlds and muttered. "A world that had a Heaven but for some reason, that Heaven perished, leaving a dying world behind."

Valeria corrected. "Dying world is a strong term. It is more like a world that has its Dantian punctured. It is losing energy faster than it can create it, making its overall cultivation level plummet with time. Overall, the population of a Fallen World will slowly decline without the support of energy, making it a lawless and very dangerous place with tons of demonic cultivation techniques."

Valeria looked at Yasenia and said, "If the cultivators go crazy, mortals will suffer. Eventually, the population will disappear and go extinct, and only then will the world be considered dead."

Kali asked, intrigued. "Do you think we will be able to find demonic Body Cultivation techniques?"

Valeria paused and smiled. "Perhaps. If we do, that would be incredible. Demonic Body Cultivation Techniques are even rarer than Orthodox Body Cultivation Techniques. Finding them would be a fortune."

The dragoness asked, surprised. "Do you not despise Demonic Techniques? They are all quite gruesome to practice and genuinely evil, no?"

Valeria nodded. "They are. However, I've never judged them. Creatures choose how they want to live, and what other creatures need to do is decide whether they accept or not." Valeria smiled. "If a creature's way of life is not accepted, they will be eventually eliminated. If it is, then they will be accepted."

Yasenia laughed. "That's a very... objective? Way of seeing the world. I thought you'd be more compassionate."

Valeria laughed softly. "I am the personification of Nature and Life. Nature and life are neutral to all; there are no favorites, only survivors."

Chapter 979: First Encounter in the Fallen World.

Yasenia asked Alaia to do a World Scan, and after a while, Alaia muttered. "There is something wrong."

"What's wrong?"

Yasenia asked while moving over, and Alaia pointed at a large part of the World. "Here, there are no energy signatures. That's not normal, even in a Fallen World."

Valeria agreed with that statement. "Areas that are without any energy in large words are for two reasons. The first reason is that something is absorbing the energy of that area, leaving it dark. However, if that were the case, we would have a very bright energy reading at the center of that area." Valeria pointed at the large dark spot and commented. "There is nothing."

Yasenia guessed. "Is the second option that something is hiding from scans?"

Valeria nodded. "Probably a powerful formation." Valeria then frowned. "I think this palace has a few Transcendent Level people. Yasenias, you must be extra careful and be prepared to use Life Saving Treasures at all times."

The dragoness crossed her arms and observed the dark spot in the three-dimensional world map. "What can I do?"

The maids looked at Yasenias and saw that she was really struggling to come up with an answer. Alaia asked. "What's wrong, Young Miss?"

Yasenias sighed and said. "I am too beautiful. How do other beautiful people walk around in places where there are people stronger than them?"

Kali, Valeria, and the maids understood and looked at the dragoness up and down. She was wearing her usual gorgeous blue dress with empyrean images. Her seductive figure showed enough flesh to look alluring while covering enough to avoid vulgarness. She had a beauty that eclipsed the Sun and the Moon while being as charming as a sea nymph.

Valeria looked at Yasenias and smiled a bit sadly. 'Her beauty is both a blessing and a curse.'

Kali suggested. "How about you use transformation skills or make-up?"

The dragoness looked at Kali and shook her head. "No. I don't want to know how to hide. I can do that without much effort, to be honest. I want to know how I can walk around while being myself without needing to worry that I will be kidnapped the next second and used as a sex toy."

Valeria commented. "Since time immemorial, beauties have had tragic fates. Most of them have three outcomes. One, they become creatures that no one can underestimate and are strong enough to protect themselves. Two, they find a family and are protected by those who love them. Three, they fail in their path to rise."

Yasenias tilted her head, and Valeria smiled. "Males are the same." Yasenias blinked and asked. "Hm?"

Valeria raised her eyebrow. "Do you think that powerful and lustful women don't exist? Or... Powerful and lustful men that like men?"

Yasenias blinked. "I know. That's why I ask how beautiful people do it. I didn't say beautiful women, did I?"

Everyone else paused and realized that she had indeed said people. Yasenias smiled. "I understand that the problem is the most prevalent in the female population, but I am neither. I just wanted to know what they did to reach the untouchable status."

Valeria laughed softly. "My bad." Then, she looked at Yasenias and smiled widely. "Well, they did it by force most of the time. Showing that they are not to be underestimated even if they are physically weaker. Showing that if they messed with them, they would regret it."

The dragoness got thoughtful, and her lost gaze sharpened. "Aha." Then, she regained her usual smile and said. "Land in the outskirts. We'll continue the rest of the journey by foot."

Kali looked at Yasenias and realized that she wasn't doing anything else. She asked, a bit nervous. "U-Um, you aren't changing?"

Yasenias raised her beautiful and straight eyebrow. "Change? Why should I, Honey?"

Kali blinked repeatedly, but knowing that her lover had an idea, she stood by her side. Yasenias laughed softly. "You can always ask, Kali. I will explain it."

Kali smiled. "No need to. I trust you."

The dragoness used her tail to smack Kali's butt and leaned her mouth by Kali's fox ear's side. "Those butt slaps didn't really feel like so~."

Kali blushed, thinking of that situation. The sight of Yasenias's body jiggling was so stimulating that they ended up on the bed ten times before she could finish the promised number of slaps.

"Maids, find a town near that area without energy signals, and we'll go from there!"

"Understood!"

After the warship landed, Yasenias said. "Change to your official battle robes and have your weapons at ready. Kali, be by my side. Valeria, do as you please."

Valeria blinked and decided to hide inside Kali's soul.

Yasenias looked at the town in the distance and said. "Mount your flying treasures." She summoned Draconic Heart and jumped forward, landing on it and easily stabilizing mid-air.

When everyone was on their flying treasures, she waved her hand and stored the flying ship. "Let's go."

After accelerating, they streaked through the sky, and soon, they arrived at the nearest town. Yasenias landed on the ground and stored Draconic Heart, the rest following her steps.

Yasenias looked forward and realized that the architecture of this place was quite similar to that of Distancia. However, instead of being constructed from Living Earth, it was done with proper materials.

There were tall walls surrounding the city or town ahead of them, but they weren't too tall. Enough to protect from very low-level cultivators and mortals.

At the entrance, there was a queue filled with caravans of all sorts. Some carried goods, others carried people, and others carried beasts. A few dozen of them were waiting, and some others were arriving.

Yasenias observed the people and hummed. 'Humans and Beast Humans. There are human and beast human slaves as well. It seems to be a heterogeneous world. That's interesting...' Then, she looked at their clothes. 'Cultivators are using the usual cultivation robes, quite torn down clothes on non-cultivators. They are different from Distancia's and closer to Sky Continent's mortal clothes. The faces of the people are not exactly happy, and the place overall has a piercing stench. Not a good place, it seems. We should get directions and get out.'

"Oh, Ladies, are you new around here?"

Yasenias looked over to see a group of smiling people walking over. She quickly realized that they were all in the Spiritual King, third, Body Realm and spoke, her voice carrying part of her cultivation base. "Is that the tone you carry when speaking to seniors?"

Before they could even realize it, their bodies were slammed against the hard soil, forcing them to kowtow in front of Yasenía. All of them felt their stomach drop as their bodies started sweating in pure fear.

"V-Venerable immortal! Mercy!"

Yasenía scoffed and waved her hand, sending a wave of spiritual pressure that forcefully lifted them up. "Speak."

The man at the helm almost pissed himself when looking at Yasenía's golden-slit eyes. At first, he approached because of the otherworldly beauty of the dragon woman, but now he felt like cursing his past self.

He rubbed his hands out of nervousness. However, he was quick-witted, so his words flowed out uninterrupted. "S-Senior, I haven't seen you around, so I thought you were new and wanted to offer guidance."

Yasenía looked at him, slowly increasing the pressure, and asked. "What were your intentions? I don't want lies."

The man laughed awkwardly. "I couldn't help but be mesmerized by Senior's unique beauty, so I wanted to try my luck and approach."

The dragoness raised her eyebrow. "Truthful. At least you have a spine not to hide your dirty thoughts behind a facade. Sure, I need a guide either way. Walk in front of me."

The man gulped and wanted to ask if he could not do it because he was scared enough that he almost pissed himself. However, how could he say, "I don't want to do it," to the creature that made him kneel with just her words?

"It will be my pleasure."

Yasenía waited until the group of 20 men and women walked in front of her and spoke. "Walk. I will ask questions. I want truthful answers even if you think the answer would offend me. I hate someone lying to me more than the lecherous gazes I usually receive. Also, I am very good at telling lies from the truth. If you lie to me once, you die. Understood?"

The man answered, his back soaked in cold sweat. "Understood."

Yasenía asked. "What's the name of the town in front of us?"

The man answered concisely. "It is the [Desolaro City], Senior."

The dragoness hummed. "Do I need to wait in the queue?"

The man struggled for a few seconds, and the dragoness warned. "The truth won't offend me. Speak."

The man coughed. "The City Lord is very adamant that people enter through the gate. He hates it when others don't respect that, and I've seen him killing people for that. I suggest Senior to follow the rules if you want the least trouble."

Yasenía hummed. "I see." The dragoness continued interrogating. "What do you practice?"

The group of twenty were confused, and Yasenía asked. "What path of energy do you practice?"

The man answered, unsure. "Um... Does Senior mean what is the name of my cultivation technique? Sorry, I do not understand the question."

Yasenia looked at him closely and could feel that he was being truthful. As a dragon, her sense of telling the truth from lies was extremely sharp. Without holding back, she bluntly asked. "Do you practice Body, Spiritual, or Soul Cultivation?"

The twenty people that were listening were stunned, and the man asked. "T-There is more than one cultivation path?"

Still being blunt, Yasenia answered. "Many. I am curious which one you practice. Your aura feels like Body Cultivation, but it is a bit different."

The man answered, still confused. "Um... The Body Cultivation I practice is called [Bloody Skin Iron Body]. I don't know if Senior knows about it."

Yasenia looked at his back and smirked. 'Oho~, the first person I encounter is a Demonic Body Cultivator? It might be quite common around here.'

Keeping the high and mighty tone, the dragoness continued to squeeze information out of him. "Is Demonic Cultivation more common than Orthodox practices?"

The man laughed. "Well, I would say 50/50. Some people still believe in morals and practice a more orthodox way, even in our forsaken world. Meanwhile, there are people like me who let go and decided to practice whatever they found appealing."

Yasenia was surprised and curious about that answer, so she asked. "Are you not afraid that I am one of those orthodox people and that I will kill you?"

The man turned around and looked at Yasenia. "Senior doesn't seem to be from this place or even our world, so I am not."

Yasenia didn't bother hiding it. It was no secret. "You are sharp. However, if you end up knowing too much, you might get hurt." She warned. "Don't poke your nose where it doesn't belong, Junior."

The man grinned. "Yes, Senior."

Chapter 980: Entering [Desolaro City].

When Yasenia arrived at the city's entrance, the guards looked over, and their eyes started roaming her body. Because of how they looked, she knew something like this might happen.

The guards at the entrance had rough clothing and were clearly unwashed. Moreover, she saw them try to hit on a few other people when they were doing the inspections.

She ignored them for now since she just wanted to enter the town to gather some information. The guard approached with a smirk, and the man that been guiding Yasenia spoke. "You don't want this."

The guard sneered. "Shut up, Li Wei. You are lucky I am letting you and your little group enter after what you did." Then, he pointed at Yasenia and said. "And you, come with me, I need to inspect you."

The dragoness raised her eyebrow and spoke, her voice light as if she were talking about the weather. "I don't want to stand out, so I will give you one chance to kowtow and apologize. Perhaps you can live if you do that."

Li Wei lifted his arms and laughed. "Waaait! Hahaha. Let me talk to the gorgeous here and explain a few things."

Yasenia looked at Li Wei and squinted. "I gave you a chance, didn't I? What is the Cultivation Realm of the City Lord... Never mind, Doriel, go in and tell me."

Doriel bowed elegantly. "Yes, Young Miss."

The guard sneered and summoned a strong-looking spear. "That's if you can pass over me."

However, Doriel ignored him and melded with the shadows, disappearing from everyone's sight.

Li Wei and the guard looked at the place where Doriel disappeared with a baffled expression. "Huh? Where did she go?" The guard looked at Yasenia's calm face and snorted. "Do you know what will happen if you offend the City Lord? You are lucky if you end up more than a pretty doll after he is done with you!"

Yasenia looked at the guard and said. "You only have one chance to live now since you declined my order to apologize. That chance is that your City Lord is strong enough for me to respect his authority."

Li Wei looked at Yasenia with a stunned expression. While he knew that Yasenia was strong, many strong people could do what Yasenia did to his group. He said with a severe expression. "Senior, you need to understand that you are not the strongest."

Yasenia didn't answer; she didn't feel the need to. This Li Wei guy was nothing but a guide who would disappear from her life when he lost his utility.

Doriel came back a few seconds later and kneeled, faithfully reporting. "Young Miss, the strongest person in this city is a High-Level Ethereal Soul Realm Cultivator. I am fairly certain that he is the City Lord from his clothes, servants, slaves, and living space."

The dragoness hummed. "I see." Then, she looked at the guard and declared flatly. "You are out of luck."

Li Wei opened his eyes as Yasenia lifted her hand and made a downward gesture. "Kneel."

The guard felt like a mountain fell on his shoulders, and his knees buckled, forcing his face to smash the hard ground below him. The dragoness had zero sympathy for this person who, most probably, had committed several unspeakable crimes.

Not paying attention to the guard who was receiving an increasingly large pressure each second, she looked at Li Wei and ordered. "Guide me inside. I want to look around and get information."

Li Wei gulped. 'I have severely underestimated this woman.' He quickly bowed, leaving aside any type of playfulness he had before. "Yes, Senior."

His group of twenty followed Li Wei's gesture with trembling legs. They realized that they were in the hands of someone who could practically snap her fingers and send them to the reincarnation cycle.

Yasenia nodded. "That's a better attitude." She looked at the people around her and realized something. 'Hm? Am I being too overbearing? Or is it just the right amount?'

While the dragoness imagined herself on the other side, it was not difficult to do so as her rise in Distancia hadn't occurred without a few similar situations like this one.

The maids looked at Yasenia's pensive face and smiled, knowing what the dragoness was thinking. Alaia asked. "Is Young Miss thinking if you would have the right to complain when you are on the other side in the future?"

Yasenia answered. "No. I am a hypocrite, and I admit it. If I ever am on the other side of this situation and survive, I will eventually take my revenge. I was wondering if this is the proper way to do what I had planned."

Kali asked, curious. "What's your plan, by the way? Being overbearing like this?"

Yasenia smiled. "Showing that I am not someone that can be bullied. Those who will set their sights on me because of my beauty must evaluate if it is worth it. Acting like this shows that I am someone that comes from a certain type of family." Yasenia giggled as she started walking forward. "I am basically puffing my feathers and hoping the predators get scared."

Kali burst into laughter. "That's a good analogy."

When the dragoness walked forward again, she ordered. "Li Wei, move and continue guiding me."

Li Wei looked as the pressure on the guard severely increased with each step Yasenia took, and asked. "Senior, um..."

"He will die." Yasenia spat, and when her foot landed on the ground again, the guard's body was crushed into meat paste.

The sound of vomiting was heard from behind her, but the dragoness ignored everything and allowed the group of twenty to guide her inside.

Once inside the city, a group of ten soldiers appeared, pointing their spears at Yasenia. "HALT! You can't enter this place after murdering one of our guards!"

The dragoness spoke. "As long as you let me alone, no one will die. I plan to leave today either way."

The Guard Captain shouted, his face solemn. "I can't allow you to walk inside."

The dragoness took a step forward while using her movement technique. She disappeared from everyone's sight and reappeared in front of the Guard Captain while holding the tip of his spear.

Everyone felt their hearts shake in fear. "I can feel that you are a good person. So, take my advice and stay below the rubble."

She then flicked the spear tip. When her beautiful nail smacked the spear, there was a massive shockwave followed by the body of the Guard Captain flying off by the ridiculous strength behind her single-finger flick. "Li Wei."

The man ran forward and spoke respectfully. "Yes, Senior?"

"Continue guiding us toward the place where I can gather the most information about the nearby towns, cities, powers, and overall information."

A guard grabbed the spear tightly, looking at Yasenia with heavy breathing and trembling hands. He was sweating, and his heart was pumping, not from excitement about the gorgeous dragon woman.

When the dragon woman looked at him, out of pure flight or fight reflex, he lunged forward with a scream and a massive burst of strength. "AHH!"

Yasenia blinked and held the spear with her tail as if he were a child swinging a stick. "Hm..." She didn't bother with him as well, throwing him flying into the rubble where the Guard Captain was.

Bang!

She sighed and said. "This is at least better than those Young Masters or Mistresses coming in waves like horny animals. Anyway, let's continue."

Sadly for Yasenia, there were people who were very stupid from birth. Plus, if those stupid people were coddled and spoiled rotten by their parents, their brains were basically as useless as the decoration trying to hide their ugliness.

"You there! Stop!"

Li Wei cringed when he heard this voice and quickly informed Yasenia. "S-Senior, that's the City Lord's youngest son..."

Kali looked as Yasenia looked skyward with a defeated face, and she laughed again. "There, there. At least we know the father and grandfather are weaker than us."

Yasenia sighed. "Right..."

Alaia asked. "Young Miss... Do we just kill him?"

The dragoness looked at the man that was approaching in extravagant clothes and with two half-naked women holding each of his arms and said, straining her brain to overthink things. "P-Perhaps, he is different from what he looks?"

The maids and Kali deadpanned, but they didn't say anything. They looked at the man who stopped in front of them with a haughty smile. "You are the most beautiful woman I've ever seen in my life!"

Yasenia spoke as if her words were the most valuable thing in the world. "Thanks."

The man continued. "I have seen that you are strong. However, I am the son of the City Lord!"

Yasenia answered again, her voice drier than a moon desert. "Oh."

Not seeing the reaction he expected, he frowned and squeezed the breast of one of the women by his side. The woman spoke loudly. "Ignorant woman! The Young Lord is allowing you to be his partner! You should rejoice and show eagerness!"

Yasenia looked at the woman with pity. "A caged bird that can't see an eagle when it stands before her."

The woman blinked twice, her deteriorated brain failing to understand Yasenia's words.

Kali patted Yasenia's arm and shook her head. "They are both drugged. Their cognitive functions have declined to the point that they are like children. Be a bit merciful with them."

Yasenia sighed. "Isn't death the best mercy?"

Kali opened her mouth but closed it, looking back at the two women who had lost eyes. "I guess... Sigh."

The Young Lord started rambling again, but Yasenia ignored him, having heard enough. Alaia asked. "Do we get rid of him, Young Miss? I don't want you to stain your hands with his filthy blood."

The dragoness smiled softly while looking at Alaia, making the world around her light up with her beauty. Until now, she had a relatively cold face. That gave her an unapproachable vibe even when her face was incredibly charming and alluring.

Now that she was genuinely smiling, the noisy surroundings literally got silent as everyone appreciated Yasenia's smile.

"Thanks, Alaia. Then, go ahead."

The Young Lord's eyes were stuck on Yasenia's face and shouted. "You will become my main wife!"

Kali and the maids waved their hands, and their combined pressure attacked the man from everywhere.

CRUNCH!

The pressure that assaulted him from every direction literally crumpled him into a ball of flesh, staining everything around with his blood.

The guards behind the Young Lord widened their eyes, not knowing what had happened, while the two afflicted women looked at the ball of meat with incomprehension.

Yasenia approached those two and tapped their heads with a sigh. "Sleep."

Her energy penetrated into the women's acupuncture points, instantly killing them without a shred of pain.

A powerful bellow echoed through the city. "WHO DARED TO KILL MY SON!"

Yasenia looked over and sighed. 'People are really the same regardless of where I go, aren't they?'