#### Lightning 1061

# **Lightning Is the Only Way**

**Chapter 1061: Sorting Machine** 

SHING! SHING!

Gravis and Eve appeared in a gigantic hall.

However, the hall was completely empty except for one humongous apparatus.

Gravis looked to the front at the apparatus. It was some kind of machine with an incredible number of tubes. Gravis could see emblems moving through the tube at insane speeds. If he were still in the Immortal Realm, he wouldn't even be able to follow the emblems, and he would only see a cacophony of colors shooting through the tubes.

The emblems all had different colors, and they shone with light. However, not every emblem shone with the same intensity. Some of them seemed to be almost lightless, while others shone as bright as stars. The color of the light also adapted to the color of the emblem.

Gravis looked to the tube at the top, and his eyes widened.

Gravis only saw a mass of light!

He knew that there were emblems shooting through the tubes, but the tube that led every emblem downward to the other tubes had so many emblems moving at such ridiculous speeds that he couldn't discern them.

That had to be millions or billions of emblems going through that tube per second!

As soon as the emblems went through the first tube, they entered a metallic box. The metallic box wasn't isolated, and Gravis could see what was going on inside.

An insanely complex Formation Array was sorting the emblems at ridiculous speeds and shooting them down different tubes.

The rightmost tube was completely empty.

The second tube to the right only had one emblem go through every couple of minutes.

The next tube had even fewer emblems going through it.

However, the next tube showed a noticeable jump.

Around six emblems per second shot through that tube.

The next one was slightly slower than the previous one, but the following one was just as fast as the fastest tube.

The next three tubes became faster and faster until Gravis arrived at the left-most tube, which was the fastest.

After the emblems shot through those tubes, they were sorted again. Gravis noticed that the emblems were sorted according to the intensity of their light, not color.

Lastly, the emblems were sorted according to color.

When the emblems reached the numerous tubes at the bottom, they arrived at a Formation Array that teleported them away.

"Can you guess what the Sorting Machine does?" Eve asked.

"These should be all the fights going on in the highest world, right?" Gravis asked, looking at the topmost tube.

"Correct," Eve answered.

Gravis gulped.

He knew that the highest world was gigantic but seeing so many fights happening at the same was aweinspiring. So many people were constantly fighting each other, and every emblem represented at least two beings that would fight to the death.

There were probably millions if not billions of fights to the death going on at this very second!

If Gravis were to fight someone, his fight would only be one of those emblems.

"What does the intensity of the light represent?" Eve asked him.

"The Battle-Strength of the fighters," Gravis said. "The first Formation Array probably sorts the emblems according to Major Realms. The first on the right is probably for Divine Gods, which is why there is not a single emblem going through there. Cultivators in that Realm don't fight as often, there are not as many, and they can live for far longer."

"Correct," Eve said.

"The second one is for Ancestral Gods. There are far more Ancestral Gods, but not that many. The third one is for Star Gods and, sure enough, there seem to be even fewer Star Gods than Ancestral Gods in this world."

Eve looked at Gravis. "You don't seem surprised. Were you born in the highest world? Most Ascenders would be shocked by this."

Gravis smiled bitterly. "Yes, I was born in the highest world, but I went through the lower, middle, and higher worlds."

"Makes sense," Eve commented.

"The next one is probably for Peak Immortal Emperors. At first, I was a bit surprised that there are only six emblems per second, but I forgot that Peak Immortal Emperors can live for a very long time. Six per second is already quite a bit, with everyone having 200,000 years of longevity. According to math, the relation between tribulations and normal fights is around 1:1," Gravis said.

"Yes," Eve confirmed. "There are some Peak Immortal Emperors that only comprehend Laws until their tribulation arrives, and there are some Peak Immortal Emperors that fight multiple times in that timeframe."

Gravis looked to the left. "The lowest Realm is the Unity Realm?" Gravis asked.

"Fights below the Unity Realm lack destructive power," Eve explained. "However, even the fights between Unity and Nascent Nourishing Cultivators get mostly sent to the archive. Nearly all of those fights won't have Judges looking over them. Only the ones in important cities and Sects will have Judges overseeing them."

Gravis nodded. "I'm guessing that the color represents the danger to the surroundings, right?"

"Quite smart," Eve commented. "Yes, they represent the danger to society. The Chief Instructor assigned you to Red Four through Six and Black Four through Six. The color represents the danger to the surroundings, and the number represents the intensity of the light."

Gravis listened intently to Eve.

"There are six grades to the colors. The lowest is grey, which means that not even any mortals will be in danger during the fight."

"The second lowest is white, which means that mortals are in danger."

"The third lowest is yellow, which means that Cultivators in the first three Realms are in danger."

"The third highest is orange, which means that several true Cultivators are in danger."

"The second highest is red, which means that a great number of Cultivators are in danger. Red generally represents fights between powerful Cultivators in a small city or town filled entirely with Cultivators."

"The highest is black, which means that a huge number of Cultivators are in danger. Black generally represents fights in major cities or inside unrelated Sects. For example, two Peak Immortal Emperors could get into a conflict right beside a huge Sect filled with Immortals and Immortal Kings."

"Do I only need to protect the Cultivators or also the mortals and their belongings?" Gravis asked.

"It depends on the color," Eve explained. "You are only assigned to red and black, which means that you only need to protect the lives of the Cultivators on the Unity Realm or above. However, you can also protect the mortals, the buildings, the animals, or whatever you want. You have to protect the Cultivators, but everything else is up to you. No one will complain because you saved their house from destruction."

Gravis nodded. "And the intensity of the light?"

"The intensity of the light represents the Battle-Strength. The lower Realms don't have a difference in intensity since we have the manpower to send someone from a higher Realm to overlook the fight, making the Battle-Strength of the combatants irrelevant."

"The Immortal, Immortal King, and Immortal Emperor Realm have four intensities. The Peak Immortal Emperor Realm has six due to the gulf between the Peak Immortal Emperor Realm and the Star God Realm."

"An intensity of one means that the Peak Immortal Emperors don't know any level six Laws. Those are exclusively Peak Immortal Emperors born in this world and some from some weaker worlds with looser Ascension requirements. They represent the absolute bottom, and they are as weak as it gets in their Realm."

"An intensity of two means that the combatants both know one level six Law. This represents about 50% of all Peak Immortal Emperors, and they are the average."

"An intensity of three means that the combatants can both theoretically jump a level. The difference in Energy, Spirit and physical power between the Peak Immortal Emperor Realm and Star God Realm corresponds to four levels. So, in that sense, a jump of one level doesn't truly exist. However, if there were a Cultivation Realm one level higher than a Peak Immortal Emperor, the combatants with an intensity of three could fight those."

"These are the above-average Peak Immortal Emperors, and some of them already know more than one level six Law."

"An intensity of four means that the combatants can theoretically jump two levels. These fights are much rarer, and the fighters all know several level six Laws. They are generally considered as the most powerful Peak Immortal Emperors since meeting Peak Immortal Emperors with an intensity of five or six is basically impossible due to their rarity."

"An intensity of five means that the combatants can jump three levels. That would be someone that is close to comprehending a level seven Law or someone that knows an incredibly powerful level six Law, like the Major Law of the Elements. These people are exceedingly rare."

Gravis nodded. Stella and Manuel belonged to that group.

"An intensity of six basically only exists in theory. Those Cultivators do exist, but they basically never fight. An intensity of six means that someone knows a level seven Law. When a Cultivator comprehends a level seven Law, they nearly always directly become Star Gods, essentially making such fights nonexistent."

Gravis nodded again. Exar belonged to that group.

"So, I'm responsible for fights in Cultivator towns, cities, and Sects. However, I'm only responsible for the fights between Peak Immortal Emperors that can jump at least two levels, right?" Gravis asked.

"Correct. You'll only overlook the most powerful Peak Immortal Emperors. You shouldn't have much work to do since there aren't that many. One person is easily enough to overlook all of these fights. The overwhelming majority of fights are of the first three intensities."

Gravis nodded.

As Gravis thought about the different intensities, he thought about what intensities his friends would have.

Stella and Manuel were the only ones with an intensity of five, and Exar was the only one with an intensity of six, assuming he was still a Peak Immortal Emperor.

Aris was probably between four and five, but the Sorting Machine would probably count him as five.

Skye, Liam, Azure, and Ferris were probably an intensity of four.

The remainder was probably on an intensity of three.

Cera was probably the only one on an intensity of two.

## **Lightning Is the Only Way**

# **Chapter 1062: Instruction**

"I assume the emblems get directly teleported to Judges?" Gravis asked.

"Correct," Eve said. "As soon as you attune your personal emblem to the relevant Formation Arrays, you will be a recipient for the emblems arriving in that Formation Array. The emblems get teleported to those Judges that hadn't been given one for the longest, but that's irrelevant in your case since you will be the only one overlooking these fights."

"What if there are two happening at once?" Gravis asked.

"It's rare for intensities above three, but it can happen. When it happens, an Ancestral God will overlook them since the Inspector just granted leave to your actual backup."

Gravis nodded. "What do I have to do exactly?"

"The same thing you did in your test," Eve answered. "Each emblem has information on the combatants, including their aura, Laws, and personality. Like this, you shouldn't be taken by surprise."

"Each emblem gets generated around ten seconds before the actual fight will occur, making it mandatory to react swiftly when you receive one. That's why Judges can't comprehend Laws while they're working. They need to be ready any time, and most of them don't even get a day of peace between assignments."

Gravis nodded. Working once a day wasn't much, but it was still enough to stop any form of Law Comprehension. Gravis already needed several days just to get completely lost in the Laws, and any comprehension before that state was essentially worthless.

"So, as soon as I get the emblem, I destroy it immediately, get teleported to the fighting arena, and then I just have to protect the surroundings, right?" Gravis asked.

"We'll do a test-run," Eve said. "I will take this one. You have to do nothing."

Gravis nodded again.

SHING!

An emblem appeared in Eve's hand. It was an Orange Three emblem.

CRACK!

Eve immediately broke the emblem, pulling Gravis along with her.

Gravis felt space warp around him, and he found himself in a grey nothingness. For some reason, Gravis felt like the reality in this place was very different than from outside.

"This is our space tunnel," Eve explained with a voice transmission. "This world is gigantic, and if we don't teleport slowly, even an Immortal Emperor will be torn apart by the backlash of such a teleportation. Time in here doesn't exist, meaning that, no matter how long we are in here, no time will have passed on the outside."

"The longest teleportations take a minute, but you won't experience those since we have other branches for those areas. The longest teleportation you will feel will be ten seconds. The speed of teleportation with the emblems is even faster than the teleportation of a Divine God."

Eve had given Gravis these pieces of information in an instant since their time in the space tunnel would only amount to two seconds this time.

Just as Gravis started to look around, he had already reappeared somewhere else.

Gravis was above a mountain range filled with volcanos, and Gravis immediately realized that this was a Law Comprehension Area for the level six Law of Blaze.

Several Immortal Emperors were comprehending the Law of Blaze here.

The Immortal Emperors opened their eyes to look at who had just arrived, but when they saw the white emblem with the cloud on Eve's chest, their eyes widened.

#### SHING! SHING! SHING!

Those who noticed immediately teleported away.

A fight was about to break out, and the fact that a Judge arrived in this place, filled with Immortal Emperors, meant that the Immortal Emperors were the ones in danger of being killed!

The stronger ones remained since they were interested in the fight.

Gravis looked around and immediately noticed the aura of two people that had been inside the emblem.

These two people had just noticed each other, and their faces exploded with hatred and anger.

They immediately took out their weapons and charged at each other with hatred. Obviously, they had a prior history.

"Big brother is the one fighting!" one of them shouted in terror. She wanted to escape, but the fight had already thrown space into chaos in the surroundings, making it impossible.

The first shockwave came close to her, but an invisible shield blocked it.

#### BOOOOOOM!

However, the entire Law Comprehension Area was quickly destroyed.

All the different attacks broke the Energy equilibrium, making the volcanos explode violently with Blaze, using up all their gathered Energy.

The onlookers immediately charged into the distance, away from the fight. They knew that the Judge would protect them, but the Judges were also only Cultivators, and Cultivators occasionally made mistakes.

They wouldn't want to risk their lives for something like that.

The fight completely decimated the surrounding 10,000 kilometers, leaving nothing undamaged, except for the Cultivators being protected by Eve.

A couple seconds later, a new person appeared.

"Save big brother!" the Immortal Emperor that shouted earlier screamed at the newcomer.

The newcomer immediately took out a hammer and unleashed several attacks at one of the two combatants.

BANG! BANG! BANG!

However, a shield stopped him.

He quickly stopped with gritted teeth. This had only been a futile attempt since he knew that a Judge was already here. However, he wanted to try. Maybe, the Judge wasn't that good.

Sadly, the Judge was an Ancestral God this time.

The person looked over at Gravis and Eve.

Since Gravis didn't wear his emblem, the newcomer felt that Gravis was only average. However, he couldn't feel anything from the other person.

Of course, the newcomer wasn't stupid. He had tested the protection of the Judge precisely to gauge their strength, and their strength was impressive. The shield hadn't even been distorted.

This meant that the Judge was so powerful that he couldn't feel their power, making him despair.

His son-in-law was fighting in there!

"You let the Ancestral Law Comprehension Area of our Blazing Eternal Sect get destroyed!" he shouted violently at Eve. "I will report this to your superiors! However, I'm willing to overlook this transgression as long as you let me help my son!"

Eve didn't react.

Gravis looked between the guy and Eve, but he kept silent.

Eve knew what she was doing.

However, the guy was right. Eve hadn't protected the Law Comprehension Area, letting it get obliterated. She could have easily stopped the destruction if she so chose. Hell, even Gravis could stop the destruction easily.

The newcomer shouted some more in terror, rage, hatred, and anxiety.

Eve didn't react.

"Did you see?" Eve said to Gravis. "We are doing a good deed by protecting all these Cultivators here. Obviously, this Law Comprehension Area has been claimed by this Blazing Eternal Sect, meaning that all these people are from that Sect. This newcomer is probably the Sect Master from what I can deduce."

"Yet, instead of thanking us for saving the members of his Sect, he hates us for not protecting his Law Comprehension Area. This is what you have to deal with, Black Sentry," she said.

Gravis nodded. "I know. I've already seen this coming."

Gravis had already seen through the newcomer with his Law of Sentience. He knew immediately what the newcomer would do.

However, even if Gravis hadn't known the Law of Sentience, he still wouldn't have been surprised.

Some humans were simply like that.

After some seconds, the fight ended.

The son-in-law died.

Eve dispelled her shield.

SHING!

A new person appeared.

Gravis looked over, and his eyebrows lifted with surprise.

This guy wore the same emblem as Eve!

Another Judge?

The Judge nodded at Gravis and gave Eve a quick bow.

Eve nodded back.

Then, the person from the Blazing Eternal Sect charged at the person that had just killed his son-in-law.

#### BOOOOOOM!

A gigantic explosion occurred, but it was confined by a shield, this one also protecting the surroundings, not only the people.

Eve turned to Gravis. "We are only responsible for the fight we have been summoned for. If a new fight breaks out, someone else will be sent here."

Gravis looked at the apocalyptic fight breaking out in the shield with interest.

Eve only looked at Gravis evenly as contained pure destruction reigned behind her.

"Let's go back," she said.

#### CRACK!

The repaired emblem in her hand was destroyed again and the two of them vanished.

After two seconds in the space tunnel, Gravis and Eve reappeared in the gigantic hall with the sorting machine.

"You will always be directly teleported back to the place you left," Eve said. "This means that you don't have to remain here. You can go wherever you want and do whatever you want during that time. However, you need to be ready at any given moment."

"That should cover everything," Eve finished. "Any questions?"

Gravis shook his head. "No, you explained everything very well. Thank you very much," he said.

"No problem. I am your direct superior. If you need a time-out or if you want to leave The Heaven Company, come to me. I'll attune your emblem now," she said as she held out her hand.

Gravis put his emblem onto her hand, and Eve walked over to the tubes that Gravis would be responsible for.

She attuned Gravis to one tube and detuned it for the person that had been responsible for these tubes before him.

After going through all the tubes, she gave Gravis back his emblem.

"From now on, you are working for The Heaven Company. We pay you by the century, and you should be very satisfied with your pay. You will be paid a static amount, no matter how many assignments you get."

Gravis nodded. He didn't know how much he would earn, but he didn't ask since he wanted to be surprised.

It was probably good pay!

"Have fun," Eve said.

SHING!

Then, she was gone.

Gravis was now alone in the gigantic hall, and he looked at the Sorting Machine alone.

Then, he looked at his emblem.

It hadn't sent any assignments yet.

Gravis waited for half an hour, but nothing appeared.

Gravis scratched the back of his head awkwardly. "Well, seems like I'll have to wait for an assignment. I should get back to Stella and inform her about everything."

SHING!

And the hall became empty again.

# **Lightning Is the Only Way**

Chapter 1063: First Job

Gravis returned home and told Stella and some of his other friends what he would be doing from now on. They were rather interested in his job and asked several questions.

Sadly, there wasn't much Gravis could say. The entire thing was basically recounted in just half an hour.

Gravis felt a bit weird. After all, he had a job now, and he was technically working right now, but no work actually arrived. He knew that there were only a couple of Cultivators with an intensity of four or higher, but it still felt weird for some reason.

So, Gravis decided to check up on the others while he waited for something to do.

Mortis was still within Opposer City. He was spending most of his time with his father and mother. After all, the two of them had to get used to Mortis first. Mortis also contacted Joyce several times, and Joyce also enjoyed talking to him.

They were slowly getting closer to each other.

Gravis felt excited for Mortis. Gravis didn't want to see Mortis fall into another hole so dark that he would decide to kill himself again.

Gravis' other friends were still planning on how they should create the Myriad Sect. They had the roles assigned, but they still needed to get materials, a place to stay, a plan, and many other organizational things.

Yersi was comprehending Laws while Cera was nowhere to be found.

Gravis also talked with Arc for a while via the ring Arc had given him.

Arc was enjoying himself to the fullest. He was looking at a ton of Laws and learned as much as he could about the highest world. Everything was new, and he loved every second of it.

SHING!

And that was when Gravis' first job appeared.

For a second, Gravis was surprised by the sudden appearance of an emblem in front of him, but he quickly regained his faculties.

"Work calls!"

"Have fun!" Arc answered quickly with mirth.

CRACK! SHING!

Gravis destroyed the emblem and teleported away.

Gravis hadn't even been able to see the spatial tunnel before he had already left it. The teleportation was instantaneous.

#### SHING!

Gravis arrived in the sky above a dark castle. The dark castle was several kilometers tall, seemingly piercing the sky.

Gravis immediately knew that this was a Sect just based on the color of the emblem he had received.

What color was it?

What kind of emblem would someone with zero Karmic Luck get on their first job?

What would wait for Gravis?

The emblem was actually ridiculous.

What was it?

Black Six!

The highest grade that Gravis was permitted to take on!

Black meant that a significant amount of Cultivators were in danger.

An intensity of six meant that the Cultivators both knew level seven Laws and could reach the Star God Realm at any given moment.

It was ridiculous!

Hadn't Eve said that an intensity of six only existed in theory? Why was his first job one!?

Gravis quickly saw the two combatants. Both of them were looking at each other with hatred.

Both of these people could become Star Gods if they so chose.

Yet, surprisingly, the two people didn't immediately attack each other.

Instead, they focused on Gravis.

They felt Gravis' power and took a deep breath. Sure enough, Gravis felt as powerful as a Star God!

Just as they had expected, The Heaven Company had sent a Star God!

They had succeeded!

Suddenly, Gravis narrowed his eyes.

## WH000000M!

A gigantic Formation Array surrounding the dark castle activated, blocking off the space. Time was thrown into disorder as everything slowed down to a quarter of its speed. The Elements became harder to gather as nearly all the Elemental Laws were hidden behind a grey layer. One could still feel them, but it was way harder to access them.

Even more, the Formation Array only affected the castle and Gravis.

The two combatants weren't affected.

BANG! BANG!

Two Avatars appeared beside the two humans. One of them looked like a coat of human skin just floating in emptiness.

This represented the True Law of the Composition of Skin, a level seven Law.

The other Avatar looked like a continually exploding piece of white ice.

This represented the True Law of Zero's Power, also a level seven Law. Zero was the level six Law variant of the Ice Element, and the Law of Zero's Power was a Battle-Law that increased the power of Zero to the power of a level seven Law.

In just a second, both of the Avatars lost their shape as they transformed into Stars, and they looked identical after their transformation.

All Stars looked the same.

Both of them had become Star Gods in an instant!

WHOOOOM!

Both Stars activated their Domains.

The Star of Skin attacked Gravis' skin. Since this Law was used as a Star, its power had increased by a level. This meant that someone tried to destroy Gravis' skin with a level eight Law!

The Avatar of Zero's Power hid all the fire and light Laws, making it impossible to use them. At the same time, it also slowed down time even more and solidified space, making it unbreakable.

Sure enough, those two were not enemies but companions. Their powers perfectly complemented each other.

Gravis looked at the castle below him, his Spirit easily breaking through several concealment Formation Arrays.

He saw a young woman with green hair happily operating the Formation Array with a smile.

Gravis had hidden his ability to see through the Formation Arrays with his Law of Perceived Reality. She hadn't realized that Gravis had already seen her.

She didn't directly attack Gravis, which meant that Gravis was not authorized to kill her. She knew that, and that was why she wasn't worried. After all, she could just say that she wanted to protect her Sect from the fight.

This was obviously a plot to kill the Judge. These two people probably waited with their breakthrough so that they could kill a Judge and earn a ton of money. After all, Judges in the Star God Realm had to be rich!

It wasn't forbidden from attacking the Judges. After all, that would just be another battle.

As long as the Judge had a chance of winning, everything would be fine.

The green-haired woman in the dark castle was a Star God, and she could perceive Gravis' power.

She knew that Gravis was very powerful, which was why she activated the Formation Array. As long as her two brothers attacked him together with their combined power and under the effect of the Formation Array, they should win.

The two of them didn't say anything as they attacked Gravis with their full power.

Gravis' very first job was a trap to kill Judges.

Sure enough, Karmic Luck strikes again.

Gravis' time was slowed down severely.

Space was frozen, making it difficult to move.

His skin was under the attack of a level eight Law.

Any normal Star God, maybe even a level two Star God, would have probably died.

Sure enough, this scheme had been planned thoroughly.

Then, Gravis took a casual step to the side.

The eyes of the three people scheming against him nearly fell out of their heads.

What was going on!?

How!?

Well, Gravis had the Law of Freedom, which was boosted to the power of a level eight Law.

But wait, didn't he need Mortis to boost his Laws to such a level?

Well, as soon as Gravis got his job, Gravis and Mortis found a solution.

Both of them ate a ton of God Stones. In fact, they ate 110,000 God Stones.

Then, they split apart. Gravis would get a Mortis clone, and Mortis would get a Gravis clone.

The clones of the other person would simply reside inside the Life Ring of the other one, allowing both of them to release their full power.

So, all of these restraining effects were basically useless.

If they had used the Law of Time to slow him down, it would have worked. However, they used a Formation Array, and the Law of Freedom made Gravis immune to Formation Arrays. That was why his time was only slightly impacted.

'I want to try something,' Gravis thought calmly.

These three people were no danger to Gravis. Because of that, Gravis decided to test something.

Gravis took out his saber, which seemingly warped as reality broke down around it.

'It will be boring as fuck, but I need to try it at some point.'

Gravis struck forward, his slash nearly unnoticeable to the eye.

The eyes of the two people widened, but they couldn't evade.

"I think I'll call you Skerl," they heard a beautiful voice.

One of the two felt shocked beyond comparison as the other one became confused.

This was his mother!

'Well, time to wait,' Gravis thought. 'I wonder what will happen if I hit two people at once with Samsara. Also, I want to see if I can resist the influence of Samsara after comprehending the Law of Emotions.'

'The danger of Samsara towards myself has always been the destruction of my personality. However, with the Law of Sentience, Samsara should no longer have any effect on me. The only negative effect should be that it takes a ton of time and is boring.'

Gravis looked at the scene playing in front of him and leaned back.

What was the effect of hitting two people at once?

Both of them would go through both lives!

Was seeing one's own life more damaging than seeing another one's life?

Gravis wasn't sure, but he was about to find out.

## **Lightning Is the Only Way**

## **Chapter 1064: Hopeless Hope**

How did Gravis resist the impact of Samsara?

He simply took all the emotions inside himself and oriented them to the extreme of Apathy.

All of Gravis' emotions still existed, but it was like he didn't feel them.

He basically became an emotionless Formation Array, only leaving a tiny part behind to wake him up later when everything was over.

The danger of Samsara was that the onlookers felt the emotions of all the people they had met in their life, making it hard to discern what their true self was.

The emotions hit Gravis, but they were just incredibly irrelevant. They simply had no significance.

Because of that, only a couple of hours after entering, Gravis entered a similar state to when he focused on comprehending a Law.

Time lost its meaning, and it was like Gravis was sleeping. He was only picking up information but not processing it.

Because of that, the several million years of illusion seemingly passed by in just a few hours.

Resisting Samsara had been even easier than Gravis had expected.

However, the other two didn't have it nearly as easy.

Samsara was showing the lives of these Cultivators successively, not simultaneously. This meant that one life finished before the other one began.

The person whose life was looked at first fell into a crisis of regret. He had a lot of regrets, and he couldn't empathize with his previous self, slowly making the person unable to differentiate who he actually was.

One could say that this was dangerous but also harmless.

The person would still have a personality after escaping Samsara, but they would be forever changed.

Essentially, they would become a different person.

However, the other one had major issues.

Turns out, watching someone else's life was far more dangerous and far worse than watching one's own life

After years and years of watching a stranger's life, the second person started to think that they were the first person.

They assumed around 80% of the personality of the other person while the first person had changed a little bit.

Gravis didn't infuse Samsara with Deep Wood's Destruction.

After all, he didn't want them to die too quickly.

When the first life was done, the second life began.

Both of them were horrified as they realized that it wasn't over.

How long would this go on!?

Would this torment go on forever!?

When one got through a life once, one would believe that it was the end, but if it started again, one would despair.

After all, if there was a second time, there could also be a third or fourth time.

The two new people watched the life of the second person.

The funny thing was that, since the second person had basically become the first person, the second person felt like watching their own life was watching the life of a stranger.

Eventually, so many perspectives and emotions mixed together that both of them didn't know who they were anymore.

They started to become so unsure of their own convictions, personality, and goal that they couldn't accept any of these things.

Just halfway through the second life, both of them lost their wills.

They were filled with memories and concepts, but they just couldn't act on these concepts.

If one recorded all the knowledge inside of Cultivator, put it in a book, took out the Cultivator's Spirit and mind, and replaced these things with the book, the outcome would be the same.

The book knew the same things as the Spirit, but it couldn't act upon it.

The information was identical, but it was impossible to act upon that information.

A book didn't have a will. A book about forging wouldn't just get up and start forging.

They were both still alive, but the things that made them, them, were gone.

Now, they were no longer different from the mindless puppets Arc had summoned when he showed Gravis the power of the Law of the Living World.

Time passed.

"Oh, what? Oh! I'm back!" Gravis uttered as he saw himself return to reality.

Only an instant had passed in reality, but an eternity had passed for the three of them.

However, the eternity was irrelevant to Gravis.

It was like he had just taken a nap.

The two Cultivators in front of Gravis had empty eyes as they started to fall towards the ground. Even if they knew the Laws and had the ability to fly, they didn't use them.

After all, they were empty inside.

### BOOOM! BOOOM!

The two heavy bodies of the Star Gods fell to the ground, not moving.

Their minds didn't work anymore.

"Nooo!" an aggrieved shout came out of the dark castle.

#### SHING!

The woman with green hair appeared beside the two Star Gods in shock. "What have you done to them!?" she shouted at Gravis.

"Well, they're alive but also dead. It's kind of hard to explain," Gravis said.

#### SHING!

Gravis appeared beside the two corpses and entered their Spirit. Without any resistance, entering someone's Spirit was easy.

However, Gravis found nothing in their Spirits.

Why were their Spirits empty!?

Where was his loot!?

Then, Gravis looked at the girl beside him. "Quite sneaky. You act like you cared about them, but you actually just stole their valuables."

"Shut up, you monster!" she shouted with hatred. "You killed my two brothers! How dare you!? You're a Judge! You're supposed to protect us, not kill them!"

"Mhm," Gravis uttered without being impressed, not buying it. "So, what are you going to do about it?"

The woman gritted her teeth in hatred and frustration.

She couldn't do anything!

She wasn't any more powerful than her brothers, and Gravis also hadn't made a mistake while doing his duty.

She was helpless!

Luckily, she hadn't attacked Gravis. If she did, he could kill her.

However, Gravis wasn't allowed to kill her right now. After all, he was only here as a Judge, not as himself.

"Just you wait," she said with hate. "I will find out who you are, and I will make sure that you won't live a life of peace!"

"K."

Gravis' blunt answer enraged the woman even more, making her throw even more threats at Gravis, who didn't care one bit.

"Anyway," Gravis said, "since they don't have any valuables, I'll leave them to you. Who knows? Maybe you can help them recover?"

The woman glared at Gravis, but she also looked at her two brothers.

They were still alive!

Their Spirits were uninjured!

This meant that they would recover, and if they didn't, she simply had to find someone that could heal them.

In fact, the woman hadn't stolen their valuables.

The two of them had entered the fight without any valuables. They only had their weapons on them.

Why?

Because they knew that there was a chance that they would die. Because of that, they left their valuables with the green-haired woman.

The woman loved her two brothers, and she would do everything in her power to help them, no matter how many God Stones she had to pay!

"Huh, I wasn't even needed. Good job, Black Sentry," a third voice spoke.

Gravis' eyes opened with surprise, and he looked upward.

It was Eve!

"Why are you here?" Gravis asked in surprise.

"I was supposed to overlook the fight between you and those two," she said, gesturing at the two mindless Star Gods.

"Oh, yeah, right," Gravis said. "You said you were my replacement."

Eve nodded. "Anyway, that was a hell of a first job, but if you can deal with that, you can deal with anything. I need to go back. Later!"

SHING!

And with that, Eve was gone.

"Later!" Gravis shouted after her.

Then, Gravis took out his own emblem and broke it, vanishing too.

The woman seethed in hatred for some more minutes, but then, she focused on the two bodies.

She would help them recover!

Would she succeed?

Well, some things had to be explained first.

How difficult was it to heal a physical body?

Easy.

How difficult was it to heal a Spirit?

A bit harder.

How difficult was it to heal a Will-Aura?

One needed to comprehend the Law of Freedom to do that or go through an incredible amount of tempering. That was far harder than the previous two, making it nearly impossible.

How difficult was it to heal a will?

Well, what was a will?

A will was the active component of the mind. The Spirit had all the person's information inside of it, but something was needed to interact with and change the information.

If a Spirit was a book, a will was the person reading the book. They could do the things inside the book and alter the book.

In essence, a will was sentience.

It was the ability to think.

So, in order to repair sentience, one needed to understand the Law of Sentience.

Sadly, these two were Star Gods, making the Major Law of Sentience relatively useless to them.

This meant that one needed to get someone that knew the True Law of Sentience.

And if someone already knew the True Law of Sentience, comprehending the True Law of the Dead World and the True Law of Life was only a matter of time.

In essence, Cultivators that knew the True Law of Sentience were either Heaven's Magnates or Heaven's Magnates in waiting.

Would the woman be able to get a Heaven's Magnate to heal her two brothers?

That was a stupid question.

However, she would spend a fortune and accrue favors all over the world to invite powerful doctors, alchemy masters, and Cultivators to take a look at her two brothers.

Sadly, none of them knew the True Law of Sentience.

Attacks that damaged the will of a Cultivator basically didn't exist. No one would even be able to tell why the two Star Gods couldn't do anything. In their eyes, the two Star Gods were in perfect health.

This was why Gravis wasn't afraid of letting the two live.

If a Heaven's Magnate wanted to go against Gravis, these two Star Gods would be the least of his worries.

Why had Gravis let the two "live"?

Well, Gravis wasn't allowed to kill the woman, so he had to search for another way to repay this debt of revenge.

So, Gravis decided to gift her something cruel.

Hopeless hope.

# **Lightning Is the Only Way**

# **Chapter 1065: Fucked Up Relationship**

A century passed since Gravis had finished his first job. After that, he had gotten around one job every three days. The world was gigantic, but there were not so many truly powerful Peak Immortal Emperors fighting.

Gravis' jobs for the next century were straightforward, and he hadn't met another Peak Immortal Emperor that knew a level seven Law again. He simply arrived at the location, watched over the fight, and left. In a sense, one could say it was boring, but one could also say that it was very interesting.

Why?

Because Gravis could watch other people use Laws that he himself didn't know.

Gravis learned quite a bit about several more levels six Laws, but 100 years was barely enough to make any headway in those Laws.

In those 100 years, Mortis also managed to get together with Joyce. They were finally "lovers".

How did he do it?

After a while of trying, Mortis became frustrated and angry and asked Joyce what her problem was. He liked her, and she obviously liked him. So, what was her problem? What did she want from him? Why was she wasting time with all of this shit?

Surprisingly, that was exactly what Joyce wanted to hear. Joyce was a very powerful woman, and she wanted an even more powerful and even more commanding man. She had no interest in these weaklings that were only willing to lick her boots and shower her with affection.

She was attracted to power.

Mortis had specifically not looked at Joyce's Emotional Laws since he didn't want to feel like he was taking advantage of her. That was why he hadn't realized this part about her.

Mortis straight-up asked what she wanted.

Joyce said that she wanted him to conquer her and that she refused to be with anyone that couldn't manage that.

Well, if she wanted that, sure.

'You want me to conquer you? Fine! Give me 30 minutes!'

Mortis grabbed her and pulled her away "against her will". Joyce quickly tried to break free, but Mortis was far too powerful.

Mortis pulled her into his apartment and threw her on a bed. "That what you want?" he asked coldly.

Joyce's inner will to fight reared its head, and she looked at Mortis with burning eyes.

However, she also became very excited at the same time.

"What's with that question?" she asked with narrowed eyes. "We both killed millions of innocent people, but now you're hesitating because I might not want this? What's with your favoritism and your weak conviction? You kill innocent people without batting an eye, but as soon as it comes to forcing yourself on someone, you suddenly get weak in the knees?"

If Gravis had seen this, he would have believed this to be so stupid.

Seriously? Joyce was into being a victim of sexual assault? Was she sure that it was about conviction and not just about her own fetish?

However, in comparison to Gravis, Mortis felt his body heat up.

Joyce was powerful, and she didn't allow anyone to just touch her. They first had to overcome her power and resistance. She also coldly looked down on anyone that acted soft towards her.

Due to Mortis' mindset, he was also attracted to power, and Joyce's conduct showed that she was someone powerful and hard to conquer.

Mortis' first time was very, very rough. However, Joyce didn't say "no" even once. She simply fought him with her Laws and weapons while they were doing the deed.

In essence, Joyce was trying to kill Mortis.

Why?

Because she enjoyed the loss of control.

She could only truly feel like she lost control if she tried absolutely everything in her power to get back control but being unable to.

After the deed was done, Joyce snorted. "Fine, you win," she said, "but don't expect me to swoon over you like some fangirl. If you want my affection, you have to earn it."

"Earn it, you say," Mortis said coldly from beside her. "You think you're in a position where you can demand affection? No, you'll be the one that's trying to get affection out of me. You won't get any love and affection until you beg me. Then, maybe I will give it to you."

Joyce snorted. "Me? Beg? In your dreams," she said arrogantly.

However, deep inside, Joyce felt even more attracted to Mortis.

This dominance!

This power!

Mortis felt the same towards Joyce.

However, Mortis felt nervous deep inside.

Mortis had spent all his time with Gravis, and Gravis' values and personality had rubbed off on him. Mortis wanted to hug Joyce and love her. He wanted her to just lay in his arms lovingly. Mortis had appeared confident, but he actually wasn't.

Could he actually follow through with his words? Could he act coldly towards Joyce until she cracked first?

It was difficult.

Yet, Mortis knew that this was the only way to truly create a long-lasting relationship with her.

Sadly, this also created a headache for Mortis. 'Why must this be so complicated?' he thought to himself in frustration. 'Yes, it's hot, but it's also troublesome. She acts like she doesn't want to be with me, but she obviously wants to. It's like I'm continually forced to force myself on her, even though that's exactly what she wants.'

'Why does all of this have to be so messed up? Can't we just talk and let things develop? Isn't this entire power-play thing a bit much for the very beginning of a relationship?'

Mortis looked at Joyce without her noticing.

'Honestly, if every other guy went through what I just went through, they would call her crazy. I mean, she literally tried to kill me the entire time while we were doing it. I mean, what am I supposed to do during all of this? I can't try to kill her, or she will die. I think she enjoyed the suppression of my Will-Aura, and she also seemed to enjoy when I became a bit physical.'

'It feels a bit weird, but sure, as long as she likes it, I'm fine with it.'

Mortis left directly after their talk since he had to appear like he didn't want to give any affection towards Joyce.

'I think this is a very elaborate form of roleplaying,' he thought. 'It's almost ridiculous.'

Joyce taunted him some more, but Mortis didn't answer.

After that, Mortis didn't talk to Joyce for several years.

Joyce appeared in front of Mortis several times, always taunting him and trying to anger him.

Mortis saw the lust in Joyce's Emotional Law, knowing that she only tried to rile him up so he would rail her.

Mortis always left without an answer, ignoring her.

Then, when Joyce didn't expect it and was busy doing something else, Mortis would appear.

In order to win this power game, he had to be the one taking the initiative.

In order to convince Joyce, everything had to happen on Mortis' accord.

All of this continued for a hundred years, and one day, after a particularly rough session, Mortis looked at Joyce.

Joyce was quite injured, and her Life Energy had already run out.

However, according to what her Emotional Laws were telling Mortis, this session was the most enjoyable one for Joyce.

Mortis took a shaking breath.

A little bit was fine, but this was honestly going too far.

Mortis didn't want to feel like he was killing his partner.

Yet, Joyce wanted it like this.

Mortis felt very guilty while being this rough.

Mortis put his head in his hands.

'This is so fucked up.'

# **Lightning Is the Only Way**

Chapter 1066: Manager

A hundred years after they arrived in the highest world, Mortis vanished from Joyce's perception.

Mortis needed to distract himself and get away from this fucked up situation.

Where did he go?

Mortis went to a Law Comprehension Area for the Law of Blaze.

Where was the Law Comprehension Area, and how did Mortis gain access to it?

Gravis' first paycheck.

A century after Gravis started working in The Heaven Company, he got his first paycheck. He was called into The Heaven Company to get it.

He greeted the receptionist, and the receptionist told him where he had to go.

Gravis teleported to an office where an Ancestral God stayed to hand out paychecks.

Gravis handed over his white emblem, and the Ancestral God looked at it.

"Black Sentry, huh? Never seen you here before," he said casually. "You're new, right?"

Gravis nodded with a smile. "Yep. This is my first paycheck."

The Ancestral God nodded and put Gravis' emblem into a Formation Array. The Formation Array shone brightly for a second, and the Ancestral God retrieved it again.

"That's quite a big paycheck you got there," the Ancestral God said. The number of the Contribution Points had shocked him for a bit, but after he inspected Gravis' Aura closer, he realized why he was paid such an insane wage.

Gravis' Battle-Strength was so powerful that it was almost unreal.

The Ancestral God handed the emblem back to Gravis. "You can see what you can buy for your Contribution Points in the exchange hall."

Gravis looked at his emblem, and he saw that he had 5,000 Contribution Points now.

"Thanks," Gravis said as he teleported to the exchange hall.

SHING!

As soon as Gravis arrived, he saw a ton of Cultivators talking to each other. Apparently, the exchange hall also acted as some kind of hub for the workers of The Heaven Company to meet up.

The hall was massive, and Gravis could see several counters with people sitting behind them.

Gravis noted the huge lines forming in front of the counters, and he also noticed that the lines were of varying lengths. Some of them were nearly a kilometer long, while others only had a couple of people in them.

The rightmost queue only had a single person standing in it.

Gravis quickly noticed that the queues were of such varying lengths because of the Realm of the people standing in line.

One queue only had people at the Peak Immortal Emperor Realm, while another queue only had Immortal Emperors that weren't at the peak in it.

They probably sold different things according to what Realm the workers were in.

Additionally, Gravis was quite sure that there were also different Contribution Points.

Gravis joined the queue of the Peak Immortal Emperors, which was slightly shorter than the queue for Immortals.

The queue went forward surprisingly quickly. After all, the customers only talked to the clerks via voice transmission, which was basically instantaneous. Additionally, the speed at which Peak Immortal Emperors thought was way faster than the thinking speed of Immortals.

Because of that, Gravis' queue was moving far quicker than all the queues to his left.

A ton of people stepped into the queue behind Gravis, making him only one person out of many inside it.

Gravis arrived at the front not even 30 minutes after joining, and Gravis handed over his emblem.

The clerk inspected it with practiced ease, but he did a double-take shortly after.

Then, he looked at Gravis and back at the emblem. Then back at Gravis and back at the emblem again.

Lastly, the clerk handed the emblem back.

"Wrong queue," he said, pointing to Gravis' right. "These are Star God Contribution Points. This line is for Peak Immortal Emperor Contribution Points or PIE for short. Don't make a pie joke. I'm sick of them."

Gravis immediately suppressed what he wanted to say and took his emblem back. "Okay, thanks," he said as he left the gueue.

The clerk looked at Gravis with interest as he went to the other queue. Star God Contribution Points as a Peak Immortal Emperor, huh? How did that happen?

Gravis walked over to the empty counter. The singular person that had just talked with the clerk had already left.

Surprisingly, this was the rightmost counter. This probably meant that even Ancestral Gods and Divine Gods went through this counter. However, it could also be possible that Divine Gods got their wares

from somewhere completely else. After all, every single Divine God represented a huge part of The Heaven Company.

Gravis arrived in front of the counter and waited. The clerk had vanished.

Gravis waited for several minutes, but the clerk didn't return.

Then, Gravis noticed a sign. "Ring the bell if the counter has been empty for ten seconds."

Gravis blinked a couple of times.

Then, he rang the bell.

RIN- "Yes, hello. Wrong counter. Peak Immortal Emperors go to the left. Can't you see that based on context clues?"

The clerk returned so quickly that Gravis hadn't even noticed it. He had even stopped the bell from ringing.

He probably hated that sound.

After all, that sound signified that he had to work.

"I have Star God Contribution Points," Gravis said.

The clerk blinked a couple of times in surprise.

"AAAAAHHH!"

Everyone looked at the clerk as he suddenly started screaming in pain.

What was going on!?

Wasn't this the manager of the exchange hall!?

He was a Divine God!

Why did he suddenly scream in pain!?

Gravis looked coldly at the manager.

"It's a wonder that you still have a job," Gravis commented. "Has no one lodged a complaint about you yet?"

What had happened?

Well, the manager was a very impatient person. He wanted to get his work over with as quickly as possible to relax, and if things didn't move fast enough, he would accelerate them.

So, what did he do?

He needed Gravis' emblem to check if he had told the truth.

Where was Gravis' emblem?

In his Spirit Space.

However, the manager couldn't be bothered to ask for the emblem since that would take too long. So, he extended a hand into Gravis' Spirit Space to get it himself.

Something like this was even worse than going through one's purse.

It was far beyond rude.

This could almost be counted as an attack.

Gravis' Spirit was no longer made of the normal kinds of lightning but Void Lightning. Void Lightning didn't have any inherent offensive capabilities, which would mean that someone wouldn't be injured if they entered his Spirit Space.

However, Gravis wasn't stupid. Why would he leave his Spirit Space unprotected?

Even though Gravis' Spirit was no longer made of normal lightning, he could still fuse with normal lightning.

So, Gravis always had a protective shield made of Heavenly Lightning around his Spirit.

Usually, Gravis' Heavenly Lightning wasn't powerful enough to injure someone like this, but it was different when someone tried to enter Gravis' Spirit Space. Only the Spirit of the other party could enter, and that Spirit was made of pure Energy.

This meant that, as soon as the manager tried to enter Gravis' Spirit Space, a part of his Spirit was eaten by Gravis' Heavenly Lightning.

This was also the reason why the manager suddenly screamed in pain. After all, a part of his Spirit had been torn off and eaten just now.

He hadn't been prepared for that at all.

"Anyway, I'll overlook this transgression since you just gave me something like 400,000 God Stones in Energy. Thanks," Gravis said with a smirk.

The manager's eyes opened wide, and his rage exploded.

# **Lightning Is the Only Way**

# **Chapter 1067: Contribution Points**

The manager seethed with rage.

And then, he released all that rage...

In a long sigh.

"I apologize," he said. "I shouldn't have done that."

Was Gravis surprised by that reaction?

No.

#### Why not?

Because this guy was an extremely powerful Cultivator. Everyone that managed to reach such a high Realm couldn't be unreasonable.

It was essentially impossible to find a narrow-minded person at such levels. All the narrow-minded people had died before reaching such a Realm.

Reaching such power required a mindset that allowed someone to reach supreme power. Being unreasonable and angering everyone around them would quickly end up in the death of the Cultivator. Luck would only carry someone so far.

Yet, there was one exception.

The Opposer.

"You think that apology makes everything okay?"

It wasn't Gravis that said that.

SHING!

Someone appeared behind the manager, and the new arrival was familiar to Gravis.

It was the Chief Inspector that had been present when Gravis had undergone his test.

The manager groaned. "Fine. How long?" he asked.

"10,000 years," the Chief Inspector said.

The manager blinked in surprise. "That's actually not that bad," he said with confused happiness.

"Yes, because you already gave him a lot of Energy," the Chief Inspector said. "If you hadn't, you would get 250,000 years. I watched him since I'm interested in him, which means that I would have noticed that transgression regardless. You can count yourself lucky that he has such a unique way of defending his Spirit Space. You barely lost 200 years of Energy, but that saved you from 240,000 years of punishment."

The manager took another deep breath and sighed. "Yes, I'm sorry. I'll watch my conduct in the future."

"You said that like five times by now. I hope, this time, you actually mean what you say," the Chief Inspector said. Then, he nodded at Gravis and vanished again.

"Hard time, eh?" Gravis commented as he leaned on the counter.

The manager sighed yet again. "Yeah, it isn't easy. As I've said, sorry about that. I lost control over myself. I forgot that The Heaven Company also values Cultivators below the Star God Realm, which is why I did what I did."

"I'm not mad," Gravis said with a smirk. "After all, you gave me a lot of Energy. I should actually thank you."

The manager snorted. "Sure," he commented. "You're a strange one, you know that? Even after tearing off a part of my Spirit, you still didn't become a Star God. Judging by the Battle-Strength you exhibit, you should know at least one level seven Law. I'm actually surprised that you didn't reach the Star God Realm."

The manager had calmed down by now. He knew that he had committed a mistake, and he was just happy that his punishment hadn't been extended by that long.

"I need more Energy," Gravis said. "I need the same amount of Energy another time to become a Star God."

"That's a lot of Energy," the manager commented.

Gravis nodded. "By the way, if it isn't too rude to ask, what is this punishment that the Chief Inspector referred to?"

"This," the manager lazily gestured to the surrounding hall. "You think us Divine Gods want to work in such a place? No Divine God wants to be some clerk that hands out rewards for Contribution Points. We have to be here the entire time and can't do anything else for the same pay."

"That's why the Inspector with the worst performance after 100,000 years is chosen to take up this job. The assignment changes every 100,000 years."

The manager sighed again.

"I've been here for 360,000 years, and I still have 120,000 years to go," the manager said with lament.

"Honestly, if the punishment had been longer, I might have just quit on the spot."

"That sucks," Gravis said. "How long is the longevity for Divine Gods?"

"Ten million years," the manager answered absentmindedly.

Gravis nodded. Doing this job for over 3% of one's longevity had to be boring and frustrating. No wonder the manager became so annoyed and careless.

"Anyway, can I see your emblem? I need to check your Contribution Points."

#### SHING!

Gravis summoned his emblem and put it on the counter. The manager looked at it. "Huh, who would have thought. Star God Contribution Points in the Peak Immortal Emperor Realm. Never seen that before."

Gravis nodded. One had to be able to beat a Star God to earn Star God Contribution Points, which was nearly impossible. After all, the difference in Laws was just insane. The most powerful Peak Immortal Emperors knew a level seven Law. Yet, Star Gods also all knew level seven Laws. So, in terms of Laws, this made these two people equal.

However, the Star God was four levels of Energy, Spirit, and physical power above the Peak Immortal Emperor.

As far as the Cultivators knew, there hadn't been a single Peak Immortal Emperor that managed to fight a Star God, even less win. Not even young Heaven's Magnates had accomplished that.

Yet, there was one person that had managed it.

The Opposer.

And now, there were three, excluding the Opposer.

Gravis, Mortis, Arc.

"So, what do you want?" the manager asked.

"What's the price for entering a Heaven's Trial?" Gravis asked.

"Depends on the rewards," the manager answered.

The concept of Heaven's Trials wasn't unknown to Ancestral Gods and stronger. For everyone below that power range, Heaven's Trials were referred to as Secret Areas.

"One entry for a Heaven's Trial costs just as much as the potential reward of the Heaven's Trial," the manager said.

"What?" Gravis asked. "Wait. Can I also just directly buy the rewards?"

"Yes," the manager answered. "You can also just directly buy them."

"Then why would anyone spend just as much for a potential reward as for a secure one?" Gravis asked.

"Tailor-made tempering," the manager answered. "You get the reward and tempering on top of that. However, you could also just die. That's the tradeoff."

Gravis nodded. Now, it made sense.

"Are there ranks to Heaven's Trials?"

"Yes. The ranks of Heaven's Trials are defined by the rewards you get and the opponents you will face. You can purchase entry for an Immortal Emperor rank Heaven's Trial, but you will also only face Immortal Emperors as your opponent."

"The rewards for Star God rank Secret Areas are mostly Law Comprehension Life Fruits, Higher World Cores, and access to exclusive Law Comprehension Areas you can't find anywhere else, like the Emotional Laws."

"We also distinguish between non-peak Heaven's Trials and peak Heaven's Trials in a Realm. After all, Peak Star Gods are not interested in more level seven Laws, but level eight Laws."

Gravis nodded again. "Are there Star God rank Heaven's Trials with level six Laws as rewards?" Gravis asked.

"No," the manager said. "These are all for non-peak Immortal Emperors."

"Okay. How much for three Law Comprehension Life Fruits for the level six Law of Matter?" Gravis asked.

"4,000," the manager answered.

Gravis blinked a couple of times in surprise.

4,000?

Didn't he have 5,000?

Then, didn't this mean that Gravis could buy a level six Law for just 80 years of work?

Wouldn't something like that cost like half a million God Stones?

Now, Gravis finally realized how much money he was actually making.

He was being paid as a Star God, and Star Gods only cared about level seven and level eight Laws. They would probably have to work a couple times to gain enough money to get a level seven Law.

But level six Laws?

That wasn't expensive.

Sure, Gravis couldn't continuously eat these fruits, but he could eat them after every fifth Law he and Mortis comprehended.

"How much for 100 years inside a Law Comprehension Area for an Elemental level six Law?" Gravis asked.

"100 Contribution Points," the manager answered. "One year of Elemental level six Law Comprehension costs exactly one Star God Contribution Point."

"Huh, so I could purchase 5,000 years inside a Law Comprehension Area with my current points?" Gravis asked.

"Yes, but you still need to work unless you ask for leave," the manager answered.

"Buy the three fruits for the Law of Matter and 1,000 years for the Law of Blaze. You can extend it after your next paycheck," Mortis transmitted to Gravis. Gravis always carried one Mortis with him as insurance, and Mortis was also interested in what Gravis could get for his Contribution Points.

"Can I buy access to a Law Comprehension Area for someone else?" Gravis asked.

"You will get an entry token, which you just have to give to the guard. It doesn't matter who hands the token over," the manager answered.

Gravis nodded. "Alright, then I want three Law Comprehension Life Fruits for the Major Law of Matter and 1,000 years Law Comprehension for the Law of Blaze," Gravis said.

SHING!

Three fruits and a token appeared before Gravis, and his Contribution Points all vanished.

Mortis looked at these things with burning eyes from Gravis' Life Ring.

This token was his ticket to freedom!

## **Lightning Is the Only Way**

## **Chapter 1068: Broad Walker**

After spending all his contribution points, Gravis left the exchange hall. Mortis' actual body quickly took the fruits and the token and vanished.

Then, Mortis left Opposer City and searched for a good, isolated location to comprehend his Laws.

As Mortis distracted himself and as Gravis continued earning money, something else of interest concerning Gravis was happening in Opposer City.

"Greetings, I'm searching for my junior brother. He said he was coming to this city to buy something, but he hadn't returned in the last century. Our master has sent me to search for him."

A red-haired man with bulging muscles and very visible chest hair stood in front of an armored guard sitting at a desk.

Both of them were currently inside one of the garrisons in Opposer City.

"Name or title?" the guard asked with practiced ease.

"I'm Broad Walker, and my junior brother's title is Silent Walker," the man answered with a boisterous voice.

The guard transmitted the titles to the archivist, who quickly checked if they had any information on someone called Silent Walker.

The archivist quickly answered with the relevant information.

The guard looked at Broad Walker with a different expression now.

In the guard's eyes, Broad Walker had transformed.

He transformed from a civilian to a customer!

"One hundred years ago, someone going by the title Silent Walker was sent to the mines," the guard said. "Do you have an aura sample we can use to check if this is the person you're searching for?"

Broad Walker's eyes widened in shock. "The mines!?" he shouted. "Why!?"

The other guards in the office looked over at Broad Walker with annoyed eyes. Couldn't that guy see that they were working?

"First, we need to confirm if the new miner going by Silent Walker is the person you're searching for. Aura, please," the guard said.

#### BANG!

More annoyed gazes were thrown at Broad Walker as he hammered his fist down on the table in outrage.

"My junior brother!? A miner!? My junior brother is the most honest, most hardworking, and kindest person in our entire Sect! Yet, you're telling me he's in the mines!?" Broad Walker shouted with anger.

"Aura," the guard answered with annoyance.

"Right, right. It could be that this is a different Silent Walker. I refuse to believe that my junior brother did anything shady!" Broad Walker said as he straightened his back again.

Broad Walker extended a finger and simulated his junior brother's aura. Imitating an aura was very difficult, and something like this could not fool anyone, but the aura only had to be similar enough for the comparison. After all, imitating an aura to 99% accuracy wasn't difficult.

99% accuracy sounded like a lot, but it actually wasn't. The details Immortal Emperors could perceive were so fine that no Immortal Emperor would be fooled by an aura only 99% similar to another one. An aura would have to be at least 99.9999% similar to fool the most idiotic and careless Immortal Emperor.

The guard felt the aura on Broad Walker's finger and compared it to the aura sample of Silent Walker.

Rough match.

Having the same title could be a coincidence.

Having a similar aura could be a coincidence.

Having a similar aura and the same title? Very likely not a coincidence.

"The auras match," the guard said. "It is safe to assume that the person currently mining for us is your junior brother."

## BANG!

Broad Walker punched the table again, cracking it at several places. "Why did you imprison my junior brother!? What has he done!? This is an outrage! My junior brother would never do anything bad! Tell me! Have you been paid to imprison him!?"

Instead of engaging in Broad Walker's tirade, the guard only looked at his table. "You're paying for that table. It was expensive, you know?"

"I don't care about your fu- frickin' table," Broad Walker shouted, remembering his master's lectures about swearing. "Why is my junior brother imprisoned!?"

"Table first, junior brother later," the guard said with a commanding voice. "57 God Stones, now!"

"57 God Stones!?" Broad Walker shouted in shock. "What kind of stinking table costs 57 God Stones!? What can this table do!? Is it edible!? Does it cure Will-Aura injuries!?"

"It's made to resist such angry fits like the one you're currently throwing," the guard said with narrowed eyes. "But you are a beast, which is why it nearly broke! Fix it or pay for it!"

"Fix it!? Do I look like I know the Major Medium Complex Law!?" Broad Walker shouted.

"Then pay for it!" the guard shouted as he stood up from his desk. "Money, now!"

Broad Walker met the guard's gaze. "Well, I don't have any money!" he shouted.

The guard smirked. "Boys! We have another short-term miner!"

The other guards started smirking as they stood up.

Broad Walker became enraged when he saw the other guards standing up. "Is that your plan!? You want to censor the truth by pinning something on me!? I was about to unveil your scheme against my junior brother, but instead of acknowledging your mistake, you're suppressing the truth!? You humans and your schemes! Can't you just be honest for once!?"

"Don't touch me! No! Don't- argh, this is unacceptable! You're hindering the freedom of the press! Wait until my master hears of this! He will-"

## BANG!

A boot covered in cyan flames kicked Broad Walker's face, shaking his soul and making him unconscious.

"Dude, I only want money for my table. Don't make such a scene," the first guard said with annoyance. Then, he turned to another guard. "John, can you do your thing?"

"Sure," the other guard said with a chuckle.

## CRRRR!

And the table was repaired!

"Thanks, bro," the first guard said with a thumbs-up. "Anyway, I think 57 years for the table and five years as a supervision fee should do the trick. 62 years it is. Just let me run that through the Commander aaaaand he agreed. 62 years it is, boys!"

And like that, Broad Walker was sent to the mines for 62 years.

He even met Silent Walker in the mines, who informed him of what happened.

Apparently, a Star God had baited him into stealing. That Star God had even used illusions and mind manipulation to strengthen Silent Walker's inherent greed.

Broad Walker became outraged again as he heard that, throwing another fit in the mine.

The supervising Ancestral God slapped him unconscious, adding another five years to his sentence.

When Broad Walker woke up and heard of his extended sentence, he became even angrier and threw another fit.

Another concussion and five years were added.

And another one.

And another one.

"Shut the fuck up!" Silent Walker shouted at Broad Walker. "You're making things worse!"

Broad Walker looked with shock at Silent Walker as he just woke up.

What did his junior brother just say?

"You aren't supposed to use the f-word, junior brother," Broad Walker whispered with a careful voice.

"You st- ugh, listen, senior brother, just gather God Stones for now. Master will surely come soon since now even you are missing. Just give it time," Silent Walker said quietly.

"If that's what you say, junior brother. Master always told me to follow your example. He always says that you are good at planning and that you know what you're doing," Broad Walker said obediently.

"Yes, I know," Silent Walker said with a forced smile and suppressed annoyance. "You said that like 50 times by now."

And six months later, Silent Walker's words proved to be true.

### BANG!

"My disciples are in the mines!?" A middle-aged man with long, brown hair shouted in a garrison.

The guard looked at his destroyed table.

## SHING!

Someone in shining, golden armor teleported into the garrison, and he looked with narrowed eyes at the visitor.

"You gonna pay for that table?"

# **Lightning Is the Only Way**

# Chapter 1069: Angry Master

The master of Broad Walker and Silent Walker gritted his teeth. However, in comparison to his disciple, he knew that he couldn't throw a fit here.

"How much?" he asked.

"57 God Stones," the Commander in the golden armor said.

"57 God Stones!? What kind of table is this!? Can it cure Will-Aura injuries!? Is it edible!?" he asked in shock.

No one answered. The Commander only extended his right arm, waiting for payment.

"Fine!" the man shouted. "Here! Have your God Stones! I hope you choke on them!"

## SHING!

The man threw the God Stones over, and the Commander pocketed them. Then, the Commander pointed at the destroyed table.

## CRRRR!

And the table was repaired.

### BANG!

And it was destroyed again.

"Are you kidding me!?" the man shouted. "I paid 57 God Stones for the table, and you just repair it like it's nothing!?"

The Commander extended his hand again, waiting for payment.

The body of the man shook in fury.

He immediately regretted his actions.

He shouldn't have hit the table again with his fist.

However, it felt so good to vent his anger!

The man paid another 57 God Stones, and the table was repaired.

"Dirty profiteers," the man grumbled.

Why had this man lost his control again? He was an Ancestral God, and he should have more intelligence than that. Was he stupid?

No.

The reason for the outburst was the Law of Rage. The man knew the level five Law of Rage but no other Emotional Laws. This made the rage inside of him boil over whenever he got angry, severely strengthening it. He wouldn't lose his rationality, but he was more likely to commit small mistakes.

"Your disciple Broad Walker destroyed one of our tables, just like you, and he didn't have any money with him. That's why he is in the mines," the Commander said. His guards couldn't deal with Ancestral Gods, which was why he remained in the room.

BA- plonk.

Another fist went down on the table, but all its strength vanished before it touched the table, only letting out a quiet sound.

When he heard that his disciple had destroyed the table without any money to pay for it, the man became furious at his disciple.

How could his disciple be so stupid!?

When he got his disciple back, he would teach him about how to think before acting!

"Your other disciple, Silent Walker, openly attempted to steal from someone and was caught. That is why he's in the mines," the Commander said.

Plonk.

A restrained fist fell slowly on the table.

"Silent Walker!? Stealing!?" the man shouted in outrage. "Silent Walker is the kindest and most honest out of all my disciples! I refuse to believe that he stole anything! Someone must have framed him!"

"Do you want to view the surveillance footage?" the Commander asked calmly.

"Yes!" the man shouted immediately.

The Commander extended his hand.

The man got a bad feeling.

"150 God Stones," the Commander said.

The man nearly exploded again. "150 God Stones!? Why is watching something a Formation Array captured so expensive!?"

"The Formation Array that overlooks the city is on the Divine God level. It can see through all illusions and is unalterable. Such a Formation Array requires a lot of Energy to operate," the Commander explained.

The man gritted his teeth but paid the fee regardless.

The Commander pocketed the God Stones and summoned a screen in the air. After fiddling with the screen for a bit, the Commander managed to let it display the scene of when Silent Walker got captured.

The man saw how Gravis summoned his Life Fruits and then how the fruits vanished. Shortly after, Silent Walker fell to the ground in hysterics. It was like an army of monsters were attacking him.

"There is no proof that my disciple stole these fruits! It could have been anyone!" the man shouted in anger.

No one answered.

After a while, the man saw how his disciple procured the fruits himself.

The man's face turned white.

No!

Impossible!

This had to be a trick!

Silent Walker?

A thief?

That couldn't be!

The man hadn't lied when he said that Silent Walker was the most honest out of all his disciples. He genuinely believed that.

It was impossible that Silent Walker would steal anything.

Silent Walker was the nicest and most helpful being he had ever met!

Even more, the words that Silent Walker shouted were just as unbelievable.

He was threatening everyone around him with his master.

This wasn't Silent Walker!

Suddenly, the man's eyes widened.

"Show me the illusion my disciple was seeing! The illusion must have clouded his mind!" he demanded.

"The Formation Array can only show reality. It can't show illusions," the Commander said.

The Commander sounded confident and stalwart, but that was only his practiced outward appearance.

In reality, the Formation Array could show illusions. After all, the Formation Array was of an incredible rank.

Yet, no matter how hard the guards had tried, they couldn't see the illusions Silent Walker had been under

This had stumped all of the guards that tried to investigate this case.

Something like this had never happened before, as far as they knew.

This even went up the ranks until a Divine God took a look at the recording.

After looking at it, the Divine God said that the Formation Array didn't malfunction. The illusions were not exactly illusions, and the Formation Array simply couldn't perceive them.

In order to create a Formation Array that could capture perceived realities, the creator of the Formation Array had to comprehend the Law of Perceived Reality first. After all, the Formation Array had not been the target of Gravis' Law of Perceived Reality. If it had been, it would have been able to capture the illusions.

The Divine God hadn't explained why the Formation Array wasn't able to see the illusions. He only said that it couldn't.

The guards and Commanders were stumped, but they didn't question their superior.

That was why the Commander had lied to the man. He felt that if he admitted that their Formation Array couldn't capture everything, its credibility would be severely compromised.

This might reopen long-closed cases for reinvestigation.

"Then it's possible that my disciple was under an illusion from the very beginning, right?" the man asked. This time, he didn't sound as angry since he felt like he was on to something.

"Possible," the Commander said. "However, this does not change anything. We have investigated this case thoroughly. Even a Divine God has investigated this case. The Divine God has said that there was no indication of your disciple being provoked or misdirected into theft. All of this came from his own desires."

The Commander wasn't lying. The leader of the City Guards was a Divine God, and he was also the controller of the Formation Array. The Divine God might not know the Law of Perceived Reality, but he knew the True Law of Emotions. He had reviewed the footage, and he had concluded that nothing had been done to manipulate the disciple into stealing.

If something like that had occurred, Gravis would be the one in the mines, not Silent Walker.

After all, the City Guards had to keep their credibility.

The man narrowed his eyes, but his rage didn't explode.

Something was going on.

He believed that the footage was real, but he didn't believe that Silent Walker would do something like this.

This completely didn't fit Silent Walker's personality.

Silent Walker's master decided to believe in his disciple, even if everything pointed to his disciple being a thief.

As Silent Walker's master, the man believed that he had to trust in his disciple. If he didn't believe in his disciple, no one would.

His disciple was innocent, and he would do everything in his power to right this wrong and bring the true culprit to justice!

The man looked with hatred at the Gravis in the projection.

After some seconds, the man looked at the Commander again.

"How much for both of my disciples?" he asked.

"100,013 God Stones," the Commander said.

Plonk.

Another gentle fist on the table.

"That's too much! Silent Walker has already been in the mines for over a century! It shouldn't be above 100,000 God Stones, even with Broad Walker added to the mix!" the man shouted.

"Broad Walker has thrown several tantrums in the mines, which increased the duration of his stay," the Commander answered.

The Commander summoned several pieces of paper, all of them being reports from the mine. Each one detailed what Broad Walker had done and how his sentence had changed.

The man looked with fury at the papers.

Broad Walker had screwed him over yet again!

This bastard of a disciple had already cost him over 100 God Stones! Why had he ever decided to take him in as a disciple!? Why couldn't he be more like Silent Walker!? Silent Walker had always helped out, and he had never made any problems for his master!

"Fine! I'll pay, but I will get to the bottom of this!" the man threatened.

The Commander smiled for the first time. "Happy to serve you!" he said.

The man paid the near 100,000 God Stones for Silent Walker with a neutral facial expression. It was a necessary evil.

However, when the man paid the about 100 God Stones for Broad Walker, fury could be seen on the man's face.

He would make Broad Walker pay for that!

"Here is the release-token for your disciples," the Commander said, handing two tokens over to the man. "You can pick them up in mine 357R."

The man gritted his teeth but didn't say anything further.

BANG!

The man kicked open the door, destroying it in the process.

Tink, tink, tink!

Before the Commander could intercept the man for another round of payment, the man had already thrown several God Stones into the garrison.

It was more than enough to pay for the door.

# **Lightning Is the Only Way**

## **Chapter 1070: Senior Brother**

The man quickly teleported a couple of times before he arrived at the mine.

He handed over the two release-tokens and waited.

SHING! SHING!

Silent Walker and Broad Walker appeared in front of the man.

Broad Walker bowed deeply.

Silent Walker nodded politely.

"Thank you for saving us, Mas-"

BANG!

Broad Walker was slapped by the man, and Broad Walker hit the ground, creating a gigantic crater.

Luckily, this was a mostly dead area.

"Don't talk to me, unfilial disciple!" the man shouted. "I don't have such an idiotic, impulsive disciple!"

CRRK!

Broad Walker dug out of the ground and bowed before his master again. "I'm sorry, Master. This disciple deserves a thousand slaps for his mistakes!"

BANG!

Another slap.

"You think you'll get away with only a thousand slaps!? No, I want ten times the amount of God Stones I paid for you this time!"

Broad Walker returned with an ashen face. "But Master, you have already taken all of my wealth! I don't have any-"

## BANG!

"Are you questioning your master's judgment!?" the man shouted in rage. "Are you telling me that I am treating you unjustly!? I have just paid 100 God Stones to get you out of the trouble you have brought upon yourself! I could have also just ignored you! I expect 1,000 God Stones in 100 years, or I will banish you from the Sect!"

Broad Walker wanted to protest, but he had learned that this would only make things worse.

"Yes, Master," Broad Walker said deferentially.

"Power Walker," Silent Walker said, directly addressing his master with his name. "Thank you for helping me."

Power Walker put a comforting hand on Silent Walker's shoulder. "It's fine, child. I will right this wrong! You don't have to worry about anything! Your master will take care of everything."

Silent Walker nodded with a happy smile.

"Power Walker, my Cultivation received a hit while being in the mines. I feel like a Law that I was about to grasp has become more illusory. Could you lend me 50,000 God Stones to increase my perception so that I can make up for my lost time?" Silent Walker asked.

Broad Walker looked with confusion at Silent Walker.

Increase his perception? Sure, a higher Energy density could help with that, but 15 God Stones were more than enough to make up for the lost time. Additionally, how could anyone lose comprehension of a Law? It wasn't like Silent Walker was rudely interrupted in the middle of Law Comprehension.

100,000 God Stones appeared in the air.

"Don't worry, good child," Power Walker said with a loving gaze. "You have been wronged this time, and it is the duty of your master to help you recover. Keep these 100,000 God Stones. You don't need to pay me back. It is what I should do as your master."

Silent Walker nodded and pocketed the God Stones. "I believe in your judgment, Power Walker," he said.

"But Master, the Sect doesn't have much wealth left-"

# BANG!

Another slap. "Are you questioning your master's judgment!?" Power Walker shouted. "I am the Sect Master, and I know about my Sect better than you! If I say it's fine, it's fine!"

In a crater in the ground, Broad Walker felt deeply worried.

Their Sect didn't have much wealth left!

If his master spent any more money, they might not be able to pay their other disciples!

If that happened, some disciples would abandon the Sect and search for another one, and they were already short on disciples! Many disciples had already left due to the poor rewards for the Sect missions!

"Tell me, child, what happened?" Power Walker asked Silent Walker with a kind voice.

"It all happened about a hundred years ago," Silent Walker explained with a sad voice. "I was simply walking along the streets when I saw Broad Walker being attacked by several spears. I couldn't watch as my fellow disciple brother died, so I decided to stop the attack by summoning these spears into my Spirit Space. I knew that the power of the spears would kill me, but I was willing to die for my brother."

Silent Walker told of all these things with a clear conscience and unwavering conviction.

Broad Walker had a worried expression on his face.

This made no sense!

There were so many holes in the story that he didn't even know where he should start!

Another gentle hand appeared on Silent Walker's shoulder. "You truly suffered. Even if I die today, I can rest without regrets knowing that I have taken in such a selfless and outstanding disciple," Power Walker said with pride.

Silent Walker only smiled sadly at his master, slowly moving the hand away from his shoulder. "Thank you, Power Walker."

Broad Walker was stunned.

Did his master believe that!?

"Master, please don't-"

BANG!

Another slap. "You dare question me again!? Leave! I don't have such a disciple as you! You can keep your 1,000 God Stones! I don't need you to repay me anymore!"

Broad Walker felt his world break down.

His master had abandoned him!?

No!

Broad Walker looked with fear at his master, but he knew that he couldn't get through to his master.

So, he looked at Silent Walker with hope.

Silent Walker saw how Broad Walker looked at him and suppressed a smirk.

Then, he turned to Power Walker. "Power Walker, please forgive my brother. He spoke carelessly."

Power Walker immediately calmed down. "If you say so, child. I will forgive him." Then, he looked at Broad Walker with a severe expression. "Come over and thank your senior brother!"

'Senior brother?' Broad Walker thought in shock. 'But I'm the senior brother!'

However, Broad Walker didn't dare to make another mistake. He quickly went over to Silent Walker and bowed politely. "I thank senior brother for your kindness."

Silent Walker nodded politely towards Broad Walker. "It's fine. It's my duty to take care of you."

Broad Walker felt like something dangerous was happening, but he couldn't be sure what.

Everything seemed to revolve around Silent Walker, but for some reason, Silent Walker radiated this pure and kind aura.

Even more, Silent Walker had always helped Broad Walker ever since he joined the Sect.

"Power Walker, when will you take revenge?" Silent Walker asked.

"Immediately," Power Walker answered. "I will visit the Information Pavilion and dig up more information about him. If he doesn't have some great background, I will kill him. If he does, I still have my ways."

Silent Walker nodded. "Thank you, Power Walker. I'm happy that I've made a powerful senior brother such as you."

Broad Walker's breathing halted.

What did Silent Walker just say!?

Senior brother!?

Calling one's master senior brother was putting oneself at the same level as the master! This was severely disrespectful!

"Child," Power Walker said awkwardly. "I'm your master, not your senior brother."

"You don't want to be my senior brother?" Silent Walker asked with a fearful and sad expression.

When Power Walker saw Silent Walker's expression, his heart ached. He felt like he had just hurt the most important thing in the world.

"No, no, I do, but others will think of me as a joke," Power Walker said nervously.

"Senior brother, it doesn't matter what others think. Their perception has no impact on you," Silent Walker said with a smile.

Power Walker's nervousness disappeared, and happiness took hold of him. "Yes, you're right! What others think doesn't matter! Then, from today onward, I'm happy to have another junior brother!"

"Thank you, senior brother Power Walker," Silent Walker said with a smile.

Power Walker patted Silent Walker's shoulder with exhilaration. "Great! Great! Now, let's get your revenge!"