Lightning 1071

Lightning Is the Only Way

Chapter 1071: Information Pavilion

Power Walker left Silent Walker and Broad Walker behind as he entered Opposer City. He didn't want the person that framed Silent Walker to run away. After all, if he felt that Silent Walker had returned, he might become scared.

As soon as Power Walker arrived in the city, he waited.

The person had to appear in Opposer City eventually.

Sadly, Power Walker couldn't see through the Formation Arrays that isolated the buildings. Because of that, he had to wait until Gravis showed himself openly.

He waited for nearly an entire century before Gravis showed himself to get his second paycheck.

When Power Walker saw Gravis, he locked down on him and remembered his Aura.

However, he didn't act immediately. Power Walker wasn't stupid. If Silent Walker could have a backer such as himself, so could others.

Power Walker wanted to kill Gravis immediately for daring to hurt his favorite child, ehm, junior brother. However, he had to be careful.

After remembering Gravis' Aura, Power Walker went to a gigantic, black building in the middle of Opposer City. The fact that this building was so big and in the center of the city meant that the organization running it was an incredibly powerful one.

Power Walker restrained his Aura and entered the building.

The hall had an oppressive and dark aura, and everyone inside the building wore equipment that hid their auras. Wearing such equipment in Opposer City was forbidden, but it was okay to wear the equipment here.

After all, the Information Pavilion paid a hefty sum to the guards of Opposer City every century to get an exception to that rule.

Power Walker had also hidden his Aura with equipment as soon as he entered.

Why?

Because people that came here always had enmities, and they wouldn't want their opponents to find out that they had dug up information on them.

The Information Pavilion had created specific rooms before the entrance that were isolated even from their perception. After all, if the Information Pavilion gathered information while their clients were trading with them, no client would be willing to buy from them. Wouldn't that just be exposing their whereabouts?

Power Walker entered the gigantic hall and went to a free clerk, who was also clouded in dark robes and a dark cloak.

These clerks knew an incredible amount of information due to their job, which made them a prime target to everyone. If someone could gather the information of these clerks with a Law related to the Spirit or brain, they could blackmail so many organizations. Even more, the Information Pavilion would get compromised if something like that happened.

Because of that, every clerk in the Information Pavilion had to be protected with no cost spared.

If one of the clerks was about to face their tribulation, they were required to inform the higher-ups so that they could purge the clerk's mind from sensitive information. This was something the clerks had agreed upon after joining the Information Pavilion.

If they refused to do that, they would be killed.

Being a clerk in the Information Pavilion came with incredible danger and draconian restrictions.

However, the pay was ridiculously high!

A Peak Immortal Emperor working there earned even more than Gravis!

That was why so many wanted to join the Information Pavilion, but also why over 90% of the clerks quit after they managed to get through their tribulation. Their minds had already been purged, and they had an insane amount of wealth now.

Power Walker stopped in front of the clerk, and the clerk smiled under their hood. "Are you here to buy or sell?" they asked.

"Buy," Power Walker answered. Then, he lifted his right index finger and simulated Gravis' Aura.

The clerk looked at the Aura and then at Power Walker. "What do you want to know?"

"Everything," Power Walker answered.

"Sure thing. Let me just check the information," the clerk said.

Then, the clerk's Spirit Sense entered a gigantic and complex Formation Array as he submitted the Aura.

In an instant, several million similar Auras appeared in front of him. This was the Formation Array asking the clerk which one it should look at.

There were so many beings in this world that there was a ridiculous amount of other people that had similar Auras to Gravis' Aura.

However, the clerk was used to something like this. He put Power Walker's information into the Formation Array to check which one was related to him.

But wait, how did the Information Pavilion know that this was Power Walker? Wasn't his Aura hidden?

Yes, it was, but that didn't matter. The Information Pavilion didn't look into the customers entering their building, but they had plenty of information about everyone in its vicinity. Power Walker hadn't kept his Aura hidden while being in Opposer City. He had only kept it hidden before he entered. If he had left

Opposer City for a couple years and directly teleported into the Information Pavilion while keeping his Aura hidden, they wouldn't have known that it was him.

It wasn't difficult to discern that this was Power Walker.

One result returned, and the clerk looked at it.

Title: Black Sentry

True Name: Unknown

Age: Unknown

Cultivation: Peak Immortal Emperor

Battle-Strength: 4+

Occupation: The Heaven Company Judge Red Four to Six and Black Four to Six

Background: Ascender. Has been in the highest world for 200 years.

Family: Stella, Ascender...

The information listed all of Gravis' friends, but since the request wasn't for them, their information was only very basic.

When the clerk read through the information, he frowned.

That was way too little!

It was like this guy came out of nowhere and never left his home except for his job!

The clerk skipped nearly everything after concluding that something was strange with this set of information and focused on the bottom.

Verified: Yes

Background check: No

Oh, so that's it! No one had commissioned a background check for this Black Sentry yet, which meant that no one had asked for his information until now.

However, the clerk was still a bit confused. Sure, the guy had only been here for 200 years, but no one had commissioned a background check yet? That was rare!

The Information Pavilion had some truly powerful clients in the form of Peak Sects. They usually asked for the information of every Ascender and asked for background checks.

That was why it was so rare for an Ascender to have so little information known about them.

'Wonder why no one commissioned a background check on him yet,' the clerk thought.

What was the reason?

The big clients had already looked at Gravis' information. Back then, Gravis had only been in the highest world for a couple of weeks. Yet, when the big clients saw that Gravis had such an incredible Battle-Strength and had already joined The Heaven Company, they knew that something was wrong.

That was too fast!

It was already strange enough that an Ascender directly appeared in Opposer City, but it was even stranger that someone joined The Heaven Company this quickly.

Because of that, they asked their superiors what they should do.

The superiors looked into the information of Black Sentry and said that they should ignore him.

The superiors didn't say why.

The clerk looked at Power Walker. "We have his information, but no background checks have been made yet. The information is very limited, and it will only cost you 1,000 God Stones to purchase it."

"Only 1,000 God Stones?" Power Walker repeated with a frown. "That's truly not much information. How much for a background check?"

"150,000 God Stones, but you will get all the information we dig up, even if it's worth far more," the clerk said.

This was one of their business strategies.

Background checks were nearly always cheaper than buying all the information, which encouraged people to run background checks. This would result in the Information Pavilion getting far more information that they could sell later, making the lower price worth it.

"Fine!" Power Walker said as he took out 150,000 God Stones.

He didn't have many God Stones left.

The clerk took the God Stones. "It will take around ten minutes. Please be patient," he said.

Power Walker nodded and waited.

The request for a background check arrived in front of a young man shrouded in darkness. He was in one of the most secure locations of the Information Pavilion.

In fact, he was the leader of this branch, a Divine God.

The Divine God's Spirit Sense stretched over the entire city, nearly penetrating all the Formation Arrays. Only the big companies had Formation Arrays that could block his Spirit Sense.

Gravis had already left The Heaven Company and had come back to his residence.

The Divine God looked at Gravis' Emotional Laws.

But then, he stopped.

What was going on?

Why did these Emotional Laws make no sense!?

It was like the Emotional Laws were written in an unknown language, and the Divine God couldn't see any pattern in them.

He had never seen anything like this!

However, that didn't stop him.

He simply turned his gaze to the woman inside Gravis' apartment, Stella.

He read her Emotional Laws and inferred an incredible amount of information from them.

The Divine God jutted down a book worth of sentences in Gravis' information.

Yet, the Divine God suddenly froze.

What did he just read!?

Fuck!

The Divine God immediately deleted all the information he had gathered, including the incomplete record in the Formation Array. He only left behind Gravis' title and the word "Top Secret".

He even went through all the records of Gravis' close ones and replaced their information with "Top Secret".

After that, the clerk that had read Gravis' incomplete record exploded in front of Power Walker.

Just before the Divine God deleted his own memories of this event, he had one last frustrated thought.

"Why the fuck are you not wearing your Obsidian Ring when you're the son of the Opposer!?"

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Chapter 1072: Interrogation Warrant

Power Walker's eyes widened in shock as the clerk in front of him exploded out of nowhere.

What the fuck was going on!?

The other clerks looked at the place of their dead colleague and sneered. 'Idiot,' they thought. 'You're supposed to report suspicious information, not request a background check.'

The other clerks had been in the Information Pavilion for far longer than this clerk, and they knew what this meant.

Usually, when a background check for a sensitive individual was commissioned, the clerk would only receive a severe pay cut.

However, there was one incidence when the clerk was directly killed.

That was when that person was one of the Opposer's children.

The clerks knew immediately that their dead colleague had tried to run a background check on one of the Opposer's children, but they didn't dare to check who it was.

They didn't want to die.

Instead, one of the clerks walked over and pocketed all of the dead clerk's belongings. Then, he looked at Power Walker. "How much did you pay?" they asked.

"150,000 God Stones," Power Walker said absentmindedly. He still had no idea what was going on.

The clerk handed the 150,000 God Stones back to Power Walker. "I'm sorry, but the information you requested has been classified as Top Secret. We can't help you."

The clerk didn't even check since he knew exactly that it would be classified as Top Secret.

Power Walker's eyes widened in shock. "Top Secret!? How!? Why!?" he asked in anger.

SHING!

Power Walker was forcefully teleported out of the Information Pavilion and reappeared on the streets of Opposer City, stunned.

What?

Ring, ring, ring!

Suddenly, Power Walker heard an alarm ring from beside him. He saw one of the guards holding some sort of mechanism in his hands, which pointed at him.

SHING!

A Commander in golden armor appeared in front of Power Walker. "It is forbidden to wear Aura-concealing equipment in Opposer City. Pay a fine of 1,000 God Stones or be sent to the mines!" he commanded.

Power Walker was still stunned, but his rage exploded. "What!? I didn't-"

WHOOOOM!

An incredibly powerful Will-Aura pressed down on Power Walker, and he couldn't move anymore.

"Are you resisting!?" the Commander shouted.

Power Walker gritted his teeth and put the Aura-concealing equipment back into his Spirit Space.

"Oh, it's you," the Commander said with a more relaxed tone. "Happy to see you again!"

Then, the Commander extended his right hand. "1,000 God Stones," he demanded.

Power Walker nearly exploded in anger, but he kept himself in check. He couldn't antagonize anyone here.

If he did, his junior brother wouldn't get his revenge!

Power Walker took out 1,000 God Stones wordlessly and handed them over.

The Commander pocketed them and smiled. "Happy to do business with you," he said before teleporting away.

"Wait!" Power Walker shouted.

The Commander stopped his teleportation as all the other guards scattered. "Do you need something?" he asked. He needed to be polite to such a big customer!

Power Walker gritted his teeth. "I want to issue an Interrogation Warrant!" he transmitted.

The Commander's smirk immediately widened.

Sure enough, this was a big customer!

"For whom?" he asked via voice transmission.

Power Walker simulated Gravis' Aura again. "For him," he transmitted.

The Commander checked the Aura and used his authority as Commander to allow himself to check through the Formation Arrays in Opposer City.

He quickly found Gravis in his apartment.

"That will be 50,000 God Stones," the Commander answered.

Power Walker nodded and handed the God Stones over.

He would never see these God Stones again.

Power Walker had already spent so much money on this entire thing, but it was worth it for his junior brother's revenge!

The Commander pocketed the God Stones and nodded.

SHING!

Then, the Commander teleported away.

SHING!

And arrived in Gravis' apartment.

Gravis and Stella were startled as someone suddenly barged into their home.

However, they quickly calmed down when they saw the golden armor of the Commander.

"Commander, what do you need?" Gravis asked in confusion.

"Keep that if you want to live," the Commander said as he threw a token to Gravis.

Gravis caught the token and looked at it.

Gravis lifted an eyebrow as he saw the token.

He knew exactly what this token meant.

At first, Stella had been afraid. Why was a Commander looking for Gravis? Yet, when she saw the token, she released a sigh of relief.

This token signified that Gravis couldn't die in the next five years.

However, it also meant that Gravis couldn't earn any money for five years.

Gravis quickly contacted Eve. "Eve, an Interrogation Warrant has been issued for me," he said.

"Okay," Eve answered.

That was all Eve said.

"Alright, everything has been dealt with," Gravis said to the Commander.

The Commander nodded. "Follow me," he ordered.

SHING! SHING!

Gravis and the Commander teleported away.

What was an Interrogation Warrant?

As the name implied, Gravis would be interrogated for the next five years.

By whom?

By the one that issued the warrant.

This meant that Gravis would be handed over to Power Walker for interrogation.

But wait, wasn't that bad?

Not really.

If someone could just kill someone or steal from someone by paying 50,000 God Stones, wouldn't everyone do that? After all, many Peak Immortal Emperors had things in their Spirit Space that were worth far more.

That was why there were two restrictions to Interrogation Warrants.

First of all, a price had to be paid according to the Realm of the person being interrogated. This discouraged people from issuing wrongful Interrogation Warrants.

The second restriction was the wellbeing of the person being interrogated. If the person died in the next five years, the person issuing the Interrogation Warrant would be killed. Their family, disciples, and masters would also be killed.

This was to stop someone from being a sacrificial pawn. After all, the main reason why someone would give their life for something like this would be their love for someone else, who had probably been taken hostage or something similar.

So, if they sacrificed their life by issuing an Interrogation Warrant and then killing said person, their loved ones would all die, making the act senseless.

Funnily enough, Gravis could even kill all of the ones that were involved in this affair by simply killing himself.

In a morbid sense, this gave Gravis quite some power.

Sadly, sacrificing a clone didn't work. After all, as long as Gravis still existed in some capacity, the Interrogation Warrant wouldn't be triggered.

SHING! SHING!

As Gravis appeared in the streets, he saw Power Walker.

'That should be an Ancestral God. If he were a Divine God, it wouldn't be a Commander that came to fetch me,' Gravis thought. 'I guess this is the master of that one dude that tried to steal from me in the past. Huh, I wondered when he would show up.'

"Hi, I will be under your care for the next five years," Gravis said casually as he waved at Power Walker.

Power Walker looked with hatred at Gravis. "You will wish that you were never born!"

"Don't threaten me with a good time," Gravis sneered. "Are you saying that you want to train my Will-Aura? Please go ahead!"

Power Walker's rage exploded as he grabbed Gravis by the throat.

Gravis didn't resist.

Wasn't this just like back when he had been captured by the Red King?

CRACK!

Gravis' neck broke as Power Walker looked with fear at him.

He hadn't pressed down that hard!

He let Gravis go, and Gravis' neck healed.

"Oh, that was close," Gravis said with a smile. "I nearly died there. You should really be careful with your strength, senior. What if I accidentally lose my head while falling down some stairs? You should know that I have osteoporosis. You better be careful!"

"The person has been handed over," the Commander said. "Everything from now on is your responsibility. I presume you know what that means."

Power Walker nodded. "I know," he said.

"Good," the Commander answered. "Do come back to Opposer City. You're always welcome here!"

CRK!

The street beneath Power Walker's feet exploded as he released part of his power in anger. Was this guy mocking him!?

"Ah! That's another three God Stones!" the Commander shouted, extending his right hand. "Pay up."

Power Walker had had enough!

Everyone was constantly provoking him!

Power Walker looked with hatred at the Commander and released his Will-Aura.

"Oh, are you threatening me? That's another 5,000 God Stones!" the Commander said with a smirk.

Power Walker's mind nearly exploded.

That hadn't been his intention at all!

However, he knew that the best way out of this was to comply.

Power Walker paid his debt, and the Commander teleported away.

Then, Power Walker looked with furious eyes at Gravis.

Gravis only smiled.

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Chapter 1073: One Glance

Power Walker and his two disciples looked at Gravis with hostile gazes while Gravis only looked at them with smirks.

Did they think that he was easy to take care of?

Did they think that they would just have to pressure him or torture him to give some kind of fake confession?

Gravis went through much worse.

WHOOM!

A Formation Array appeared around Gravis, which blocked off all the Laws from the world. This Formation Array was specifically created to deal with captives. Basically every Sect that was led by an Ancestral God had such a portable Formation Array.

An Ancestral God could easily escape such a Formation Array before it took effect. After all, it took a while for the Formation Array to become active and to brand the culprit. Any Ancestral God would be able to run out of its effect before they got branded.

However, when these Formation Arrays activated their effects, all the physical Laws below level nine would become useless. This meant that matter, the Elements, Battle Laws, and Life Laws became useless.

Sadly, this Formation Array couldn't deal with the Emotional Laws and Laws of Perceived Reality, but that was irrelevant.

Ancestral Gods knew, at most, some Emotional Laws and Laws of Perceived Reality. What could these Laws do when everything else was suppressed?

The Emotional Laws only increased the Battle-Strength of the user, but if the user couldn't use any Laws with actual offensive power, the Emotional Laws became useless.

As for the Laws of Perceived Reality, suppressing them was also irrelevant.

Law of Danger? Law of Safety?

Those two Laws would change nothing.

Law of Suppression?

If the Ancestral God was already under the effect of the Formation Array, it meant that the Ancestral God had already lost a fight, and they would have used the Law of Suppression in the fight.

The only dangerous Laws, in that case, were the Law of Control and Law of Freedom, but how many Ancestral Gods knew these Laws?

As for the actual Law of Perceived Reality?

Ancestral Gods didn't even know what that Law was.

Because of this effect, these Formation Arrays were sold to Sects with at least one Ancestral God in them for a ridiculously high price.

Why only Ancestral Gods?

Because Ancestral Gods were the only ones that could afford these Formation Arrays.

The price was over ten million God Stones.

It was a significant expenditure for a Sect. Luckily, the Formation Arrays could be reused.

Gravis felt all his Laws vanish. It was like the very foundation on which they were built had vanished.

It felt very similar to the time when Gravis had been in the Gate of Death, but not as overpowering.

One could also say it was similar to the Law of Sentience but not as perfect. After all, the Law of Sentience also dealt with ethereal Laws.

Right now, Gravis only had access to his Law of Heavenly Lightning, his Form Law, his Major Law of Death, and his Law of Sentience.

Funnily enough, this meant that Gravis had access to 99% of his power.

The Formation Array was literally useless against him.

Power Walker's Will-Aura stopped Gravis from moving. Power Walker was a beast, but every Star God received the Heavenly Treasure that allowed them to condense a Spirit and Will-Aura.

Someone that managed to become an Ancestral God obviously wouldn't have a weak Will-Aura.

If Gravis wanted to, he could escape the Formation Array and Power Walker's Will-Aura with his Law of Freedom.

However, why would he do that?

If he did that, Power Walker would just drag him there. On top of that, Power Walker would become more careful of Gravis.

"You will pay for what you've done to my dis-junior brother!" Power Walker said with hatred.

One of Gravis' eyebrows rose as he heard that short stutter.

'That was unusual,' Gravis thought. 'I'm pretty sure the thief said that he had a powerful master, and this master is probably the person in front of him. Yet, the master referred to the thief as junior brother. Initially, he wanted to refer to his disciple as disciple, but he changed his form of address quickly. This probably means that he isn't used to addressing his disciple like this.'

Gravis looked at Broad Walker and analyzed his Law fragments.

Broad Walker and Silent Walker had appeared behind Power Walker after he had unleashed the Formation Array.

'Honest, confused, lost, simple, impulsive, helpful,' Gravis thought. 'He's basically a nice beast. He's like a less mature version of Skye in some sense. He is also a bit similar to Ferris, but not as extreme. He also knows three level six Laws. Quite impressive. If he had entered the tournament my friends held, he would probably rank in the top 5.'

Then, Gravis looked at Silent Walker, and he quickly understood many things.

'Arrogant, deceitful, scheming, apathetic, power-hungry,' Gravis thought with disdain. 'He's like a Mortis without the honesty and lust for battle and tempering. He could also count as a stupider and more emotional version of middle world Orthar.'

Gravis also inspected Power Walker.

Sadly, Power Walker was an Ancestral God, and the Emotional Laws vastly changed in the Star God Realm. Gravis couldn't see through Power Walker completely.

However, there were still some things that Gravis could make sense of.

How?

Well, one didn't need to be a cook to realize when a dish was too salty. One only needed to have basic knowledge about food.

And well, Gravis had basic knowledge of the Law of Sentience.

Gravis automatically looked at the Law fragments surrounding everyone, including the Ancestral Gods and Divine Gods Gravis had met.

Some examples were Eve, the Chief Inspector, the other two visitors in Gravis' test, and the Manager in the exchange hall.

Gravis could not see many things, but he could discern a basic pattern.

And what he was seeing in Power Walker's Law fragments didn't follow this pattern.

Gravis could only see this inconsistency thanks to his Law of Sentience. If he didn't know this Law, he would have needed to reach the Ancestral God Realm and would have needed to know Power Walker closely to see this inconsistency.

'I can't make sense of his personality due to his Realm, but I'm certain that something is wrong with his Spirit. Some Law fragments are moving erratically and incorrectly. It's like they are moving in ways they aren't supposed to move.'

Gravis looked at Silent Walker and Broad Walker again.

'That one guy feels unfairly treated, and by the look of it, this isn't anything new. This has been going on for a long time. A deep fear of his master and his disciple brother is hidden in his heart. Yet, his disciple brother only knows a single level six Law. There should be no reason for him to fear his disciple brother. After all, he's far more powerful.'

'Meanwhile, the thief's Law fragments speak of confidence and control. In his mind, he is the one in control, not his master. In his mind, his master is a pawn that he can move around however he wants.'

'This is obviously not a normal master-disciple relationship. Together with the erratic movements of his master's Law fragments, I can infer with quite some confidence that the thief is responsible for his master's inconsistent Law fragments.'

Gravis scratched his chin.

'Interesting. A weak Peak Immortal Emperor managed to take control of an Ancestral God. If I hadn't seen it with my own eyes, I wouldn't believe it.'

'An Ancestral God's personality is so powerful that it is impossible for a Peak Immortal Emperor to manipulate them. After all, the Ancestral God can see through any lies of the Peak Immortal Emperor, and they can even infer a lot about their personality just based on experience.'

'This means that the thief must have had some form of outside help. If he knew the Law of Perceived Reality, it would be possible to create such an effect over a long period of time of conditioning. However, he doesn't.'

'I wonder what he used to make his master his pawn. Either he has a very powerful friend, or he used a ton of God Stones to buy something.'

"Mortis, I need you to look into something," Gravis transmitted to Mortis with his other body. Gravis could have done this himself, but he didn't want to appear in the open while he was being "interrogated".

Gravis informed Mortis about everything that he had found out, and Mortis made his way to Opposer City.

After that, Gravis was taken away by Power Walker.

Everything had happened in just a couple of seconds.

Gravis had arrived in front of the three people, and he had immediately inferred what was wrong in mere seconds.

Gravis had only needed to take a glance at them to find out all of these things.

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Chapter 1074: Who's in Control?

The four of them went to the Teleportation Formation Array, and Power Walker paid a couple of God Stones to allow all four of them to teleport to his Sect.

The highest world was absolutely gigantic. If Power Walker wanted to get to his Sect by himself, he would need to teleport continuously for several decades.

The distance was just too vast.

The four of them appeared in a small city. In a sense, it was more imposing than Opposer City since all the buildings were gigantic. Obviously, there was no form of restriction in place to control the size of the buildings in this city.

Gravis saw a lot of Peak Immortal Emperors in this city, and many of them even bowed to Power Walker as soon as they saw him.

Gravis even saw a couple of Star Gods.

Obviously, Gravis had arrived in the part of the highest world where the Peak Immortal Emperors and Star Gods actually cultivated.

Gravis had only left Opposer City while doing his job, but these were isolated incidents. He would simply teleport back after his job was done.

This time, it was different.

Gravis was really in the middle of the Cultivation territory now.

The area where the Myriad Sect would be created would be in a similar area.

The Myriad Sect hadn't been created yet since Manuel was still searching for a good location to found the Sect first.

Sadly, Gravis couldn't enjoy the scenery of the city for long since Power Walker immediately teleported them away.

An hour later, everyone arrived above a mountain range.

Gravis looked down and saw Power Walker's Sect.

It wasn't on top of the mountain range but between the individual mountains. The Sect was surrounded by mountains, making it rather dark most of the day.

The buildings were made of grey and brown stone, and they obviously were created with quite some valuable materials.

Peak Immortal Emperors were walking through the streets of the Sect, and Gravis even spotted two level one Star Gods.

They were probably the Vice-Sect Masters.

Everything looked rather normal, but Gravis noticed several little things.

The streets had several stones lying on them in random places, which was surprising since most of the streets were dirt roads.

'These stones had once been part of the street. This means that the road hadn't always been a dirt road,' Gravis thought.

Gravis also noticed that some buildings had some dents and small holes in them. From the outside, everything looked normal, but if one looked closer, one would be able to see that nobody really cared about the appearance of the Sect.

'Money problems?' Gravis thought. 'The Purist Sect lived in even simpler conditions, but the simple conditions had felt deliberate and pure. In comparison, this feels like nobody actually cares about the feeling of the Sect.'

Gravis glanced at Silent Walker and Power Walker.

'He's siphoning wealth out of the Sect via the Sect Master.'

Gravis also looked at the Law fragments of the Peak Immortal Emperors, and he saw a general trend.

'Frustration, stagnation, disgust, annoyance, lament, anger,' Gravis thought. 'The disciples are quite unhappy.'

Gravis smirked inconspicuously.

SHING!

Power Walker teleported the four of them into the hall of the Sect Master.

Gravis noticed that the hall looked desolate and empty. The walls were pristine, and nothing was damaged, but it was mostly empty. There were some scattered ornaments and decorations, but they felt isolated. It was like there was no consistency.

'It feels similar to father's room, but father's room feels consistent. It has a form of pureness, while this room doesn't. If this room were a person, they would be an outwardly proud and confident person, but deep inside, they are plagued with worries.'

'This is a dying Sect. It's like a sick person that only waits for death. Sadly, the actual leader of the Sect doesn't seem to realize that his Sect is dying, judging by his room.'

CRACK!

Several spires appeared around Gravis in the form of a cage. If Gravis had been able to move, he could have easily escaped them before they closed.

Power Walker placed the Formation Array that suppressed Gravis beside the cage.

Now, Gravis' Laws were suppressed, and he couldn't escape.

However, Gravis was calm.

He only had to wait five years.

Gravis sat down in the cage and looked with interest at the three people in front of him.

From outside the cage, the three people were glaring at him.

Silence.

"You can take your revenge now, junior brother," Power Walker said to Silent Walker.

Silent Walker walked forward and looked coldly at Gravis.

He looked at Gravis like he was nothing but an ant he could crush.

Gravis didn't mind.

"Do you feel stifled?" Silent Walker asked slowly.

"A bit, but it's only five years," Gravis answered nonchalantly.

"Do you want to take revenge?" Silent Walker asked.

Gravis nodded with a smile. "Yes. I will kill you in the future."

Gravis' voice sounded polite and chipper. It was like he was telling someone that he was about to go to an event that he was excited about.

"Insolence!" Power Walker shouted. "If you dare to lay a finger on my junior brother, I will immediately kill you and everyone you hold dear! I don't care if I will die afterward!"

Gravis looked with surprise at Power Walker.

'The manipulation already runs that deep?' Gravis thought. 'He's even at a point where he would sacrifice his life merely to take revenge for someone else?'

Gravis scratched his chin.

'However, it's also possible that he merely says these things to intimidate me. I should test it out.'

Gravis smirked at Silent Walker.

"Do you feel safe right now?" Gravis asked.

Silent Walker snorted with disdain. "Of course. What can you do? My senior brother is right beside me, your Laws are suppressed, and you can't even escape this cage. You couldn't even kill a Unity Realm Cultivator like this."

Gravis' smirk widened.

"What? No! Senior brother, save me! Argh! No!"

Silent Walker suddenly started screaming in panic as he flailed around on the ground.

Power Walker and Broad Walker were frozen in shock.

What was going on!?

They watched as Silent Walker screamed and flailed around on the ground.

What was he doing?

Silent Walker's screams became hoarse and shrill. It was like someone was genuinely tearing him apart.

Broad Walker and Power Walker felt a shiver roll down their spine.

Something like this couldn't be faked!

They felt the genuine terror, pain, and fear in Silent Walker's voice.

What was happening to Silent Walker?

Right now, in Silent Walker's perception, demons with indescribable forms were tearing him limb from limb. Their approach wasn't erratic but very methodical.

However, Silent Walker was a Peak Immortal Emperor.

Physical pain would never make him act in such a way.

No, the most terrifying thing was an eldritch horror standing beside his head as the other demons suppressed him.

A proboscis came out of the tentacles on the horror's face and dug into Silent Walker's brain.

Silent Walker felt like his entire being was being taken away from him!

It was like this horror was sucking out all of his emotions, thoughts, and personality!

Silent Walker noticed how creating coherent thoughts became harder and harder. It was almost like someone was hollowing out his Spirit and mind.

Silent Walker's speech became slurred as he could only shout weak and confused noes.

He was vanishing.

Gravis' smile hadn't vanished from his face.

Power Walker still looked with stunned eyes at Silent Walker.

There was nothing wrong!

There was no Law!

There was nothing!

So, why did it feel like his disciple was currently dying!?

However, Power Walker gritted his teeth as he looked at Gravis. "I don't know how you accomplished it, but illusions are illusions. You won't be able to kill him with that. Instead, you will only increase the power of his Will-Aura."

Gravis didn't say anything.

After a while, Power Walker's body started shaking.

Silent Walker's Spirit was vanishing!

Power Walker almost couldn't believe it!

If this continued, Silent Walker would die!

Power Walker gritted his teeth.

SHING!

Then, he grabbed Silent Walker and teleported away.

As long as Silent Walker left the range of Gravis' Spirit Sense, he should recover!

'Illusion, huh?' Gravis thought with a smirk. 'This is not an illusion, but reality. If you believe with all your heart that you are dead, you are dead.'

It would take some time for Silent Walker to regain clarity, and Power Walker would probably stay by his side during all of this.

Now, there were only two people in this room, Gravis and Broad Walker.

Broad Walker looked with fear at Gravis, while Gravis only smirked back.

"Let's talk," Gravis transmitted.

Broad Walker gulped.

Gravis' Laws didn't work.

Gravis couldn't move.

An Ancestral God was here.

So, why did it feel like Gravis was the one in control!?

Broad Walker started to fear Gravis.

Lightning Is the Only Way

Chapter 1075: Favorite Child

SHING!

Power Walker returned with Silent Walker. If Silent Walker acted weirdly again, Power Walker would teleport away with Silent Walker again.

Why had Power Walker brought Silent Walker back?

Because Power Walker was certain that Gravis had only wanted to demonstrate his power. Continually antagonizing one of his captors wouldn't be in his interest.

How did Silent Walker feel right now?

Livid!

Gravis had given him a torturous experience, and he hated Gravis even more now.

"You've made your point," Power Walker said with a calmer voice than before. "However, I'm still disgusted by you. Not only did you frame my junior brother, but you also antagonized him while he only wanted to talk. You humans are truly disgusting creatures."

Gravis only smiled. "Are you interested in this power?"

Power Walker huffed. "Of course, but you obviously won't tell me about it."

"But what if I say I will?" Gravis asked with a smirk.

"Don't take me for a fool," Power Walker said. "Why would you do something like that?"

"I have my reasons," Gravis answered.

Power Walker was a bit interested in how Gravis currently acted.

To Power Walker, it almost felt like Gravis was in control, but that was impossible. After all, he could kill Gravis with a wave of his hand.

"Fine," Power Walker said. "If you share your secret, I can lighten your future punishment. Maybe I won't torture you forever but will give you an easy death."

Silent Walker only looked with hate at Gravis.

Broad Walker appeared emotionless.

"My power has something to do with the Soul," Gravis explained. "You can comprehend it by learning the Soul Laws."

"You're an Ancestral God, and you should be able to gain insights into the True Law of the Soul. You probably also know lower forms of the Soul Law. Maybe you should focus on those Laws."

Silent Walker's body shook slightly, but in the end, he only scoffed.

Power Walker seemed to be intrigued by Gravis' words.

Yet, Power Walker still seemed to hesitate.

"And you're speaking the truth?" he asked.

"Yes," Gravis answered.

"Prove it," Power Walker demanded.

"I only spoke the truth. The Soul Laws are the key to my power," Gravis said.

Gravis' Law of Honesty activated, which meant that he spoke the truth.

Power Walker felt the Law of Honesty, and his eyes shone.

"Fine, I will not torture you in the future," he said.

However, something very unexpected happened.

Silent Walker's body shook.

It was like his body was frozen in terror.

Broad Walker and Power Walker looked at Silent Walker in confusion.

Was he under another illusion?

Silent Walker gritted his teeth.

SHING!

Then, a teacup appeared in Silent Walker's hand.

"Master, I haven't made your favorite tea in quite a while," Silent Walker said, suddenly addressing his master as master. "Here, this is my thank you for your help."

Gravis' smirk intensified.

Broad Walker's eyes widened.

Power Walker's eyes also widened in confusion.

Hadn't they just come back? They hadn't even spoken with Gravis yet, and Silent Walker suddenly wanted to give him tea? Where did that come from?

Yes, Power Walker had not talked to Gravis.

For the last seconds, Power Walker had only looked at Gravis, trying to think of a way to deal with him.

The previous conversation had only happened in Silent Walker's perception.

Power Walker couldn't feel the Law of Perceived Reality, and he hadn't noticed that Silent Walker had just gone through an imaginary conversation.

This was also how Gravis had managed to use his Law of Honesty while spouting a lie. After all, in Silent Walker's perception, Gravis was speaking the truth.

Gravis could make Silent Walker see and feel anything he wanted.

"Oh, okay, thanks," Power Walker said as his smile widened.

He loved this tea!

At the same time, Silent Walker's illusion slowly merged back with reality.

In Silent Walker's mind, they had just talked about Gravis' ability, but in reality, no conversation had taken place.

Broad Walker looked with fearful eyes at the teacup as his master drank the tea with glee.

Gravis scratched his chin with interest.

'It's a poison, huh? Some kind of mind poison, I presume,' Gravis thought.

Gravis had had no idea how Silent Walker had manipulated Power Walker. So, he had manipulated Silent Walker into showing how he accomplished that.

How had Gravis done that?

By talking about the Soul Laws.

Why did that work?

Because Gravis had been certain that this manipulation had something to do with the soul. The body wasn't affected, and influencing the Law fragments that worked on the basis of the Law of Sentience was far too difficult. Probably not even Power Walker had the ability to buy something with such capabilities.

Because of that, it had to be soul.

So, what if Power Walker comprehended the True Law of Soul Regeneration?

Well, wouldn't that make his Spirit recover very quickly?

In that case, the manipulated part of Power Walker's Spirit would very quickly return to normal, and he would realize what Silent Walker had done.

Silent Walker knew this, which was why he had quickly fished out the tea to increase his control over his master.

'Alright, that rules out around 90% of all the methods Mortis has found,' Gravis thought.

Mortis had already gone to several places to gather information on these things. Sadly, the list was too long, and it was difficult to find out what method was used exactly.

'I need to run one more experiment,' Gravis thought.

"What do you think of the Soul Laws?" Gravis asked Power Walker.

Power Walker, who had just had his tea, shook.

It was like these two words triggered something in him.

Power Walker huffed. "Who needs Soul Laws? Power is everything! What use are Soul Laws? I wouldn't waste my time with such nonsense!"

Silent Walker sighed in relief inconspicuously.

Gravis' eyes shone. 'He might have hidden it quite well, but I saw the short moment of terror in your eyes,' Gravis thought. 'That confirms it.'

Gravis glanced at Silent Walker. 'So you used the Favorite Child Poison, huh?' Gravis thought with a smirk. 'According to what Mortis said, this poison is mixture of the Darkness Laws, the Life Laws, the Law of Safety, the Law of Empathy, the Law of Humility, and the Law of Danger.'

'The Life Laws in the poison represent the basis.'

'The Darkness Laws represent the invasive poison ability.'

'The Law of Safety reduces the suspicion and wariness of the victim towards the poisoner.'

'The Law of Empathy strengthens all positive emotions the victim feels towards the poisoner.'

'The Law of Humility takes away confidence and puts the poisoner on a higher pedestal.'

'Lastly, the Law of Danger makes the victim fearful of the cure, the Soul Laws.'

'The Favorite Child Poison, after the victim has ingested it for long enough, can even transform the parent into the child. In the end, they will follow the orders of the poisoner.'

'It's quite a powerful poison, but it has two severe disadvantages.'

'First of all, the victim will recover if they don't get poisoned regularly.'

'Second of all, the poison is ridiculously expensive. The poison needs to be given to the victim once per century, and every dosage costs around 100,000 God Stones.'

Gravis looked at the Sect.

'No wonder this Sect is destitute. The Sect Master is basically siphoning all the money out of the Sect to pay for the poison he's ingesting.'

Gravis glanced towards Broad Walker.

"Is that proof enough to make you, at least, inform yourself?" Gravis asked via voice transmission.

Broad Walker felt nervous, and he didn't answer.

"Go to Opposer City. Someone will hand you some God Stones as soon as you arrive. Use these God Stones to enter the Information Pavilion and buy information about the Favorite Child Poison."

"After you've read through everything, you should realize the truth. If you are willing to go through with the plan I proposed, just return and tell me."

"Right now, you absolutely can't trust your disciple brother and master. I might not have won your trust, but trusting someone unknown is better than trusting someone you know you definitely can't trust."

"You're not my enemy. You have done nothing to me. Only your disciple brother and master antagonized me."

Gravis transmitted all these things to Broad Walker in an instant.

Broad Walker and Gravis had talked about a lot of things while they had waited for Power Walker's return.

Broad Walker took a nervous breath.

"I'm sorry, Master, but I have to leave. I still need to pay you back for what you've done for me," Broad Walker said deferentially to his master.

Power Walker scoffed. "I want to see 1,000 God Stones in a century. You better get to work," he commented coldly.

Broad Walker vanished.

Silent Walker didn't mind it.

Did he suspect that Broad Walker knew something?

In actuality, it didn't matter.

What could someone like Broad Walker do?

Lightning Is the Only Way

Chapter 1076: No Way

After Broad Walker left, the actual interrogation took place.

"What have you done to my junior brother?" Power Walker asked.

"Nothing," Gravis answered in a relaxed manner. "He stole from me, and I stopped him."

"Lies!" Power Walker shouted. "Prove it!"

"I have not lied," Gravis said with the Law of Honesty.

The Law of Honesty washed over the two present people.

Silent Walker's expression didn't change.

Power Walker's eyebrows furrowed.

Then, Power Walker turned to Silent Walker. "Has your recounting of the events been accurate?" he asked.

"Yes," Silent Walker answered.

The fluctuations of a Law could be felt, and Gravis raised an eyebrow.

"So that's it," Power Walker said as he looked at Gravis. "You think I will fall for your Law of Lies!?"

Gravis blinked a couple of times in confusion.

Was that guy stupid?

Silent Walker had been the one using the Law of Lies. Power Walker's Will-Aura should be powerful enough to feel the difference between the Law of Honesty and the Law of Lies.

One thing felt white, while the other thing felt black.

Gravis' Will-Aura was more powerful than Silent Walker's, which was why he had been able to see that Silent Walker had used the Law of Lies. Although, Gravis could have also realized that by simply thinking about his own perception and the truth.

"Your junior brother is using the Law of Lies, not me," Gravis answered with the Law of Honesty.

Power Walker looked at Silent Walker.

"I'm using the Law of Honesty," Silent Walker said calmly while activating the Law of Lies.

Power Walker looked back at Gravis. "Do you think I'm stupid?" he asked with narrowed eyes. "I have a perfect comparison here. My junior brother is using the Law of Honesty, and your Law feels different from his Law. So, when my junior brother is telling the truth, you can only be spouting lies."

'That guy's so far gone, it's not even funny anymore,' Gravis thought. 'The dude's literally saying that black is white and white is black.'

"What do you want?" Gravis asked. "You paid so much money for that interrogation thing. So, what's your plan? What do you want from me?"

Gravis still didn't know why they actually wanted to interrogate him. After all, if they wanted to kill him, they could have simply sent some Star God. In their minds, a Star God should be powerful enough to take care of a Peak Immortal Emperor, even if they felt very powerful.

So, why waste so much money?

Power Walker glanced at Silent Walker.

Power Walker had gotten Gravis in front of Silent Walker.

This was Silent Walker's revenge, not Power Walker's revenge.

Power Walker wouldn't involve himself in Silent Walker's revenge. He only gave him the opportunity to grasp it.

Silent Walker walked up to Gravis' cage and looked at him with cold eyes.

"Your life is in my hands," he said after some time.

"You want another demonstration?" Gravis asked with a smirk.

Silent Walker's right eyelid twitched for a second. "You know what I mean. You might be able to scare me with your powers, but you can't kill me as long as my senior brother is here."

"However, you are only safe for the next five years. After that, we can simply send one of our Vice-Sect Masters to take care of you. In front of a Star God, you are helpless," Silent Walker said with authority.

"So, you're saying that you got me here just to give me a chance to survive?" Gravis asked. "You spent 50,000 God Stones to give your enemy a chance of survival? You're truly a saint."

Silent Walker didn't react to Gravis' provocation.

"Killing you might give me some momentary satisfaction, but it won't help me in becoming more powerful. Sometimes, cooperation is better than enmity."

"Oh, is that an ultimatum?" Gravis asked.

"Yes," Silent Walker answered, annoyed at Gravis not taking the situation seriously.

"So? What do you want?" Gravis asked with a smile as he leaned his head on one of his hands.

"I want you to pay my bail, your own Interrogation Warrant, and 200,000 God Stones for your own life. That's a total of 350,000 God Stones. If you pay that, we can forget these things," Silent Walker said.

"350,000 God Stones is quite a bit," Gravis commented. "What makes you think I have so much money?"

"Because of your background," Silent Walker said.

One of Gravis' eyebrows rose. "Oh?" he uttered. "What background?"

"We don't know," Silent Walker said. "However, your background is powerful enough to be classified as Top Secret in the Information Pavilion. Only a few organizations have such a privilege, and none of these organizations are simple."

'Interesting. They actually don't know about my background,' Gravis thought.

"And if my background is so powerful, what gives you the guts to capture me like this?" Gravis asked.

"Independence," Silent Walker answered immediately. "These gigantic organizations know that independence and the ability to solve one's own problems are some of the most important parts of Cultivation. If my senior brother were to kill you, they would probably kill us. However, as long as we send people that you can realistically win against, they shouldn't mind that you die."

"Independence?" Gravis asked with a snort.

The guy using his master as a crutch was talking about independence.

"Yes, independence," Silent Walker answered, not reacting to Gravis' words. "We have all kinds of Peak Immortal Emperors in our ranks. We can simply send a weak one and judge your power. Then, before you have the chance to comprehend another Law, we'll simply send a stronger one."

"Even if you manage to kill that one, you will eventually run out of Laws to comprehend during a fight."

"As long as you don't immediately have the ability to become a Star God, you will eventually succumb to the enemies. Also, even if you break into the Star God Realm right now, we have two Vice-Sect Masters that have been in that Realm for far longer than you."

"You mean like 30,000 years longer," Gravis interrupted Silent Walker. "That's not that much."

"Yet, they are familiar with their newfound powers, while you won't be," Silent Walker said.

Gravis blinked a couple of times.

Then, he looked at Power Walker with confusion.

Power Walker tried to keep his expression neutral, but Gravis could feel a certain awkwardness radiating off of him.

Power Walker should have the ability to judge Gravis' Battle-Strength to some degree.

So, why was this guy threatening him with Peak Immortal Emperors?

Gravis looked at Power Walker with a deadpan expression, just waiting.

Silent Walker narrowed his eyes. He felt like Gravis was ignoring him.

Power Walker felt a bit awkward.

Then, Power Walker informed Silent Walker with a voice transmission.

Silent Walker's eyes widened in shock.

Power Walker wasn't sure exactly how powerful Gravis was, but he knew that Gravis was the most powerful Peak Immortal Emperor he had ever seen.

If someone like that became a Star God, they would be able to jump, at least, one level.

One had to remember that jumping one level in the Peak Immortal Emperor Realm and in the Star God Realm were two entirely different concepts.

Every single Star God knew a level seven Law, and every single Peak Immortal Emperor that knew a level seven Law could jump at least three to four levels.

This meant that every single Star God was a genius that had managed to jump three or four levels just a short while ago.

Being able to jump a level against such geniuses was unreal.

Power Walker knew that if Gravis became a Star God, his two Vice-Sect Masters probably wouldn't be able to fight him, even if they fought him simultaneously.

Luckily, it took a ton of money to become a Star God, and as long as Gravis wasn't a Star God, one of the Vice-Sect Masters should be enough to deal with Gravis.

They might even get some tempering out of the fight.

Silent Walker fell into thought as his mind was going wild.

His entire plan had been to threaten Gravis into giving him a lot of money.

Yet, he couldn't threaten Gravis!?

Why hadn't he known that earlier!?

If he had known that earlier, his puppet wouldn't have wasted so many God Stones!

Sadly, this was one of the issues with the Favorite Child Poison. The poisoner was the decision-maker, and the victim was the puppet. A puppet wouldn't think. That was not its job.

It only followed orders.

And because of that, Silent Walker found himself in a very awkward situation.

He would have Gravis in front of him for the foreseeable future, and he had no easy way to get value out of him.

That was when Silent Walker made a choice.

"What if my senior brother kills you?" he asked with narrowed eyes.

The atmosphere in the room changed.

Lightning Is the Only Way

Chapter 1077: Changing Places

Power Walker took a deep breath.

It was one thing for a level one Star God to kill a Peak Immortal Emperor, but it was something entirely different when an Ancestral God killed one.

Their Cultivation Realms were so far apart that Power Walker's Karmic Luck would take a severe hit.

Even more, if he killed Gravis, Gravis' background would definitely take revenge.

He would be exchanging his life for Gravis' life!

A normal Ancestral God would have immediately slapped their disciple if they said something like that.

However, the Favorite Child Poison had already burrowed itself deep in Power Walker's Spirit.

Right now, self-preservation and pride were wrestling with his loyalty towards Silent Walker.

If Silent Walker played his cards correctly, he could actually make Power Walker kill Gravis.

This was a genuine danger for Gravis.

This was a problem that had occurred without any outside influence. Power Walker and Silent Walker weren't targeting Gravis because of his background, but because of what Gravis had done, even if he had been in the right.

Because of that, it was Gravis' responsibility to deal with this problem.

If Power Walker decided to kill Gravis, the Opposer wouldn't stop him.

If Gravis wanted to reach supreme power, he must have the ability to deal with something like that.

"Let's move this conversation to voice transmissions," Gravis transmitted to Silent Walker. "After all, we will be talking about things that you don't want to be exposed."

Silent Walker's Spirit shook a bit, but his expression didn't change.

"Are you finally willing to talk?" Silent Walker asked Gravis via voice transmission.

"Yes, but we will be talking about very different things from now on," Gravis answered.

"Let me just begin by asking a question."

"Where are you getting your supply of Favorite Child Poison from?" Gravis asked.

A horrified expression appeared on Silent Walker's face.

How did he know!?

"Oh, so it's a senior in the Ancestral God Realm," Gravis transmitted. "A man draped in black cloaks, and he comes to a city called Burning Sky City every 100 years. Interesting."

As soon as Gravis had asked this question, Silent Walker's mind had immediately jumped to that senior, which allowed Gravis to read his thoughts on that subject thanks to his Law of Sentience.

"I wonder, what will happen if I pay that senior 200,000 God Stones to not supply that poison to you anymore?" Gravis asked with a voice transmission.

In Silent Walker's perception, Gravis' voice had become the voice of a demon.

It was like his deepest fears were becoming reality.

"Getting that stuff isn't easy," Gravis continued. "You can search for another supplier, but how long will that take? How high will their prices be?"

"Sure, you can also just pay him even more money, like 250,000 God Stones, but can you keep that up? You know, I work for The Heaven Company, and I have a very, very lucrative position due to my power. Wanna know how much I earn?"

"I earn 50,000 God Stones every century. Even if that is everything I earn, I can simply pool together and ruin every fourth supply that you want."

"Sure, you have an entire Sect backing you, but how long will that Sect last? You are not as blind as your puppet. You can see that your Sect won't live for much longer. You are siphoning out all the money of the Sect until it's an empty shell, and then you will sell off all the valuable lands you own."

"However, how will you make money then? In 30,000 years, at the latest, you will have run out of money, and you won't be able to pay for the poison anymore. You win the economic war in the short term, but I will win in the long term."

"In 30,000 years, you won't be able to reach the Star God Realm. That's your goal, isn't it? When you reach the Star God Realm, you will probably send your puppet on a mission that will kill it. As it stands right now, you should have the ability to achieve that, but not as long as I get involved."

"Everything will deteriorate with frightening speed."

"Even more, I haven't even shown you my true power."

"Let me give you a demonstration. Please watch the disciples in your Sect. In a couple of seconds, they will sneer in disgust," Gravis transmitted.

Silent Walker couldn't form any rational thoughts at the moment.

Right now, it felt like he was the one in the cage, and Gravis was the interrogator.

In shock, Silent Walker looked at the Sect.

And sure enough, several seconds later, many disciples sneered in disgust.

"I can use my power on you, but I can also use my power on others," Gravis transmitted. "You think I can only create horrors? No, I can do much more than that. Wanna see what so many of your disciples have just seen? Look to your left."

Silent Walker looked to his left, and his eyes widened in horror.

Power Walker was currently urinating in the corner!

Silent Walker knew that this wasn't real, but if everyone saw that, they would believe it to be real.

"I simply made it appear like some disciples were urinating in a random corner. Every other disciple will get annoyed and will think that the Sect is really going down the drain. What if I slightly change the words in a conversation?"

"An Elder in the exchange hall will think that someone only gave him five God Stones when, in reality, he got ten God Stones. So, the Elder will give the disciple items with the value of five God Stones."

"The disciple will feel unfairly treated. After all, they had just handed over ten God Stones, and the Elder was acting like he had only received five. This was obviously an instance of the Elder siphoning money out of the Sect."

"What about subtly changing the details of missions? Weak Peak Immortal Emperors will take on missions for powerful Peak Immortal Emperors, believing they could easily handle them. These disciples will never return."

"What if I manipulate two lovers into talking about leaving the Sect? Both of them had been on the verge of leaving, but with that conversation, they will surely leave."

"You see? I can ruin this entire Sect in my five years of being here. At that point, no more cash will come into the Sect, and no disciples would want to join."

"If I do that, you only have maybe 20,000 years if you sell everything. Is that enough time to control your puppet to such a degree that he will walk into death for you, or will that take longer?"

"I don't need to kill your Sect. I don't need to force anyone. I can make everyone leave of their own volition."

"So, what do you think? Are you ready to talk now?" Gravis finally finished his long, terrifying explanation.

Silent Walker felt like his world was breaking down.

He had worked for so long for this!

Yet, this person could destroy everything in a matter of days!

Silent Walker remained silent for several minutes.

Power Walker only looked at Silent Walker with concern.

In Power Walker's mind, Silent Walker was probably deliberating on how to enact his revenge on Gravis.

After some minutes, Silent Walker answered Gravis.

"Why are you telling me this?" Silent Walker asked. "Are you not afraid that I will make Power Walker kill you immediately?"

"You won't," Gravis transmitted. "Know why? Because I'm not taking your puppet or your power away from you. If I were to do all these things, the best option would be to kill me. However, I'm not that stupid. Just like you, I don't want to die."

Silent Walker gritted his teeth as his being was consumed by hatred.

He hated this feeling!

This feeling was exactly why he had done all these things!

He hated feeling this suppressed!

He simply wanted to send Power Walker to kill Gravis immediately. Silent Walker would be free of this suppression, and he would have felt like he had, at least, some control over his life.

However, Silent Walker knew exactly that he wouldn't do something like that.

If he did that, he would throw away millennia of work.

He couldn't destroy all of that just for some momentary relief.

"What do you want?" Silent Walker asked via voice transmission.

"200,000 God Stones. That's what you wanted for my life, minus the other two things. So, I think it's just perfect that I ask for that in return."

Silent Walker gritted his teeth as he remained silent.

The amount of money was perfect, and that infuriated him!

It was just on the edge of being too much, but it was still in his ability to pay.

"How can I trust you?" Silent Walker asked via voice transmission.

Silent Walker had already given up.

He could force Power Walker to confine Gravis somewhere else, but what would stop Gravis from simply returning in a stealthier manner?

What would stop Gravis from manipulating all the different Peak Immortal Emperors in their Law Comprehension Areas?

Silent Walker was truly helpless.

"In comparison to you, I have the Law of Honesty," Gravis answered.

Gravis activated his Law of Honesty.

"I promise that I will keep your poison a secret from everyone in your Sect, and I promise that I won't go for your life. If you pay 200,000 God Stones, I won't come into contact with you, your master, or your Sect ever again as long as you don't search for me of your own volition."

Silent Walker remained silent for nearly 30 minutes.

This was a big decision.

However, in the end, he agreed.

Silent Walker handed over 200,000 God Stones to Gravis, and Gravis promised him again that he would keep everything a secret as long as they stopped going after him.

Gravis had resolved this enmity and got 200,000 God Stones out of it.

Lightning Is the Only Way

Chapter 1078: Gravis Leaves, Stella Joins

Power Walker had no idea what had happened between Silent Walker and Gravis.

However, just an hour after Silent Walker went silent, he told Power Walker that he and Gravis had come to an agreement.

Silent Walker used his "Law of Honesty" to tell Power Walker that their enmity had been solved.

They didn't need to keep Gravis here anymore.

"It's good that you know your place," Power Walker harrumphed. "This time, you managed to survive thanks to the kindness of my junior brother. Don't anger him again, or you will die."

"I won't," Gravis said with a smile. "We came to an agreement, after all."

"You can escort him back to Opposer City," Silent Walker said. "We don't need the full five years."

Power Walker threw some more reprimands at Gravis, but then he escorted him back to Opposer City.

An hour later, Gravis was back in Opposer City. Power Walker handed Gravis over to the guards, and Gravis gave his emblem back.

Now, Power Walker was no longer allowed to take Gravis away while in Opposer City.

The guards had made a ton of money off Power Walker.

Power Walker left without a word and went back to his Sect.

Meanwhile, Gravis returned to his apartment.

"Honey, I'm home," he sing-songed.

Stella giggled as she saw that Gravis had returned after only a couple of hours. That was far faster than she had thought.

"So, how did it go?" Stella asked as she put her arms around Gravis, happy to see him back.

"I earned a ton of money," Gravis said with a smirk.

Stella looked with quite some surprise at Gravis.

Gravis earned money?

But hadn't he been the one that had been taken away?

How did he suddenly earn money?

Gravis showed the 200,000 God Stones to Stella and informed her of what had happened.

In the beginning, Stella hated Power Walker, but the more Gravis told her about Silent Walker and Power Walker, the more she felt pity for Power Walker.

This poor guy was being poisoned by his own disciple.

That was truly a tragic fate.

"And you will let him get away with all of this?" Stella asked with an angry frown.

"Yep," Gravis answered with a laugh. "We made an agreement. I won't go against him or his Sect anymore."

Stella grimaced.

She really, really hated people like Silent Walker.

"I think he's gotten off too lightly," Stella commented. "If this continues, he will become a Star God, and his master will never gain his freedom. This sucks!"

"Then, why don't you do anything about it?" Gravis asked with a smile.

Stella halted for a second.

Then, she fell into thought as she scratched her chin.

"Could you tell me more about the Sect?" she asked with shining eyes.

Gravis told Stella everything he knew about the Sect, and Stella's eyes became more and more interested.

"Isn't this too convenient?" Stella asked.

"It's a bit funny, yes, but it isn't because of coincidence or luck. Someone with such a personality is more likely to commit crimes," Gravis answered.

However, Gravis scratched his chin.

"Although, I'm not quite sure anymore, now that I think about it. I basically made an Ancestral God my enemy. In a sense, this was bad luck for me again. I simply managed to turn it around thanks to my Law of Sentience. If I hadn't had that, I would have probably needed to pay the 350,000 God Stones. After all, an Ancestral God is really dangerous."

"He could have sent his puppet to kill me. Sure, his puppet would die, but he would get away scot-free. I mean, it would feel cool to see him get killed, but I don't want to exchange my life for his."

Stella also thought about the topic for a bit, but she was quickly distracted by something that was much more interesting.

"Anyway, I will go now. I need to plan some things," Stella said.

"Sure," Gravis said with a smile. "But I think you should get into contact with that other disciple. He should be in Opposer City right now. He's pretty powerful, and he is a very honest beast. I think he could become quite an asset to the Myriad Sect."

Stella scratched her chin. "I don't know him, but sure. If you say so, he's probably a nice guy."

"Thanks, honey," Gravis said as he kissed her.

"I know. I'm the best," Stella said with a lamenting tone.

Gravis and Stella laughed for a bit, and Stella left.

Stella quickly searched for Broad Walker, and the two of them began talking.

When Broad Walker had gotten the information about the Favorite Child Poison, his world broke down.

He had thought that his junior brother was a bit hard to fathom, but he had never expected that his junior brother would do something like that.

He had poisoned their master!

Their master had given so much for them!

Yet, this monster was biting the hand that fed him!

However, Broad Walker knew that he couldn't do anything against Silent Walker. The Favorite Child Poison was just too powerful.

Additionally, after looking at his own situation from a neutral perspective, Broad Walker realized just how much his master had changed.

Back then, his master had always treated Broad Walker with respect. Broad Walker had shown incredible talent, and he already knew three level six Laws.

Yet, over the span of a couple thousand years, his master had even started hating Broad Walker.

In his eyes, Broad Walker couldn't do anything right, no matter what he did.

Stella talked with Broad Walker for several days as they got to know each other more.

She could empathize with Broad Walker's blight, and she felt genuine pity for him. In her mind, Broad Walker had been treated as unfairly as it got.

"Is there nothing we can do?" Broad Walker asked.

"There are only three ways to help your master," Stella answered.

"First, kill Silent Walker. However, this will make your master fly into a rage and kill everyone that was involved in his demise. If you want to kill him, you need to do it in a way that makes it impossible to find out that it was you. Additionally, if you plan to do that, I would ask you to please wait for a couple millennia. If he dies right now, your master will think that it was Gravis that killed him. The timing would be too coincidental."

Broad Walker took a deep breath.

Why was this situation so stressful and difficult to resolve!?

By now, Broad Walker no longer hated Gravis. In fact, he was deeply thankful to Gravis and Stella.

He had gone against them, but they were not attacking him. Instead, they were helping him.

Broad Walker had already apologized multiple times, and Stella told him that Gravis didn't mind. It wasn't really Broad Walker's fault.

"The second method would be to make your master comprehend the True Law of Soul Regeneration. However, that takes a long time, and he fears this Law currently. It's basically impossible to make him comprehend that Law," Stella explained.

Broad Walker sighed.

"The last way is to cut off the supply of poison. In order to do that, your master must lose all his wealth so that he can't give Silent Walker any God Stones. Sadly, there are too many ways for an Ancestral God to make money. We would have to cut off all his avenues of earning money, which means that we have to spend even more money."

None of the solutions were easy to put into practice.

"The last one is the most feasible," Broad Walker said. "If we could somehow make the Sect cost more money than it produces, we can silently take away the last remaining money. Silent Walker doesn't really pay any attention to these things, and Master only has eyes for him."

Broad Walker might have a simple mindset, but he was still a Peak Immortal Emperor. He could also come up with such plans.

"However, as soon as something like this happens, the Vice-Sect Masters will inform Master," Broad Walker said with a sigh.

When Stella heard that, she smirked.

"You actually thought of the same thing as me. However, I know how we can solve this problem."

Broad Walker looked at Stella with surprise. "You know a way? But how? The two Vice-Sect Masters are Star Gods, and Gravis said that he won't get involved anymore."

"It's you," Stella said with a smile.

"Me?" Broad Walker asked, pointing at himself.

Stella nodded.

"What do you think about becoming the Vice-Sect Master of your Sect?" Stella asked.

Broad Walker looked with confusion at Stella. "But I'm only a Peak Immortal Emperor. On top of that, it will take a long time for me to become a Star God, at least 50,000 years."

Stella only smiled.

"What if I were to tell you that Gravis told me that he can make you a Star God in a matter of hours without any negative consequences?"

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Chapter 1079: Honesty Chambers

What did Stella just say?

Broad Walker needed some seconds to process what Stella had just said.

Becoming a Star God in a matter of hours?

How was that even possible?

"Don't joke around," Broad Walker said with an annoyed expression. "I'm currently not in the mood for jokes."

Stella only smiled brightly. "I'm not joking," she said. "Gravis has a certain ability that allows someone to comprehend a specific Law in a matter of hours. It only works on a single, specific Law, and it isn't without its dangers. It's possible that you might die during the procedure."

"However, if you manage to get through it, your will, your personality, and your Laws will become far stabler than before. Gravis told me that you are missing that exact Law to become a Star God."

Broad Walker looked with a skeptical expression at Stella. "Are you talking about the Law of Time?" he asked.

"Yes, the Law of Time," Stella said. "Gravis has a very unique ability. Originally, this ability was created as a terrifying attack, but if it is used with preparation, the chances of surviving it are definitely there."

Broad Walker still wasn't convinced. All of this sounded way too good to be true.

"And what ability could possibly teach me the Major Law of Time in just a couple of hours?" Broad Walker asked.

Stella leaned forward with a smirk. "The ability to experience a million years in just an instant," she said.

"Experiencing a million years in an instant?" Broad Walker asked.

Stella nodded.

Then, Stella told Broad Walker about Samsara and how it had been created. She also told Broad Walker how terrifying Samsara was as an attack, and Broad Walker had to take a deep breath.

Such an attack was truly terrifying!

He had never heard of anything quite like it.

Most attacks targeted the body.

Some attacks targeted the Spirit.

But Broad Walker had never heard of an attack that targeted one's personality.

When Stella told Broad Walker about Gravis' fight with Nira, Broad Walker realized that Samsara could very likely teach him the Major Law of Time.

Broad Walker was a beast with an earth affinity.

Gravity was closely related to the Earth Element. Broad Walker's first level six Law was the Law of Stone, which was the level six Law Element for Earth. Shortly after that, Broad Walker comprehended the Major Law of Gravity due to its relationship with the earth element.

As soon as Broad Walker had learned the Major Law of Gravity, he had entered deep into the earth and comprehended the Major Law of Space by watching the warping of space under severe gravity.

These were the three level six Laws Broad Walker knew, and it just so happened that he was missing the Law of Time. With the Law of Time, he could combine the Major Law of Space, the Major Law of Gravity, and the Major Law of Time into the Major Law of Primordial Force, a level seven Law.

With that Law, he could strengthen his Avatar and become a Star God.

However, was it truly so easy?

This Samsara sounded terrifying.

Samsara forced someone to watch their life from all angles for a terrifying amount of time. This gave the victim plenty of time to think about their life and the Law of Time.

However, it definitely wasn't easy to sit through something like that.

In order to imagine Samsara's terrifying power, one only had to think about how it would impact oneself. One only had to think about how long their life was, multiply that by about five times, and then imagine a movie that analyzes one's past conduct in excruciating detail for that amount of time.

A 20-year-old person would have to sit through 100 years of watching their life from all angles.

This could very well destroy someone.

Broad Walker remained silent for several minutes.

He wanted to become more powerful but sitting through something like that was horrifying to imagine.

Would he even be himself anymore after such a long time?

"You said that Gravis would also go through my life," Broad Walker said.

"Yes," Stella said.

"Then, why is he offering something like this to me?" he asked. "I can see why you are willing to help me a little bit but sitting through a million years of my life just to help someone he doesn't even know sounds like too much."

"You will have to speak with him yourself," Stella said. "He can tell you. Of course, there is more to this exchange than you might think. Don't think that Gravis is doing this out of altruism. Obviously, he wants something in exchange."

Broad Walker sighed.

Hearing that Gravis wanted something in exchange, ironically, put him at ease.

If Gravis had simply done this without asking for repayment, Broad Walker would have been very skeptical. After all, it sounded way too good to be true.

Yet, if there was a terrifying price to pay, it was more likely that it was a genuine trade.

"Fine. I want to hear more about this," Broad Walker said after a while.

Stella smiled and brought Broad Walker over to a building near the middle of Opposer City.

The building was orange and looked rather inviting and friendly. A shield above it showed the words "Virtuous Cultivator's Honesty Chambers".

When Broad Walker saw where Stella had led him to, he breathed a sigh of relief.

Honesty Chambers were a popular place to talk about business. One could rent a room for a meeting, which would have its Law fluctuations watched by a powerful Cultivator. The Cultivator wasn't powerful enough to listen in on voice transmissions, but they were powerful enough to feel changes in the Laws.

Even if someone talked via voice transmission, if they used any of the Laws of Honesty, Deceit, or Lies, these Laws would involuntarily influence the surroundings.

The rules of the Honesty Chambers were pretty simple. If someone used the Law of Deceit or Law of Lies, everyone in the room would be informed about it, and the deceiving person would have to pay an agreed-upon amount of money to the other party and the company running the Honesty Chamber.

Using the Law of Honesty was allowed for obvious reasons.

Usually, it was always the weaker party demanding that the discussion had to be held in Honesty Chambers.

Why?

Because a weaker party couldn't discern which Law the stronger party was using.

Broad Walker and Stella entered a room after signing the entry formula.

The lying party would have to pay 10,000,000 God Stones.

Obviously, no one in the room had such a terrifying amount of wealth, which meant that if someone lied with the Law of Lies or Deceit, they would be condemned into eternal slavery.

Broad Walker felt relieved when he saw the punishment fee.

If the fee were too little, it would be possible that Gravis might try something if he thought that he would gain more by duping Broad Walker.

However, with such a terrifying amount, it was impossible that Gravis would want to risk it.

Broad Walker was nowhere near worth ten million God Stones.

Faced with such a terrifying amount, Broad Walker would have been nervous if he knew the Law of Lies or Deceit. After all, what if he activated them accidentally?

Luckily, he didn't know any of the three Laws.

Broad Walker and Stella entered the room that Gravis had booked and sat down.

Gravis was drinking some coffee, which he had gotten from his father.

Some seconds later, a waiter entered that brought Broad Walker and Stella some tea.

Stella sat beside Gravis, smiling at Broad Walker happily from across the table.

Gravis only smirked.

Broad Walker felt rather nervous as he sat in front of Gravis.

The only time Broad Walker had talked to Gravis was when he had been suppressed by Power Walker.

Now, Gravis was free to do what he wanted.

Broad Walker was reminded of how they got to know each other and found it ironic.

A couple years ago, Broad Walker wanted to defend his junior brother and condemned Gravis for being a liar. But now, Broad Walker was talking with Gravis about how to take down that very same junior brother.

"I heard you wanted to speak with me," Gravis said with a smirk.

Broad Walker took a deep breath.

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Chapter 1080: Legal Paperwork

Broad Walker took a deep breath and readied himself for this conversation.

"Yes, Stella told me that you can teach me the Major Law of Time with Samsara," Broad Walker said.

Gravis nodded. "And you are interested in that offer?" Gravis asked with a smile.

"Of course," Broad Walker answered. "Could you tell me more about Samsara first?"

Gravis nodded.

Then, he told Broad Walker about how Samsara worked and what Gravis had gone through. He told Broad Walker how difficult it was to not lose oneself in one's own life. It was definitely very dangerous, even if Gravis didn't use his supplementary Laws to increase Samsara's power.

Gravis kept the Law of Honesty active ever since Broad Walker had entered.

He told him everything truthfully.

Broad Walker believed everything Gravis said due to the Law of Honesty, but he was also relieved that no manager of the Honesty Chambers had come in.

This was the advantage of talking in an Honesty Chamber. Even if one believed it, one might have doubts in the future. What if the other party used the Law of Lies?

After some hours of Gravis meticulously going through the workings of Samsara, Broad Walker had made his decision.

He couldn't run away now!

He had to do this for himself and for his master!

However, he still had several questions.

"Why are you willing to help me?" Broad Walker asked.

"Don't get me wrong," Gravis immediately answered with a smirk. "I'm not helping you."

"You're not?" Broad Walker asked with a surprised expression.

"No, this is a trade and an investment. You will give me something that I deem as of equal value in the future," Gravis said.

"And what is that?" Broad Walker asked.

SHING!

Gravis summoned a contract, which had already been verified by the Contract Officiation Office.

"Read it," Gravis said.

Gravis wouldn't do such a big transaction without an official contract. After all, Broad Walker wasn't his friend. There was no trust between them yet.

Broad Walker read through the contract, and everything boiled down to this:

What would Broad Walker get?

First, one Samsara, which had a high likelihood of giving him the Law of Time and maybe even more. If Broad Walker didn't comprehend the Law of Time, he would only have to pay 10,000 God Stones.

Second, 300,000 God Stones to allow him to break through to the Star God Realm and buy equipment for himself.

This was what Broad Walker would receive.

What would Broad Walker have to pay?

First, Broad Walker had to give Gravis 1,000,000 God Stones before he reached the fifth level of the Star God Realm.

Second, Broad Walker had to join the Myriad Sect and follow the Sect rules and Sect Master as long as the demands and rules were reasonable. If Broad Walker deemed something as unreasonable, he could contact the Contract Officiation Office to run a check.

Third, Broad Walker had to stay in the Myriad Sect and do his best to support it until his debt had been repaid.

These were the things that Broad Walker had to give Gravis.

As Broad Walker read the contract, he felt skeptical.

This contract was actually too lenient.

Broad Walker would maybe even have accepted this contract only for Samsara, but he was getting enough God Stones to reach the Star God Realm too.

Broad Walker knew that Gravis wasn't stupid, and he knew that Gravis could have profiteered off Broad Walker's time pressure. After all, Broad Walker only had limited time to save his master, and he would have paid a hefty price for that.

Yet, this contract was written like Broad Walker was under no pressure at all, which surprised him.

One could even say that Broad Walker would make a steal.

A Virtualization Array for a level six Law cost 10,000 God Stones per century, and Broad Walker would probably need tens of thousands of years to comprehend it.

This meant that Broad Walker would have to pay over ten million God Stones if he wanted to comprehend the Major Law of Time via Virtualization Array.

Yet, Broad Walker would only pay a tiny part of that.

"You can take the contract with you and ask some contract specialists to take a look at it," Gravis said.

"The costs will be on me, and I'll wait here."

Broad Walker nodded reluctantly.

He wanted to trust Gravis, but he knew that he had to be careful.

This was a huge trade.

Broad Walker exited the Honesty Chambers and went to some contract specialists, who were specialized in finding sneaky remarks that could be used to entrap him into something he didn't agree on.

Some hours later, Broad Walker returned with an awkward expression.

Then, he handed over a rolled-up scroll.

Gravis took it and unfurled it.

It was the same contract, but about a thousand times longer.

There was an insane amount of clauses in there, but the essence was the same.

Gravis groaned, sent the new contract to the Contract Officiation Office, and got it back rather quickly.

The contract was revalidated, and Gravis burned the old one.

Then, Gravis signed it and handed it over to Broad Walker.

Broad Walker compared the contract with his drafts and asked a couple of contract specialists again to check for any hidden scams.

The check came back ok.

The contract specialists were happy with the contract.

Broad Walker returned to the Honesty Chamber again and took a deep breath.

He looked at the contract, and his heart raced.

If he signed this, it meant that there was no turning back.

His entire life would change.

Broad Walker hesitated for a long time, but eventually, he signed the contract with gritted teeth.

Gravis sent the contract to the Contract Officiation Office again to verify the signing of the contract and to get copies.

Broad Walker got his own copy not from Gravis but from someone from the Contract Officiation Office.

After doing some standard checks to see that everything was okay with both parties, the person from the Contract Officiation Office gave his literal stamp of approval to the contracts and left.

Gravis had paid for all of this, and he had paid over 3,000 God Stones in total.

However, this contract was as legally binding as it got.

Even a Divine God couldn't break this contract without paying what Broad Walker owed Gravis.

If any of the two parties refused to abide by the contract, the City Guards would get a new miner.

The Contract Officiation Office and the City Guards worked together very closely. After all, a huge part of the City Guard's income came from people not adhering to contracts, and without a big power that enforced the contracts, the contracts of the Contract Officiation Office would basically become worthless.

These two organizations were in a symbiotic relationship.

"Well, with all that legal stuff out of the way, when do you want to undergo Samsara?" Gravis asked with a smile.

Broad Walker's mind was still stressed and excited about the signing of the contract.

His entire life would change from this moment forth!

He wouldn't have to be abused anymore by his master, and he finally had a shot at dealing with his exjunior brother.

"I want to meet the others from the Myriad Sect first," Broad Walker said. "After getting acquainted with them and comparing my powers to theirs, I want to undergo Samsara."

Gravis nodded and gave Broad Walker his address. "You can come find me when it's time."

Broad Walker nodded and left the Honesty Chambers after talking with Gravis some more.

Gravis leaned back, satisfied.

"The Myriad Sect just got a Star God, and I earned a million God Stones."

"Today is a good day."