

## Shadow 1371

### Chapter 1371: The Important Question III

Will never wanted to become a Minister or an advisor. He is just helping Azief when he is absent or acted like messengers between him and the other people in Pandemonium

Azief then said

'The Army believe that Pandemonium should expands its power to all over the world. In other words, the army have imperialism tendencies'

'Then what about the Central Court? They wanted to create a utopia for the people, a world that is orderly and governed by laws, common sense, introduce diplomatic solutions and make an alliance all over the world'

'As for the Shadow Guards, they are my sword and my shield. They do not care about expansion of Pandemonium, or the betterment of humanity, they simply work to fulfil my desires and wants;

This is a simple representation of what they want'

He sighed for a moment before saying

'Will, did you remember what I used to say. Extreme and absolute is never good. I do not have the intention to expand Pandemonium. But if it was the military factions having the control of Pandemonium when I was gone, tell me, what do you think Wang Jian would do? He would probably go to war against Lotus Order or any other smaller forces, slowly integrating them into Pandemonium or maybe even creating colonies of Pandemonium all over the world.

Will heard this and he shakes his head

'No. Wang Jian would not do that. He is loyal to you'

Azief shook his head and said

'To him, that is also loyalty. To make Pandemonium stronger is a loyalty to the people of Pandemonium and to me and to his soldiers'

'You do not undertone him the way I understand him.

'He is a passionate man, a man that treated his soldiers like his son. Most of the Commanders in the army is trained by him and the military faction is mostly composed of his disciples and his colleagues'

'If Pandemonium truly becomes the world premier faction, holding so much power that no other world power could contend, it means less soldiers of Pandemonium would die in a conflict'

'His thoughts are simple but we both known that things are not that simple. Excessive war brought ruins. In that process of him doing that, who knows what would happen whether what he sought is peace or eternal war?'

Hearing this Will could not help but sighed. he did not think that there is such a thing

'And the utopia that the scholar factions trying to create. I have a lot to say about them but one thing I notice is that they are too idealistic, that sometimes they forgot reality does not erase up to ideals. They love beauty and they disdain ugliness. But ugliness is also part of life. They could not love ugliness so they could never surpass the ideals'

'Leaving them in charge of Pandemonium would be a disaster'

'And for Shadow Guards? They are loyal but that is all they are. If the faction of the Shadow Guards governs Pandemonium, not many things would improve. They are cloaks and daggers type of organization. Because they were hired and recruited for one reason only and that is to be loyal to me.

Will understood now

'By letting these three keep bickering with each other, you created a balance.'

Azief nodded and he then said

'A little bit of ideals, mix with harsh truth and reality with a little hint of my interest being protected.... that is Pandemonium politics'

Azief smiles and then he said

'And Wang Jian, Athena and Freya probably knows that was my intention so they play along, never appearing to unite with each other, deliberately let the Central Court fan the flame and create a divide between them'

This is a way of them showing to me that they are loyal.

Hmph. I wonder who thinks of this? if its Wang Jian I would be very surprised. Maybe after being betrayed by his own King, he had wised up'

'As for Hirate...' Azief suddenly said

'He probably wanted to talk me about that plan of mine' For a moment there was silence. Will knows what the plan was about.

Though he is not optimistic that it could be done. Before Azief went to the Seresian world, he had prepared many things.

And there is a plan that was sent to the World Government. Will did take a look at that plan so he knows what it is about.

Will seems to be thinking for a second and he frowned

'Is it still possible? If it's during the early days, it was probably possible. But now, with the Ten Seas and all kinds of continents popping up.....I find it hard to believe that your plan could even be realized'

'Thus.... I need some help'

Azief sighed and then said

'I did not expect that the world had changes so much. Even the Heavenly Will is not strong enough to do this. I recognize that now after having a little bit knowledge of what had happened since sixth month ago.'

He paused for a second before saying

'But, it is still very possible' he said with a smile on his face.

There is silence in the area before Will said

'Who do you need?'

'I need Sangmin. Warp. And the full cooperation of the World Government to create something akin of warp drive. This would be a massive undertaking and the current city that is out of their range of that plan needs to be notified. I believe I could do it without any casualties. If I do it alone, it might not be possible. But if it's with those people., I am quite confident it could work'

If anyone is listening to what Azief is talking, they would not understand it

What is this about the current city? Why does he need something that is akin to warp drive? Why does he need Lee Sangmin the Arrayist Sage and Warp the Space Monarch?

What does it mean range of cities?

But Will nodded

Will then sighed

'I am not that well versed in the intricacies of it all but I expect you had it all planned out' Azief nodded.

They stopped talking for a while. Azief pour coffee into his cup and Will cup. This is not a meeting between lord and his subordinate.

This is a meeting between friends. But their coffee talk affects the world. Any words and any decision that is born from today talk would undoubtedly change the destiny of this world.

But they are still relaxed. It is a pity that the moment they met they have to talk about this kind of stuff.

But time is pressing. And nobody felt it more than Azief and Will. From the moment Will saw the fate of his sworn brother, he had been thinking of how to stop that future from happening

Will love his brother. Not many people would understand this. Azief had helped him with Lily and for that he had always been grateful

And many people do not know that Azief had save him too many times before. He had a lot to be grateful for, so he sworn brotherhood with Azief. Two men who were very different from each other

Yet, they became brothers.

Will did not even think once to kill his brother. He would stay beside him until the end. Even if he saw his own future, he would not falter

He believes him. And this is why there is this tense atmosphere between them. They both felt that time is pressing.

For a while they just sat there looking at the ocean in the distance, looking at the clouds and the waves in the nearby shore, Azief sipping his coffee, Will chewing his beans

And then as Will finished drinking down the cup and then ask

'Then what about the threat? From the otherworldly invaders? What would you do about them? Many of them are in prisons right now but we could not put them in prison indefinitely. Not to mention we have cut off their way to return back to their world' Azief sighed.

Will did not beat around the bush. He knows that his brother prefers direct question and answer. So, he bombarded him almost immediacy.

'Since Hirate is coming I would also discuss these matter with him' Another period of silence descended.

Azief could tell Will wanted to ask a question but none of the question he asked is the question he truly wanted to ask

After all, Azief felt that any question about the world business had expired. There is only that question left. And he is waiting for that question.

Will finally sighed and then said

'And what are you going to do with what you saw in the future?' Finally, he asks the question

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### **Chapter 1372: The Red Table I**

Azief take the cup of coffee again and take a sip. He looks at the sky above and then he said

'We have to stop it'

Will smiles and nodded

'That is all I need to hear'

'Why. Why did you need to hear it from me?' Azief asked Will sighed and said

'I don't want you giving up. I don't want you to think that there is only one way out of this'

'I don't want you.....to kill yourself' Azief smiles bitterly

'I did think of it. And I thought better of it'

Yes, this is one of the solution to that problem.

Azief saw himself becoming a monster. He saw himself fighting people he knows, killing people but the millions and that give him quite the impact.

Of course, he does not know what leads him to be like that but the one thing he knows is that.... that is his future

And it is not a future he wanted to live. And what is the easiest and simplest way to make sure that does not happen?

The simplest solution is to remove him from the equation.

Will sighed and shakes his head

### **Chapter 1373: The Red Table II**

Take Jean for example. What could these criminals offer him that he could not find for himself? All he seeks is a peaceful life and the refinement of his magic.

What could you offer someone like that? And then there is the most obvious and the stumbling block of these criminal families.

Death Monarch. That is a person who hated Crime Alliance with the passion of a thousand burning suns.

In the past, if there is someone who becoming the stumbling blocks of these criminal's organization, there are many ways to solve it

Hire an assassin. Bribe them. Threatened their family. That and more of the same variation

But Death Monarch is the strongest person in the world. There are no assassins that have big enough gut to try to assassinate Death Monarch.

The last time that somebody tried, they turned into scorched meat, being smite by red thunderbolts that shot down from the Heavens

As for bribing Death Monarch, that is the most ridiculous move anyone could make.

With his status of the strongest person in the world, if he wanted anything, he could simply say it and the whole world would move to answer his wish.

And the last time someone tried to threatened Death Monarch closest friends and families, bad things happened to them

So, in this new era, the crime families were reduced to rats, always having to hide from the world powers

It is the same for the Bratva. Even when the organization wanted to compromise the Republic, it falls to deaf ears.

Boris could still be negotiated with since he understands the world that the world is not white and black.

Most of the time, it is shades of gray.

But that is not something that his sister understood. Katarina if she is simply a naive woman that would be fine.

But that naïve woman is the strongest woman in the world. With her red sword she cut down people like weeds

To the rest of the world, Katarina the Ice Queen also has the title of the most beautiful woman in the world.

But to the Bratva and to the criminal families in Russia, she is a butcher, a boogeyman. Sitting on one of the seat, representing the Bratva is Mister Moscow.

He had a bowler hat, wearing a tight fitted suit. He is lean and tall and his hair reached the back of his neck but neatly tied.

This is his nickname. And this is not the first time he is here. As the representative to the Red Table, rarely these people gave their true name.

Because they deal in the dark side of the world they also know that giving one-person true name is very dangerous.

In a world of magic, even names should be protected. There are all kinds of magic and there is magic that could use names as mediums of curses or calamity.

Mister Moscow look to his left

'It has been a long time seeing you, Amaterasu' He said. His voice is a little hoarse like he as something stuck on his throat.

Amaterasu mask seems to show a smile. Amaterasu is also tall and his hair is long enough to reach his waist.

But his hair is tied very neatly and it is tied in a certain knot.

Amaterasu is the representative of Yomi

Yomi is now the name of the new criminal underworld forces that appeared after stomping the Yamaguchi Gumi.

Yamaguchi Gumi is basically the largest Yakuza gang in Japan before the Fall. But Yomi had risen from the ashes of the old world.

They did not behave like normal Yakuza and they disdain the hierarchical concepts of the Yakuza.

Their rise to power begins with them slaughtering the members of the Yamaguchi Gumi, creating terror in the criminal underworld of Japan that had never been seen or experienced before

Basically, it was a war to decide the new lord of the criminal underworld of Japan. And the one standing at the top is the top ranking members of Yomi.

In a world without law, the most lawless would surely be the criminals. And they rule the criminal underworld through fear

Since then Yomi had unified almost all of the factions of criminal underworld of Japan organized crime. But unfortunately enough Hikigaya and Oreki could not tolerate their existence.

Unlike Death Monarch who despise crime families from the start, Hikigaya and Oreki both have ties with the Yakuza in the early beginning of their rise.

This is not something that is mentioned because it is a hidden part of the history of those two great men

But once those two people have the power, they immediately eradicated almost all of Yomi forces forcing them to run away from the island nation

All of them exiled from their own country.

Those who still remember the reign of terror Yomi once had over the population probably does not think that the merciless Yomi is nothing in front of those two.

When Hikigaya begins his purge, the methods he used is very ruthless and cruel. Hikigaya at that time was not as powerful as today, but he was more ruthless.

Hikigaya uses his illusion to coax the location of their headquarters. At times, he would torture them in that Illusion World that he created in the minds of the people he captured.

And there is also the fact that none of the secrets of Yomi is secrets in front of Hikigaya Illusion World.

How did the World Government eradicated Yomi influence so thoroughly and so neatly is all thanks to Hikigaya effort?

Then there is Oreki.

Oreki wields the power of thunder and the way he kills people was by burning them inside out. You could even smell your own innards is cooking as you die in terrible excruciating pain.

The leader of Yomi at that time was lucky that he did not put all of his eggs in one basket and he manages to escape just right before those two warlords could get to him

Then, Yomi join the others and then the Broker came and propose an alliance of criminals. And Yomi is one of those factions in the Crime Alliance that sits at the top of the pyramid

So, now Yomi had gone global. And they do not forget what has been done to them.

Representing the Yomi is someone who is called Amaterasu, taking the name of one of the chief deity in Japanese mythology

Yomi is that kind of organization.

They give code name to their high ranking members. And most of them take the names of mythical beings in the ancient mythology of Japan

Amaterasu look and then nodded toward Mister Moscow.

Then he spoke.

It is clear from the moment he spoke that he is using a voice changer. Like Mister Moscow, he wears a mask

Amaterasu wears an Oni mask over his face with horns on the top of each side of his mask

As for Mister Moscow, his face is bandaged with black and red clothes.

The clothes on his face seems to be something that is alive as it sometimes wiggles and moves by itself.

Amaterasu then said

'It is not that long of a time. Mister Moscow. Six months is not a long time. I was expecting us to not meet for a while. Death Monarch.... return is expected.' But he sighed

Mister Moscow understand.

Even though they always expect that such day would come, there is always this hope that Death Monarch does not return

At least with the other world power there is still room to wiggle.

Even though they were not as powerful as they were before, able to influence state politics, they still could have thrived and slowly recover back their influence

Even the World Government could not stop this and the other world power also deals with them.

Only Pandemonium is stubborn. But Pandemonium is not something that one could simply ignore or try to make it go away.

With the return of Death Monarch, one could predict that once that death god knows that Crime Alliance once again becoming powerful, he would lead another purge.

Even now, most of the members of their factions is restless.

When the thunder roars in the sky, they shudder. When the day is clear and there are no clouds in the sky, their people do not dare to go out.

And that is only a day after Death Monarch had return.

'There is also the matter with Void' Amaterasu snorted and said.

'I told Susanoo that we should have killed him with all of our efforts. Now, we have another formidable enemy in our long list of enemies'

He sighed and then added

'Why does this organization refuse to see that only dead enemies are good enemies. We have repeatedly told the Crime Alliance that bringing that madman as the head of the Crime Alliance is a mistake. Now, that decision has come to bite us in the ass.

Mister Moscow shakes his head and said

'Nobody would have expected that.... he could be such a headache. Before he simply unorganized. But now.... Void seems to have some purpose. There might be someone guiding him from behind'

Mister Moscow said.



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### **Chapter 1374: A Familiar Name**

They spoke openly but the other three could not hear what they were saying. This is simply because there is a mechanism around the chairs and the tables.

The chairs around the table is also magical in nature and is carved with intricate details.

The chair where Amaterasu is sitting is black in color and there are the carvings of all kinds of mythical Japanese gods and monsters on the chair back.

The black color itself is magical as it seems to absorb light. Yomi, the name itself is Japanese word for the land of the dead or the World of Darkness.

It is then the reason why all the high ranking members all have taken the name of mythological gods and deities.

Amaterasu, Susanoo and Tsukuyomi are the three leaders of the three Gates of Yomi.

And then there is the two founder of Yomi, the one who had subdued the criminal underworld of Japan and then expand its influence over the world

It is Izanami and Izanagi.

These two people had never been seen but everyone knows their existence. Unlike some Yakuza gangs where they gain reputation by notoriety and by showing their faces and their power openly and publicly, Izanami and Izanagi power seem to come from their anonymity.

They are shrouded in darkness, their names are whispered in the dark alleys but no one knows who these two people are, where did they come from, how they look like and where they are.

Elusive as a ghost

Probably the only people who have seen these two figures are the Three Gate leaders of Yomi.

As for Mister Moscow chair, there is the carving of hammer and sickle and stars. There are many various symbols that denotes the Bratva.

These chairs have special properties in that they could isolate sounds around them and detect their thoughts pattern.

So when Mister Moscow wanted to talk to Amaterasu, the chair sends a permission request to Amaterasu and Amaterasu accepted so they could talk freely without disturbing the other three and also keeping the connection of their conversation a secret

While these people do not trust each other, some trust needed to be established if not the cooperation could not be maintained.

In the past, it was the Broker that brought these violent men together and created the most powerful criminal organization in the world, an alliance of criminal and outlaws to defend themselves from the purge of the Great Powers.

'Void is a problem that we need to address sooner than later but for now, we have to focus on Death Monarch'

Even though the topic of the gathering is not yet being proposed, everyone around the table knows that this probably something to do with Death Monarch.

Amaterasu nodded and then he said

'We'll see whether the others had ideas on how to counter. I would like not to abandon my facilities in the Ten Seas and the other continents. It is one thing that we could not do business in Pandemonium, it is another that we could not even do anything' Amaterasu said.

Of course only criminal like them could think what they are doing is right and it was that Death Monarch that does not understand the rules of the world.

To them, everyone has to compromise. But Death Monarch was never a person who compromises with others.

You either follow his way or you die. It is suffocating dealing with this kind of person yet Death Monarch is not someone they could simply ignore

Mister Moscow did not say anything else because he knows that Amaterasu would like to listen to the others and the connection between their two chairs is immediately severed

They went silent.

Sitting on the seat beside Amaterasu is Falco, the representative of the Consortium the unified Italian mafia.

The Consortium is consisted of the Falcone's, the Salvatore's and many other new crime families that have risen since the Fall

They are basically the mafia. The Five Families of course still existed in bits and pieces but the new upstarts had taken their place.

Honors and all that is push to the sides especially in a world where the one who is the strongest reign supreme.

Falco wears a mask of an eagle. But just like the other two, his mask is not simply some trinkets or mask he buys in some convenience store.

It is a mask that seems to emanate energy.

The Italian mafia was quite hard to remove because unlike what happened in Japan and in Russia, the mafia had quite the pull in Italy.

But when Italy joined the World Government, the mafia basically had a bit of a contests of power with the regional governor that Hirate had sent

This then turn into a full blown war and they lost that war. And ever since then, they struggle to find a way to get back up.

And during the assassination attempt of Death Monarch, there is the hand of the mafia behind those assassination attempt so their forces is also hunted by Pandemonium forces

But they are slowly recovering. Falco did not say anything to Amaterasu or to Mister Moscow, remain silent for most of the time.

As for the cartel, it was Diablo who is representing. The Cartel is simply a name that came to represent all of the South American criminal underworld.

There is a certain man who have unified the entire South American crime families. This person is elusive and some people called him El Fantasma

The Ghost.

The Red Lotus Triad is represented by Hong Yaoshi. All of them uses code names and wears mask.

Does this mean that they did not trust each other? There's that but actually it is also because they fear that there are some ways of knowing who they are.

The fact that they are the representatives of their faction means that they are quite high in the ranking.

It would not be surprising if one of them is the heads of these forces.

But they would never speak so obviously.

They might know in their hearts who is sitting beside them but they would never verbalize it into words.

Because they know the risk and they don't know who is listening. Even though everything in this room seems to have an anti-surveillance runes carved onto it, the world is vast and there are all kinds of people who have all kinds of abilities

They know that the Heavens could listen and eavesdrops.

And they don't like that.

The reason why all of their mask have certain energy to it is none other than because all of it has some kind of anti-surveillance magic.

Diablo started saying first

'I would propose the topic' When he said it, he push the center button enabling his word to be heard all over the room.

Mister Moscow, Amaterasu, Hong Yaoshi and Falco all nodded. The barrier that cancels noise around them immediately come down. This time everyone could hear each other

'The return of Death Monarch. How to handle this?'

They all went silent for a few second before Amaterasu then said.

'We should have really killed him when he was still weak'

Hong Yaoshi snorted and said

'What's the use of speaking about things that have already happened'

He looks to Mister Moscow and said

'Any ideas?'

Mister Moscow seems to be silent for a second before saying

'We have created some weapons'

'The Bratva creating weapons. That is hard to believe' there is a trace of disdain in the tone. It was Diablo saying it

'There were some researchers of the Order of Thinkers that defected to our side' Hearing this the other went silent.

One could not see their facial expression because of the mask but most of them are probably shocked. But they did not ask any more.

Everyone have their own methods and they are not exactly the sharing type.

'Are you confident that your weapon could kill Death Monarch? Probably it would only tickle him' said Amaterasu

Mister Moscow did not say anything for a few second before saying

'It is true that even though the weapons had been created there is no certainty at all that it could be used against a Divine Comprehension leveler.'

Amaterasu nodded. This is simple logic. If the Bratva had such weapons, they would already be dominating the world.

Mister Moscow could tell that Amaterasu had something to say.

'Amaterasu, it seems you have an idea'

Amaterasu takes his time. Even though this room is dark and it appears that they were the only one here, that is not entirely accurate. Around the room is service robots.

Out of the many conveniences brought by the explosion of advanced technology, one of them is these service robots.

Amaterasu waited for his juice to come. The rest did not bother him. Even though they use code names and meet in mask, this are not the first time they met each other.

They are the representative of their factions and most of the time they meet each other in one way or the others because they have already established rapport.

So, they waited. The juice came and Amaterasu uses the straw to slurp the juice.

'Ahh...that just hit the spot' he exclaimed before suddenly saying

'Loki wanted a seat on the table'

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### **Chapter 1375: The Hunt for a Divine Weapon**

The others narrowed their eyes, looking at Amaterasu.

There was silence like they wanted to digest the information. The words he said is very light but the consequences are enormous.

Wanting to admit someone to be one of the members of the Red Table? That is not as easy ask

Then Diablo said.

'This is impossible. Loki is one person. How could he be compared to our entire organization? While he did create his own force, that force is small.'

Amaterasu expected it but the he said

'Well, he is not an ordinary person, is he?' At this, Diablo sighed.

Yes, Loki is not exactly an ordinary person. But it is precisely because of that, that they are reluctant to give Loki a seat.

This is not the first time that Loki had apply to the Red Table. While there is a rule in the book that says that anyone could apply to become one of the members, they usually would measure themselves first before antagonizing the faction that rules the Crime Alliance.

Asking for a seat means dividing the pie. It means clashing interest.

It is like those pirate's lords of the sea.

If you have no power and influence in the sea but claim to be one, it would not be long before you would become fish feeds.

'And don't forget something. He has the Book of Secrets. And unlike the Broker, he is not easy to deal with'

Falco who rarely speaks suddenly said

'Why are you so eager to defend the Trickster?' the other waited for Amaterasu to answer. They were also perplexed with Amaterasu defense of Loki.

Amaterasu words is Yomi words. This is like Yomi having the intention to ally with Loki

Yomi has always been a staunch resistance against Loki joining the Crime Alliance.

The Crime Alliance while united in some sense are also divided in some sense.

The five faction fought for their own interest but at the same time safeguarding the interest of each other.

They also know not to be too greedy or they would drive off people and talents.

That is a hard line to balance between guarding their own interest while at the same time making sure that the others don't think that they are monopolizing the resources.

Amaterasu then said

'There is a way of making sure that the sea is a hostile place for Death Monarch and Ice Queen' Pausing for a second he then added

'There is a way to restrain and suppress Death Monarch as long as he is in the Seas' this word shocks the other four.

Not many people in this world have the confidence to say what Amaterasu just said.

Hearing this, all the four people eyes shines brightly

And they somehow understand the implication.

Loki had always been a man with the tricks.

Then, this sudden proposition of allowing Loki to sat on the Red Table must have something to do with this confidence that Amaterasu is oozing.

Mister Moscow then ask

'Are you trying to say that Loki had a way to defeat Death Monarch?' Amaterasu shakes his head

'Not exactly. But it is enough to suppress him and making sure that our facilities around the ten seas and the new continents remains safe. Would that interest you?'

Falco seems to be smiling. Mister Moscow tipped his hat. Diablo chuckles and Yaoshi eyes narrowed.

But the others did not immediately clamor for news.

Because they know who Loki is. It is not simply because he is the Trickster that people in the Crime Alliance had a hard time believing him

It is the fact that he is brothers with Death Monarch.

How could they easily believe that Loki would bring out a weapon to defeat Death Monarch? Even after Loki become the most wanted man in the world, Death Monarch still protects Loki.

And they are supposed to believe that Loki would bring out such a weapon against a person who everyone knows is like a brother to him?

Yaoshi sighed

'All of this is good and all but are you sure we could trust the Trickster? It is not the first time; he would lie for his own gains. Are you completely sure that this is not one of his naughty tricks, trying to send us to the abyss of death?'

So, does it makes sense that Loki would give them a way to defeat his most powerful backer?

'I believe that he is speaking the truth'

Diablo then ask

'What good will it do for the Trickster?'

'If Death Monarch is defeated by us, then the Trickster would have no backer. He must understand that without the protection of Death Monarch, he would not have been able to leisurely walk around the world'

'Even though the world power all vowed to capture him, we know that it is not that simple. Even if they capture him, I doubt anyone would dare to imprison him unless they wanted to provoke a war with Pandemonium. Those high sounding declarations might be able to fool the common people, but it does not fool us'

Amaterasu sighed and then said

'That is why he wants to sit in Red Table. With the Book of Secrets, once he is able to use it on the Red Table, he would have enough leverage that he would not be easily threatened in the Crime Alliance.'

Then Amaterasu added

'So much so, that he doesn't even need to fear. So.... we now have a choice'

There was silence in the room the moment Amaterasu finished saying all of these. So, it turns out that the Trickster still have some trick inside a sleeve

This choice....is hard to make.

They finally understand.

Loki is telling them to choose. Either give him access to secrets in the Crime Alliance or lose the chance of being able to restrain Death Monarch

They all look at each other

And they probably all have the same thought. What Crime Alliance needs right now is time. Time to recuperate and bolster their forces.

The Multiversal Convergence is like their prayers being heard. They managed to evacuate from the area where the Seven Great Power reign supreme. And now all they need is time.

This is not an easy decision to make.

Amaterasu on the other hand is calm.

The four of them immediately understood that Yomi had already make the decision. The fact that Amaterasu is speaking for Loki shows the position of Yomi.

Falco, Mister Moscow, Huang Yaoshi and Diablo all look at each other. For a few minutes there is a tense silence inside the room

It is clear the four of them is thinking the pros and cons of this. Falco was the first one that breaks the silence.

'I need to contact the higher ups first and ask for their thoughts' he said to Amaterasu. Amaterasu nodded.

While they are high ranking members of their factions, they also know that this kind of decision need more discretion.

Admitting someone to the Red Table is not simple. The meaning of admitting someone into the Red Table is like crowning a King in the criminal underworld

Once you take a seat on the Red Table, there are many secrets of the Crime Alliance would be revealed to that person

Loki is someone with dubious background and confusing loyalties.

So, this kind of thing is not something that these representative could simply give a nod to

They need to see the intentions of the others in their faction

The other three said the same thing and they all got up from their seats and went out of the room.

No doubt that they are all contacting their leaders or the higher ups of their organization to ask for their input in this. Amaterasu leaned back on his throne chair and close his eyes. The eyelids on the mask also moves and close

It must be half an hour before the sound of the room opening makes Amaterasu opens his eyes. Diablo enter the room and take his seat.

Diablo look at Amaterasu and nodded but they do not speak. The tension in the room is very high

They sat on their chair closing their eyes, waiting for the others to return to room.

This time it was not long before Yaoshi, Falco and Mister Moscow to enter the room

The moment they sit down Amaterasu then said

'When we are dealing with matters of our faction, we always do not interfere with each other. However, the matter of the Red Table has always been the decision of us five'

The other nodded

Falco then said

'I still need some clarification'

'Ask away'

'You said Loki have information about a method to suppresses Death Monarch.'

'Yes'

'What's the method?'

Amaterasu smiles. He could tell that the other three is also very interested in this

Amaterasu smirks and he thought to himself



'Yes, if I don't tell these to them, they would not be convinced' Even he himself was not convinced before Loki actually told him what it is

Amaterasu then said

'A Divine Weapon'

However, hearing Amaterasu answer, Falco seems disappointed. Yaoshi was unimpressed and Mister Moscow was frowning. Diablo however has not expression, as he seems to be waiting

We also have Divine Weapons in our arsenal' Falco said. The implied meaning is clear.

"we also have Divine Weapons. But even we do not dare to say that our Divine Weapon could suppress Death Monarch? What gives you the courage?"

Even though Falco did not say all of these words, it is something that everyone in the room understand

Amaterasu smiles and said

'This is not that kind of Divine weapons. What you have is an artifact. A simple replica of the real Divine Weapons'

Mister Moscow suddenly seems interested. It seems he also knows something.

'So, what are you saying? That Loki knows the location of a real Divine Weapon? Is that what you are saying?'

'That is what I am saying' Amaterasu said while chuckling

Amaterasu then simply said a word that would then silence the entire room

'The Trident of Poseidon'

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### **Chapter 1376: The Throne of the Trickster**

Everyone was silent for a second because they do not understand what Amaterasu is trying to say.

How could it be different from their Divine Weapons.

They also found weapons and artifacts like that in some places and temples or rewards after killing some powerful monsters.

The most famous case of such a thing is Athena, one of the Great Generals of Pandemonium who have the Sword of Ares.

So, they did not understand what Amaterasu is trying to convey.

But then Mister Moscow widen his eyes and mutters to himself

'Couldn't be? The real Poseidon? In Olympus?'

Amaterasu nodded and then he smiles

'I'm impressed. It seems you also knows about it?'

Mister Moscow nodded

'We have also seen a few other civilizations like that' Amaterasu smiles and did not say anything more.

But the others could not understand.

So, Mister Moscow began telling them and explaining to them about Olympus and Asgard and that some stories of myths is not entirely just stories.

There, up in the sky, above the clouds, and beyond the Heavens, these myths are very much alive and very much dangerous

Amaterasu was impressed.

'It seems you know some stuff' Amaterasu was already surprised that Mister Moscow knows about Olympus but he also knows about Asgard, Jade Empire and many other intergalactic forces.

The reason why Yomi knows is because they have people in the World Government.

The other world powers also invest heavily in matters of the Multiverse but the World Government have the World Gate where they travel into other worlds, parallel world, different dimension and other universes.

It is because they have people in the World Government that they have the knowledge of many things involving the Multiverse.

But, the Bratva is different. So, his eyes narrowed

Mister Moscow nodded and said

'The Bratva did stumble into this matter and there is also the help of the Broker so we got to find out a few secrets about the Universe'

Clearly Mister Moscow did not want to elaborate and Amaterasu did not insist

By now everyone in the room had understood what weapon that Amaterasu is talking about. A real Divine Weapon from a real powerhouse in the Universe.

'How is it now? are you all tempted?'

There is still many question in the minds of these people but they are quite sure even though Death Monarch is powerful, he is not yet at the level of those bigshot in the Universe.

Of course the things that Mister Moscow told them is a bit hard to believe but they have lived in a world of magic about a decade now. What things that they have not seen and what thing is not possible in this new era.

So, even though it was hard for them to fathom that there is Olympus and Asgard and many others like it in the vast Universe, they quickly accepted it

Once again all four of them goes out the room. This time to probably tell their leaders what it is all about.

Before, the matter is about Loki joining the Red Table. Now, the matter shifts to the matter of a Divine Weapon

Only Mister Moscow is left in the room with Amaterasu

Amaterasu looks at him and said

'You don't have to go out an inform the other high ranking members of the Bratva?' Amaterasu asked.

Mister Moscow shook his head

'Hmm...that's interesting. Why?'

'The Bratva wants revenge. From the moment you said you have a weapon that could restrains and surpass Death Monarch, the higher ups already told me to cooperate.'

Amaterasu smiles and then said

'You don't mind giving a seat on the Red Table to a rookie. I think the Bratva also could not trust Loki'

Hmph' Mister Moscow scoffed.

'Tell me, could you trust someone who you know lie as easy as breathing.

'Then, why?

'A test.'

A test?'

"The Red Table is still rule by the five factions'

'And the Bratva want to see what Loki would do with the seat. We wanted to see whether he is really have turned to us, or merely a wolf in sheep clothing, pretending to be the pig when he is the tiger. Pandemonium is not above in using espionage. The fact that Death Monarch still protects Loki is something that make us uncomfortable'

Amaterasu nodded.

There was another silence between them before Mister Moscow asked Amaterasu

'How about Yomi? Izanagi and Izanami just trust him'

Amaterasu smiles and simply said

'I don't know what they were thinking but I think that they have the same ideas as you do. Loki intention is still something that we are very curious about'

They look at each other smiles and then cut of the connection and waited. This time, the wait is not long. Around five minutes, the other three enters the room and sat down

Amaterasu then said

'I think, I will cut through the unnecessary chattering and go straight to voting. Is there any objection?'  
Amaterasu waited for five seconds and no one objected which means everyone consented.

'All in favor of giving Loki a seat on the Red Table in exchange for the Trident of Poseidon?'

'Aye!' all five people raised their voice

Amaterasu smiles and nodded.

'So, it will be'

'How do we start?' Falco asked

Mister Moscow then said

'Loki the Trickster is known to be hard to find. He is unlike the Broker. At least the Broker still maintains contact with us. But Loki...he just come and go when he pleases.'

He pauses for a second before saying

'I hated that about him'

Amaterasu laughed and then he waves his hand. The room suddenly seems to distort.

The other four were curious.

'You're changing the room?' Diablo asked. Every member of the five factions all have the ability to change the room layout

It is one of the special functions of this room.

But everyone was perplexed why Amaterasu suddenly wanted to change the layout.

A sound attracts their attention. They saw another door appear on the other side of the room.

Falco and Mister Moscow look at each other and they seem to have thought of a certain possibility

Then they look at Amaterasu, his face mask is smiling

At the same time, the Red Table expanded. It did not interfere with their space as their chair adjusted to the new measurement of the table.

Then a new chair rose from the ground. And everyone in the room understood.

They look at the new chair

It is a green dark chair, almost looking like a jade throne. There are stone snakes on the thrones slithering on its edges and there is a sculpture of ravens on both sides of the back of the chair

It is better to call it a throne than a simple chair. It is like the throne of the other five people in the room

The throne itself is a symbol of power and influence in the Crime Alliance.

They might not have kings like the World Government but it is only because they are a king without a crown

In an intent and purposes, the five factions in the Crime Alliance is like the royalty of the criminal underworld

The throne itself is very intimidating, spewing green gases from its bottom. It is like a special effect

There is the snakes sculpture on the front leg of the throne. It is so lifelike that it almost seems like a real snake. On the ear of the throne, there is two raven sculpture decorating it.

And there are runes all over the throne.

There are of course many other empty space that could still be filled up. This throne is none other than a throne for Loki

Mister Moscow was shocked but then his eyes narrowed.

'He's here?'

Amaterasu nodded.

'Hmph' Falco snorted.

'It seems he have predicted that we would allow him to sit on the table. I hate that presumptuous nature of him' Amaterasu only chuckles at this.

Mister Moscow could understand the feeling of Falco. There are not many people in this room that likes Loki

They all have some entanglements with him in the past, and one could not say that the entanglement is pleasant

The other was also particularly displeased. But before they could say anything, the door on the side of the room opens and someone stepped out from the door

The sound of his footsteps echoes all over the room.

There is a tall young man who looks intimidating yet elegant at the same time.

A tailored high-end three –piece suit, a maroon tie, a fedora, a leather shoes that look a lot like an Italian and rose color glasses.

Everyone could tell that this is Loki.

Loki the Trickster has come. And he comes with that usual swagger of him.

He looks at all the five people in the room as he strides to his throne. He then sat down, and then smiling he said

'Ah, you are all here. It's good to see you all in good health' And he laughed a bit

'Trickster' Falco said, his tone hostile.

The other three other than Amaterasu also is not that joyful that Loki is here.

He looks around and then said

'Why the hostile faces?' Mister Moscow said

'Don't you remember Berlin?'

Loki look at Mister Moscow. He tilted his head. It is really not easy to see the true identity of these people.

All of them wear mask and he could not see their true faces. These five people might know each other with their mask off but Loki is a newcomer. So he doesn't know these people.

He tries to see but see nothing. But it is clear that Mister Moscow is talking about something that happened in Berlin

There were a lot of things that he meddles when he was in Berlin. It's not once or twice either.

So, it took him a bit of time to remember but after a while he had an idea what's it about

'I remember that.' Loki said. But he did not explain. Mister Moscow only snorted

'As for you, Falco was it? What's the problem?'

'You dismantle the Guererro family. Was it really necessary to slaughter them all?'

'Ah, the Cartel talking about pity. What a funny thought' and he laughed. The implied meaning is clear

The Cartel is even crueller than him. And the Guererro family is not a kind family. They are involved in human trafficking, new era drugs, weapons and the usual stuff that criminal do.

If they met Death Monarch and not Loki, then their ending might even be more tragic.

Loki then raise his hand

'I know that some of you have bad blood with me. Well, that is in the past. I am very eager to contribute to the Crime Alliance now'

The statement is received with snort and derisive noises but they clearly accepted Loki sitting on the seat.

Loki smiles mischievously and the opening his arms wide, he said

'Now, let's talk business' he smiles and then clicking his finger, a parchment appears floating in the air.

The parchment gently floated down on the table and unfurled.

On the map, there is an X mark on a spot. It is on a nameless island.

Loki smiles, pointed at the X mark and then said

'I present to you, the Trident of Poseidon' and his smile become wider.

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### **Chapter 1377: The Arrow that is Lost**

By now, the whole world is watching and waiting the return of Death Monarch to Pandemonium.

Dark forces who hides in the shadow began moving, and these dark forces are planning and scheming

The world powers also show their attitude and the whole world enter into this period of tense silence.

Ships filled the Turbulent Seas, one of the most dangerous sea in the world.

There is a woman in a part of the world that also had heard the news.

this woman who had heard the declaration of Death Monarch only look at the sky when she first heard it.

A day had passed since then and now she looks at the sky once again and she seems to be thinking of something.

This woman has long hair reaching almost her waist.

Her hair is braided in an elflock. Such long hair would usually prompt such question, of how she could fight with such a long hair.

Those who fight with her personally all knows that even her hair could be a weapon.

Her face is beautiful and flawless with no imperfections. She wears a long sleeve dark green lined with purple colors and a symbol of an arrow on the back of her clothes.

She wears a gauntlet that seems to have some runic inscription. Around her there is an energy field that seems to slice all chaotic energy that surround her

She sat on a huge stone boulder. These stone boulders seem to be shaped by an external force.

Around her is thousands of corpses of beast scattered all over

Some lost their limbs, while some were minced to death. Some look like it had passes through a meat grinder and the smell of death and desolation are strong here.

For the beast that still have their body intact, each of these beast have countless of holes over their body

Some had holes on their forehead.

Some have it on their body. But there is no trace of the weapon used to pierce these beast body.

A sound enters her ears and she sighed

'There is still a few that I have missed' she mutters.

The sound become even clearer and the sound seems to be coming closer to her.

Judging by the sound alone like the sound of the ground cracking, one could make an assumption that the thing that is coming closer to her is very large in size.

This woman makes a move. She pointed her finger forward. And from her finger, an apparition of an arrow is formed and the arrow flew forward, sizzling the air and then it hit something

There is a monster who is running toward her.

The distance between her and the beast is five kilometers away. But, she seems to sense it and with one finger killed that beast.

Behind the back of this woman is a bow with intricate design.

But it is not only the design that made this bow seems special. It is the power that radiated from this bow.

Even though the woman did not use the bow, the bow glow brightly when she made an arrow apparition sapper with her finger attack

This appearance, this method, there is only one woman in the world that could do what she did and do it with such elegance and power

This woman is none other than Sofia the Divine Archer, the second strongest woman in the world

Since she left Pandemonium, not many people know where she went.

While she is not one of the top powerful people in the world, she is acknowledged by many as the second strongest woman in the world.

And she also is not some small figures in the world.

Sofia and her bow is known to the world.

When compared with the influence between her and Death Monarch, yes, her influence is weaker

But that is not exactly a fair comparison. Compared to Death Monarch influence, who could compare to it?

But never underestimate this woman connection. Even though she left Pandemonium, she has many contacts and connections.

She has many allies more than she has enemies which is quite different from Death Monarch who have more enemies than he has allies.

She has friends in the World Government, the Republic and even a few in the League of Freedom. And her strength is also improving since the Multiversal Convergence ended.

She suddenly sighed

'You finally returned' she said as she heaved a sigh of relief. She did not say anything yesterday. It was like hearing him return shock her beings.

It was not that she is not happy. She just doesn't know how to feel about it. It is a weird feeling now.



In the past, she would probably rush to the sky and went to the Turbulent Sea and met him. But she made her decision.

And now it is time for him to make his own decision. It might seem that it was always her that always wanted him to make a choice.

But his choice is her choice in a way. She is not this tough woman the world seems to want to paint her as.

She is quite fragile. And she could not bear the pain.....if she is the one being abandoned again. It is selfish. It is deplorable.

But sometimes love is like this. Sometimes, it is sunshine and rainbows. At times, it is full of storms.

And at times it is the most beautiful thing and at other times, it is the ugliest thing. Love....is never one thing.

At least not to her and not to him. She sighed.

She was thinking about some things that happened in the past. Though it is not long ago.

'Could it be; it haunts me still' she thought to herself.

Her memories and dreams had always been about that day.

She had lived long enough and seen many things yet every time she went to sleep, she seems to dream that day

And each time the dreams are vivid and felt real.

But there is a difference between dreams and reality. In dreams, her answer was different. What she dreams about is the day that Azief proposed to her.

And each time, she said yes.

And each time, she wonders.

She sighed and close her eyes before she heard footsteps behind her. She slowly opens her eyes and look behind her.

Behind her is a man. The man is six feet six, tall and muscly and lean. Beside that man is a floating mace

When he walks the Earth, the ground seems to treble. But he did not exert any pressure. But there is a force around him that seems to resonate with the Earth

This person is none other than Raymond.

The world would be surprised if they know that Raymond and Sofia is adventuring together

There has always been rumor about Raymond and Sofia because they used to work together. This is also the reason why people like Jesse, Raymond right hand man seems to be close with Sofia.

Raymond had also disappeared from public eyes after the Multiversal Convergence.

There were many rumors about his disappearance. Some said that he is in a secret lab of the World Government, honing his strength so that he could break through to Divine Comprehension.

Some said that he went to outer space to find his opportunity. Some said that he is in seclusion, gathering energy to break through.

What the world doesn't know was that Raymond and Sofia met a month ago in the forest of Amazons.

Nowadays, the Amazon forest had a predator inside it that terrorizes the people. The predator is an alien beast

Raymond got the information from Hirate. It is an extraterrestrial species called Ten Qu Asha. Or they could be also called Rauja.

There is not much that is known about them other than that they hunt other species for sport.

They are large, sapient and sentient humanoid creatures who possess advanced technology.

From what Raymond had understood, they were dragged in during the Multiversal Convergence.

At first, their code name is Predator but Hirate got their name species from a source.

Raymond did not ask much but he could trust Hirate and all the information about the beast was given to him by an operative of the World Government

So, he heads to the Amazon to fight this predator.

As for Sofia, after leaving Pandemonium, she began hunting monsters and hone her archery abilities.

She has improved considerably from the past and her control over her bow has also improved.

Sofia in the past was not any better than any other person that choose the class of Arche.

The only thing that separates her from the rest of the Archer class is that she had the Houyi Bow.

With the Houyi Bow, her arrows are always stronger than any other archers.

Its speed, its impact and many other transformations that her arrows could undergoes, it is all thanks to the fact that she wielded the Houyi Bow.

The world had once saw her pulling an arrow and the whole world trembles. It is only because of the limitation of her realm, that she could not use the Houyi Bow effectively.

But, in the past sixth month, she had been honing not her energy but her connection with the bow.

People are not that oblivious now to the Artifact. Some have its own spirituality. Like Raymond mace that could talk, Sofia also tries to communicate with her weapons.

There is such a thing as being one with the weapon. Once she synchronized with a weapon that has spirituality, the more powerful she could become

After she left Pandemonium, she did not engage in global politics nor did she interfere with the world powers. She usually hunted monsters that is titanic and powerful in nature.

If she could not beat it, she would run. Then she would plan a path to victory and then return to finish the job.

She heard there was a monster that has been terrorizing the people in the Amazons.

The Amazon forest might be under the jurisdiction of the League of Freedom but after the Earth expansion, League of Freedom sphere of influence is mostly around Argentina and Brazil is now run by rising warlords.

So, Sofia came there without any worries of being in conflict with the League of Freedom and she is quite confident that if she does meet with the forces of League of Freedom, they would at least sell her some face

And in her hunt she coincidentally met with Raymond.

They work together to fight this predator that hunts things. This predator did not hunt for survival. But it hunts people, monsters for some kind of initiation rites.

After they managed to kill that predator, they kind of team up with each other. And now, they are at an unnamed continent with all kinds of monster

Raymond saw Sofia looking at the sky and said

'You're not going?' It is a question. A question he did not ask yesterday. But a day had passed. So, he asks now

And he waited for the answer

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### **Chapter 1378: Earthshaker and the Divine Archer**

Sofia did not answer. Raymond come closer and sat down beside her on top of the boulder. The force around his body dissipated.

Sofia also bring down the aura around her body down. If not their aura would clash.

'What do you mean?'

'He's back' Raymond said

Sofia did not say anything.

She closes her eyes and did not say anything, and there is only silence between them. Raymond sighed.

'Is it that bad?'

Sofia did not answer again.

Raymond then shakes his head. In the distance, a sound echoes, a roar that shakes the ground and split the clouds above

Another monster appears in the distance

This one rushes toward Raymond and Sofia.

Raymond look at the monster and look at Sofia

'I guess you didn't kill all of them'

Sofia opens her eyes and she was about to point her finger but Raymond simply waves his hand and a large hand erupted from the ground and pushes forward.

This hand is thirty feet in height, it stirs a dust storm, causing the wind to change course, the clouds to give way and the ground to quake

This powerful hand is in the shape of a palm pushing forward, pushing the ground and the clouds, rushing forward like a galloping beast and it slammed into that monster.

BOOOOM! A loud explosion sound echoes all over the area, a powerful shockwave blast erupted.

The shockwave however did not affect Raymond or Sofia.

That monster is like a jackal but ten feet tall in height and have two horns in the middle of its skull

Its claws are long and sharp. It could swipe a small hill into pieces and could leap high into the air.

But the moment that hand appears, even though that jackal like creature tries to run away, it was like its feet is bound to the Earth.

There is a force forcing it to stand there.

This is probably one of Raymond abilities.

Sofia also has a skill like this where she would shoot her arrows toward the surrounding of her enemies and these arrows that scattered all around the area of her enemies become some kind of an entrapping formation.

As for Raymond, it was like the Earth is grabbing hold this monster feet, like being trapped inside a quicksand, the more you struggle the tighter it would be.

The hand slam onto the monster, a sound of explosion that shakes Heaven and Earth erupted and the monster turns into a mist of blood.

Sofia saw what Raymond had done and she was not impressed.

The first few times, she was still quite surprised that there is such a method but after seeing it so many times, it lost its novelty

The monster had been killed. The energy of the monster went to Raymond. To the low level people, this is EXP.

To them, EXP is actually the energy that is released from these monsters. They have reached Disk Formation so they understood certain secrets of Heaven and Earth

You absorb the energy of Heaven and Earth, so where does the energy go? It goes inside you. So, when you die, the energy is released.

there is a rule on Earth. This rule is established by the All Source. You killed monsters, you get EXP.

In the Universe to gain energy is not that easy. Most of civilization that relies on absorbing energy into the body usually has some kind of method of entrapping the energy into their body and slowly rise step by step.

So, there is myriad paths in the Universe. Some refined their body, entrapping the energy and refining it causing their body to become extremely powerful

Some use it outside of their body, manipulating the energy so that they don't have to be limited by their physiques.

Some combined the two and some others entrapped it in a vessel or an object. Some sealed it into a certain totem to become a source of power for their civilization.

But, humans since the Fall, could easily rank up their existence by killing monsters and taking the so called EXP

What makes human special than the other? This is the thought of these powerful people in the top of the world.

But to the people below, what matters was that they could kill monster and grow stronger. It is a simple concept that they could understand and they did not have to think the underlying meaning of it all.

Sofia look at Raymond. He did not even break a sweat killing that monster. Then she said

'Let's talk about something else'

Then she added

'I don't like to talk about him'

Raymond could tell that Sofia is not ready to tell him what happened between her and Death Monarch.

Though, it was not hard to guess. She had probably broken up with him. or Azief broke up with her.

He could not be sure about who dumped who but one thing he is clear is that they are no longer together.

Even though, Raymond did not yet get any news from Hirate, he did hear from his contact in the World Government that Hirate is heading to the Turbulent Sea.

And Katarina is also there.

It fills him with many thoughts.

Raymond and Katarina did not say anything as they seem to be thinking of something.

Raymond is thinking about the world powers right now. It is something that he could not just ignore.

He still has a lot of people he had to protect and people he cares about.

The world powers are now undergoing a great change and there is now a change in the status quo.

There are only two great powers in the world that have Divine Comprehension leveler in their faction. That is Pandemonium and the Republic.

In the past the Three Great Powers, the World Government, Pandemonium have more or less the same power.

This refers to the individual power of the champion of their factions. For Pandemonium it is Death Monarch.

For the Republic it is Katarina and Jean.

And for the World Government it is Raymond, Hikigaya and Oreki.

But in the aftermath of the Multiversal Convergence, this is no longer true. The two premier world power is now the Republic and Pandemonium.

World Government fell behind.

Oreki and Hikigaya seceded from the World Government. That had major consequences for the stability of the World Government.

Both him and Hirate knows that to maintain the stability of the World Government and making sure that some people hearts did not waver is for him to quickly reach Divine Comprehension.

But that is easier said than done.

Of course, Raymond could always break though to Divine Comprehension.

Even now, if he wanted to he could.

But then he would settle for less.

Every person could forcefully break through.

For example, people who did not yet reached the required Seeds could always break through.

But then, their successive breakthrough would be harder. And in some cases, they could not progress later.

Raymond and Hirate both know that he could not do that kind of thing.

Immediate benefit but in the long term it is a loss.

Everyone that have researched Death Monarch knows that Death Monarch walk a Perfect Path. Before he breakthrough to the next realm, he brought his power to the peak and to the extreme.

Hence, even when he is at Disk Formation, he could fight a Divine Comprehension leveler and when he is in Divine Comprehension level, he could fight Essence Creation combatant

If Raymond was short sighted and exhaust his potential to quickly become a Divine Comprehension leveler, what about the next time.

What happens when Jean, Hikigaya and Death Monarch broke through to Essence Creation? Could Raymond catch up on them when his foundation is fragile?

At that time, the decline of the World Government is guaranteed.

So, Raymond is now travelling all over the world. Of course, he also had some help. His talking mace is helping him to gain insight on his improvement of power

As he kills monsters and walk the Earth, he is also slowly feeling the Terra force in his body becoming purer and more powerful

It is denser, heavier and there is this feeling like he is one with the Earth

His path is different than Death Monarch. There is no strongest path only the most suitable path. That is what his mace told him.

Raymond also heard what Death Monarch said a few days ago.

Creating the Sword of Humanity.

He did not understand it that much.

But his mace told him that this is the application of the Heavenly Will. And that Death Monarch is now strengthening the Heavenly Will

Raymond is unlike Jean, unlike Hikigaya that could understand Azief methods and understand it's implication. It is not that he is stupid it is because his priority is very different.

'You're ready to leave?' Sofia said suddenly getting up from the boulder. She seems to have finished thinking of something

Raymond was shocked but he asks again

'You would not go to him?'

Sofia face hardened and then she chuckles bitterly.

'In this whole wide world, if he wanted to see me, would he not be able to? Since he did not come to find me, then that mean he already has the answer. Maybe.....it is better like this' she said

There are many things in those words that Raymond could never understand fully. Sofia and Azief had quite the complicated relationship

They seem to never be able to truly show their heart. Raymond also got up. He then said

'Where are you going now?'

Sofia look around and thought of a few places in the world.

'There is news that there is a monster appearing in the Blood Sea' Raymond shook his head

'The Blood Sea is too dangerous'

Sofia hearing this raised her eyebrows.

'And the one' that we killed before is not dangerous'

Raymond simply said

'It's different'

Sofia frowned as Raymond said

'There are all kinds of things there. Even the Order of Thinkers is not confident of pacifying that region. The Ten Seas are not a playground. It is not like the sea we were used to. It has become very dangerous'

Sofia nodded. She thinks about it for a few moment and she nodded.

It is not that she doesn't know. But maybe, she just wanted to avoid thinking of going to the Turbulent Sea that she chose such a place.

The Blood Sea is also very dangerous though the danger genre is different.

In the Turbulent Sea, Divine Sense and communication with the outside world seems to be badly affected.

There are space tears, turbulent wind that is magical and mystical and if you are not careful you could end up in a different world altogether.

Sofia think that is also the reason why Azief appears in the Turbulent Sea. Maybe, the channel of Time and Space is attracted to the Turbulent Sea and that is probably how when he got back from the Seresian world, he appears near the Turbulent Sea.

Then Sofia said

'There is still the Sea of Fire. Heard there is a Flame Dragon flying around in that sea' Raymond laughed and said

'You wanted to hunt dragons now?'

Sofia smiles a bit and then said

'With you and me, we could take it down'

Raymond shakes his head and said

'While I appreciate the high regards for our combination, I have someplace else to be'

'Hmm?'

Sofia sighed as she nodded

'Then, I guess this is where our partnership ends'



Sofia was about to shot her arrow to the sky and disappear into the horizon but Raymond hold her hand. She looks at him with a puzzled expression

'Want to help me?'

Sofia frowned and then said

'What do you mean?'

Raymond first look at his floating mace that suddenly come near him.

Even Sofia was shocked.

In the beginning, the mace would spoke openly. But, the mace had quite the mouth and Sofia kind of try to attack the mace.

Sofia with Azief does look like a gentle woman.

But to the whole world, Sofia has quite the temper. And angering someone with the title of a Divine Archer is not really something that is safe

Since then, the mace had communicated telepathically with Raymond. So, she doesn't know why the mace suddenly seems interested

Raymond extended his hand and the mace fly to his hand.

The mace seems to be struggling to free himself from Raymond hand

Then a force suddenly erupted from his body and then the mace seems to die off all of a sudden

Sofia felt weird and she ask

'What's wrong?'

'Sharur probably would not be happy hearing what I would about to say. So, I had to 'deactivate' him for a while' he said smiling bitterly.

Raymond then said

'I got an information from one of my people'

'And?'

'I want to get something. And I think if we go to it together, I could rely on your help to get this thing.'

'Will this thing helped you in breaking through to the Divine Comprehension realm?'

Sofia ask because she knows that Raymond had been spending months trying to break through to Divine Comprehension realm.

She knew the pressure he is facing now and the pressure that the World Government is facing now  
It is not that Raymond could not break through.

But breaking through naturally is what he aspires to do or in the future, the World Government would not be able to stand when people like Azief and Hikigaya and Jean break through to Essence Creation realm

It is the same like her. She is also strengthening her foundation.

Raymond then answer

'I believe it would be because the power of this thing I seek seems to complement my abilities'

'What is it?'

Raymond smiles and said

'It is a weapon. A Divine Weapon' Raymond waited for Sofia to answer and she nodded

'You have helped me a lot these past few months. I guess this is my turn' Raymond smiles

But then he seems to have a complicated expression

Before he could explain something, Sofia then ask

'Where is this weapon?'

'That's the thing' he bit his lips for a second and then said

'You already said you are going to help me, right?'

Sofia nodded

Then he said

'It is around the area of the Turbulent Sea'

Sofia eyebrows raised up.

But she did not say anything about it and the atmosphere is a bit awkward for a few second.

'Still coming with me?' Raymond ask. Sofia close her eyes for second before nodding.

Raymond smiles a bit and then he brought out a compass.

Clearly, the compass he is holding is not a normal compass. There are all kinds of symbol and the pointer of the compass seems to move erratically.

'Wait' he said and a few second later, the pointer of the compass stopped. Raymond smile

'Now, we go' He said this and then launched himself into the air, a sonic boom erupted as he flies through the clouds. Sofia did not follow immediately.

Instead, she brought out her brow and then pointed toward the sky.

She pulls the bow string and the energy around her all sucked into the bowstring.

Smiling, she releases the bow string and Sofia turns into an arrow shaped energy flying past through the clouds, following Raymond from behind like some kind of a homing missile.

There are now two more people that is going to the Turbulent Sea.

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### **Chapter 1379: The Monkey and The Emperor I**

While this was happening on Earth, on a fairy-like expanse of clouds and mountains and immortal air, there is a titanic Palace

All of it seems to indicate a palace of heavenly beauty

The towers are tall, the castles around the palace is titanic and seems to be able to fit worlds inside it.

Golden light and purple winds sometimes could be seen shimmering and flowing. There is a holy air in every building inside this Palace

Along the courtyard, there are powerful being that walked around in every corner.

There is a tall wall which is guarded by beings that possess power that is equivalent to Seed Forming and Disk Formation.

But the difference from Earth is that there are tens of thousands of them. They are also many peaks which is surrounded by clouds and forbidding energy

This is the Palace of the Jade Emperor, the top ruling factions in the Three Thousand Worlds

And this is the Heavenly Palace of the Jade Empire

The Jade Emperor hears the advice of his officials in the morning and he rested today before the evening session in his private room

And right now, inside his private room, there is a monkey.

This monkey wears clothes and on his hand, he is holding a small stick the size of a tooth pick.

But even so, there is power radiating from that stick. A very dangerous stick that seems to be able to crack the entire Heavenly Palace

The monkey is standing just a few feet away from his table, a tense atmosphere inside the room.

The Jade Emperor look at that monkey with his eyes narrowed

'Why are you here?' he asks. The tone is not exactly friendly.

The Monkey look around the room and he smiles

'It seems you are preparing'

The Jade Emperor could understand what the Monkey is talking about and nodded.

'Yes. It would not be long now.'

The Monkey smiles and he chuckles

This monkey has many names. In some culture he is known as Sun Wukong. In some others, he is known by other names.

Some called him the Demon Monkey. Some called him an Enlightened Monkey and some called him a Victorious Fighting Enlightened

Like a dream that is stamped into the consciousness of people, as long as there are stories about the Jade Emperor, there would be stories about him.

He has many other names in many other cultures and in many other planets. It is the same for the Jade Emperor.

Sometimes, they even take the name that other people gave him. Names are very powerful. Hence, it is better to have many so it would confuse the enemies.

Odin has as many names as the stars. It is the same for Zeus and for the other seven great intergalactic power.

Then the Monkey come closer to the table that separates them both

'I will not appear this time' he suddenly said and the Jade Emperor hearing this could not help but widen his eyes

At first he was shocked but then his face turns serious.

'Without you, the Havoc in Heaven could not proceed'

The Monkey sneered and said

'Find another way'

The Monkey is about to strode out from the room but the Jade Emperor slam his hand on his table

Like a thunder breaking the sky, a powerful pressure erupted from the room. But this power did not go out from this room and did not alert anyone outside the room

As for the room itself, a great change is occurring. The space and time is separated, void of chaos seems to birth itself out of nothingness, cause and effect reversed

The Monkey was not shocked as he simply looks at the changes of space and time with apparent disinterest.

It was like they were transported into another dimension and place.

Suddenly the Monkey and the Jade Emperor is on a vast grassy plain. There is only green grass as far as the eyes could see.

There is hills but the hills are small and there are more flat plains than there is hill.

One could not see mountain but only see a vast expanse laid out in front of them.

A sea of grass.

The Monkey was not flustered nor was he surprised. There is nothing in front of him. But he could feel that there is someone behind him

He is calm and then turns his body and he look at the Jade Emperor

'Release the seal and let me out. I don't want to break it and waste my energy' If anyone was to be brought to this place, they would surely not see anything other than this magnificent sight

But the Monkey have a very special eye.

And he could see through falsehood. So, he could see that there is seals all over the sky of this place. Everything here is fake to a degree.

The Jade Emperor did not reply to this question instead he said

'You'll die.' The monkey was not angry because he understood what the Jade Emperor is referring to

Then he added

'The Havoc of Heaven is not only a chance for survival for the Three Thousand Wolds but also a chance of survival to you and to me and to others'

The Monkey was not swayed and instead he said

'You have other plans don't you? Other methods? Does it have to be me?'

Jade Emperor nodded

'There are other plans. And there are other methods. But then, you'll die'

The Monkey shakes his head and said

'Then, I'll die' there is now silence between these two.

The Jade Emperor is trying to understand why the Monkey suddenly change.

It is not the first time that the Monkey had staged the Havoc of Heaven.

Like it is not the first time for Asgard to commence the Ragnarok and not the first time that the Olympians fought with the giants and the Titans

'What changed?' the Jade Emperor ask

The Monkey smiles and then said

'I think I am going to make a bet'

'A bet?' the Jade Emperor was puzzled.

he did not understand so he contemplated for a moment, closing his eyes, trying to see if his mind could point him to a place where he could understand what the Monkey is talking about

And it did not take him long as he opens back his eyes, look at the monkey with a complicated expression and then said

'You're betting on that mortal?'

The Monkey smiles and said

'there is now Karma between him and me. He had sown the seed and someday he has to reap it'

There is another silence.

The Monkey also look at the Jade Emperor. It seems he is also thinking of something when he looks at the Jade Emperor

Then the Jade Emperor ask

'Are you certain?'

'No'

Another silence ensued between them

'Then why?'

'Because I think it is worth it' the Monkey said. He pauses for a second

There is silence between them and the Jade Emperor could hear the defiant tone in the monkey voice. It is the tone that he had not heard for a very long time

The Enlightened One had tempered him, tamed him and smoothened the edges. The Monkey was calculated even before he was born.

After being tempered like that, all of that viciousness, all of that defiant nature was purge out of him. Five hundred years under the palm had broken him.

But now, he once again hears that defiant tone and for some reason the Jade Emperor smiles. He did not hate it

He could understand what the Monkey is trying to convey to him. He is uncertain and he could lose. But it didn't matter. Because to him it is worth it, even if he loses.

Then the Monkey added, sighing while looking at the grassy plains

'And because I see hope in him. Fate and Destiny is being thrown around right now. I am curious to know whether the mortal could truly break the game'

He chuckles bitterly and said

'In a way...maybe it is because the mortal reminds me of myself. Toyed by fate and destiny, a pawn, a chess piece in many of these powerful being's chess boards.'

'I failed to break the chessboard of my life. Maybe, I am hoping he could do what I could not do'

There was another silence between them. The Monkey look at the Jade Emperor and his eyes is full of life.

There seems to be a vitality to him that is rising, a long lost fighting spirit that is being awakened.

The Jade Emperor if not for the fact he is very rational would probably be swept away by the emotions that the Monkey is feeling and would offer to help him.

The Jade Emperor sighed

It seems he also have many thoughts about this.

Then the Monkey said.

'You might not be optimistic about him. But don't lie and tell me you did not have any hope? After all, you gave him the Immortal character' And the Monkey smiles

The Jade Emperor did not say anything but his silence is his confirmation. When Azief was in the tribulation as the Purifying Fire fell down on him, he did insert something in it.

It is for that reason that Azief could form a Celestial Aura and then go on to supplement his Disk and even his Energy with Celestial powers.

'This and that is different'

He then added

'That was insurance. An investment. You remember what he did to the Heavenly Palace in the other timeline when I was in my slumber. He brought his ghost army, his wraiths, summoning monsters from all kinds of universes to fight against my dominion. The heavenly Palace had to be sealed tightly because of him and many immortals falls down'

'Someone gave me the idea that instead of trying to stop what should happen, I should take advantage of it. That's it'

Jade Empire said, his face is almost flushed but the Monkey smiles

'You seem to be explaining thing. Who do you want to explain to? To me? Or to yourself?'

The Monkey only smiles.

### **Chapter 1380: The Monkey and The Emperor II**

'You seem to be explaining thing. Who do you want to explain to? To me? Or to yourself?'

The Monkey only smiles.

Then he waves the small stick on his hand in the air. The stick suddenly enlarged itself to the size of a normal staff.

'I will be going out now. Don't call me and don't put me in your plans. I have to train for a while. After all, the Destroyer is not some kind of a small fry in the Omniverse' the Monkey flash a smile showing his fang.

Then he throws his stick to the sky.

In less than a second that stick reach the clouds and then the entire skies seem to crack.

A cracking sound could be heard echoing all around, creating a powerful shockwave that causes the entire plains to be in a state of destruction.

BOOOM!

With a sound of explosion, the Monkey and the Jade Emperor is once again in the private room.

'This is why I told you to remove the seal' the Monkey said

The Jade Emperor could only sigh.

Then the monkey simply opens the front door of the room and then fly toward the skies, the clouds and the wind shrouded his figure so that no immortals of the Heavenly Court even notices him

However, in a mountain peak surrounded by clouds and golden air, a being with wings on his back opened his eyes. Then another eyes opened in the middle of his forehead.

It is Erlang, one of the top figure in the Heavenly Palace

Erlang had noticed the Demon Monkey but he did not do anything.

'It seems that the Jade Emperor probably is talking something with the Monkey' Erlang did not know what had happened.

But he knows that the Monkey is not someone he could easily detain. And he is still busy with trying to capture the Annihilator.

A few days ago they managed to find the Annihilator. They fought him in a deserted planet, destroys a few star system in the process and managed to banish that monster into some dead universe.

But, knowing the Annihilator traits, he would surely break out from that dead universe and found living universes.

Maybe, there is now a change to the Annihilator.

And the Seven Intergalactic Power is moving weirdly now so Erlang could not rely on them to send experts to constrain the Annihilator.

He sighed

Odin seems to have disappeared.

That is what he heard from his people in Asgard.

And Hades and Poseidon seems to be close.

Some of his spies raise the possibility that those two is thinking of rebelling against Zeus.

He then closes his third eye and pretend that he did not see anything.

He then looks at another direction. His eyes seem to pierce through the clouds, looking at one of the shining stars above the skies.

'Evening Star also sees that monkey. Though, I doubt he dares trying to stop that Monkey'



Evening Star might have mysterious power and hold great power in the court and had some kind of Karma with that Demon Monkey, but Erlang is quite sure if Evening Star try to stop that monkey, that stick on the Monkey hand is not a decoration.

Erlang sighed and then continue nursing his injuries, not caring much that the Monkey met the Emperor.

It might be the Western Paradise business. Meddling too much is not good. At the same time, Erlang notices this, there are others that also notices this

There is six being with coercive power whose gaze also look at the Monkey.

They might not be able to pierce through the anti-surveillance methods of the Heavenly Palace, but when the Monkey came to the Palace and when he leaves, all of this is seen by these six beings.

Auspicious signs and clouds filled with merits surrounded these six people.

They seem to be in many places all at once yet they also seem to be sitting close to each other.

Sitting on stars and planets, they seem to have no worries.

But when they saw the Monkey and then sense a conflict between the Emperor and the Monkey, they all could tell that something is happening.

They all calculated in their minds and their eyebrows furrowed like they were stumped by some difficult question.

'Fate and Destiny is changing' one of them said

'Since the time is near and that Time God did that, it is not that surprising' one of them said, sitting under a giant lotus

'No, this is different' someone said, a painting floats behind his back.

'The Monkey has grown stronger; he is tempering his body with Chaotic energy' another spoke.

Then they sighed.

Their words might sound simple but there is hidden meaning to it that only they understand.

They wanted to take action but from the words that some of them said, these six beings did not do anything and just watch as the Monkey went out from the range of the Three Thousand Worlds.

These six beings could get up and chase the monkey but they could somehow see that would be counterproductive.

These six beings are none other than the Six Saints. Probably the Monkey could also tell that he is being watched. But he doesn't seem to care

The one sitting above a golden lotus then said

'He is defiant again. This time, a palm would not be able to extinguish this fire' The other five nodded but then they went silence

Their eyes closed as they seem to all went to sleep.

Inside the Emperor private room, Jade Emperor could only sigh.

Even though he could not feel the coercion or sense the gazing eyes of the Saints upon him, he could tell that those Saints would probably be very interested in what the Monkey is doing.

But, it was not like during the era of Great Competition in the past.

The Monkey is not a simple monkey anymore and if anyone wanted to try to put him in their chessboard they need to first weigh whether they could handle the Monkey now

'These Six Saints.... I don't know to hate you or pity you' Jade Emperor thought to himself.

He sat back down on his chair and lean back and close his eyes. It was almost like he was overwhelmed by the many matters he had to attend to

'Since this could not work, then I have to change the plan' he said unresigned. But even if he is unresigned what could he do right now

And he is also thinking of what the Monkey told him.

However, the Monkey is a lone force. There is disadvantages to being a lone force but there is also advantages.

The Monkey did not like to lean on the Western Paradise and he even hated leaning on the Heavenly Palace.

These two forces calculated him so badly in the past, how could he ever ask these two forces for help.

But, because he is a lone force, he could easily act according to his belief, following his own path and being brave and foolish.

He could bear the consequences, not afraid of the Heaven and not mindful of the world. But he, the Jade Emperor could not choose to be foolish.

Because this Empire had many people in it. Mortals govern a few million people and those who are righteous among them always fear that they would rule unwisely and implicate the people into desolation and great disaster.

But he the Jade Emperor, controls Three Thousand Worlds, immortal, mortals and everything in between.

And unlike mortal kings and corrupt politician of the mortal world, he has a very impartial supervisor, the Heavenly Will.

The Jade Emperor could not force the Monkey to follow his plan. Maybe, in the past he could force that Monkey. But this is no longer the past. And the Monkey is the Victorious Fighting Enlightened.

The Western Paradise would also back him up even though they themselves does not like that Monkey that much

After all, they owe Karma to that Monkey.

Not to mention, that from the powerful fluctuation of energy that the monkey had emanated when he broke the seal of illusion, it seems that he had a hint of a power that surpasses the Saints.

'The demon in the heart has been destroyed, Karma has been paid, so the heart become carefree and a breakthrough is imminent'

This is what he surmises.

The Monkey had solved some problems of his past and is now ready to breakthrough.

Of course, Jade Emperor knows how the Monkey managed to achieve this. This is why the Monkey owes Karma to that mortal.

The mortal opens the palm and the final respect is paid.

(refers to Azief adventure in the martial art world where he takes a disciple.)

Would the Western Paradise let the monkey be?

But if he succeeds, they could only let him be, the Jade Emperor thought to himself

He waves his hand and a golden book suddenly appears in front of him. The book opens up, the pages moves automatically and then stopped at a certain page.

He first looks at the pages. The pages are empty. Of course, it only looks that way as this book has certain methods to read it

If not, it would be so easy to infiltrate the Jade Empire security method

Jade Emperor raise his finger and a golden brush appears on his hand, taking it between his finger. Then he crosses one part of the book

At the same time, it was like something had changed. Space and time, cause and effect, certain fate and destiny lines is changed.

'Havoc of Heaven is cancelled.' Then he seems to look at the book and the pages flipped automatically again and then he nodded

'Since Havoc of Heaven could not be staged, then I guess we have to stage back the Investiture of the Gods'

Then the book closed by itself and dissipated into motes of golden light

Jade Emperor leaned his body back to his chair and close his eyes. On the edge of the corner of his mouth, there is a smile forming