

## Supremacy 1931

Chapter 1931 The Trial of Ascension.

Supreme Azzorus kept his silence, gazing at Felix with the same gentle peculiar smile. It was like he was frozen, awaiting for Felix's answer.

Albeit Felix was taken back by the question, Supreme Azzorus' behavior couldn't help but alert him.

"My lord, are you really here?" He asked after gathering his courage. He had a feeling that he might be dealing with a spiritual recording of Supreme Azzorus.

As he expected, Supreme Azzorus didn't answer and simply kept looking at him silently.

"Is he a spiritual recording or a preset spiritual puppet with certain commands. Maybe it's the seven celestial hearts using Supreme Azzorus' image to communicate?" Felix murmured as he waved his hand in front of Supreme Azzorus, getting a bit more daring.

Seeing that no reaction was made, Felix decided to take his sweet time to think about Supreme Azzorus' question.

He had a feeling that the other chosen ones might also have been given the same question. If this was right, then, it implied that this question might be the decider whether or not they would ascend to godhood.

His prediction turned out to be correct as Emilia, Rhyzel, and the others were all thrown into the space and were given the same question.

For the first time they were summoned and participated in this whole ludicrous experiment, they were given a chance to sit down and carefully think about their reason for desiring to become the new Supreme.

While the majority had decided to carefully think about their question, Emilia and Rhyzel didn't hesitate to give out their responses.

"Sounds like fun?" Emilia answered cutely, but the wicked desire for pure entertainment in her eyes couldn't be hidden.

Behind the pretty mask hid a very bored woman, who had no problem going to the extreme for the sake of being entertained.

It might be like a nonsense answer, but in her own world, she believed that the moment she ascended, she would be introduced to the ultimate platform for entertainment...Multiversal Supremacy Games, where the fate of entire universes lied.

"How interesting." Supreme Azzorus answered with a faint smile, "I am certain you will scratch that itch if you ascended."

"Just tell me what I have to do." Emilia smirked confidently.

Meanwhile, Rhyzel had a straightforward answer.

"Power, Authority, Control." He uttered with a stern tone.

For a mercenary whose entire life was spent in war-torn environments, those three words summed up his ultimate goal.

His answer also didn't elicit any negative reaction from Supreme Azzorus as he said almost the same thing he told Emilia.

As time went by, the rest of the chosen ones provided their final answers. Some were creative, some were standard like the desire to rule everyone or become a hero to save the universe.

Whatever they said, it didn't seem like Supreme Azzorus had any intentions of kicking them off...This gave them the illusion that their chances for ascension were higher than their peers.

In the end, only Felix remained, still seeking an answer.

He seemed to be in a dilemma as his gaze was unfocused while he kept repeating in his mind, 'Why do I want to ascend?'

This question haunted him and no matter how hard he thought about it, he simply couldn't find singular answer.

He already considered the obvious reasons, the things that seemed noble, worthy of an aspiration such as protecting his wife, son, friends, and loved ones.

This was the first reason that popped in his mind since he knew that without a replacement, the universe would perish.

But, he also knew that might not happen in his lifetime or his son's lifetime.

With matters dealing with universe, by the time its destruction reached them, the Maxwell bloodline might have been perished.

He also considered doing it to carry the Maxwell Legacy, as he knew that his grandfather's dying wish was to make their family name household. After all, he had single handedly turned their family business into an empire and if it wasn't for his old age, forcing him to retire, he would have done much more.

That's why when he died, Felix realized that his childish antics had brought shame to him and his parents while he was alive. He refused to defile their names anymore after his death, making him focus all of his energy into bringing honor to the Maxwells universal-wide.

The burden of legacy was real, but even as he thought of it, Felix couldn't help but feel a certain distance. It was not enough.

'Universe's consciousness...I will possess the powers to do whatever I want.' Felix thought deeply, 'I can revive my loved ones, bestow immortality to them, and even empower them. I can do whatever that comes into my mind, possessing true freedom.'

'True freedom, huh...'

Soon, Felix smiled wryly after realizing that even Supreme Azzorus had no freedom over his survival and had to fight to climb the Blessed Staircase to secure it.

In other words, he might be free in his universe, but in the multiverse? He was nothing but a player in merciless platform, which he knew absolutely nothing about and had no battle experience to establish himself in it.

As Felix opened his eyes, he came to the realization that the truth was far simpler than any of those lofty ideals.

He didn't have a true answer that could push him to embark on this new journey. He didn't know why he wanted to ascend, why he sought that power...If it was for his family, for himself, or for some undefined purpose that eluded him.

But then, it came to him...Maybe that was okay.

A faint smile touched his lips, recognizing that sometimes the response was hidden on the path.

Thus, Felix uttered his answer with a humble look, not caring if his response might fail him.

"I don't know."

The moment those words left his lips, Felix felt a strange sense of peace.

When Supreme Azzorus heard his answer, he couldn't help but smile kindly, "Sometimes, ignorance is enough. Not everyone is born with all the answers, and I for one, don't know everything."

His comforting voice brought a relieved smile to Felix's face, understanding that if even the universe consciousness admitted to not knowing all the answers, why would he beat himself for it?

"Don't worry, my child. You will be given plenty of chances to find your answers."

Supreme Azzorus disclosed as he manifested a milky white sphere from the lake underneath Felix's feet.

"What do you mean?" Felix raised an eyebrow in surprise as he watched the sphere settle down nicely on his palms before morphing into a bracelet.

"I am referring to your trial." Supreme Azzorus smiled, "The Trial of Ascension."

Felix's expression turned solemn after realizing that a trial had been indeed prepared to choose the next in line.

A test by the universe consciousness? He could only imagine how difficult it was going to be.

Alas, no matter how much his imagination went wild, neither he nor the rest of the chosen ones would have predicted the content of the trial.

With the same kind smile, Supreme Azzorus shared with all of them, "The trial is simple. You will be resurrected in a simulated reality with a 1 to 1 measure with no memories of this life or your mission."

"Your mission will be to integrate with the seven celestial hearts."

He paused, letting the words sink into Felix's mind and the others, whose eyes were already widened to the limit in a daze.

"But fret not, you will have a chance to alter the creation of the cosmos at the very beginning." Supreme Azzorus smiled, "Just note that the moment your modifications are set, you can not rewrite them until the universe is reset."

"Reset..." Felix murmured with a hint of dread creeping up his spine.

"Indeed, reset." Supreme Azzorus moved closer to Felix and uttered without a change of expression, "The moment your soul perish, the cosmos will collapse and everyone in it will be erased."

"You will return to your original universe, but with your entire memories of your past life. So, you can try again and again, but just know..." His smile suddenly turned merciless, "The demolition of those realities and the death of everyone on them will fall on your shoulders."

"For how long can you handle it?"

Chapter 1932 What's Life?

"This..." Felix was left startled.

Just earlier, he was seeking a reason that would help him come to terms with such a drastic change in his destiny...Now, he was given a reason to not do it!

Felix took a deep breath to calm himself down and asked for some details.

"What do you mean exactly by simulated reality? Is it something like the UVR, an illusion with realistic properties?" In his view, if it resembled the UVR, it might not be so bad since he could perceive everything and everyone as mere numbers.

"Illusion is one thing and simulated reality is another...At least for you."

With a faint smile, Supreme Azzorus crafted a miniature universe and enlarged it until Felix's face was a mere inch from Earth, his home planet.

Then, he zoomed through the atmosphere till Felix saw himself sitting on a bench in Central Park with his wife. They were chatting and chuckling as they watched their son playing tag with other kids.

Felix felt his heart gripped tightly in dread as he remembered this exact scene. It was a memory of last year when he took his wife and son out for some fresh air in his day out in months.

He remembered it vividly because it was one of the few memories he cherished close to his heart.

"Don't tell me..."

"Yes, what you are seeing is an alternative version of you in the miniature real universe that I have just created in this exact second." Supreme Azzorus spoke casually, "Everything and everyone in this universe are living their lives just like how you are living it now. They have souls, they have thoughts, and the universe is also following my established rules and laws."

Before Felix could react or respond, Supreme Azzorus snapped his finger and the entire universe collapsed into a pool of white mist that fell through Felix's fingers and returned to the lake underneath.

As Felix gazed at his trembling hands, feeling like his accelerating heartbeats were starting an engine, many thoughts coursed through his mind at this cruel situation.

He had just witnessed the creation and erasure of an exact copy of their universe like it meant nothing to Supreme Azzorus.

Although he wasn't the one pulling the trigger, he still experienced sick to his stomach.

Supreme Azzorus watched as Felix held onto his stomach, trying his best to steel his emotions and not make a scene.

His reaction was more than comprehensible as Supreme Azzorus made him feel like his reality was extremely fragile.

If he could create and erase an actual universe without the knowledge of its dwellers, then, why couldn't it happen to his universe?

Previously, Felix lived his life like any other human, finding purpose in his ambitions, protecting his family, and simply striving to achieve his goals for happiness and pride.

But now? As he watched how his alternative version died an early death without a single thought going through his mind, his entire frame of what life was had changed.

In a single second, Felix's view of life was altered forever, leaving him doubting his own existence and its value in the eyes of Supreme Azzorus.

'Value...What value.'

Felix soon laughed in self-derision at the idea that anyone's life had value in the universe.

He was shown before that Supreme Azzorus was kind and seemed to care about the life of the habitat in his body, but now, he understood that they were naive.

The universe's consciousness didn't believe in kindness or evil when dealing with any kind of lifeform that wasn't in the same rank as him.

In other words, his guiding moral compass was on a different plane of understanding that he would never comprehend unless he wore his shoes.

Seeing that Felix was engulfed in his thoughts, Supreme Azzorus pulled him out with a straightforward question.

"What's life?"

Felix woke up from his daze with a surprised look.

"Life?" He asked, "What do you mean?"

Felix knew that this question was still being queried by every single lifeform in the universe and each race had its own philosophy for treating it.

Dragons believed that life was an endless pursuit of dominion over one's surroundings, which in turn translated to pride and respect.

Elves believed in living harmoniously with nature, nurturing beauty, and seeking enlightenment.

For humans? It was the pursuit of purpose, ambition, and self-realization that gave it meaning.

Even Orcs believed that life was a buffet of food and only the strong had the right to sit at the table and enjoy the feast.

So, how could such a question have a singular answer?

This was Felix's answer to Supreme Azzorus.

But, Supreme Azzorus merely smiled and said, "I understand that each person experiences life based on many reasons. But for me, your life is nothing but a string of information."

"String of information?" Felix frowned.



"Yes, in my eyes, everything can be narrowed down to a string of information."

For some reason, Supreme Azzorus patiently demonstrated his philosophy to Felix using his celestial consciousness pool.

He crafted a clone of Felix and then he broke it down into many different colored lines of information written in a language that was unfamiliar to Felix.

"Your memories, your thoughts, your body structure, your ideals, your personality, your past, present, future, everything is produced by those instructions." He said with a faint smile, "Once those instructions combine, a film of your entire life from birth to death is created."

"This process is similar to rocks, planets, stars, black holes, everything that your mind can think of."

"This is how Supremes perceive life." Supreme Azzorus leaned closer and added, "Thus, we have no trouble with creating millions of miniature universes and erasing them as everything is mere information to us."

Felix proceeded silent, having no idea how to react to such a callous way of looking at life. In his eyes, life was supposed to be pure, free, and unique. Yet, here he was being told that he was nothing but a bunch of letters stuck together.

For Supremes, it made sense to feel this way since they were the creators, who used their brush to write everything...But from the perspective of a mortal, it was the same as being called a toy.

Felix refused to have his mind polluted with such thoughts, understanding that Supreme Azzorus was helping him to see less value in life.

By doing this, he would have an easier time in the Trial of Ascension in case he failed the first time.

"I understand that you are the all-knowing creator and arguing with you is beyond foolish." Felix smiled bitterly, "But, I know that I won't be able to handle the truth of me being the cause of the destruction of an entire universe even if I tried to see them as a bunch of letters."

"Why would you struggle?" Supreme Azzorus smiled, "Weren't you fine just now by their death if they were made with a bunch of numbers?"

"Yes...But, that's different." Felix replied.

"How so?"

"Lives of people crafted out of numbers in a virtual space or an illusion can't be equal to the lives of the ones born under the laws of the uni..."

Before Felix could finish his sentence, he experienced a chill course down his spine as he gazed at Supreme Azzorus' widening smile.

"Haha...ha, I see now."

He realized that the moment he defended his view of virtual people being unequal to real people, he was supporting Supreme Azzorus' view of life.

While he saw virtual and illusionary existence as something that could be erased without too much emotional connection, the Supremes saw them in the same manner.

In other words, life to them was nothing but a program, which they could create and erase with the button of a finger.

"My advice to you, little child." Supreme Azzorus smiled as he patted Felix's head, "If you are serious about becoming a Supreme, you need to start thinking like one before becoming one."

"Otherwise, you won't make it past the first universe."

Chapter 1933 Red Pill or Blue Pill.

Not waiting for Felix's response, Supreme Azzorus broke into white mist and fell back into consciousness lake, leaving Felix to ponder his words.

'Life is nothing but a string of information...If this is how the Supremes saw us, then, we mean nothing to them.'

Felix lowered his head and gazed at the white bracelet on his hand.

'Why does it make me mad?'

'Why does it make me feel like I am worth nothing? I am a person, I have a life, I have a soul, I have a mind, how can I be just some lines of codes?'

'It's not fair...None of this is fair.'

Felix tightened his grip as he could feel his blood turning hot in frustration and denial. He refused to accept his identity in the eyes of those godly figures. He knew that the moment he accepted it, his life would lose all meaning. There would be literally no point in doing anything when the truth was burrowing a hole inside his mind.

This left him with only two solutions to his dilemma.

First, dropping out of the ascension trial and requesting Empress Emily to erase his memories, allowing him to return to his previous stressful but happy life.

'If I turned my back, I can continue my family's legacy, enjoy my time with my lovely wife and son, maybe even add a few rascals to the family.' Felix smiled as he envisioned his life, 'I can grow old with them, teach them everything, and pass my legacy, knowing that I can let go with a content smile.'

Soon, that smile turned into a frown.

'But isn't that the same as living in a beautiful matrix? A lie where happiness is guaranteed? How can I come to terms with and accept such a life after everything I learned? How can I just turn my back on an opportunity to join the land of gods and just be content with living a mortal life?'

Without Felix realizing it, he found himself placed in the infamous blue/red pill choice.

The blue pill represented remaining in the contented experience of ordinary reality even if it was a mere lie while the red pill was accepting the unsettling life-changing truth regardless of its unfavorable attributes.

Felix was genuinely pondering on the matter as he never looked at himself lowly.

'Is this truly what I was born for? Is this truly the limits of my ambitions?' Felix's pupils kept thinning coldly as he dug deeper into the purpose of his life, 'I made continuing my family's legacy as my purpose, but that was never my dream, to begin with.'

'I might not know my purpose in life or dream and I might be in constant search for them, but if I am certain about one thing, I never do anything that doesn't speak to my heart.'

As Felix watched the collapse of the consciousness space around him, he slowly closed his eyes and thought one last time.

'At this moment, I refuse to accept living in a lie and I refuse to accept my identity to be just a string of pre-known information...I am Felix Maxwell and I am more than that.'

The moment his eyes were about to fade away with the collapsed space, Felix snapped them open, showing the creation of a tiny burning flame.

'I am going to show them.'

As the last thought resounded loudly in the void, two flickers in the shape of eyes emerged high above. Then, they thinned out into a merged smile before disappearing too...

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Back to the metallic hall, the light dome dimmed out and took with it the divine pillars, showing everyone the condition of the chosen ones.

When they noticed that nothing happened to them, they didn't know if they should feel glad or mad.

Everyone was praying for their downfall for the sake of chance at being chosen even though they understood that the universe's survivability lay in their hands.

When Empress Emily saw their reaction, she couldn't help but murmur, "Humans' selfishness never ceases to amaze me."

She even got into an argument with her peers if it was the right decision to give humans the chance for ascension.

Unfortunately, it was Supreme Azzorus' own words that a human was a must for the replacement, leaving them no other choice.

That's why none of them showed themselves and deserted the entire procedure under her care. In their eyes, they would be screwed either way...At least, if they succeeded, they would continue surviving.

"After all, I don't think I can do this." Suddenly, a known scholar removed the white bracelet from his hand and threw it away with a disturbed expression like he was holding onto a curse.

Before anyone could react, he looked straight at Empress Emily and requested with a peaceful voice, "I wish to forget about this whole situation."

"Jonathan! What the hell are you doing?!"

"I volunteer as a replacement!"

"His position is mine! F\*ck off!"

"I will do anything! Give it to me!"

The stands immediately erupted noisily at the sudden twist...They didn't even wonder what drove Jonathan to make such a decision as their eyes were blinded by greed and desire.

Meanwhile, his peer circle, who knew Jonathan on a deeper level, realized that he was one of the few true seekers of the truth in their generation.

Thus, it shocked them core to see him give up so easily and wish for his memories to be erased...A true scholar would never do such a thing.

"I would rather live in an illusion than participate in that devilish trial." Jonathan gazed at Felix and the others with a bitter smile and asked, "You are going to ruin your lives forever. Is it really worth it?"

In Jonathan's eyes, the requirement was simply too damaging to one's soul and mind. He knew that if he failed to integrate with the seven celestial hearts in the first universe and came back with those memories, he wouldn't be in the right state of mind to go again.

After all, he would have lived an entire life, a life longer than the one he was living right now. If those memories were to merge, his life would never be the same.

This wouldn't be mentioning the fact everyone would be erased in the other universe, providing him a not-so-needed dose of guilt that would last eternity.

As a scholar, his mind was everything and he refused to put it in such a horrible position.

"You are free to go."

Empress Emily said expressionlessly, not providing the others time to respond to him. Then, she kicked him out of the hall after erasing his memories, just like what he wanted.

As for why she did this? She already looked into their memories and noticed everything that happened to each one of them through Queen Ai.

Thus, she realized what needed to happen in the trial and knew that not everyone had the stomach to carry it out. Just as she wanted to pick up the white bracelet, it suddenly broke into white mist.

"It seems like there will be no new additions to the chosen participants in the trial." Empress Emily stared at everyone in the stands and announced, "Thank you for your time."

"Wait no..."

"Pleasease..."

"I wanna stay..."

Agitated, everyone clamored at once the moment they realized that Empress Emily was about to expel them.

Unfortunately, she showed them no mercy as she erased their memories and sent each one of them back home.

As Felix noticed how everyone was treated like they meant absolutely nothing, the fire in his eyes burned a little brighter...

'My goal is to stay on the side of the truth, regardless of what it takes...Regardless.'

Chapter 1934 The Celestial Bracelet.

After the filtering process was concluded, Empress Emily descended next to the remaining participants.

"Each one of you will embark on your own unique journey to conclude the mission and ascend to the Supreme position." Empress Emily shared, "While no time or limit was given to the number of attempts you have, I can tell you right now that we have a mere millennium before our next game." "That's it?" Rhyzel frowned, "I expected a long duration before each game."

The others nodded in support, understanding that a millennium was nothing to Supremes. If they were going to be forced to play games after each millennium, it would be too annoying and time-consuming.

"There is no point in going into details about the Supremacy Games' system." Empress Emily said calmly, "All you have to understand is that we aren't too far from being thrown off to the Blighted Grounds. So, while I suggest you take your time, be mindful of your future duties in case one of you succeeds."

Felix and the others acknowledged in understanding.

"Everything you need will be found in that bracelet...Good luck, the fate of the universe depends on you."

With that final ominous and hopeful statement, Felix and the rest found themselves opening their eyes in their VR Pods.

Whoosh!

The glass door opened on its own, releasing a warm fog around the edges. Felix sat down and gazed at the white bracelet affixed to his right arm with a solemn look.

He wasn't surprised by being inside the pod as he reached out to his wife during the summoning and told her to move his body after realizing that it would take a long while.

"Honey? You are back?" Suddenly, Asna entered the bedroom with a relieved expression after noticing that her husband wasn't harmed in any fashion.

"I am fine dear." Felix showed a gentle smile as he exited of the pod and threw a towel on himself. Then, he gave her a warm hug followed by a kiss.

"It's been days, what kind of meeting is this?" Asna sighed with an eased look.

"I am afraid I can't share details with you." Felix smiled bitterly.

"I see..."

Asna was somewhat disappointed but not annoyed as she previously expected such an answer. Meetings with Empress Emily almost always end with an NDA clause.

While Felix wasn't given anything to sign, he was smart to understand that he shouldn't blabber about what he witnessed.

After everything he saw, he understood that Empress Emily wouldn't need a contract to get rid of anyone who opened their mouth.

"What's this?" Asna soon observed the white bracelet and tried to touch it with a curious look.



"It's a similar device to the AP bracelet, but it serves another function. I am afraid I can't disclose further...At least, not before I make sure of it."

Felix understood that Empress Emily wasn't truly in control, but the seven celestial hearts. In other words, if he inquired for their permission to bring his wife into this subject and they agreed, Empress Emily couldn't stop him. "Oh, how mysterious." Not wanting to trouble Felix, Asna dropped the matter for now and said, "Dinner is prepared, come join us, Niko has been asking about you every day."

"I will be right there."

Felix kissed her on the forehead quickly and went into the bathroom, planning to shower. After he got settled under the warm shower, Felix's grimace turned stern as he gazed at the white bracelet.

'Supreme Azzorus or his spiritual clone hasn't spoken about this device too much. But, I am guessing it's the link to the seven celestial hearts.' He thought as he caressed the bracelet, 'Do I just will it?'

He had previously pressed everywhere and nothing seemed to change, making him believe that he needed to voice his intentions.

'Not now, let's have a nice dinner first.' Felix lowered his wrist as he murmured, "I should cherish this peace while I am still allowed..."

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Three days later...

Felix was sitting in the living room inside his private mansion within the UVR. He had spent the past three days with his wife and son, cherishing every moment.

As for work? He came straight with the elders and told them that he had stumbled upon an opportunity that could change their family's future forever.

He didn't specify or give them any details, but he told them that he was going to resign from his position and focus wholeheartedly on it.

The elders weren't too pleased at first, but when they realized that nothing could change Felix's mind, all they could do was accept his decision. In their eyes, as long as his actions were benefiting the family, then so be it.

Not wasting any more time as he knew that his other contestants must have previously started the trial, Felix closed his eyes and uttered, "Celestial Bracelet, I wish to be connected to the seven celestial hearts."

The moment his intentions were sensed by the bracelet, it turned as bright as the sun before the light died out in a flash.

When Felix restored his vision, he found himself in the same cozy consciousness space. Only this time, there was no Supreme Azzorus.

In his place, the seven hearts were suspended in the sky akin to celestial stars.

"Since we are allowed any kind of modification in our universe, I assume our questions will be answered?" Felix inquired.

"Yes."

A harmonious robotic voice echoed in the consciousness space, causing ripples to emerge on the still lake.

"Good." Felix smiled.

He understood that it would be foolish to give humans the power to create a reality without first giving them a platform to obtain information.

After all, there was just so much Felix had no clue about with matters related to celestial hearts, supremes, universal laws, etc.

If he was going to do this, it needed to be done right.

"First question, is Supreme Azzorus really dead?" Felix narrowed his eyes.

Felix had checked with the few friendly chosen ones about what they discussed with Supreme Azzorus.

All of them said that he spoke in a kinda robotic way, retelling a script. When they compared what was said, most of them found that it was more or less the same.

However, this wasn't the case for Felix!

He found out that his interaction with Supreme Azzorus was unique and alive like he was talking with the real one!

While this tripped him out, he didn't share it with anyone and lied to the others, telling them that he heard the same script.

"No questions about Supreme Azzorus are allowed..."

Unfortunately, the answer wasn't as he hoped.

"I see..."

Understanding that he wasn't going to uncover this mystery without the seven celestial hearts' assistance, Felix dropped it for now...He hardened his expression and returned to the mission at hand.

"I want to know everything about the functionality of the universe and its laws."

"As you wish." The moment Felix heard the ominous tone like the hearts were about to deliver a death sentence, he froze in place.

He realized that he might have made a grave mistake by making such a broad request.

Alas, it was previously too late.

"Wai...Arghhh!!"

In the blink of an eye, Felix found himself holding onto his brain for its dear life as an ocean of information flooded it all at once!!

He screamed in absolute agony while rolling on the consciousness lake, but no one was there to help him...

The worst part? The information wasn't just being forcefully shoved into his mind. The celestial hearts were purposefully, making his brain comprehend and memorize every single piece!

"Arghhhhhhh!!" Blood started seeping out of Felix's nose as he lay on his knees with his head facing the heavens...He was absolutely crippled, not able to move a single inch anymore.

His bloodshot eyes were wide open, showing a reflection of trillions of scenes and inscriptions.

While this much information could kill anyone, the seven celestial hearts made sure to keep Felix alive throughout the entire grueling process...

Chapter 1935 Planning Ahead. I

Sometime later...

Felix could be seen lying on his face while smoke was rising from his head. His eyes were rolled to the back of his head as he drooled all over the consciousness lake.

He seemed like he went through hell back and forth ten times, which wasn't too farfetched of an analogy.

The grueling pain had lasted for minutes until his brain was on the brink of getting fried. If it weren't for the seven celestial hearts keeping him alive, his head would have blown by now.

After a few moments, Felix's eyes fell as he slowly opened them under the nauseating feeling of his brain turning into a mush.

But, after a few groans, the pain went away and he felt a refreshing sense of clarity.

"How am I still alive..."

Felix smiled wryly as he stood up, realizing that he should have been a goner.

"Thank you, I guess." He said, looking at the seven hearts.

Then, he was suddenly hit by some of the information enforced on him, making him raise an eyebrow in intrigue.

Although the information was too heavy and too much for him, he still felt like everything was placed in great order within his mind.

"Interesting, so that's how the universe operated..." He murmured as he sat down while creating a holographic screen, "Celestial energy is the source of all creation whether here or in the Multiversal Plane. Without it, there is no existence."

"Neutral energy, elemental energy comes from it, laws come from it, elements come from it, which means, whoever controls celestial energy, controls the Multiverse."

The more Felix dived into the information bestowed upon him, the bigger his eyes got in interest.

While he wasn't obsessed with the universe's functionality or bothered to give it much thought before, now that he was seeing the beauty of how everything aligned, he couldn't help but be fascinated by it.

He understood that Supreme Azzorus didn't need to go far and make it possible for the universe to give birth to elemental energy.

For example, elemental stones emerged after an environment absorbed enough neutral energy to transform it into a specific elemental type.

Based on the normal universal laws of physics, there was no need for such a source of energy as it was absolutely useless in its functionality.

But, Supreme Azzorus added it for the sake of enriching the universe with colorful life, making it possible for Dragons and such elemental creatures to be born.

"Damn it, it would have been possible for humans to be born with the ability to manipulate all sorts of elements based on their affinity if we were just given a chance." Felix sighed.

He realized now that while Supreme Azzorus gave birth to many races, all of them followed the universe's order.

In other words, if a race was too powerful, its numbers or longevity would be low. For humans, their rapid reproduction rates made it nearly impossible for their race to be born with a cultivation system.

What's worse?

In the original timeline, no primogenitors were born, who were the sole reason, for the birth of beasts with elemental abilities!!

Supreme Azzorus had indeed breathed life into the universe. But, he didn't do it in the same manner as the three rulers.

There were no gifts bestowal to none non-intelligent lifeforms as he created unique intelligent races from the get-go...Such as the dragons, elves, dwarves, orcs, witches, hive, and more over a long time.

Some went extinct, some survived, and some had inbreeds with other races.

While those races might have bred with each other some even decided to do the taboo thing and touch upon non-intelligent animals, with the biological and genetic incompatibilities, elemental beasts couldn't be born.

It was the same as a human attempting to breed with an animal, the result was a failure from the get-go.

Hence, humans had no cultivation system and had to rely on their intelligence, great adaptability, and survival instincts to find a place in this merciless universe.

Fortunately, without primogenitors, there was no major influx of elemental beasts, which meant, there were no invasions from the Andromeda galaxy.

"Celestial hearts, may I know if it will be possible to integrate with the seven celestial hearts as a normal human?" Felix inquired.

Before anything, Felix knew he needed to figure out the conditions required to integrate with the hearts.

As he expected, the answer wasn't to his pleasure.

"No."

"Can I have the long answer and use me as an example?" "Humans possess the potential to become hosts to the seven celestial hearts due to their bodies and souls possessing the capability of great adaptability. However, you have not fulfilled the necessary conditions to achieve it."

"May I ask what are those conditions?" Felix frowned.

"Finding the conditions is part of the trial."

"Damn it..." Felix chuckled.

He knew it was too good to receive such a great hint. Though, while he didn't know the conditions precisely, he recognized one solid fact.

"My current body is useless...I need a cultivation system to grow my strength."

Felix understood that his foundation was absolutely tragic and no matter how many times he was reborn, it would always be the same unless he did something.

"My first goal is to find a way to bestow the humans in the new universe a cultivation system."

Without further ado, He got into thinking as he studied every known and unknown cultivation system in the universe.

He used the seven celestial hearts' help to see if humans could possess the same cultivation system.

Unfortunately, the only possible match was the Pandion Race's cultivation system as it was the most neutral one.

"Will it be possible to modify the origination of humans, allowing them to be born with the Pandion's cores?" He asked with great interest.

"It is possible..." Before Felix could feel delighted, the seven celestial hearts added, "Doing so alters the human race as a whole."

"Alters it in which fashion?" Felix narrowed his eyes.

"Reproduction rate will be reduced, intelligence will be reduced, physical appearance will change..."

The seven celestial hearts continued listing one attribute after another until He failed to see the final product as a 'human'...This discovery sent a shiver down his spine.

"With all of those changes, will I still be born?"

"Highly unlikely." The seven celestial hearts answered, "While the new universes' history remains 99% accurate to the original timeline, such drastic modifications might affect the origination of the participant."

"If the participant fails to be born, the universe will be reset."

"..."

Felix went silent, realizing that this was much harder than he anticipated.



When they were told they had the power of free modification, he had many thoughts and plans in mind...But, all of them were associated with humans being born with a cultivation system.

Knowing humans, he understood that by the time he was born, the cultivation system would have already been developed to the point, that humans would be at the top of the food chain.

That's how much trust he had in his race's evolution.

But now? He felt a great void in his plan.

'If humans can't be born with a cultivation system devoid affecting my birth, then, how am I supposed to do this?' He massaged his temples in distress, "It seems like an impossible mission."

Chapter 1936 A Feasible Theory.

Felix spent the next couple of days on this dilemma, using every piece of information at his disposal to find a way, a solution.

Alas, no matter how hard he thought about it, his brain returned with nothing but dead-end ideas.

Right now, nothing filled his mind besides finding a way around empowering the entire human race without affecting his birth.

When he checked with Emilia and the rest of the chosen participants, he found out that all of them were stuck on the same problem.

As it was unwise to start the trial without sufficient preparation, no one appeared to be willing to proceed without addressing this issue first.

'The key is in the seven celestial hearts powers.' Felix pondered as he ate dinner with his family in silence, 'My race has already gone through every possible route to discover a cultivation system fitting for us. Genetic manipulation seems to be the most promising field, but no groundbreaking results have emerged.'

'Our bodies might have affinities to all elements, but we have no tool to harness such affinities. No matter how hard we have modified our genetics, it won't be enough without adding the tool first.'

Based on the information bestowed upon him, Felix had a broader understanding of how the universe worked...system-wise.

In his eyes, humans could modify their genetics as much as they desired, but the end product would always lack the possibility to harness the elements.

It was the same as water-based races with the genetic ability to manipulate water, suddenly having their genetics modified to start commanding fire elements...It was simply impossible.

'How...There must be a way.' Felix frowned deeply as he kept fiddling with his food absentmindedly.

'Love, I don't know what's going on and I understand it must be very important, but please, don't bring it to the table.' Asna moaned as she sent this message to Felix through Queen Ai.

'Ah, I am sorry dear...I got caught up in my thoughts.' Felix apologized with a faint wry smile.

He could see that he was ruining the atmosphere at the table as it was always lively and delightful...But now, even their son was eating in silence, picking up on his energy.

Thus, Felix immediately engaged with his son and wife, lighting up the mood by asking his son about his day in preschool.

"The teacher gave us legos to play with! I built a big, big, dog!"

Niko's expression kindled up happily as he started sharing about his day, sparing no details.

"A dog? Oh, did you take a picture of it?" Asna chuckled.

"I wanted to, but Batty tripped and crashed it." Niko pouted.

"I know my son wouldn't let that stop him from building a better one." Felix smiled.

"Hehe! Of course! Batty helped me build a new one with her own legos." Niko grinned widely as he showed them a picture of the final product.

When Felix and Asna saw the final product, their eyebrows couldn't help but twitch in amusement.

Their reaction was justified as the new creation resembled a weird centaur with the upper half of a human and the bottom half of a dog.

"Wh...what is this?"

"A Mandog!" Niko explained excitedly, "He can run as fast as a dog, smell as strong as a dog, and, and think like a man!"

"Oh, so like a werewolf...Wait..."

While Felix listened gleefully to his son, it suddenly hit him.

'Humans might not possess the ability to manipulate elemental energy, which is nothing but the universal celestial language coded into the genes, other races do possess it.' Felix dove into his thoughts again, 'Is it possible to merge other races' DNA with ours, obtaining their ability to manipulate elements while at the same time maintaining our humanity? I am certain such attempts must have been made to achieve this by the upper echelons.'

'Queen Ai, can you...'

Just as Felix wanted to check on the Queen Ai database as they were given almost full access to it to support their preparation, he heard his son and wife's laughter.

'Never mind.'

He canceled and joined his family's conversation with a smile, knowing that if he was going to take this path, he must not lose himself in it.

His wife and son had nothing to do with his mission and it wasn't fair to have them suffer from his decisions.

...

After he finished his dinner, Felix returned to his private space and began digging for any data related to genetic manipulation related to other races.

What he found shocked and disgusted him to the core.

'How inhuman...How cruel...I can't believe they went this far..'

Many trials have been attempted using dead and live subjects of many races. Yet, no matter how ruthless the experiments had become, the outcome was still lackluster.

After reading the details of the experiments, Felix discovered out that the core problem was human strength posing a serious limitation.

The calculations were good and there was a strong chance of the genetic merger succeeding, but...Regardless of what method was used, the subjects' bodies always ended up ruined after a grueling agony.

'To obtain strength we need to rely on others' genetics, but to survive the process, we need a stronger vessel.' Felix smiled bitterly, 'What kind of sick joke is this.'

While this path seemed to be a dead end too, Felix hadn't given up on it yet.

He knew that he had something those mad scientists didn't possess, the ability to make miracles.

Soon, Felix continued down this rabbit hole and discovered out more twisted facts that dispatched chills down his spine.

Human-animal hybridization, Parasite Bonding, Forced Evolution Trials, Human-Plant Symbiosis Studies...The list goes on and on.

If there was an idea, humans were there to execute it regardless of the consequences or ethics.

While Felix was sickened, he was more frustrated by the fact that after all of these wicked experiments, nothing really worked reliably...There was always a limitation or a key missing.

"In most experiments, human bodies seemed inadequate to complete the processes." Felix held his chin thoughtfully, "This means success is near if the bodies were stronger or the process itself wasn't too damaging."

"Since empowering human strength is the goal, my best shot is to find a process that's just borderline possible for humans if they had the will to go through it."

After thinking about it thoroughly, Felix came up with a new idea.

"How about I use the seven hearts' powers to create a new race that possesses a cultivation system that is easily passable to humans through genetic modifications?" Felix pondered, "I believe if there was such a race, I am sure humans would run experiments on them and find the path forward before Earth can be discovered."

The only saving grace from Felix's situation was the fact Earth wouldn't be discovered until much later on by the Alexander Kingdom.

In other words, as long as the modifications didn't affect the origin of humans, any change whether positive or negative wouldn't affect Earth until much later on.

"So far this theory seems the most plausible." He said.

Chapter 1937 The First Drop Out.

Felix steeled his heart, deciding to commit to this plan.

Without further ado, he kicked off the gears by requesting the seven celestial hearts to create races with close genetics to humans while also possessing a cultivation system.

The seven celestial hearts held nothing back and manifested many humanoid figures, filling the entire sky.

each figure resembled a human quite greatly but had a slight difference, whether in size, skin color, limbs, or other features.

The seven celestial hearts introduced each race, informing Felix about their best qualities and drawbacks.

All Felix could do was listen with an awed look, feeling like he was watching a deity at work.

"Last but not least, The Elementari are a humanoid race that shares approximately 85-90% of their genetic makeup with humans."

"They have a strong natural connection to the elements, making them able to sense, control, and manipulate their respective element at will."

"They also possess Elemental Aura, allowing them to grow stronger in their respective environments, but weaker in the opposite environments to their elemental affinity."

"Drawbacks, due to their elemental Aura, the Elementari race separate themselves based on their affinities from birth and live in their natural environments exclusively."

"Also, their personalities are heavily affected by their affinities."

'Oh? This sounds more promising than the rest.' Felix raised an eyebrow in intrigue.

The other races might have been good too, but their drawbacks were too much to accept. Some of them had reproduction problems while some could barely live past half a century.

Felix understood that if he wanted to create a whole new race, they needed to survive the cruel hardships of the universe until contact was made with the human race.

Thus, they had to have decent longevity or a reproduction system in case they went through an extinct-level scenario.

God knows that humans went through plenty of apocalypses and emerged on the other side fewer in numbers, but stronger than before.

"The drawbacks of the Elementari race might be negated by humans' nature once a merger occurred."

Felix knew that humans' endless desire to evolve stronger and better would make it near impossible for them to accept sitting in a single place, getting comfortable in it forever.

"Let's say humans discovered the Elementari and found a way to replicate their genetic code to their advantage, allowing them to manipulate elements too, will they make it accessible to everyone?" Felix frowned, "If they did, will it work on me? I remember my affinities are poison and illusion, does this mean they need to find an Elementari with the same affinities to make an extract or for the process to work, both subjects need to be close?"

"By some miracle, I succeeded to modify my genes and became able to control elements, will this be enough to locate and integrate with the seven celestial hearts?"

"Even if I placed the seven hearts near my future version, he won't know what to do with them."

"There are so many holes..."

The moment Felix made a small breakthrough, he realized that possessing strength means absolutely nothing if he had no clue about the mission or the way to integrate with the seven celestial hearts.

"Queen Ai, help me run some calculations."

Understanding that it would be near impossible to forecast everything, Felix could only rely on Queen Ai's powerful calculations to run the possible scenarios.

The seven celestial hearts didn't ban him from receiving help from anyone as long as the main condition was respected...Not knowing about the mission.

...

Days went by and then months...Thousands of calculations were run by Queen Ai, helping Felix narrow down the main plan.

While many holes still remained open, Felix understood that it was impossible to account for every single detail and all he could do was trust the process and commit.

"Emilia, Rhyzel, Lukas, and many others have already entered their first universe." Felix narrowed his eyes, "I don't know what they have planned, but I am sure it's more or less similar to mine. I will wait until they come out to gain some more insights."

Felix was almost certain that no one would succeed in their first time as he understood there were simply too many moving parts to get them perfect right away.

In other words, the first universes would be used to iron out the path.

"One day is equal to a billion years inside...This means the minimum is close to fourteen days before everyone's universes reset."

Felix glanced at his bracelet, knowing that the first batch would come out in the next hours at best.

Felix wasn't the only one expecting as Empress Emily and the rest of the ten rulers were all expecting some hopeful news.

Unfortunately, it couldn't have gone any worse...

Rhyzel, who was believed to have the most promising chance at ascending, came out with his eyes wide open like he just exited hell itself.

Before anyone could react, he let out a husky despairing scream.

"AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAHHH!! NO! NO! NO! GET ME BACK IN! MY WIFE!! MY DAUGHTER!! GET ME BACK IN!! I HAVE TO SAVE THEM!!"

He seemed to have completely lost it as he kept begging for the seven celestial hearts to put him inside the same universe.



From the crazed despairing look on his face, he might have bitten more than he could chew...

Sadly, the seven celestial hearts merely announced emotionlessly, "You have failed the trial."

Then, Rhyzel was kicked out of the consciousness space, and his bracelet was destroyed.

As he gazed at the bracelet turning into dust in his shaking palms, Rhyzel was left utterly stunned with a hint of despair clouding his eyes.

Before he could react, his memories of the entire trial and what happened in the first universe were erased, causing him to lose consciousness in his UVR's room under the cold eyes of Empress Emily.

She was the one erasing his memories as she could see that he was about to completely snap...However, she had already extracted everything he had experienced in the first universe to see what caused such a heavy meltdown.

'The best candidate failed in the first universe? Tsk, I understood those humans are useless and unreliable.'

'Empress Emily, as much as I want this project to succeed, it's easier to just embrace the truth...A replacement will never emerge before our universe gets thrown to the Blighted Grounds.'

'How about the rest? Some of them look quite stable.'

The ten rulers conversed telepathically with Empress Emily, displaying that most of them had zero faith in the chosen candidates...The fact that Rhyzel had lost his mind after a single try proved them right.

Chapter 1938 The Main Frame.

Whether they succeeded or failed, they had nothing to gain from this besides the continuity of their universe.

Most of them would be dead by the time the universe thoroughly disintegrated into nothingness within the Blighted Grounds, which meant this problem was for future generations.

So why would they invest their time and resources in creating a powerful entity with the authority to kill them with a mere snap of a finger?

Fortunately, none had any hopes of this working out, leaving Empress Emily to her own devices.

'Success or failure, it's too soon to make a judgment.' Empress Emily replied calmly as she gazed at Emilia and the rest of the first batch.

Besides Emilia, they seemed quite shaken too.

"That was a fun ride." Emilia laughed in glee while clapping her hands, "I just lived a whole life being the ruler of the Milky Way."

"What's next? Do I make modifications to make myself into an explorer?"

She wondered out loud, seemingly having not an ounce of remorse for the destruction of the entire universe...

'No signs of emotional or physical instability...' Empress Emily thought, 'As expected, she is a psychopath...The perfect candidate.'

Empress Emily had already run different diagnoses on every candidate for the sake of finding the true candidates with the potential of going all the way.

While the rest believed that it was Rhyzel due to his tough uprising, in reality, Emilia scored the highest.

...

A couple of hours later, Felix received Intel from Queen Ai about each candidate's journey in their new universes.

Since this mission was for the sake of saving the universe, all experiences within each universe were shared amongst the candidates.

It was done like this in order for the candidates to learn from each other's mistakes and avoid repeating the same strategies.

When Felix spectated a summary of Rhyzel's other life, he realized why his mind broke down...

"He also created a new race to merge our genes with and succeeded in obtaining a cultivation system." Felix sighed, "But, he made a grave mistake by changing his upbringing."

He saw how Rhyzel had made slight adjustments that resulted in his nation living in peace, which caused his parents to remain alive and for him to have an actual blessed childhood.

But, this caused his entire perspective in life to change, causing a drastic shift in his personality compared to the real one.

While he was a vicious commander outside, he grew up in the new universe as a kind human being, who had the chance to marry and have a child.

Unfortunately, while he had obtained a cultivation system and managed to grow stronger, it was nowhere near the strength of other humans in his nation.

When the war eventually broke out between the two nations on his home planet, it was on a whole different scale with cultivation now involved.

When he least expected it, his town was invaded and looted while the women suffered from a much worse fate...

His last memory was of him being stepped on by two big burly men while his wife and daughter were being taken away...Felix watched as his head was sliced up with utter despair covering it.

Mission? Integrate with the seven celestial hearts? He didn't even leave his town, dying in the most traumatic way possible...

"Rough..."

This was all Felix could say.

In his eyes, while Rhyzel was willing to participate in the trials, it didn't seem like he wanted to put himself through the same vicious childhood.

After a thorough analysis, Felix moved to the other summaries and found out that the majority weren't even born!

"The modifications were smart, but they were too much." He expressed with an intrigued tone.

Some had chosen the same strategy as him while some thought completely out of the box, taking Felix by surprise...Especially, Professor Heimer.

A highly known intellectual figure with calm properties and wisdom that was praised across generations...Even Felix couldn't help but marvel at his strategic approach.

"He made the seven celestial hearts Sentinal, giving them new souls and tasked them with the sole purpose of helping him integrate with them and ascend." Felix's pupils thinned, "While the plan unsuccessful due to the new souls occupying the seven celestial hearts possessing their own will, the approach still has its merits."

From the summary, he realized that the moment the seven celestial hearts acquire their own will, they completely break off script.

In simpler terms, all the adjustments and orders made would not be respected by the new will since they wouldn't even know about it!

"It's the same as telling someone about the mission, and that's the only condition that needs to be respected." Felix rubbed his chin and asked, "Is it allowed if someone in the new cosmos found out about the mission on their own?"

"Yes." The seven celestial hearts answered.

"Interesting..." Felix went quiet for a moment. "What if they tried to help me with the mission while I still don't know about it?"

"It's forbidden to receive help from people with knowledge of the mission."

"Interesting..." He repeated while diving deep into his thoughts.

After some time...

"In Sir Heimer's universe, the six celestial hearts all respected the universe's heart, does this mean even while sentinel, the universe's heart authority is absolute?"

"Yes, the universe's heart authority is absolute."

"I see..."

The dots kept connecting in Felix's mind as the path forward finally started to take form.

"One last question, will the universe's heart authority be respected even if it remained without consciousness compared to the rest of the hearts?"

"Yes."

The moment Felix received the answer, a faint foxy smirk took shape on his lips.

"Thanks, that's all I need for now."

For the next couple of hours, the only sound active in the consciousness space was Felix's calm breathing.

He used every source of data obtained from the failures of his peers to perfect his old strategy.

The fog that was clouding his mind before was slowly fading away, clearing his vision at last.

Felix never claimed himself to be the smartest in the room, but what defined him from the others was his ability to weave data into an impeccable plan.

Unlike many people, he couldn't care less about the source of the data or how he obtained it...Even if it meant blatantly copying someone's else tactic and building upon it.

That's exactly what he did...

After countless days with his head buried in holograms, Felix finally stood up, his legs shaking from sitting for too long.

"This is it...This is the main frame for now." He uttered with a tint of zeal as he gazed at the central hologram.

It resembled a detective board with thousands of pictures and data all linked with holographic lines at the center.

In Felix's board, the center was a monolith with hundreds of inscriptions written in celestial language and a single drawing at the very top.

As Felix reached out with his finger toward the monolith, a hopeful smile took form.

"As long as the three celestial hearts take the bait, I can perfect the path as I go..."

Although he appeared doubtful a bit if his strategy would work, deep down, he was certain that the three celestial hearts would bite hard on the bait.

In his eyes, for omnipotent beings with immortality and powers to do whatever they desired, there was only one thing they would seek if they had no possession of it...Freedom!

Felix had created the perfect scheme to strip them of it.

"It's time to test the waters."

Chapter 1939 Ymir, Medusa, Amun-Ra.

Felix had already informed his wife and son that he would be out of reach for a while. Of course, since his son was still young, he had to make his absence understandable.

Thus, he told him that he would be partaking in a secret mission, and if he succeeded, he would give him all the candy in the universe.

Without further ado, Felix requested from the seven celestial hearts to begin the trial of ascension.

Immediately after, the consciousness space turned into a void that stretched out to infinity.

The seven celestial hearts were suspended in nothingness akin to blinding stars, awaiting Felix's requests.

"Not in my wildest dreams did I expect to be given an empty canvas of the universe and the pens to color it as I desire," Felix murmured in fascination.

...

After spending a few moments appreciating such absolute control, Felix got to work by separating the universe's heart from the rest.

"The universe's heart will carry one set of modifications while three other celestial hearts will be bestowed souls to carry the rest of the modifications through the guiding monolith. The remaining three will be hidden in the universe's corners." Felix spoke to himself as he fed the universe's heart with the list of the requests he desired.

He already knew that the universe's heart possessed the most authority of the bunch. In other words, he could still carry with any modification he wanted through it, not needing the rest at all!

Those modifications consisted of creating races, enforcing rules, applying punishments, and the list goes on.

After receiving the list, the universe's heart got to work by creating a mirroring infinite dimension and locking it sealed, making it impossible for celestial entities to leave it.

When it was done, Felix tested it personally by requesting from the runic celestial heart to attempt to leave the dimension.

The moment it escaped, Felix was shocked to see the celestial heart getting dragged back by thousands of scorching divine chains.

"Absolute Authority indeed."

Soon, his shock turned into a gleeful grin as he requested, "From now on use those chains every time you need to enforce the rules."

The universe's heart blinked, seemingly registering the new request.

"Now that the prison has been created, make it so that the celestial powers can be used fully in this dimension, but limited greatly when applied to the matter universe. If abused, they will be punished by the same chains."

The universe's heart flickered again.

"Good, now the sentinel celestial hearts will have to think twice if they want to mess with the matter universe."

Felix had to add this rule in case the sentinel celestial hearts went crazy being imprisoned and took it on everyone within his universe.

However, if everything went according to plan, he was almost certain this would never be the case.

After adding the rest of the adjustments to ensure the timeline remained the same, Felix requested for the universe to be created.

The universe's heart and the six celestial hearts started right away, showing an almost identical scene of the universe's creation that Felix spectated inside the simulated reality.

Celestial energy was spread everywhere and from its depths, galaxies, star systems, constellations, and the remainder of celestial bodies were breathed to life.



All Felix could do was watch in utter fascination as to how the void was turned into a colorful canvas.

When it finished, Felix moved to the most important aspect of the plan...The birth of the three celestials.

He pulled the three celestial hearts, runic codex, universal codex, and divine codex.

Then, he uttered calmly, "I want to give each of you a form, a character, based on the stories of old legends of my home planet. Legends that speak of power, strength, and purpose...But most importantly, of restrain."

The celestial hearts thumped as if acknowledging Felix's words.

Felix stepped forward, his gaze shifting to the heart glowing with a cold blue light.

"You," He said, his eyes narrowing as he envisioned a being of primordial strength and frost. "You will take the temperament of Ymir. A primordial giant born of the ice, whose strength and presence commanded respect, but ultimately slain by Odin and his brothers. His body was used to make the world. His freedom was completely taken away as he was sacrificed to create the earth, sea, and sky; a fate that left him without any freedom or agency."

The blue heart glowed brighter, the celestial energy agitating as if reshaping itself, embracing the essence of the myth Felix provided.

Next, Felix turned to the heart radiating a deep emerald light.

"You will be Medusa." He said, "A being woven of beauty, but cursed by Athena to become a Gorgon with snakes for hair, whose gaze could turn anyone to stone. This transformation was a punishment, effectively imprisoning her in a monstrous form, forcing her to live in isolation, unable to interact with others without causing harm...Let this be your fuel."

The green heart flickered, its aura rippling like serpents in a mesmerizing dance, accepting and adapting to the nature of Medusa.

Finally, Felix changed his gaze to the golden heart. He smiled as he lifted his hand towards the heart.

"And you shall embody Amun-Ra, the Sun God...One of my favorite mythical gods. He was the supreme deity associated with creation and the sun. He traveled across the sky during the day, and at night, it was believed he journeyed through the underworld. Though not directly restrained in a physical sense, Ra faced a constant struggle to maintain cosmic order against the forces that sought to overthrow his power. This struggle reflects a form of restraint on his freedom and I hope his essence will push you to break it off."

The golden heart flared, its the energy molding to the identity Felix bestowed upon it.

Of course, the full details of their characters were already incorporated into the list given to them, making them understand the exact form they needed to take.

While the details utter of their backgrounds, it fed them only the essence to shape their persona, not the exact details letter to letter.

"Now," Felix whispered, his gaze lingering on the radiant hearts, "become what you are meant to be. Let these myths shape you."

As Felix took a step back, his eyes traced the emerging forms of the three celestial hearts as they pulsed in sync.

After a sudden flash, the figures of Ra, Ymir, and Medusa came to life before Felix, their eyes closed shut tightly.

While the celestial hearts within them kept pulsing lively, not an ounce of life was seen in them, resembling three mythical dolls.

"I don't know if our paths will cross or not, I don't know if we will be allies in the future or enemies, I don't know if the characters I chose for you are good for my journey or not...I most certainly don't know if this whole plan is going to succeed."

Felix took a deep breath with his eyes closed shut. Then, he slowly opened them and showed a mild solemn stare, "But, I know one thing...I am going to try my best to ascend regardless of the price and you will try your best to free yourselves."

As he gazed at their peaceful facial attunement, Felix waved his hand and the three celestials took off to different locations, still no consciousness was awakened in them.

Then, he focused on the remaining three celestial hearts...The elemental heart, the origin of laws, and the stone of reality.

"To be honest, I have no idea what to do with you at the moment, but I know one thing, it will end badly for me to give you souls too."

Felix waved his hand again and sent them away, hiding them in different locations across the universe.

Felix understood that if all the hearts had consciousness, the mission would be impossible to complete.

After he finished with this, Felix went back to double-check all the lists of modifications. It was a long list that accounted for even the smallest details. For example, he made sure to change the names and appearances of Ra, Medusa, and Ymir in the history of Earth for the sake of avoiding any identity conflict.

It was an easy modification for the universe's heart.

When he saw that nothing was missing, he turned to the universe's heart and said, "I am ready to start the trial."

"Good luck." The universe's heart said emotionlessly.

"Luck?" Felix smiled foolishly, "I will need a miracle."

As the last word left his lips, Felix's body drifted into particles...

Chapter 1940 The 1st Universe.

The 1st Universe...Year 2055.

Inside a dark cave with the rays of sunlight never reached, a figure was sitting soaking inside a poisonous bubbly pond.

The murky green waters kept bubbling gently around him, seemingly attempting to comfort and heal him instead of killing him.

The figure had slightly short hair with an unnatural shade of green, hanging damp over his face.

His eyes glowed with an eerie emerald light, matching the hue of the toxic pool. His body was beaten and broken, covered in cuts and bruises while blood dripped from his wounds and mixed with the poison below. Despite the pain, he seemed calm as if in a state of deep meditation.

The pond itself seemed alive as the thick and venomous liquid moved towards him, wrapping around his wounds and seeping into his skin.

"As expected of The Venom Doctor! Such potent poison that can kill a human by a mere touch was helping him treat his injuries!"

Meanwhile, a man wearing flamboyant clothes was commentating from high above on a metallic platform.

His commentary was directed at the sea of spectators, cheering thunderously in a fully packed virtual arena.

"Unfortunately, the Shadow clan members are closing on his tracks." The MC sighed sadly, "I am afraid to say that the tale of the Venom Doctor will end prematurely."

As he said this, the camera switched focus to three individuals with long dark hair and pitch-black eyes as they jumped from one tree to another.

Sometimes, when the shadows connect, they go through them and emerge on the other side.

In a short while, the three individuals stopped before a cave.

"He is here." The leader Jeffrey said coldly, "I can sense the presence of the mark in his shadow."

"Be careful, we might have wounded him, but he is still a vicious adversary," Gregory warned with a solemn tone while touching his right shoulder.

He was forced to sever his arm after it was poisoned, fearing that it would spread across his body and take him out.

"Don't be a wuss, we have opened his chest wide open, even if he was Deity God Doctor, I doubt he can still move a finger." Jose licked his lips murderously.

"Enough chitchat." Jeffrey waved his finger inside the cave, "Let's move, we are giving him time to recover."

Under the anticipated eyes of the crowd, the Shadow clan members sank themselves into a living shadow and entered the cave, hiding their presence completely...Or that's what they thought.

'Here they come.'

Felix opened his eyes slowly and gazed in the direction of the entrance. Then, he gazed at the massive hole in his chest, which was slowly closing.

'This cave is my tomb.' He showed a slight helpless smile, accepting that his fate was already sealed.

The game he was playing was called -The Hunter and The Prey-

It was those kinds of games where only one player could survive. It was this extreme because it was a promotional game for the Diamond Rank.

Right now, Felix was marked as the prey, which boosted his speed and survival instincts, but reduced his strength and powers.

Meanwhile, the Hunters received no boost or debuff, leaving them with their own powers.

The goal of the prey was to not get caught until the duration ends of the hunt and the roles switch.

Unfortunately for Felix, his vicious reputation marked him dead the moment he was classified as prey.

All the nearest hunters focused exclusively on him, understanding that the moment he became a hunter and his powers were unsealed, hell would break loose in the forest.

Still, he turned to be a monster and took out half of the players before finally failing to an ambush from the Shadow clan members when he was weakened.

'Oh well, I lived an eventful life...' As Felix sighed with a content smile, he said out loud, "Make it quick."

"You aren't in place to give us orders, Venom Doctor."

Suddenly, the three Shadow clan members emerged from the cloak of darkness. Their eyes glinted with malice as they circled Felix.

"You know, Doctor," Gregory sneered hatefully, "The bounty on your head is enough to set us up for life. One good strike, and we can retire after this game."

"I have to respect the guts it took to poison and wipe out the entire Fire Crow Clan," Jeffrey added with a hint of admiration in his voice. "Takes a special kind of crazy to pull that off."

"Crazy? There is nothing crazy in what I did..." Felix replied with a carefree tone, "I just did what had to be done."

"Tsk, still trying to sound cool even with a hole in your chest."

Jose snickered spitefully as he hurled six shadowy daggers at Felix, each one aimed precisely at his open wounds!

Slice! Slice!...

Felix grimaced as the daggers pierced his injured flesh, fresh pain blooming across his body.

"That's a more fitting grimace," Jose smirked.

Felix let out a weary sigh with his gaze half-lidded.

"All you had to do was make it quick..." He murmured, his voice barely above a whisper.

Then, his gaze shifted, his green eyes locking onto each of them with an emotionless intensity that made their shadows falter for a brief moment.

Before the shadow clan members could react, Felix uttered with a voice devoid of emotion. "Final Technique: Nine Venomous Clouds..."

In an instant, Felix's body exploded into nine different blood-misty clouds, every one carrying a grim dark color as they engulfed the entire cave!!

'AVOID IT!'

Although Jeffrey shouted telepathically while holding his breath, the nine poisonous clouds were propelled with such great intensity that they touched their protective clothes...

Just as they tried to retreat to the shadows, they found their armored artifacts to have melted almost instantly like they were sunk inside a tank of acid!

With horrified looks, the Shadow clan members could only scream in pure agony as the mist made contact with their skin.

"Arghh! ARGHGHHHH! IT HURTS!!"

"ARGH!!"

"HEEELP MEE!! I AM MELTING!!"

Those pained screeches were the only thing echoing outside of the cave...But, a second later, just as the MC was about to voice his commentary, time seemed to come to a halt.

Silence covered the whole battlefield as reality started unraveling from within the cave, an endless void consuming everything in its path.

The same scenario was going from the hiding place of Felix in the authentic world, kicking off the reset of the universe at a ruined city on a deserted planet.

It took less than a second before the entire universe was consumed by the void, deleting everything from existence...

Once the process was done, the seven celestial hearts joined together again and recreated Felix's body and soul before them.

It might have been called simulated reality, but the moment the trial started, Felix's body and soul were erased until the trial ended.

In other words, there could never be two Felixes and every encounter Felix went through it was real!