

The Nameless 1691

Chapter 1691: Puppet Strings

"This is it?"

Dyon sat in a research building cornered by Researcher Ton. It had been two years since the researchers had become part of the Mortal Alliance and equally as much time since Dyon had won over their hearts.

After traveling around Planet Soul unimpeded for a few days, the researchers easily realized that this was the opportunity of a lifetime and none of them rejected Dyon's offer.

In truth, Dyon probably had the Sapientia to thank for this. After being locked up for an ungodly amount of years, the researchers were likely looking for any way out they could find that didn't impugn upon their values. This allowed Dyon to be their perfect opportunity.

"Yes." Researcher Ton smiled excitedly. "These maps should be 99.99% accurate to the true state of these universes."

An orb of light trembled slightly to reveal an expanse of space. It was a beautiful projection that filled one's heart with a sense of adventure and awe.

Ton's fingers reached outward with pinched fingers. A moment later, he flicked his fingers outward, zooming in and magnifying the image.

"These are the locations that most likely contain populations of people. We made these decisions based on the time these planets have been habitable and also the resources available to them. Since these are Emperor God Clans, they will definitely organize themselves based on these factors."

Researcher Ton was among the researchers most thankful to Dyon. Due to a few offhanded words, the roadblock he had faced for countless thousands of years had been smashed apart, causing his lifelong dream to be perfected in just a few short months.

In the end, the only way Researcher Ton could express his thankfulness was by working hard to meet Dyon's expectations. So, when Dyon approached him, wanting to begin the plan for their first attack, he jumped at the idea, excited beyond belief to finally be of some use.

Researcher Ton's initial research was related to the big bang and the creation of universes. As long as he had a sample of the universe's energy, he could predict everything about it using what he called his Big Bang Formula. Of course, this wasn't the initial name of the formula that was once named under his own surname, but Ton changed it after receiving Dyon's help.

"There is good news as well. Aside from Chaos Universe and young master's home universe, the remaining 98 universes you've asked me to map out haven't experienced any massive cataclysmic events, so there should be no issue with the calculations."

Dyon smiled, quite happy with the results. With Researcher Ton's maps, scouting their enemies would be far easier.

Just a few days ago, Dyon sent out Little Yang and Yin to collect 100 samples of energy from the Celestial Deer Quadrant. They returned not too long ago and the results were better than Dyon could have ever hoped for.

One of the greatest barriers to quick and efficient conquests was the lack of information and Dyon had just knocked much of that barrier down.

"Thank you Researcher Ton. With this contribution... It's most definitely enough to have your name etched on the Arc of Humanity."

Researcher Ton's eyes swelled with emotion. He rarely had any interaction with this young man before him, but he had more gratefulness toward him than anyone he had ever met in his life.

"Young master, I don't think you understand what your help has meant to me. My life's work was completed under your guidance. Even if my name is forgotten, I'll be satisfied."

Dyon smiled. "That much isn't something you ever have to worry about. Our Mortal Alliance will never forget our own. You'll be here the day your research paves the way for us to become the Mortal Empire."

Feel free to come to me if you find another passion. For as long as I rule, you won't ever have to worry about something as petty as funding again."

Researcher Ton's eyes shone as he watched Dyon leave, a seed of endless gratefulness sprouting even fiercer.

Dyon had made his decision long ago. The 99 universes had too many question marks attached to them, namely the silent backing of the Sapientia. Though the Sapientia had seemingly forgotten about this connection, Dyon wouldn't take such a foolish risk.

The moment the Jafari Clan Treasure completed its task and added a layer of defense to Soul Universe, Dyon would launch his attack on the Five Clan Beast Alliance.

Originally, Dyon wanted to attack the Uidah first, taking advantage of the seeds he had been planting for several decades already. But, the appearance Monet and her Beast Whisperer ability changed everything.

If Dyon's intel was accurate, the Five Clan Beast Alliance believed that one of their absolute geniuses was killed by a Pakal. In addition, the Ragnor and Uidah Clan found it questionable that the Pakals were the only ones to not send a genius after the attack of the Dukes and Duchesses of the 74th Quadrant from all those centuries ago.

Everyone was currently pointing a wary eye toward the Pakals who somehow so suddenly had geniuses so strong.

The issue was that not only did the Pakals have geniuses far above their previous caliber, so did the Uidah thanks to Dyon's interference and silent support of the Uidah Sons and Daughters.

In the end, the Five Clan Beast Alliance and the Ragnors have suddenly turned their weapons toward the Uidah and Pakals, believing that they were harboring the long 'lost' Epistemic Tower.

This powder keg had already been brewing for over a decade. In fact, it had just reached a boiling point because Dyon had sent Hela, who had seemingly not appeared for a long time, back to her home to

confirm to the Ragnors that the Uidah and Pakals did indeed have the Epistemic Tower under their control.

All out war had erupted under Dyon's puppet strings.

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The Mortal Alliance was in a state of movement. Everyone was aware that their first war would start in as little as 8 months. It filled them with a sense of trepidation and excitement.

Dyon, himself, had a lot to do as well.

Chapter 1692: CRISPR

His trip for the day didn't end with Researcher Ton. Though he now had maps of all 98 of the important universes within his home quadrant, that was only a piece of the information. He still had to use these maps to gather intelligence and fill in some blanks.

A single universe could have billions of habitable planets, but they were obviously not all occupied. Researcher Ton had marked the planets he believed were most likely inhabited, but in regards to this, probability wasn't a good thing to rely on. Dyon had to know for sure. And, he didn't want to rely on Little Yin and Yang to do all of the work.

For the solution to this, Dyon was relying on yet another set of researchers – Researcher Curie and Kline.

Both researchers focused on DNA, but their paths were slightly different. Researcher Curie focused on a path to create the greatest species to ever exist, but Kline's goal was the passing on of knowledge. Kline hoped that humans could gain the ability to pass on their knowledge just like beasts did. If they could do this, then he believed that human progress would accelerate.

When both researchers came together, especially with Bryzo's Absolute Deconstruction ability, the results should be magnificent.

Dyon needed the Shadows Faction to start making their presence known.

Thanks to the Sage Tower, Dyon had already been close to bringing a few rodent beasts to the transcendent grade. However, many of them had stalled at the Peak Heaven Grade.

5000 of them had been in the Earth Grade, with 1000 having progressed to the Heaven Grade. But, only 50 of them were of the Peak Heaven Grade on the verge of breaking through.

Dyon didn't feel comfortable feeding them the Fate Breaking Pill until they were at least of the transcendent grade, but no matter how hard he tried, he couldn't seem to get any of them to breakthrough.

The Fate Breaking Pill was simply too precious to waste. Dyon only had 119 left after giving one to his mother-in-law and he was saving some of them for the Dream Panthers who were still looking for worthy male big cat candidates.

It was only after Dyon met Curie and Kline that he realized that maybe the key to evolving was changing the very foundation of the rodents. All this time, he had been trying to elevate them above their limits when maybe the true secrets was to move their starting point forward.

This was where Curie, Kline and Bryzo came into play.

"Young master, you're here!" Kline excitedly ushered Dyon into their research building.

Dyon was brought into a room filled with bright fluorescent light. He could tell with a single glance that if these researchers had been mortal, the smell of this room could have knocked an elephant out. Luckily, they were mostly dao experts who had left behind mortal filth while Bryzo was a Heaven's Child.

Dyon's brows raised as he looked toward the numerous rodents. There was no doubt, they had undergone a stunning change.

Though they didn't have the pure white and black luster of Little Yang and Yin, they did have beautiful coats of their own.

Their coat was a silky space grey and their eyes twinkled with an emerald light. The truly shocking part was that there were over 100 of them.

"These..."

The researchers looked toward Dyon with expectant gazes as Kline quickly explained.

"We took your advice in guiding our research. We combined raising the innate potential of the rodents with raising their grade.

"Thanks to Miss Bryzo, we were able to map out the gene pool of the Celestial Hamster. Then, we used this." Kline brought out a needle. It looked exactly like what one would find in a mortal hospital.

Dyon raised an eyebrow. "CRISPR?"

"So young master is familiar with it." Kline blushed, a bit embarrassed. He was very used to dealing with funders who knew nothing about the science of his research, so he often spoke like he was speaking with a child when not faced with one of his fellow scientists.

Dyon nodded. "I'm aware of its existence. CRISPR was invented several thousand years ago in my homeland. Simply put, it has the ability to edit genome sequences. So you guys have been in contact with my mortal world's people?"

Curie nodded excitedly. "We had run into a bit of a dead end. We understood the DNA and what changes we had to make to it, but making those changes was difficult. Namely, matters aren't as simple as changing one's DNA sequence to a better one. There are certain changes and complexities that require great energy input, and some that are even barred by the Heavens."

Dyon nodded. He had expected this sort of roadblock. You couldn't just change any and everything you wanted. Different species had different chromosome counts for example. Humans had 23 pairs of chromosomes while rats had 21. Even among similar species, there were vast differences. For example, rats had 21 chromosomes while mice only had 20.

If you tried to implement a DNA sequence that originated from a chromosome a rodent didn't have, the results would be disastrous. This meant the researchers didn't have the ability to suddenly elevate the rodents to an entirely new level. The genes of Celestial Hamster and the rodents were too different. But, what they could do was adjust their sequences to give them a higher likelihood of surviving the Fate Breaking Pill...

"But, this CRISPR has been a massive help." Curie continued. "With proper planning, it can make much of the changes we want.

"Miss Bryzo used her deconstruction abilities on the blood essence of the Celestial Hamsters and a few of the weaker rodents who died during our experimentation. Thanks to her, much of the work was skipped over. We gained a perfect image of the genome sequences we were dealing with.

"After we had this, we knew which genes we could edit and which we couldn't. As of now, these rodents are as close to being Celestial Hamsters as they can be without drastic measures. By our calculations, they have a 30% chance of surviving the Fate Breaking Pill."

Chapter 1693: Hamsters

"30%?" Dyon's brows shot up for the second time in this short visit. He had expected something around a percentage point or two, but 30%? It was more than he could ask for.

Celestial Hamsters were different from other beasts. Little Yin and Yang had their strength from birth. Of course, they were royals while those rodents who survived here wouldn't be, but this truth still stood. They'd be useful immediately.

There was another matter as well. With Eli here, Dyon no longer had to worry about the Fate Breaking Pill ingredients. With his abilities, it would only be another decade or so before Dyon had more ingredient sets to work with than he could handle.

In fact, Eli was already working on it from what Dyon knew. The Life Ring was almost too small to contain everything now. Eli had truly started to come onto his own abilities.

It had to be remembered that the other Heaven's Children were several million years old already and had had time to become familiar with their abilities. Compared to them, Eli was a baby who had only been alive for 30 or so years.

Dyon smiled. "Shall we?"

The researchers looked toward Dyon with excitement. They hadn't expected to be a part of this process. But, before they knew it, Dyon had already taken action.

103 Barrier Breaking Pills appeared in the air.

With a thought, Dyon communicated with the hidden realm of celestial beast blood, easily controlling the atmospheric qi to take 103 drops of celestial hamster blood.

A blinding flash of light swept through the research room. Soon, the pills appeared once more, burning with a bright luster.

Dyon looked toward the rodents. They had all become heaven grade beasts by now, so they had their own intelligence though they couldn't speak. Dyon could see them looking toward the pills with a keen anticipation.

All beasts had the innate will to grow strong, even at the risk of themselves. Despite the torture Dyon had put them through, they realized how much stronger they had become. They wanted nothing more than to grow even stronger.

'What do you think Little Yin, Little Yang. If they succeed, will they listen?'

'Of course. If they truly become one of us, no Celestial Hamster can refuse the commands of us royals. Though every Celestial Hamster has an instinct to seek out an anchor, us royals can also act as proxy anchors for lesser celestial hamsters.' Little Yang said proudly. 'By extension, they'll listen to our anchor as well.'

Dyon nodded. After reassuring himself of this final point, he sent the pills forward, his calm gaze watching on.

The 103 rodents leapt toward the pills, swallowing them whole.

The room began to shake. The agonizing screams of the rodents who failed made Dyon feel a bit of guilt, but he steeled his heart.

Some researchers collected the corpses of the rodents that failed. Though the showers of blood and gore were off putting to others, these researchers had long become used to it. All they were thinking about was the next attempt. If they used Bryzo's abilities to analyze these corpses, maybe they could find the secret to increasing the probability from 30%.

The minutes continued to tick by. Dyon intently stared at the rodents that remained, his calm gaze holding a keen fire to them.

Though he didn't say anything, he knew the importance of this attempt. Although he had Eli, it would take time for him to nurture the moon grade spiritual herbs Dyon needed to make the Barrier Breaking Pills needed for another attempt. If this failed...

Almost the moment Dyon thought this, the Heavens finally smiled down upon him.

Massive shadows of majestic beasts began to appear one after another. The howling of these beasts reverberated throughout Planet Soul. Then...

CRASH

The sound of shattering glass reverberated like a heavenly melody in Dyon's ears.

One after another, a blinding luster began to emanate from the surviving rodents. No... Celestial Hamsters.

As the light faded, Dyon's eyes trained on his army of hamsters, what would be the foundation for the Shadows Faction.

37 beautiful hamsters with pure white coats and sparkling white eyes sat. The excitement in their eyes was clear, making their human-like emotions even more pronounced.

It had succeeded. In fact, it was slightly more than 30% at that. Though the more than 60 failures hurt Dyon's heart, both for the rodents and the lost resources, the success was enough to wash that away.

Finally, after more than 100 years of effort, Dyon's persistence had borne fruit.

The Mortal Alliance now had an army of Celestial Hamsters.

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"Daddy!"

Little Alauna's adorable figure sprinted out from the academy building, leaping into Dyon's arms.

Her hair had grown much longer, no longer the short curls of the past. Now, it shone with a rose platinum color as it waved in the wind, following along with her happy strides.

Dyon grinned. "How was your day?"

"Very fun! We learned a lot!"

Technically, Researcher Lind's, or rather, Chancellor Lind's curriculum wasn't meant to start until a child was two years old. At the moment, Alauna's first birthday was still rapidly approaching, so she hadn't quite hit that mark yet. But, with how advanced she was, she had no trouble keeping up with kids who were older than she was.

Though Dyon had a mind to tutor her privately because she was so bright, he didn't want Alauna to grow up without kids her age. It seemed Luna agreed with this sentiment as well, or else she wouldn't have sent Alauna to school so early on.

This method actually helped Alauna too. She wanted to quickly catch up with Mia, Bella, Aiden and Junior, so she didn't want to sit at home all day. All of them were well ahead on Chancellor Lind's curriculum, so it would take some time even for Alauna to catch up.

Dyon wasn't quite certain what his little girl's talent was, nor did he bother checking. Making use of Little Alauna was the last thing on his mind. In fact, if it wasn't for the fact he knew Junior was his clone, he wouldn't have allowed him to begin cultivating so early.

Chapter 1694: Serious?

It wasn't long before a few other small figures rushed toward Dyon happily. The only one who didn't seem excited was Junior, but that was only to be expected. Dyon had always hated school. It was to the point where he only tried hard so that he could finish it faster than everyone else, which was why he had no other friends aside from Clara. He felt it was inevitable that Junior would also hate school.

Though Dyon was basically ignoring the commotion around him, happily inquiring about the adventures of the little boys and girls under his charge, this didn't mean that there was no commotion at all.

Dyon's Presence was too grand. Even if some didn't recognize his face, they would feel that he was someone special. And, could there really be a person within the Mortal Alliance who didn't know Dyon's face? They all had access to the Mortal Network, they all knew how famous Dyon was, and they also knew he was their leader. Seeing him come to pick up his children just like the rest of them... It hit differently than most other things they had seen in their lifetimes.

What leader would do this? Would they even consider sending their children to the same place commoners attended? Would they happily mingle without any regard for their status? Did they even have time to spend with their children in this way?

Even after Dyon floated away with his entourage of toddlers, some still remained frozen in place, as though poisoned by his charisma.

Dyon was learning more and more about the importance of culture in building empires. Though it was impossible to ever build something perfect... You could get close if you took the proper steps.

In truth, Dyon hadn't come here specifically to put on a show. He just really wanted to be there for his little girl. He didn't want Alauna to feel that her father was too busy for her. But, it ended up having a greater effect on others than even he expected.

The coming war wasn't an unknown secret by the public, everyone knew it was coming. Under normal circumstances, there should be fear and panic, maybe even anger toward a warmongering leader. Wasn't what they had here good enough? Weren't they at peace? Did they want for anything? Were there food shortages?

Soul Universe was practically a paradise, so why war?

But, seeing Dyon in person like this made him feel human, it made them feel that he wasn't an individual who would take such actions without reason... Because just like all of them, he too had people he wanted to protect.

If Dyon was willing to send his precious daughter to attend the same schools their children did, it meant he didn't see one life as more valuable than another...

Unknowingly, a wave of calm spread through Soul Quadrant, the kind of calm that could only be fostered by a nation led by a fearless, calm, and confident leader.

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Though Dyon set a special time aside for Alauna, his work never stopped.

He split the 37 celestial hamsters into three groups, tasking them with completing Researcher Ton's map. Dyon knew the maps were accurate, but what he needed were specifics. He needed to know where humans were settled, how many powerhouses there were, what defensive mechanisms they might have.

For the Uidah and Ragnors, Dyon already had all of this information thanks to the Uidah Sons and Daughters, not to mention Hela. But, for the Pakals and Five Beast Clan Alliance, he was very blind.

Using Researcher Ton's map, the celestial hamsters' job became several times easier. It would only be a matter of months before the gaps within the maps were fully fleshed out. Then, Dyon would call for a War Council where they would officially plan their attack.

But first, the Mortal Army had to be properly constructed.

Dyon had to bring the Demon Generals back, and that required re-entering the tower.

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"Are you serious?" Clara looked at Dyon like he had lost his mind. Ri, who stood to the side, was giggling uncontrollably. As for Amphorae, she hardly reacted aside from a slight smile.

"Of course." Dyon nodded seriously.

His staunch attitude only made Ri laugh harder. This husband of hers was too much.

"There comes a time in every man's life where he must show off to the greatest degree." Dyon continued nodding to himself, maintaining his stoic expression. "I must have two beauties by my side for my reappearance, no matter what."

Clara glared at Dyon. "I'm not your trophy."

Dyon ignored Clara's words, looking toward little Alauna. "What do you think, Little Precious?"

Alauna clapped happily. "Two beauties, two beauties!"

"See? The little princess has spoken."

Clara rolled her eyes even more fiercely as Ri wiped her tears.

Dyon walked over and placed Little Alauna in the flustered Amphorae's lap. It seemed he had finally found her weakness.

After a wink, he swept Clara and Ri into his arms with only a single destination in mind: The Epistemic Tower.

That was right. Dyon insisted on it. If he was going to make a grand reappearance, he needed two beauties by his side. It was practically a law of the Heavens.

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The tower had been exceptionally quiet for two years.

Before Dyon's appearance, territory wars had been spreading wildly in preparation for the descent of the Ancient Battlefield, but as the months ticked away and signs of the battlefield had yet to make themselves known, the ire clans and sects had for one another began to die down.

Of course, this wasn't the only reason why. Namely, the matters of two years ago were simply too shocking.

Rumors of the dark side of the Sapientia Clan, endless assaults on the Sacharro Clan, and even the appearance of dao experts on the celestial floors, there was simply too much.

Then there was the appearance of the Mortal Network and the matters surrounding Clara Gallagher. To this day, those matters were still relative question marks.

Chapter 1695: Three Seconds

Who was Clara truly? What was her connection to the Sacharro Clan? Who was the red-headed beauty that saved her? Did the Sapientia really cheat Clara? Or were the Sapientia tricked by the Sacharro Clan into building the Mortal Network for them?

The wild speculations ran rampant with no explanation. Even Dyon himself seemed to ignore these matters entirely, something that seemed odd for his personality.

Dyon's wife was attacked and even launched a counterattack on the Sapientia, yet Dyon suddenly appeared in the Enigmatic Sect with the same red-headed beauty that saved Clara? And come to find out that this red-headed beauty was also his wife?

The martial world was lit afire again and the speculation became even more wild.

People began to wonder what Dyon was thinking. He had just finished antagonizing the Sapientia, and now he was antagonizing the Enigmatic Sect as well? Some even believed that Dyon was expressing some sort of dissatisfaction with Madeleine.

Not only had Madeleine not appeared for two years, she had seemingly left the Flaming Lily Sect hanging.

The Flaming Lily Sect disciples were completely without protection, and now that the two-year mark was almost up, the safeguard around Middle Lily City was about to collapse. Any way you looked at it, it seemed that not only had Dyon abandoned them, but so had Madeleine.

All of this was only further fueled by Dyon's silence.

The usually loud and boisterous young man, willing to lay waste to anyone and anything that dared touch his reverse scales, had suddenly disappeared. Like a flash in a pan, he vanished.

That was until just two weeks remained to that two-year mark.

The whole world watched as Dyon appeared once more on the lower celestial floor with two beauties by his side.

Some immediately realized that his appearance and demeanor had changed vastly... There was a heavy pressure around him that hadn't been there before, it felt as though the whole world was bending around him violently, as though even if things weren't meant to go his way, that they would anyway.

But that was when a shocking realization overcame them. The two beauties by his side... Alexandria Snow... Clara Gallagher...

The martial world felt as though a nuclear bomb had been set off. Waves of devastation tore through the Mortal Network as thousands of articles and videos were posted in an instant.

The world suddenly understood. They understood why the masked wife stealer had completely humiliated True God Anak all those years ago, they suddenly understood that Diasho Ken's action in Sapientia City, questioning whether or not he treated Ri well after going so far to defend Madeleine, had been completely out of line, they finally understood that Jaws and Dyon had always been one in the same.

However, maybe it was because of all of these sudden jaw dropping realizations that the last thing everyone noticed was where Dyon had appeared. In all their shock and awe, it took them too long to understand the gravity behind where Dyon had chosen to make his reappearance.

After two years, completely gone from the public eye, Dyon had suddenly reappeared above Low Sapientia City as his arm slowly raised forward.

"The Sapientia have no place among the tower quadrants any longer. If you don't want to die, I'll give you 3 seconds to piss off."

Dyon stood above Low Sapientia City, his calm eyes looking on with an indifferent expression.

Even after all the mud slung onto their reputation, the Sapientia's roots were too deep. If they were shaken by only one rumor and a few eyewitnesses, their power would be nothing more than a joke.

In addition, as ironic as it may seem, the Mortal Network gave the Sapientia a beautiful platform to defend themselves. Because Dyon took his mortal world's internet as a template, the Mortal Network was a free space that didn't shadow ban anyone, including the Sapientia.

However, Dyon didn't care about winning public perception and support. That much would already naturally happen by the end of these matters. All he cared about was venting some frustration. If the Sapientia believed that they could just continue their life of leisure here, they were sorely mistaken.

In truth, the Sapientia city was already far more barren than it would be usually. With Dyon cornering all of the markets they previously controlled, there were less and less reasons to visit their cities. In fact, with the creation of the Mortal Library, the Sapientia were no longer the center of knowledge either.

Knowing all of this, it could be said that Dyon was beating an already dead horse. But, he had his own purpose. Namely...

Just as Dyon was thinking to this point, powerful auras surged from all sides.

Dyon smirked. 'Couldn't even wait a full second, could you?'

Three Lower Dao experts came surging in from three different directions. There was no surprise. Each of them wore crystal framed glasses of various colors and had piercing golden eyes and dark brunette hair. They were, without a doubt, members of the Sapientia Clan.

They were led by a woman dressed in a tight traditional Chinese cheongsam. It was patterned with golden flowers accented by a fiery red.

Behind her, a man and a woman followed.

Dyon could clearly see the flickers of condescension and faint rage hidden behind their golden pupils, but he continued to stand in the air.

"I must be really important to you all. To think that you'd respond so quickly after my being gone for two years."

The leading woman frowned. Dyon shouldn't be calm. It didn't make sense for any celestial to remain calm in the face of a dao expert. Something wasn't adding up.

"Do you believe your Sacharro Clan is invincible just because it has one Higher Existence?" The only other female Sapientia sneered at Dyon's words. "Retract your slander against our Sapientia Clan and maybe we can allow you to leave here today."

Dyon smiled. "And if I don't? What will you do? Will you kill me?"

Chapter 1696: Oh?

"To defend the honor of our Sapientia Clan, we will do what's necessary. Nothing is more important to a Clan than their faith." The man spoke, his cold, almost lazy eyes boring holes into Dyon's body. He seemed intent on stopping the second female from saying anything she didn't have to. Maybe the Sapientia were still eager to protect their image for whatever reason. There didn't seem to be a reason why such a powerful Clan would need the tower quadrants... Maybe there was a hidden something Dyon was unaware of. He would have to look through Jade's information once more.

"Hmm." Dyon looked off into the distance. "By now, not only Sapientia Corner, but every Sapientia stronghold on the saint floors has been destroyed."

The three dao experts froze.

"You see, I've been busy for the past two years and couldn't bother to deal with the infestation that was your Clan, but... I have quite a few bones to pick."

Dyon stepped forward. His proximity to the leading female dao expert was closed to less than a meter, causing those watching below to hold their breaths.

Even for a celestial, a meter distance couldn't even be discussed in terms of seconds, it could only be communicated in terms of fractions of a second. For a dao expert, this reality was far more exaggerated. Even at a 100-meter distance, a dao expert could slaughter a celestial in the blink of an eye, let alone at a distance of less than a meter.

But, when they looked at the faces of the three dao experts, they couldn't help but be shocked.

The three of them seemed to be struggling against something. Their faces were red, and green veins bulged from their foreheads. Sweat even began to mat the body of the leading female dao expert who took the brunt of Dyon's rage.

"Two years ago, the Sapiencia didn't just attack one of my wives, they actually had the audacity to attack three of them. My Madeleine, my Ri, my Clara... Imagine my rage when I exited my training to learn of such a thing. Tsk..."

Dyon's eyes swept over the dao experts. "Oh? Do you feel that?"

Dyon's Presence raised another notch before disappearing. "Sorry, my anger got the best of me. I really didn't expect that the mighty Sapiencia would send out their dao experts without protection."

The release was so sudden that the three dao experts stumbled in the air, their faces reddening with embarrassment. However, the three of them realized that this young man couldn't be allowed to live any longer. Dyon's speed of progress was too fast.

As though having planned beforehand, the moment they believed Dyon's arrogance had got the best of him, three attacks suddenly surged forward. How could they know that even as dao experts... Their movements were incredibly slow to Dyon...?

A massive golden dragon scale appeared in the air. Dyon's body expanded by one size in an instant before concentrating back down, his bulging muscles coursing with refined mercury as his body heated the air.

A fiery steam left his lips. '[Titan Emperor's Will. First Act. Second Stage].'

Dyon's strength skyrocketed by 40 times. The moment their three attacks landed on the dragon scale, they realized that their supposedly easy mission had become a nightmare.

Dyon's calm expression turned savage. Pent of rage that had been brewing within his chest for years rose up.

Dyon didn't bring Ri and Clara here to show off like he said. They were his wives, not his trophies.

They knew how he felt, they could see into his soul just like he could see into theirs. He brought them here to bear witness to his revenge for them.

In an instant, Dyon layered the dragon scale with saint grade bold type energy and [Cleanse], his golden wings blooming into existence.

The moment he stepped into the silver silk stage, he had a breakthrough in his [Titan Emperor's Will], allowing him to access the second of nine stages.

What kind of power did a 40 times multiplier provide?... In simple terms... It was devastating.

All three dao experts were blasted backward, their expressions changing to horror as they felt their arms nearly break in on themselves.

[Cleanse] was too powerful. Even without using it with holy type energy, the three of them felt as though their energy had been suddenly ripped away from them. And, to make matters worse, the moment their fists landed on the golden dragon scale, they were assaulted by a fierce Dragon Soul layered atop Dyon's Presence that not only reflected their attacks, but multiplied them several fold.

Dyon's arm retracted, causing the dragon scale to shrink and spin around him. It moved so quickly that it became like a halo of gold, matching the ring to Dyon's back that held his wings.

"[Torment]."

Dyon stood in the skies like a God. His skin glistened as though carved of diamond. His golden wings shone downward like a divine decree. And his hands spread outward, welcoming hundreds of royal blue arrays in an instant.

It felt as though a bloody hell descended upon Low Sapientia City. The cognitive dissonance was simply too striking.

The blue arrays were beautiful, and the spears that slowly appeared from their depths were even more so. They shone like sapphires purified by a dragon's breath...

However, the feeling they gave off was anything but purified. Those who watched felt their hearts quake, a deep sense of inevitability of death overwhelming their senses.

[Torment]. The second stage of Dyon's [Judgement] arrays.

"[Accelerate]." Gears of gold spun within Dyon's eyes as an Armageddon of falling blue meteors descended from the skies.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

The martial world watched on in shock as Dyon unleashed his fury upon three dao experts. Whenever they tried to stand or recover, even flee, another word would leave Dyon's lips that destroyed their attempts. It was as though Dyon was a predator, playing with his prey...

"[Devour]."

Another attempt to gather atmospheric qi was destroyed by a single word.

Chapter 1697: Moderation

Despair filled the faces of the dao experts. Their leader wanted to retreat, but the Faith of the Sapientia was on the line.

The truth of the matter was that Dyon's [Torment] was powerful, but not powerful enough to kill or mortally injure a dao expert. Though it could slaughter a peak celestial with ease and threaten a pseudo-dao expert, the leap to the next realm was too large.

What Dyon was doing here wasn't attempting to kill them... He was humiliating them.

Their attempts to recover were continuously thwarted, they couldn't gather up their power because Dyon's Presence was too fierce, and even when they managed to pull in an inkling on strength, [Devour] or [Cleanse] would instantly disperse it.

Soon, even those watching understood what Dyon's purpose was as they ran from the city. Even if he could kill them, he was choosing not to. He wanted this very day to be etched into the minds of all of those present.

It was at that moment that Dyon did something that crossed a line of no returned.

As the three dao experts were screaming in agony, having their minds and bodies attacked simultaneously, Dyon took out a haggled figure from his inner world, holding the man up by his neck.

No one recognized him immediately, he looked too different from his usual self.

His brunette hair was a mess, his body was covered in soot and grime, and dried blood riddled his skin. But... when his eyes opened, revealing their golden shine, the whole world gasped.

Emperor Primus Sapientia. Aritzia's elder brother. Key wielder of Sapientia Quadrant.

"Don't!" The leader of the dao experts screamed. "Think about what you're doing! You don't want to make an enemy of us!"

Her screams were almost unintelligible, not because her words weren't clear, but because the screams of her fellow Sapientia were too fierce. The combination of Presence and a mental attack was too fierce. It was like experiencing your mind being shredded apart from the inside out.

"No..." Dyon said faintly, his Presence forcing his words into the ears of all those who watched. "You don't want to make an enemy out of me. It's too bad you've already done so."

Dyon crushed Primus' neck, holding him tightly as his life was slowly wrung out.

To no one's surprise, the key wielder of the Sapientia also had a Life Saving Jade attached to his body. But, Dyon hadn't killed Primus simply for the sake of killing him. He had killed him so that he could snatch the Sapientia's key from them.

From today on. Just like Dyon had said. The Sapientia would have no place among the tower quadrants.

The air shimmered, resulting in an illusory elder appearing in the skies. He had a calm face, and his golden eyes were gentle, he was the picture of a docile old man.

"Young one, you should have some moderation."

Dyon saw that the elder attempted to take the key with him, but this time, Dyon hadn't been incapacitated by Faith like he had been against Diasho Ken. In addition, Diasho Ken wasn't a key wielder, that right was left to his elder brother on the dao floors. Since the opportunity was before him, Dyon would obviously do as he said.

"Feel free to take his body, but leave my things here." Dyon's rage had long since calmed. His expression didn't change as his soul qi surged forward.

The beautiful tower key hung in the air. Just like the key of other quadrants, the Sapientia's key was protected. However, in the face of [Devour], what protections could survive?

"[Devour]."

The old man's expression changed. He had been banking on the key's protections this entire time. He knew that he didn't have the right to directly interfere with matters of the Epistemic Tower – those were the rules, after all. But, he could bend them a little to encompass the key with Primus' corpse. Who would have known that Dyon had the ability to shatter the key's protections before he even acted?

The world could only watch as the key fell into Dyon's hands.

"I hope the Sapientia know when to piss off, or else I don't mind exposing other things." Dyon calmly released Primus' neck, taking the key into his spatial ring.

The old man frowned slightly at Dyon's words.

"I do recognize your voice old man. Weren't you the one who tried to stop my Amphorae from saving Clara? You seem to have a propensity for trying to get in my way... I hope that trend won't continue."

Dyon smiled, but it was so cold that it felt as though he was sending shivers down the spines of everyone who watched on.

"The matters you pulled with Sapientia Auction are cute. Though... It doesn't matter much to me. If you'd like to bring others to march on toward death with you, I don't mind playing along. I just hope you remember..."

Suddenly, the old man's image wavered furiously, as though his connection was about to be cut off.

"Oops. Looks like I didn't time it as well as I would have liked."

"You...!" The old man's gentle expression stiffened. Through his projection, the sound of savage explosions resounded.

Dyon smiled as he thought back to a memory from several decades ago.

[This array was constructed 3 563 782 years ago by the 24th White Mother...]

[The original purpose was to act as a gift to the Sapientia family...]

[The 24th White Mother, due to suspicions for the family, created an extra 30 as a failsafe...]

[The extra 30 are known as Master Key Arrays... Can function to shut down the original 1000 at any time as well as causing them to set off a violent chain reaction capable of destroying a planet to ashes...]

Dyon hadn't set off all 1000 arrays, he wasn't a mass murderer. In addition, he wanted to push the Sapiencia to the brink, but not over the edge. He wasn't prepared to deal with their true power just yet. He only wanted to escort them out the door a bit... forcefully.

Dyon had caused only 1 of the 1000 planet grade arrays that were gifted to the Sapiencia to explode. His purpose for doing so was multifold.

Chapter 1698: Reappearance

Firstly, it cut off the connection the Sapiencia within the tower quadrants had to the Sapiencia in the outer quadrants. Because Dyon had the master key array, he could use Little Yang and Yin's historical path time will to learn truths about the rest of the arrays.

Thanks to this, Dyon knew that the Sapiencia Quadrant only had 1 of the 1000 arrays while the remaining 999 were located in the Sapiencia Outer Quadrants.

Dyon knew immediately why this was. That array, it was how they received orders from their true base. So... Dyon destroyed it. However, that wasn't before he set up a few things.

Though Dyon hated the Sapiencia, he didn't believe they all deserved to die. Instead, he used the Master Key array to control the range of the blast. This resulted in Planet Sapiencia becoming a ticking time bomb.

The structure of the planet itself had become compromised. In as little as another few days, it would implode in on itself, destroying the Sapiencia's home. This would leave the Sapiencia with no choice but to relocate. Unfortunately for them, there were only two choices along such a path.

The first was to leave to another planet within the same universe, and the second was to enter the Epistemic Tower and hopefully receive help from one of the other quadrants. Either way, Sapiencia Quadrant would lose its Epistemic Tower because the destruction of Planet Sapiencia would destroy their Gate.

If Dyon's previous actions had pushed the Sapientia into a corner, he was practically kicking them while they were down now. If the Sapientia wanted to continue their plans for the tower quadrants, they would need to expose themselves to steal a tower key from another quadrant, but if they did so, they would be playing right into Dyon's hands.

If the Sapientia lived in a world where everyone knew they weren't as innocent as they pretended to be, Dyon's next steps would be far easier.

The gaze the old man looked toward Dyon with completely changed. If before, he believed Dyon was an immature brat with some backing and an inability to control his temper, he now felt that Dyon was a demon in sheep's clothing.

'I may have acknowledged that you're playing on a bigger game than I am, but best believe I'll have a strangle hold on my small 2x2 piece of the board by the time I'm through.'

"You should go." Dyon said with a slight smile. "It seems you have far more important things to take care of. Don't worry, while you're gone, I'll take very good care of your cities."

The old man's veins bulged. No matter how gentle he was normally, Dyon was simply too insufferable. But, Dyon was correct... He had no choice but to leave.

The whole martial world was sent into an upheaval. The matters of Sapientia Planet spread like a wildfire.

Once again, Dyon had reappeared after a long disappearance and sent the martial world into a tailspin. According to those on Planet Sapientia at the time, a massive explosion went off in an unpopulated area of their planet. The result was the deaths of a few guards and the instability of the Planet Sapientia. According to experts, in just 3 days, the planet would implode once more, unable to sustain itself.

By this point, visitation to Planet Sapientia had already hit an all time low. With Celestial Corner and Dyon's various stores that dotted the lower and middle celestial floors, the markets the Sapientia had cornered were snuffed out. Now, with their home planet compromised, and their Gate about to be destroyed, another avenue had been obliterated.

No one knew how Dyon did it. The security for planets, especially main planets at the core of one's universe, were incredibly high. For a Clan the caliber of the Sapiantias, it shouldn't have been impossible to even think of setting up such a massive explosion ahead of time. Yet, Dyon had done it...

This reality sent a shiver down the spines of those who had pointed their spears toward the Sacharros due to the Sapiencia Auction.

Dyon had been merciful this time. The deaths were less than 10 and he gave them 3 days to evacuate the weak, old and disabled, a timeframe that was more than enough for a planet of cultivators, but what if he chose not to be next time? What if he snuck onto their planets and decided to not hold back?

The fear around Dyon skyrocketed. It seemed that this feat was more fearsome than even what he did to the three dao experts. In fact, that feat seemed to be completely forgotten amid the torrent of stories surrounding Planet Sapiencia.

However, Dyon's deeds for the day weren't done. News of the destruction of Sapiencia holdings on the saint floors spread soon after. Not only Sapiencia Corner, but every building owned by the Sapiencia within Central City were burnt to ash.

To make matters worse, Dyon obliterated Low Sapiencia City. Then, he traveled to the Middle Floors. Not caring about losing his protection on Low Gold City, he destroyed the rebuilt Middle Sapiencia City. Then, he traveled to the Higher Floors and razed High Sapiencia City before finally reaching the Peak Floors and laying waste to Peak Sapiencia City.

As though that wasn't enough, he perfectly cleared the Peak Celestial Floor trial in just a single move and lay claim to Peak Gold City, taking control of all 9 Gold Danger Zones without a care in the world.

Dyon paraded the Demon Generals from the lowest celestial floors. All more than 3000 of them had entered the middle celestial realm after 2 years, proving their infallible talent. With their battle prowess, they tore through the trials one after another.

[Demon Emperor's Will] made a reappearance.

Chants of the Demon Sage filled the ears of the martial world and overflowed their souls with awe. The sight of 3000 giants, stomping through the air under the leadership of a single, calm eyed man with two beauties by his side... It was enough to make anyone's blood boil.

Chapter 1699: Death

"Darkness prevails over all

The blood seeps into the ground

The strong slay the weak and stand tall

While the unfortunate are silenced without a sound

The Sage of the Demon Empire is supreme

Unmatched and unprecedented

Unchallenged and without flaw

Immortal and esteemed

He leaves his legacy for only those as evil as he

Only those as ruthless and heartless

Cast away your humanity for strength

Drench the soil in the blood of your enemies

Plant the seed of your life within it

Become the next Sage of the Demon Empire "

A swirling demonic qi overtook the celestial floors. Clashes of red and black pumping through the air as though to descend the world into darkness.

At the helm, a man stood above Peak Gold City with the expression of a lofty ruler. His back as straight as a javelin, his silver-brown hair shifted slightly in the wind, and his two wives to his left and right.

Though many watched in the distance, seeking a way to stop his momentum, to stymie his aura, they chose not to take a step forward in the end.

The Fate of the world seemed to bend around the young man. It felt that no matter what they threw at him, it would be useless... As though even if the Heavens themselves wanted to open up and swallow him whole, it would have to turn back in failure.

The words the young man spoke just hours earlier resounded in their minds.

They were correct. Who among the tower quadrants would want to make an enemy out of him? And if they chose to do so... Wouldn't their only remaining path be death?

Dyon was quite aware that taking over Peak Gold City would cause some dissatisfaction, especially when he was still taking measures to uphold his 30 year promise against those who slighted his Demon Generals in Low Gold City, but he hardly cared. If you had a problem with it, you could try to do something about it, though Dyon doubted there was anyone on the celestial floors who was his match.

He heard that True God Aurum had entered the Pseudo-Dao Realm, making him the third of the Drago-Qilin Land geniuses, but this didn't faze him either.

Dyon knew long ago that human-beast duo path cultivating dragons could enter a humanoid dragon form that allowed them to match regular lower dao experts at the pseudo dao realm, but Dyon already felt he didn't have much to fear from regular lower dao experts.

Of course, Dyon didn't lose his mind in arrogance. He still remembered the savage beating he had taken from those 50 dao experts.

In truth, those black clothed attempted kidnappers were far more powerful. By Dyon's estimation, even though his soul was sealed back then, he believed them to be at the Higher Dao Realm at a minimum. The fact he survived any length of time, although they were restricted to just their bodies and were being careful to not kill Alauna, was a testament to the overwhelming power of his constitution.

Still, this matter put things into perspective for Dyon. Though the differences between celestials was large, the differences between dao expert stages was even larger. If Dyon recalled correctly, the difference between a lower celestial and a peak celestial was still less than the difference between a lower dao expert and a middle dao expert.

The path ahead was still long, and Dyon planned on walking it to the end.

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"Oh my, he's gotten more powerful again. Isn't this too fast?" Emytheus chuckled, very much expecting Aritzia to message him once more, up in arms about what Dyon had done this time. But, interestingly enough, Aritzia was radio silent. If Emytheus thought about it, this was definitely the longest time Aritzia had spent between contacting him. Maybe the little girl really was doing her best to grow up.

"No matter, he's making my job easier."

Emytheus turned his attention back to the matter at hand.

Currently, he and his band of men were in the wilderness as usual, but their company had an additional individual, an individual one would never expect to appear here. Empress Aspirant Cativa Star, wife of Dao Formation Genius, True God Star.

"Do you have what I need?" Emytheus asked with a knowing smile.

The usually calm Empress Aspirant grit her teeth audibly. She was definitely a world class beauty, even with her features contorted in anger, she still made those within the Brotherhood of Guardians gulp silently to themselves, their eyes recklessly roaming her body.

"Is there a need to be so angry? It isn't as though I asked you to share my bed, I've only asked for a... ticket of sorts."

"... Shameless."

Emytheus knew well that Cativa was just an Empress Aspirant. She had two other competitors for the role of first wife. This sort of bump in the road was enough to throw her far behind in that competition. She couldn't allow Emytheus to act wildly, or else she'd forever be below her fellow sister wives.

"Such harsh words." Emytheus pouted. "Is it my fault the holy Empress Aspirant Cativa was caught in such a fashion? If you hadn't been doing what you were doing... Would you be in this situation? Plus, if I'm correct about your Star Clan... Let's not talk about these matters, I just want a seat at the Conference and I'd rather not waste ten years traveling, you can help me out, right?"

"You set me up!"

Emytheus sighed. "We're all adults here, is there a need for such petty commentary? I did nothing of the sort. But... Even if I had, does it change anything?"

Cativa gripped her small fists, the air around her vibrating wildly for a moment before she forced herself to calm down. Though they were lecherous, she knew better than to underestimate the Brotherhood of Guardians. In such a short time, they had established themselves as the third most powerful force on the Celestial Floors.

Chapter 1700: So?

In truth, some wanted to place the Demon Generals as number one, which would put the Brotherhood of Guardians at fourth place between the Star Force and Heavenly Sword Guild, but the majority argued against it. Simply put, the Demon Generals seemed too useless without Dyon. So, according to official rankings, though everyone respected Dyon, the Demon Generals weren't even top ten.

Simply put, after being forced to come here alone, Cativa couldn't hope to defeat them all by herself. Though she hated to admit it, only someone of Dyon's caliber could hope to do so.

After a deep breath, Cativa finally spoke one more.

"Go to Low Star City on the date two years from now, I'll bring you to the Star Quadrant then. Here's the blood essence contract you asked for, look it over."

Emytheus casually took the shimmering document from Cativa. After checking it over to make sure there were no loopholes he nodded in satisfaction and placed it within his spatial ring after signing it as well.

"If you don't mind my asking..." Emytheus called out as Cativa was about to leave. "... What's the point of doing all of this? Is it really too much to ask to open your teleportation formations? Why make everyone travel so far and for so long?"

Cativa only snorted in response, not bothering to answer. She knew that Emytheus was bursting with laughter on the inside after asking this question.

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"So?" Dyon grinned, standing grandly above the world as he took Clara and Ri into his arms. "Do you like my present?"

He lightly pinched their soft waists as his blood boiled. He had ignored the lust of his Titan Diamond Body for too long, but unfortunately, now wasn't the time for such things.

Clara and Ri put on content smiles, even Clara's usual quippy response and Ri's flick of the forehead were nowhere to be seen. They just felt... Comfortable.

Dyon owed his wives too much, they put up with a lot for him. Not every woman would be willing to deal with what they did, and Dyon was endlessly grateful for it.

How would you feel if your husband suddenly came home with a child you knew wasn't your own? No matter how adorable Little Alauna was, there was no question that she was often the elephant in the room.

The worst part was that even if Ri and Clara wanted children of their own, and even if Dyon was willing to lay down his concerns toward these turbulent times, there was no guarantee they'd even be able to have them. Dyon's talent, and that of his wives, were simply too high. They would likely have to try for centuries, maybe millennia, before they had children of their own.

These matters were especially tough on Clara. From the beginning, she questioned the idea of accepting her love for Dyon at all, maybe if it wasn't for Dyon being so close to death, she would have never leapt over that mental hurdle.

To make matters worse, she was a woman of the mortal world and she was over 30 years old. If the Earth she knew still existed, she should be married with a white picket fence of her own, maybe with a child or two. The sharp dichotomy between where she expected her life to be, and where it was now, was too stark.

Ri had her own struggles. Of Dyon's wives, it was arguable that she had given up the most. While it was true that Clara entered a whole new world, and Amphorae willingly died, and Madeleine, even as first wife, selflessly shared Dyon... Ri had given up her own sense of self for so long. It wasn't until recently that she finally recovered what it meant to be Ri again... What it meant to be Alexandria.

Yet, all the while, they stayed by Dyon's side. They could have left, going off to accomplish their own goals and their own pursuits, yet they stayed.

Dyon hugged them tightly, only unwillingly letting go after several moments.

"We have 8 to 9 months remaining, then... We'll officially begin. In that time, you two should strengthen yourselves. I have a feeling that you have no intention of staying home." Dyon said with a smile.

Though Madeleine had already reached the Higher Celestial Realm, and would have likely already reached the Peak Celestial Realm had it not been for her coma, Ri and Clara didn't have God constitutions capable of accelerating cultivation speed to such a degree.

As of right now, Ri was still within the Middle Celestial Realm while Clara was still within the Lower Celestial Realm with her cultivation speed being the slowest amongst Dyon's wives.

That said, their combat prowess was high, especially in comparison to the coming enemies.

By power, Dyon's home quadrant was ranked about middle of the pack. At best, they'd be within the 40s of the tower quadrants, possible 30s.

Unfortunately for them, this wasn't due to their lack of talent. Objectively speaking, the talent of those within the celestial deer quadrant was incredibly high. The most poignant reason their overall strength was so low was because they were primitive.

Due to the massive war that embroiled the Celestial Deer Quadrant, headed by the Celestial Deer Sect and The Entity, a figurative reset button had been hit on Dyon's home quadrant. As a result, in comparison to the rest of the martial world, their knowledge about cultivation was incredibly low.

The reverberating effects of this war were clear, the Ragnor, Uidah, Pakal and Five Beast Clan Alliance didn't even have a clue as to where the Epistemic Tower was.

Simply put, to these individuals, First Grade Celestials, let alone above Ninth Order Celestials like Dyon's wives, were inconceivable.

Still, Dyon didn't want to take these individuals lightly. They were still Clans that had laid their roots for millions of years, no matter how primitive they were. It was likely that they had evolved forward in some novel way Dyon might never expect, which was why information was so crucial.

"What do you want to do?" Ri asked.

"In this 8 to 9 months... I need to reach the Higher Celestial Realm, only then will I be comfortable. Before we begin, I'll also break into the gold silk realm. Now that Luna is here, there's no need for me to stall my body cultivation just so that I can bring things in and out of the Ancient Battlefield."

"Do you plan on bringing your soldiers from the Ancient Battlefield over?" Clara questioned.

Surprisingly, though, Dyon shook his head. He didn't feel that it was the right time, or more accurately, he felt that there was a better choice.

"Not immediately. I'm confident that the strength of those I command from the Ancient Battlefield is incredibly high, even the worst of them have bodies strong enough to match pseudo dao experts, as for the Titans, those who can wield essence grade type energy are a match for middle dao experts at worse, while those who can wield saint grade type energy are higher dao experts at worse."

That was right, Dyon technically had thousands of dao experts at his beck and call now.