

The Witch 751

Chapter 751: Influence

"If Great Devil Hecate joins the fight, the outcome does not need to be mentioned. However, I want to know what makes you so confident that Great Devil Hecate would agree to join our fight?" the Fifth Progenitor asked with a sharp look.

The Fifth Progenitor's question was to be expected. Anyone would have the same doubt.

After all, Great Devil Hecate was not an existence just anyone could meet or talk to. The possibility of gaining her cooperation to fight against another Great Devil was even more unlikely.

Unless someone could offer something of great interest or temptation to Great Devil Hecate, it was almost a certainty that she wouldn't agree.

To begin with, a fight between two Great Devils was full of uncertainties.

No Great Devil would be willing to fight to the death with another Great Devil unless they had a certain degree of confidence in their victory or the temptation was worth the risk.

What could a Human Soul Master possibly offer that would tempt a Great Devil to fight to the death for him?

Naturally, Vaan had his own thoughts on the matter.

"I do have something to back up my confidence. However, it's not something you will understand, nor do I feel inclined to explain," Vaan casually replied.

"If you can't convince me, don't think about gaining my cooperation," the Fifth Progenitor frowned.

"Would I still need your cooperation if I already have the Eighth Progenitor's? I don't think I need to win over all the Vampire Lords, no?" Vaan calmly mentioned with a cunning smile, adding, "I believe he would also be happier to split the Evernight Territory with fewer Vampire Lords."

To begin with, the Vampire Lords unlikely had the power to make a difference in a battle between Great Devils. The only benefit of working with them was using them to deal with other Vampire Lords.

"You...!"

Vaan's words quickly angered the Fifth Progenitor, but he could not refute them. He understood his current position.

Although it was called negotiating, in truth, he was only given the choice to be used by the other party. If he weren't willing to be used, the other party would just kill him and move on.

Furthermore, such a chance would have been given if the other party had not noticed the opportunity and convenience.

Ultimately, the Fifth Progenitor could only sigh and agree to follow Vaan's arrangement.

If anyone else had witnessed their entire exchange, they would have been dumbfounded by the Fifth Progenitor's choice.

It wouldn't be strange for the Eighth Progenitor to make that choice, but it was a different story for the Fifth Progenitor. He had not fought a true life-or-death battle with Vaan and nearly died as the Eighth Progenitor did.

As such, it was surprising that the Fifth Progenitor could just be talked into agreeing with a little coercion and no serious fight.

The Fifth Progenitor himself had not noticed that his choice was actually influenced by Vaan's Boundless Sea and Sky Aura.

"Good, let us refine the details of our cooperation. First, I will have you use Contract Magic to enter a non-aggression pact with me. Then, surrender your bodies to me so I can purge the Blood Ancestor's divine blood," Vaan instructed.

"Understood, Sir," the Eighth Progenitor was quick to agree, seeing no problem with the arrangement.

After all, since they would enter a non-aggression pact with Contract Magic first, Vaan couldn't secretly harm them during the vulnerable process of purging the Blood Ancestor's divine blood.

Of course, Vaan was not foolish enough to leave any loopholes in the contract for the Vampire Lords to exploit and made sure it was refined to the minute details.

It would have been truly stupid if he had put himself in a state where he couldn't attack the Vampire Lords, but they could attack anyone else from Pangea.

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Freedom Federation, Principality of Dainsleif

In the sky, above a region of steep, rocky, yet forested mountains, Narvim arrived via spatial magic before gazing down and sighing softly.

He had wanted to join the war in the Great Ratholos Empire, but unfortunately, he was not strong enough to lead a group of dragons like Lord Astarot, who had already advanced to the Demigod Rank.

Although he had fallen far behind the other Dragon Lords due to the side effects of Forbidden Magic in the past, he managed to advance to Peak Transcendent and catch up with the others after consuming many high-quality magical plants.

However, this was only possible because his wife gave up her portion of the high-quality magical plants and dragon god blood essence, delaying her own advancement to the Demigod Rank.

Narvim felt endless guilt toward Khaleesi; he owed her too much.

Unfortunately, he had no choice but to accept her generosity despite repeatedly rejecting it. His wife didn't allow him to refuse her gift and was adamant about it.

"It's been a while since I've come to this place..." Narvim briefly thought.

Nevertheless, since he was already here, he had to make sure he completed the important task given to him by the Supreme Leader.

Swish!

Moments later, Narvim opened another spatial portal and disappeared through it, stepping into the Black Witch Society's headquarters hidden in the pocket realm underneath the land.

Without any surprise, Narvim's sudden, uninvited presence immediately alarmed the witches within the headquarters.

"D-Dragon! Ahh! A dragon has intruded into our headquarters!"

"Wait! I've seen this dragon! It has been here before! Quickly call the Witch Mother!"

Amidst the panic and disorder created by Narvim's sudden arrival, some witches quickly recognized him—not by his appearance but by his natural temperament and aura.

Narvim had left quite an impression on them during his last visit.

Nevertheless, it didn't take long before the Witch Mother came out of her dwelling and diffused the chaos and unease among the witches.

"We meet again, Lady Ophelia. I pray you have been well," Narvim greeted with standard courtesy.

"I have been well. Thank you for your concern, Your Excellency," Ophelia Tempest returned the courtesy with a simple smile before saying, "I must say I am not surprised by your visit, given what is happening in the Great Ratholos Empire."

"Oh?"

Narvim was immediately surprised by the Witch Mother's words. But upon further thought, he was no longer surprised by her intelligence.

"Since you already know what's happening there, then you must also understand why I'm here. In that case, I will just cut straight to the point. Do you know how to contact Great Devil Hecate, Lady Ophelia?" Narvim solemnly asked.

Despite such an alarming question, Ophelia remained unsurprised. In fact, her calm smile widened and her eyes flickered with interest.

Chapter 752: Ophelia's Connection

"Indeed, I do know how to contact Lady Hecate, Your Excellency," Ophelia calmly admitted.

In a single sentence, the Witch Mother not only revealed that she had some relation with the Great Devil Hecate but also showed some familiarity with her.

"Sure enough, that was the case," Narvim acknowledged with a soft sigh, unsurprised by the Witch Mother's answer. He had been mentally prepared for it.

"If you don't mind me asking, Your Excellency, I'm quite curious about how you concluded I knew of a way to contact Lady Hecate?" Ophelia wondered with interest.

"Hahaha, this Lord is only here on orders from his Supreme Leader. If not for the Supreme Leader, this Lord would not have suspected your connection with the Great Devil Hecate," Narvim lightly chuckled, not daring to claim the credit for himself.

"Oh?" Ophelia calmly smiled before saying, "Now, I am a little interested in your Supreme Leader. Allow me to rephrase my question – How did your Supreme Leader arrive at the conclusion that I knew how to contact Lady Hecate?"

"This, I can answer. The Supreme Leader has once explained it to me. So, I recount it for you, Lady Ophelia," Narvim casually mentioned before saying, "The Supreme Leader's first point of suspicion was your high cultivation at the Pseudo-Transcendent Rank."

"Although you have once told me that you are a close retainer of the Rank 7 Storm Calamity Witch and a Rank 6 Divine Being in your previous life, this doesn't explain how you achieved your high cultivation."

"Sure, you have rich knowledge to enhance your magical power. However, the Freedom Federation is very far away from the dimensional crack. Access to mana should be quite limited. In fact, there shouldn't be enough mana to support your cultivation. All mana stones should be heavily regulated by the authorities in the Freedom Federation."

"You could argue that you went to Gehenna to accumulate your mana and cultivate, but where exactly in Gehenna is it safe for you to do so? Unless you had a patron from Gehenna supporting you, it is almost impossible for you to survive in such a dangerous land full of demons, with low cultivation, no less."

"Of course, you could also say that you weren't from the Freedom Federation, that you cultivated to a higher rank in a different country closer to the dimensional crack. However, High Witches outside the seven witch kingdoms are extremely rare."

"Furthermore, with women's lower status in most countries, it's almost a miracle if they even have any freedom. Obtaining mana stones shouldn't have been easy under such conditions."

"More importantly, there's another point of doubt – Creating a portal to Gehenna isn't something a Pseudo-Transcendent Witch should be able to do, even with Ancient Magic. So, how could you have gone to Gehenna to cultivate, regardless of your power at the time?"

"Creating a dimensional portal connecting Pangea and Gehenna isn't a feat even Great Devils could accomplish easily—at least, among the three hostile Great Devils; none have the ability to do so with ease."

"But if it is Great Devil Hecate, the master of sorcery, witchcraft, or magic in general, it becomes a different story, right? If it's Great Devil Hecate connecting Pangea and Gehenna with small dimensional portals and offering refuge to witches, everything seems to fit perfectly, like puzzle pieces coming together."

"Another point of doubt is your title as Witch Mother. Great Devil Hecate is also revered as the mother of witches. Is it only a coincidence that you share the same title? Or something deeper than that?" Narvim added.

Ophelia laughed and said, "It almost sounded like you were implying I am Great Devil Hecate's incarnation or something, Your Excellency. However, I have already sworn my true identity to you under Contract Magic."

"There was no falsehood in that. So, don't you think this part is contradictory, Your Excellency?" Ophelia asked.

"Indeed, my Supreme Leader had also thought about this point," Narvim acknowledged before mentioning, "However, your death has always been a point of doubt. Why would a Rank 7 Calamity Witch's close retainer, a Rank 6 Divine Witch, suddenly die and reincarnate?"

"Lady Ophelia being the close retainer of the Storm Calamity Witch may be true, but that doesn't stop you from having other identities, no? For example, being the clone or incarnation of another Calamity Witch. Maybe the current you and Great Devil Hecate are all clones or incarnations of a powerful Calamity Witch."

"After all, Great Devil Hecate has mastered so many laws. Her overwhelming talent for comprehending laws makes it hard to believe she is only a Rank 6 Divine Being," Narvim added.

After Ophelia heard that, she couldn't help but shed tears of laughter. It was so amusing that she couldn't stop laughing for a good five minutes.

"Hahaha, please excuse me, Your Excellency. It was just too funny," Ophelia wiped her tears of laughter before replying, "You have such a rich imagination, Your Excellency. Even I almost believed it."

"However, your doubts are not unfounded. Even I find Lady Hecate's high talent for comprehending laws to be unnatural for a Rank 6 Divine Being. I can't confirm if she is just the clone or incarnation of some Calamity Witch, but I can definitely confirm we are unrelated in this aspect."

"Hahaha, if I were anyone else, I would have also believed I was Lady Hecate's incarnation or something as well after listening to your words, Your Excellency," Ophelia said with amusement.

"In the end, just what did your Supreme Leader conclude my relationship was with Lady Hecate?"

"Actually, my Supreme Leader was unable to conclude your exact relationship with the Great Devil Hecate," Narvim admitted before saying, "We only know you must share some connection."

"My Supreme Leader guessed you might be under a contract with her. That way, you could borrow Great Devil Hecate's divine powers to create the dimensional portals yourself," Narvim added with a sharp look.

Ophelia didn't show much reaction under Narvim's scrutinizing gaze.

She simply smiled and said, "If you know the whole situation in the Great Ratholos Empire, you should also have another suspect for being Lady Hecate's Devil's Contractor."

"In that case, why would your Supreme Leader still suspect me of being Hecate's Devil's Contractor and send you to meet me?" Ophelia asked curiously.

"I also wondered the same and asked him about it. However, he also asked me this – What rule stated that a Great Devil couldn't have more than one Devil's Contractor at once?" Narvim recalled.

Chapter 753: Ophelia's Connection (2)

Ophelia seemed calm on the surface, but she was actually surprised in her heart.

Although such a suspicion was to be expected after all that had been said up until this point, she was amazed by Narvim's repeat of the Supreme Leader's question.

The question was simple, yes, but it also demonstrated the broadness of the person's mind and thinking.

Ophelia couldn't help but admire the Red Dragon Clan's Supreme Leader more and more. Such an interesting being made her want to learn more about the person.

Nevertheless, Narvim wasn't finished.

"My Supreme Leader also considered that you, being the Storm Calamity Witch's close retainer and a Rank 6 Divine Being in the previous life, wouldn't want such a binding contract with the Great Devil Hecate. As such, he suspects you have a looser contract with her than the standard Devil's Contractors," Narvim added.

Once Ophelia heard that, she could no longer remain calm.

Narvim had said that the Supreme Leader hadn't reached a conclusion regarding her relationship with Lady Hecate. However, his suspicion unexpectedly hit the nail on the head.

The person's power of deduction was actually so terrifying.

After piecing together so many doubts and clues, how could his suspicion still be considered a suspicion?

Others would have already called it a definite conclusion.

"Thank you, Your Excellency. You have satisfied my curiosity," Ophelia said gratefully before complimenting, "And I must say, it seems prosperous days await the Red Dragon Clan under the leadership of your Supreme Leader."

"If there's an opportunity, I would like to meet your Supreme Leader one day," Ophelia added.

"That day would come sooner than you think if you indeed have what we came for, Lady Ophelia," Narvim said, staring at the Witch Mother thoughtfully.

"I suppose there's no need to hide it at this point," Ophelia calmly smiled before saying, "Just as your Supreme Leader had guessed, I have a contract with Lady Hecate."

"Furthermore, it is indeed not as binding as the usual contract given to other Devil's Contractors. I suppose you can call me a Subcontractor," Ophelia stated.

"Oh? What's the difference?" Narvim couldn't help but wonder.

"Devil's Contractors sell their souls to the Great Devils in return for power and longevity. Regardless of whether they keep their contract or break it, their souls are no longer their own. Upon their deaths, their souls will go to the Great Devils," Ophelia explained.

"On the other hand, Subcontractors like me are allowed to maintain our independence and keep our souls. There's no doubt that Lady Hecate would be interested in a soul like mine. However, even she wouldn't dare to snatch a soul that a higher-rank being has already marked."

"You could say that my position as a Subcontractor is cooperative instead of subservient. Lady Hecate lends me her divine power and abilities, and I perform some tasks for her."

"Of course, the amount of divine power and abilities I can borrow from Lady Hecate can't be compared to her regular Devil's Contractors. However, it's enough to create a portal to Gehenna," Ophelia mentioned.

In truth, creating a dimensional portal connecting Pangea and Gehenna was not as simple as she made it sound.

It required Lady Hecate and her to channel their power toward each other, similar to throwing out a rope to each other from two opposing cliffs. It was not easy for the rope to reach the other side since the space between them was chaotic and unknown.

They could only sense each other's general direction before tossing the rope.

Furthermore, she only played a supportive role in creating the dimensional portal by fueling the connection. Most of the work was done by Lady Hecate.

"Now that you have confirmed my relationship with Lady Hecate, what do you intend to do with this information, Your Excellency?" Ophelia calmly asked.

She was not worried about her safety, considering they were still allies bound by a contract. She was simply curious about what the Red Dragon Clan's Supreme Leader wanted from her and Lady Hecate.

"My Supreme Leader wishes to meet Great Devil Hecate to discuss a potential cooperation. If you can be the bridge of communication for us, that would be great, Lady Ophelia," Narvim finally stated the true purpose of his arrival.

"I see..." Ophelia uttered with surprise.

Although she had already suspected that would be the case, she was still surprised when she heard it.

In the past 300 years, this was probably the first time someone from Pangea would actively seek out a Great Devil to make a deal with them.

"Do you think it will be possible?" Narvim inquired.

"I don't see any problem, Your Excellency," Ophelia smiled before taking a step forward, asking, "I can help your Supreme Leader communicate with Lady Hecate. But whether he can acquire her agreement, he can only rely on his own capabilities."

"Will your Supreme Leader come to me, or should I go to him, Your Excellency?" Ophelia asked shortly after.

"It would be great if you could make the trip to him, Lady Ophelia," Narvim replied with a soft sigh. He was relieved that he could complete his task without an issue.

Since they were racing against time to gain Great Devil Hecate's cooperation, the Supreme Leader knew that pinning all their hopes on finding Hecate's main Devil's Contractor was not good enough, considering the person's location was unknown.

On the other hand, they had a previous run-in with the Witch Mother, leader of the Black Witch Society.

After recalling the details of their exchange, they realized the possibility of her having a connection with the Great Devil Hecate.

Fortunately, they weren't wrong in their guess.

"When should I see your Supreme Leader, your Excellency?" Ophelia casually inquired.

"If you are not busy, I can take you to the Supreme Leader right now, Lady Ophelia," Narvim said politely.

"Good. Then, let us be on our way," Ophelia replied eagerly, adding, "I just happen to be quite free right now."

"Understood."

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Great Ratholos Empire, Imperial Capital

As the war raged on, Emperor Varan quickly mobilized all his available resources to search for Galen's wife.

However, with little-to-no information on Galen's wife in their records, the search proved to be exceedingly difficult.

After all, without even a description of her appearance to work with, trying to filter through several hundred million people in a short time was an enormous, near-impossible endeavor.

Unless Galen's wife came forward and identified herself, the chance of finding her was abysmally low.

"Your Majesty, this person has practically disappeared from the face of the earth for hundreds of years. Finding her seems impossible. Perhaps focusing our resources on the war effort would be the wiser choice," the imperial advisor suggested.

However, Emperor Varan shook his head and said, "Even if it seems impossible, we still have to do it. This is our only choice."

"Unless we can get Great Devil Hecate to help us before Great Devil Abaddon descends, we will lose everything," Emperor Varan stressed with a grave expression.

Chapter 754: Trace of Divine Will

At that point in time, Emperor Varan did not know that Vaan had another plan to acquire communication with Great Devil Hecate. He was also unaware that it had made much more

progress than his search for Galen's wife, and it was at a quicker pace than anyone could have imagined.

Nevertheless, it wasn't something Vaan planned to share with Emperor Varan for the time being, at least not until he had a tight grasp of the Great Ratholos Empire.

After all, Ophelia had a sensitive identity as the founder of the Black Witch Society. That alone was enough to make her an international criminal in the eyes of the world.

If it were also known that she shared some special relationship with Great Devil Hecate, more complications would arise in associating with her.

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Inside Vaan's temporary subspace, the Fifth Progenitor and the Eighth Progenitor completed their oath under Contract Magic.

After they entered a non-aggression pact with Vaan, the Eighth Progenitor volunteered to be his lab rat. As such, Vaan allowed him to reunite with the rest of his body and become whole again.

Only then could Vaan study the Vampire Lord's anatomy in great detail, ranging from fleshly composition to skeletal structure and visceral organs to blood circuitry system.

Surprisingly, a Vampire Lord's body was almost identical to a human's.

It wasn't just the outer appearance; the internal look was also included. The actual difference was on a molecular level. In other words, the Vampire Lord's needs differed from a human's on a molecular level.

Nevertheless, it had Vaan thinking.

'Why does the Vampiric Demon Bat's evolution take on the shape of humans, to the point that they hardly resemble or possess traits of their former selves? Is it because the greatest potential can only be found in the human body? Or does it have something to do with the Prime Originator being human?' Vaan pondered.

Although Vaan couldn't find answers to these questions, he quickly grasped a complete understanding of the Vampire Lord's body.

He realized there was no need to purge the Blood Ancestor's divine blood from the Eighth Progenitor's body to liberate him.

After all, the Blood Ancestor's divine blood itself was not the source of his control over the Eighth Progenitor; it was his trace of divine will hidden within the divine blood.

As such, Vaan only needed to wipe out the Blood Ancestor's trace of divine will.

Once he did that, the Eighth Progenitor wouldn't just be liberated. Even the portion of the Blood Ancestor's divine blood in his body would become completely his.

'I can obtain the Eighth Progenitor's service and weaken the Blood Ancestor's power at the same time. Truly killing two birds with one stone,' Vaan mused.

After knowing what to do, Vaan quickly located the foreign divine blood in the Eighth Progenitor with his Fourth Dimensional Sense. Then, he easily wiped out the Blood Ancestor's trace of divine will with the Nihility Law, like taking candy from a baby.

The Eighth Progenitor's eyes immediately colored with surprise, knowing he had been freed from the Blood Ancestor's control.

He didn't expect Vaan to do it so easily.

However, he didn't find it too surprising upon further thought, attributing it all to the capabilities of Soul Masters.

'I've knowingly absorbed the Blood Ancestor's divine blood and entered his control. But before he could make use of me, I was freed of his control and even took his divine blood for myself. If he knew this, how furious would he be?'

The Eighth Progenitor couldn't help but wonder.

"It's already done?" the Fifth Progenitor looked on incredulously. He was greatly astonished and shocked by how simple it seemed.

Something he had assumed to be difficult turned out to be as simple as turning over one's hand—at least, according to what he saw.

Vaan rested his palm on the Eighth Progenitor's head, and the task was done.

"Unbelievable..." the Fifth Progenitor uttered with disbelief despite getting the Eighth Progenitor's nod of confirmation.

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Gehenna, Evernight Territory

Inside the ancient floating castle hovering over Vladigold City, Abaddon was minding his business as he recuperated in the blood pool, trying to flush out Hecate's remnant law powers on his body to regenerate his missing arm.

However, his divine soul suddenly shook from a sharp, piercing pain, which disrupted his concentration.

"Guarghh—!!"

Abaddon bellowed in pain and rage, forcefully clutching his head with both hands to endure the soul torments.

Moments after the wave of soul-piercing pain passed, Abaddon broke into cold sweats, recalling the short instance that felt like his divine soul was slashed by an invisible blade.

Although he could tell he had lost a trace of his divine will, he had no idea what happened to it.

When he tried to recall the experience, he only sensed a soul-annihilating power before the trace of divine will completely disappeared into oblivion. It sent chills down his spine.

"What on Gehenna is happening here? Who could have destroyed my trace of divine will so completely and utterly from existence?" Abaddon mumbled with a hint of fright, confusion, and loss.

However, it didn't take long before another wave of soul-piercing pain assaulted his mind.

"Guarghhh—!!!"

Abaddon painfully wailed inside the blood pool, causing the surface to rock and splash with ripples and waves.

"Dammit! Who the hell is secretly scheming against this Lord?! If you have the balls, then face this Lord directly!" Abaddon roared furiously.

After two repeated attacks on his divine soul, it was impossible for him to recuperate with peace of mind. He had to find out what was going on.

Swoosh!

Abaddon decisively stepped out of the blood pool before a portion of the blood pool followed him. It wrapped around his bare body like spider silk before transforming into a fresh red robe.

Boom!

The air rumbled in the next instant.

Abaddon swiftly darted out of his ancient floating castle and descended into Vladigold City, leaving two sonic booms in his wake.

In three short breaths, he already reached his target.

"B-Blood Ancestor!"

The Second Progenitor immediately paled with fear when Abaddon appeared before him without prior notice, looking terribly grim.

Chapter 755: Mountain Seal

"You better tell this Lord everything that has happened until now without leaving out a single detail, Klaus! If you dare hide anything, this Lord will dismantle your body, refine your divine blood, and torture your divine soul for a hundred years!" Abaddon spat gloomily.

"U-Understood, Blood Ancestor!" the Second Progenitor complied, frightened out of his wits.

He had no idea what angered Abaddon, but he didn't dare play any tricks in front of him. Abaddon's oppressive pressure was just too suffocatingly heavy and frightening.

"After you left me in charge of conquering the Great Ratholos Empire, I discovered the other side had a strong human with Soul Master potential. In order to confirm it, I woke up the remaining Vampire Lords to use them against the said strong human..."

"However, I gave the other Vampire Lords a full day to return to their homes and recover their strengths first. S-Since then, only the Fifth Progenitor and Eighth Progenitor have gone to fight on the other side... I have yet to hear further from them, Blood Ancestor."

"A-Also, the Sixth Progenitor, Eleventh Progenitor, and Thirteenth Progenitor have secretly disappeared. I have also yet to learn of their whereabouts... The Drusilla, Tepes, and Vlad families have also ceased to exist..."

"But by the looks of it, the Sixth Progenitor, Eleventh Progenitor, and Thirteen Progenitor must have fled together..."

After the Second Progenitor spoke up until that point, he became extremely nervous. He feared Abaddon would have the wrong idea about him.

Abaddon's expression darkened, but he didn't find the Thirteenth Progenitor's action surprising.

In the past, the two of them were considered rivals. The Thirteenth Progenitor's pride most likely wouldn't allow her to serve under him. As such, her looking for opportunities elsewhere to make her comeback seemed like the most logical choice.

However, Abaddon no longer put the Thirteen Progenitor in his eyes.

The person was 700,000 years behind. It was impossible for her to catch up to him in a short time, so she was not presently a threat.

Nevertheless, the Second Progenitor still had to be punished for letting three Vampire Lords run away.

Pak!

Abaddon suddenly slapped the Second Progenitor into the ground with his right hand and stepped on his head humiliatingly.

"You woke up all the Vampire Lords, and yet you failed to make use of three. Not only did you let three Vampire Lords escape, but I've even lost three loyal families. How do you intend to make up for this mistake, Klaus?" Abaddon asked.

"Please spare me, Blood Ancestor! I swear I will do better!" the Second Progenitor desperately pleaded while trying to look up at Abaddon's face.

However, all he could see from the corner of his eye was Abaddon's left side, which was missing one complete arm.

Although Abaddon regenerated a new left arm in the last twelve hours of recovery, it was not fully grown. It was only the size of an infant's and was hardly useful in its current state.

Its growth rate was extremely slow due to Hecate's lingering law powers around it.

Nevertheless, it gave the powerful and menacing Abaddon a rather comical look. Even so, no one dared laugh or comment on it, let alone the Second Progenitor, who was currently suppressed under the person's feet.

"Tell me more about the potential Soul Master. How strong is he?" Abaddon demanded with a deep frown, knowing he had to destroy this person at all costs.

It was impossible for him to make peace with Pangea after everything he had done. Furthermore, his ambition wouldn't allow it.

"Y-Yes, Blood Ancestor..." the Second Progenitor quickly complied.

"According to Melchior, the potential Soul Master is only a Peak Demigod. However, his power of law is much stronger than his rank suggests. Furthermore, it's also quite possible that he comprehended the Death Law like Supreme Thanatos..."

"Your Night Parade was completely suppressed and intimidated by that person's power..." the Second Progenitor added.

"The Death Law..." Abaddon uttered with a heavy expression.

Of the seven Great Devils, Thanatos was the only being he didn't dare to offend, precisely because of the Death Law. The Supreme Great Devil's Death Law was simply that scary.

There was resistance in the face of absolute death power.

Nevertheless, if it was the Death Law, Abaddon understood why his traces of divine will would disappear so completely without hopes of recovery.

'This world doesn't need a second Thanatos! I can't let this potential Soul Master grow! Otherwise, my days will be numbered!' Abaddon thought as his killing intent surged.

Rumble...!

Suddenly, the world greatly trembled as if it had just suffered an impactful blow from something unpredictably huge and heavy. The entire Vladigold City was alarmed and surprised by the earthquake.

Abaddon frowned, and the Second Progenitor looked doubtful.

"What just happened?"

"I'm not sure..."

"Then go and find out!"

Abaddon no longer suppressed the Second Progenitor under his foot. He granted him freedom of movement with a strong kick, sending him dozens of meters away.

"U-Understood, Blood Ancestor!" the Second Progenitor quickly scurried off to investigate after getting up.

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Great Ratholos Empire, Imperial Capital

Several minutes ago...

Shortly after Vaan wiped the Blood Ancestor's trace of divine will from the Fifth Progenitor and Eighth Progenitor's bodies, he immediately returned to the Black Mountain.

"Ah! What are you doing? You can't do that!" a herbalist assistant cried as he watched Vaan pocket all the spirit plants and herbs around the Black Mountain.

Everything was safely stored inside Vaan's Heaven-Swallowing Space.

Nevertheless, his outrageous action alarmed even the Pill King to come out of his seclusion. Countless curses and protests followed, but they all fell on deaf ears.

The Pill King and his assistants could only watch Vaan clean out their herbal gardens.

However, they had yet to witness Vaan's most outrageous act.

Rumble...!

The whole world seemingly shook as the entire Black Mountain started sinking into the ground and disappearing.

"Oh my god! Look! The Black Mountain is sinking!"

"No! This can't be happening! Why is this happening?!"

Ever since the discovery of the Black Mountain, it had never moved an inch from its location.

As such, the moment it completely disappeared from sight, it sent capital-wide panic and shock. The Great Ratholos Empire's people never expected such a thing to happen to their national treasure.

However, it didn't take long before the Black Mountain reappeared elsewhere...

"Oh my god..."

"Is that something even humanly possible...?"

The chaotic battlefield enjoyed a moment of silence as everyone, be they man, dragon, wyvern, witches, or vampires, paused their fight.

They watched on with disbelieving gazes as Vaan dropped the whole Black Mountain on the crimson light domain to seal the vampires' only point of entry and retreat.

Boom...!!!

Chapter 756: First Contact

The earthly perimeters of the crimson light domain shifted when the Black Mountain contacted the ground. Colossal masses of dirt, soil, and shattered rocks rose several dozen meters in the air like tidal waves before falling back to the ground.

The dragons immediately conjured barriers to protect the warriors, knights, and witches from the barrage.

On the other hand, the vampires either scattered with their shadow movements, blew away the fragmented earth with blood spells, or blocked it with their blood fields. However, the large mass of earth quickly piled on top of them. The accumulated weight quickly soared beyond the endurable limit, crushing the weaker vampires.

In a short time, the second vampire army, closest to the crimson light domain, suffered catastrophic casualties.

Meanwhile, the first vampire, witch, knight, and warrior armies were further away from the affected region. As such, they suffered little to no collateral damage from the Black Mountain drop.

The extent of the destruction would have been unimaginable if Vaan dropped the Black Mountain from a higher altitude.

Nevertheless, many people were dumbfounded and awed by the sight of the Black Mountain dropping into the area.

For the first time in history, everyone saw the true face of the Black Mountain. What they had seen in the past was only the tip of the iceberg. The full appearance of the Black Mountain looked like an enormous black lance.

Furthermore, it was twenty times larger than anyone could have imagined the Black Mountain to be.

After the 'Black Mountain' stabbed into the crimson light domain, only a third of its body sunk into the ground. The remaining two-thirds stood tall and towering over the land.

At the same time, the range of its gravitation pressure seemingly expanded, multiplying the weight of the surrounding earth. The buried second vampire army was crushed even further without hopes of breaking free from the colossal suppression.

Only the Royal Vampires, Noble Vampires, and some of the stronger Pureblood Vampires successfully crawled out of the heavy earth after some time and with much difficulty.

None of their haughty pride and arrogance could be seen, only endless confusion, shock, and fear.

"No... This can't be happening...!" Melchior uttered in denial as he looked up at the towering black iron pillar blocking the way back to the Evernight Territory.

"W-We've been cut off! We can't retreat! Unless we can remove this black pillar, we won't receive any reinforcements either!"

"Remove the black pillar? Didn't you see how much destruction it caused from such a small drop? Who can even move such a heavy and colossal object?"

"The one who dropped it..."

Suddenly, the surviving Royal Vampires, Noble Vampires, and Pureblood Vampires felt chills at the mention of Vaan. He was clearly just a Peak Demigod.

So, why was he even scarier than Divine Beings?!

...

"Awesome! The vampires have nowhere to retreat, and their rear forces have been crippled! Take this chance to wipe them all out once and for all!" Astoria commanded the Holy Knight Army.

At the same time, Henrietta and Emperor Varan's imperial commander gave similar commands.

Although they were greatly shocked by Vaan's unexpected and earth-shaking move, they had enough awareness not to miss the great opportunity he had created for them.

Meanwhile, the Fifth Progenitor and Eighth Progenitor were scared senseless.

It was good that they decided to work with Vaan instead of stubbornly resisting him. Otherwise, their endings wouldn't have been good. He truly had the means to kill them.

...

Nevertheless, sealing the entrance to Gehenna wasn't something Vaan originally planned.

However, he had no choice but to do so after exterminating Abaddon's traces of divine will from the two Vampire Lords. After all, such an act would have hurt and alarm the person.

There was a high chance that Abaddon wouldn't remain quiet after such an obvious provocation and offense.

As such, sealing the entrance was necessary to delay the person's descent.

That said, on the off chance that Abaddon chose to remain in Gehenna due to whatever reason that delayed him in the first place, it would be even better. In that case, destroying his traces of divine will would delay him even further.

Nevertheless, these small tricks could only buy them some time. It wouldn't win them the war.

Fortunately, Vaan had already received Narvim's good news ahead of time.

Rumble...!

The colossal black pillar trembled from time to time as it received forceful impacts on Gehenna's side. Undoubtedly, the vampires on the other side were trying to destroy the obstacle blocking their entry.

However, Vaan knew it wouldn't be easy for them, even if Abaddon personally participated.

After all, the black pillar was a fragment of a star's core. It was far sturdier than ordinary Rank 6 materials, especially toward its center. Furthermore, its powerful gravitational field significantly suppressed the vampires' blood energy and control.

Anyone could easily succumb to the gravitational pressure if they had never been tempered by it.

Suddenly, a big spatial portal appeared nearby before Narvim and Ophelia emerged. It didn't take long for Narvim to locate Vaan's position and then bring Ophelia to him.

"Supreme Leader, I have brought the head of the Black Witch Society. As you suspected, Lady Ophelia knows how to communicate with Great Devil Hecate and has agreed to help you contact her," Narvim reported.

At that moment, Ophelia stared at Vaan with evident shock.

She had already suspected it when Dragon Lord Narvim brought her to him. However, she was still shocked when she heard the verbal confirmation.

How long had it been since she last saw this young man? Three months? Two months? Or even less?

It didn't seem that long ago, but his power had already grown to a level she could only look up to.

This rate of growth was truly heaven-defying and frightening!

"We meet again, Lady Ophelia," Vaan politely greeted before saying, "I'll be counting on you to connect me with Great Devil Hecate."

Ophelia quickly recovered from her shock with a shake of her head and regained her wits with an elegant smile.

"To think that the young man I met back then would become the Supreme Leader of the Red Dragon Clan. I must say I am in awe of your fortune, destiny, and talent," Ophelia complimented

before she proceeded with a calm nod, "Don't worry, I will help you connect with Lady Hecate, as promised."

"I feel this exchange will also benefit me," Ophelia added.

Without wasting further words on idle talk, Ophelia offered a hand for Vaan to take, seeing how he seemed to be pressed for time.

"As long as we have direct contact, I can help you connect with my mind. That should allow you to hear Lady Hecate's voice through me," Ophelia explained.

She didn't need to be their owl. They could converse while her mind acted at the meeting point.

"I see," Vaan calmly nodded with understanding.

Shortly after, he grabbed her soft hand.

Chapter 757: First Contact (2)

Gehenna, Dreamdust Territory

The Dreamdust Territory was a vast land of white snow plagued with blizzards all year round. However, its whiteness wasn't comprised of icy snow alone. In fact, snow made up a smaller fraction of the land's whiteness.

Most of the whiteness came from moon dust and dream dust scattered by the Dreamdust Butterfly Demons, which were found throughout the vast white territory.

It was said that in an age long past, Gehenna used to have two moons: a big crimson moon and a smaller white one.

However, the smaller white moon was destroyed in a great ancient battle, and its fragments fell from the heavens along with the Dreamdust Butterfly Demon Race that lived on it, transforming the Dreamdust Territory into its current vast white land.

The present Dreamdust Territory was considered the most beautiful place in Gehenna. Anyone who saw it would be in awe of its beauty.

However, the Dreamdust Territory was also one of the few places most demon races tend to avoid unless one belonged to the Dreamdust Butterfly Demon Race or the Dark Fairy Demon Race ruling over it.

Everyone who had ever forced their way into this forbidden white land would be trapped in endless hallucinations and illusions.

Only welcomed guests were granted safe passage through it.

When the Sixth Progenitor, Eleventh Progenitor, and Thirteenth Progenitor reached the border, even they felt some dread despite being Vampire Lords in the Divine Blood Realm.

They were among the highest beings in Gehenna, yet they still had apprehension regarding the Dreamdust Territory.

That just showed how fearsome its illusory power was.

The Dreamdust Territory could trap countless beings for eternity. More frighteningly, they wouldn't even know they were trapped; they would enjoy beautiful, dreamy illusions until their last breath.

Despite knowing the dangers, the three Vampiress Lords steeled their resolve and set foot in the land of white. Upon entry, they immediately sensed countless bones buried in the white dust and snow.

They immediately knew a tough trial awaited them.

However, contrary to their expectations, fortune favored them. After a short two hours of persistent struggle, they gained Great Devil Hecate's curiosity and were granted entry.

More surprisingly, Great Devil Hecate permitted their stay after learning their reasons for coming to her territory.

She saw no reason to turn away those willing to serve her.

More importantly, studying and experimenting on Vampire Lords was something she had never done before. Considering her bottomless appetite for knowledge, the three's arrival naturally aroused her interest.

Meanwhile, the Sixth Progenitor, Eleventh Progenitor, and Thirteenth Progenitor were surprised when they were brought to Illusory Moon City.

The place was far more populated and developed than they could ever imagine a city in the Dreamdust Territory to be. Various human and demon races were living together in harmony.

Furthermore, the standard of living was so high that it made the Vampiress Lords feel like peasants when they compared it with the life they used to live 700,000 years ago.

"Please follow my servant. She will arrange your accommodation. Once you have settled down, you may explore the city on your own. You may contact her if you have any queries or need any help. I have something else to do. So, I will leave you now," Hecate informed the group.

As she left, she coughed up some blood, evidently still injured from her fight with Abaddon. It wasn't easy for Abaddon to recover from her attack, but the opposite was also true for her.

Not long after Hecate returned to her White Fairy Palace to recuperate, she received a spiritual link request from the wisp of divine will she left with one of her contractors.

She immediately accepted, allowing their minds to connect.

'My, it's rare for you to reach out to me first, Lady Ophelia. Usually, it's me who contacts you first...' Hecate mentioned with interest, coughing between her lines.

'You're injured, Lady Hecate?' Ophelia replied with surprise.

'Ah, yes. I had a little run-in with Abaddon while trying to get even with him. One of his Transcendent Divine Powers caught me off guard. Still, it's nothing to be worried about,' Hecate calmly explained before saying, 'Anyhow, never mind that. What do you need from me?'

'Actually, it's not me but the Supreme Leader of the Red Dragon Clan who wished to meet you, Lady Hecate,' Ophelia corrected.

'Well met, Lady Hecate,' Vaan's voice mentally sounded via the shared spiritual link.

'Oh?' Hecate expressed her surprise, but she quickly recovered, replaced with growing curiosity.

Through the shared spiritual link, Hecate could definitely sense a divine-rank dragon aura from Vaan's soul.

However, she also noticed it didn't originate from him but inherited. That wasn't all, either. There was also a divine-rank wolf aura and a few other inexplicable auras besides ordinary human aura in his soul.

She was immediately stunned, speechless by the discovery.

Just who was this Red Dragon Clan's Supreme Leader? How could a human soul possess so many divine-rank or higher auras? Since when did Pangea have such a heaven-defying person?

Although Hecate didn't look down on Vaan's human origins, she did think much of the backwater world he came from.

As such, for Vaan to possess multiple divine-rank auras was unexpected and unprecedented.

Suddenly, Hecate found herself attracted to Vaan – He was like a big puzzle waiting for her to unravel. She had a growing desire to understand the secrets hidden in his body.

But at the same time, she strangely wished no harm would befall him in the process.

'You must be... Sir Vaan, I presume?' Hecate guessed after connecting several pieces of information she recently obtained.

'Oh? So Lady Hecate has also heard of me,' Vaan calmly commented with a smile, unsurprised by the matter.

'You're a fast-rising star and a hot topic of discussion in Pangea recently. Given my extended network, it'll be strange if I haven't heard of you,' Hecate replied.

'Nevertheless, I don't believe you wanted to meet me to discuss this, Sir Vaan. Speak. What do you seek from me?'

'Your cooperation, Lady Hecate,' Vaan honestly answered.

Hecate immediately narrowed her eyes. She contemplated for a moment before her strong curiosity got the best of her.

'I can't promise I will agree, but I will at least hear you out. Please elaborate,' Hecate stated.

Chapter 758: Vaan's Offer

'I believe Lady Hecate already knows about Great Devil Abaddon's wild ambition and the current situation here. His Evernight Territory has invaded my Great Ratholos Empire, unprovoked and without justifiable cause. I wonder if I can interest Lady Hecate in joining hands to take Great Devil Abaddon down and share the benefits?'

'How interesting...'

Hecate wasn't in a hurry to provide an answer as she mulled over his particular choice of words.

'What a good "His Evernight Territory" and "my Great Ratholos Empire." I can see that you only distinguished the domains and not our worlds. I wonder why, hmm? Are you being considerate of me?'

'Not at all, Lady Hecate,' Vaan patiently replied, not minding the change of topic.

'I simply stated things as they are. Pangea and Gehenna will inevitably become one. Thus, there is no need to distinguish between them. The truth of the matter is that the two are already considered one world.'

'To stubbornly separate the two only speaks volumes of one's narrow mind and shortsight,' Vaan commented.

'Hahaha, well said!'

Hecate didn't expect to laugh heartily, but she couldn't help but find Vaan's words pleasing to her ears.

'If you truly think that, and not just saying it for the sake of my goodwill, then you have earned my respect. It's rare to meet someone from Pangea with such an open mind. It seems you have learned to accept the situation.'

'Instead of accepting, it would be more accurate to say that I am recognizing the situation and adapting accordingly, Lady Hecate,' Vaan calmly replied.

'Be that as it may, someone in Pangea with your kind of mindset is rare when it concerns Gehenna,' Hecate argued before continuing, 'Pangea is still young, and its people are underdeveloped.'

'They fear change and reject it with all their might despite its futility instead of learning to embrace the change and ride its flow into the future. If their stubborn persistence continues, only self-destruction awaits them.'

'You are mistaken, Lady Hecate.'

'Oh? How so?'

'Pangea's people—no, people in general do not fear change; they only fear uncontrollable change. The unknown is not so scary if they understand and control it.'

'So you're saying Pangea's people fear the seven Great Devils, not because of our power but because they don't understand us?' Hecate asked with interest.

'You could take it that way, Lady Hecate,' Vaan calmly acknowledged before adding, 'The seven Great Devils' powers could indeed instill fear. However, at its root, fear does not stem from power itself but the intention to use said power.'

'In other words, Pangea's people fear Abaddon because of his intention to his power to harm them. On the other hand, if a Great Devil such as your esteemed self isn't out to harm them, what do they have to fear?'

'The world has always been comprised of both weak and strong people. Does the weak fear the strong for simply being strong? Definitely not. It's how they mingle that gives birth to said fear,' Vaan stated.

'You're clearly a young soul, but why do I feel like you have lived for a very long time? I'm even more curious about you now. That said, you are absolutely right,' Hecate acknowledged.

'It's Great Devils like Abaddon that make things difficult for Great Devils like me to change the people's minds and views of us. He instilled so much fear into the world that the people have learned to fear all of us.'

'That said, since you seek my help, surely you don't expect me to do so for nothing. What have you prepared to offer me in exchange for my help?' Hecate finally asked the important question.

Vaan lightly smiled before mentioning, 'Since Lady Hecate has already fought Abaddon earlier, you must have done so out of rage due to the loss of followers you have incurred due to Abaddon's scheme.'

'That's right. But I have also taken his left arm with 10,000 drops of divine blood as compensation. So, we are considered even right now. You won't be able to use this as a reason for me to help you deal with him,' Hecate stated amusedly, curious how Vaan would respond.

'Nor did I intend to, Lady Hecate,' Vaan calmly replied, adding, 'I only wished to point out the importance you have placed on your devoted followers. Surely, their death was no small loss to you.'

'As such, this is my offer – If you can help me slay Abaddon, I am willing to acknowledge the orthodoxy of your religion. Your emissaries and worshippers can openly spread your faith without fear of persecution as long as they are carried out within my sphere of influence.'

'I will also help them build three of your temples anywhere within my sphere of influence. What do you think of this offer, Lady Hecate?' Vaan calmly asked.

'Oh? You would do that for me?' Hecate smiled before saying, 'It has just dawned upon me that you are incredibly shrewd.'

'Although I may have been the one to change the topic at the start, you did not hesitate to use it to your advantage by guiding the flow of the conversation, pointing out the difficulty of accepting change—all in a bid to increase the value of your offer.'

'And I must say you were quite successful in this aspect. Your offer is indeed tempting and hard to resist,' Hecate acknowledged.

'Does that mean you accept?' Vaan asked.

'Unfortunately, no matter how good the offer is, it is not more valuable than my life,' Hecate sighed and said, 'An all-out battle between me and Abaddon will result in mutual destruction. In the end, I won't be alive to enjoy the benefits you promised.'

'Thus, I can only reluctantly decline your offer, Sir Vaan,' Hecate stated.

However, Vaan was not disheartened by the rejection. On the contrary, he smiled and said, 'Since this is our fight, why are you assuming you would have to fight Great Devil Abaddon by yourself, Lady Hecate?'

'I believe if you add me into the equation, the odds of you surviving victoriously will increase greatly,' Vaan declared.

Chapter 759: Greatest Destiny

'You?'

Hecate sensed Vaan's soul power through their connection and frowned, unable to comprehend the source of his confidence.

'I don't want to look down on your strength, but a soon-to-be Half-step Divine Being is far stronger enough to interfere in a battle between Peak Rank 6 Divine Beings. You'll die without an intact corpse before you can do anything to shift the tides of battle in my favor.'

'As such, I fail to understand where your source of confidence comes from,' Hecate raised her doubt.

However, Vaan wasn't in a hurry to enlighten her.

'Lady Hecate, you mentioned that an all-out battle between you and Abaddon would end in mutual destruction,' Vaan mentioned before asking, 'However, this is under the assumption that you are both in peak states, correct?'

'That's right!' Hecate acknowledged.

'Then what about an Abaddon with an injured divine soul? How confident would you be in killing him and surviving then?' Vaan inquired further.

'Around fifty percent,' Hecate frowned.

'Still only fifty percent, huh? Then what if Abaddon suffers a sudden, strong spiritual attack during your battle? How confident would you be in killing him during that moment?' Vaan asked.

'Then, it would be a hundred percent,' Hecate answered confidently before saying, 'However, there's no point in asking these hypothetical situations. Abaddon's divine soul wouldn't just be magically harmed to our advantage.'

'Or, are you implying that you can hurt his divine soul to such a degree?' Hecate asked with doubt.

'Indeed, that is exactly what I was implying. However, I will also need something from you in order to make it work, Lady Hecate,' Vaan said, arousing Hecate's curiosity.

'Oh? And what would that be?' Hecate asked.

'Didn't you previously mention you obtained Abaddon's left arm and 10,000 drops of his divine blood, Lady Hecate? What do you think would happen to Abaddon if I destroyed all the traces of divine will in these 10,000 drops of divine blood with my Nihilism Law?' Vaan asked with interest.

Even he wanted to know the extent of its effect.

After all, the Fifth Progenitor and Eighth Progenitor each only possessed ten drops of divine blood's worth of Abaddon's divine will.

However, 10,000 drops of divine blood was a thousandfold of that!

If Abaddon suddenly lost such a huge amount of divine will at once, wouldn't it be comparable to a powerful soul attack?

Furthermore, in a battle between experts, a momentary lapse in focus could ultimately cost one's life!

Nevertheless, Hecate's reaction was one that Vaan did not expect.

'Nihility Law? You know the Nihility Law? How much of the Law of Nothingness have you comprehended?' Hecate quickly asked with shock.

'Up to the Peak Demigod rank for now...' Vaan answered after a moment of contemplation before fishing for information, 'You seem quite surprised about it, Lady Hecate.'

'Surprise is an understatement. I'm shocked, Sir Vaan,' Hecate replied.

'You have repeatedly amazed me despite our short exchange. With the Nihility Law, I am certain Abaddon won't be able to escape his death if we work together. However, you should refrain from showing off your Nihility Law in the future, especially in Chaos.'

'That's if you don't want to bring disaster upon yourself,' Hecate warned.

'You seem to know something that I don't. Do you mind elaborating on the Nihility Law, Lady Hecate? What does comprehending the Nihility Law entail?' Vaan sincerely asked.

For some reason, Hecate found it hard to reject his request, even though she knew she could use her knowledge to acquire additional benefits from him.

She could only attribute it to Vaan's soul being pleasing to her eye.

'The Nihility Law isn't a law that just anyone can comprehend—those who do, possess the supreme destiny of an Origin Creator and stand above the heavens. However, don't look at this as a good

thing. Not everyone can fulfill their destinies, let alone one as grand and envious as the Nihility Law entails.'

'More often than not, beings would perish before fulfilling their destinies; the greater the destiny, the higher the risk of failing. Your destiny to become an Origin Creator could be said to be the greatest destiny of all. You'll undoubtedly attract heaven's envy and tribulations.'

'The Nihility Law will attract countless powerful beings to end you or exploit you—should they learn of it,' Hecate solemnly said.

Vaan took a moment before he realized the severity of the matter.

Due to his heaven-defying talents, there was nothing he couldn't understand and learn. He didn't expect the Nihility Law to be far rarer than he had initially imagined.

'Comprehending the Nihility Law is taboo in almost all of Chaos due to its bad history with Nihility Law users. After all, the Nihility Law has the heaven-defying power to decompose everything into its most basic, purest, or primal form of energy and essence.'

'Nihility Law users have devoured entire stars and planets for their cultivation. They are the Destroyers of celestial bodies,' Hecate added.

As Hecate explained the dangers of Nihility Law users, Ophelia felt she had learned something she shouldn't have. She couldn't help but feel a sense of danger.

She wouldn't be silenced to keep the secret, would she?

Surprisingly, the sense of danger didn't come from Vaan but from Hecate. As such, Ophelia found it hard to believe, considering their relationship was quite amicable and friendly.

She would never expect Hecate to pick Vaan over her.

'So about my previous offer...' Vaan mentioned after confirming that Hecate didn't bear him ill despite learning some of his secrets.

Undoubtedly, his Boundless Sea and Sky Aura must have influenced her Dark Fairy Demon Bloodline to some extent.

Nevertheless, he still had some doubts regarding Hecate's origins.

Given her deep knowledge and high talent, he could not help but suspect her background was not as simple as it appeared.

'I accept, of course,' Hecate stated before continuing, 'I will help you deal with Abaddon if you promise me all that—and agree to one condition of mine: You have to visit my Dreamdust Territory at least once after everything is settled.'

'Sure,' Vaan saw no reason to refuse.

He also wished to learn more about Hecate, Gehenna, and Chaos. Given Hecate's vast knowledge, she was naturally the best person to seek.

Rumble...!

Suddenly, the black pillar sealing the crimson light domain shook several dozen times stronger than the previous times. Without a doubt, it must have been an attack from Abaddon.

Although the black pillar remained stable for the time being, Vaan doubted it would stay that way if it continued to receive such powerful impacts.

As such, his expression immediately turned somber.

'Lady Hecate, how long will it take you to reach the Evernight Territory?'

'Are you in a hurry?'

'It seems Abaddon suddenly decided to descend on this side. I'm afraid the seal obstructing his entry will not last long under his repeated assault.'

'What!? I will leave at once! Whatever you do, you must do your best to survive until I arrive!'

'Alright.'

Vaan softly sighed.

By the looks of it, Hecate would take some time to arrive—but not before Abaddon descended upon their world. Even though he had acquired Hecate's cooperation, he still had to face Abaddon.

There was no escaping his tribulation.

Chapter 760: Asura Law

'Do not try to face Abaddon. Buy time if you can, and run if you can't. You only need to survive until I arrive; that is all I ask of you. Abaddon's power is beyond your imagination. Even I dread his power despite fighting him to a draw,' Hecate seriously said.

'What power does he have that you would dread it so, Lady Hecate?' Vaan asked curiously.

'Abaddon has comprehended the Blood Law, Darkness Law, and Asura Law to a high level. The Blood Law and Darkness Law aren't of any concern to me, but it's a very different story for the Asura Law.'

'The Asura Law is a demonic law of slaughter and killing. Although it isn't as miraculous as the Nihility Law regarding functions, it's the most powerful law for fighting. Its attack power is arguably greater than even the Nihility Law.'

'This is because the Asura Law is the Origin Law of the Lord of Chaos,' Hecate stated.

After Vaan listened to Hecate's explanation, he quickly understood how fearsome the Asura Law was.

Although the Nihility Law was a law of the highest order in the third-dimensional world, the Asura Law had been elevated to the same level because of the Lord of Chaos transcending the heavens.

As such, the Asura Law was stronger than it was in the past.

'In the current era, it wouldn't be wrong to say the Asura Law is the strongest law in Chaos. And unlike the Nihility Law, it is quite widespread in Chaos. Comprehending the Asura Law is like a form of recognition and respect to the Lord of Chaos,' Hecate added.

Even as she was speaking to Vaan with her mind, she was rushing to the Evernight Territory at her quickest speed. Alas, her lingering wounds from the previous battle also prevented her from traveling as fast as she hoped to.

She only hoped that she could make it in time.

...

During this time, Vaan learned everything he could about Abaddon and his Asura Law.

At the same time, he was given a deeper insight into Chaos. Surprisingly, Chaos was the most fitting name for its overall situation.

Almost half of all Realm Wars that occurred in Chaos were the result of its denizens learning and advancing their understanding of the Asura Law. Another half was caused by the desire to acquire resources.

Only a small fraction of the Realm Wars were actually due to personal feuds.

Chaos was truly a chaotic place. It was far from peaceful. In this eternal world, immortality was not the main pursuit in life – Vaan didn't find this surprising.

After all, an eternal lifespan was not the same as being unkillable. Eternal life was meaningless if one did not possess matching strength to protect it. Otherwise, it could only be robbed by others.

'Ironically, life in the eternal world is more fleeting than the mortal world,' Vaan mused.

Suddenly, he thought of something and immediately asked, 'Since Realm Wars are very common in Chaos, has Gehenna ever had one?'

'Not directly, no.'

'Not directly?'

'Gehenna is only one of countless star realms in the Eternal Darkheaven Sector. While it seems to be an independent realm, it is actually one of ninety-eight star realms under the control of the Skymagia Star Kingdom.'

'One million years ago, the Skymagia Star Kingdom waged a major Realm War against the Divinesun Star Kingdom. All Rank 6 Divine Beings and above were conscripted into the war, including Gehenna's Seven Great Devils of that time.'

'Naturally, they perished and never made it back.'

'I see...'

'You're awfully laidback despite a Great Devil knocking on your door,' Hecate suddenly mentioned, noticing the lack of urgency in Vaan's tone.

'I have already laid down the strongest and sturdiest object to block Abaddon's descent, Lady Hecate. There is nothing else I can do but wait and see from here,' Vaan calmly replied.

Trying to reinforce the black pillar's defense was pointless when most people couldn't even get close to it. Even if they could, their magic powers weren't strong enough to strengthen such a sturdy and enormous object.

Furthermore, Abaddon's power was far too great. The dragons and witches would only be exhausting themselves before the greater battle ahead.

It was a far wiser choice to conserve their energy for the next waves of vampires that would emerge—should the black pillar's sturdy defense fail to obstruct their entry to Pangea.

Rumble...!

The towering black pillar shook again as it suffered another powerful blow for the seventh time in the last ten minutes. Unlike before, it did not appear as stable. The impact from the other side caused it to tilt slightly.

At the same time, several huge pieces of star core iron splintered off the black pillar, dropping to the ground with seismic booms.

As Vaan observed the shift in the black pillar, he quickly understood Abaddon's plan on the other side.

Abaddon did not want to expend too much power trying to destroy the black pillar. After all, no matter what, the black pillar was still a priceless treasure made of the densest iron from a star's core.

As such, he was only trying to knock it over to create an opening.

The black pillar did not need to be destroyed or removed as long as a clear passage between Gehenna and Pangea was formed.

To that end, countless vampires were digging up the earth on their side to destabilize the black pillar's standing.

At the same time, Abaddon and the other Vampire Lords struck the black pillar with synchronized attacks to speed up the process. They were the only ones who could get close to the black pillar.

The lower-rank vampires and livestock could only dig up the earth outside the black pillar's gravitational pressure.

Naturally, those who were a bit stronger dug a little closer.

"Keep digging! It is only a matter of time before this black pillar falls! Our entry to Pangea will be opened then!" Abaddon barked, subconsciously waving his left hand to command the vampires.

His majestic image was quickly ruined by the awkward state of his small left arm.

Nevertheless, no one dared to joke about it.

More importantly, the vampires and livestock didn't understand the sudden urgency to invade Pangea.

Even if they could help the Blood Ancestor create an opening, only the Vampire Lords could follow him to the other side. The rest couldn't do the same—not with the black pillar's gravitational pressure bearing down on them.

They would be crushed to death before they could reach the opening.