

## The Witch 921

### Chapter 921: Learning From Each Other

Shortly after Valefor gave up resisting the spar, he immediately focused all his attention on besting Vaan in every close combat exchange.

He was someone who had lived for tens of thousands of years. The accumulation of battle experience shouldn't be something Vaan could compare with.

As such, how could he lose when their powers were equal?

Moreover, his body was a True Divinity-level treasure with indestructible defense to those below it. As such, he didn't need to care about defense at all; he could go all out on attack to overwhelm Vaan.

However, was that really what he wanted?

Although Vaan truly ruffled his feathers the wrong way, Valefor didn't want to beat him in such a crude manner. A victory that relied on simply brute strength couldn't really be called a victory if he lost in other aspects, such as fighting techniques and skills.

No, even if he won that way, he would still feel like he had lost; it would leave a sour taste in his mouth.

Furthermore, his pride wouldn't allow it; he had to beat Vaan with finesse.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

The sky reverberated with powerful shockwaves as Vaan and Valefor clashed fist against fist and body against energy.

Despite being restricted to the same level of strength, Valefor was surprisingly forced back in every exchange. Such an outcome forced him to re-evaluate the situation and his opponent's strength.

How was he losing when their strengths were equal?

What was the problem?

After several dozen rounds of exchange, Valefor eventually understood where his problem was – He might have countless years of battle experience, but it was with his original body.

Now that he was using the body of the Primordial Avatar, while it was superior in every way, he had not completely mastered control of its movements.

There were minor discrepancies in each of his movements.

It was also precisely these minor discrepancies that eventually led to a large deficiency in his final attack.

Valefor thought he had nothing to learn from their spar, but he had thought wrong.

Not being able to use his full power forced Valefor to realize his foundation was not stable. He had to relearn and master control over his new body. Otherwise, he would not be able to utilize his full battle potential.

Furthermore, during their exchange, Valefor also realized he had forgotten the joy of struggling; it was the process of learning to become stronger, no matter how minor the improvements seemed.

He had become too accustomed to killing efficiency after becoming the strongest being in Gehenna of the original timeline. While it was good for taking care of weaklings, it was also not good against the strong.

In other words, he had grown used to the easy life after obtaining strength. However, enduring hardship and overcoming the challenges was where he truly felt alive.

As such, this spar with Vaan was needed, far more than Valefor hoped to believe.

"Come, Other Me! Let this master of combat see what you got!" Valefor eagerly urged with an arrogant and provoking gesture. He felt a rising sense of mental liberation and fighting spirit.

In a setting where their strengths were equal, fighting Vaan was the same as fighting himself. Only by continuously overcoming himself would he become truly strong and without weakness.

"Hm?" Vaan glanced at Valefor's change in attitude towards their spar before smirking, "Did I hit you too hard and make you suffer brain damage? Have you forgotten you have been losing to me in every exchange?"

"Where are you getting this sudden surge of confidence, hm?" Vaan questioned provokingly.

However, Valefor simply laughed, "Hahaha! You will find out soon enough, Other Me!"

Shortly after, Valefor and Vaan continued to clash and trade blows in the skies of the Purpleflame Territory. The shockwaves of their colliding fists and kicks would sway the [Eternal Purpleflames] each time.

Of course, Valefor would also be pushed back by Vaan's strength each time.

However, the distance shortened with every subsequent blow they traded. Eventually, Valefor stood his ground and was no longer forced back.

Boom! Boom!

Peng!

Vaan finally suffered an unpredictable full-powered blow from Valefor and was sent flying over several thousand meters.

"Hahaha! How satisfying! I've finally landed one!" Valefor rejoiced.

After the gap in their strengths closed, the gap in their techniques and battle experience became more apparent.

Although Vaan had a wealth of knowledge and memories of countless lifetimes, it didn't necessarily mean he had completely integrated all the battle techniques and mastered them.

Even though his unparalleled thought-processing speed greatly helped in selecting specific battle techniques in certain situations, there was still a small window of delay; he had yet to achieve muscle memory.

Sometimes, too much knowledge was a burden.

Having too many battle techniques would increase the thought-processing period in determining the best one to use in each scenario.

As a result, even a minuscule moment of hesitation could lead to instant defeat.

Vaan knew what he was lacking.

Unparalleled learning did not equal unparalleled experience. Unparalleled learning only helped to acquire unparalleled experience sooner.

In front of a battle fiend like Valefor, their technical differences were easily made clear.

Valefor had long achieved the state of muscle memory. He did not need to think when fighting; his battle techniques flowed naturally like river water and without pause.

Nevertheless, after Valefor mastered control of his body, his battle techniques also gained fluidity. He was able to add minute changes to remove rigidness and create the element of surprise and unpredictability.

In other words, he had surpassed the realm of muscle memory and reached the realm of minute subtlety.

Even when Vaan predicted Valefor's choice of battle techniques and its attack path, a slight deviation of a few degrees in angle was enough for Valefor's attack to slip through his defense.

That was how he suffered his first hit to Valefor.

"Interesting." Vaan smiled and said, "You won't be so lucky next time. You should relish the moment while you still can."

"Was it just luck? We shall see," Valefor grinned.

What should have been a vengeful fight on Valefor's part turned into a wonderful exchange of battle knowledge.

Not only was Valefor learning from Vaan, but Vaan was also learning from Valefor.

An unusual sense of friendship and tacit understanding was quickly formed between them.

#### Chapter 922: Learning From Each Other (2)

Hovering in the skies of the Purpleflame Territory, Vaan and Valefor continued to spar and learn from each other. They both understood each other had their strengths and weaknesses.

In Vaan's case, his weakness was that he had not achieved the realm of muscle memory.

The realm of muscle memory was a state of mind that required constant polishing to maintain. After all, new knowledge was learned every day. Without absorbing the knowledge properly, it would consume more time and energy to use.

It was similar to the difference between a messy folder and an organized folder; information from the organized folder was quicker and easier to find.

Meanwhile, Valefor did not seem to have any apparent weakness after mastering control of his True Divinity-level body. He had polished his realm of muscle memory and entered the realm of minute subtlety.

However, that didn't mean he couldn't improve further.

For example, if he could learn Vaan's level of foresight, his combat prowess would be able to improve a step further.

The ability to predict the opponent's actions based on information from their six senses was something Valefor found lacking compared to Vaan. After all, he was never the intelligent type and was more of the instinctual kind.

That was why he had much to learn from Vaan in this aspect.

Valefor also believed he would be able to master this ability as long as he fought and observed the person.

"What's the matter, Other Me? Why are you evading me? Are you not confident in your close combat skills anymore?" Valefor goaded after seeing Vaan avoid him.

Although he had a newfound appreciation for Vaan, it did not change the fact that beating the person also felt very satisfying. It was almost like an addictive drug, urging him for more.

However, Vaan knew he was temporarily at a disadvantage. Thus, he did not give Valefor such satisfaction.

Otherwise, he would have to eat his earlier words.

Nevertheless, while Vaan was dodging Valefor's attacks, he was also learning from his utilization of the laws.

Unlike Vaan, who wielded several laws for several different purposes, Valefor mainly used one law for all.

Even Valefor's flight ability was achieved through the clever utilization of the Asura Law.

By coating himself in a thin layer of asura power, he cut off the world's gravity. A second layer of asura power was further added to alternate between removing the air resistance or strengthening it by cutting its opposite property.

The first layer of asura power was enough to achieve levitation, but the second layer granted speed and versatility.

Moreover, it seemed such thin layers of asura power were Valefor's method of optimizing his soul power consumption. After all, he did not need to remove gravity from the whole region; he only needed to exclude himself from the world's gravity.

It was clear that his current flight ability was the result of countless years of refinement and improvement.

Nevertheless, it also showed that a single law could do many things, if not everything. The only limit was one's imagination and knowledge.

That said, Vaan doubted other Divine Beings could achieve the same mastery in other laws.

He believed it also had to do with the fact that the Asura Law was an Origin Law, which had transcended the heavens due to the Lord of Chaos stepping into Beyond True Divinity.

"Hehehe, did my last hit turn you into a timid cat? Do you think you can run forever, Other Me? How about you stop being a pussy and face me!" Valefor provoked Vaan again, feeling a little impatient with his misses.

However, contrary to his repeated provocation, Vaan did not continue evading Valefor's attacks. He suddenly turned around and faced him head-on with a bright smile.

Ding!

<You have achieved the realm of muscle memory>

<You have reached the realm of minute subtlety>

...

Having fought Valefor on two different fronts, Vaan had rapidly completed his training for what he was lacking.

Not only had he been facing Valefor in reality, but he had also used the battle experience to simulate thousands of different mental battles in his mind.

Thus, even if it had only been an hour of sparring between them, it felt more like months of accumulated sparring to Vaan.

Peng! Peng!

In the instance two fists collided with each other, Valefor's spirited expression immediately stiffened. His fist gave way to stronger force as Vaan's fists accelerated and struck him squarely in the face.

It was as if he had been struck with two fists in a single motion. The brute force immediately sent him flying over ten kilometers.

Moments later, Valefor returned to Vaan's location with an ugly expression.

"You cheated."

The only reason Valefor lost in the exchange of blows when their strength should have been equal was because Vaan's fist had actually been a stage higher in power.

Ding!

<You have used Celestial Dragonwolf Transformation>

<All physical attributes have been raised by one stage>

...

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[Strength: First-stage Divine Knight level → Second-stage Divine Knight level]

[Defense: First-stage Divine Knight level → Second-stage Divine Knight level]



[Speed: First-stage Divine Knight level → Second-stage Divine Knight level]

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Vaan ignored Valefor's accusation and charged at him again, causing the latter to defend himself hurriedly.

Peng!

Valefor was still a step slower due to the difference in their speed. His body shot straight into the ground and produced a sizable crater from the strong impact.

Shortly after, Valefor shot out of the crater with a furious look.

"What the hell are you doing now?! If you're going to raise your strength, you should have at least lifted my cultivation by a stage as well!" Valefor thundered.

"Now, why would I do that?" Vaan nonchalantly replied before saying, "I have already achieved the results I wanted from this training session, so now it's my turn to help you."

"Help me?! More like bully me, right!?" Valefor snarled.

"Sigh, I'm hurt, Other Me. How can you mistake my kind intentions?" Vaan replied with exaggerated sadness before saying, "I am helping you learn how to fight people above your level!"

"Bullshit! You just want to enjoy beating me up!" Valefor furiously replied.

However, Vaan shook his head with a sigh again. Shortly after, he immediately looked at Valefor solemnly.

"You are my trump card, Other Me. If you can't beat opponents at the same level, how can I expect you to defeat enemies above your level? You need to be like me, a First-stage Divine Warrior who can contend with Second-stage Divine Knights."

"Ptui! Don't be unreasonable, Other Me! Your bullshit strength simply doesn't make any sense at all! Do you think everyone can be like you?!" Valefor coldly spat.

#### Chapter 923: Valefor's Attitude

Vaan's heaven-defying battle power was something Valefor had never seen or heard of before.

Even if the Holy Lands were to raise extreme geniuses, their heaven-defying battle power wouldn't exceed five stages above their cultivation level.

On the other hand, Vaan's heaven-defying battle power was an entire realm above his cultivation level. If he could also maintain such heaven-defying battle power, he would practically be invincible in every realm the moment he advanced to them.

Such a genius was unprecedented in the history of Chaos.

Even if such geniuses used to exist, they could only have existed during the primordial era when the birth of Chaos had yet to rewrite the heavenly laws.

Under the new heavenly laws, could such heaven-defying geniuses still exist?

Although Valefor had personally seen the invisible shackles of the heavenly laws shatter when Vaan was forging his divine body, he still couldn't believe it.

What special abilities did Vaan have to shatter the shackles in the first place? Or was it the special environment of the Profound Pearl of Life that made it possible?

Even if he did tank the heavenly punishment for Vaan, Valefor felt like new, stronger shackles of the heavenly law would have bound him in place.

After all, would the heavens allow him to continue trekking down further on the path of defying it?

Nevertheless, Valefor understood he wouldn't be able to replicate the same feat, at least not in his present state. His understanding of the Asura Law was still lacking for now.

However, in the future, he might be able to break the shackles of the heavenly law with his Asura Law.

That said, even though Valefor had no way of achieving Vaan's degree of heaven-defying battle power, it was still possible to beat people way above his level.

After getting pummeled left and right by Vaan in his bloodline transformation state, Valefor eventually became fed up with the status quo.

"You want to see how I beat people above my level, Other Me? Fine! I'll let you see!" Valefor roared.

Shortly after Valefor pulled out the Myriad Fire Spirit Flag, Vaan immediately felt a chill. He could sense the dangerous power sleeping within it.

The power of the [Eternal Purpleflame] could definitely slay those below True Divinity.

However, Vaan didn't expect Valefor to be so capable. He actually refined a divine artifact capable of wielding the [Eternal Purpleflame]!

"Aiyo, now that's cheating!" Vaan cried, immediately retreating a huge distance from Valefor.

"Heh," Valefor smirked before saying, "This is cheating, and your transformation isn't?"

"This bloodline transformation is a part of my ability. Since it's part of my power, how can it be considered cheating? Your divine artifact, on the other hand, isn't part of your power," Vaan coolly stated.

"But I refined it, and that is my ability! So, it counts!" Valefor coldly argued.

"Alright, you win. You have certainly proven yourself. Let us end the spar here. It is meaningless to continue," Vaan shrugged nonchalantly before smiling, "Can you also refine a divine artifact for me since you are so capable?"

"If you let me pummel you a few times, I might consider it," Valefor coldly stated, feeling slightly pleased with Vaan's attitude.

However, Vaan's smile quickly disappeared.

"Only consider it? Do you think I'm an idiot? I was asking nicely because I didn't want to steal your flag. Since you don't appreciate my consideration, I'll just take your flag then," Vaan said menacingly.

"Ridiculous!" Valefor sneered and said, "This Myriad Fire Spirit Flag was refined and bound by me. Even if you take it, you can't use it. Moreover, it has its spirit."

"Are you sure you want to try risking your life to steal it from me, Other Me?" Valefor asked with a cold smile.

"I am you, and you are me. However, your will is ultimately my will. Do you think your artifact spirit will still harm me if I make you command it not to?" Vaan calmly stated.

"Hahaha!" Valefor suddenly laughed maniacally before replying furiously, "Do you think your threat will work on me? Who do you think I am? What kind of status do you think I have? ...What kind of divine artifact do you want? Any specifications?"

Vaan paused for a moment before smiling with amusement. Valefor sure changed his face quickly.

It seemed he really liked his black flag.

"I just recently obtained the Divine Weapon Refining Art from the Succubus Queen. How about I just teach that to you, and you let me off the hook? What do you say?"

Valefor tried to negotiate after seeing Vaan smiling without saying anything. He felt a little anxious due to his silence.

"Alright, fine. I'll teach you the Divine Weapon Refining Art and refine a divine artifact for you, okay?" Valefor added shortly after.

Vaan decided to continue his silence, curious to see what else Valefor would say.

As a result, Valefor gritted his teeth and said, "Actually, if your demands aren't too great, you won't need me to refine it for you personally. There are a couple hundred Dark Dwarves I've brought over to the Evernight Territory from the Redsong Territory."

"They are skilled craftsmen and can refine divine weapons of any specifications for you," Valefor stated.

"The Dark Dwarves from the Redsong Territory, huh? What have you been planning while I was busy preparing to forge my divine body?" Vaan asked with narrowed eyes.

However, he didn't give Valefor time to reply before saying, "Never mind. Taking a look myself will be faster."

Under Vaan's will, information regarding Valefor's recent activities flowed into his mind.

In a short instance, Vaan found out about everything Valefor had been doing since he entered Gehenna.

At the same time, Vaan also found out about Valefor's plans for multiple Realm Wars.

Valefor wasn't just planning to start a Realm War with the Nightmare Realm; he was also hoping to join the bigger Kingdom War between the Skymagia Star Kingdom and the Divinesun Star Kingdom that would erupt in three years.

In the original timeline, Gehenna did not participate in the Kingdom War between the Skymagia Star Kingdom and the Divinesun Star Kingdom due to Hecate's special status.

At the same time, the Valefor of that time was still developing his powers in Pangea.

However, now that the timeline had been rewinded and Valefor possessed the strength of a Half-step Divine Lord, Vaan could see why Valefor was eager to join.

Someone like Valefor lived on the battlefield and thrived through slaughter.

"Interesting," Vaan uttered with a thoughtful look before glancing at Valefor. "You sure have been busy the past ten days."

#### Chapter 924: Pangea's Situation

#### Moon Colony, Pure Mana Zone

During the past two weeks since Vaan disappeared, thousands of Black Rose citizens have received the opportunity to visit the pure mana-rich subterranean region on the other side of the moon's dimensional rift.

With each passing day, the development of space exploration and the moon colony grew faster, allowing more and more Black Rose citizens to enter the pure mana zone for training.

More than a hundred witches from the earliest batches had already advanced to the Peak-stage High Witch rank, while five thousand witches from the later batches had all reached the Early-stage High Witch rank at least.

For Peak-stage Senior Witches who have been stuck at their bottleneck for more than ten years, it only took them a maximum of twenty-four hours to achieve a breakthrough to the High Witch rank.

The record holder was a Peak-stage Senior Witch who advanced in under an hour.

However, the battle witch who did it was also someone who had been stuck at the Peak-stage Senior Witch rank for more than 250 years.

On the other hand, Peak-stage Senior Witches with fewer years of experience took up to a maximum of seventy-two hours to achieve the same result.

During this period, Henrietta, Astoria, and Eniwse also brought their own people to cultivate a group of talented elites to govern their countries and operate the Shadow Witch Order.

In particular, the Shadow Witch Order required the most talent due to the high-risk espionage work in foreign countries.

As such, Eniwse's Shadow Witch Order was given a priority quota of five hundred out of the limited slots.

Nevertheless, the current moon colony had already expanded its capacity limit to a hundred thousand people.

Once the entire wreckage of the old moon core colony was restored, the moon core colony's capacity limit could expand up to two million people. Moreover, this wasn't accounting for the moon base under construction on the surface.

Ever since the divine soil that contained the Divine Tree of Life's essence was discovered, crop cultivation on the moon's surface had progressed very rapidly.

In fact, it was too fast that it wasn't possible to build a dome to contain all of its oxygen and spirit energy production.

Doing so would only cause a great tragedy.

After all, before the oxygen and spirit energy levels could reach the state of causing the dome to explode, everyone living under the dome would already be dead.

The ever-increasing pressure would kill everyone through oxygen poisoning or spirit energy poisoning.

As such, the moon colonists had no choice but to cultivate most of the crops in an open environment. As for the crops with the dome habitat, periodic dome openings were necessary to release the elevated pressure and maintain safety levels.

Unfortunately, most of the oxygen and spirit energy dumping would be lost to space. The moon did not have enough mass to form an atmosphere like Pangea.

That said, it wasn't impossible to create it artificially through large-scale magic and formations.

However, that was a problem too early for the colonists to tackle.

After all, the moon base did not lack food or living space; it lacked people, which was limited by the Heavenreacher and the space station's capacity potential to send them all there.

Otherwise, the moon colonies would be constantly filled to full capacity, and the development of space exploration and moon colonization would achieve even more rapid progress.

In addition to the citizens of the Black Rose Empire, special moon entries were also given to important people of the Holy Knight Empire and the Great Ratholos Empire.

On the other hand, the newer members of the United Nations were only granted brief visitation rights to the space station. It was only enough for them to confirm the existence of spirit energy and bring the news back to their countries.

Nevertheless, everyone spoke positively after personally experiencing the miraculous effect of spirit energy – It was a source of energy that could allow men to compete with the witches' mainstream cultivation of mana.

Once the news spread, more unaffiliated countries considered joining the United Nations, allowing the Black Rose Empire to cement its position as a new superpower on the continent.

Its distance to hegemony became closer after the Great Ratholos Empire intervened in the messy political situation of the Nine Kingdoms Alliance and brought the Eastern Wind Kingdom under its control.

Of course, it was the Eastern Wind Kingdom that reached out to the Great Ratholos Empire first to seek its help. After all, the Eastern Wind Kingdom had been pressured and exploited by the other eight kingdoms in the alliance due to its weaker strength.

As such, the Eastern Wind Kingdom offered the Great Ratholos Empire its loyalty in exchange for pulling it away from the Nine Kingdoms Alliance's control.

Ultimately, the rest of the eight kingdoms in the Nine Kingdoms Alliance capitulated to join the United Nations.

They had subordinated themselves to the Black Rose Empire and Holy Knight Empire out of fear of the Eastern Wind Kingdom relying on the Great Ratholos Empire to seek revenge for past grievances.



However, the Eastern Wind Kingdom had no such intentions.

King Herman Winston of the Eastern Wind Kingdom was happy enough that his country could rid itself of the tumor eating away at its economy.

Nevertheless, Emperor Varan was still considered a wise ruler. He knew the loyalty it earned from the Eastern Wind Kingdom was not reliable because it lacked sincerity and was forced out of necessity.

As such, he provided the Eastern Wind Kingdom with manpower and resources to help develop its marine business and restore its economy.

Under such generosity, the Eastern Wind Kingdom became ever-grateful to the Great Ratholos Empire. It didn't cost much to Emperor Varan, but it was an unforgettable act of kindness to the people of the Eastern Wind Kingdom.

The people also started to wonder why their country hadn't joined the Great Ratholos Empire sooner, given that it was treated so well compared to the Nine Kingdoms Alliance.

On another front, the Freedom Federation had become especially anxious due to the lack of progress in its negotiation with the Black Rose Empire. After all, the cards it had for negotiating were weakening as the Black Rose Empire's position grew stronger over time.

Henrietta had found all kinds of reasons and excuses to delay and postpone their negotiations.

#### Chapter 925: Public Interview

Henrietta knew that the longer she delayed the meeting with the Freedom Federation, the stronger her negotiating position would be.

Moreover, she was not too interested in the Freedom Federation since it had only expressed its intention to enter an alliance with the Black Rose Empire and not join the United Nations as a vassal country.

After all, what kind of era did the Freedom Federation still think it was for it to make such an offer?

Henrietta was displeased by the Freedom Federation's arrogance.

If the Freedom Federation still thought it was the central figure of the human race and believed it could regain its dominance, then it was simply delusional. It was impossible for the Freedom Federation to catch up with the United Nations.

In fact, Henrietta felt it was ridiculous that so many countries had yet to join the United Nations when they had so many benefits to offer.

Why was it so difficult to unite the human race when there was a bigger threat on a grand scale? Why must humans continue to compete with each other?

It was because they were ill-informed.

In the face of change, they did not find it easy to embrace it with acceptance. Instead, they feared it with strong distrust due to the unknown.

Many countries were used to the comfort of their independent governance and did not understand the benefits of joining the United Nations. They were afraid they would be deprived of their basic rights and be treated less than human if they fell under the control of another country.

History has shown how poor the conditions had been for defeated countries. As such, it was also difficult to change history.

To rectify this situation, Henrietta created a public interview and utilized recording technology to help spread the information in it.

Furthermore, to give credibility to the public interviewed, she personally attended the interview as a guest to answer the questions. She went a step further and also invited foreign guests to ask their questions.

Of the invitations sent, Emperor Varan of the Great Ratholos Empire and King Herman Winston of the Eastern Wind Kingdom on the United Nations' side came personally.

Because of their presence, the interview almost became a political meeting between world leaders.

Alas, no one else of the same status came from the Divine League and Freedom Federation. After all, the situation in the United Nations seemed uncertain to the rest of the world.

No one could be sure that the invitation to the interview session was a ploy to capture the world leaders as hostages.

As such, the Divine League only sent three representatives, while the Freedom Federation sent ten people. There were also a few other representatives from smaller countries attending.

If not for the great distance to other countries in the southern half of Pangea, more foreign representatives would have attended.

A total of twenty foreign guests had gathered in five days.

Today was the day of the public interview, held in an open space venue with seats, tables, food, and drinks provided. It seemed more like a conference and less like an interview, given the number of attendees.

Recording magic tools were also set up around the outside of the open venue. Once everything was ready, Henrietta gestured to the foreign guests to ask their questions.

"Your Majesty, what is your Black Rose Empire trying to achieve by establishing the United Nations?" a male representative of the Freedom Federation immediately asked a serious question.

"I don't think such an obvious answer needs to be said. However, for the sake of this interview, I will answer – As everyone has already guessed, we are trying to unify all human countries under one banner," Henrietta calmly admitted.

A murmured discussion immediately started among the group of foreign guests as they whispered to each other at their group tables.

Although everyone knew the answer to the question, they still had to hear it personally.

Nevertheless, only Emperor Varan and King Herman kept their silence.

"Why do you want to unify the human countries, Your Majesty? Is it simply for world domination? Or something more noble?" another male representative from the Freedom Federation asked with a sly smile.

Regardless of which answer Henrietta gave, he was prepared to make her country look bad.

However, Henrietta soon gave an answer that he did not expect.

"World domination? Something noble? That's hard to say. It could be world domination or it could be something noble. It could even be both," Henrietta stated vaguely.

"However, that's not for me to say. Whether it is the Black Rose Empire or the other members of the United Nations, we are only following the will of my husband, Vaan Raphna. Only he could give you the answer you seek to that question."

"What I can tell you, though, is that while we are trying to unite humanity for a good cause, we are also not running a charity here," Henrietta added.

"What do you mean by those words, Your Majesty?" a male representative from the Divine League asked with a frown.

"What I mean is exactly that – We will try to save Pangeans from a possible extinction posed by outside threats. However, we won't do it for free, and we will definitely not care about those who don't want to pay the price to be saved," Henrietta seriously stated.

Her words immediately drew frowns on the face of every foreign guest.

Even King Herman of the Eastern Wind Kingdom frowned despite having already entered the United Nations.

Only Emperor Varan showed no visible change in his expression. He only came today as a listener. Thus, he didn't have any opinion to express.

"As far as I know, if Gehenna wanted to wipe us out, they would have done it long ago," the male representative from the Divine League immediately mentioned.

"Even if the Great Devils suddenly changed their minds due to Great Devil Abaddon's death, it would have nothing to do with us. Thus, when the wrath of the Great Devils descends, it would only be on your United Nations."

"A lot of humans might die as a result, but it won't be all of us. So, I don't know where this so-called threat of extinction you mentioned comes from, Your Majesty?" the Divine League representative questioned.

Henrietta glanced at him and sneered, "That's because you are ignorant."

"Do you think Pangea and Gehenna are the only worlds in this universe and the next? If you knew how frequent wars between realms break out on Gehenna's side, you realize how fleeting your life is."

"However, that kind of threat is still nothing compared to the hidden threat we face on our side!" Henrietta strongly stated.

In that instant, Emperor Varan lost his calmness as he was startled by her words.

At the same time, he quickly understood why King Herman and he, members of the United Nations, were also invited to this public interview for foreign countries.

Some important information on the hidden threat was about to be revealed!

#### Chapter 926: Public Interview (2)

"Your Majesty, what kind of hidden threat are you talking about? Did you discover something in the sea of stars?" a quiet representative of the Silverwing Duchy hurriedly asked.

"Indeed, we did find something terrifying," Henrietta nodded before saying, "We found the ruins of an ancient super-civilization that once existed before us."

"However, what threatens the survival of our species is not this ancient super-civilization but whatever destroyed it. Based on our clues, we have also come to believe the destroyer of the super-civilization is still out there, within the sea of stars."

"More importantly, they are definitely not the friendly type; they are a type of anti-life existence we currently refer to as Outer Beings, existences that do not belong to our universe."

"We don't know how they came or why they are anti-life. However, we do know they will kill any life in sight. The Great Devils of Gehenna are only ants compared to them."

Boom!

Henrietta's claim was like thunder to everyone's ears, shaking up their minds greatly. It was too shocking to believe. In fact, most of the foreign guests preferred to believe Henrietta was just being an alarmist and feeding them false information.

After all, what better way was there to promote the unification of humanity than to say there was an extinction-level threat waiting to annihilate them?

"Do you have any proof to back up your claim, Your Majesty?" the Silverwing Duchy representative gulped.

Although he didn't want to believe it, his Silverwing Duchy was a small city-state that didn't belong to any alliances or unions. As such, it would be difficult for it to survive on its own if such a great threat really existed.

"Proof? I don't need to prove anything to you," Henrietta shrugged before stating, "The proof you seek has always been in the starry sky, hidden in plain sight."

"Astrology is a study of stars as old as time. Study records and paintings of the starry sky have appeared as early as the first stage of humanity's awakening of intelligence and pursuit of knowledge."

"You only need to dig them up and compare the starry sky of the distant past to the current era to realize how many stars have already disappeared through the passage of time. So many stars don't just vanish like this at once; they were destroyed by the Outer Beings."

"Moreover, this is only accounting for the dead stars we can observe. It's hard to say how many more stars in the skies seem like they are still shining but are, in fact, already dead," Henrietta stated.

Due to the vast distance between Pangea and other stars in the universe, the stars could have been dead millions of years ago and still appear to be shining in the night sky of Pangea due to the limits of light speed.

Nevertheless, it would be horrifying if all the observable stars in the night sky were actually dead stars.

That would be painting the illusion of the universe looking fine when it was actually not.

Ka-cha!

A teacup fell on the ground and shattered as a representative from Freedom Federation's table stood up abruptly with a startling and horrific realization.

It was Director Gardner from the Starry Steel Research Tower. He had joined the interview to look for an opportunity to meet Henrietta for negotiations between their countries.

However, such ideas were already pushed to the back of his mind. At the moment, he only had a fervent desire for answers regarding the disappearing stars.

After all, he had studied astrology all his life.

The disappearing stars were something he had noticed a long time ago. He also understood the logic of dead stars still shining in the sky.

However, he never would have thought the disappearing stars would be a result of artificial destruction. He had only assumed the universe was nearing the end of its life span. Thus, more stars were suddenly dying of old age.

Unfortunately, that was only wishful thinking compared to the more terrifying possibility Henrietta suggested.

Her perspective was far too frightening to imagine.

"I am Director Gardner from the Freedom Federation's Starry Steel Research Tower. I can confirm what Empress Henrietta said regarding the disappearing stars is true!"

Director Gardner quickly introduced himself and vouched for Henrietta after attracting everyone's attention with the shattered teacup.

As an upright person, he had to point out the facts if they were true; he wouldn't hide them.

"How can that be? It is actually true?!"

Anxiety and dread immediately seeped into the hearts of the foreign guests as they panicked.

Since an authoritative person from the Freedom Federation had spoken, how could they still doubt Henrietta's credibility?

"Your Majesty, the disappearing stars are undeniable events. I also have to admit your claim is reasonable if such powerful anti-life entities exist. However, how do you know for sure that these so-called Outer Beings are responsible for the stars' destruction?"

Director Gardner looked at Henrietta as a person sincerely seeking knowledge. He was not purposely making things difficult for her.

However, Henrietta shook her head.

"That's confidential information; I can't tell you how I know, as that's related to a secret of mine," Henrietta said. "However, I can tell you something else instead."

"My husband has already encountered one of these Outer Beings when he first visited the moon. Although it was only the weakest possible Outer Being, it was still an Outer Being."

"This kind of anti-life entity hunted him on sight and only stopped when it couldn't detect his life signals," Henrietta explained.



"Oh? Can you tell us more about this encounter with the Outer Being in detail, Your Majesty?"  
Director Gardner expressed his astonishment and curiosity.

"If you want to hear more about the Outer Beings we encountered in detail, you can wait for the outer space conference we'll be holding a week later," Henrietta calmly replied, adding, "Of course, only members of the United Nations will be invited to join."

"Non-members can only wait for the information within the conference to be released at a later date. However, if you can't wait for that, you can try searching for the Outer Beings with your own means."

"I believe with enough luck, you might just catch some sightings of one in the asteroid belt with a Stargazer-type Atomic Visualizer," Henrietta mentioned.

#### Chapter 927: Migration Plan

When Director Gardner heard Henrietta's suggestion, he smiled ruefully.

A Stargazer-type Atomic Visualizer could indeed help him see the asteroid field that lay far beyond Pangea and the moon.

However, without any information, Director Gardner would not know what he should be looking for, not to mention it was practically impossible to find anything small. Even looking for a needle in a haystack wouldn't be as difficult.

Meanwhile, Henrietta glanced back at Director Gardner's silent expression.

"It seems you don't have anything to ask when the asteroid field is mentioned. Have you not used a Stargazer-type Atomic Visualizer on the asteroid field before?"

Director Gardner was immediately startled by Henrietta's question, while the others grew interested in the topic.

"Is there something special about that particular space region of giant rocks, Your Majesty?"  
Director Gardner asked.

"It seems your Stargazer-type Atomic Visualizer is not that good if you think the asteroid field is just a space region of giant rocks," Henrietta shook her head disparagingly.

"Does nothing strike your mind when you think of life-destroying entities possibly being stations there? Even the moon, where the ruins of ancient super-civilization were found, had one."

"Well, I'll just tell you. That asteroid field is a graveyard of planets. Whatever life was there, they have all been destroyed by the Outer Beings. If you find the chance to visit that place one day, you find frozen corpses and ruins of the ancient super-civilization everywhere."

"My husband and Great Devil Hecate have both been there personally, and even they did not dare explore its depths; they only scavenged in its outer regions," Henrietta said.

Director Gardner was immediately shocked senseless.

The asteroid field was an extremely large region of space, spanning several hundred million kilometers.

If there used to be planets there, they would have been countless times larger than Pangea. Such large planets would also have high gravity. Thus, if life existed out there, far from the warmth of the sun, life must have been extraordinarily powerful.

It was an especially powerful super-civilization that had already achieved interstellar travel and exoplanetary colonization, considering the ruins on the moon were previously mentioned.

Yet, such a powerful super-civilization was destroyed along with its home.

"This is just mere speculation, but the remnants of the super-civilization may have escaped to Pangea and set up some planetary-scale spirit-gathering formation to devour all the spirit energy, making Pangea look like a dead planet to the outside world."

"That may be why, even though we were deprived of our rights to higher evolution, we were permitted to survive until now.

After everyone heard Henrietta's speculation, they did not feel astonished or impressed. Instead, they felt a deep chill down their spine.

After all, if the absence of spirit energy was the reason they could hide life, then what would happen to all the spirit energy production on the space station and moon base?

Wouldn't it attract the so-called Outer Beings to exterminate them?

The Black Rose Empire was dooming them all!

Nevertheless, although many foreign guests felt angry after realizing what was happening, they did not dare express their anger; they could only show their discontent.

After all, they were still in a foreign country.

If they disrespect the ruler of the Black Rose Empire, they may not be able to make it home alive or in one piece.

Nevertheless, Emperor Varan noticed something crucial while he was listening to the question and answer session silently.

They had been fixated on the problem, but the solution had not been proposed. Even the members of the United Nations weren't informed of it.

That must also be why they were here.

"Your Majesty, what is the direction of the United Nations? Are we consolidating our power to face this extinction-level threat known as the Outer Beings?" Emperor Varan asked.

"Face the Outer Beings? You are mistaken, Emperor Varan," Henrietta shook her head and said, "The Outer Beings cannot be beaten. What my husband has encountered was only the weakest level among the Outer Beings. It was nothing more than a sentinel."

"The truly strong Outer Beings are capable of slaying god-level beings of this universe like ants. However, the Great Devils are also ants to those god-level beings. So do you understand how strong the Outer Beings are?"

"It is impossible to win against the Outer Beings. The only thing we can do is leave Pangea behind and carve out a new home for Pangeans in Chaos. That is why we are taking on risks to strengthen our forces as quickly as possible."

"The world of Chaos is not peaceful. Realm Wars are frequently initiated without necessary justifications or reasons. That's why no one else will also condemn us for forcefully taking over a foreign territory for ourselves."

"However, the condition for us to do that is that we are strong enough to replace the existing local power."

Everyone was immediately shocked by Henrietta's explanation. It was the boldest plan they had heard all day.

Pangea couldn't even get past Gehenna, so what made Henrietta think it stood a chance against the more distant realms?

The further they want to migrate, the more powerful their opponents would likely be.

"You might think it's impossible, but it is the only option we have to survive. Compared to the undefeatable Outer Beings, facing the divine beings of Chaos is much lower in difficulty."

"Moreover, we definitely possess the potential to grow as powerful as them and even stronger. My husband has already proven this possibility, and we will, too, in the near future."

"I, myself, have already become a Late-stage Transcendent Witch," Henrietta announced.

After throwing out another piece of shocking information, Emperor Varan and the others were dumbfounded.

Henrietta was able to match an Early-stage Demigod with just the cultivation of an Early-stage Transcendent Witch. Now that she was a Late-stage Transcendent Witch, didn't that mean she was as powerful as a Late-stage Demigod?

It has been that long since she advanced to Middle-stage Transcendent Witch.

She was improving so fast!

At this rate, it won't be long before they witness the birth of a Divine Witch! Of course, this was just Emperor Varan's thoughts.

The others couldn't care less.

They were more concerned about how they should deliver the information home to their country and convince their rulers to join the United Nations.

After all, if they couldn't leave with the United Nations, they would be left behind. Henrietta made it clear that the United Nations wouldn't help anyone who wasn't one of their own.

As such, once the Outer Beings tracked the scent of spirit energy to their world, everyone left behind would, without a doubt, die.

However, every foreign representative had one main point of doubt—even if they fled to Chaos, how far and where could they go?

Chaos supposedly had far more living beings there.

Once the Outer Beings were done with Pangea and moved to Chaos as well, who could stop them when Henrietta said even god-level beings couldn't?

There were so many uncertainties, but they still felt it was more reassuring to stick with the majority of the human race.

Even if they were fucked, they would at least be fucked together.

Chapter 928: Spirit Pill

Shortly after the interview ended, most of the representatives from the small foreign countries immediately bid their farewell, taking all their jotted notes and documents with them.

They urgently desired to return to their countries and inform their leaders and rulers and, at the same time, hoped to persuade them to join the United Nations quickly.

On the other hand, most of the representatives from the Divine League and Freedom Federation remained behind. Only one or two from each side were sent back to report the information. The rest stayed back in hopes of getting Henrietta to agree to a cultural exchange.

They wanted to learn more about the Black Rose Empire under the excuse that they could use its strength to persuade their leaders to view the United Nations favorably.

In truth, they were just hoping to fish for knowledge that could be used against the Black Rose Empire.

Although Henrietta was aware of their ulterior motives, she still agreed to their stay and even arranged their accommodations and hospitality.

Unless they were loyal to death for their countries, she was confident that her country's rapidly developing environment would sway their hearts and change their minds.

After all, the Black Rose Empire and the United Nations had access to far more knowledge and resources than the rest of Pangea could ever have imagined. The quality of life was constantly improved, and the overall strength of the people was also rising. Even innovative applications of existing resources and products were being researched.

"Since our foreign guests are interested in staying to learn more about our country, I will take this chance to introduce a new product we have been researching."

Following Henrietta's introduction, she took out a fluorescent green bead that was coated in a soluble, transparent, glass-like candy layer. Its clear surface also revealed tiny, blue runic lines that emitted faint traces of mana.

"Your Majesty, this is..."

The foreign guests' gazes were immediately drawn to the green pill. They all sensed some sort of unfamiliar yet familiar vital force in it.

"This is currently what one of our outer space research teams is researching. We call this a Spirit Pill. Although it's still a flawed product, it's able to contain spirit energy and allow the consumer to absorb it at a 50% loss rate."

"Spirit Energy!"

After listening to Henrietta's explanation, the foreign guests immediately exclaimed with shock and surprise.

Even Emperor Varan's eyes lit up with excitement.

A week ago, he visited the space station and experienced the benefits of spirit energy. Since then, he has been looking for opportunities to acquire more spirit energy.

As such, it was a pleasant surprise to see the Spirit Pill not losing its spirit energy.

"This Spirit Pill contains 20 units of spirit energy. Considering its 50% energy loss rate upon consumption, the consumer will only gain 10 units of spirit energy. However, that is enough for the consumer to become a cultivator."

"With 3 of these Spirit Pills, even the most ordinary person can become a Rank 1 Cultivator. With 10 Spirit Pills, they can even reach Rank 2."

"Your Majesty, are you planning to sell Spirit Pills to other countries?"

The foreign guests became even more eager and excited to learn what Henrietta's intention was for revealing the Spirit Pill.

Although it seemed obvious, someone couldn't help but ask immediately.

"That's right. We do intend to sell the Spirit Pill," Henrietta nodded before saying, "However, since production and resources are limited, we will only be selling the Spirit Pills to members of our United Nations."

"Non-members can only wait until an opportunity arises," Henrietta stated.

Though that was what she said, Spirit Pills would undoubtedly be in high demand.

As such, the UN market would be in a constant state of high demand but not enough supply. Unless the production of Spirit Pills became saturated, it would never enter the markets of foreign countries outside of the UN.

"Can't we help you mass produce it, Your Majesty? My country definitely has enough manpower and resources to expand its production," a Freedom Federation representative excitedly offered.

However, everyone else became startled before looking at him like they were looking at an idiot.

It didn't matter how much manpower and resources the Freedom Federation had.

The Spirit Pill was developed in outer space, and there was only one Heavenreacher in the Black Rose Empire.

There weren't even enough slots to send all of its own people up, so why would the Black Rose Empire look for the Freedom Federation for help in expanding its Spirit Pill production?

Did it lack talent?

Definitely not.

There were tens of millions of witches in the Black Rose Empire waiting to enter the sea of stars. Every one of them had in-depth knowledge of magic and standard control of mana.

Did the Freedom Federation have that as well?

Considering the scarcity of mana in the southern half of the Pangea continent, it was questionable if the Freedom Federation had more than a hundred thousand awakened witches, let alone a million.

Since the Freedom Federation actually had little to offer, what the hell did the Black Rose Empire need it for?



"Idiot," Emperor Varan sneered.

If the Black Rose Empire were truly looking for business partners to expand the Spirit Pill production, his Great Ratholos Empire would be the first to volunteer.

What kind of shit was the Freedom Federation?

It better queue in line properly.

The Freedom Federation representative's face quickly flushed with embarrassment after realizing he had spoken out of turn.

Even if the Freedom Federation had the desire to partner up with the Black Rose Empire, it wouldn't be his choice to make on its behalf. He was only responsible for collecting information and reporting everything back.

Only the president could make such a choice.

Director Gardner would never expect that after his surprising decision to return and report to the president personally, the new leader of the Freedom Federation representative group would embarrass them as such.

Of course, that was something he would only find out at a much later date.

#### Chapter 929: Freedom Federation's Alternative Plan

Director Gardner gave up staying back to negotiate with Henrietta because he understood the Freedom Federation wasn't in a position to deal with the Black Rose Empire on equal terms.

The Freedom Federation's magitech industry may have boosted its influence to the peak of its time, but it was still nothing compared to the Black Rose Empire's potential.

He speculated that if nothing were done to change the status quo, the entire continent would be under the Black Rose Empire's control in under a year. That was how quickly the Black Rose Empire was developing.

Of course, the Black Rose Empire was already an untouchable existence if he factored in Vaan Raphna and the Red Dragon Clan.

It took Director Gardner three days to return to Freedom Federation with the help of a space-attribute witch from the Great House of Caelestis, which had recently started a fast travel service via its spatial magic.

At the same time, the Great House of Caelestis had also relocated its headquarters to a free plot of land on the western outskirts of Sunpeak City.

Of course, the reclusive Great House of Caelestis going public attracted great attention from the world.

As such, President Hugo learned about Vaan's familial background after some research was conducted to understand the reason behind the Great House of Caelestis's big movement.

He never imagined the rising overlord was actually his distant cousin.

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Freedom Federation, Steelcore Royal Capital

Inside the presidential office, Director Gardner had just finished recounting everything he learned on his trip to the Black Rose Empire.

After President Hugo learned what had transpired at the public interview, he fell silent. Only the rhythmic tapping on the desk with his finger could be heard as he entered deep thoughts.

Although he found out Vaan Raphna was his distant cousin, he also knew this familial relationship couldn't be used to fish for benefits from the Black Rose Empire.

Neither Vaan Raphna nor President Hugo was close to the Great House of Caelestis.

After all, Vaan Raphna was an orphan who grew up fending for himself outside of the Great House of Caelestis.

On the other hand, President Hugo was part of the great Weissman Family, one of five ancient families with a secret bloodline heritage related to the Golden Dragon Pangea.

President Hugo felt a little pity for the Great House of Caelestis.

If the world knew about the Great House of Caelestis's extensive connection over the Black Rose Empire and Freedom Federation, everyone would be shocked.

However, the Great House of Caelestis itself held no political authority in any of these two countries.

Nevertheless, President Hugo quickly forgot about the Great House of Caelestis and moved on to more important matters. He had learned much from Director Gardner's information.

"What is your opinion on this matter, Director Gardner? Is it still the same as before your trip?"

President Hugo glanced at Director Gardner thoughtfully, thinking the person's mentality had changed greatly after one trip to the north.

Sure enough, Director Gardner, who had lost his confidence, sighed sadly before shaking his head.

"I'm afraid not, President. The Freedom Federation cannot keep up with the UN's monstrous growth. Even if we want to enter a fair alliance, the Black Rose Empire does not need us. It knows we are not equal. That is why Empress Henrietta delayed our meeting. Even if you met her personally, the negotiation won't go anywhere. To the Black Rose Empire, an alliance is a burden. It only wants obedient subordinates, not a friend."

"Oh? Then what do you propose we should do now, Director Gardner?"

"If the Freedom Federation still wishes to make a comeback and reclaim our dominance, our only hope lies in the remnants of the ancient super-civilization on Pangea."

"The remnants of the ancient super-civilization on Pangea, huh?"

"That's right, President. The UN suspects the remnants of the ancient super-civilization are hidden somewhere in our world, monopolizing all the spirit energy that life is supposed to produce. If we can ally with such a powerful hidden civilization, the Freedom Federation might be able to turn the situation. However, this option has a huge risk and no clear indication of success."

Although Director Gardner proposed a new idea, it was the same as not suggesting anything.

"We don't even know if this ancient super-civilization is a human civilization, not to mention its ideology and attitude to others. Without this basic information, blindly allying with it might be worse than joining the UN."

"Yes, President. That is why I said it is a big risk with no indication of success."

President Hugo tapped on his desk again while he was thinking. It was a habit of his whenever he was thinking deeply.

"May I say something, President?" Secretary Foster suddenly requested.

"Oh?" President Hugo immediately turned to his female secretary with a pleasant smile and asked, "What do you have to say, Secretary Foster?"

"While blindly reaching out to the remnant super-civilization for an alliance is very bad, looking for it in itself is not a bad idea," Secretary Foster stated.

"At least, if we find the remnant super-civilization, we might be able to determine if it is a threat or not. If it is a threat or hostile to humans, discovering this ticking time bomb sooner is always better than later."

"However, it would be best if this remnant super-civilization is already a dead civilization. That way, if we discover its hidden location, we can take all of its resources and technology for ourselves."

"Wouldn't that be the ideal situation? We can make the Freedom Federation stronger without making the UN our enemy," Secretary Foster asked.

President Hugo and Director Gardner couldn't help but feel impressed by her thinking, even though there was a low chance of finding the remnant super-civilization.

"That would be the ideal situation. However, where do we even look to find it? Most of Pangea's land had been explored, while the ocean depths are too dangerous to reach," President Hugo calmly mentioned.

"That might be the case," Secretary Foster acknowledged before saying, "However, you can try investing in Bluefin Marine Research Tower, President Hugo."

"I heard that before it gave up its project due to a lack of funding, it was researching a large, durable submersible ship that could explore the ocean floor and resist powerful sea monsters..."

"Please summon the director of the Bluefin Marine Research Tower to my office as soon as possible, Secretary Foster!"

"Yes, sir!"

#### Chapter 930: Abnormal Transcendence

Shortly after Secretary Foster left the presidential office to arrange a summoning notice for the director of the Bluefin Marine Research Tower, President Hugo turned to Director Gardner.

"In your opinion, do you prefer the remnant super-civilization to be alive or dead, Director Gardner?" President Hugo asked.

"Is that even a question? Of course, I would prefer it to a dead civilization. What good would such a powerful super-civilization do for us if it was still alive?" Director Gardner responded.

"Just like Secretary Foster said, if the remnant super-civilization is dead, its resource and technology would be ours for the taking once we find it. However, that isn't as important as the potential threat it poses if it is alive."

"After all, this remnant super-civilization might be the one behind Pangea's absence of spirit energy. Would it take kindly to the Black Rose Empire's aggressive spirit energy production in their pursuit of space exploration and colonization?"

"If we are looking at a non-human ancient super-civilization, the entire human race will be implicated once it emerges and points its sword at the Black Rose Empire."

"That's true."

President Hugo couldn't help but agree with Director Gardner's reasonable perspective regarding the remnant super-civilization.

There was a very high chance that the Black Rose Empire's spirit energy production would force the remnant super-civilization to emerge from their seclusion and start a war on the world.

If that happened, would they even be able to withstand the remnant super-civilization's wrath?

Since the Black Rose Empire suspected the remnant super-civilization was behind the spirit energy disappearance, there was no way it didn't consider their retaliation for bringing spirit energy back.

Was the Black Rose Empire purposely using spirit energy as bait to lure out the remnant super-civilization as well?

President Hugo couldn't help but sweat.

Pangea could be destroyed by the war between the Black Rose Empire and the ancient super-civilization long before the Outer Beings arrived.

The future certainly looked grim for humanity.

No matter which side the Freedom Federation stood on, the world was bound to experience a rocky storm.

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Ever since a stable route to the moon base had been established, witches and dragons have both experienced rapid improvement.

Thousands of Peak-stage Senior Witches may have achieved a breakthrough to the High Witch rank, but the Black Rose Empire had also welcomed new Transcendent Witches.

Besides Henrietta's breakthrough to the Late-stage Transcendent Witch rank, Aeliana and Astoria had both made smooth transitions to the Early-stage Transcendent Witch rank.

Hester had also returned to the group as a Transcendent Witch after being away for months.

However, she did not achieve her advancement with the help of pure mana. Instead, she had been holed up in the Red Dragon Clan, relying on dragon magic to help her overcome every bottleneck with brute force and sheer will.

Even though she had relied on dragon magic, she was still the first witch to achieve Transcendence on Pangea outside of the seven original Transcendent Witches, a feat that was deemed almost impossible to achieve.

Nevertheless, the forceful breakthroughs in the past two months had made her cultivation unstable and her mental state vulnerable.

Thus, she was sent to the moon's core region to recover under the blessing of pure mana.

Besides the advancement of the witches, the members of the Red Dragon Clan were also impressive under the miraculous effects of pure mana.

Hundreds of Rank 4 Red Dragons, both senior and junior generations, had advanced to Rank 5, becoming Transcendent-rank Red Dragons. Eight out of the nine dragon lords had all advanced to the Mid-stage Demigod level, with Lord Astarot being the closest to reaching the Late-stage Demigod level.

None of them could even believe their own rate of growth.

They felt like their weeks of slaving away on multiple big projects had also refined their control and mastery of magic, allowing the flow of pure mana inside their bodies to be especially smooth.

That said, it was Lord Narvim who had made the most improvements out of all the dragon lords.

He had been the weakest dragon lord due to the side effects of a forbidden spell he used in the past. He was stuck at the Early-stage Transcendent rank while everyone else had been Peak-stage Transcendents.

However, the pure mana of the subterranean region had actually given him a meteoric rise to the Early-stage Demigod level.

Although he was still the weakest dragon lord, it was also undeniable that the gap in strength between him and the other dragon lords had grown smaller. His wife, Khaleesi, had been the most happy for him.

Unfortunately, their happiness was short-lived. They had become deeply concerned about Eniwse.

Within the last three days, Eniwse had also returned to the subterranean region to achieve her breakthrough to the Transcendent Witch rank and, indeed, the aura of transcendence had surrounded her body on the first day.

However, they both felt something was wrong when Eniwse failed to awaken from her meditation, even after two days had passed.

Since Eniwse's body lacked the circulation of mana, Lord Narvim and Lady Khaleesi both knew she wasn't cultivating. Instead, she appeared to have fallen into a deep sleep that she could not wake up from while she was still seated in meditation.

Her occasional grimace also suggested she was experiencing unpleasant nightmares in her dreams.

Whether it was Aeliana, Astoria, or Hester, none of them had experienced such symptoms during their transcendence.

As such, there was definitely a problem with Eniwse's despite it being a success.



"How is it, Khaleesi? Did you find out what is wrong with our daughter and why she can't wake up?" Lord Narvim quickly inquired after his wife finished her regular checkup.

However, Khaleesi shook her head sadly.

"I don't know the exact details, but it seems to be some sort of conflict within her soul." Khaleesi frowned before saying, "I only hope it's not an unknown detrimental side effect of your forbidden spell that we don't know about."

"This... the side effects of the forbidden spell should only be limited to me. It shouldn't have affected our daughter's soul," Lord Narvim replied unconfidently.

Khaleesi glared at him and said, "You better hope not. Otherwise, I will never forgive you if something happens to our daughter because of it!"

"I... I understand," Lord Narvim started sweating under his wife's fierce gaze.