

Vile 1051

[Chapter 1051 Payir And Lako](#)

Eren ended up affecting the current timeline in more ways than one with his groundbreaking moves.

By curing Arizihana of the side effects of using the spiked potion, he first prevented her death. Eventually, he ended up hiring her. Arizihana had served as a very popular city protector for the city despite her relatively low-ranking status. Her absence and the absence of her iconic image prompted the city of Silvermoon to bolster its defenses.

The butcher also destroyed the Beast Bloods' hideout and weakened its influence in the region close to the city of Silvermoon. He then ended up creating a tussle between the Beast Bloods and the Illuminati after his exit from Purgatory. That affected the Beast Bloods' ability to have designs on the city of Silvermoon.

The Illuminati started studying Beast Bloods after it got into conflict. Through this study, the Illuminati also came to suspect that the city of Silvermoon was hiding the entrance to the special place that offered access to the lost path of magic.

The cultists, no matter which organization they belonged to, were crazy about the lost path of magic.

The Illuminati was no different. It also started targeting the city of Silvermoon. The strange thing was that a cultist organization followed in the Illuminati's footsteps even without knowing what the city contained. It was like a series of chain events that kept unfolding one after another.

The constant attacks on the city frustrated the city administration. The city hired prominent rankers as its city guards, which put an end to the streak of attacks. Both sides stopped escalating things any further because they both knew it wasn't in anyone's long-term interest to continue the conflict.

One could say that Jiana had saved her guild members as well as her sanity by dissolving her guild into Eren's. He did not allow the infiltrators from Layos to hurt the ex-Healers' Nirvana members. He launched preemptive strikes at Midnight Moon and caused bombing incidents in the kingdom of Layos.

The terrorist did the only thing he knew best— cause terror in the hearts of his opponents. And by doing so, he obliterated the pressure that was intended to press Jiana down.

The noblest intentions can sometimes lead to the most dreadful of outcomes. However, the opposite was true as well. Dreadful acts can sometimes prevent further escalation of violence.

Day 16: The graduation event was halfway over.

More than 5000 teams from all five academies had entered the Sansara World at the beginning of the event. Less than 1500 teams were still active in the separate dimension at this point. The competition would only become more difficult towards the end of the event.

A region in the Sansara World covered in ice and snow.

The sparse green vegetation as well as rocky terrain of the region were blanketed in a thick layer of ice. The scene looked frozen and timeless.

There were no participants supposed to be present in this region. Because this region was not easily accessible for them in the first place.

The region was not shown in the maps available for participants through the Sansara interface. So participants couldn't use normal ways of navigating the region.

In short, the participants refrained from setting foot in this region. And no sane ranker would try to explore an unmapped land in the Sansara World either. And yet, an elf was seen leaving footprints in the snow behind as he walked towards an unknown destination.

This elf had shoulder-length light brown hair and light gray eyes. His ears were not prominently elf-like. But nobody would confuse him for a human considering his aura.

This elf added to the stereotypes about elves in general. Meaning he had all the pretty features that were usually associated with his race. The young man also had an air of royalty around him, which set him apart from the normal elf populace.

Contrary to his gentle features, the young elf's expressions were anything but gentle and welcoming. He looked angry at someone or something. He looked everywhere around him from time to time as if searching for some sort of landmark to know where he was exactly.

"Your Highness Payir? What are you doing here? And why are you exploring the Sansara World without your mask?"

Another elf appeared behind the gray-eyed young elf. This elf looked older and sharper. He had white hair and long ears. The man looked to be in his mid-40s and had a nimble physique.

He was wearing light metallic armor and carried a long spear in his right hand. The spear had a long and curved blade attached to it.

"Oh! Uncle Lako. I'm so glad I found you. This shitty place was beginning to turn me mad with its view."

Payir walked up to Lako with hurried steps, a look of relief on his face. He sighed before answering his question.

"There's indeed a reason for me to be in this place. And that is... I am lost. Also, my mask was damaged in a recent fight. So I can't wear it. Fret not. Nobody among the participants recognized me. So it's fine I guess."

Payir pursed his lips and replied, leaving Lako speechless for a moment. It took a while for Lako to comment on Payir's condition.

"Your Highness Payir... you are a top contender for Layos' throne. You shouldn't be this careless. You have been sent here to gain experience. So you should focus on doing just that by clearing the targets off the hit list.

And you should have stayed further away from this place. I hope you remember what we discussed about our plan before infiltrating the kingdom of Edinburgh. This is the exact place we talked about in our plan."

Payir looked around himself one more time as if coming to terms with a newfound realization provided by Lako. He scratched his head and smiled awkwardly before answering.

"My bad uncle Lako. I didn't want to come here. But I guess I subconsciously started looking for this place after I was separated from my team with debuffs acting on all of us."

Payir gave Lako a brief overview of how he was separated from his team. The latter had no reason to doubt the former. He sighed as he felt that the royal scions from Layos were still a bit immature when it came to handling such tough situations.

"Anyway... now that I'm here... I might as well see you guys live in action. According to you uncle Lako, my first responsibility is to gain various types of experience. And there's no better way for me to do that than to see you kill Rufus Rodriguez with my own eyes."

[Chapter 1052 Ambushing Rufus](#)

The land of snow and ice.

A ranker was seen waiting for somebody under a large juniper tree covered in heavy snowfall. He seemed a bit stressed, as if afraid of what was bound to happen next.

This ranker looked old and way past his heyday. He was wearing a simple white tunic paired with white pants, which made him almost invisible against an all-white background all around him.

Most LA participants would have recognized this old man if they met him inside Sansara World. This ranker's name was Nicholas Scott. He had served as the receptionist for the Novice's Treasury in LA. He was the same old man who had sold Eren his various Novice spells in the first year.

Nicholas didn't have to wait long. Soon, a ranker appeared beside him and looked around before asking.

"Nicholas, this is the place where you sensed elven magic, right?"

Rufus asked while feeling uneasy in his heart for some reason. Being a Grandmaster ranker, his attainments in various fields were nothing to scoff at.

It was as if his subconscious mind could talk to the world around him and tell him about what was happening around him in a non-verbal fashion. All he needed to do was listen and interpret. And at this point, his senses were telling him to get away from this place. They sensed trouble heading his way.

However, he was selected as the head of the moderators inside Sansara World by Hansen Lehan. He couldn't just shirk his responsibilities and wait for the competition to end. Although one could argue that he had done just that until this point since nobody prompted him about anything except Nicholas.

Nicholas reported to Rufus that there was some unusual activity being conducted in the unmapped region of the Sansara World. Upon arrival, the receptionist reported to Rufus that he had picked up traces of intent-based magic that was especially linked with the elves.

Rufus immediately made the connection with the kingdom of Layos in his head after he heard about elven magic. Any activity related to an enemy kingdom was a serious issue. Therefore, Rufus was forced to take action and come to the site as soon as he could.

Grandmaster Rufus knew Master Nicholas because they had both worked for the same organization for so many years. Therefore, Rufus came to take action on Nicholas' report as soon as he could.

"Yes, Grandmaster Rufus. Follow me."

Nicholas started leading Rufus into the deeper part of the unmapped region. It was a while before the former stopped in his tracks and showed the latter something by pointing toward it.

A stone pillar stood in the middle of nowhere in the land of ice and snow. It had various faces of various beasts and monsters carved all over it along with some profound runes. Runes engraved on the stone surface would occasionally shine, indicating the stone pillar was engaged in its mysterious operation.

Rufus started walking towards the pillar while Nicholas stayed behind. The Master ranker let the Grandmaster entity take the lead from this point onwards.

"Hm? You are right, Nicholas. It is indeed elven magic. But I don't understand what it is supposed to do. And what is it doing..."

Nicholas flashed a cunning smile when Rufus approached a certain distance from the pillar. He stomped his right foot and activated the array that had been kept hidden masterfully up till now.

Rufus immediately understood there was something wrong. Being the head of the moderators, he shouldn't have felt suppressed by the Sansara World's laws. However, the ground cracked beneath Rufus and his ranking status was suddenly suppressed by the Sansara World's laws.

Rufus turned around with a mix of puzzle and surprise written on his face. What awaited him was the sight of a calm-looking Nicholas smiling cunningly at him.

"You.... Nicholas, you motherfucking traitor..."

Swoosh.

Lako appeared beside Nicholas before Rufus could charge at Nicholas and engage in battle with him. Rufus stopped himself from charging carelessly after Lako's appearance.

The Grandmaster ranker started observing his surroundings and found out that the restrictions were not just meant to affect him. Nicholas and Lako were also restricted by the Sansara laws, turning all of them into Novice rankers.

Rufus immediately came to the conclusion that the runic stone pillar acted like an amplifier for the Sansara World's restrictions. The amplification of restrictions overrode his authority as the moderator and turned everyone in the room into Novice rankers, irrespective of their ranking statuses and affiliations.

As a result, anyone who enters within a certain range of the pillar will be demoted to the same level as the participants on their first day at the event. Rufus assumed that he too would need to start earning Karma points and level up to lift the restrictions placed on him if he stayed near the pillar.

This was a form of debuff array made using the restrictions of the Sansara World. It was the work of a genius array master who used elven magic as the power source for the array.

Rufus was no genius at array creation and its operations. But he was sure that escaping the debuff array's range would solve the problem for him. Things were still not as grim for Rufus.

Or so he thought.

Rufus found out that the Sansara interface was not accessible to anyone in the debuff array's range. To add to that, he also started getting surrounded by a bunch of elf rankers from the kingdom of Layos who had infiltrated the event.

"The fuck... when did so many of them get in here?"

Rufus was shocked beyond belief when he saw that an unbelievable amount of enemy elves had infiltrated the event. It only pointed to one possibility. Nicholas was not the only traitor in the kingdom of Edinburgh. There have to be many like him. A huge number of Layos' deep assets who held significant positions in Edinburgh had to have been activated all at once.

There was a certain ranker who was watching the scene of Rufus' ambush while maintaining a safe distance from ground zero. Lako had called him Payir—a royal scion from Layos who had been tasked with killing future troubles.

Little did Lako or his associates know that Payir was long dead. His killer had assumed his identity and inherited some of his crucial memories. And he didn't even need an elven mask to pull off such a feat.

For this fake Payir, everyone participating in the ambush was prey irrespective of their roles.

[Chapter 1053 Spatial Tunnel](#)

"Traitor?"

Nicholas became fearless when Rufus started getting surrounded by the elves. He stepped forward and placed his hands on his face. He felt the contours of his face with his fingers before removing the Elven mask effortlessly.

Nicholas' look didn't change much except for his ears. However, the same could not be said about his mana signatures and his aura. He had changed into his original elf form.

"I was never with you guys, to begin with. Calling me a traitor doesn't even make sense. Hahaha."

Nicholas felt liberated when he removed the mask after such a long time. He felt like a huge boulder had been taken off his shoulders. He was also glad for the fact that he didn't have to go to LA and watch the young rankers' struggles on repeat.

Everyone inside the debuff array's range was affected and turned into Novice rankers including Rufus and the enemies he was surrounded by. However, the rankers involved in the ambush were all high-ranking entities. As a result, they could exert more pressure and power from their spells using their spells even if they were restricted to the Novice rank.

A fight ensued between Rufus and Lako's forces when Rufus tried to run away from the fight. When he was forced to accept that he couldn't escape, the sole ranker from Edinburgh fought valiantly.

Rufus' spells and his attacks were precise and powerful. Nobody would be able to tell that he was restricted to fighting like a Novice ranker with the kind of fight he fought.

Yet, Rufus' enemies were many. In addition, they could do what he could. Lako was Rufus' biggest enemy and his downfall. That was because Lako was also a Grandmaster. Lako's intent-based magic blurred the limits placed on him and allowed him to fight at a much higher level. As a result, Rufus was fatally injured.

Rufus Rodriguez was brought to his knees as a wolfpack of enemy rankers surrounded him. He clenched his fists and looked at them hatefully before screaming to his heart's content.

"YOU FUCKING PIGS... FIGHT ME LIKE A..."

Swoosh. Zoom. Pierce.

Lako's spear pierced Rufus's throat before he could complete what he was saying. The elf pulled his weapon out of its lodged place right away, forcing Rufus to fall flat on his face. Lako then slashed empty air with his spear to get the blood out of the blade before commenting.

"Hmph. Don't blame us. Blame that rat Isen Osan for your misfortune. He was the one who told us about what you are hiding in here after all."

Lako's spear disappeared from his hands once he confirmed that Rufus could not fight him. He gestured at a comrade of his and told him to start operating on Rufus before his death.

The elf who had stepped forward was the genius array master who had created this sub-array specific to the Sansara World which had landed Rufus in trouble. He bent down and observed Rufus' near-death condition before taking out an array disk.

The array master had made the array disk using Sansara World's items. He placed it on the ground near Rufus's head before activating it. All of a sudden, a spectral bubble encased Rufus and the array master from the rest of the rankers.

Rufus' near-death condition was stabilized even though he could not regain consciousness. The array master placed his right hand over Rufus' head and closed his eyes.

It took a while before the array master found what he was looking for. The Sasara tattoo on the back of Rufus's right hand started shining.

In the next moment, something happened outside the debuff zone's range. A peculiar mana pulse was released as a spatial tunnel opened up. The array master opened his eyes with a smile on his face. He lifted his hand off Rufus' head and turned around before commenting excitedly.

"Haha. Sir Lako, I managed to gain access to... hmm?"

The array master stopped his sentence midway because he saw Lako's shocked face while looking at the spatial tunnel. At first, the array master was unaware of what had happened. But then he looked at Lako carefully and realized that the warrior elf had his heart pierced by a dagger with a matte finish.

"What the..."

The array master quickly got up on his feet when he realized that something was wrong. He looked around to see that streaks of purple and red lightning were surrounding half of his fellow elves. It was as if someone had just finished casting their lightning spells on the elves involved in the ambush.

"Aaaaaaargh!"

"Bastard.... Who is it?"

"Fuck... reinforcement for Rufus?"

"No.... It can't be. His Highness Payir?"

"Aaaaaaargh! Kill this brat... I don't care if he's royalty or not."

Multiple screams were heard as the surviving elves understood what had happened. Just when they were feeling psyched about opening access to the Sansara World's special place, someone had used that moment as an opportunity to kill and fatally injure the elves involved in the ambush.

Even Lako was not spared from almost having the same misfortune he had dished out to Rufus. This was an ambush within an ambush. A kill was so precisely timed and precise that not even a Grandmaster could save himself from it.

Lako understood one thing with his dying breath at this point. This was not the work of a royal brat no matter how talented he was. This kind of killing had to be handled by someone much more experienced.

Lako knew he was almost dead. He looked in the array master's direction and narrowed his eyes. Taking a gulp, he sent the blood that was trying to escape his mouth back to where it came from before answering.

"Who are you?"

The array master was too stunned to speak. But he found out that Lako was not looking at him when he posed that question. Lako was looking behind the array master as if a person was standing there.

"Who am I indeed?"

That's a profound question, isn't it? Well... I am what I need to be."

The array master heard a casual voice very close to his ears. He realized too late that someone was standing behind him.

[Chapter 1054 First Grandmaster Kill?](#)

Bzzt. Swoosh. Squelp!

The array master's brain was stabbed by someone driving his matte finish dagger through his right eye socket. The attack was followed by another move that pierced his heart. A dual strike was done on the guy to ensure that his body did not execute a spell that was already set to be cast.

Lightning tongues sparked behind the still-standing-upright-but-deader-than-dead array master. Payir's image was morphed into existence. He pulled both his daggers from the array master's body.

The butcher juggled his sharp blades around him and smiled. The next moment, the bodies of the rankers he had just killed, including that of the array master, fell to the ground.

Lako couldn't even express his rage at the fake Payir's answer. That's because he took his last breath after hearing those words.

"Damn. My first Grandmaster kill. How should I celebrate this feat?"

Eren was seriously considering treating himself to some fine food and drinks once his job to kill his enemies was over. He even ignored a "this doesn't count" comment from Alephee.

The butcher then disappeared from his place and killed another ranker that he had already fatally injured. His killing mechanics were so efficient this time that his victims rarely got a chance to scream before taking their last breaths.

Only Nicolas remained to be dealt with by Lako's group at this point. He stood in his position with a mix of shock and terror on his face. While his responses were compromised, his subconscious mind was busily analyzing the mana signatures of the fake Payir. Nicholas felt that he was familiar with the mana signature of the fake Payir.

This mana signature had left a deep impression on him because of how peculiar it was in nature. He felt that it was ordinary and mysterious at the same time.

"You... the brat from the Lionheart Adventurers' Academy... you had come to visit me in the Novice's Treasury."

Nicholas remembered staring at Eren's fading back when the latter got the scroll for Beast Contract spells from him. He would have remembered Eren's name as well if he wasn't so distraught after realizing it was a mere legit participant who had unleashed so much death on the elven team.

Eren has morphed into existence a few steps away from Nicholas. He had abandoned Payir's appearance and adopted his usual looks.

He raised his eyebrows and made an "I'm impressed" face at Nicholas before commenting.

"I can see why the academy hired you.

Being able to recall minute details of random things is also a rare talent. Sadly, it has no practical value for the most part, despite its uses in the academic environment.

You should have remained as an inactive sleeper cell your whole life, old man. The easy life has already made you lose your edge."

Bzzt. Swoosh. Zoom.

Nicholas died before he realized he had been attacked. The daggers in the butcher's hands disappeared as he stretched his arms above his head to loosen his tense muscles.

The butcher took a long breath and calmed the mana circuits that he had sent into hyperdrive. Killing so many opponents while being restricted by the laws of separate dimensions was exhausting. It helped

that his opponents were even more restricted than him. But that didn't take away the hard work he had to do.

Everyone that was part of the ambush as well as the target of the ambush was dead at this point. Eren looked at Rufus and shook his head before destroying the stone pillar. He destroyed it to access the Sansara interface.

"Damn it. I killed so many of them and gained so few Karma points."

The butcher kicked a random elf's dead body to express his frustration. Since the Sansara World's restrictions were manipulated by the debuff array, the Karma points that one would get by killing them were also affected.

As a result, the meager amount of Karma points he received even after killing high-ranking entities wasn't worth it for his current level-ups.

The butcher sighed and shook his head. In the next moment, he clapped his hands and changed gears. He decided to concentrate on the job at hand.

"Is it safe to enter?"

Eren stood in his position and observed the spatial tunnel from a distance. He didn't want to dive into something only to find booby traps waiting for him. Alephee took her time to answer his questions.

"Hehe. Yes."

Alephee's response relieved Eren of his worries. He started walking towards the tunnel, away from his recent kill site. But then he froze in his steps and turned around to look at the dead array master's dead body.

"This guy's knowledge of arrays seems useful. Especially his use of using a grand-scale array as a base to create a sub-array."

The butcher decided to absorb the array master's memories. Since he was studying arrays, he could understand the intricacies of array-based magic on a deeper level. The more he understood the more fascinated he was by how broad the field was.

He could also use the field of arrays as a supplement to his potioneering skills. And the most valuable part about arrays was the fact that they could be used to overcome opponents stronger than one's self while avoiding side effects.

Furthermore, the butcher was also interested in interfering with the continent-wide array to some extent. He did not have a reason to do something so groundbreaking as yet. Even so, he felt he should prepare himself just in case.

It didn't take long for Eren to go through the array master's memories and experiences. He had hit a saturation point after absorbing so many of his victims. So neither his rank nor his elemental attainment saw much of a spike. But he could always use the knowledge of different fields he gained from performing these "environmentally-friendly" tasks.

Eren killed the elves, but left Rufus' body intact. After all, he wanted the kingdom to find out who had killed Rufus.

He wasn't sure what the impact would be inside the separate dimensions for letting the elven infiltrators kill the chief moderator of the Sansara World. But frankly, he didn't care.

"Time to gain another Mark."

Eren thought to himself before stepping into the tunnel. It wasn't obvious from his solemn face. But his slightly raised heartbeat was a testament to his excitement.

He had practically robbed this opportunity from the infiltrators' hands. However, in his heart, he felt that he was more deserving of the Sin Series Marks than anyone else.

[Chapter 1055 Demonic Altar](#)

Eren's vision was blocked by a dense amount of fog when he used the spatial tunnel to get to its other side.

The butcher couldn't even use his mana sense to navigate because the fog was interfering with his senses. So he used his soul sense and felt his surroundings.

He felt the void he was surrounded by. And the bone-chilling atmosphere that had no origins.

There was a faint glow everywhere around him. But it would be difficult to locate the light source. Eren knew what he was supposed to do. He just kept on walking in a random direction after Alephee told him that the space was magically enchanted to get him where he was supposed to go.

The fog soon started to thin down and Eren's vision started getting clearer. When he took another step, the butcher looked like he had stepped out of a thin layer of the bubble surrounding him. He immediately felt as if he was not in Sansara World anymore. He felt like he had stepped into some ancient site that had not been visited by anyone for a long time.

Rocky terrain and a pitch-black sky suddenly opened up in front of his vision. Sulfuric air filled his lungs and the smell of wood burning entered his nostrils. The butcher could see a faint source of light in front of him. So he kept walking in that direction, hoping to find something of value in this barren land.

Murmurs and hushed speeches.

Eren started hearing faint noises of some creatures talking. But he couldn't understand their language at first. He felt that he had heard these murmurs in the past.

'That time when I first activated my Domain of Wrath...'

Eren associated the murmurs with the faint whispers he had heard at the time of binding the first Sin Series Ability to himself. He knew that he wouldn't be able to understand them in a normal way. So he ignored the whispers and kept walking.

The laws of space and time seemed very blurry to Eren in this place. He felt like only a minute had passed since he had entered this special zone within the Sansara World. But at the same time, he felt like he had traveled miles and miles of distance with each step.

'Hmm... I see something.'

Soon, Eren's vision was filled with colors. That's because he started seeing various sources of fire. Several fireball-like spheres floated in the air and acted as flame stars in the night sky. It looked like there was some kind of array pattern to their alignment.

The sound of whispers increased. Eren felt like people were standing behind him talking about something that was related to him.

Eren looked around himself and started to steer away from his main path. He decided to check out what kind of place he had been summoned to.

Lightning struck and Eren started moving in the 3 O'clock direction from his position. He found out that he was facing some difficulties using his movement spell. But since there was nothing he could do to prevent those difficulties, he ignored them altogether and focused on his approach.

The close combat expert soon found himself at the edge of a cliff. Apparently, he was climbing a mountain without realizing it.

'I... I can't see anything from up here.'

Eren thought to himself as he looked down standing at the absolute edge of the cliff. What he saw was pitch-black darkness. He also found out that he couldn't use his spells normally in this place either. So he retracted from his position and continued his journey.

Step. Step. Step.

The sound of Eren's footsteps started echoing in the surroundings even though no walls were reflecting the soundwaves to their source. He soon used his movement spell to approach a special zone within this mysterious place.

A demonic altar.

This altar was floating motionlessly in the air away from the mountain Eren had climbed. A large stone bridge connected this altar to the mountain's cliff at its highest altitude.

Eren walked up to the stone bridge and observed his surroundings. He could see that there was some form of giant statue waiting for him if he used the stone bridge and got to the other side of it.

The butcher took a long breath before stepping onto the stone bridge. He could immediately feel that the altar he was heading to was some kind of mysterious place that gathered an ethereal form of energy.

The altar took this energy from the Sansara World and gathered it near its sphere of influence. It felt like this energy was alive and breathing. As if it was anticipating the new visitor's actions.

Step. Step. Step.

Soon, the stone pillar Eren was walking on started shining with a faint orange and red light as the runic symbols over it began exuding luminescence. The floating flames began to light up as the butcher approached the end of the stone bridge.

A spacious platform was waiting to greet Eren as he reached the end of the stone bridge. This platform was circular and had a runic array inscribed on it. The shape of the array was akin to the symbol of a Pentastar inside a circle. Inside the circle were some more runic symbols and lines that didn't make sense to Eren, attesting to their otherworldly origin.

Eren started approaching the statue that was waiting for him on the other side of the array from where he had entered. As he stepped into the Pentastar array, he began to understand the whispers subconsciously.

The statue Eren was seeing was at least 50 meters tall. It had a humanoid form for the most part. This large statue had two prominent horns on its head and a mean-looking face. It had kept its mouth open and the tip of its tongue was sticking out of its mouth.

It was as if this winged statue was ready to devour anything in its sight.

[Chapter 1056 Beelzebub](#)

This demon statue had glowing red eyes.

The statue also had giant wings sprouting from its back as if it could fly at any moment. As if it had claimed the entire sky as its domain.

There were a bunch of smaller demon statues that sort of looked like him. He was surrounded by them as if he were their head.

The large demon statue was extremely intimidating. It radiated a strong sense of fear, hunger, and reverence. But for some reason, Eren felt an extreme familiarity with the presence it was radiating.

He also started understanding what the whispers were trying to say to him subconsciously. They were telling him the name of the entity the statue represented.

Being a Demon Prince, this entity had proved his mettle against so many of the demons and rose above them. He had traveled to different worlds and made a name for himself. He had many names and several titles. All of them spoke volumes about his domain and his achievements.

Eren closed his eyes and started listening to the demonic whispers he had been hearing for so long. He started understanding what they were saying to him bit by bit.

Prince of Decay.

Prince of the Weather.

King of Gluttony.

Lord of the Flies.

Lord of the Flyers.

The Rotting One.

Eren started hearing the titles of the winged demonic statues one by one. He also started hearing the names the Demon Prince had earned through his countless demon soul fragments. His subconscious mind also processed that there was a familiar name on that list.

The statue's red eyes kept growing as Eren was busy understanding demonic language. A threatening pulse of demonic energy was released from the statue at the epicenter. The runes of the Pentastar array lit up and the demon whispers started getting louder.

Eren finally understood what he needed to do to gain the Sin Series Mark from this statue. He had to say the name of the Demon Prince while standing in front of the demonic altar to summon a fragment of its consciousness here.

Each snake-head of the Seven-headed Snake statue found in Purgatory represented the Seven Planes of Sins. When the butcher received the Sin of Wrath and Sin of Lust markings from the Seven-headed Snake statue, the wills of the Seven Planes of Sins judged him.

However, Eren instinctively came to know that this was not the case this time. This time, it was the current ruler of one of the Seven Planes of Sin. It would be up to him to determine whether or not he deserves the Mark related to his domain.

Eren started smiling when he understood who this particular demon statue belonged to. He opened his eyes and looked at the statue's red eyes before speaking its true demonic name.

"Beelzebub!"

Crack. Crack. Crack.

The stone surface of the demonic statue started cracking when Eren spoke the Demon Prince's name. The runic symbols inside the Pentastar array lit up and a strong demonic surge of energy was released in the surroundings. Suddenly, it affected the very fabric of space and caused the mountain Eren had climbed earlier to shake violently.

Rumble.

Beelzebub's statue came alive.

He flapped his demonic wings and released a low grunt. The stone statue no longer had the same rigidity to it. It rotated its head around and started looking for the subject who had summoned him.

At this point, the stone statue was a temporary vessel for the Lord of the Flyers.

"Raaaawr! XXXXXXXX!"

XXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX"

Beelzebub started speaking in a demonic language when he first looked at Eren. It seemed that he was angry at something or someone. And he also looked a bit disoriented as if he had just woken up from a long sleep and rudely awakened.

However, Beelzebub stopped what he was saying abruptly when he saw the subject smiling at him. He narrowed his eyes at Eren and felt his presence very carefully. He also understood the need to speak the world's language he was summoned to.

"You...."

Beelzebub managed to express a mix of shock and disbelief even with his literal stone face. He narrowed his eyes at Eren and confirmed his identity as well as his bloodline before expressing his joy.

"MY LIEGE... YOU ARE ALIVE!"

Beelzebub's voice was like a blackboard scratched with a fork. It was loud, menacing, and demonic to the core. However, for some reason, it didn't hurt Eren at all.

Eren raised his eyebrows when Beelzebub called him weirdly. He thought he was speaking to someone he already knew. So he asked for confirmation.

"Hmm? Are you not Argo?"

The Pentastar array lit up once again when Eren spoke the name of his demon beast. It sent the consciousness of Beelzebub back to where it came from and summoned the consciousness of the butcher's demon beast almost immediately.

"Wha... wha... Where the fuck am I?"

Hm? Who the fuck... has the galls to disturb this prince when he is eating?"

This time, the voice sounded familiar to Eren. It was the voice of a disgruntled Argo.

"Stop eating all the time. My city's rations will dry up before you even burp. You'll remain the fat bird forever at this rate."

Argo looked down after following the source of the voice only to find Eren staring at him. He was first confused by seeing Eren. After all, he was in the city of White Raven. And Eren was supposed to be in the capital city. But then he noticed how small Eren looked. He then started observing his body as well as his surroundings.

"Hol up.

Is this what I think it is?"

Argo scratched his forehead with one of his demonic hands and looked at Eren once again. He used his other hand to reach for Eren before lifting him in his grip.

Eren soon found himself standing over the statue's open palm as it got nearer to its face. Only when Argo felt Eren up close did he come to terms with what had happened.

Argo looked at Eren questioningly before asking in a voice coated in suspicion and trepidation.

"Yo boss!

You're not out here to claim my domain, are you?"

[Chapter 1057 Mark Of The Seven Sins: Domain Of Gluttony](#)

"You're not out here to claim my domain, are you?"

Eren didn't have to answer Argo's question. The latter started explaining something to him with passion even before receiving a response from him.

"You gotta listen to me, boss. I have done you no harm, have I?"

This Prince is always loyal to the throne...

I'mma spill the beans, boss... Those bastards... they be snitching behind your back thinkin' they are the shits... but I did no such thing like that... Uh hun!

No sir... This Prince always working hard... putting in the work. Earning his keep.

This Prince is always looking for your best interests... I even interfered with the cause-and-effect fabric of reality, hoping to meet you.

We... are a team, boss. Knowwhatimsayin! Those snitches will..."

For some reason, Argo was agitated after his consciousness was abruptly summoned to this place. Eren raised his hand to stop him from speaking up.

"Slow down, you fat bird. Nobody's after your domain or whatever. I just want the Sin Series Mark from you. You can grant me that in your current form, right?"

Argo opened his mouth to speak. But he closed it right away after processing what Eren wanted from him. Laughing, he gave him affirmation.

"Hahaha. I knew we were solid like that.

Aight. Aight. I gotchu.

One hot and crisp Mark of the Seven Sins coming right up. As a matter of fact... I'mma make it so that we both get to share the Domain of Gluttony."

Argo— or Beelzebub in his current form— put Eren down in the center of the Pentastar array. He then closed his eyes before starting to chant something in his demonic tongue.

Eren subconsciously morphed into his white-haired form. He closed his eyes and let the array's active runes climb onto him like live serpents.

Eren's existing tribal tattoos became visible and active under the influence of the Pentastar array. The newly climbed runes started mixing with Eren's existing runic tattoos.

Eren was tied to another Sin Series Plane. He possessed an ability as a result of that bond. And he knew how to use his newly acquired Ability as soon as he received it.

Argo didn't have to do much. He just became a medium to connect Eren with the Plane of Gluttony. The Plane of Gluttony readily accepted Eren. In fact, Eren felt like he could take over the Plane's Authority from Beelzebub if he wished for it.

Only now did the butcher realize why Argo or Beelzebub was nervous around him. He was fearing that his position as the ruler of the Plane might get taken away from him if Eren just wished for it through the connection.

The butcher didn't understand what ruling one of the Seven Sins of Planes meant or what its consequences would be. But he didn't want to find out. At least not yet.

He didn't want to rile up other Demon Princes because he didn't know if they would be as cooperative with him as Beelzebub. It was better to keep Beelzebub as the ruler of Gluttony and grow silently than to attract attention by removing him from his position.

Eren could also guess that other Demon Princes might attack Beelzebub right away if they find out he had lost control of his plane. The butcher would be their next target.

Eren didn't want to lose his valuable follower from the rest of the Demon Princes because of his greed for power. He might be the only friendly Demon Prince among them for all he knew.

The greed for power almost overwhelmed Eren at the time of signing the Faustian Contract. However, he didn't let that greed blind him. The Sins were supposed to be conquered anyway. The man's actions were not supposed to be driven by them, living him astray.

Eren didn't challenge Beelzebub's Authority at the time of the demonic ritual. He let the Lord of Flyers stay as the ruler of his Plane and shared some of his authority over the Plane.

It didn't take long before the Faustian contract was established.

Argo was all smiles when the ritual was completed. He wanted to chat some more with Eren about various topics. Unfortunately, he could not remain attached to his stone vessel after the demonic ceremony was over. His consciousness was sent back to where it came from, making the statue assume its previous form.

The activity inside the Pentastar array died down when Eren opened his eyes. The butcher couldn't help but smile after realizing that he had received another Sin Series Ability. That too with the help of his demon beast.

He had to admit that the Sin Series Abilities were his most powerful Trump cards. The more he had them in his arsenal the better it was for him. Even adding one of these Abilities felt like he had progressed by leaps and bounds as a ranker.

Mark of the Seven Sins- Domain of Gluttony.

Much like his Sin of Wrath, this was also a domain attack. Eren felt that Beelzebub was not talking strictly about domain-type attacks when he asked the butcher if he was after his domain. It seemed that gaining access to these domain-type attacks was an indication of a larger picture.

Eren remembered what Alephee had said to him earlier before he entered Sansara World. The Faustian Contracts for the Sin Series Marks Purgatory had given him were signed between him and the Sin Planes.

Meaning there was no demon involved in acting as the mediator.

Eren had practically challenged the Demon Prince of Wrath when he established the Faustian Contract with the Plane of Wrath directly. Apparently, the Plane did not respect its current ruler as much when Eren established its link with it.

Thus, the demon soul fragment that had overtaken Demonmir called Eren the usurper of his domain and felt threatened by him.

However, Eren was not able to connect with the Plane of Gluttony directly this time. In truth, Beelzebub only served as an intermediary, allowing him to obtain the Sin Series Mark associated with it.

The lord of the Flyers was still the ruler of the Plane. However, the Faustian Contract ensured that Eren could use some of the plane-bound powers the Demon Prince was privy to. What's more? The butcher would be able to unlock more of such plane-bound powers and Abilities as he progressed further in his ranking journey.

[Chapter 1058 Smoldering Embers Of History](#)

"Alright. What's the catch this time?"

Eren couldn't help but ask Alephee if there were any negative connotations to receiving Mark with Beelzebub's help. After all, he didn't want to deal with the Demonic Takeover no matter how much he trusted Argo.

"Hehe. Don't worry. There's no catch.

Your bloodline gives you the authority to supersede any Demon Prince's rights. You wouldn't have been able to tame Argo with the blood ritual if it wasn't like that. After all, you already have Reen, remember?

This is why I told you that you shouldn't worry too much about the Faustian Contracts. They can't do anything to you. The problem would come from the Demon Princes who might not like your presence and consider it to be a threat to their positions.

I have been slumbering for a long time and my powers are still severely limited in my current condition. So I am not sure who among the Demon Princes is loyal to the throne aside from Beelzebub. Therefore, it's wise that you play it safe.

The moral of the story is... we can't trust any demon except those who are with us. I would not have advised you to come to the demonic altar in the first place if it was not attuned to Beelzebub.

It is much better to form a Faustian Contract with the wills of the Planes directly if you want to get the remaining Sin Series Marks. You won't have to worry about anyone's loyalty and Demonic Takeover in that case."

Alephee assured Eren that he had nothing to worry about when it came to Beelzebub. The Demon Prince had done exactly what he had told Eren he'd do. He had acted as his true follower, giving Eren the confidence he needed to use the Ability without worrying about any hidden dangers.

Eren nodded his head to nobody in particular and pondered to himself. He then looked around at himself and decided to try something.

"Beelzebub."

Eren tried to summon the original consciousness of Beelzebub once again after he was done.

He had realized his mistake of saying Argo's name while standing inside the Pentastar array. He could talk to Argo anytime. But talking to the original consciousness of Beelzebub himself would have broadened his horizons so much.

Plus, he had a feeling that the Demon Prince was as loyal to him as his demon soul fragment for some reason. Meaning he would be willing to tell him answers to many of his questions honestly.

Beelzebub, or Argo's soul fragment, did not respond this time. It seemed like the place or the statue had some kind of cooldown period before it could be accessed again.

True demonic words were not meant to be spoken so casually. The act implied that one was associated with the demon realm in some form.

The mere mention of the powerful demons' true names was akin to increasing their influence in their respective worlds and making them stronger by proxy. One of the reasons the establishments of the Anfang were so adamant about not letting their masses know the history of the world was due to the consequences of speaking such names out loud.

One had to say that the Anfang alliance was very successful when it came to controlling demonic activities on the continent. Due to the large cover-up of history and a gag order through the continent-encompassing array, almost nobody knew about the demonic rituals or names of existences like Beelzebub. As a result, there was almost no demonic ranker present in the land of Anfang.

Alephee made Eren understand these things. She also told him that there was no point in staying at the demonic altar anymore as it would only get activated after a long cooldown. After all, it was not an easy task to summon the consciousness of someone like Beelzebub. Especially in the land of Anfang.

The homunculus also told him that the reason for the kingdom of Edinburgh to organize such an event inside the Sansara World was so that it could maintain the functioning of this demonic altar. The killings inside the Sansara World served as the power source for the altar to function. This was the reason why the kingdom allowed participants to get so close to its closely guarded secret. Some of them would be used as altar offerings.

Eren got back to the land of ice and snow after receiving his Sin Series Mark.

During his recent endeavor, he realized at least 20 hours had passed. Meaning he needed to start hunting for Karma points aggressively once again to make up for the lost time.

The butcher was also excited to test out his newly acquired domain-type Ability. He knew that Rufus, who was supposed to be the chief moderator inside the Sansara World, had already died. Meaning there would be no repercussions for him using the Ability inside the Sansara World as long as he was a bit careful. Many birds could be killed with one stone if he could just find the damn birds.

However, there were a few things he needed to get cleared up with Alephee. It was time he knew about his relationship with the Demon Realm. He especially wanted to learn about the bloodline that he had received from Reen.

"Alephee, who does Beelzebub see in me? Is it related to my bloodline?"

Eren needed to clear a few things with Alephee before he could start hunting other participants for Karma Points. He felt that the benefits and consequences of having this bloodline were more profound than he had initially thought.

Alephee knew something like that was coming her way. So she was prepared.

"Eren, they say that people who do not know about history are like trees without roots. So I understand your need to know about these things. Especially now, when you are starting to come in contact with the embers of history that are still smoldering.

I'll tell you as much as I think is apt for you to hear. So listen carefully."

[Chapter 1059 Elder Ichor](#)

Eren could hear the solemnity in Alephee's voice as she spoke to him.

He paid keen attention to her words as she continued.

'Demons... they have a history.

They were a lot more chaotic and bloodthirsty than they are now. No matter how strong they were, nobody could handle the demonkind. The usual tricks wouldn't work on them.

The unruly demons brought with them extreme violence, cruelty, and malice to whichever world they infiltrated. If you think the demons of today cause mayhem, you should have seen them when they didn't have a hierarchy governing their actions.'

Eren raised his eyebrows. He narrowed his eyes before commenting.

"So there's a reason the continent of Anfang doesn't want demonkind to deepen its roots here."

Alephee responded right away.

'That's right. I'm sure there are other reasons for the continent of Anfang to have a closed-door policy. But this would definitely be one of the reasons.

The demons of the past delighted in war. They always had intent-based magic supporting their cause. As such, they always liked to invoke emotions in the denizens of the world they visited.

The suffering of others brought these unruly demons equal joy. They desired nothing short of the destruction of all things because that's when their intent-based magic worked best.

These demons valued nothing save brutal strength, which was the only means to truly control them. Even then they would quickly find ways to betray those that tried to control them unless they retained their strength.

In the distant past, these demons did not have definite leaders like the Demon Princess that rules over them now. Only the most feared, violent, and murderous of Demons were capable of sustaining lasting power within the chaotic hordes. Even then, these leaders were not as respected as the Demon Princes of today.'

Alephee told Eren that nothing had changed much in the demons' way of operating since the beginning of time. It was just that they started respecting the authority of their superiors more. She elaborated on the matter in detail.

"Demons were like parasites who would try to infiltrate any world they could find before spreading mayhem and madness. However, nobody had a surefire way of dealing with them.

This was because as hated as they were by most civilizations, they were also part of Creation. And things that are originally part of the Creation would be supported by the Creation itself."

Eren didn't know that the existence of demons was such a serious matter for various worlds. He could now understand why the Anfang alliance was doing everything in its power to place a gag order on all talks related to them. After all, even the mere mention of powerful demons was enough to attract their attention.

The butcher wondered if Alephee was describing the demons' past or what they were like today. He also wondered who brought order to such chaotic beings.

Alephee provided him with the answer right away.

"Demons were natural enemies of every living person living in any world. And there was no way to stop their advent.

But everything changed when one man decided to change the way demons operated. He swam against the current and made the impossible possible with his sheer efforts and capabilities alone— without asking for anyone's help.

This man entered the demon realm all by himself and brought order to it. This was an unbelievable feat even for the so-called gods."

Eren could feel the hate Alephee had for the gods when she spoke about them. But he chose to remain silent, prompting her to continue.

"With the kind of powers he possessed, this man was like the first true heir of Creation. He created the Seven Planes of Sins by discarding most of his emotions and appointed Demon Princes as the rulers of those planes. This was how the demons learned to wield their intent-based magic to its fullest."

Eren wondered what kind of ranking status one would have to achieve to create the Planes of Sins by discarding emotions. He even wondered if such power could be measured by the rudimentary ranking standards known to him.

The butcher wasn't even sure what the concepts of the demon realm, Seven Planes of Sins, and Demon Princes truly entailed. But he decided to concentrate on what Alephee was putting forward next.

"This man claimed the entire demon realm to himself by creating the Seven Planes of Sins. The Demon Princes were basically appointed as caretakers of their property. Being the creator of the Seven Planes of Sins, he had the power to override any of the Demon Princes' authority.

He could take away their status as the rulers of their respective Planes and appoint anyone he saw fit in their place. He became the undisputed emperor of the demon realm and had Demon Kings serving under him.

The demons had a way to rise above their origins because of the order introduced by this man. They no longer tried to engage in suicide tactics with mortals and instead started competing with each other for power.

The appearance of demons continued to occur in various worlds. But things became manageable for the denizens of their respective worlds."

Alephee's voice had a tinge of nostalgia mixed in it. She took a brief pause before continuing.

"Such was the caliber of the man who ruled over demonkind with an iron fist. Of course, he doesn't exist anymore. So the throne that he used to occupy is empty and waiting to be claimed.

Hehe. Can you guess the bloodline of that man before he was erased from existence?"

Alephee sounded thrilled and elevated when she posed the rhetorical question to Eren in the end. The latter stopped in his tracks when he heard the question. He raised his hands in front of him and looked at the traces of green veins visible on his forearms.

'Elder Ichor. This is the bloodline that runs through your veins. This was the same bloodline the Emperor of the demon realm had in his day.

As such, you are his inheritor. Your bloodline gives you the right to contend for his throne. Now the question is— do you have what it takes to claim it?'

[Chapter 1060 The Unoccupied Throne](#)

'Your bloodline gives you the right to contend for his throne. Now the question is— do you have what it takes to claim it?'

Eren remained silent for a moment as he processed what Alephee had said to him so far. He started understanding why Argo was on his toes at the time of granting him the Sin Series Mark. He also understood why the Demonmir tried to kill him in front of everyone at the risk of his own safety.

The butcher took a while to respond. And when he did, he smiled.

'Haah! I am not after anybody's throne. I wasn't trying to become a half-blood with such a special bloodline anyway.

I am grateful for the benefits it provides. But with or without those benefits assisting me, I'll do what I intended to do all along.

When the time comes, I'll have my own throne.'

Alephee was pleased with Eren's answer. The butcher didn't feel special because he had inherited such a special bloodline. As far as he was concerned, it was all an accident. This thought process enabled him to stay true to the path he was treading on.

Plus, receiving such a bloodline wasn't all sunshine and rainbows. It put Eren in the crosshairs of the Demon Princess who had decided to compete for the unoccupied throne.

Eren's mind started connecting the dots as soon as such vital information was provided to him. He scratched his recently grown stubble as he asked another question to Alephee.

'What about the Mark of the Seven Sins? Was this unique source of power created by the same man?'

Alephee didn't take long to answer.

'That's right.

You may not know this. Eliza interrupted the process of taking its course when you fainted after receiving the Mark of the Seven Sins for the first time.

This was because the seven-headed snake statue that represented the Wills of the Seven Planes of Sin treated you as their rightful owner. You didn't need to prove your worth to them like the rest of the subjects. You would have received all the Sin Series Marks then and there, had Eliza not intervened.'

'Damn that old hag!'

Eren didn't care about being the inheritor of Elder Ichor. Nonetheless, he would have welcomed the benefits it had to offer him.

Eren was about to curse Eliza some more but Alephee provided him with an explanation.

'In Eliza's defense, she thought that receiving multiple Sin Series Marks at the same time might break your soul. Which would make sense if you didn't have the Elder Ichor's bloodline.

No matter how strong and talented Eliza is, she couldn't have possibly known about this bloodline or the effects it would have on the Seven-headed snake statue.

So she stopped the process midway. That mummified Sage didn't want to lose you while trying to fatten you at that time after all.'

Alephee chuckled before adding further.

'I was keeping tabs on Demonmir with my soul sense. His subconscious kept shouting at you as the usurper of his domain. That means the Demon Prince who has overtaken him doesn't know that you have the Elder Ichor bloodline.

I'm sure he would have done something extreme at that time if he knew about your status. The Demon Prince of Wrath would have resorted to using Ottoman in a suicide attack if he knew about your status as the inheritor of the Elder Ichor.

You are no usurper. The Domains of Sin belong to the Elder Ichor bloodline, and thus, to you. In fact, it's him who could be called a usurper.'

Eren was almost out of the land of ice and snow. No one could use their Sansara interface properly here because it was off the map. However, Rufus had been killed here. The butcher didn't want to be here when other moderators came looking for Rufus.

Alephee kept explaining Eren's status as the latter traversed the land.

'This is also the reason why you had so much diversity when using the Domain of Wrath right from the moment you activated it for the first time.

Think about it.

You can boost your body stats using Wrath Mana. You can turn your opponents into creatures of wrath and control them. And you can turn them into wrath flames after killing them, giving you their experiences and achievements.

How can a single Sin Series Ability grant you so many diverse ways of using it? As capable as your soul is of carrying the Sin Series Marks, it wouldn't have been possible for you unless you had this bloodline.'

Eren was a bit overwhelmed when he received this piece of information from Alephee. Only now did he understand why the Sin Series Abilities gave him such powers. The drawbacks he faced from using those Abilities were minimal while their effects were anything but normal.

Even the most recently acquired Ability Domain of Gluttony was as multifaceted as the Sin of Wrath because it was a domain-type Ability as well. This was also the reason why Eren's body was capable of using wrath and lust mana for himself.

Alephee paused for a while before adding further.

"Beelzebub's warnings made it very clear. I guess some of the Demon Princesses are now plotting to take the unoccupied throne for themselves. The empty throne must have encouraged them.

It is kind of understandable if you consider the demons' core nature. I'm surprised they waited this long.

The Demon Prince of Wrath must be one of those ambitious demons. I wonder how many Demon Princes are with him on this. Things would become really difficult if they found out about you and your bloodline.'

Alephee's voice turned grim when she spoke about Eren's potential enemies. She knew more than anybody on the land of Anfang that the Demon Princes would lay waste to the entire continent of Anfang if they came to know about Eren's existence.

Eren was definitely not ready for facing enemies of Demon Princes' levels. He needed time to grow.