

W. Secret 841

Chapter 841: The Ultimate Weapon II

Things remained calm on the hopeship. Regardless of how fierce the ongoing battle between the black cat Didimoss and the seemingly endless warships was, the peace and tranquility on the hopeship remained unaffected.

Up till now, even though Merlin had entered the hopeship, he had not gone into an all-out massacre, simply because it was unnecessary. His Illusory World was capable of beguiling everyone into an illusion or have their minds seized.

The only exception was the Senate who held the highest authority!

However, that would soon change as their whereabouts were practically in Merlin's grasp, and he knew that they were hidden in the crystal wall.

"Whoosh."

A breeze wisped by, and Merlin arrived before the crystal wall. The giant crystal wall appeared glittered and translucent, almost as if it was bigger than the dimension-level warship.

Dense words of a unique kind cluttered the crystal wall – words belonging to the Vestigial Tribe that could not even be understood by Merlin but perhaps Roman would be able to decipher them.

The words on the crystal wall should be knowledge left behind by the Vestigial Tribe that had enabled the Atlan civilization to develop at a drastic pace, so much so that it was even able to invade other civilizations.

Merlin took a deep breath, and the Flame Maxim on his body turned into a giant fireball.

"Go!"

Merlin pointed with a finger, and the giant fireball charged toward the translucent crystal wall. Although the wall was engraved with the dense knowledge and information of the Vestigial Tribe, almost enough to guide an entire civilization to develop into one comparable to that of the Void Zone, for Merlin, this was the root of disaster. If it was destroyed, then so be it, there was no reason to be sorry.

Ever since entering the Atlan Dimension, Merlin had gained a deeper understanding of the Atlan civilization. In the past, several intelligent civilizations had been born in the Atlan Dimension as well.

However, these intelligent civilizations had either never discovered the crystal wall or they had but had never thoroughly researched it and therefore had, for various reasons and causes, perished in the end.

Countless years later, when the Atlans were born, it was as if they had been blessed by the Vestigial Tribe, and was able to discover the knowledge and information left behind by them.

With this knowledge, the Atlan civilization had achieved unprecedented development until the time came when they had discovered the crystal wall. The Atlan civilization had been advancing at a tremendous pace, and even claimed themselves to be the descendants of the Vestigial Tribe.

However, the Atlan civilization were no descendants of the Vestigial Tribe. They were merely one of the countless intelligent tribes that were born from the dimensions left behind by the Vestigial Tribe. The only fortunate thing was that they had received and absorbed the plentiful knowledge of the Vestigial Tribe and their pace of development chased closely behind the Vestigial Tribe's that had once swept across the entire Void Zone.

“Boom.”

The giant fireball was forged from Merlin's ultimate Flame Maxim, and while the Atlan Dimension was able to block off the power of the natural order, it had little effect over the Maxim. The full display of Merlin's ultimate Maxim extended far beyond a little wall but even a dimension could be destroyed by it easily.

This was the source of the disaster. Without the crystal wall, even if the Atlan civilization was able to rebuild itself again, it would never be able to reach the decree in which the Vestigial Tribe had once been able to.

The powerful fireball blasted right onto the clear crystal wall but it did not shatter and fall apart as Merlin had imagined. Instead, a mysterious force, similar to the one that had enveloped the hopeship, had rendered Merlin's ultimate Maxim powerless and nonexistent.

"This mysterious force again? It seems that the Vestigial Tribe had indeed thoroughly secured and fortified this crystal wall. If it can't be destroyed, then I'll go in!"

Merlin had gotten the grasp of it. With the Black Star Armor in his possession, the light veils left behind by the Vestigial Tribe would automatically recognize it and would not stop Merlin from entering.

Thus, Merlin transformed into a black dot, and with the Black Star Armor, he once again flew toward the crystal wall.

"Hum."

In a flash of light, his figure disappeared.

...

"He's here, the foreign tribes have entered the crystal wall. If we don't make a decision now, it'll be too late..."

In the crystal wall on a staunch, sturdy warship, the Senators from the Senate were currently faced with the most difficult choice. In their hands, they held possession of the ultimate weapon yet they were unable to reach a consensus as their opinions could not be unified.

Everyone knew that once the ultimate weapon was activated, they may stand a chance to resolve the current crisis faced by the Atlan civilization. At the same time, it could ultimately destroy the Atlan civilization as well.

"Let's decide. There's no time. Even if the ultimate weapon would destroy the Atlan civilization, there's still a chance of survival. However, if we let this foreign tribe enter and seize us, then we, the Atlan civilization, will not even stand a chance. That's why I agree to activate the ultimate weapon."

One of the Senators took the lead and voiced his opinion. He had been one of the most vocal in his objections against activating the ultimate weapon.

After the Senator's statement, the other Senators soon followed. At the critical moment between the survival and fall of the civilization, the Senators had made their decisions.

"I agree to activate the ultimate weapon."

"I concur..."

Almost every one of the Senators had agreed to activate the ultimate weapon as this was their last chance.

"Alright, since everyone agrees to activate the ultimate weapon, then authorize access."

Each of the nine Senators held a share of access to the crystal wall to activate the ultimate weapon. The Senators nodded as they stood before the crystal wall. Suddenly, the translucent crystal wall began to vibrate, and then, a giant crack appeared, just like a passage.

After having studied the crystal wall for such a long time, the Atlan civilization had, at the very least, gained partial access to it and was able to control some parts of the crystal wall temporarily.

"Rumble."

As the crystal wall continued to tremble, a series of rumbling resounded as a giant passage was revealed.

The expressions of the nine Senators were heavy and stern as they peered inside the passage. It was a space of majestic splendor, majestic as if one stood in the center of the galaxy.

This was a specially designated space created by the Vestigial Tribe which housed a total of thirty pieces of Black Star Armors and hundreds of Gray Light Armors. However, the Senators

paid no heed to any of these. Instead, their gazes were locked on only the object that lied in the very center of the galaxy world.

There, a matchless, transcendent piece exuding a brilliant light as if illuminating the entire galaxy like rays of golden light, sending convulsions to one's soul.

“The ultimate weapon – the Golden Ray Armor!”

This was the greatest asset of the former Vestigial Tribe that had once dominated the entire Void Zone. Their most powerful and most formidable weapon – the Golden Ray Armor that was commensurate to the Thirty-six Emperors!

The numbers of the Golden Ray Armors were extremely rare even during the Vestigial Tribe's era. The ability to turn the ever weak and powerless Vestigial Tribe, once it was equipped, into a force that was worthy of comparison to the ultimate existences, was unfathomable even to the Thirty-six Emperors.

The ultimate weapons of the Vestigial Tribe were the three armors – the Golden Ray Armor, the Black Star Armor, and the Gray Light Armor. These were their greatest achievements, and it was these three types of armors that enabled the Vestigial Tribe to dominate the entire Void Zone and conquer millions of foreign tribes and civilizations.

The Golden Ray Armor was the ultimate existence of the ultimate weapons!

“The ultimate weapon, the Golden Ray Armor. Senators, when we first discovered the Golden Ray Armor, how the excitement thrilled and soared within us? Even after so many years, we have yet to see the slightest hope of making a breakthrough in the Golden Ray Armor...”

The Senators turned silent. Anyone who laid eyes on the Golden Ray Armor would be ablaze with excitement. However, for so many years, the Atlan civilization had failed to crack the mystery of the Black Star Armor and the Gray Light Armor, let alone the Golden Ray Armor.

They had only been able to recreate some based on the model of the Gray Light Armor but it was miles away from the real thing.

“Without the Brain of Life, no one would be able to activate the Golden Ray Amor. However, when we first discovered the Golden Ray Armor, there was something peculiar inside it. There

was a program inside that once activated, may be able to trigger the armor to activate itself. This is likely to be a strategy left behind by the Vestigial Tribe, how terrifying. Even we cannot be sure of the purpose they had intended when they left behind this program. Nevertheless, we can be certain that it will never be something so simplistic.”

The Golden Ray Amor was powerful enough to incite fear among these Senators. A Golden Ray Warrior could easily annihilate the entire Atlan civilization. As such, when they had learned that there was a strange program in the Golden Ray Armor, they had made the vigilant decision and did not immediately activate it.

The temptation of the unknown meant risks and dangers, and could even bring about the demise of the entire Atlan civilization. However, now, the Senators had been left with no other options. In the face of Merlin pressing on at every stage and getting closer, even if it was dangerous, they could only activate the Golden Ray Armor.

“Activate it.”

A Senator took a deep breath, and slowly approached the Golden Ray Armor. Then, he took out a chip, first discovered by the Atlans to be in the program of the Golden Ray Armor.

However, all these years and none were able to decipher the program, and thus, it was kept under the care of the Senators. Until now, where it could only be re-inserted back into the Golden Ray Armor.

“Tick.”

The chip was inserted into the only crack on the Golden Ray Armor, and the entire armor appeared whole as a single entity. However, it had yet to activate.

The Senator pressed down firmly on the red start button on a controller on top of the Golden Ray Armor. This was something that had taken the Atlans a great deal of time to figure out that it was the activation button to the Golden Ray Armor. It was able to boot up the program within that chip and reinvigorate the Golden Ray Armor once again.

“Perhaps, the Vestigial Tribe had deliberately left these things behind, intending to let the later ones to awaken the Golden Ray Armor. Who knows what sort of chaos it will bring...”

The Senator retired back to his place as he silently watched a golden light enshroud the body of the Golden Ray Armor.

“Swoosh.”

Suddenly, the closed “eyes” of the Golden Ray Armor abruptly opened, and in the darkness of the space and beneath the leers, it gleamed...

Chapter 842: Formidable!

“Rumble.”

The dark galaxy world trembled violently as the Golden Ray Armor that lied in the center had not only “opened” its eyes but also began to radiate rays of golden glister.

There were still no signs of life force but for an armor to suddenly move as its gaze swept over the nine Senators, caused them to feel as if they were suffocating.

“Searching for the heritors of the Vestigial Tribe. The heritors of the Vestigial Tribe unfound. Unidentified foreign tribes located approaching the crystal wall. Destroy!”

The Golden Ray Armor was uncontrolled but even then, it possessed a powerful force, and it seemed as though the program was in effect.

A ray of golden light flew toward the warship in which the Senators were located.

The nine Senators were alarmed as they yelled loudly, “Open fire! Open fire! Destroy the Golden Ray Armor at all costs!”

Then, the warship where the nine Senators were on, immediately sounded off its cannons all at once. A series of devastating roars cut across the pitch-black darkness of the galaxy world and blasted directly toward the Golden Ray Armor.

As the specially designated warship of the Senate, this dimension-level warship was seemingly more advanced than all other dimension-level warships of the Atlan civilization. Apart from the void-level warship, it was the most powerful warship of the Atlan civilization.

However, at this moment, under the golden light of the Golden Ray Armor, the powerful beam attacks were like ice under the sun and instantly melted away, and the golden light from the Golden Ray Armor blasted onto the warship.

“Boom.”

The warship exploded. In the endless bound of golden light, the nine Senators who held the greatest power and authority of the Atlan civilization, along with the dimension-level warship turned into ashes.

“Continuing the search for the heritors of the Vestigial Tribe!”

The voice of the Golden Ray Armor was monotonous and deadpanned, mechanical-like, and controlled by the program. The chip that had been left by the Vestigial Tribe was the program specifically designed for the Golden Ray Armor.

No one knew what had happened to the Vestigial Tribe, perhaps they had been destroyed by the Thirty-six Emperors, and not a single one was left, leaving only the Golden Ray Armor that they had so carefully protected behind, and this was the hope of the Vestigial

Tribe.

“Whoosh.”

The Golden Ray Armor flew out from the dark galaxy world. It took a glance at the translucent crystal wall and appeared somewhat disoriented.

“Scanning all living creatures within the perimeters in search of the heritors of the Vestigial Tribe!”

Then, an invisible fluctuation dispersed into every direction, alerting Merlin, who was also currently in the crystal wall. After all, the entire hopeship was currently enveloped under

Merlin's Illusory World, and he could sense even the faintest movement and sound that occurred on it.

"Fluctuation? An unknown life force..."

Merlin muttered to himself before he decisively began to fly toward the direction of the strange life force. During this period, he once again sensed the odd life force, which seemed to be sweeping through the entire hopeship. Merlin was surprised. Were there other foreign tribes in the Atlan Dimension?

After giving it another thought, Merlin felt that it was impossible but he became even more wary and cautious.

"A new civilization has been born but there are still no signs of the heritors of the Vestigial Tribe. Expanding the scope of search!"

The Golden Ray Armor had scanned the entire hopeship and found no one with the blood of the Vestigial Tribe. This was its mission – it must find the descendants of the Vestigial Tribe.

"Whoosh."

Merlin's figure appeared in the void, and his Mind Power immediately picked up the strange life force. It was a piece of armor, one that downright terrified Merlin that appeared just like a puppet.

"This is the Vestigial Tribe's Golden Ray Armor?"

Merlin's expression changed dramatically. He was very familiar with the three armors of the Vestigial Tribe particularly since he had discovered some information from the Black Star Armor from the Matrix. Therefore, he knew from the first sight that this was a Golden Ray Armor.

"Could it be the Vestigial Tribe? No, there's no signs of life force."

Merlin was unnerved and alarmed. Even if he was able to control the Slothful Beast, even if he did have the black cat Didimoss who could reverse the natural order, and even if his own

Illusory World was coming close to perfection – in the eyes of the ultimate weapon, the Golden Ray Armor – all those were nothing.

The Golden Ray Warrior of the Vestigial Tribe was in a class with the Thirty-six Emperors, and even the Slothful Beast could not compare.

Except, there were no signs of life force in this Golden Ray Armor at all. This meant that there was no one from the Vestigial Tribe inside or maybe this was just one of their special tactics. A Golden Ray Armor without a user, regardless of how powerful it was, still had its limits.

However, Merlin refused to take the risk as he had a dreadful, petrifying feeling that the Golden Ray Armor was getting stronger each moment it drew closer. He immediately summoned the Slothful Beast.

As soon as the colossal Slothful Beast appeared, its gigantic body was almost pressed against the crystal wall. Meanwhile, a mechanical voice sounded from the Golden Ray Armor, “Foreign tribe. No signs of the descendants of the Vestigial Tribe. They have stolen the Black Star Armor, and must be destroyed!”

It seemed that in the Golden Ray Armor’s program, all there was apart from its mission to search for the descendants of the Vestigial Tribe was to destroy. From the basic way the program had been designed, one could easily speculate just how bloodthirsty and ruthless the Vestigial Tribe had once been. It was not surprising that most of the civilizations in the Void Zone had come together in a united fight against the Vestigial Tribe.

“Roar...”

The Slothful Beast opened its mouth wide and charged toward the Golden Ray Armor, the force of the impact was strong enough to crush an entire dimension.

“Gravitational field!”

The Golden Ray Armor had not even made an effort to dodge. Instead, it merely pointed toward the Slothful Beast, and an unimaginable force of gravity instantly restricted it. This was not Roman’s gravitational field. His gravitational field was something that even the ultimate existences struggled with, let alone a Slothful Beast.

However, the Golden Ray Armor's sheer force of gravitational field, with a single finger, had instantly elicited a harrowing wail from the Slothful Beast. Its distress and agony were clear.

"Bam."

Under the restraints of the gravitational field, the Slothful Beast fell heavily on the Dimension Core. Amid its pitiful cries, it appeared to be suffering greatly.

"Quick, get up! Get up!"

Merlin repeatedly tried to use the hallucinating spell to control the Slothful Beast. However, no matter how hard it struggled, it was to no avail as it was still bound by the gravitational field to the Dimension Core. Even the Slothful Beast was no match for the devastating gravitational field.

"So, this is the Golden Ray Armor, and those who adorn it will be as powerful as the Thirty-six Emperors?"

It was the first time Merlin had ever seen the Golden Ray Armor, and the first time he realized just how powerful it was. Although he had heard tales of the power of the Vestigial Tribe whether it was the void-level warship or Roman's gravitational field, Merlin had thought that even though the Vestigial Tribe may have been powerful, their powers were still limited and did not extend to the Slothful Beast.

However, now, when he was truly faced against the uncontrolled Golden Ray Armor, that was by no means a true Golden Ray Warrior. Even so, the Slothful Beast had not been able to withstand even a single hit from it as the gravitational field had rendered the Slothful Beast powerless as it was instantly confined.

The Golden Ray Armor turned toward Merlin, and once again pointed. Suddenly, Merlin felt that his body was also constrained by the gravitational field. Although there came no fall, only that he was restrained as the Golden Ray Armor swiftly approached him.

"I can't even use the power of the natural order. The Illusory World has no effect against the Golden Ray Armor, and the Mind Power cannot penetrate through the armor either."

For the first time, Merlin felt like he was completely “defeated”, and for the first time, he faced such a powerful entity that had rendered him utterly defenseless.

It was at that moment that Merlin realized why the existence of the Thirty-six Emperors had been revered by the hundreds of millions of civilizations. They were at the peak of the entire Void Zone, and had reached the very top of it, and was completely different from the other ultimate existences.

The Thirty-six Emperors were also ultimate existences but they were on another level from the other ultimate existences. The difference was so wide they could not be compared.

“Even though I had thought of the possible dangers in the Atlan Dimension, and even considered the possibility of death, never would I have imagined that I would encounter the Golden Ray Armor, and even meet my end at the hands of a piece of armor...”

Merlin laughed. The Golden Ray Armor that was controlled by no one was akin to a puppet. However, now, Merlin was about to be killed by said puppet.

“Sputter.”

The golden light on the Golden Ray Armor suddenly flashed and flickered incessantly. As the Golden Ray Armor stopped, and the red beams in its eyes continued to flash and flicker.

“It’s out of energy?”

Merlin suddenly had a thought. Seeing the state of the Golden Ray Armor, he was reminded of the Vestigial Tribe’s warship, and there would usually appear such a red beam when it was out of energy. The Golden Ray Armor was so powerful that it could rival the Thirty-six Emperors. There was no way that it required no energy.

Sure, it was just as Merlin had guessed. The Golden Ray Armor was out of energy, and very soon, even the gravitational field that confined Merlin and the Slothful Beast disappeared. Before the Golden Ray Armor was able to recharge its energy, it could not continue to restrain Merlin with the gravitational field.

“Recharging power core! Scanning, energy discovered. Energy password discovered, entering password...”

The Golden Ray Armor mumbled to itself as it paid no heed to Merlin and the Slothful Beast. Instead, it headed straight toward the Dimension Core.

“Rumble.”

It was unclear what the Golden Ray Armor had done to the Dimension Core. The Dimension Core of the entire Atlan Dimension had always been a gigantic energy depot, seemingly endless.

However, now, under the golden light of the Golden Ray Armor, it had begun to quake violently. Suddenly, all of the warships of the Atlan civilization had detected powerful energy fluctuations.

The Dimension Core was the foundation of the Atlan Dimension. It had originally been thought to have harbored an endless source of energy, and the Atlan civilization had even once regarded it as a gift from the Vestigial Tribe.

However, now it would seem that this Dimension Core had obviously been purposely reserved for the Golden Ray Armor or, in other words, this was merely a means of the Vestigial Tribe to rebuild and revitalize the blood of the Vestigial Tribe.

Unfortunately, not a single descendant of the Vestigial Tribe was to be found.

“It turns out the Dimension Core of the Atlan civilization is the power of the Golden Ray Armor.”

Merlin was astonished. How enormous must the Atlan civilization’s Dimension Core be?

From its capability to sustain the Atlan civilization alone, it was clear of how terrifying it was as it appeared almost endless and incessant.

However, this was also proof of how powerful the Golden Ray Armor was. It had once grappled with the Thirty-six Emperors. If it were not for the fact that their numbers were few, the outcome might have been less than certain to say.

As such, the energy required by the Golden Ray Armor was naturally unfathomable by the ordinary mind. Otherwise, the Vestigial Tribe would not have possibly left behind an endless source of energy that allowed for the development of the Atlan civilization for such a long time. They had purposefully left it for the sake of the Golden Ray Armor, and it just so happened to have been discovered, and a portion of it used by the Atlans.

“It’s too late to escape now. The Golden Ray Armor is far too strong, and it’s stronger than anything and anyone I’ve ever encountered! This is my only chance. The Golden Ray Armor will need some time to devour the energy, and it’ll be at its weakest during this moment...”

Merlin stared fixedly at the Golden Ray Armor as a wild and outrageous thought crossed his mind.

Chapter 843: The Maxim, Devour I

“Since there’s no way to escape, then let’s put up a fight!”

A sliver of madness crept onto Merlin’s expression as he leaped right onto the Slothful Beast’s back, enveloped by the Flame and Darkness Maxim.

“Slothful Beast, go, unleash your greatest power!”

Merlin was prepared to put his life on the line to put up a fight. The Golden Ray Armor was terrifying, and if he were not to do so, then both Merlin and the Slothful Beast would find their end in the Atlan Dimension.

The actions of the Golden Ray Armor earlier had been incredibly atrocious and merciless as it brutishly annihilated, and he would have died had he not been able to resist. Therefore, Merlin did not hold any hopes of luck.

“Roar...”

The Slothful Beast seemed to have sensed the danger as well. Even though it was slow and was trapped in Merlin’s illusion, it was still able to sense danger.

The Slothful Beast had felt threatened by the Golden Ray Armor's gravitational field earlier. Now, it exerted everything it had as it lifted its giant, thick legs for the first time and stomped toward the Golden Ray Armor.

Originally, the Slothful Beast's strongest move was to devour as it could devour an entire dimension. However, the Golden Ray Armor was so powerful that it was as powerful as the Thirty-six Emperors. Even if it was swallowed into the Slothful Beast's body, it could still easily escape. As such, the Slothful Beast might as well stomp on it.

With the Slothful Beast's power of a single stamp, an entire powerful dimension be immediately destroyed. After all, in the vast Void Zone, there were very few entities that could intimidate the Slothful Beast into unleashing its strongest force.

The Golden Ray Armor ignored Merlin and the Slothful Beast. It appeared that it was still grasping onto that humongous Dimension Core as it continued to absorb the enormous energy contained inside.

"Hoo, hoo, hoo."

The Atlan Dimension's Dimension Core was incomparably ginormous, and its energy seemingly endless. However, under the constant drain of the Golden Ray Armor, it was shrinking at a devastatingly rapid pace. God knew how many dimension-level warships could sustain on such a tremendous amount of energy.

Even if the Atlan civilization was destroyed and countless civilizations were born, it would not consume much energy. The energy contained within this Dimension Core was enough to sustain the rise and fall of countless civilizations.

However, at this moment, even the gigantic Dimension Core was also being turned into vast energy absorbed by the Golden Ray Armor. Once the Golden Ray Armor had consumed the energy of the Dimension Core, then the Atlan Dimension would have truly been exhausted and perished. If they were not able to leave the Atlan Dimension to enter the Void Zone on time, then only death awaited them.

However, it was no longer a battle between Merlin and the Atlan civilization but a battle between Merlin and the Vestigial Tribe. The Golden Ray Armor left by the Vestigial Tribe, along with the other arrangements, had all been in preparation for this day.

Although the Vestigial Tribe had been wiped out, now, it was just as if Merlin was fighting against the powerful tribe that had once swept through the entire Void Zone.

“Boom.”

Merlin had no intention of using the power of the Maxim against the Golden Ray Armor. His eyes glanced over to the Slothful Beast. Now was the moment when the Golden Ray Armor was at its weakest, and it was the Slothful Beast’s best chance.

“Bam.”

The Slothful Beast gave a crushing stomp, and the entire Dimension Core shook. How powerful was the Slothful Beast’s strength? With its stomp, the Slothful Beast had sent the Golden Ray Armor into the Dimension Core, and even the sturdiest Dimension Core had lost an edge as it collapsed.

“Did we do it?”

Merlin quickly flew over and looked over the edge of the Dimension Core that had collapsed. However, it was awfully deep, and not even the Mind Power was able to sense anything.

Merlin could no longer sense the specific life force of the Golden Ray Armor either but he felt something was off. The Slothful Beast may be strong but could such a blow be the end of the Golden Ray Armor? Even though the Golden Ray Armor was out of energy, it was still the pinnacle legacy of the Vestigial Tribe, the ultimate weapon that was in a class with the Thirty-six Emperors. Could it be destroyed so easily?

However, Merlin soon had his answer. He glanced at the huge Dimension Core as it was still continuously vibrating, its size shrinking dramatically. The hole caused by the Slothful Beast was rapidly falling apart, and re-exposed the Golden Ray Armor.

The Golden Ray Armor appeared completely unharmed as it continued to absorb the Dimension Core. Merlin’s heart sank. If it could withstand even the Slothful Beast’s strongest blow, then what could destroy this Golden Ray Armor?

“Slothful Beast, attack again!”

Merlin made a determined effort, seeing as he had no other effective ways right now either. He could only rely on the Slothful Beast to attack incessantly. Thus, the attack of fury raged on again and again. The Dimension Core constantly shook, and time and time again the Golden Ray Armor was stepped onto the Dimension Core. No matter what it did, the Slothful Beast could not inflict any damage onto the Golden Ray Armor.

Even without energy, the Golden Ray Armor could not be easily destroyed by just any ultimate existence. Only an ultimate existence such as the Thirty-six Emperors could destroy the Golden Ray Armor, and even they would have a hard time doing so as the former battle with the Golden Ray Warriors of the Vestigial Tribe and the Thirty-six Emperors had been extremely challenging for them as well.

“Pom-pom-pom.”

Time and time again, the Slothful Beast stomped and trampled. Had they been in the Void Zone, such reckless attacks from the Slothful Beast would have already destroyed countless dimensions/ However, they were all useless against the Golden Ray Armor, and with the Golden Ray Armor absorbing more and more energy, the golden light surrounding its body appeared ever more dazzling and bright.

Merlin knew that the power of the Golden Ray Armor was gradually being restored. Once recovered, he would no longer have any means to deal with it.

“Stay calm. I must remain calm.”

Merlin’s mind was blank at this time. He knew that this was the greatest crisis he had ever encountered since he had consolidated the Maxim and acquired the Slothful Beast. Therefore, the more critical the situation was, the more necessary it was for him to keep his calm and clear his line of thought.

“The Golden Ray Armor was left behind by the Vestigial Tribe but the Vestigial Tribe is long gone. There cannot have been any survivors left, and there are no signs of life force inside the Golden Ray Armor. Moreover, the Golden Ray Armor must be equipped by only those of the Vestigial Tribe who possessed the Brain of Life to become a Golden Ray Warrior. Now, there were no signs of life force inside the Golden Ray Armor, meaning there was no one inside it. Then, for the Golden Ray Armor to be able to act freely and move about, this armor was most probably controlled by the programming left behind by the Vestigial Tribe. It was no different from a puppet.”

Merlin's thoughts were getting clearer and clearer, and his analysis was right. The Golden Ray Armor was controlled by a program. This may be the only flaw the Golden Ray Armor had but how could Merlin use this to his advantage?

"Programming...The Maxim?"

An idea struck his mind as Merlin thought of the Matrix. Back then, the Matrix had been capable of devouring the intelligent system of the Atlan civilization's warships. Moreover, the Matrix had become even more otherworldly after devouring the intelligent system, and its change had lent to Merlin being uncertain of exactly what capabilities it held now.

"Matrix, if I were to have you devour a programming sequence, what do I need to do?"

Merlin's Mind Power probed into the empire-level warship and asked the Matrix.

"You need only approach the program's carrier, Master, and issue an order, and any program can be devoured!"

The Matrix's voice was as cold as ever.

"Devour any program? All programs can be devoured?"

Merlin noticed the technicality of the Matrix's response.

"Master, even the most rigid programs can be devoured."

After receiving a second confirmation from the Matrix, Merlin took a deep breath, and a glimmer of hope gleamed in his eyes. This may be the last chance.

"Boom."

The entire Dimension Core was still collapsing and shrinking rapidly. Of course, half of the energy contained inside of it had been drained by the Golden Ray Armor, and many of the starships that had relied on the energy from the Dimension Core had descended into chaos.

The Atlans on the starships suddenly realized that they were no longer able to obtain energy, and without the energy, they were unable to transmute food, drinking water, and could no longer operate the warships, spaceships, and others. In short, the energy was key. Without it, these Atlans had no other ways.

The Atlan civilization was built upon inexhaustible energy. Without it, there would be no need for a siege from powerful enemies. The Atlan civilization would slowly fall apart on its own.

As such, now that the Golden Ray Armor had devoured the infinite energy within Dimension Core, the Atlan civilization faced an impasse, and many Atlans had fallen into chaos.

Merlin, on the other hand, had been observing the Golden Ray Armor and discovered that it was concentrating on absorbing the energy from the Dimension Core, and paid no attention at all to the Slothful Beast's attacks.

Merlin gritted his teeth. If he wanted to get close to the Golden Ray Armor, now was the best time to do so.

"Slothful Beast, go."

Merlin once again controlled the Slothful Beast and stomped onto the Golden Ray Armor. This time, however, Merlin stood on the back of the Slothful Beast.

"Bam."

The Golden Ray Armor remained motionless, and Merlin inhaled deeply. The Flame Maxim and Darkness Maxim surrounded him as he flew directly toward the Golden Ray Armor.

Seeing that he was closing in on the Golden Ray Armor, Merlin grew more and more hopeful. This was his only opportunity.

Merlin's Flame Maxim turned into a huge fire god-demon as its hands reached out to grab the Golden Ray Armor. However, the Golden Ray Armor acted. While it was indifferent toward the Slothful Beast's attack, in the face of Merlin's attack, it suddenly moved. With an effortless

point, a powerful gravity suddenly inflicted upon Merlin. In an instant, Merlin felt as if his body was about to be torn apart.

“Matrix, devour all the programs inside the Golden Ray Armor!”

Merlin yelled, and at the moment the Maxim was broken, he hastily retreated. The Slothful Beast stomped at the Golden Ray Armor just in time, which allowed Merlin to escape from the gravitational field.

“Phew...”

Merlin heaved a long sigh of relief. Had it been any longer and he would have probably been crushed to pieces by the gravitational field. Not even the Maxim would be able to withstand it.

“I wonder if the Matrix will be able to succeed?”

Although Merlin was far away from the Golden Ray Armor, his Mind Power was still keeping a close watch on the Golden Ray Armor that was enveloped by golden light.

Chapter 844: The Matrix, Devour II

Initially, the Dimension Core quaked constantly, incessantly devoured and absorbed by the Golden Ray Armor. However, after Merlin had commanded the Matrix to devour, the Dimension Core had stopped shuddering.

Moreover, Merlin had observed that the Golden Ray Armor seemed to have halted as well, maintaining its posture without movement.

Merlin felt a burst of glee. He did not know what happened to the Golden Ray Armor but guessed that it had something to do with the Matrix.

“Matrix, how is it?”

Merlin asked hurriedly.

Nonetheless, after a long moment, the Matrix had no updates. Merlin did not know what was happening with the Matrix's devouring of the Golden Ray Armor but seeing that the Golden Ray Armor was motionless, it looked like the Matrix was doing its part.

Thus, Merlin was not frantic and started waiting patiently.

After a lengthy wait, Merlin's mind resounded with the Matrix's voice. "Beep, devouring program complete. The Golden Ray Armor's control program is obtained. Exert control?"

"The control program is obtained?"

Merlin was slightly taken aback but soon recovered his wits. Was it not merely a program that had controlled the Golden Ray Armor? Now that the Matrix had successfully absorbed the program, did it not mean that the Matrix had controlled the Golden Ray Armor?

With this in mind, Merlin said softly, "Matrix, control the Golden Ray Armor."

"Beep, control program of the Golden Ray Armor has been obtained!"

Merlin's heart was filled with unparalleled enthusiasm. He was somewhat incredulous now. The Vestigial Tribe's peak ultimate weapon, the pinnacle of their strength – the Golden Ray Armor that the Atlan civilization was unable to decode despite countless years of research, was now in Merlin's grasp?

After gradually calming his emotions, Merlin glanced at the Golden Ray Armor, then flew toward it directly.

As the Golden Ray Armor was under the Matrix's control, it had stopped absorbing the Dimension Core, lying there quietly. Even when Merlin approached, it did not react. It looked like it was controlled by the Matrix.

Merlin stretched out a hand and placed it gently on the Golden Ray Armor. A cold sensation blossomed on his fingertip. This was the Golden Ray Armor, a formidable item manufactured by the incessant efforts of the Vestigial Tribe to contend against the Thirty-six Emperors.

“Matrix, can I wear the Golden Ray Armor?”

“You can!”

After the Matrix’s icy voice rang out, Merlin watched as the Golden Ray Armor shone with a dazzling golden ray that enveloped Merlin.

At the same time, the Golden Ray Armor which looked so solid turned into liquid instantly, wounding around Merlin’s body as if it had grown there in the first place.

Soon, the golden glow of the liquid armor surged ceaselessly, swiftly submerging Merlin. Simultaneously, data regarding the Golden Ray Armor sprang up in Merlin’s mind.

This was data contained in the program devoured by the Matrix. This data explained in detail the Vestigial Tribe’s initial plans. The content of the program left by the Vestigial Tribe was to seek out members of the Vestigial Tribe. Anyone or anything obstructing their way was to be destroyed thoroughly. In addition, the Atlan Dimension Core was meant for the Golden Ray Armor.

It was just that, in so many years, no one had activated the Golden Ray Armor. At first, the Atlans had discovered the Golden Ray Armor within the crystal wall long ago but they were incomparably cautious, realizing that once they had activated the Golden Ray Armor, they might be in danger. Therefore, they had never activated it until faced with the threat posed by Merlin where the nine Senators had no other choice but to activate the Golden Ray Armor.

Now, it was Merlin who had reaped an extreme benefit, receiving an ultimate weapon, the power of which even the Slothful Beast could not compare to.

Nevertheless, after Merlin carefully studied the data in the program, he learned of its flaws.

This program was merely something the Vestigial Tribe had created back then to control the Golden Ray Armor simply. It could only unleash about sixty, seventy percent of the Golden Ray Armor’s capability.

Eighty percent of it would result in the mightiest existence below the Thirty-six Emperors. If it was the true Vestigial Tribe who used the Brain of Life to obtain the Golden Ray Armor’s acknowledgment, only then was that a true Golden Ray Warrior.

Only these Golden Ray Warriors could compare to the Thirty-six Emperors. As for this program that controlled the Golden Ray Armor, it was limited in unleashing the capability, unable to match up to the Thirty-six Emperors.

Even so, if Merlin “wore” this Golden Ray Armor now, he could explode with unprecedented power, practically becoming the strongest existence below the Thirty-six Emperors.

“What a treasure I’ve obtained. Still, although the Golden Ray Armor is powerful, it consumes too much energy. Without the Atlan Dimension Core that’s filled with endless energy, I won’t be able to mobilize the Golden Ray Armor at will.”

Merlin finally understood how important the Dimension Core was toward the Golden Ray Armor. Therefore, Merlin controlled the Golden Ray Armor and began to continue absorbing, devouring the Dimension Core.

“Rumble.”

The Dimension Core continued to shudder violently. The Atlan civilization was still unable to change its fate. As the Dimension Core was incessantly absorbed and engulfed by Merlin’s Golden Ray Armor, the Atlan civilization had fallen into a petrifying situation where they had no energy to use for now. This was a greater blow than any other to the Atlan civilization.

Many Atlans were driving their warships, relying on the last bit of power to dash frantically out of the Atlan Dimension, into the Void Zone. This was their only way to survive. After all, the Void Zone had endless energy.

However, there were even more Atlans who could not leave the Atlan Dimension, waiting for their doom in despair.

“The Atlan civilization isn’t a threat anymore...”

When he saw this scene, Merlin felt no pity. He knew that the current Atlan civilization was no longer a great threat. The hopeship was controlled by him and the void-level warship could not be manufactured. The Atlans in the Void Zone had essentially lost their foundation, and could only rely on the God Alliance.

To Merlin who had received the Golden Ray Armor, a mere God Alliance was no threat as well.

“The Matrix... This time, it’s thanks to the Matrix again. Although it’s not the Brian of Life, I’m afraid not even the Vestigial Tribe’s Brain of Life is as wondrous as the Matrix.”

Merlin had averted who-knew-how-many crises thanks to the Matrix. It was mystical indeed. Furthermore, having absorbed the Vestigial Tribe’s control program made for the Golden Ray Armor, he did not know how the Matrix would change.

“Bang bang bang.”

Merlin’s heart leaped. He noticed that the light veil covering the hopeship was now taking hits from a formidable force. The light veil had also relied on absorbing energy from the Dimension Core to maintain its powerful defense.

By now, the energy was all absorbed by Merlin, and the mysterious light veil was taking such a beating. Thus, it soon shattered. A fat cat of incomparable size immediately landed on the hopeship. It was the black cat Didimoss.

“Didimoss?”

“Merlin? You’re here. I thought that the indestructible light veil turned out to be so fragile. Or was it you who broke the light veil?”

The black cat Didimoss’ figure rapidly shrank and it turned into a fat black cat once more, hopping onto Merlin’s shoulder.

Merlin scanned with his Mind Power. Although the black cat Didimoss had only annihilated a portion of the dimension-level warships summoned by the Senators, as the Dimension Core had vanished, these warships had lost their supply of power. They dared not attack the black cat Didimoss, and had left.

“I guess I did. Currently, there’s nothing in the Atlan civilization that can threaten us.”

Merlin did not know how to explain. The matter of the Matrix and the Golden Ray Armor was difficult to explain.

“Merlin, your armor isn’t bad at all. Tsk tsk, it’s a treasure of the Vestigial Tribe, right?”

The black cat Didimoss’ sharp claws swiped across Merlin’s Golden Ray Armor gently but left not a single scratch. Naturally, the black cat Didimoss knew this was not an ordinary armor.

However, the black cat Didimoss did not know that this was the Vestigial Tribe’s ultimate weapon. Merlin did not explain as well but looked toward the translucent crystal wall once more. From the data obtained by the Matrix, Merlin knew that this was created by the Vestigial Tribe to leave behind some treasures.

Thus, Merlin led the black cat Didimoss, and kept the Slothful Beast. Then, he flew toward the crystal wall.

“Rattle.”

Merlin landed in front of the crystal wall. The Golden Ray Armor was too conspicuous. With Merlin’s single thought, the Golden Ray Armor started to transform incessantly like water, turning into an ordinary Wizard robe, draping over Merlin.

Nevertheless, only Merlin knew that this Wizard robe was transformed from the Vestigial Tribe’s most impressive ultimate weapon – the Golden Ray Armor. Other than the Thirty-six Emperors, no one could threaten Merlin who wore the Golden Ray Armor.

“What a pretty crystal wall. Merlin, can I eat this crystal wall? It must taste delicious…”

The black cat Didimoss licked his lips as his eyes gleamed with desire. Merlin felt powerless. Didimoss’ innate ability was formidable indeed but thanks to this ability, the black cat Didimoss had turned into a true-blue “chowhound”, wanting to eat everything he saw.

“You can’t eat this for now. After I’ve retrieved the items within the crystal wall, then you can eat it.”

Merlin knew that the crystal wall contained immense energy, which might be useful to the black cat Didimoss. Nonetheless, he had to retrieve the items left behind by the Vestigial Tribe first.

“Swish.”

Merlin brought the black cat Didimoss into a subspace that looked like a starry sky. In here, Black Star Armors and Gray Light Armors were laid out neatly. Merlin was astounded at this sight.

Thirty Black Star Armors, and over a hundred Gray Light Armors. With enough Brains of Life enabling people to wear these armors to become Black Star Warriors and Gray Light Warriors, they would be on par with thirty ultimate existences, relatively powerful beings among ultimate existences.

With such a tremendous force, it was enough to sweep over countless civilizations of the Void Zone!

It was a shame that Merlin did not have the Brain of Life. The program devoured by the Matrix was created expressly for the Golden Ray Armor by the Vestigial Tribe, and could only control the Golden Ray Armor.

It was a pity with so many Black Star Armors and Gray Light Armors that could not be utilized. Still, Merlin did not let them go but swept all of them into his Spatial Ring.

Who knew? One day they might serve a purpose.

Other than the Black Star Armors and the Gray Light Armors, there was nothing else in this subspace created by the Vestigial Tribe that caught Merlin’s eye. After leaving the subspace, Merlin wielded the Golden Ray Armor’s strength with one wave of his hand, shattering the subspace thoroughly.

Chapter 845: Lord God-level Divinity!

“Rumble.”

The subspace used by the Vestigial Tribe to store their most valuable treasures was now destroyed. The treasures within had been cleaned out by Merlin. Even if he could not use them now, it did not mean he could not use them in the future.

Moreover, even if he could not use them, there was Roman who was obsessed with the Vestigial Tribe's treasures. In particular, the three types of armors were the Vestigial Tribe's most precious treasures. Merlin might be able to exchange them for something good.

It should be known that Roman's stealth flying ship was impressive. Its speed alone had surpassed any casting tool or warship Merlin had ever seen, and it could conceal forces.

"Merlin, are we going to leave the Atlan Dimension?"

The black cat Didimoss glanced around. The hopeship was already controlled completely by Merlin. As there was no Dimension Core to supply the energy, even the hopeship's fortress cannons could not be activated anymore.

"Leave?"

Merlin shook his head, murmuring, "There's still plenty of good stuff in the Atlan Dimension. We mustn't miss this opportunity."

"What other good stuff is there in this dimension?"

Didimoss hopped onto Merlin's shoulder. He did not quite like this dimension, for he was not as free and easy as in the Void Zone. In here, there was a feeling of "confinement".

This was due to the unique power set up by the Vestigial Tribe to protect the entire dimension from being wrecked by ultimate existences, and to cut off the Void Zone's power of the natural order.

From the Golden Ray Armor's control program, Merlin did not discover anything about methods to cut off the natural order. Although the Atlan Dimension Core had disappeared, and being absorbed and refined by Merlin, this power that cut off the natural order still did not vanish.

“Found it!”

Merlin suddenly opened his eyes. Earlier, he had used Mind Power to search for the secret base that manufactured void-level warships in the hopeship. This secret base was hidden indeed, buried underground. Anyone without the necessary identification would not be able to enter.

“Swish.”

In one step, Merlin traversed through space and came to a valley that looked quite wild and overgrown. The Atlan Dimension was unlike the Void Zone for it had space that could be traveled through. The Void Zone had no space, and one could only use a warship or casting tools to slowly fly along.

However, even an ultimate existence who flew on their own would have a pitiful pace. Wishing to travel the entire Void Zone was a fool’s dream. After all, the Void Zone was far too vast and immense, even for ultimate existences. Only existences such as the Thirty-six Emperors would dare claim that they had traveled through the entire Void Zone.

Other than them, only the Vestigial Tribe had this ability. The formidable spaceships manufactured by the Vestigial Tribe excelled in speed, able to swiftly cut through wide swathes of regions. This was the true reason the Vestigial Tribe could sweep the entire Void Zone.

As the Vestigial Tribe had these spaceships of extreme speed, they were able to spread the flames of war to any place in the Void Zone. In the end, all the civilizations had no choice but to join forces and battle the Vestigial Tribe under the Thirty-six Emperors’ leadership.

Without these spaceships of extreme speed, even if the Vestigial Tribe had many fighters, it would be useless. If war erupted in one place but ended up requiring ten thousand years of delay in the journey, the war would have ended long ago. It would be completely futile.

Merlin had heard Roman speaking of this before, only he had not seen the Vestigial Tribe’s spaceships of extreme speed even until today.

“Break!”

Merlin had used Mind Power to discover this secret base underground, so he could not bother thinking of a plan, simply using his Maxim to deliver a ruthless blow. The entire valley started to shake and soon, a colossal crack appeared in the valley, revealing a large black door.

Merlin carried the black cat Didimoss, and walked through the black door. In front of the door, there was a unique identification system. If it was anyone else, they could only force their way in if they could not enter. Nonetheless, Merlin did not wish to destroy the things inside. Moreover, his Illusory World had enveloped the entire hopeship. As long as they were intelligent creatures, who could escape?

This was a terrifying aspect of Merlin's refined Mind Power system. If there had been an accomplished user of the Illusory World like Merlin among the Thirty-six Emperors, the Vestigial Tribe could not possibly have become such a scary civilization, taking over the entire Void Zone.

"Open the passage."

Merlin immediately commanded the Atlans in the secret base. These people's minds were controlled by Merlin, so very soon, the door was opened. A strict security measure became worthless before Merlin.

"Lead the way to where the void-level warships are manufactured."

Merlin said to the Atlans who came forward to receive him. Their eyes were blank and lifeless, clearly under Merlin's Mind Control.

Thus, he followed these Atlans and gradually headed downward. During this period, Merlin had noticed various hidden weapons. If one had forced their way in, even an Honored Legend would be killed.

It was obvious that this secret base was highly prioritized by the Atlans. After all, this base was manufacturing the Atlan civilization's ultimate weapon – the void-level warship that could kill an ultimate existence.

"Whoosh."

After a narrow passage, an incomparably spacious hall appeared before Merlin. As he glanced downward, there were still endless floors below, at least equivalent to a building with a hundred stories.

The Atlans had built such an enormous underground facility. Still, if one had considered the countless robots owned by the Atlans, constructing such a massive project was not that surprising.

Each of these halls had a different function. The uppermost hall merely had people who performed preliminary work or researched the theories.

The second hall manufactured the engine furnace of the warship, the third hall manufactured the control system, and so on. In short, each hall contained everything that was needed but merely manufacturing a part of the void-level warship.

In the end, after all manufacturing was completed, everything was assembled on the final floor. This was in full accordance with the Vestigial Tribe's method of manufacturing the void-level warship. With this method, when ores and energy were sufficient, the Vestigial Tribe could even mass-produce void-level warships.

These void-level warships had killed an unknown number of ultimate existences in that catastrophe. After all, before the Vestigial Tribe swept over the Void Zone, millions of civilizations and even ultimate existences were innumerable. It was not like now when ultimate contenders were unprecedentedly rare.

In so many years after that initial war, many foreign civilizations had even gone extinct.

After observing the secret base where the Atlan civilization manufactured void-level warships, Merlin was once again deeply shocked. The Vestigial Tribe's power was built upon non-stop conquests of dimensions and foreign civilizations for the sake of obtaining more resources and energy. After obtaining these elements, the Vestigial Tribe could manufacture, in the shortest period, void-level warships that could kill ultimate existences.

It was not surprising that the Void Zone's countless tribes were unable to resist the Vestigial Tribe if it were not for the Thirty-six Emperors. The Vestigial Tribe's method of producing the void-level warships and other warships was made just for war.

In terms of fighting ability, the Vestigial Tribe was at the top. The entire development of the civilization headed toward the call of war. The latest technology was forever exploited by the Vestigial Tribe to be used in wars.

Soon, Merlin came to the final floor. When the door of the final floor opened, Merlin instantly detected a familiar force.

It was not the force of the void-level warship but divinity!

“Divinity?”

Merlin was slightly stunned. Before this, his Mind Power had not examined carefully. Naturally, he did not know that there was divinity in this secret base that manufactured void-level warships.

Furthermore, from this strand of divinity, Merlin perceived an overwhelming godly might. Most gods had formidable godly might but to the current Merlin, it would be of no use.

However, the divinity here could still exude an immense godly might. It was certainly not any ordinary divinity.

“It’s divinity... Merlin, this would be delicious!”

The black cat Didimoss’ eyes shone as his previous “dispirited” expression was swept aside. Divinity was the gods’ most mystical power. It was said that if the divinity was not extinguished, the god would not die.

Therefore, no matter which tribe or civilization, they could all use this divinity. Even the Atlan civilization could use divinity as an energy source.

In particular, this divinity was clearly not ordinary.

“Swish.”

Merlin paid no mind to Didimoss and flew toward the source of the divinity's force. Merlin soon came before a gigantic pond and saw that it was filled with countless divinity, glittering with dazzling radiance.

These strands of divinity had been bound by the Atlans through some special method. Nonetheless, even though they were bound, that terrifying godly might was still unbridled.

Merlin went forward slightly and could feel that majestic might. It was not ordinary gods, even surpassing upper rank gods. It was... Lord God!

This divinity was Lord God-level divinity, and the amount was not insignificant.

It must be known that every Lord God was comparable to an ultimate existence. It was far too challenging to kill a Lord God. Even during the Spell Caster civilization's war against the God Alliance, no gods had died.

Previously, they had surrounded the Lord God of Light with great difficulty but he even slipped away at the final moment. It was enough to see that Lord Gods were troublesome. Killing them and extracting their divinity was too difficult.

"The Atlans hadn't entered the Void Zone before this. Naturally, it's impossible that they had killed these gods. In that case... It's left behind by the Vestigial Tribe?"

Merlin recalled that back then, the Atlans had handed a huge amount of Lord God-level divinity to the God Alliance. It was thanks to this divinity that the God Alliance would join forces with the Atlan civilization in their war against the Spell Caster civilization.

Chapter 846: Control I

"Divinity, so much divinity. One, two, three strands... Merlin, there's now fewer than ninety-eight strands of divinity!"

The black cat Didimoss saw that there were ninety-eight strands of divinity, and his eyes contained a desiring glint. Usually, even one strand of Lord God-level divinity was an impressive find but there were ninety-eight strands here.

Merlin was shaken to his core. Ninety-eight strands of Lord God-level divinity – if those from the God Alliance saw this, they would be shocked to the extreme.

With so much divinity, if it was used by an ordinary Lord God, they could even approach the level of the Thirty-six Emperors. A Lord God with decent talent might even be on par with the Thirty-six Emperors.

After all, although this Lord God-level divinity had many uses, it was the greatest aid for gods, especially Lord Gods, who could absorb this divinity, obtaining some enlightenment regarding the divinity owner's understanding of the natural order.

Furthermore, among these strands of divinity, some were exceptionally large, emanating a godly might that was different from the rest. Those must be Lord Gods who were even stronger than the average ultimate existences or a being that was second only to the Thirty-six Emperors.

“Vestigial Tribe, it must be the Vestigial Tribe. Only the Vestigial Tribe could slay ninety-eight Lord Gods!”

Merlin slowly approached this pool of divinity. There were ninety-eight strands of divinity, each strand giving off a different force. This meant that each strand represented one Lord God.

Only the Vestigial Tribe would have the formidable capability to kill ninety-eight Lord Gods. To be more accurate, there should have been more than ninety-eight. Previously, the Atlan civilization had already handed over some Lord God-level divinity to entice the God Alliance.

“What's the reason the Vestigial Tribe had extracted so much divinity?”

Merlin noticed there were some words on the side of the pond. It was the language of the Vestigial Tribe. Merlin used the Matrix to scan and translate. The meaning was straightforward – it was the Vestigial Tribe's explanation of the Lord God-level divinity.

It was vaguely mentioned that the energy contained in the Lord God-level divinity was immense but to the Vestigial Tribe, they would not use this divinity as a power source. Although Lord God-level divinity had many uses, being functional to any intelligent tribe, what the Vestigial Tribe focused on was the link between this divinity and the natural order.

The Vestigial Tribe had swept over the Void Zone, indirectly challenging the Void Zone's natural order. Gods were born directly from the natural order, so there was nothing better than Lord God-level divinity if one wished to study the natural order.

Therefore, for the Vestigial Tribe, this divinity was merely used for research. The Atlan civilization, thanks to the enormous Dimension Core supplying endless energy, would not use the divinity purely for energy purposes as well. Currently, they were incapable of challenging the natural order. What they studied was the gods' tremendous power.

Although the Atlans claimed themselves to be descendants of the Vestigial Tribe, they knew that to reach the level of the Vestigial Tribe was too difficult. Thus, they would not let go of any opportunity to increase their strength. This Lord God-level divinity was naturally the best research subject.

Due to the divinity's high value, these strands were still preserved after such a long time.

"Merlin, can I swallow the divinity?"

The black cat Didimoss wore an expression of unparalleled longing.

This divinity was incomparably precious. Even Merlin wished to possess them. His Illusory World was now on the right track, only needing the passage of time to be thoroughly perfected in the future, reaching a stage of high accomplishment.

Even so, if he had Lord God-level divinity, Merlin could even speed up the progress of the Illusory World, shortening the time it would take to become accomplished.

After weighing all this, Merlin asked in a low voice, "Didimoss, is there any purpose of you swallowing this divinity? Or is it mere gluttony?"

Merlin knew that the black cat Didimoss' natural ability did not mean that anything he devoured would bring him benefit. Sometimes, the black cat Didimoss would swallow some things simply because he wished to eat.

Didimoss saw that Merlin looked so solemn, and carefully eyed the ninety-eight strands of Lord God-level divinity. Following that, he spoke with a serious expression, “I just have a feeling that after swallowing all this divinity, I would be able to evolve... However, that’s just a feeling.”

“Evolve?”

Merlin’s eyes gleamed. At the moment, the black cat Didimoss was infinitely close to an ultimate existence. Due to his unique natural ability, if there were enough things for him to devour constantly, he could even be comparable to an ultimate existence.

Nonetheless, at the black cat Didimoss’ current stage, it was unlikely he would continue to break through. Once he did, the power of the Void Zone’s natural order would force him into a dead end.

Only after being baptized and rising over this dead end, a mystical existence which had reversed the natural order like the black cat Didimoss could truly display their might, far exceeding any ordinary ultimate existence.

In truth, the Flare Emperor, who stood at the peak of millions of contenders in the Void Zone along with the Thirty-six Emperors, was a great example. Just like the black cat Didimoss, he was a lifeform which had reversed the natural order but ultimately became one of the powerful Thirty-six Emperors.

Of course, other than the Flare Emperor, other lifeforms which had reversed the natural order were largely unable to resist the dead end, vanishing in the Void Zone. Since the black cat Didimoss felt that this Lord God-level divinity would help him, he might be able to evolve.

However, at the same time, Didimoss would face the dead end!

“Didimoss, you’d better think carefully. If you evolve, you’d likely face the dead end.”

Merlin said softly. He did not wish for the black cat Didimoss to face the dead end just like that. It was too risky.

The black cat Didimoss suddenly looked around at the Atlan Dimension, saying with a smile, “Can’t this Atlan Dimension cut off the power of the natural order? If I’m facing a dead end,

I'll keep hiding in the Atlan Dimension without going out. Then, the natural order won't get to me. I'll wait until I'm older when I feel like I can face the dead end calmly. Only then will I leave the Atlan Dimension and return to the Void Zone to face the dead end."

Didimoss' intelligence was not that different from ordinary people, so he might have already considered this ever since he entered the Atlan Dimension.

Merlin suddenly saw the light. Didimoss' plan was not bad indeed. The Atlan Dimension was created by the Vestigial Tribe in the past, able to cut off the Void Zone's natural order. It was a natural hiding place for the black cat Didimoss.

Even if the dead end had arrived, that was nothing. At worst, Didimoss could hide in the Atlan Dimension. Now that Merlin had the power of the Golden Ray Armor, he no longer needed the black cat Didimoss to help the Spell Caster civilization.

"Didimoss, since you want to swallow all this divinity, of course, I'll fulfill your wish. However, it's not now. Even if you wish to stay in the Atlan Dimension, you'll have to wait until I completely control the Atlan Dimension. This dimension isn't as simple as a mere hiding place for you."

Merlin had made the decision long ago. This gigantic dimension, even without a Dimension Core, must not be given up so easily. Just based on how ultimate existences could not detect the natural order after entering, this would be an important base for the Spell Caster civilization in the future.

Therefore, he must control the Atlan Dimension!

Merlin was not confident in controlling the Atlan Dimension before this because of the hopeship, countless warships, fortress cannons, and so on. Now that Merlin had used the Golden Ray Armor to absorb the Dimension Core, the Atlan Dimension had in truth, lost its splendor.

The Atlan civilization without its power source could not even compare to those foreign civilizations in the Void Zone overseen by a mere Honored Legend. Merlin did not even need to waste much effort to control a weak civilization like that. Without energy, the Atlans could only wait for their doom.

"Let's look at the void-level warship."

Of course, Merlin did not forget about the void-level warship. After keeping the ninety-eight strands of divinity in his Spatial Ring, he came to the void-level warship which was being manufactured in the hall.

At the moment, there was merely a shell of the void-level warship. The installations within were still far from complete. Still, there were volcano-like holes that somewhat shocked Merlin.

“These are the main cannons of the void-level warship?”

Earlier when Merlin was attacked by the void-level cannons, it had been these three main cannons of the void-level warship. Merlin could not understand these incomparably complicated cannons.

Soon, Merlin looked for the Atlans who were manufacturing the void-level warships in the hall, asking doubtfully, “Now you’re creating three void-level warships. Were there any problems?”

“We ran out of energy and couldn’t continue building.”

“If there’s enough energy?”

“If there’s enough energy, there’s no need to operate. An automatic program controls the manufacturing of the void-level warships, so you’d only need to wait patiently. In roughly a few years, it’ll assemble three void-level warships.”

“Three years...”

Merlin nodded. The void-level warship was a fearsome weapon, able to kill ultimate existences. It was not of much use to the present Merlin but would be very useful to the Spell Caster civilization.

Moreover, Merlin had promised to help the Avian Tribe and Roman to obtain the void-level warship. He must not break his promise.

“How many more void-level warships can be produced?”

“Only three. There aren’t enough materials, most of which is transported from the Void Zone by the army. Only after a long time of accumulation, we had just about enough to manufacture three void-level warships.”

Only then did Merlin learned that those warships that came in and out were transporting materials for creating the void-level warships. Merlin had even received news that the Atlan civilization had searched through the Rock Tribe’s dimensions multiple times but their objective was unknown.

Merlin had suddenly realized that the Atlans were looking for materials for manufacturing the void-level warships. However, these materials were also rare in the Void Zone. Otherwise, with so many dimensions of the Rock Tribe, the materials would not be merely sufficient for three void-level warships.

Chapter 847: Control II

“It looks like I’ll have to keep this.”

Merlin knew that he could not destroy the base for now. Nonetheless, he must control the people, at least until the void-level warships had been manufactured.

As for the energy, Merlin’s Golden Ray Armor had devoured the Dimension Core. Naturally, he could give up a portion of it. As the Dimension Core was immense, even just a small portion was enough to maintain the operations of the entire base.

The only troublesome aspect was to control the Atlans in the base. Now, he could not leave them for the base would not operate as normal, and Merlin could not possibly stay in the Atlan Dimension the entire time.

“It looks like I can only control the entire base for now. After resolving the matter of the Atlan Dimension, I’ll let the Mind avatar 1 come here to replace me and control the people in the base.”

Merlin was unwilling to let go of these people in the base. After all, those who were involved in manufacturing the void-level warships were surely Atlans who knew the most about their civilization. They were valuable. Moreover, Merlin still hoped to continue creating more void-level warships in the future.

“I’ll leave behind a portion of my Mind Power first to control the base!”

Merlin had a flash of inspiration. Now that he had the Illusory World, he could divide a portion of his Mind Power to construct an individual illusory world. However, this would cause some loss to Merlin’s Illusory World.

It was just that this additional illusory world would be far too small, and would not harm the core of the Illusory World.

“Illusory World, divide!”

Merlin swiftly divided the smaller illusory world which enveloped the entire base. Nonetheless, the Mind Power in this world could not be maintained for long, so Merlin had to leave the Atlan Dimension as soon as he could, letting the Mind avatar take over in overseeing the secret base.

“Didimoss, let’s go.”

Merlin immediately left the base with the black cat Didimoss, appearing once again in the hopship. Now, it was time for Merlin to attempt controlling the entire Atlan civilization.

“Merlin, do you want me to gobble them up? These Atlans are puny indeed but their warships are rather impressive, though the flavor’s nothing much...”

The black cat Didimoss smirked. In his eyes, the only categories were tasty and not tasty.

“Can you eat all of them?”

Merlin shook his head. Before this, he was uncertain that he could control the Atlan Dimension but now, after obtaining the Dimension Core, his assurance was much greater.

The entire Atlan Dimension was built by the Vestigial Tribe, so it was significantly different from the dimensions which had slowly formed in the Void Zone. The dimension created by the Vestigial Tribe, naturally, did not have an Elemental Origin and could not be controlled by Legendary Wizards. Even ultimate existences could not control it.

Nonetheless, this dimension was ultimately created by the Vestigial Tribe. Of course, the Vestigial Tribe had its way to control the dimension. When the Vestigial Tribe left it behind, it was meant for those who had the blood of the Vestigial Tribe.

Therefore, the Dimension Core was the key to controlling the Atlan Dimension! Whoever who could obtain the Dimension Core would then control the Atlan Dimension. According to the Vestigial Tribe's plan, only the Golden Ray Armor could devour such a colossal Dimension Core, and the Golden Ray Armor could only be controlled by those who had the blood of the Vestigial Tribe and the Brain of Life.

Cycle after cycle, only the Vestigial Tribe would finally obtain the Dimension Core and control the Atlan Dimension. No one else could control it. However, an anomaly like Merlin had appeared. Even the Vestigial Tribe would have no way to predict that there would be something as mystical as "the Matrix" that could absorb the program controlling the Golden Ray Armor that was left by the Vestigial Tribe. This indirectly allowed Merlin to control the Golden Ray Armor and devour the Dimension Core, thus obtaining the controlling rights to the Atlan Dimension.

Now, Merlin was faced with two options. How should he control the Atlan Dimension?

If he suppressed the Atlan civilization by force, then slowly moved Spell Casters into the Atlan Dimension, based on the haughty attitudes of the Atlans, it would be difficult for them to live in harmony. Who knew how many disputes would erupt?

Therefore, assimilation would not work at all. In that case, there was only one other recourse, which was to purge the entire Atlan Dimension, leaving only the Atlans in the base who were forever controlled. This would return the Atlan Dimension to an uncivilized era with no intelligent life.

Before the Atlan civilization, a few intelligent civilizations had been born but they subsequently vanished due to various reasons.

“Wiping out the Atlan civilization... This is a civilization war. There’s no wrong or right!”

Merlin shut his eyes lightly. As someone who could be labeled as a contender in the Void Zone, the Legend Glory of the Spell Caster civilization, Merlin had witnessed the rise and fall of weak civilizations. Back during the war against the Rock Tribe, a contender’s attack could destroy a dimension, causing the puny civilizations in the dimension to vanish completely.

Nevertheless, this would be Merlin’s first time destroying a civilization by himself!

“Destroy then...”

Merlin spoke softly. Through the Dimension Core, he had already controlled the Atlan Dimension. he could mobilize various forces in this dimension.

At once, countless Spatial Windstorms began to wreak havoc while various natural disasters assaulted the starships. If the Atlan civilization still had a power source, they could even withstand some of the Atlan Dimension’s forces.

However, the Atlan civilization which had lost its power source was incomparably fragile. Even the mightiest warship could not be activated. This was a civilization built upon energy. Fortress cannons, armed spaceships, and other various weapons all could not be used.

“Boom boom boom.”

Thus, Spatial Windstorms swept over and starships exploded one by one. Countless Atlans were wailing in tears. Perhaps many of them were innocent, not knowing anything about the war between the Atlan civilization and the Void Zone’s Spell Caster civilization.

Nevertheless, this was a civilization war. Once defeated, one must bear the consequences.

One starship after another was easily annihilated, making Merlin feel omnipotent. He thought about the Illusory World, which was also under his control. With a single thought, he could easily destroy the Illusory World.

“If the Void Zone was also controlled by someone, then aren’t we pitiful with our fates always in someone else’s hands?”

Merlin raised his head and looked at the sky, his gaze going beyond the Atlan Dimension toward the Void Zone. That vast and boundless, incomparably endless Void Zone, was it controlled by someone?

“A frightening being like Aruba who could freely travel between the Latitude Cosmos – even he didn’t mention a controller. Most likely, the Void Zone has no controller. If I can materialize the Illusory World, then I’ll become a controller of a Latitude Cosmo!”

All along, Merlin did not have much of an ambitious goal, constantly growing stronger, actively or passively. However, as he controlled the Atlan Dimension now and destroyed the Atlan civilization that had prospered once, his heart was finally gripped by longing.

It was the first time he had such an urgent desire, such a definite objective – to materialize the Illusory World as reality and become ruler of a Latitude Cosmo comparable to the Void Zone!

Perhaps only at that point, Merlin would not be treated by others as he treated the Atlans, controlling their fates.

The entire Atlan Dimension was now experiencing an apocalypse. The Atlan civilization that once prospered was drowning in calamities. One by one, the starships were annihilated by the Spatial Windstorms. In a few days, more than half of the Atlan civilization was destroyed.

If this continued, then in a few days, the Atlan civilization would be thoroughly destroyed. The splendid, brilliant civilization that they had established would become like the previous intelligent civilizations in the Atlan Dimension, reduced to history’s dust.

The black cat Didimoss stared with wide eyes. Naturally, he could feel the changes in the Atlan Dimension. This misfortune of a civilization being destroyed and worlds cast into chaos was truly shocking.

From his perspective, even the warships and fortress cannons that had been a threat were now mere decoration, crushed into smithereens by the Spatial Windstorms. A civilization had collapsed in an instant just like that.

“Merlin, you’ve destroyed the Atlan civilization?”

The black cat Didimoss suddenly asked softly. He sensed something odd about Merlin.

“I’ve controlled the Dimension Core, so of course I control the Atlan Dimension. With the Atlan civilization around, the Atlan Dimension wouldn’t be peaceful, so I might as well destroy them. The Atlan Dimension would be useful in the future, so I must control it. If you face the dead end one day, you can stay in the Atlan Dimension.”

The black cat Didimoss nodded. He was just somewhat taken aback that Merlin could destroy a civilization in an instant. Not even ultimate existences could do something like this for they had no way of destroying the Atlan Dimension.

Nevertheless, since Merlin was controlling the Atlan Dimension, it was different. It was a piece of cake for the controller of a dimension to destroy a civilization in the dimension. All that was needed was a thought.

The Spatial Windstorms caused incessant devastation. In the end, other than the hopeship, other places of the Atlan civilization were in ruins. Perhaps some escaped this calamity by a fluke but after the Spell Casters had moved into the Atlan Dimension on a wide scale, these Atlans who had escaped would be of no threat.

“Didimoss, devour those on the hopeship. Eat anything you want to, except for the secret base.”

Merlin pointed at the hopeship behind him. There were still people from the army and ordinary Atlans inside. Merlin had not forgotten them. He only wished to preserve the secret base that manufactured the void-level warships. Other Atlans were unnecessary. Keeping them would only be trouble.

“Haha, Merlin, I can finally have a feast.”

The black cat Didimoss gave a deafening snarl as his body swelled up, turning into a fearsome monster that opened his mouth, starting to devour frantically in the hopeship...

Chapter 848: Evolving

The black cat Didimoss' body swelled up and he turned gigantic. Still, he was lacking by far when compared to the Slothful Beast. He displayed his innate talent, and just like a bottomless pit, devoured cleanly the hopeship's fortress cannons, warships, and so on.

The Atlan civilization was destroyed just like that. Of course, there were the final battalions of the Atlan civilization left in the Void Zone. They had lost the Atlan Dimension. Even if someone managed to escape, they would merely be a nomadic civilization.

"Huff huff."

The black cat Didimoss seemed extremely satisfied, having swallowed so much. It was enough to replenish the damage he had sustained from his battle with the dimension-level warships.

"Didimoss, I've now controlled the Atlan Dimension completely. There's no need for any apprehension. You can devour the divinity."

Merlin examined everything briefly. The Atlan civilization was wiped out, which would be lamented by many. Merlin did not expect he would profit in this manner during this visit to the Atlan Dimension. He did not even have to rely much on the Slothful Beast's strength.

Since he had controlled the Atlan Dimension, what followed next depended on the black cat Didimoss.

Didimoss contemplated for a moment. This matter was entirely up to him.

After a long moment, the black cat Didimoss nodded slowly. "I've decided. I was lucky enough to reverse the natural order and become a living being, so I'm destined to endure the dead end. However, today, we have the Atlan Dimension, allowing me more time to prepare. This is already something unimaginable for other beings who had reversed the natural order."

Didimoss was clear that with Merlin controlling the Atlan Dimension, even if he had evolved and had to bear the dead end, he could hide in the Atlan Dimension as he had sufficient time to prepare. Compared to those roaming lifeforms which had reversed the natural order, he was extremely fortunate.

"Merlin, I'm ready. Haha, now I'm not the least bit worried."

The black cat Didimoss laughed out loud. He had thought it through. If he could not summon the courage to face the dead end, he would rather not go out and stay forever in the Atlan Dimension.

When he looked at Didimoss' "carefree" manner, Merlin broke out into a smile. Following that, he grabbed a bunch of Lord God-level divinity from his Spatial Ring. There were about twenty strands of divinity.

Once this divinity appeared, they were filled with endless godly might. How could Lord God-level divinity be ordinary? The entire dark night sky seemed to be illuminated by this divinity.

"Swish."

Merlin swiftly flung the strands of divinity to the black cat Didimoss. Didimoss had revealed his true form already, stretching wide his mouth to swallow the divinity in one gulp.

Instantly, the black cat Didimoss' body started to swell noticeably, and each time he swelled, he became incomparably massive. Now that he had just swallowed a few strands, the black cat Didimoss' body had grown twice as large.

Most creatures, like the Slothful Beast, had strength that was proportional to their bodies. Previously, the black cat Didimoss was considered enormous. Otherwise, he could not possibly devour countless warships and fortress cannons.

Nonetheless, he paled in comparison to the Slothful Beast, and could not even match up at all.

However, currently, the black cat Didimoss was enlarging ceaselessly. One time bigger, two times, three times... He showed no signs of stopping, and his body's presence became increasingly majestic, causing even Merlin to feel a faint suppression.

Currently, only ultimate existences were able to make Merlin feel pressured. After all, Merlin's Illusory World was not yet accomplished, and in terms of Maxims, he was merely a Lord. He was a long way from ultimate existences.

The disparity between different levels did not mean that one's strength was lacking. Thanks to good fortune, Merlin had used the Matrix to control the Golden Ray Armor. When he wore the armor, although he could only unleash a portion of its power, it was enough to overwhelm any formidable existences below the Thirty-six Emperors.

Currently, the black cat Didimoss' force kept growing. This divinity was effective for Didimoss indeed. Who knew if this could help the black cat Didimoss "evolve"?

Merlin had never seen lifeforms who had reversed the natural order "evolve" before, so he was highly curious. Even so, he was even more focused on seeing if the Atlan Dimension was able to cut off the natural order while the black cat Didimoss was faced with the dead end.

Soon, twenty strands of divinity were all devoured by Didimoss. Based on his appearance, he was still evolving. Divinity must not be lacking.

Merlin clenched his teeth and tossed out thirty strands of divinity. The current black cat Didimoss appeared unusually feral. Upon seeing the thirty strands, he swallowed everything in one gulp.

Nonetheless, perhaps thirty strands of divinity were too great an amount. The black cat Didimoss let out strange snarls while his body expanded once again, almost bigger than the hopeship, right behind the Slothful Beast.

Merlin knew that this was the key moment when the black cat Didimoss was about to evolve.

"Boom."

The black cat Didimoss' body flashed with white light, following which his entire body trembled violently, emitting waves of extremely overbearing force that was not inferior to any ultimate existence.

"The evolution was a success?"

As Merlin stared at the black cat Didimoss' transformation, his heart leaped in delight. The black cat Didimoss had been by his side the longest. Naturally, Merlin hoped that nothing would happen to Didimoss. This evolution went so smoothly, so Merlin was overjoyed.

“Haha, I’ve evolved, truly evolved... Merlin, I feel that at this point I’ve already become very, very powerful. However, as I can’t detect the natural order in the Atlan Dimension, perhaps I’m already at the dead end.”

Didimoss opened his eyes, and his deafening voice reverberated throughout the air. The current Didimoss was a gigantic creature of unparalleled size, reaching a third of the Slothful Beast’s size.

This was rather colossal. The Slothful Beast was such a terrifying creature, a fearsome monster able to swallow many dimensions at will. The black cat Didimoss’ body measured up to a third of the Slothful Beast’s size, which was practically inconceivable.

In the vast Void Zone, Merlin had never heard of any creature that could compare to the Slothful Beast, not even one that had reached a third of the Slothful Beast’s ginormous mass.

“Didimoss, you’ve succeeded in evolving?”

Merlin stared unwaveringly at the black cat Didimoss. Although the black cat Didimoss’ force was much stronger indeed, Merlin seemed to detect a more potent force within Didimoss’ body, inducing an extreme sense of threat.

Therefore, he dared not claim that the black cat Didimoss had completed his evolution. If that was the case, that formidable force would be released without restraint but the black cat Didimoss was notably unable to exude such a frightening force.

As expected, Didimoss shook his head. “The evolution has taken place but I’m still a long way from completing the process. Only after I survived the dead end will my evolution be complete.”

Merlin became pensive. Dead end – this was something unavoidable to beings who had reversed the natural order. Only after getting through the baptism of the dead end, could they completely unleash that fearsome strength, reaching a true pinnacle.

Just like the Flare Emperor back then, who became one of the Thirty-six Emperors who stood at the peak of the boundless Void Zone!

In the past, Merlin was not convinced that if Didimoss had reversed the natural order and defied the dead end, he could become an existence like the Thirty-six Emperors. That was too massive a leap.

It should be known that even though Merlin had the Golden Ray Armor, he was not the true Vestigial Tribe and did not have the Brian of Life, merely using the program to control it. Therefore, he could only unleash a portion of the armor's power, unable to compare to noble existences like the Thirty-six Emperors.

Nevertheless, if the black cat Didimoss could defy the dead end and be baptized by the power of the natural order, he could reach heaven in a bound, becoming a formidable existence on par with the Thirty-six Emperors.

“Dead end?”

Merlin lightly shut his eyes but his consciousness had traveled through the Atlan Dimension he was controlling, extending toward the Void Zone.

Currently, the Void Zone was relatively calm. Whether it was the God Alliance or the Spell Caster civilization, there was no unusually obvious activity.

The Marshall of the Atlan civilization seemed to be waiting for the Atlan Dimension to produce the void-level warship as soon as possible. However, at this moment, a shocking burst of the natural order's power had gathered outside the Atlan Dimension, causing those ultimate existences to tremble with fear.

“What's going on? Why would such terrifying power of the natural order condense outside the Atlan Dimension?”

The Lord Gods of the God Alliance turned their gazes toward the mysterious Marshall of the Atlan civilization. Nonetheless, the Marshall shook his head, of course. Lately, his communication with the Atlan Dimension had dwindled. Messages that entered the Atlan Dimension did not get any responses.

“Has something unexpected happened in the Atlan Dimension?”

Even the enigmatic Marshall was rather uncertain.

Other than the Lord Gods, the numerous ultimate existences of the Spell Caster civilization were worried. They knew that Merlin had secretly infiltrated the Atlan Dimension.

Now that massive amounts of natural order had gathered outside the Atlan Dimension, this caused them endless dread. Was this linked to Merlin's visit to the Atlan Dimension?

However, with so much power of the natural order, could Merlin have become an ultimate existence? Becoming an ultimate existence would not stir up such an enormous disturbance. Moreover, one could not sense the natural order in the Atlan Dimension. How could one become an ultimate existence?

"Watch the Atlan Dimension closely!"

Augustus knew that this was likely linked to Merlin, only he did not know whether it was good or bad news. Therefore, they could only closely observe the Atlan Dimension's activity.

Compared to the guesses of the various parties in the Void Zone, when Merlin noticed the constant power of the natural order gathering outside the Void Zone, he knew that this was Didimoss' dead end, which had arrived indeed.

It was just that the Atlan Dimension had served its purpose, causing that terrifying natural order to have no way of entering the Atlan Dimension. The black cat Didimoss was safe for now. As long as he was willing, he could even stay forever in the Atlan Dimension.

Chapter 849: Back to the Void Zone I

"Didimoss, you're facing your dead end indeed. Even so, the Atlan Dimension managed to cut off the power of the natural order, so you must never leave the Atlan Dimension on your own. Otherwise, once you enter the Void Zone, you'll be faced with that fearsome dead end."

Merlin wore a complicated expression. A being which had reversed the natural order like Didimoss had unimaginable potential. However, for his potential to be unleashed fully, he needed to face the dead end, and be baptized by it. Nonetheless, the mortality rate was unthinkable. Other than the Flare Emperor, they had never heard of any lifeform which had reversed the natural order which could withstand this dead end.

“There’s really a dead end... Be rest assured, Merlin. I won’t leave the Atlan Dimension without permission. Without having the assurance, I won’t enter the Void Zone.”

As the black cat Didimoss’ evolution had induced a significant transformation, even if he had not been baptized by the dead end, even without the power of the natural order, his current strength was enough to match an ultimate existence’s. If he stayed in the Atlan Dimension, he would be an incomparably powerful being.

This was highly beneficial to Merlin’s plans for the future.

“There’s still forty-eight strands of Lord God-level divinity.”

Merlin looked in the Spatial Ring. There were no fewer than forty-eight strands of divinity left. The black cat Didimoss had only devoured fifty of those.

Merlin ruminated over this, having made up his mind. Right now, his only hope was to accelerate the progress of the Illusory World. Only Lord God-level divinity would have this capability.

“I’ll strive to become accomplished with the Illusory World soon.”

Merlin also wished to know – after becoming accomplished with the Illusory World, would he be on par with ultimate existences? Or would he far surpass most ultimate existences? Regardless of whether it was Merlin or Titus, they had no way to predict.

Therefore, Merlin let Didimoss keep watch at one side and took out the remaining forty-eight strands of divinity.

“Ignite.”

The divinity suddenly burned up furiously, turning into surges of frightening energy that burrowed directly into Merlin’s Illusory World.

At this point, Merlin had controlled the energy transformed from the forty-eight strands of divinity, using them on the vast endless Illusory World. The entire Illusory World immediately started to spin and explode fiercely.

“Rumble.”

In an enormous explosion, infinite space was annihilated, countless celestial bodies and fields of stars destroyed. However, at the same time, only Merlin knew that the Illusory World was currently expanding wildly at a speed comparable to when he had used Mind Power to urge expansion.

One time bigger, two times, three times...

Merlin's Illusory World was colossal in the first place, equivalent to tens of thousands of dimensions of the Void Zone. Of course, this was still a negligible number to the Void Zone.

However, with forty-eight strands of Lord God-level divinity burning now, some of which belonged to powerful gods second only to the Thirty-six Emperors, the power that exploded was inconceivable.

Therefore, just as the forty-eight strands of divinity were about to vanish, Merlin's Illusory World practically enlarged by over a hundred times, which Merlin could not have imagined before this. Peculiar planets and other celestial phenomena which he had never predicted now appeared.

“Create, I merely had to create a basic structure, then this structure will slowly develop and be enriched, finally even surpassing the creator's imagination.”

As Merlin looked at the changes of the Illusory World, he was filled with joy. This was a true world. If the Glorious Land was seen as a world as well, then the Spell Models Aruba had designed just for Spell Casters were only beginner-level at the start. In the end, was it not that countless Spell Casters refined and created innumerable Spell Models?

This was a complete world that could slowly develop. Initially, the Illusory World could grow on its own, finally becoming a complete world, a vast universe that could rival the Void Zone. Nonetheless, this would take a very long time, and Merlin had used the Lord God-level divinity to accelerate this progress.

Compared to the Void Zone, the current Illusory World was rather insignificant.

“Phew...”

Merlin opened his eyes and heaved a long sigh. He felt his Mind Power had grown more immense, only this was no longer useful to him. He knew that if the Illusory World could not attain a stage of perfection, he would never be a threat to ultimate existences.

This was Merlin’s bottleneck. He required an extensive period for his capability could not possibly improve significantly overnight.

Luckily, Merlin had the Slothful Beast as well as the Golden Ray Armor. In the long period where the Illusory World was gradually perfected, Merlin would be safe. Moreover, he had controlled the Atlan Dimension, so he was even more secured. This was Merlin’s safest base. He could enter and exit anytime, unafraid of any ultimate existence.

“Didimoss, I should leave the Atlan Dimension and end the war against the God Alliance.”

Of course, Merlin had not forgotten that the war between the God Alliance and the Spell Casters had not ended. Perhaps the eight Lord Gods of the God Alliance appeared very powerful as if a massive rock had weighed heavily upon the hearts of countless foreign civilizations surrounding them.

Nevertheless, when Merlin entered the Atlan Dimension, he received so much information regarding the Vestigial Tribe. Thus, he knew that merely eight Lord Gods were nothing much. Back when the Vestigial Tribe swept over the Void Zone, even eighty, eight hundred ultimate existences were destined to be slaughtered, to say nothing of eight ultimate existences.

One could say that the powers below the Thirty-six Emperors, all the civilizations of the Void Zone, were no match for the Vestigial Tribe. It was the Thirty-six Emperors who made every effort to avert the desperate crisis, saving the foreign civilizations of the entire Void Zone.

Merlin now possessed the ultimate power of the Vestigial Tribe – the Golden Ray Armor! Although Merlin could only unleash a portion of its might, he did not need to fear most ultimate existences.

“Merlin, please be rest assured. I’ll help you watch over the Atlan Dimension. Humph, whoever dares to enter the Atlan Dimension, I’ll gobble up all of them.”

The black cat Didimoss spoke with a fierce expression. Although he had already “evolved”, he was still gluttonous, and his natural ability was even stronger.

Merlin nodded and cast a glance at the desolate Atlan Dimension. His figure flashed and he headed toward the Void Zone.

...

In the spacious Void Zone, powerful contenders had now converged outside the Atlan Dimension. The eight Lord Gods had appeared, and some warships of the Atlan civilization were even at a distance.

On the other side, there were Roman, Augustus, and the Avian Monarch. The other ultimate existences were guarding the Spell Caster civilization in case of emergencies.

At the moment, the two adversarial parties did not erupt in conflict. Instead, they stared steadily at that frightening mass of the natural order’s power in the Void Zone.

This power of the natural order made these ultimate existences who had controlled part of the natural order’s power to tremble in fear. It was as if this surge of natural order could easily slay them.

Therefore, under a common threat, the gods and the ultimate existences were not in conflict for once.

“What’s happening in the Atlan Dimension?”

Everyone was guessing but no one dared to enter the Atlan Dimension.

“Humph, Augustus, Roman, and the Avian Monarch. There are only three of them this time, and we have eight Lord Gods. It’s our chance to corner and kill them, what a rare opportunity!”

Only the Lord God of Light was not too concerned with the changes occurring outside the Atlan Dimension. Instead, he was scrutinizing Augustus and the rest, sensing that there were no other ultimate existences from the Spell Caster civilization. Therefore, the eight Lord Gods now occupied an absolute advantage in terms of number. This chance was difficult to come by.

“Everyone, this is our chance!”

The Lord God of Light secretly conveyed to the Lord Gods of the other god organizations. Instantly, these Lord Gods recovered from their astonishment, and one by one directed their gazes at Augustus and the rest.

“Oh no, they’re going to attack. We’d better leave.”

Augustus’ expression shifted slightly. He, the Avian Monarch, and Roman – all three of them had sensed the changes happening outside the Atlan Dimension, so they hurried over, leaving the Mother Tree and the rest with the Spell Caster civilization. They did not expect to encounter the eight Lord Gods, which was rather unfavorable to them.

“Don’t worry. Both of you come on board my stealth flying ship quickly. They can’t catch up to us.”

When Roman noticed the stares of the eight Lord Gods, he was not afraid at all, immediately taking out the stealth flying ship, allowing Augustus and the Avian Monarch to enter.

With the stealth flying ship, the eight Lord Gods had no way of catching up to Roman’s group.

“D*mn it, it’s the stealth flying ship again!”

When the eight Lord Gods saw that familiar flying ship, every one of their faces turned ashen. They had suffered before thanks to the stealth flying ship which was so elusive. Moreover, its speed was incredible. None of them could match that speed.

Furthermore, its concealing force allowed it to approach someone if they were not paying attention, making it difficult to guard against. This was a headache for the eight Lord Gods.

Therefore, when they saw Augustus and the Avian Monarch entering the stealth flying ship, the eight Lord Gods knew that they had lost their chance to trap Augustus and the rest.

“Humph, just wait until the Atlan civilization’s void-level warship is manufactured once more. That’s when the Spell Caster civilization will be destroyed.”

The eight Lord Gods could only bear with this for now, until the Atlan civilization produced the void-level warship once again. Moreover, the mysterious Marshall had divulged that it would not be just one void-level warship but two or even three.

Two or three void-level warships were certainly a subversive force. In addition to the eight Lord Gods and the two Rock Progenitors, the Spell Caster civilization’s current forces would have no way to resist.

“That’s right, go and ask that mysterious Marshall, how soon is the manufacturing of the void-level warships?”

The eight Lord Gods had waited for so long, yet they never knew whether the void-level warships had been manufactured.

At the moment, a gigantic warship had appeared not too far away, slowly approaching the Atlan Dimension. From the warship out flew a person in gray armor.

It was the Atlan civilization’s enigmatic Marshall and his guards.

“Lord Gods, I’ll send this warship back to the Atlan Dimension to check upon the void-level warships’ progress.”

The mysterious Marshall was impatient and restless. Others did not know, only he knew that he had lost contact with the Atlan Dimension for a while now. Many warships he sent had not returned, casting a shadow over his heart.

Thus, he decided once more to send two dimension-level warships back to the Atlan Dimension, to see what happened.

However, as soon as his two dimension-level warships went into the entrance of the Atlan Dimension, a ball of flames exploded.

“Boom.”

A tremendous rumble accompanied the flames that soared to the sky. A formidable shockwave rolled out in all directions, and the two dimension-level warships which had just entered the Atlan Dimension, were annihilated.

“What’s going on?”

The eight Lord Gods and the mysterious Marshall instantly shot a look at the entrance of the Atlan Dimension. In the distant Void Zone, the stealth flying ship had even stopped, partly hidden but unwilling to leave, evidently drawn to what had just happened.

Chapter 850: Back to the Void Zone II

“Boom”.

There was another loud bang. Then, at the entrance of the Atlan Dimension, amidst a column of blazing flames, a slender black-robed silhouette gradually appeared before everyone.

In addition, that silhouette walked towards the Void Zone with complete disregard.

“Merlin? Why would he emerge from the Atlan Dimension?”

The expressions of the Lord God of Light and the mysterious Marshal shifted dramatically. They were too familiar with Merlin. Even the other Lord Gods were not entirely unfamiliar with Merlin.

A Wizard who possessed a Slothful Beast and was able to control minds. Despite not being an ultimate existence, he posed a much greater threat than the ordinary ultimate existence. Therefore, Merlin was no longer a nobody, but a strong contender within the Void Zone.

“Does that mean, something happened inside the Atlan Dimension?”

The mysterious Marshal thought about the Slothful Beast controlled by Merlin and immediately felt a pang of anxiety in his heart. The Slothful Beast did not need the power of natural order and was as tough as nails. If it were to wreak havoc in the Atlan Dimension, who could stop it?

The fact that they lost communication with the Atlan Dimension was most probably Merlin's doing.

Meanwhile, the Eight Great Lord Gods were unaware of the mysterious Marshal's unease. On the other hand, they saw it as a golden opportunity.

“It's just Merlin alone. Kill! If we can kill Merlin, that would be equivalent to getting rid of the Slothful Beast. Then, it would simply be a matter of time before the Spell Caster civilization is defeated.”

The Eight Great Lord Gods were well-aware of the challenging nature of Merlin's Slothful Beast. As long as the Slothful Beast was around, it would be extremely difficult to defeat the Spell Caster civilization. Moreover, even the Eight Great Lord Gods did not have the ability to kill the Slothful Beast, so their only hope was to deal with its owner.

However, previously, the Spell Caster civilization had been well-prepared and kept many of the Lord Gods occupied so that the Eight Great Lord Gods of the God Alliance could not focus on attacking Merlin.

At the same time, Merlin was alone. This was their chance!

“Haha, once we kill Merlin, perhaps we can even obtain the method of taming the Slothful Beast.”

The Eight Great Lord Gods approached Merlin swiftly. With the speed of the Eight Great Lord Gods, this was equivalent to a blink of an eye. They had already closed in on Merlin by the time Roman, Augustus and the others inside the stealth flying ship noticed something amiss. It was too late.

“Haha, he hasn't even unleashed the Slothful Beast.”

When the Lord God of Light saw that Merlin was frozen in place and did not release the Slothful Best, he was overjoyed. The holy light on his body was blasted toward Merlin at full force.

Without the Slothful Beast, how could mere Lord like Merlin measure up to the Eight Great Lord Gods?

Hence, the extensive holy light transformed into a large web that covered the Atlan Dimension's entrance almost entirely. Even if Merlin were to summon the Slothful Beast now, it would be too late.

"Haha, Merlin would die for sure today. Without the threat of the Slothful Beast, we will be able to exterminate the Spell Caster civilization with ease!"

The Eight Great Lord Gods were triumphant, they did not expect that the accidental developments outside the Atlan Dimension would end up with such a favorable outcome, which was encountering a lone Merlin.

"Too late, we won't get there in time."

Inside the stealth flying ship, Roman shook his head in despair. Although his stealth flying ship was very fast, they were very far away as they were previously escaping from the Eight Great Lord Gods. Now, this safe distance seemed to become an unbridgeable gap which prevented them from rescuing Merlin in time.

"Zap zap zap".

Multiple rays of holy light drowned Merlin's figure. The Eight Great Lord Gods were comparable to eight ultimate existences, how frightening was such an attack? The main reason that the God Alliance was able to strike fear in the hearts of countless foreign tribes in their surroundings was due to these Eight Great Lord Gods.

Now that the Eight Great Lord Gods were jointly attacking one person, much less Merlin, but even an ultimate existence who had integrated with natural order would not survive. There could be no lucky survivors faced with the simultaneous attacks from the Eight Great Lord Gods.

Suddenly, a very calm and composed aura of Merlin flared outwards. Then, like a massive gale, a golden ray pierced through the blanket of bedazzling holy light cast by the Eight Great Lord Gods.

“What is that?”

“Such a terrifying aura, even we are feeling goosebumps. The Slothful Beast could not possibly possess such a terrifying might...”

The Eight Great Lord Gods were closest to Merlin, hence they felt it most succinctly. Amidst the holy light they cast, there was an explosion of power that caused them to shudder.

“Lord God of Light, we meet again!”

Merlin’s ice-cold voice resounded. Following that, a golden figure slowly emerged from behind the holy light.

At this time, Merlin had activated the power of the Golden Ray Armor. The brilliant golden gleam exuded an incredible power. The golden armor seemed to exert an invisible aura of suppression upon the Eight Great Lord Gods.

“Not dead?”

The Lord God of Light’s face was shaken. Earlier, the joint attack by the Eight Great Lord Gods could not be said to be weak by any sense, yet Merlin was wholly unharmed. It was extremely peculiar.

“Dead?”

Merlin’s lips quirked into a smile. To be honest, the attack from the Eight Great Lord Gods did make him a little nervous. After all, the Eight Great Lord Gods were the strongest force in their vicinity. Anyone under the siege of the Eight Great Lord Gods, regardless of ultimate existence, would be in danger.

However, the Golden Ray Armor gave Merlin a major confidence boost. Back then, the Golden Ray Armor was comparable to the Thirty-six Emperors. This was the ultimate product of the Vestigial Tribe's knowledge. In the past, this Golden Ray Armor was invincible throughout the entire Void Zone.

Therefore, Merlin faced the attack from the Eight Great Lord Gods head-on. The frightening holy light contained a plethora of natural order's great powers, but upon impact with Merlin's body, it did not cause him any harm.

The endurance of the Golden Ray Armor strengthened Merlin's confidence!

Seeing Merlin approaching step by step, the Lord God of Light revealed a look of terror on his face. He yelled again, "I don't know what tactic Merlin used to deflect our attack, but I'm sure he won't be able to hold on for a long time."

The Lord God of Light was about to attack once again but Merlin did not give him the opportunity.

Merlin gently raised his hand and pointed. "Gravitational field!"

"Boom".

An immense power that almost caused the Lord God of Light to suffocate enveloped him in an instant. This gravitational field was disintegrating and twisting the holy light on his body, even the power of natural order could not resist it. Compared to Roman's gravitational field, this was a whole new creature.

The Golden Ray Armor was an existence comparable to the Thirty-six Emperors, so its skills were a cut above the ultimate existences. Only the Thirty-six Emperors could possibly resist it.

"How could you become so powerful? What did you obtain from the Atlan Dimension?"

The Lord God of Light had to exhaust a great amount of energy to spit out these few words. Nevertheless, the holy light on his body continued to weaken and disintegrate. The powerful gravitational force of this gravitational field would soon crush him into pieces.

“Stop.”

“Lord God of Light!”

The remaining Lord Gods finally regained their senses and wielded their assistance, but Merlin stretched out a hand and the invisible gravitational field exploded with a bang.

“Boom”.

The invisible gravitational field actually managed to suppress all Eight Great Lord Gods concurrently. The Eight Great Lord Gods felt hard to move even a single inch. All of them had to use all their strength to resist the pervading gravitational force.

“How can this be possible? We are the Eight Great Lord Gods!”

“The joint forces of the Eight Great Lord Gods can vanquish even an ultimate existence. How can a single individual suppress us?”

The Eight Great Lord Gods were astonished. Not just them, but even Roman, Augustus, the Avian Monarch and the rest inside the stealth flying ship were astonished looking at the shiny golden figure standing in the Void Zone. Despite the considerable distance between them, all of them could sense a terrifying pressure.

Merlin must have obtained an invaluable treasure inside the Atlan Dimension!

“Swoosh”.

Merlin turned abruptly and casted his gaze towards a warship in a distance.

This warship was slightly different than the other dimension-level warships. It was much bigger and sturdier than the others. This was the commanding ship among the Atlan civilization’s warship fleet. The mysterious Marshal was inside the commanding ship.

“Marshal, the Eight Great Lord Gods might not know what I’m wearing, but you should know, right?”

With a large grasp from Merlin's hand, an incredible suction power sucked the warship all the way in front of Merlin. Additionally, Merlin's golden eyes seemed able to see through the warship to look directly at the mysterious Marshal.

The mysterious Marshal's eyes widened. The usually composed Marshal actually began to tremble at this moment.

"Open fire, open fire."

The guards inside the warship carried out the orders frantically. Immediately, the warship fired multiple rays of light. Merlin was so close to them that they did not have to aim. Any random blast would definitely land on Merlin.

However, this immensely powerful dimension-level warship was completely unable to inflict any damage on Merlin's Golden Ray Armor.

"Impossible, it's impossible, we've researched for such a long time, no one has been able to control it..."

The mysterious Marshal was a candidate jointly nominated by the Army as well as the Senate, so he had strong connections with the Army and the Senate. Due to that, he was immediately able to recognize that Merlin was wearing the Atlan civilization's greatest secret, an ultimate war weapon that even they did not manage to decipher after countless years.

"Nothing is impossible. Just because you can't control it, doesn't mean that I can't control it. An ultimate war weapon, or to be accurate, the Golden Ray Armor! The Vestigial Tribe's greatest power..."

Merlin's voice reverberated across the Void Zone. Although time and space did not exist, everyone could hear Merlin's voice. This was the power of a different level altogether, a power that struck fear in the hearts of the ultimate existences.

"You actually obtained the ultimate war weapon, that is our Atlan civilization's..."

The mysterious Marshal could not bear to imagine it any further. He knew very well how well hidden the ultimate war weapon was. It was inside the crystal wall that was most prized by the Senate and the Army. If was not possible to obtain the ultimate war weapon, unless the hopeship was destroyed.

“The Void Zone will no longer have the Atlan civilization!”

Merlin’s golden eyes flashed mercilessly. With that, he gently curled his hand into a fist.

“Bang”.

The powerful dimension-level warship exploded instantly, turning into blazing flames amidst the Void Zone...