

Abyssal 111

Chapter 111 - See Beyond Good And Evil

Zatiel did not move for an entire week, and the only thing he did was continue devouring those giant cubes of meat as he maintained his body's metabolism multiplied by one hundred.

Normally a Rank 0 Animus could not maintain this condition for such a long time. Still, since Zatiel was using the magic from the Rank 3 elder brain's mind and the immense life force and vitality that his bloodline gave him, he did not find it difficult to keep going for this long without resting.

Of course, there was still the mental fatigue, but the feeling of his power growing at such an impressive speed was truly satisfying for Zatiel, so he did not find any problem in maintaining his concentration.

He would have wanted to keep training for more time, but unfortunately, the date that Heinz told him the kingdom members would arrive to create his magic tower was approaching, so he needed to go and meet them at the agreed location.

Zatiel stops consuming the cubes of meat and deactivates his Mind Power before slowly opening his eyes.

Due to the changes in his body in such a short time, Zatiel could not objectively appreciate his new power, but luckily he had the A.I. Chip help, so he commanded the chip to scan him.

"A.I. Chip scan my body and show the difference between my previous stats and the present ones."

"Bip... scanning host

Race: Neo-Demon (Rank 1, Daybreak Bloodline)/ Animus (Rank 0)

Strength: 67.3--->71.4

Physique: 117.8 --->143.7

Speed: 89.8--->95.2

Abyss Aura: 120.3---> 121.1

Sun Force: 90.2--->127.6

Bloodline Heart: 65%--->89% completed

Elemental Chaos Heart: 100% completed

Note: Host bloodline has been designated with the name Daybreak, due to the absence of information about the original carrier of bloodline and the host being considered the new origin of this one."

When Zatiel fought with that man, they never spoke, and in the dream he had during his advancement to Rank 1, no information about the identity of him or the other eight individuals was.

He was sure that if they were still alive, they must have already made a name for themselves in the universe and maybe even created a civilization under their command since the power which they were born with was equal to a Being of Laws.

His demise when he was an Abyss Lord was not much time later than that fight, so he did not know about them, and now he did not have the means to get that type of information.

But all that disappeared from his mind as he saw the impressive rise in his stats.

'Excellent!, each day spent with my metabolism multiplied by one hundred times is equal to the energy I could consume in three months of devouring high energy food. My Bloodline Heart and Sun Force will be fully matured with another week or so, and I will enter Peak Rank 1.'

His speed and strength did not improve greatly since they are connected to the nurturing effect of the abyss aura and organ transformation by the Chaotic Core. But the creation of a new heart will always improve one's vitality and life force, especially if it is one as special as the Bloodline Heart is.

As for the fact that despite all that energy he consumed, his Abyss Aura only increased less than one point, Zatiel knew that before advancing to the next Rank, no significant increase would be available to his energy pool.

The one thing that bothers Zatiel was that his Mind Force was not expressed in the chip's chart.

'It seems that is not able to quantify an intangible power as Mind Force yet. When I advance to Rank 2 it abilities should increase and be able to display then.'

The chip's abilities grow as he advances in the Ranks, and although he wasn't able to see the actual stats, he knew that this week of training had at less allowed him to improve a little Mind Force.

Zatiel looked in Dante's direction and was a little surprised to see that the boy as already reached Rank 1, but it didn't take him long to figure out how he did it.

Since the boy was also an Animus, just like him, he could increase his metabolism and speed up the abyss aura's growth.

"A.I. Chip, scan him."

"Bip... scanning the target."

Name: Dante Daybreak

Race: Neo-Demon (Rank 1, Daybreak Bloodline)/Animus(Rank 0)

Strength: 25.9

Physique: 47.1

Speed: 40.8

Abyss Aura: 45.9

Sun Force: 42.5

Bloodline Heart: 0.1%

Elemental Chaos Heart: 0.2%"

The boy's stats were very similar to his own when he advanced to Rank 1, but it was expected, after all, Dante's body was made from his stem cells, and they shared the same bloodline with an equal purity since he was his direct descendent.

Dante opens his eyes as he feels the scanning force and immediately recognized it as the one generated by the A.I. Chip.

The boy looks at Zatiel and approaches him.

"You will remain here for the time being and use the dome to improve your power. Do not use your Mind Force to increase your metabolism inside the dome, as it could make the elemental chaos blend with parts of your body other than your original heart."

"Yes, father." Dante agreed immediately.

He likes to be in a place where there are other young people with whom he can interact, and also, the more he learned about those with whom he shared his race, the prouder he felt, as the atmosphere of camaraderie and brotherhood were always present.

"You will have a task while you are here. It is to understand the power and abilities of everyone in here and train military tactics with them, focusing on blitzkrieg attacks or lightning wars, that takes advantage of the lack of awareness of an enemy and deals a swift and potent attack before they have the chance to set a proper defense."

Zatiel knows that he is not very talented when it comes to leading armies. A quality very common among Abyssal Lords since they usually only commanded their demonic legions to do a task, and as long they complete it, they do not care how they do it or the number of deads.

But the boy has the ability to run hundreds or maybe thousands of different scenarios on his head without a problem. If he focuses on commanding an organized army, the power he could display will be much more than the mere sum of their members.

"Yes, father!" Dante was excited with the idea of leading an army of Neo-Demons in battle and probe the power of their race.

But when Zatiel saw this, a complicated expression appeared on his face before kneeling and looking at the boy directly to his eye.

"Listen to me, my son, you were born from my soul and had my bloodline coursing through your body, and because of that, they will follow your every command due to the love and respect they have for me." Zatiel looks at all those kobolds and feels glad of having them as his race.

"But never forget this, we are going to war, death is inevitable, and we can't say for certain that we can bring them back. They are the first of our kind, and despite the risk, they will not hesitate to give their life in the name of our race progress."

Reaching this part, Zatiel stands up, and he releases a sovereign might as he looks at Dante again.

"So you will use every second of your time to create the best tactics that will allow them to display the greatest power they can, and if they die, then they must do it with the honor and dignity worthy of our race. If they fall, due to your lack of preparation or ineptitude, then even if you are my son, you will pay the price of your mistakes."

When Dante heard those words, all the excitement left his face, and he understood that his lack of experience made him commit a huge mistake. He did not understand the responsibilities over his shoulder.

But after a moment, all hesitation leaves his face and is replaced by a strong will and determination.

"I will not fail you, father, nor will I fail my race." Dante gave a small bow before going to the dome.

Zatiel did not stop giving his mighty aura until Dante entered the dome, and once he did, his eyes displayed warmth, and a gentle smile appeared on his face.

'The fire of war will mold you, Dante, into someone that can carve his own path.'

Zatiel knows that what he will do during this invasion could be considered truly evil, and it will be too much for the boy to be part of it before he grows a little.

'I will protect you from those horrible things I will do for the time being, but eventually, you will have to learn to see beyond good and evil and understand the true nature of the universe.' Zatiel gives a final look at the dome before leaving the cave and meeting the people of the kingdom.

Chapter 112 - Kingdom Citizens

It didn't take long for Zatiel to arrive at the location where he will build his tower since it was less than two hundred kilometers from the Underground entrance.

Zatiel had decided on this location for a simple reason; it will allow him to grow the number of individuals under him at a fast rate since he was planning to accept anyone despite whatever race they could belong to.

Of course, no matter how strong they are, they will only be peripheral members of the tower at the beginning, and they will be under constant surveillance, which will work to detect those worthy of nourishing and those that should be removed.

Although this tower will not be much of an enticement for most Magus since they could go to the Sinux Magic Tower, where they will have the same opportunities and safer environment, those that Zatiel was hoping to obtain were not them, but those that are not accepted by the rest.

To him, their original talent was meaningless, and what they wanted was those that survived in a cruel environment by sticking together, protecting the weak ones, and not shunning them away. Groups like that will not be easy to find, but if a hidden gem like those kobolds were to appear, it would be worth the effort.

There was also a second goal he had by creating his tower here, and that was that he has a plan for Wasteland. The first layer of the Underground may be a place not worthy of dominating due to the lack of resources and poor living conditions, but there were a lot of uses for such a piece of land.

As he was arriving Zatiel, saw three men floating in the air.

Each of these men was wearing a blue robe with no special distinctions in it; the power in their bodies was mild and almost undetectable, they gave such a deep intellectual aura that if it weren't for the fact that they were flying, you would mistake them with a mortal world erudite.

Zatiel was a little surprised by the trio's appearance since they had extremely similar physical features, corresponding to the one of a middle-aged man with black hair, and one would think that they were related by blood, but he knew that this was not the case.

The three men were reading a book in which, instead of words, all kinds of inscriptions similar to the ones used in rune crafting were written, and it was only when Zatiel was arriving in front of them that they save them and look at him.

"I am Zatiel Daybreak. I assume that you three are the stemmed Magus of the Scientia Kingdom." Zatiel made a formal greeting before proceeds to quietly assess the people in front of thin.

"It is a pleasure to meet the fighting and runemaster genius Zatiel, I am Nathan, and these two are David and Henry. Indeed, we are the ones that his Highness Heinz contact for the creation of your Magic Tower," Nathan's attitude was truly what you would expect about the people of the kingdom, calm and amicable.

If anyone saw him acting like that before someone at Rank 1, they will never think that he was at the Master level Rank 3.

As for David and Henry, they were both at Peak Rank 2, and it was a matter of time before advancing, and despite remaining quiet, it seems that their personalities were similar to the one of Nathan.

What Zatiel founded interesting was the path of power that they trained; it was the Magi Path but not one of the four more mainstream directions. It was a more profound version of the Arcane path.

The fighting power they could express was vastly inferior to the rest of the Magus in the same Rank.

'They have replaced battle power for increased cognitive abilities. The three of them do it, and if everyone in the kingdom follows this path, then as a whole, they are fragile, compared to the empire and dynasty. There must be a reason for the lack of hostilities against them.' Although Zatiel was thinking all that, there was no expression on his face.

There was definitely a great mystery about the kingdom since they could be an enemy that no one wanted to offend despite their military might.

By seeing how the three people in front of him look and behave, plus some knowledge about the kingdom's history, Zatiel was able to formulate an idea of what the secret of the kingdom was and why every single one of their members is so valuable. Still, he did not bother to think too much about it since it did not affect him.

"Yes, I want to use your services and construct my tower right in this place."

"Oh, we don't have a problem creating your tower wherever you want, but according to my knowledge, this place can be considered under the circle of influence of the Sinux Magic Tower, and constructing any stronghold here could be considered an act of aggression or at least of provocation."

Nathan's pacifistic attitude was not only with himself but among others as well.

But due to Zatiel and Heinz's relation, his fears were unfounded.

"I thank you for your concern, but do not worry, I have already informed Heinz about the location of my tower."

"Since that is the case, I will speak no more about the subject. We can start immediately, but before we do, we need some specifications about the type of tower you want and how many funds you plan to invest."

Zatiel had an idea of what type of tower he wanted a long time ago, so he spoke immediately.

" My tower need to be able to withstand a great amount of damage, have ample spaces where all kind of experiment on large creatures can be performed, his residents will have a size of approximately four to five meters tall, and the most important thing, I need something in the top of this tower that can contain high amount fo unstable energy and can be released with precision in a determined area, plus large scale surveillance equipment."

Zatiel took a ring from his hand and sent it to Nathan. "In here, there are thirty million magic crystals."

Since the amount of fallen star he obtained in the excavation was immense, Zatiel chose to sell a quarter of it, and by selling all the treasures in the spatial rings of those two Eye Lords that he killed, he was able to amass those crystals.

"If we follow your specification, with this amount of resources, we can build you a Low Rank 3 Magic Tower" After making some calculations, Nathan gave that answer.

Zatiel was a little surprised when he ears that. Thirty million magic crystals were not a small amount since normally, a Rank 3 Magus could only obtain amass a wealth of around two to three million crystal a year, and that is if they do not use any resource at all and save everything they earn.

But Zatiel knows that Nathan was not lying, and the price of magic towers has always been immense, especially the ones constructed by the kingdom people.

"What Rank of a tower could I get if I perform the inscription of the formations?" From the beginning, Zatiel was planning to inscribe the runes into his tower since he would make it possible to enhance them in the future, and it will be safer since that way, he could be sure that there was no tampering made at all.

When the three men hear those words, a peculiar expression appeared in their eyes, but it was not disdained or anything similar; it was curiosity.

"Since the inscription is the harder part, we can make your tower at High Rank 3, but..." Nathan looked at his partners, and once they nodded, he spoke again, " If you let us see your work and analyze your rune inscriptions, then we could make the tower at Psuedo-Rank 4."

When Zatiel hears them, a strange light appeared in his eyes.

'So it's true, they seek knowledge wherever they go, and they do not care for resources or loss of wealth as long they can obtain it.'

A Pseudo-Rank 4 Magic Tower could cost at least fifty million crystal. That is not considering the price needed to pay for inscribing the several runes formation it needed.

"I have no problem, but I can only inscribe Peak Rank 2 Runes for the moment."

Although Zatiel spoke as if his abilities as a Runemaster were average when the kingdom's trio heard him, they were shocked.

"You are truly worthy of being called a genius and have your name already spreading to the empire and kingdom, being able to create Peak Rank 2 Runes at Rank 1 is beyond impressive. And although, indeed, diagrams of Rank 2 runes are not valuable to us, what we want to see is your techniques and abilities during rune inscription."

Zatiel looked at Nathan attentively for a moment before nodding.

"You people are sagacious and experts in the seek of knowledge."

Chapter 113 - Daybreak Magic Tower

"Ok, then we will start immediately. Here are the materials needed to make the basic rune formations that the tower needs to operate along with its diagrams, you can decide whether you want to make some alterations or add new sub-formations." Nathan handed a ring to Zatiel before descending to the ground along David and Henry.

The moment he touches the earth, Nathan starts to mobilize the energy in his body. Even though his path did not grant him great battle might, all Rank 3 life forms have an immense amount of power in their bodies, especially if they have reached the peak and are starting to comprehend the laws.

The ground starts to tremble and noises could be heard as the creatures that lived close to this place were running away.

Unlike most Magus would do, Nathan waited until the creatures were far away before launching his spell. It seems that the pacific nature of the citizen of the kingdom was directed to all life forms.

"Alter Earth!"

The name of the spell sounded simple, but the power it carries was immense as the ground under Nathan's feet started to break immediately, and you could feel how the entire power of an earthquake above magnitude 10 was concentrate in a radius of fifty meters around the Magus.

The earth split apart and a hole more than one hundred meters deep was formed.

Once the hole was created the earthquake stopped, but the spell didn't, and now David and Henry made the energy of the body burst and the three focused their energy in the spell.

The earth starts to change, compressing itself, the base and walls of the hole were becoming uniform and you could see a metallic luster in it.

The process was taking much longer than the creation of the hole itself, but as they worked, the hardness of the earth was reaching the standard of a Rank 2 metal, and it extended for kilometers.

But this metallic earth was not just hard, it also had the properties of dissipating any sort of vibration or kinetic energy, so if a great impact was to reach the tower directly, it could disperse great part of the attack's power to the surrounding.

This alteration will also make it harder for any type of subterranean incursion since they will have to pass thousand of meters of magically reinforced earth to reach the tower and even if they do that undetected, there will still be the problem of how to pierce the walls of the tower.

If the enemy was powerful enough to do all these without people detecting him, then it will be easier for him to directly attack the tower.

As the members of the kingdom were working, Zatiel was processing the material. The diagrams were pretty simple and with his improved cognitive abilities thanks to his status as an Animus and connection to the elder brain, he was able to understand them in less than a minute.

The processing of the material was simple, but still, Zatiel was fully concentrated, and his Eye of Life and Creation was acting at complete capacity since he was making some alterations in the materials.

Every time the processing was about to end, Zatiel sends a small thread of golden fire into the material.

Doing this will normally destroy the material since, a foreign agent entering during the last phase of processing will create a chaotic reaction, but by using the A.I chip he knew exactly when to add the flames and how much he could do.

Zatiel was doing this because he wanted to add some of the attributes of his flames to the runic formations so they could enhance the sub-formation he will inscribe.

It took Nathan and the other five hours to make changes permanent on the ground where the tower will be.

Although they had to maintain a complete focus in the spell, thanks to their path, the mental fatigue they felt was almost null.

Nathan flies to the side of the hole and extracted from his ring metal plaques of all form and sizes, along with hundreds of small humanoid automaton that seem to be made of mercury due to their silver appearance.

"We are ready to start building the tower, whenever you are." Nathan looks at Zatiel and there was curiosity on his eyes as he saw those materials that he had processed.

Although the inscription of the rune formation could have been done after the tower was constructed, it was better to do the two together. This way, they will be able to detect any problem that could happen along the way and repair it.

The number of materials was big, but just like the group of three, Zatiel did not feel any exhaustion just for some hours of processing.

"Let start immediately." Zatiel flies to the trio and floating around him were containers carrying the already processed materials which had a golden glow in them.

Nathan, David, and Henry nodded before flying into the sky and closing their eyes.

The moment they do that, the hundreds of automatons started to move and carry those metal plaques. Even though each of them weighed more than a ton, those automatons moved them as if they were weightless.

They started to assemble the metal plaques with perfect precision and coordination among themselves, and the moment those plaques joined together their conjunctions disappeared making it seem as if they were one from the beginning and not letting any physical entrance from the outside, besides those designed as such.

Zatiel didn't lag behind and as those automatons built a piece of the tower, he inscribed the corresponding runic formations in it, and the entire time he had his Eye of Life and Creation and golden flames active improving the quality of the runes.

As he worked he felt someone watching his every movement, and knew that there were those three Magus, that were focusing the part of their consciousness that was not controlling those automatons on him.

He had agreed to this from the beginning and since they make sure to not let their consciousness reach his body, he just continues working.

Every single line of runic inscription that Zatiel was creating could be considered a perfect work of a Rank 2 Runemaster, and despite the exhaustion that will usually accompany his work on these high-level runes, he was going on without a problem.

Zatiel and the trio continue working from more than twelve hours before taking a break, and even then, it was less than thirty minutes before resuming the tower construction.

Whenever they rested, Zatiel used his Mind Force to enhance his metabolism and replenish his lost energy, before using it again to reduce the mental stress and fatigue.

It was after a week that the construction of the tower was finished. It was obsidian black with all sort of runic formations on it that appear to be forming a golden path.

The part of it above the ground was more than two hundred and fifty meters tall, and it gave the impression that it could pierce the sky.

In the peak of the tower, there was a spherical object of five meters in diameter, constantly spinning, and inside there was a red glow due to a magma nucleus. This is a special artifact known as Perpetual Dynamic Core created in the kingdom, and it could work as a container of unstable and always growing energy.

Seeing that the construction was over, Zatiel finally rested and deactivates Mind Force, and after doing it a wave of exhaustion attacks him. The magic of the elder brain's mind was a virtually endless source of fuel for his power but he needed to use his vitality as well and even though it was great, it is not unlimited.

But there was good news, as he could feel the changes in his mind growing and was sure that he one step closer to be able to use his own mind magic.

"Here is the control core of the tower, send a part of your consciousness inside and you will gain authority over it" Nathan passes Zatiel a dark core covered by runes.

Zatiel took it and did as the Magus instructed.

Once he sent his consciousness inside and took control over the tower, this one started to glow as the runic formation starts to activate.

The tower acted as a black hole and the natural energies of the world were disappearing inside it at an impressive speed.

As this happened, more and more of those runic formations were being initiated, making those that see the tower think it has golden flames running inside it.

Normally most of the natural energy that was suctioned by a Magic Tower would go to the energy containers located on the lowest floor, but here only half of it was going that way.

The other half was injected in the sub-formation that Zatiel created which was sending threads of golden fire into the Perpetual Dynamic Core.

As the flames reached the core, this one started to spin faster and faster, and the magma nucleus started to change adopting a golden color.

It was slow at first but less than a minute after the golden flames reached the core, a giant golden ball of flames was created, inundating the space in a radius of three hundred kilometers in golden light.

These flames could not compare to the one that Zatiel could create with his golden sun and lack any control over the laws, but even so, the vitality of everything in his touches grows, and its power only continues to increase.

A smile appeared on Zatiel as he saw this, as for the three Magus they were surprised.

This is where the story about the Daybreak Magic Tower begins, a place that in the future will inspire fear and respect in every creature in the Magi World.

Chapter 114 - Blood Wars

Nathan, David, and Henry were truly amazed by the effect of the golden light and the way that those formations were able to connect one with another, transforming the natural energy of the world and sent it into the core, constantly increasing its power.

The runes that Zatiel inscribed could be considered the best of its Rank, but still, they were Rank 2, and the abilities they were currently showing were beyond what runes of its level should be able to perform.

What Zatiel did was applying the concept of runic sets, in which groups of diverse runes are made to work together and empower each other displaying a power above its Rank, into this runic formations.

Although it did not sound too difficult, being able to connect the hundreds of formation that a tower carried and made them work as one was something even some Rank 3 Runemaster did not have the confidence to do.

When Nathan feel that golden light touching his body he understood that these runes formation did not only probed Zatiel abilities as genius runemaster, but it was also showing its imagination to see beyond their original purpose of something and create new ones.

The original purpose of the Perpetual Dynamic Core was purely for battle, but now was working as a source of vitality that affects all those under its light, and although in someone like him, a Rank 3 life form, the effect was almost imperceptible, he was sure that if someone at Rank 0 were to be

under this light they will be able to work for days without stop and all of his wound would be healed in a matter of hours.

As a citizen of the Scientia Kingdom, Nathan knew a lot of spells that could produce even better effects than the golden light was generating now, but they use too much energy, and having them active in a radius of hundreds of kilometers was not practical.

But when Nathan analyzed the golden ball of flames and its light, he understood that the vitality it released did not take energy from the flames.

And more impressive yet was that as the ball of golden flames increase in power, also did the vitality effects in its light.

"The title of genius is truly fitting in someone like you. Tell me, is it possible to buy those diagrams and the way to connect them?." Nathan was truly fascinated with Zatiel's abilities, and there was great respect in his eyes as he spoke.

To the people of the kingdom, what inspires respect in them the most is not battle power but knowledge, intelligence, and the imagination to use them.

David and Henry were also looking at Zatiel when Nathan asked for the diagrams. Even though the three of them have seen his every movement during the construction of the tower, how to connect the runes and made them work as one, was something they couldn't understand just by watching.

"There is no problem in selling it, but you must know that even if the runes are made perfectly, the effect will not be the same."

Zatiel was sure that the kingdom must have similar runes formation and he had no problem selling this one.

"I know, it is the source of energy which you used to alter the materials and inscribe the runes responsible for the vitality effect. But although they are difficult to get, we have some sources of energy with similar abilities in the kingdom." Nathan was very smart and understood the secrets behind the runic formation.

Of course, he lost an important part and that was that without the Eye of Life and Creation to use the laws in the flames, the effect of the golden fire would have been mediocre and without the capability to grow.

"Good, then how about those automatons for the runic formation?" Zatiel found those silver humanoid very useful.

They may not be fit for battle due to the lack of fighting abilities and weak defenses, but they work as excellent construction machines and have the ability to transform their bodies into a liquid state before solidified again with all sorts of forms.

There was a drawback in the fact that there was a need for someone to manipulate them, but the elder brain containing a piece of Dante's consciousness will be able to do it without a problem.

"Done," Nathan was more than satisfied with the transaction, even though those automatons were expensive, to him wealth is only useful in the seek of knowledge.

Zatiel handed a crystal that contained the diagram and the way of using those formations to Nathan and this one gave him a silver core.

The moment the crystal reached Nathan's hand, he along David and Henry sent their consciousness inside it.

The reason for their actions wasn't that they thought Zatiel could be tricking them, but due to the immense temptation that new knowledge represented to them.

Zatiel also did not waste his time, and sent his consciousness in the core, making all the automatons enter inside the magic tower.

The trio could have spent hours researching the diagrams and communicating with each other about the ideas that this information has brought them, but knowing that they have still matters to attend they stopped.

"We have finished our work here. If there is not anything else you need, then we will be leaving."

"I do need something. Tell me does your kingdom also researched important events in the history of the universe and the current state and geography of some High Planes."

Nathan was a little surprised for Zatiel request since he could not think a reason why someone that has not reached Rank 4 could want that type of information, but he still answered.

"There is a branch of the kingdom that does that type of work, and although I am not a part of it, I could contact them for you."

"Excellent. I want information about the Blood Wars happening between Abyss and Baator, especially the period known as The Blight of the Nine Hells, and the current state of those planes." Zatiel expression was solemn as he asked the question and great interest was present on his eyes.

There was confusion on David and Henry's faces when they hear Zatiel request, although they known about the Blood Wars, they have never heard about The Blight of the Nine Hells.

But Nathan was different and his eyes narrowed when he hears it.

"Any accurate information related to The Blight of the Nine Hells is extremely expensive to obtain since it was a period that generated repercussion through all the planes and worlds in the universe and it involved fall of several Being of Laws." Nathan was very curious about the interest of Zatiel for this information, but since it could be considered impolite ask about it, he did not say anything.

"We have that information in the kingdom, but it is not something that can be bought with just wealth."

Zatiel was relieved to hear that the information he needed was in the kingdom, as for the way to obtain it, he knew what they want the most and he has plenty of that.

"I have a compendium describing the one hundred most uncommon breeds of demon that exist, it includes their bloodlines, anatomy, fighting strategies, and evolutionary paths. I can trade it for the information"

When the Magus hear this, his eyes brightened. Research on demons is very useful as their bodies itself are treasure troves and the amount of spell and techniques created by studying them are countless.

"Can I have a sample of that information," Nathan knows that the man in front of him wasn't simple, but the type of information he was mentioning was extremely rare and it shouldn't be possible for someone at Rank 1 to obtain.

Zatiel did not have a problem with the request of the Magus and gave him a crystal, "Here is the information of ten different types of demon."

Nathan immediately sent his consciousness and the information inside marveled him, as it was extremely detailed, and even with his abilities it took him a long time to go through all of it.

"I will have to go back to the kingdom and relay your request to those that handle that information, but seeing this, they will surely accept. Here take this please" Nathan took a small black book and pass it to Zatiel.

"By using this book you can look at some of the services and information that our kingdom provides and buy it directly. It also has the ability to contact me directly if you need anything. I hope that our partnership maintains for a long time."

Nathan was beyond happy with this trip since it has allowed him to interact with someone with immense knowledge and he was sure that as long they continue working together, the benefits will be impressive

As for Zatiel, he was also glad to find about this power, that despite being one of the greatest one of the Magi World only sought knowledge and did not think of using force to obtain

After that, the trio gave Zatiel a small bow before flying away.

Chapter 115 - Daybreak Clan

The next few weeks were very active for Zatiel.

Even though the tower itself was completed, it still needed a lot of resources to work and be a self-sustainable territory.

He had bought some basic necessities a long time ago, but there was a need to have items that could be useful to a Magus.

To get such items, Zatiel made some incursion into the Endless Forest and started to hunt Rank 1 and Rank 2 magic creatures for high energy food and materials useful for all kinds of professions and spells, as well magic herbs of different kinds and in great quantities.

Due to his power, he did not face any sort of real danger as he hunted since he always remained outside the inner area of the forest.

It was only after four weeks of hunting and gathering all sorts of material, that his ring was almost full and he returned to the tower.

Once Zatiel was in front of the tower, he sent a message through his chaotic core.

"You can come now."

A couple of seconds later, four individuals appeared out of nowhere in front of him.

They were Heinz, Sophia, Ezequiel, and Dante's Elder Brain body. The four of them were covered with the cultivator's consciousness since he teleported them here.

Zatiel contacted them since he had things to discuss with all of them, and now that his tower was finished and he completed the things he needed to do outside, Sophia, Ezequiel, and the elder brain could move in.

The moment the four arrived, they were immediately attracted by the black magic tower that was filled with lava-like golden inscriptions and an impressive sphere of golden flames on its peak.

After a moment, Sophia, Ezequiel, and the elder brain came near Zatiel's side, and they smiled at each other.

"I must say brother, your magic tower is truly impressive. Although the material of the Sinux Magic Tower is of higher quality, when it comes to runic formations, it certainly is inferior despite being done by a Rank 3 Runemaster. "

As a Soul Forging existence, Heinz could see the impressive power that the sphere of golden flames contained, and although it was not a threat to him even if it landed directly on his body, the power it generated was growing with each passing moment.

"Sometimes it is more important about the way you use your runes than the rank of the rune itself when it comes to displaying its power and abilities."

Although the Rank of the runes itself was not great, Zatiel was very proud of the effect they were displaying, especially as he felt the vitality in the light growing.

"Tell me, did you obtain it?"

"Of course, it was pretty simple. Here is the contract to make the position of the Daybreak Clan official in the Aeternum Empire, and also to mark the lands surrounding your tower and any other land that you take, which does not have a ruler yet, yours."

Heinz smiled as he passed a parchment to Zatiel in which all sorts of inscriptions could be seen proving its authenticity.

Although Heinz made obtaining the contract appear to be easy, the truth was completely different.

Normally before starting to be considered becoming a clan of the empire and obtaining the rights that title, one needs to have a magic tower that could work as a stronghold and at least have a Peak Rank 2 life form as the head of the clan.

But when someone with the power and background that Heinz has was the one who requested it, things were completely different.

Zatiel scanned the contract and was very satisfied with it.

Normally, all sorts of clauses and requirements would be on the contract, forcing the new clan to do a lot of heavy work for the empire, but the one that Zatiel had was different.

In essence, the only thing he needed to do was continue selling a high amount of runes to the empire, and in case a conflict with another powerful organization was to happen, he will have to join the battles.

Zatiel has been selling runes to the empire for a long time and did not plan to stop now, and with matters regarding battles between powerful organizations inside the Magi World, that will only happen when those Law Beings that ruled them were to shred all pretenses with each other and fight.

And he knew that the probability of that happening was very small since fights among Law Beings of the same world were very complicated.

The main reason why Zatiel wanted to form his clan was the fact that now he could make all the individuals under him obtain the status of a member of the Aeternum Empire, giving them the same right that a Magus would have, no matter what race they may be.

Zatiel saved the contract before looking back at Heinz.

"How are the preparations for war going?"

"I already have the World Gate connected to the coordinates that you gave me, and the war resources that we will need are already in my possession. Now comes the hard part. I will have to search for those Rank 4 individuals that will join us during the invasion," replied Heinz.

Heinz knew that having no partner was much better than picking a bad partner, so he was very careful in selecting the candidates.

"Be alert, we can never be too careful, especially considering the threat in the shadows."

Zatiel gave a meaningful glance at Heinz when he said the last part.

Heinz becomes serious when he hears Zatiel's words and nods.

"I will contact you when I have found our possible partners."

After saying those words, Heinz teleported back to his tower.

Zatiel turns to see the trio and when he scans them, he realizes that the two Neo-Demons have advanced a lot in the last month, especially Sophia who was already Peak Rank 1.

"Sophia, how much have you advanced in the creation of your new Rank Spell?"

"I have already started to charge my consciousness with abyss aura, but I have had problems in mastering my Rank Spell since I want it to be able to fuse with my previous one."

When Zatiel heard this he nodded.

Although merging the Rank Spell obtained in Rank 1 and 2 wasn't necessary, it will greatly enhance the effect of the spell.

Of course, it was extremely difficult to do and only those with great talent and control over the natural energies were able to do it.

With this information, Zatiel already had a plan and the task of everyone.

"Dante, you will choose thirty kobolds and create a search party that will explore Wasteland in search of tribes that are worth nurturing and you will offer them the chance to join my clan. Tell them that they will get the status of a member of the Empire and a Path Technique if they join us."

"Yes father, I will start right away."

Any information that Dante's consciousness obtained was shared with the true body, so the boy was able to start working immediately.

"I will let you decide how to approach them and the way to guide the kobolds, it will be a good trial practice before the war. If they refuse to join us, leave them, but if they accept, they must reach here unharmed, that will be your mission."

Now that Zatiel had a Clan in the Empire, he could make the kobolds an official part of his power and make them obtain the rights that a Magus will gain.

But if a hundred half-dragon-like creatures were to appear out of nowhere, it will raise questions about their origins, so by mixing them with thousands of other creatures and races, it will be more discrete and no one will find trouble with them.

"Sophia, you will join them and use that time to practice your Rank Spell against some live enemies. Any migration of this scale could raise evil intentions of some Magus, if that happens, kill them."

Although there was some disappointment in the face of the woman, since she was hoping to spend some time with Zatiel, she knew that the preparations for war were important, so she did not say a word and only nodded before flying away towards the Underground entrance.

"Little..., I mean EZ you will remain in the tower until your Bloodline Heart is finished and then join them later."

Ezequiel was already fully grown and his appearance was that of a young man around his twenties, so it was becoming embarrassing for the two of them when he uses the term 'little'.

So Zatiel decided to just call him EZ, although sometimes he makes mistakes due to old habits.

Ezequiel nodded and without wasting time, he went to the top of the tower.

"Let's go. The elder brain will be kept at the lowest level. There it will train and also control the tower and its automatons. But before it starts with that, we will finish the Path Techniques that will be given to the new members of the clan."

"As you wish, father."

Dante moved the elder brain body together with Zatiel and went inside the tower.

Chapter 116 - Sunlight Champion Path Technique

In the lowest level of the tower, you can find the containers, where the energy of the world, absorbed by the tower, was stored.

In the center, there was a giant pool connected to these containers which were filled with a liquid with a color that seems to be a combination between golden and purple.

"That pool is where the Elder Brain will remain. It is a combination between the energy of the golden flames and the one absorbed from the world. It is highly nutritive and it will allow you to

use the Elder Brain's body at full capacity, as well as increase its power and help it make a biological advancement to the next Rank."

Zatiel pointed towards the pool and signaled for the Elder Brain to be submerged inside it.

Dante did not hesitate and manipulated the Elder Brain to enter into the pool, and the moment he did, he felt how it was being enhanced and was constantly replenishing its energy.

"You were right father. Here I can use the Elder Brain's abilities to its fullest without worrying about depleting energy, and with time, its accumulated power will help it advance to the next Rank."

Dante was extremely satisfied with the place that the Elder Brain will remain from now on.

Although advancement in Rank will not allow the Elder Brain to display the power of a Soul Forging existence on its own, due to the fact that it is a body controlled by Dante's soul, it will still improve as a life form, meaning that his analytic and cognitive abilities will be enhanced and the extent to which it could be used to control the tower and perform different tasks at the same time will increase.

Not to mention that the amount of mind magic in the Elder Brain will allow Zatiel and Dante to improve at a higher speed their power as an Animus.

"Since you have settled, then let's begin. The Path Technique I am designing is called Sunlight Champion, and it will work by absorbing the radiation released by the sphere of golden flames in the peak of the tower, that we will now call Sunlight Core."

To create a Path Technique named Sunlight Champion, Zatiel used the experience given by working on Rising Sun, which is the Path Technique that he uses to manipulate his golden flames and create spells.

Thanks to that he was able to save a lot of time, but even though he has been using the chip's abilities to figure out the Path Technique, from the moment he scanned the golden light, it was still taking too long.

So Zatiel decided to work along with Dante and use the Elder Brain for the processing of the information since its current abilities were better than the chip's current ones.

"This Path Technique will transform their original energy pool into Sunlight Aura. This type of energy will grant them great endurance, life force, and regeneration abilities. It can be used to conjure spells or directly by applying martial techniques that will grant a form to the aura and use it as a weapon."

Zatiel knew that many of the races that will come from Wasteland are not skilled in the use of spells and are more talented in the use of their own body as a weapon. So they can decide to specialize as a Sunlight Mage or a Sunlight Warrior.

Dante analyzed all the information that Zatiel gave him and after a moment, he spoke.

"Since they need to use the radiation of the Sunlight Core to practice and improve as Sunlight Champions, even if they become stronger, they will still be bound to the tower unless they want their path of improvement broken."

When Zatiel hears this, he smiled a little but remains quiet

"And I am sure that father also devised a way for them to improve even faster, which will give positive feedback to the tower."

When Zatiel hears this last part, his smile grows even bigger, since he understood that Dante was able to see through his plan and figure out the next part.

The reason for his smile was simple. Having a smart son will make any father happy.

"You are really clever, aren't you. You are right. I have created a sort of 'altar' where they can leave things that will be consumed by the golden fire, and then 75% of the fire that is created will go to them to increase their speed of training."

Zatiel was sure that a lot of the people that would arrive could discover his plan with time, but even if they did, it will not matter since all the races that have lived in the cruel environment of Wasteland understand that every benefit has its corresponding cost.

And besides, what Zatiel was needed from them was only for them to remain under his lead and nothing more, and even if they leave, they will not lose their power, so what more could they hope to get?

Dante could not help but feel wonder at the Path Technique that his father wanted to create since it will bind those new members to the tower and also give them a way to improve their speed of training that will enhance the might of the Sunlight Core.

"We will use the Elder Brain's abilities to make calculations and process information. Meanwhile, you and I will take care of the details that appear along the way. Remember, it is essential that the Sunlight Champion Path Technique does not create any sort of problem when they make the transformation into a Neo-Demon."

Zatiel's ultimate goal for the new members of the tower was to find those that prove themselves worthy of becoming a Neo-Demon.

Also, a Sunlight Champion should have a body that can improve rapidly when it makes the transformation.

Seeing that their mission was clear, Zatiel sits down. He closes his eyes and starts to communicate with Dante and the Elder Brain.

With the Elder Brain's processing abilities plus Dante and Zatiel's speed of thought that is hundreds of times faster than those at his same Rank thanks to their Mind Force, it only took four weeks to create the first three levels of the Sunlight Champion Path Technique.

An unexpected discovery during their research was that they theorized a method for a Sunlight Champion to improve its power without the use of the Sunlight Core, but since it will still need Zatiel's help, there was no downside.

It was only now that Zatiel opened his eyes, and it was clear that he was very tired.

Since even as an Animus, maintaining that level of concentration and speed of thought for so long was very difficult.

After resting for a moment, he notices something and looks at the top of the tower.

'EZ has left, it seems right, he was very close to the next step when he reached here, so in these four weeks his Bloodline Heart should have been completed.'

"Dante, how are things going with the recruitment?"

"We have located several tribes, father, and after monitoring them for a while and discarding those that do not meet our standards, we have approached them.

Currently, we have one thousand and forty-nine individuals that want to join us. I am waiting for the number to reach one thousand and five hundred before transporting them here and then continuing the search for more individuals."

Despite being separated from Dante's main consciousness, the piece inside the Elder Brian can be considered an extension and not a different part, so they shared all their memories and emotions.

"Good, remember to ensure their safety. No one will join us if we cannot even do that."

Zatiel was very satisfied with the number that Dante gave him.

"Father I have a suggestion."

"Go ahead."

Zatiel was intrigued by what the boy was going to propose.

The Elder Brain body shakes for a second and from inside it, a small tadpole comes out and after Dante uses the tendrils to grab it, he shows it to Zatiel.

The mind ruler race is an asexual one, and the way they increase their number is by inserting the tadpoles generated by an Elder Brain into a living being, letting the tadpole eat their brain, and then take control of the body of that being by creating a new mind ruler.

Zatiel knows about those tadpoles, and although the control they will have over those parasitized by these creatures is great, an army of slaves could never replace one that goes to battle with true fighting spirit.

Not to mention that it could backfire in the future if they ever found the way to free themselves of his control.

But Zatiel did not let any of his thought appear on his face and let the boy talk, besides he also was curious why the tadpoles, that should be a horrible parasitic aberration, looked like a simple tadpole of the mortal world but golden in color.

"This tadpole has the ability to join with someone, and by channeling a small amount of their energy, less than 0.5%, it can scan its surroundings at all times and send the information to me, also it can allow me to establish a telepathic link with the carrier."

Dante stopped for a moment, and seeing Zatiel signaling him to continue, he spoke again.

"I propose that every new member gets one of them implanted in their hands. With it, I can ensure their safety, guide them in case of danger, maintain constant surveillance, and make sure that no one with evil intentions is among them."

Zatiel was truly surprised by the boy's plan and innovation, and more than anything, he was proud seeing that he found a way to maintain his clan's safety and also search for any threat near them.

"Excellent! Great job Dante! We will do a trial test with the new members and see if it works. If everything goes well, every Neo-Demon will have one of them implanted."

Zatiel's smile was radiant as he congratulated the boy.

Dante did not say a word, but the happiness and pride he was feeling right now was immense.

Chapter 117 - Battle In Wasteland

With the matters regarding the Path Technique and plans for the new members of the clan arranged, Zatiel addresses the situation of the control of the tower and the automatons.

"Here are the cores that will allow you to gain full authority over the tower and the automatons I bought from the kingdom."

Zatiel gives Dante two cores, one dark, and another silver.

Dante grabs the two cores with his tendrils and deposits them inside the Elder Brian's body.

One second after he did that, there was a spike in the energy of the tower, but it immediately vanished.

"Done father, I have obtained full control over the tower and the automatons. Right now the tower defenses will allow us to withstand the barrage of a Rank 4 individual as long they do not use their Law Avatar, and the Sunlight Core can release ten consecutive attacks with a power equal to a Rank 3 spell, and due to the Elder Brain controlling it, I can assure the accuracy of any attack is 98.2% on Rank 3 life forms."

Dante remained quiet for a moment after making some calculations he spoke again.

"If we are willing to destroy the Sunlight Core, it can release a one-time attack equal to the power of a Rank 4 spell. The power of the core is in constant improvement and in two and half years it should be able to launch a Rank 4 spell without the need for destruction."

Although the power released only by a Rank 4 spell was inferior to the one that can be done by using a Law Avatar, unless there was a life and death situation, most people will not release their avatars since the price for doing it was not small.

"It is good enough for now. Tell me how efficient are the current surveillance features of the tower."

Zatiel was satisfied with his tower being able to release a Rank 4 spell, and although it will cost him the Sunlight Core, he will only need to obtain another Perpetual Dynamic Core to replace the lost one.

"In a radius of fifty kilometers around the tower, I can maintain total surveillance. I can see and hear everything, and in a radius of five hundred kilometers I can identify every single individual and detect any unauthorized intrusion."

"Good. For the time being, focus all of your energy on the migration of the horde composed of those races in Wasteland. Be sure to have enough of those tadpoles for every single one of them

when they arrive. I will be at the peak of the tower finishing my Bloodline Heart and prepare to advance to Rank 2."

After seeing that Dante had everything under control, Zatiel flies to the peak of the tower and lands right beneath the Sunlight Core before activating his Mind Force.

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Far away from the tower, in a part of the Wasteland, there was a horde of more than one thousand members and although they were all together, almost everyone was only communicating with the members of their own races.

Among the races found here, you could see dark elves, grey dwarves, frog people, centaurs, gnolls, and maurs, among others.

A great variety of emotions could be seen from the members of the horde, in the young ones you could see anticipation and excitement, but in the older ones, there was incertitude and sometimes fear.

Not too long ago, all of their tribes were visited by a group of six powerful dragonborn, and they were offered the opportunity to join a clan of one of the powerful organizations of the surface.

Although a lot of promises were made, among them a Path Technique that was something all the ones present here wished to possess, the old ones know that the number of individuals on the surface that sees them and their race as nothing more than slaves is not small.

In the center of the horde, there were four people talking, three of them were men, consisting of a gnoll, a grey dwarf, and a maur. As for the woman, she was a dark elf.

They were the elders of their respective tribes, and although their age had weakened their powers. It was thanks to their leadership that their tribes were able to survive in such a cruel and violent place like the Wasteland.

"So, what are your thoughts about their proposal? And the fact that we will be joining that clan. Did you believe them when they said that we will obtain the same rights a Magi possesses."

The one that spoke was the dark elf, and although she was old, she was still very beautiful.

"Ahh, it is hard to say, remember that it is not the first time some of those powers try to recruit us, but most of the time, those who accept end up like guarding dogs with no true rights.

Although this person seems to not discriminate among races due to the way those dragonborn talk about him, that treatment maybe is only to those with powerful bloodlines and not us."

Replied the gnoll man with a solemn expression.

Gnoll's are supposed to be a savage and war-like race that only follows their impulses, but in this man's voice, there was great wisdom and maturity.

"It is true that there are dangers in accepting his proposition, but there are also dangers if we refused it.

It is obvious that those dragonborn find following that person the greatest honor in their existence, and if we denied them, who can say how they will act next.

Although my old bones are not afraid of death, I cannot let the young one of my tribe pay that heavy price."

This time the one who spoke was a member of the Maur race.

This was a race that had the blood of giants in their bodies, but due to their ancestors being forced to live in horrible environments, their bloodline and body have devolved, giving them a hunched like appearance with a body around three-meter tall.

"The man they call Prince should be the son of their leader, and though I cannot understand why, I get the feeling that he is extremely concerned about our safety."

The grey dwarf spoke, as he looked at the boy floating in the sky, with four dragonborn warriors by his side.

When the grey dwarf spoke, the other three also turned to look at the boy, and although he had the appearance of a child, the might that they were feeling from his body and especially his blood, was superior to the ones that that four-meter tall dragonborn gave.

Dante's eyes were closed and although he detected those four elders looking at him, he did not bother with them since he had more important things on his mind right now.

His face was serious, and it was apparent that all of his concentration was occupied on something.

All of a sudden he opens his eyes and looks at the distance before immediately raising both of his palms and making the four dragon-born do the same.

In the exact place Dante was staring, two men appeared, and from the energy of their bodies and the red eyes on their forehead, you could see that they were Eye Lords, one of them at the Novice level, and the other at the Master.

The moment those men appeared, they made their energy explode, making hundreds of fiend-like claws made of blood appear.

The man at the Master level finished first and launched them against the horde, but just as the other Eye Lord was preparing to attack, he felt an immense sense of danger and before he could react, his body was impacted by ten beams of chaotic energy, killing him instantly.

Once the Eye Lord died, the claws of blood he made vanished, but the ones made by the man at the Master level remained, and they were about to reach the horde with enough power to kill ninety percent of it.

But despite that, Dante remained calm as he saw this, and the answer to his state showed itself immediately.

Hundreds of shields of dark ice appeared above the horde, creating a perfect dome, protecting them from claws.

Every single one of those blood claws had the power to kill a Rank 0 life form easily, but despite being hundreds of them, they were not able to trespass the shields and reach the horde.

The man was surprised by the events happening, since not only did his partner die just when they appeared, but the attack he charged with all of his power was blocked and not a single member of the horde died.

From the center of the horde, a woman rises into the sky, making a pair of dark crystal wings appear on her back and a dome of ice covers her entire body.

Sophia looked at the man with cold eyes, and her entire body glowed as her runic set was activated.

The man was well informed and knew that despite Sophia being at Rank 1, she could fight with those at Rank 2 at the Master level by using runic sets.

Despite the danger, the man did not run since he knew that failure was not an option for him.

Sophia did not wait for the man to act again and flashes in his direction as she launched dozens of dark ice spears forcing him to get away from the horde.

The events that happened were so fast that only now the horde realized how close they were to death, and the next things they saw were Dante and the five dragonborn positioning themselves above them.

Chapter 118 - Oceanic Nothingness

Although the Wasteland was technically a layer of the Underground, some people did not consider it as such and only viewed it as a transitory place to the inferior layers.

This wasn't just due to the poor living condition that this layer has, but more importantly, the height of this place was less than fifty meters.

With such a narrow space, any fight among individuals capable of showing a fighting power above Rank 1, will create a destructive force powerful enough to change the environment and reduce everything to nothing around them.

That was exactly what was happening as Sophia and the Eye Lord were fighting. They were constantly launching spears of dark ice and fiend claws made of blood against each other, destroying everything in their path.

Both had great speed and control over their bodies, so they were constantly moving around the place, and a field of destruction was accompanying them as their spells crashed against the ground and the ceiling.

As the fight continued, frustration was starting to appear on the face of the Eye Lord. The number of fiend claws he was conjuring was less than the beginning, but their power has increased and it was certainly greater than the one carried in Sophia's dark spears.

Unfortunately for him, every single one of his claws crashed against the spears and they neutralized each other, leaving no winner.

Neither of them was willing to show weakness, so they increased the power of their spells, and the surrounding destruction grew as well.

The Eye Lord knew that his chance of being victorious was great since his energy pool was greater than his enemy and it was depleting at a slower rate since he did not use a runic set.

But even if he manages to debilitate her, that does not mean he will be able to kill Sophia since those dragonborn that could release an attack powerful enough to disintegrate an Eye Lord were still present, and by that time, he will be so tired that even escaping will be up to luck.

After a moment, the Eye Lord became resolute and his red eyes started to glow as he channels all the energy in him before launching a spell

"Blood Fiend Form!"

Blood started to appear around the Eye Lord's body, transforming him into a twenty-meter tall creature with claws, horns, and a tail that seems entirely made of blood.

The power of Eye Lord increased tremendously, and without delay, he launched himself against Sophia.

Despite the increase in her enemy's strength, Sophia's eyes remained calm, and channeling all of her Abyss Aura and the power of her runic set to the limits, she conjures hundreds of small spears of ice, before making them fuse with each other, forming a dragon tail thirty-meters long and sending it against the blood fiend.

The moment the dragon tail and the blood fiend crash against each other, a shock wave is generated that makes the place around them tremble and the ceiling and ground break apart.

The dragon tail was destroyed and although some damage was made to the blood fiend, it still remained complete but his momentum had dissolved.

The Eye Lord was preparing to resume his attack when he felt two crimson-colored eyes looking at him, and for the fraction of a second, his mind was clouded.

Sophia's Oblivion Eyes only affected him for an instant, but it was enough to decide the battle.

When the Eye Lord was able to focus again, the thing he saw were two dark beams, carrying the same chaotic energy that killed his partner, clashing against him at point-blank range, right in his chest.

A great part of the blood fiend's body chest was destroyed, showing the Eye Lord in its center, and sending him to crash against the ground with impressive speed.

The Eye Lord's condition was serious. He had lost his right arm and his chest was severely damaged.

Seeing the poor condition of his enemy, Sophia's eyes become colder and she channels her energy again, creating another dragon tail.

Just as she was about to send the dragon tail against the Eye Lord and crush his body, a great sense of danger assaulted Sophia.

Behind her, outside her dome of ice, a man covered in shadows appeared, carrying a grey dagger in his hand.

The moment he appeared, he acted immediately, destroying a part of the dome of ice with the dagger, before launching an attack against Sophia's back with the same weapon.

The actions of the man were ruthless, precise, and experienced, demonstrating great skill in this type of surprise attack.

The power behind the dagger was by no means simple, it had the ability to kill a Rank 2 life form if the attack was precise, but despite realizing that, Sophia did not lose calm.

She channels all of her Abyss Aura, but this time, she was using her consciousness to launch the spell, and she was doing it with such an impressive speed, that it seems like she was waiting for this to happen.

The dome of ice repaired itself immediately and its thickness and density increased greatly. Once that was done, a typhoon of Styx water was released from Sophia's body completely filling the interior of the dome.

The figures of Sophia and the man in shadows disappeared and the only thing you could see were the incredible powerful current of Styx water moving through the dome, displaying an impressive corrosive might and destructive pressure.

The power that those waters were displaying should be enough to break the dome immediately, but thanks to the two of them working together it was able to contain the typhoon and increase exponentially his power by concentrating it in a small space.

Three seconds later the Styx water calms itself before disappearing, showing the interior of the dome.

Sophia's face was extremely pale due to the severe depletion in energy and her left arm was bleeding badly due to the laceration that extended from her shoulder to her hand, as for the man in the shadows, the only thing of him that remained was the broken skeleton that she was holding in her right hand.

It was only now that the Eye Lord was able to stand up, and when he saw the skeleton on Sophia's hand he was shocked.

Despite the man covered by shadows being weaker than him, the Eye Lord knew of his impressive assassination skills, but now he had been reduced to a set of bones in less than five seconds.

Although he saw that Sophia's condition was poor, he wasn't better, so, despite the fact that the punishment will be severe, the Eye Lord prepared to escape.

Just as he was going to run from the ground, next to him, a man covered in lightning came out breaking the earth.

The Eye Lord wasn't able to react before the man pointed his palm at him and fired a blast of energy, destroying his upper body and killing him.

Despite achieving the amazing feat of giving the finishing blow to someone an entire Rank above him, Ezequiel did not show any emotion and just took his spatial ring before flying to where Sophia was.

"Are you ok?, that injury seems to be affected by some sort of poison."

Ezequiel looks at the laceration on Sophia's arms and detects a type of energy inside that was trying to continue its destruction but was stopped by an invisible wall.

"I am fine, thanks to my bloodline, my resistance to this type of injury is very powerful."

Sophia took a vial from her ring, and splashed the liquid inside it on her wound, making a grey gas expel from it.

Seeing this, Ezequiel nods. His bloodline gives him an incredibly powerful body, but he knows that when it comes to resistance against altered states, Sophia's body was better.

"It seems that the members of the Blood Eye clan, from the Eye Dynasty, are set on getting revenge. I searched for other people as you were fighting, and it seems that the only ones present are these three."

"Yes, it was to be expected, after all, the person that Zatiel almost killed during the expedition seems to have been special. There were not just people from the dynasty. Since this person is someone we both know, he is Clive."

Sophia raises the skeleton in her right hand for Ezequiel to see.

"He may have been reporting information about the movement around the tower, or he may have been contacted by the Blood Eye clan to hire him for this assassination. Either way, they are dead and no more threat should come in the near future. I will stay here, helping Dante. You should go back to the tower and focus on advancing to the next Rank."

The typhoon of Styx water was Sophia's new Rank Spell known as 'Oceanic Nothingness', and now she only needed a place with a high amount of energy to help advance to the next Rank and the tower was the perfect place for that.

"I will. You should be extra careful here. This time we were able to detect them thanks to Dante, but the next time we may not be so lucky."

"I know. But I must say that the abilities of the Animus to detect danger are impressive, those three were able to hide their presence but their emotions revealed their whereabouts."

Ezequiel looked at the boy, and affection was present in his eyes.

Chapter 119 - Advance To Rank 2

It was only when Dante saw that Sophia and Ezequiel had killed the enemies and, not counting the wound on Sophia's arm, they were in top condition, that he rested and deactivated his Mind Force.

He knew that these two people were the ones his father trusted the most and that had followed him from the beginning.

Despite being of the same race and having a more powerful bloodline, Dante could not help but be impressed by the power they were able to display.

After all, he channeled the power of ten Abyssal Blast and only was able to eliminate a Novice Eye Lord, meanwhile, Sophia alone was able to severely injure Eye Lord at the Master level and kill a Rank 2 Magus without any help.

And Ezequiel's ability to hide from the perception of an Eye Lord and act in the exact moment when he could make the most damage was impressive.

The moment he relaxes, Dante feels a wave of tiredness assaulting him, due to the fact of the great stress and energy that using his Mind Force to find those three enemies took.

The reason Dante was able to find them was due to him using one of the disciplines that an Animus can practice, known as Clairsentience.

This discipline focuses on developing an Animus extrasensory perception that gives them the ability to gain information about an object, person, location, or events, and if you are talented and powerful enough, it was not restricted to the present time.

As an Animus, Dante's perception was impressive and although he was not able to detect the presence of those three enemies at the beginning, he felt a great feeling of hostility coming in his direction.

Once that happened and seeing that he was not able to localize the people, Dante knew that they were not only hiding but also very powerful, so he immediately focused all of his Mind Power into Clairsentience and informed Ezequiel and Sophia about the danger before giving the command to the kobolds to be ready to act.

Due to him being only a Rank 0 Animus, he was barely able to detect the three of them, and it was only when they were about to show up that their presence became more clear, and he saw their location.

If his Rank as an Animus had been greater, then he would have detected them before they even got close to the horde, and according to the information he had about this path of power, when Clairsentience reaches a high enough level, you could even glimpse a couple of seconds into the instant future.

Although seeing two seconds into the future did not seem like much help, it could allow you to predict your enemies' first move and make a perfect response, taking advantage of any possible flaw they could have.

Of course, there were several limitations to this power, but still, it is incredibly useful and a killing tool if it is applied in the right form.

"Prince, should we contact our brothers, and tell them to return in case of a new threat present itself."

The one who asked that was the strongest of the kobolds that were following Dante.

"No need, with uncle EZ in here we are able to respond to any threat that a Rank 2 individual could pose, besides the possibility of their sending more people at Rank 2 just for the sake of eliminating this horde is not likely. There may be some Rank 1, but our people are more than able to handle them."

After some thought Dante rejects the kobold plan. Even so, he contacted the rest of the groups that were searching for tribes in Wasteland.

"Be aware of a possible danger coming in your direction, in case anything happens, contact us immediately. Speed up the search and come here immediately once you have found your target, so we can start moving the horde to the tower"

"Yes, Prince." The leaders of the teams responded immediately before going back to their work.

Once that was out of the way, Dante examined the current condition of the horde, and when he saw their expressions, his eyes narrowed a little

'There is an upside to this situation. They were able to see a display of our power right in front of them.'

There was shock in every member of the horde as they still could not fully process the event that just happened.

Out of nowhere, two people show up and they were going to launch a spell powerful enough to kill almost all of them, but they were not only stopped but also killed with their bodies disintegrated.

This proves to them that the woman with crystal wings and the man covered in lightning were powerful enough to kill all of them even if they work together.

"The threat has been neutralized and as long you remain under our watch we can assure your safety. We will wait for other groups to arrive before going to the Daybreak Magic Tower. In the meantime, you should rest."

Dante's voice was calm, but there was a great strength in his words that made every member of the horde that heard them obey.

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Zatiel had no idea of what was happening in Wasteland, but from the moment he gave the instruction to Dante and sent Sophia and Ezequiel to help him, he stopped concerning with that completely.

He wanted the people surrounding him to be those that can make their own decision and not someone to whom he should hold their hand in every turn and save them every time a powerful enemy was present.

Besides, with the abilities of the trio, they should be able to handle any situation that will need him.

Right now, Zatiel's complete focus was on finishing his Bloodline Heart and making his Sun Force reach 150 points, so he could reach Peak Rank 1 and insert his energy into his consciousness before mastering a Rank Spell.

Zatiel was already very close to both of those goals, so after ten days of consuming an immense amount of high energy food with his metabolism multiplied by one hundred, he manages to complete them.

Normally the next step would have been to inject his Abyss Aura into his consciousness, but due to him having two different energy pools, Zatiel needed to do the same with his Sun Force as well.

When they were on his body, both energy never truly interacted with each other, besides when his golden sun devoured some of his abyss aura. But even then, that was not something special since it would have happened with anything next to the sun.

But now that they will be inside his consciousness and not limited to his body, Zatiel was planning to fuse the two of them as one.

Zatiel took control over the golden energy that was his Sun Force and the dark energy that represented his Abyss Aura and sent it to his consciousness.

Due to him using two different energies, the process was even more slowly than usual, and it required all of his concentration.

Since it was something related to his consciousness and he was sending energy with great destructive power inside, any sudden interruption could create a severe backlash.

Time passed, on the third day of him slowly charging his consciousness with energy, he felt a spike of energy close to him, but since it was happening inside the tower and there was no way someone at Rank 4 or beneath could have reached this place without being detected, he did not worry and continued his work.

The reason for the spike of energy was due to Sophia advancing to Rank 2 and the great increase in energy that she obtained.

Even if she has mastered her Rank Spell and was at Peak Rank 1, normally she would have to accumulate energy for a couple of years before advancing, but by tapping in the tower reserves, she was able to make a smooth advance.

Once she reached Rank 2, Sophia immediately contracted the energy that she was releasing so she would not disturb Zatiel and focus on her new power and abilities.

It was after five weeks that Zatiel was able to fill his consciousness with all the Sun Force and Abyss Aura that it could contain at Peak-Rank 1, making it look like a dark and golden fog was filling it.

With that done, Zatiel could finally start with mastering his Rank Spell, which he had selected from one of the presents in the Path Technique Aumvor Serpiternus, the one related to necromancy and powerful destructive spell that he was using.

But Zatiel's plan was not just to copy that spell, he wanted to make some alteration and make it fuse, not only with his Ring of Abyssal Fire but also his Sun Domain.

What Zatiel wanted to do was extremely difficult.

Sophia had an Emperor Bloodline and was part of the race with the greatest talent of the universe, and yet she found it very hard to fuse both of her Rank Spell and was only able to do it, due to both of them having a similar nature in their origin.

Of course, had she chosen to use a less powerful Rank Spell that Oceanic Nothingness, it would have been easier, but the goal of the Neo-Demon woman has always been, become strong enough to help Zatiel, so she wished the mightiest one around.

With the ability to reduce a Rank 2 life-form to bones in less than three seconds, you could say it met her expectations.

Zatiel wanted to achieve the fusion of three spells and since his Sun Domain used completely different energy, the difficulty increased exponentially, but if he were to achieve it, then the power of that spell could reach the standard of a Rank 3 spell once he advances to Rank 2.

Before, it would have been impossible for him to fuse both the power of his Golden Sun and Abyss Aura, and at most he would have made a mix between them, but now that they were in his consciousness, there was a chance.

Once everything was ready, Zatiel raises into the sky, five hundred meters above the tower and activates his Sun Domain, making a domain of golden flames appear in a radius of fifty meters around him, and immediately after that, he activates his Ring of Abyssal Fire before transforming it into thousands of small embers filling the domain.

Zatiel closes his eyes and adopts a meditative position in the air, as he concentrates fully on the spell.

The hours passed, one after another, but Zatiel's focus continued the same and did not diminish for an instant.

When the first day was about to finish, the embers of abyssal fire inside the domain started to blend with it, making it seem as if the golden and dark flames were becoming one and the domain itself started to expand.

When this happened, the skeletons of two creatures began to form inside the domain using the dark golden flames as material.

Chapter 120 - Undying Leviathan And Nether Crow

A great horde was exiting the Wasteland by the tunnel close to the Sinux Magic Tower and the number of individuals forming it reached close to two thousand.

This type of scene was bound to call the attention of those Magus that were nearby, and some of them were so terrified that they flew away immediately after seeing it.

Of course, those that run away were mostly Novice Rank 1 as for the rest, they chose to see from the distance.

A Rank 2 Magus was watching this horde as well and although he was curious and had the intention of approaching it. When he was about to do it, he felt a pair of eyes looking at him, which immediately made him stop.

The Rank 2 Magus traced the origin of those eyes to the young man at the lead of this horde whose body seemed to contain a demonic storm inside it, and despite discerning that the man was only at Rank 1, the Magus did not dare to tempt his luck and he remained still.

At the head of the horde, there was Ezequiel and Dante and flanking it by its side, there were kobolds, displaying their mighty Dragonborn constitution.

The number of kobolds accompanying the horde was almost three hundred, with eighty percent of them being very young and had not reached Rank 1 yet.

Due to Zatiel order and Rax careful management and systematic promotion, the number of Neo-Demons that were born inside the cave was more than two hundred.

Dante had chosen to bring these children first to the tower since the appearance of what will seem as several hundred Rank 1 Dragonborn's will raise some questions.

The rest of the kobolds that remained inside the cave were the members of the first generation that were transformed into Neo-Demons and were using the formation that Zatiel had constructed to increase their power.

To them, remaining inside the cave longer was not something that truly matters but to those children that had never seen the exterior, it was entirely different.

Those first-generation kobolds will be joining the clan systematically, with small groups mixing with each new horde that they will recruit from Wasteland.

As Dante guided the horde to the magic tower, there was annoyance on his face and the reason was that they were delayed.

In his original plan, they should have exited the Wasteland three weeks ago.

The reason for this setback was due to the other groups that were searching for tribes were also attacked by Eye Masters of the Blood Eye clan.

Due to them having a numerical advantage and thinking they were just fighting Dragonborns, those Eye Masters were careless.

And by the time that they understood that their enemies were not merely Dragonborn's but Neo-Demons with the bloodline of Metallic Dragon, it was too late.

Every Eye Masters was massacred and although the kobolds ended with several degrees of injuries, with some having suffered significant wounds, there were no casualties and Dante was able to heal all of them when they returned.

Dante was sure that when the news that two Eye Lords and more than fifty Eye Masters died during this attack reaches the Eye Dynasty, the leaders of the Blood Eye clan will be furious, but since they were already enemies, there is no point on being polite and the best way was to just kill everybody they sent.

And now with the presence of the tower, and the fact that they will not dare to send a Rank 4 individual against them due to the threat that Heinz represented, there was little that the Blood Eye clan could do in terms of direct confrontation.

The Daybreak Magic Tower was very close to the entrance of Wasteland so, despite the horde having a great number of children and old people, they were approaching it very fast, and in no time they were able to see the tower at the distance.

As they got closer, curiosity was among the integrants of the horde due to the two sources of light they were seeing above the tower, one smaller but brighter and another bigger and whose light had a dark golden color.

After a couple of hours of marching, all of them were able to see clearly the magnificent might of the tower and the origin of those two balls of light, and they were shocked.

It was not the imposing magic tower with inscriptions that resembled golden lava or the mighty flames of the Sunlight Core the reason for their surprise.

The reason for their shock was the man floating in the sky, in the center of a domain of fire that covers more than two hundred meters in diameter and that contained the skeleton of two

extraordinary creatures, that despite being only bones, seem to be alive from the way they were moving inside the dark golden flames.

One of those skeletons was a massive one hundred meters long whale-like creature, with a pyramid-like head and a 'three-way' jaw, in which the two sides of the lower jaw split apart at the middle giving it a terrifying appearance.

The weight of this massive being was ridiculous, and yet it was able to swim through the golden flames at an impressive speed.

The second skeleton corresponded to a bird-like creature with a ten-meter height and whose wings reached almost four times that size; in its skull, the number of eye sockets was three on each side of its head, each one next to the other.

Each time this bird waved its wings, it vanished, only to appear on the other end of the dome instantly.

The moment Zatiel's figure was clear in the eyes of the kobolds, all of them immediately kneeled and an immense devotion and admiration could be seen in their eyes.

The emotions on their faces proved that their actions were not due to politeness or etiquette due to them seeing their leader, but something that came from the soul of every single kobold.

When the rest of the horde saw this, under the command of their elders they also kneeled but unlike the kobold who only had reverence in their eyes, some of these people were showing fear and apprehension for being in the presence of someone so powerful and whose spell made them feel terrified.

The only people that were not kneeling were Ezequiel and Dante.

Dante noticed these emotions in the members of the horde, but he did not have anything to say, after all, he did not expect them to be like those kobolds who from the moment they were born, were told about their mighty Ancestor that was responsible for their glorious life and heritage.

The magic knowledge that Dante has is immense due to his soul being formed with the cloned A.I. Chip, so he knew the spell that Zatiel was training and there was immense admiration in his eyes.

The Rank Spell that Zatiel was mastering was known as "Incarnation of the Undying Leviathan and Nether Crow".

Just like its name says, this spell will allow you to summon an incarnation of those creatures to fight by your side, but there were several flaws in the original spell.

The incarnation of the Undying Leviathan was an incredibly powerful creature but due to its immense weight that could easily reach thousands of tons, its speed was too slow and the incarnation of the Nether Crow had the ability to move at incredible speeds but the controls over its body was flawed meaning it could not stop whenever it wanted or make maneuvers as it moved.

There was also the fact that to maintain this spell, even if it was transformed into your Rank Spell, the energy it needed was immense.

The real creatures that these incarnations were based on did not have these problems due to the help of their bloodline and magic abilities, but these were made by using energy and it could not compare to the original, at least not until the spell was upgraded.

Despite all these flaws, Zatiel had chosen it, and Dante was able to see that his father was able to fix all the problems in the spell and make even stronger than the original version.

Zatiel fused the Sun Domain and Ring of Abyssal Fire, so he could create an environment stable and with enough energy so he could make the incarnations grow inside it, and due to the Undying Leviathan and Nether Crow being created out of the special source of power that this dark golden fire was, the energy to maintain them will be much less.

And since they were made from the same dark golden fire that filled the domain, as long as they remain inside it they will be able to display amazing power and the control over their bodies will be impeccable, erasing all the problems of the spell.

Dante, Ezequiel, the kobolds, and the entire horde remained still and continued watching as the power in the domain increased and the might of those skeletons rose.

The might of the spell that Zatiel was creating with his consciousness was so immense, that his power and energy had long gone reach a level that was the highest possible he could have in Rank 1, so while he was focusing all of his concentration on the Rank Spell, his advancement to Rank 2 was going on automatically.