

Bloodline 1421

Chapter 1421 Stagnant Siterus Void

"Good luck," Endric tapped E.E.'s shoulder twice before following after Gustav.

"These two little fuckers," E.E. sighed.

Gustav's fingertips emitted blueish beams as he drew rectangular lines in mid-air.

A spatial doorway appeared and he stepped in alongside Endric. They entered a space of Gustav's making where an oddly shaped device was centred.

Gustav tapped on a couple of buttons attached to the device and it shot out rays of light that displayed a particular part of outer space.

Within the display, a mixture of grey and white matter that seemed alive engulfed orbital bodies in the distance. Right before their very eyes, Gustav and Endric could see stars as large as the Milky Way sun, asteroids and every other thing in sight get drawn into the grey and white matter. It cruised through space with its gigantic form and vanished not too long after.

The device then went on to make a couple of analyses based on the properties of the grey and white matter.

"I knew it..." Gustav mumbled.

"Knew what? What are we looking at here?" Endric inquired with a tone of curiosity.

"Do you see this signature right here..." Gustav pointed at one of the displays that had a '/' sign.

"Yeah?"

"That shows that whatever the warp demolator consumes doesn't necessarily get destroyed..."

"Then, what happens to them?"

"It's a spatial sign that interprets that they get transported to an entirely different location from where they were in space."

"What? That's insane!"

"I know right? To be able to teleport orbital masses of that size... Incredible,"

At that point, Gustav began to put two and two together.

("You're finally getting closer to the truth,") The system voiced in his mind.

'You have always shunned it whenever I mentioned the destruction of Planet Humbad... Does this mean their planet just got swallowed up by the warp demolator and transferred elsewhere?'

("You already arrived at the answer... why still ask?")

'Because a lot of details are still missing. The warp demolator appears randomly even though I can read its appearance now. How did the Slarkovs know that their planet was in danger of being swallowed up before it appeared?

They must have left before the appearance of the warp demolator, which means, they lied about their planet getting destroyed.

What is the aim and objective here? I don't get it,' Gustav rambled internally while staring at the device before him.

("That's what the five-year quest is for. Find dimension six in planet Humbad and the answers will be waiting for you,") The system voiced.

'That's where the problem lies... The warp demolator scanner has confirmed the spatial transportation but where they were transported to...' Gustav stared at the readings before him.

"What do all these mean?" Endric pointed at the bottom half of the readings.

"That is where the warp demolator scanner says they were transported to," Gustav responded.

< Reappearance determined: Stagnant Siterus Void #792 >

"What is a stagnant siterus void?" Endric questioned looking clueless.

"Since there are orbital bodies... planets, stars, asteroids, moons... they can only be transported to some sort of galaxy. The only problem is, this Stagnant Siterus Void does not exist," Gustav had a conflicted expression after reaching the end of his statement.

"How is that possible? Surely they can't be transported to somewhere that doesn't exist," Endric folded his arms while reeling forward in confusion.

"It could be a pocket dimension..." Endric added.

"A pocket dimension can't hold so many orbital bodies like that. The laws of gravitational balance and space would not allow it. They would attract to each other, causing a collision that would wipe everything out of existence, The orbital bodies and dimensions included," Gustav explained.

"What if the Stagnant Siterus is just a place that you don't know about? Maybe we just need to ask around," Endric suggested.

"I read every marked territory across the universe during our training in the MBO. I took the memories of the space pirate who has experience journeying across galaxies for decades.

During our time out of earth, I further broadened my knowledge and I gained enlightenment about unsourced locations when my Cosmic Superiority forced me into a meeting with the Other Cosmic Superior beings... Knowledge beyond Alphas that are older than a thousand years old. Trust me when I say, I've never heard of Stagnant Siterus," Gustav iterated with such pompousness, that Endric fell speechless.

"Well... you are the outworldly after all," Endric voiced with a casual shrug.

"So what else have we not considered?" He proceeded to inquire.

"`\*/|\`*' This sign," Gustav pointed at a very odd sign close to the bottom area of the readings.

"I know what this one means... Premonition," Endric stated.

"Yeah but how is it related to all this?" Gustav wondered out loud.

"Maybe the five premonitions...? No, it is something else," Endric swiftly corrected himself.

"Yeah, it is something else," Gustav shot a thoughtful gaze at the readings before coming to a decision.

"Let's be ready for when next the warp demolator appears," Gustav sauntered towards the right.

"Why? What are you planning?" Endric questioned but soon his eyes widened in realization.

"Don't tell me..."

....

....

....

[The MBO Tower]

"I don't understand this request of yours, Officer E.E," Commander Xanatus voiced with a look of confusion.

"The Death Angel that was captured, the research centre is doing all they can to crack down on it and gather more information about the other side, right?" E.E. threw out this question.

"Yes, indeed that is true," Commander Xanatus replied.

"I am saying I can help. Remember, I was one of the few who had a personal encounter with them," E.E. voiced with a convincing tone.

"Did you suddenly figure something out?" Commander Xanatus raised an eyebrow in intrigue.

"Yes, once I see it again in person," E.E. sat up and took note of Commander Xanatus's pondering expression.

"You know that unauthorized personnel are not allowed to head there, right?"

"I do. It is a top-secret location even amongst MBO officers."

"I know."

A brief silence ensued between them as Commander Xanatus peered into E.E.'s eyes with suspicion.

"Tell me the true reason you want to head there," Commander Xanatus demanded.

"There is no..."

"It's for him, isn't it?" A smile suddenly appeared on Commander Xanatus's face.

'How did he...? He couldn't have figured it out, right?' E.E. gulped down saliva while maintaining eye contact with Commander Xanatus in a bid to decrease suspicion.

"I don't know what you're..." Before E.E. could complete his sentence, Commander Xanatus cut him off.

"It's okay. I am an ally. I've always been. Did Gustav never tell you that we go way back?" Commander Xanatus burst into a full-blown smile.

E.E. sat in place with a stunned look, unable to decide on what to say to deter the high-ranked officer before him.

Commander Xanatus proceeded to pull out an image of him and Gustav receiving awards together and a few other holographic pictures of the meeting.

"Be careful though, if you had gone to another officer, things could have gone really bad," He voiced.

"Yeah..." E.E. rubbed his head while letting out a sigh of relief.

"You're not very good at coming up with lies. You should learn from Gustav," Commander Xanatus pointed out.

"I'm not sure I want to learn that," E.E. lightly stroked his afro with a bashful look.

"You should. Gustav is a master in the art of deceit," Commander Xanatus was chuckling.

"That is true. Hold on... does this mean that you have been deceiving everyone like you were on their side with the allegations against Gustav all this time?" E.E. inquired.

"Of course. I could never truly be on their side. I owe that kid my life," Commander Xanatus bore a reminiscent look.

"I am secretly working behind the scenes to clear his name but I will not bore you with the details. We all have our parts to play in this. I'll help you get into the underground research centre," Commander Xanatus added while reaching out to shake E.E.

"Thank you..." E.E. received the handshake with immense gratitude.

....

Within the fiery depths of an active volcano, where molten lava bubbled and roiled with relentless fury, a figure sat amid red bubbling liquid.

The air crackled with the searing heat of the molten rock, sending waves of intense heat radiating through the cavernous chamber.

The figure exuded an aura of raw power, their presence commanding reverence that prevented the surroundings from having any effect on him.

Molten lava flowed around him like a river of liquid fire. The figure got repeatedly bathed by the fiery liquid and yet his skin radiated with smoothness.

His eyes were closed, almost like he was meditating in the perilous environment. Dark smoke pervaded the vicinity which didn't bother him in the slightest. After what seemed like ages, he suddenly opened his eyes.

"I told you, I don't want to be bothered until he returns..."

Chapter 1422 Completing A Monthly Quest

After what seemed like ages, he suddenly opened his eyes.

"I told you, I don't want to be bothered until he returns..." "He has returned," Another masculine voice travelled across the volcanic domain as a figure descended from the opening above.

"Aildris?" The figure voiced a tone of disbelief after identifying the newly arrived person.

"Hello, Ria. It's been too long," Aildris's silver hair fluttered enchantingly as he floated before Ria.

Both of them emitted an undaunting and overbearing presence that made the surroundings chime in reverence.

"Did I just hear you say he has returned?" Ria questioned with intrigue.

"Has my rival truly returned?!" He stood to his feet immediately. Aildris whose eyes were shut as usual suddenly opened them. His pupils gathered all the colour in the universe, sparkling with such beauty that defied human comprehension.

"Yes, Gustav has returned," He stated with a smile.

"Then, does this mean it is time to get Angy and Falco back?" Anticipation began to build within Ria as he questioned.

"Why don't we go ask him ourselves," Aildris began floating upwards.

Ria grinned excitedly before crouching and leaping upwards. Thwwwoosshh~

Both their figures blasted off into the sky and soon vanished from sight.

....

"Good thing daily tasks stop... I can't find myself doing stupid things like this all the time," Gustav stood at the top of a skyscraper with a slightly irritated look.

("Maybe I should bring them back,") The system teased.

"Maybe I should bend you over and spank you when you're in physical form," Gustav stated.

("That is inappropriate...")

"It is what you deserve."

Silence.

Gustav decided to ignore the system and stared at the notification before him.

[Monthly Quest]

< Infiltrate The MBO Tower And Sabotage The Sign >

< Status: Uncompleted >

< Time Elapsed : 3 Weeks >

"What even is the point of this?" Gustav peered into the distance where the MBO tower was located.

The glowing MBO sign could be spotted vividly from his angle. It was a beacon of power and authority and now the system wanted him to mess with it.

("Maybe to teach you how to have fun a little,") The system chimed in.

"Fun is the last thing I need right now. Angy and Falco are still out there. Who knows what they are currently going through?" Gustav's face darkened as he recalled Angy's mother's tears.

("Exactly why you need it. You've been on this for a year. At least celebrate the fact that you're getting closer,") The system voiced once more.

"Tch, I'm only doing this because I have a bit of time on my hands since I'm waiting for Endric and E.E's return. If not, I wouldn't even give this the thought of the day. I don't care about failing," Gustav blurted with a disinterested look.

("Yeah, yeah. Just do it already,") One could almost sense the system rolling its pretty eyes at Gustav.

Gustav sauntered forward and leapt off the ledge of the skyscraper.

....

[MBO Tower]

Holographic monitors flickered to life throughout a control room, displaying a dizzying array of data and visuals.

Charts, graphs, and schematics floated in mid-air, updating in real-time as officers monitored the status of various systems and operations.

At the heart of the control room stood the central command station, a massive console adorned with an array of buttons, switches, and holographic displays that served as the nerve centre of the operation.

Officers manned the station with unwavering focus, their eyes glued to the screens as they monitored the status of critical systems and operations.

"Officer Chen, Gradier Hao has requested that the footage documentation of case 1729p be sent to his office," An officer in an MBO outfit approached from the entrance.

"Not Gradier Hao again," The officer before the largest holographic screen lamented.

"Alright, no problem. Tell him it will be sent by the end of today," Officer Chen responded while moving towards another corner of the control room.

About twenty-six different MBO officers were working in the control room but it seemed like Officer Chen was the leader there.

He began to give out some set of instructions while also tapping on some controls himself.

He suddenly sensed a presence behind him and turned around, "I already told you, it will be sent by the end of the day."

"Actually... Commander Xanatus asked for you," The young officer who initially came in reported.

"Oh? Commander Xanatus?" Officer Chen's face showed that he was wondering why Commander Xanatus would request his presence.

"Alright," Officer Chen understood that requests from higher-ranked MBO officers took priority.

He walked out with the officer after rushing out instructions to some officers on what to do while asking a few to hold on till returned.

About a minute later, Officer Chen returned.

"Now, where were we?" He questioned while moving towards the largest control panel area.

....

-"Can you see that?"

-"What the fuck? Haha, the MBO tower has a different sign."

-"Milf Busters Organisation?"

- "This is hilarious hahaha!"

- "What is up with that sign?"

- "Eww... Matteo close your eyes!"

The entirety of Plankton City was in uproar at the moment as everyone stared at the sign on the MBO tower.

Since the letters were so bold and glowing, every person in the city could read them clearly. Many were completely astonished, while some found it hilarious, and others, disgusting.

The MBO tower was getting a bunch of calls from all across the city at the moment and even many people had taken photographs to post on the Internet. The MBO became a laughing stock for the netizens as even news and media outlets decided to pass it across even further.

"What do you think you're doing, Officer Chen?" A high-ranking MBO officer approached the control room and spotted Officer Chen just standing in place.

"Uh hmm? What is..." Officer Chen shook his head repeatedly while looking around and wondering why he was standing in the middle of the corridor.

"What is this immature and incredibly foolish stunt you just pulled?" The officer yelled in annoyance.

"Huh? What are you talking about, Sir Dexter?" Officer Chen couldn't even remember how he got to the corridor. He only recalled coming to and finding himself there.

"This is what I am talking about you idiot!" The high-ranking officer pulled out a holographic tablet that was currently displaying pictures of the MBO tower on the Internet.

Officer Chen's eyes widened in disbelief. As he stared at the pictures his jaw nearly dropped to the floor.

"What the hell?!"

[Monthly Quest: Infiltrate The MBO Tower And Sabotage The Sign]

< Status: Successful >

[Rewards]

< +1,000,000 EXP >

< +1 Level Up >

< All Skills And Abilities Level Up >

< Advancement Of Crimson Matter Bloodline To A+ Grade >

< +1 Card That Fully Unlocks Ability Of Host Choice For Ten Minutes >

"The rewards are not bad but I'm never doing anything like this again," Gustav stood atop a skyscraper in the form of Officer Chen.

His body slowly morphed back to his original look and he proceeded to take his MBO uniform off.

("Tell me you don't get a little kick from seeing that sign and the MBO getting bashed all across the world...") "I don't," Gustav's face remained straight.

("Don't lie,") The system cajoled.

"Pfft. Alright, it's a little funny," Gustav chuckled a little before going back to his usual poker face.

The system kept teasing him internally but he decided to ignore it.

"Status window..." Gustav muttered.

[Host Attributes]

-Name: Gustav Crimson

-Level: 199

-Class: Parallel Being

-Exp: 39,524,090/270,000,000

-Hp: 310,000/310,000

-Energy: 179,000/180,000

{Attributes}

»Strength: 712

»Perception: 724

»Mental Fortitude: 719

»Agility: 714

»Speed: 720

»Bravery: 717

»Intelligence: 716

»Charm: 401

»Defence: 721

»Vitality: 723

»Endurance: 713

{Attributes points: 101}

"I reached level one hundred and ninety-nine... I wonder if there will be any surprises when I reach two hundred," Gustav wondered out loud.

("Want me to tell you?") The system inquired internally.

"You've been nice lately. I'm starting to think you're an imposter," Gustav replied to the system.

("Alright I won't tell you then.")

"Tell me."

("No, you lost your chance.")

"You'd better spill."

("Make me.")

"I will."

("You couldn't even make Angy spill")

Gustav remained silent for a few seconds before responding.

'Now that's the mean bitchy system I remember.'

....

Gustav arrived back at E.E.'s apartment but sensed a presence within. Upon better perception, he sensed it wasn't one but two presences...

And from what he could sense, they were very powerful. Gustav hid his presence and stepped into the apartment without so much as making a sound.

The two presences in the apartment were now clearly visible to him. His eyes widened slightly after identifying them.

"Aildris? Ria?" Gustav called out with a tone of surprise. "Gustav?!"

"Rival?!"

Both figures voiced simultaneously. 'How did he get to our front without us noticing?' They both came to the realisation with expressions of bewilderment. To them it seemed like Gustav had just appeared in place, meanwhile, he walked in but didn't reveal his presence until he identified them.

"Rival!" Ria yelled once more and lunged forward in joy.

Chapter 1423 Gustav Crimson Is On Earth

"Rival!" Ria yelled once more and lunged forward in joy. Gustav raised his right hand to block Ria's face with a wry smile, "Calm your excitement."

Aildris chuckled from behind as he stood to his feet, "Don't be so harsh. He missed you," He stated.

"Everyone did," Aildris added with a reminiscent look.

"How did you guys know I was on earth?" Gustav questioned with a slightly suspicious tone.

"Why did you think E.E. would keep it from us?" Aildris threw out the question, causing Gustav to shake his head slightly.

"It was supposed to be a quick pop in and out of Earth. And yet so many unexpected things happened," Gustav let out a small sigh.

"So that was you facing the clone... I suspected," Aildris smiled while extending a fist.

"What clone?" Ria scratched his head cluelessly.

"Yeah it was me," Gustav replied while bumping Aildris's fist softly.

"That was just one out of the many things I faced since I arrived here. I still had to stop a mad scientist from getting rid of everyone's bloodline, fight Jack and mess with that MBO sign," Gustav couldn't believe just how crazy the last two weeks had gone.

"You fought Jack Shirwin?!"

"You were the one who messed with that MBO sign?!"

Aldris and Ria voiced simultaneously in disbelief.

"Not by choice but yeah... Also, in a different timeline," Gustav took a seat and slumped back against the sofa.

"Who won?!" Ria kicked his feet up excitedly while inquiring.

"Who do you think?" Gustav voiced in response.

"Well, seeing as you are here now..." Aldris couldn't even complete his sentence because he knew that would technically be saying Gustav was the most powerful on Earth.

He knew it was possible in due time but couldn't fathom Gustav already reaching that level at twenty-one years old.

"Rival! You won!" Ria's eyes widened in astonishment.

"No. It was barely a stalemate. I probably would be dead by now if he used full strength from the start," Gustav bluntly pointed out.

"Ohhh..." Both Aildris and Ria voiced together.

"Anyways, at least I got to gauge his strength and understand what level I need to acquire before I can be on equal footing with him," Gustav strangely seemed glad about the encounter.

"The fact that you can even contend with him in the slightest is commendable," Aildris patted Gustav's shoulder twice.

'...I only have a year more to not just be able to contend with him but reach a higher level of power or I fail the quest,' Gustav reminded himself internally.

"So how did you get away from him?" Ria questioned.

"I didn't. He had to leave to face that half white and black unknown entity," Gustav responded.

"What half white and black entity?" Ria was extremely dumbfounded.

"Were you living under a rock? You're a part of the MBO, you should know," Gustav felt that Ria seemed too uninformed on some of the matters that he should be aware of.

"Technically he was living under a volcano," Aildris chimed in from the side causing Ria to smile wryly.

Gustav was further confused by the revelation, "Did you quit the MBO?" "No, I took a leave," Ria answered while rotating his right arm.

"He said he didn't want to be disturbed until you return," Aildris chuckled while revealing.

"Hey! He didn't have to know that!" Ria yelled bashfully.

"He didn't stop channelling his bloodline in the active volcano until I informed him of your return," Aildris added while Ria pouted at the side.

"He is a lot more powerful now. I can sense it," Gustav voiced in observation.

Ria's eyes widened in excitement, "Really?" Gustav nodded, "From what I can sense, your energy is higher than Aildris," "Well, family issues haven't exactly made me active this last year. I also took a leave from the MBO," Aildris revealed.

"Tell me all about it," Gustav showed a concerned expression.

"Nah, it's nothing to be bothered about," Aildris waved it off.

"But I did hear of that being... It is suspected to come from the same place as the death angels," Aildris couldn't help but sense an ominous feeling while mentioning it.

"If I was sceptical about that before, I am a hundred percent certain now," Gustav then mentioned how the black and white entity broke the death angel out the last time.

"But how can it easily travel between worlds? Didn't you mention that the death angels were only able to do that because of that premonition thing that happened on Planet Ozious?" Aildris asked sounding conflicted.

"That's the mystery... If I hadn't reversed time, the death angel would be truly free by now," Gustav held his chin in bafflement.

"Wait, you can reverse time now?" Ria's jaw dropped.

"I can do a lot of things now," Gustav voiced like it wasn't a big deal but even Aildris was amazed.

"Damn... Just how powerful are you now?" Ria questioned.

"Not powerful enough," Gustav replied.

"You weren't really planning on rescuing Falco and Angy all by yourself, right?" Ria asked while folding his arms.

"I didn't want to get you guys involved. It would be too dangerous," Gustav shook his head.

"That's why E.E. informed us behind your back. You need all the help you can get if you intend to infiltrate that other dimension," Aildris pointed out.

"No. Only I and Endric will be heading there after we've gathered all the items we need," Gustav immediately refused.

"You can't stop us from coming with. Falco and Angy are our friends too! Do you know how long I've been waiting to do something about their rescue? Now that the opportunity has presented itself, I won't sit back," Ria voiced with a fired-up expression.

They both stared at the look on Gustav's face hoping for some type of reaction.

After a brief silence, Gustav stood to his feet.

"No."

....

....

"Gustav Crimson is on earth. I can feel it." Within an office, situated in an MBO base, a high-ranking female officer roamed the place with a conflicted expression.

She had a long, green, ponytail while the rest of her hair was sky blue. Her face had cat-like features with whiskers but overall, her body was humanoid in structure.

"For how long have you been feeling this way, ma'am?" An MBO Major questioned from the other end.

"A little over two weeks now," She replied.

"Hmm? Could you perhaps be referring to the clone?" The five-foot-tall major with a blue slimy face questioned.

"No. I am very much aware of the clone. I am talking about the real deal. He is here..." She kept prancing about the place with a look of confliction.

"Erm... I don't know ma'am," The MBO Major was clueless.

"Think, Gohan. Think... what anomaly has occurred during that time frame," She questioned, causing pressure to descend upon the surroundings.

"Except for the clone, I can't really think of anything else, ma'am," Gohan shook his head.

"I said think!" She yelled with a horrifying tone, causing Gohan to tremble in place.

"Hmm... ah... eh... I... think there's..." Gohan kept stuttering in uncertainty.

"Oh just spit it out," She stated with a tone of annoyance.

"I just recall that there was a mention of Jack's encounter with the person who faced the clone. He said in another timeline the earth was in trouble because of the appearance of that black and white entity. Time was rewound but he remembered that it happened because of his strength," Gohan tooted on.

"He left the clone in the hands of the person who took it on and returned to the research facility... Ma'am Reina, he said the person informed him," Gohan paused to see if she was starting to see the pattern.

"That person who faced the clone, did we ever figure out his identity?" General Reina questioned rhetorically.

Gohan shook his head in response.

"But a person powerful enough to reverse time on a scale where even Jack would be affected must at least be an Alpha ranked or maybe even higher.

The number of mixedbloods on that level of power is around 200 in the entire populace of billions. We have records for them and know the names of each and every one of them. None of them has this ability," When Gohan got to this point, General Reina's eyes widened.

"Since this isn't a recorded Alpha, it means that this person must have become an alpha after the last one was recorded which was years ago. If they were on earth when it happened or weren't in hiding, then it would be a part of the public records but because they were in hiding..." General Reina came to a pause as a sense of realisation hit her.

"The person who faced the clone was the real Gustav in disguise," Gohan stated with a tone of certainty.

"Now we just need proof."

General Reina stopped prancing at this moment.

"...where would someone like Gustav Crimson hide out?"

Chapter 1424 Is That The Last Item On The List?

General Reina stopped prancing at that moment.

"...where would someone like Gustav Crimson hide out?" She questioned while narrowing her eyes.

"He has friends," Officer Gohan pointed out.

"Indeed... one of them has to know he is on earth. One of them has to know exactly where he is," General Reina voiced with a tone of realization.

"General I... erm... th..." Gohan hesitantly stuttered.

"Speak your mind," General Reina stated with a clear tone.

~Ahem~

"So... I think we should inform the higher-ups about our conceptions and plans. To run things smoothly, we will need all the help we can get," Gohan spoke with a slightly jittery tone.

"Of all the bad ideas, this is your worst. No, Gohan. I won't do that until I find him and bring him into custody myself," General Reina turned down his suggestion immediately.

"Ma'am... if he is truly as powerful as an alpha, with capabilities relating to rewinding time, it will be very dangerous for us to go on the endeavor alone," Gohan tried to persuade her.

"No. I won't share the glory with the others. Think about just how much I will be rewarded if I singlehandedly bring him back. The promotions..." Her face displayed a look of anticipation as she raised her head.

"It will be enough for me to get to the next rank but... if taking him in becomes a joint effort, I can kiss my promotion goodbye," General Reina stated.

"I will bring Gustav Crimson in myself."

....

....

....

Within an apartment, a group of six sat around the sofa, seemingly having a conversation.

"Who is she?" Ria pointed at the sky blue-haired girl on Gustav's left.

"She's Sersi from planet Vespa," Gustav answered.

"You must be one of Father's friends that he always talks about," Sersi voiced with intrigue.

"Father?"

"Father?"

Ria and Aildris yelled in confusion at the same time.

"Oh, you two are not up to speed yet," Endric shook his head.

"You cheated on Angy?! Promiscuous rival!" Ria shouted like he had just been betrayed, causing everyone to stare at him like an idiot.

"What?" Ria yelled.

"You do know that he can't have a baby within the last year to grow to eighteen years of age, right?" Aildris felt like he shouldn't even be explaining.

"So what? It's Gustav... nothing is impossible when it comes to him," Ria threw up his hands.

"I hate to say it but, that actually makes sense," E.E. blinked repeatedly.

Everyone else besides Endric suddenly felt confused and turned to stare at Gustav.

"You... didn't, right?" Aildris questioned very quietly.

"I haven't had sex in over a year if that's what you're asking," Gustav nearly facepalmed after seeing their expressions.

They let out a sigh of relief and immediately burst into laughter.

"Angy would have killed you!"

"I literally mentioned that she is from planet Vespa."

"Promiscuous Rival!"

"Why does she call you father?"

"I know right? It's gross! She calls me uncle and she's older than I am!"

The group let out a few more series of laughter before they finally went into the topic of discussion.

"I have gotten the level two hundred mutated beast egg, roots from the Pariscus tree, and the heart of a kilo-ranked mixedblood," Endric announced.

"The heart of a kilo ranked mixedblood? Where did you...?" Before Ria could complete the question, he was cut short.

"No interruptions, Ria. We need to focus," Aildris stated.

Ria kept quiet but was still curious. He could only guess that it belonged to some criminal or something.

"I will be heading to the underground ice research center tomorrow. I'll get the sample from the Death Angel," E.E. stated with a tone of anticipation.

"Is that the last item on the list?" Aildris inquired.

"Yes. Once we get that, we're pretty much good to go," Endric responded with a gentle nod.

"Then, do you need any help tomorrow, E.E.?" Aildris turned to face Emma.

"Nah... once I get there, I just need to be near to teleport a little chunk of its flesh to my storage," E.E. responded with a tone of assurance.

"Alright then."

"So when do we leave Earth?" Ria questioned.

"Immediately after E.E. gets the sample. I don't want to stay another second on Earth before something crazy happens again," Gustav answered with a decisive look.

"Also, it isn't we... It's just Endric and I. None of you are coming with," He added.

"Come on, rival."

"You will need as much help as you can get."

Ria and Aildris tried to persuade him.

"I am trying to rescue a loved one. I don't intend to lose more along the line," Gustav refused their help for the umpteenth time.

"Then why is Endric going with you? Isn't he a loved one too?" Ria pointed out.

"Because he is more powerful than the both of you and can certainly hold his own," Gustav stated bluntly.

As bad as it sounded, Gustav was saying exactly what he felt. He knew they had both increased in strength but didn't want to risk it. Gustav didn't have complete faith in them not getting themselves killed.

"Angy is our friend too. We can't sit back and watch only you two do a dangerous job that could be less dangerous with our help," Aildris kept trying to persuade Gustav.

"Nah, it's more dangerous if you two come with me cos then I'd have more people to look out for," Gustav shot it down once more.

"E.E. come on say something," Ria turned to E.E. for help.

"Don't look at me. I'm not tagging along either 'cause someone gotta be in the MBO as a mole," E.E. raised both hands in defeat.

Also, they were well aware that once Gustav's mind was made up, it was almost impossible to change it.

"So... if we prove we're powerful enough, will you accept our help?" Aildris questioned with a serious expression.

Gustav folded his arms and leaned back against the sofa.

"And how do you intend to do that?" He questioned with a calm but intrigued tone.

....

The next day arrived in a jiffy. By the time dawn arrived, E.E. was already on his way out of Plankton City.

He stared at the enchanting city slowly disappearing into the horizon from the window of an aircraft. E.E. was in full uniformed outfit as the aircraft flew him out of the city on what was deemed as official business.

There was a weekly report that a particular officer would usually write to the MBO higher-ups after visiting the underground research center to briefly inspect the place.

Unfortunately, this higher-ranked MBO officer was down with a mixed-blood illness that would take a couple of days to recover from.

Luckily, E.E. had been chosen to fill in for him on that particular day for the weekly inspection... but was it really just luck?

E.E. sat in place with a calm demeanor as the aircraft cruised across the pristine blue skies.

"How soon until we get there?" He tapped a button by his armrest while inquiring.

< "We will be arriving within the hour sir," >

The pilot responded from the cabin area.

"Good," E.E. muttered.

It was actually a distance that he could have opened a vortex to from the start but he had to take the aircraft since it was a different kind of MBO business.

Time went by very quickly and E.E.'s aircraft touched down on the closest airstrip.

Beyond the airstrip was a terrain of ice that extended into the horizon. They were supposed to continue the journey from there with frost-designed vehicles.

However, E.E. seemed to have grown tired of using vehicles and simply opened a vortex.

Fwwwheiii~

He walked in and arrived at the surface of the underground research facility.

His presence immediately alerted Jack who was floating above the premises.

Fwwwheiii~

"What do you want here?"

E.E. didn't even get a second to appreciate the scenery surrounding him before he heard a voice behind him.

He gulped down saliva while turning around. Lo and behold, the person who stood across from me was the one and only Jack Shirwin... the strongest mixedblood in existence.

"Are you mute?" Jack questioned after not getting a reply for a few seconds.

"Uhm no. I am Officer E.E. Here for the weekly inspection," E.E. finally responded.

"The person in charge of the weekly inspection is, Commander Xanatus. What are you doing here?" Jack's tone rose with suspicion.

"I am here on his behalf. He is down with Irinduses so the higher-ups had me replace him for only today," E.E. was a bit taken aback that Jack wasn't informed about it.

"Oh, they may have mentioned something about that. You're that E.E. person who is supposed to do the inspection today," Jack held his chin as a look of understanding appeared on his face.

"I just said that..." E.E.'s left eye twitched repeatedly as he smiled wryly.

The world's strongest surely can't be a forgetful person. Right?

"Sir Jack, he is with us."

Chapter 1425 Dark Sample Acquired

The world's strongest surely can't be a forgetful person. Right?

"Sir Jack, he is here to check on us," One of the MBO researchers voiced from behind while approaching.

They walked through the underground passage entrance and surrounded E.E.

"Sure, just be careful," Jack stated before ascending across the air in the next instant.

He went back to watching over the vicinity from up there while the researchers welcomed E.E.

They led E.E. towards the underground entry point and he followed them with a look of relief on his face. The main hindrance had been avoided.

They walked through icy tunnelways leading to different spots within the research facility. The place was quite massive and E.E. couldn't help but think that despite its size, only one entity was being held within.

E.E. passed by a couple of underground research stations where different scientists were working on projects related to the Death Angel. He then asked to check in with some of the stations and even discovered what they were each working on before moving toward the next.

'How to weaken a death angel.'

'How to harness the death angel's power.'

'How to make the dark creature submissive.'

E.E. made sure to note down the objectives of each research station, as well as how far they had come in achieving them.

'Trust the government to always want to get the power of anything without fully understanding it yet,' E.E. secretly shook his head disapprovingly.

He wasn't too surprised by all he was seeing but at the same time, he hoped that they wouldn't end up messing things up.

Judging by how much time the death angel had been underneath the surface, it seemed like no intelligible decision had been undertaken yet.

When E.E. thought about it, he felt someone had to be responsible for keeping things in order and he was right. Grand Commander Shion had been making things look superficial on the surface because of the others. Only he and a few researchers knew the true objective they were working on.

After scooting about the place, the researchers finally brought E.E. to the precise location where the restrained Death Angel was situated.

"It's been a while," E.E. muttered while standing before the massive reinforced metal transparent glass.

On the other side of the glass that separated them was the Death Angel, whose dark limbs were firmly bound.

The creature's hollow ashy eyes made contact with E.E. and it suddenly began making a strange noise.

"Kukukukukuku!" The Death Angel sounded like a chattering monkey but continued to make a noise.

"Happy to see me again, huh? Well, the feeling isn't mutual," E.E. retorted with a look that expressed his disgust at the creature.

"We understand that this isn't your first encounter but it is the first we've ever seen it react this way," One of the researchers voiced in astonishment as they watched E.E. approach the glass.

"This one and his buddies nearly did away with me and my friends. We did all we could to keep them away but they brought death to whatever they touched..." E.E. folded his arms while reminiscing.

"We were told that the nine others merged to become an even more powerful being," Another researcher voiced with newfound interest.

"Yes. Gustav Crimson had to face it all on his own to protect the rest of us and despite missing one, their merge was still so immensely powerful..." While E.E. was explaining, his left hand was secretly twirling by his side.

Barely noticeable glows could be spotted on his fingertips which also appeared behind the restrained death angel. A very tiny vortex pocket encircled a protrusion on the back of the Death Angel's head before sucking it in and vanishing.

"Gustav had to put himself in a state of matter just to get it away. If Grand Commander Shion hadn't forcibly trapped this one, their merged version would have been way more powerful and maybe I wouldn't be standing here right now..." E.E. paused briefly as if pondering on what he had just said.

He internally sighed in relief after getting exactly what he came for. All that was left was to write a few more words in the recording tab and get out of there.

"That is quite the fascinating tale, officer E.E..." A strong female voice suddenly drifted into their hearing.

Everyone turned to the side to spot a female MBO officer approaching.

She had a long, green, ponytail while the rest of her hair was sky blue. Her face had cat-like features with whiskers but overall, her body was humanoid in structure.

Trotting behind her was a five-foot-tall male with green, hairy skin and glowing lines in his eyes. He of course was also clad in an MBO outfit, although it was quite obvious that he was levels below the woman due to their uniform differences.

"General Reina... we didn't know you were coming," The researchers voiced respectfully as soon as they sighted her, even though they were clearly shocked to see her in their midst.

Although the research facility was an unauthorized location for MBO officers, General Reina was a very high-ranking officer so it didn't apply to her. She could visit the place whenever she wanted but it didn't stop the researchers from appearing shocked.

This was because MBO Generals and higher were very busy individuals. They wouldn't just show up at the facility unannounced especially when they had already sent a lower-ranking officer to visit for weekly inspections.

"Don't worry about me, just passing by and decided to say hi," General Reina's face bore an intensity that anyone would find terrifying.

"General, welcome," E.E. bowed slightly in respect.

"I am just taking Commander Xanatus's place for the inspection today," E.E. added despite never having seen the woman before.

"Oh, never mind my presence here. I was enjoying your intriguing tale so please by all means continue," She spoke while pausing to lean against the wall by the side.

"Ahaha, maybe another time then, General. I've spun enough tales for today. I need to get back to submit my report," E.E. bowed slightly once more before turning around in a bid to leave.

"I couldn't help but notice something, officer E.E.," General Reina began speaking again, causing E.E. to pause in place.

"It almost seems like you made Gustav Crimson look like a hero in that tale of yours," She added.

"This happened before Gustav Crimson was branded as the sole party responsible for the destruction of planet Ozious. Grand Commander Shion can attest to the fact that we were indeed protected by him. He played a huge role in helping us survive," E.E. turned around to give a proper explanation.

"So you think he is a hero... the earth prodigy responsible for the death of billions... I see," General Reina voiced with a tone of understanding.

"I don't..." E.E. paused and let out a small sigh.

"The world seems to have forgotten his deeds so quickly. Two things can be true at the same time, General. And one of them happens to be the fact that he has indeed saved the entire planet more than once. No matter how much everyone tries to deny it, the deed is already written in the history books," E.E. smiled while pointing out.

The entire place descended into utter silence as the researchers refrained from butting in. It was a sensitive topic after all.

"Now, if you will excuse me, General," E.E. said respectfully before turning around to leave.

General Reina watched his departing figure with a keen gaze, 'Thank you for telling me that you are aware of Gustav's return to earth.'

"Come, Gohan. Let's go," General Reina stood upright and proceeded to walk out.

After they were all gone, the researchers let out sighs of relief as the pressure in the air lessened.

"That was intense..."

....

....

....

As the sun dipped below the horizon, casting a warm, golden glow across the skyline of Plankton City. The setting sun painted the sky in a stunning array of warm hues.

Ribbons of pink and orange streaked across the horizon, blending seamlessly with the deepening shades of purple and blue that signaled the approaching night.

Skyscrapers of sleek glass and steel shimmered in the fading light, their mirrored surfaces reflecting the enthralling setting sun. Vibrant colors filled the evening sky as the sun dipped below the horizon, painting a breathtaking tableau of natural beauty that stretched out as far as the eye could see.

"I have gotten the sample,"

E.E. appeared within his apartment from a swirling violet sea of energy.

"You're back."

"Finally."

The group who had been awaiting his return the entire time, chanted in excitement.

"Sorry I took so long, I still had to submit my report," E.E. said while staring at the sunset view from the window by the right.

"So long as you got it. That is all that matters," Gustav stated with a nod of satisfaction.

"Hmm? Where did Aildris and Ria go?"

Chapter 1426 General Reina's Visitation

"So long as you got it, that is all that matters," Gustav stated with a nod of satisfaction.

"Hmm? Where did Aildris and Ria go?" E.E.'s eyebrows creased in confusion.

He certainly couldn't sense them within or around the apartment so it had him wondering if they had already left after failing to convince Gustav.

"They're out... engaging in a task to prove their capability," Gustav answered while crossing his legs.

"You really gave them something to do?" E.E. voiced, his eyes glinting with interest.

"Of course. SJ is watching them now so I should get feedback within an hour," Gustav responded in anticipation.

"You really don't want them to come with you, do you?" E.E. questioned calmly.

"No, I do not," Gustav answered bluntly.

"I wonder just what crazy task you gave them," E.E.'s thoughts ran amok.

Gustav smirked in response, "You'll see... soon."

"Pass the dark sample to Endric. We should be off soon," He added.

E.E. took an item out of his storage device.

Despite being kept within a container, dark energy still oozed from the sample. It wriggled continuously like it wanted to escape E.E.'s grasp.

"Let me take that off your hands," Endric twirled his finger, causing telekinetic energy to wrap around the container.

Fwwhii~

The container floated towards him in the next instant and he grabbed it.

"You can head to the spacecraft and get it warmed up. I'll be with you in a minute," Gustav instructed.

"I don't wanna miss their return, but alright..."Endric stood to his feet.

"Is she..."

He pointed at Sersi but before he could complete his sentence, Gustav uttered a strongly disapproving, "No!"

Endric shrugged and turned around to leave. It made sense that Gustav wouldn't want Sersi to be a part of the next journey. Considering that he was skeptical about Ria and Aildris' participation, he definitely wouldn't give Sersi a single thought.

"I hope it's alright if she stays here with you. She's not from Earth so she really doesn't have anyone on this planet," Gustav turned to E.E.

"Sure thing, man. I have no issues with that," E.E. responded with an unbothered tone.

"Thanks. Maybe you can enroll her in..." Gustav suddenly paused as he sensed something.

E.E. noticed the strange look on his face and voiced, "What?"

Gustav squinted his eyes before speaking, "Are you expecting visitors?"

"What? I am n..."

Before E.E. could properly respond, a loud bang resonated across the building.

With it, came the appearance of two MBO officers. One of them was a face E.E. was familiar with, having seen her that day.

"Sorry about not using the door... you see, I had to visit uninvited," A feminine but husky voice laced with naughtiness drifted into his ears.

"General Reina..." E.E. gulped saliva while staring at the hole they made through the window that led to his balcony area.

E.E. turned to face where Gustav was seated, only to see that it was empty.

"Why would you barge into my place like this, General Reina? This is totally uncalled for," E.E. immediately regained his confidence and began berating her.

"It is inappropriate... a traitor shouldn't be stripped of their rights to complain," General Reina took slow steps towards E.E. while speaking.

"What are you talking about General?" E.E. questioned with a befuddled expression.

"Don't play stupid. You and I are very much aware that the universal fugitive has been on earth for some time... and guess who accommodated him during his stay here?" General Gustav spoke while giving E.E. a very intense glare.

"I don't know what you're talking about General... the appearance of the universal fugitive was confirmed to be a clone as we all know," E.E. continued to play it off as completely clueless.

"Yes we all know about that... but what everyone doesn't know is that the real Gustav faced the clone and most likely faced the world's strongest as well. This is why the clone is nowhere to be found... because he was involved in its disappearance," General Reina began to walk in circles around E.E.

"But you knew this, didn't you?" A smirk appeared on her face at this moment.

"Why would I know that, General? Besides, all these are assumptions. The identity of that person is unknown," E.E. was screaming internally but managed to keep a calm face.

~sigh~

"You really want to keep playing around eh?" She stood before E.E. and placed her index finger on his chin.

"You know, I'm giving you the chance to share the glory with me. Just hand him over," She demanded.

"Ahem" E.E. reached out to grab her finger and slowly took it off his chin, "Like I said General, I don't know what you're talking about. If you believe what you're spouting so much, you're free to search my place."

"Oh is that so?" General Reina took a step back.

"Have at it," E.E was a bit on edge due to how suddenly the whole situation had unraveled but he did his best to keep his composure.

General Reina turned to face Officer Gohan who had been standing behind the entire time.

He shook his head as if in response to a silent question she had thrown at him.

Her face bore an indescribable expression as she looked around.

"Who is this person? I never knew you lived with someone," General Reina turned to face Sersi who was seated on the sofa at the other end.

"She is a distant cousin. Is my relative not allowed to stay with me? Or is that some treacherous crime?" E.E asked with a rhetorical tone while moving closer to Sersi.

Sersi was smart enough not to engage in the ongoing dialogue. She only smiled in response and sat quietly in place.

General Reina had a dissatisfied look on her face as she began to walk around the apartment. Officer Gohan remained at his initial spot while a green glow appeared in his eyes.

General Reina returned to the living room after a few seconds.

"You really won't hand him over? The offer to share the glory of turning him in still stands," She said to E.E with budding frustration.

E.E knew well that so long as General Reina was unable to physically locate Gustav, she really couldn't do anything.

General Reina seemed to be scanning the premises with her senses but couldn't come up with anything even after minutes had passed. She thought her mind could be playing tricks on her and even visited different spots within the apartment physically. All to no avail.

"I'll give you a piece of advice now... I better not find out that his presence on earth is linked to you in any way... or you will be sorry," She looked E.E dead in the eye and unleashed a bit of her energy.

'Beta ranked... she's on the same rank with Gus...' E.E was a bit worried but stood his ground.

"There won't be anything to be sorry about, General. I don't harbor criminals," E.E voiced in response.

"Pfft," General Reina scoffed while walking away.

"Make sure you contact me if you decide to change your mind about joining me to turn him in," She stated from the balcony area, sounding almost a hundred percent certain about her claim.

"What are you doing, Gohan? Let's go," She yelled to Gohan who was still standing in place.

Gohan green glowing eyes dimmed as he spoke.

"He was lying."

"What?" General Reina voiced in confusion.

"That girl isn't his cousin. I searched the records with my mind, connecting all his families all across the earth. From parents to uncles, to aunts to cousins to grandparents... all of them. I saw it all, dead and alive. Officer E.E is not related in any way to this girl," Officer Gohan pointed at Sersi with a look of suspicion.

'Shit!' E.E yelled internally while gulping saliva.

"Well, you see..."

'I've got nothing...'

E.E was a terrible liar so he was having difficulty coming up with a tangible explanation that wouldn't make the situation seem more suspicious.

"She actually happens to be my neighbor's daughter, you see... My neighbor is not indoors at the moment so she decided to wait here. I don't want things to look off with some random girl in my apartment when I have a girlfriend, that's why I said she is my cousin," E.E did as quickly as he could to piece his lie to the best of his abilities.

"Your cousin... your neighbor..." A smile appeared on General Reina's face as she began to walk towards E.E.

"What lie are you going to spin next? Your sister's friend?" She added with both a sarcastic and serious tone mixed.

'Damn, maybe I should have used that one,' E.E nearly faced palmed.

Chapter 1427 Interesting Coincidence?

Damn, maybe I should have used that one,' E.E nearly faced palmed.

"I still do not understand what you're talking about, General. Why is the girl a problem exactly? She isn't who you came here to find," E.E decided to stop mentioning relatives or any other excuse and outright played coy.

"True, she isn't the one I am looking for..." General Reina arrived before E.E once more and stared into his eyes briefly.

"But maybe she has connections to him," Immediately after adding, she turned to the side and started walking towards Sersi.

"You don't mind if I ask her a few questions, do you?" General Reina emitted an intimidating presence while approaching.

"Uhm, without a warrant or anything that advocates a crime... isn't that against her rights?" E.E voiced with a tone that slightly hinted at trepidation.

"Just a few, friendly, simple questions. Nothing much... unless there is something to hide," General Reina turned slightly to shoot E.E a glance.

"Haha... knock yourself out, General," E.E laughed wryly.

'I don't like where this is going,' E.E screamed internally.

General Reina proceeded to bring out a holographic tab which displayed a picture of Gustav.

"Have you seen this person before?" She questioned with a keen gaze.

...

...

...

Bang! Bang! Boom!

Powerful ripples spread across the air due to an ongoing battle between a trio.

Fwwhisshh~

After images could be spotted in the skies as they engaged one another powerfully. Blasts often rang out and despite being distant from the surface, the icy terrain would occasionally split and shatter from the residual energy.

No normal person could witness the ongoing battle due to their unparalleled speed as they bolted across the skies. However, on closer look, it was a two versus one-battle.

The figure in the middle was continuously deflecting blows from the other two and appeared to be doing it rather easily.

One of the two had his arms covered in rocks as he repeatedly threw fierce jabs at the figure in the middle.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

The figure in between swayed his hands causally, slapping the fists away before they made contact.

His arms looked like they were moving a million times in just one second.

Bang!

He slapped the one covered in rocks away, sending him hurling across the air.

Bam! Bam! Bam!

He slammed into the icy surface below, sliding across it and forming wide crevices due to the force of the attack.

Meanwhile, the other one whose attack had also been repeatedly getting deflected now had to face the figure with dark hair alone.

"Thanks for doing this, Sir Jack," He voiced in gratitude before opening his eyes.

"Not a problem... I was starting to get bored here anyways," Jack responded with a smile as he stared at the multiple twinkling colors in the eyes of the 7'5" youngster with silver hair, before him.

Jack's smile suddenly vanished the moment the world before him lost all color.

He felt the space around him bending and contrasting in a very eerie manner while the youngster across from him was the only being with color.

"Impressive..." Jack's smile returned as he praised.

"Not impressive enough if you're still smiling," Aildris's silver hair floated as he raised his index finger which had a swirling mass of numerous colors above it.

Waving it forward slightly, the swirling mass sped towards Jack who responded by thrusting a palm forward.

Fwwhoosshh~

A star-patterned construct materialized into existence, fighting against the colorless domain as it flickered occasionally with colors.

Like a switch turning off and on, the construct collided with the swirling mass of multiple colors, causing a mass of blackness to form upon merging.

"Thank you," Aildris smiled while spreading his palms apart.

Pah!

The moment he clasped his hands together an incredibly immense suction force was generated from the dark mass.

With such powerful suction force, even the earth should have been swallowed up in an instant. However, this suction force only seemed to affect Jack, who found himself unable to fight against it.

'This is ridiculous!' He voiced internally as the black swirling mass pulled him into its center and formed restraints that held him in place.

"Now!" Aildris yelled.

Boom!

A loud explosion rang out from underneath as the icy terrain ruptured and a figure sped upwards with such immense force that it tore a line across the sky.

A tempest accompanied by a flaming mountain of ice and volcanic magma trailed across the air with unbridled intensity.

Behind it was Ria who stomped onto the bottom, sending it spiraling at the restrained Jack.

Boom!

A deafening collision reverberated across the vicinity, bringing with it harsh winds that blew everything away... Ria and Aildris included.

Shockwaves spread across the air, turning miles of the icy terrain beneath to water. Everyone within a five-hundred-mile radius could feel the earth quaking intensely like it was about to give way.

The battle was being fought in the sky and yet it had greatly affected the surface beneath.

"Did we get him?" Ria voiced from below.

"Being the strongest mixedblood in existence... you know the answer to that," Aildris smiled wryly.

Not long after, Jack appeared in the distance where the skies were completely void of clouds. The last blast had blown them all away. He floated in place, practically unscathed except for a few cuts on his clothes.

"Tch why is he so overpowered?" Ria felt like all his months of seclusion had been thrown down the drain.

"Hahaha come on Ria... even Gustav would be unable to win," Aildris reminded him from the side.

"But he's not even injured. I trained for so long and I'm still so weak," Ria voiced with a tone of defeat.

Jack's figure suddenly vanished, reappearing before Ria in the next instant.

"You're not weak," Jack raised his palm to show Ria that it was scalded.

"You're just up against me. Some Alphas would be unable to cause me even the tiniest bit of damage so don't sell yourself short," Jack patted Ria's shoulder.

"Really?" Ria's face suddenly lit up in excitement.

"Of course. I'd say you're powerful enough to contend with a Beta-ranked Mixedblood and being that powerful at such a young age means that you will be stronger than me when you're my age," Jack smiled while floating upwards.

"I'll give you two an A for effort... at least you made me use a pretty high level of strength to not only get out of that restraint but also block your attack," Jack turned around to fly away after revealing.

"Thank you!" Ria yelled but he was already gone.

"Praise from the world's strongest. Today is not a bad day," Aildris descended while speaking.

"How did you do that trapped thing?" Ria questioned with a hint of curiosity.

"Oh, that... I just bound his energy to my attack and used it to lure his essence and merge him into it. No one should be able to get out of that restraint so long as they attack it instead of evading," Aildris explained.

"But he got out of it," Ria said with a tone of confoundment.

"He is Jack Sherwin..."

...

...

Within E.E's apartment, General Reina stared down at Sersi who kept answering all her questions with 'no'.

"So you've never seen Gustav Crimson before... You don't know who he is and you have no connection to him?" General Reina voiced with her tone rising every second.

Sersi shook her head in response.

"General you said this was gonna be friendly and brief, would you please stop harassing the poor girl?" E.E voiced from the side with a tone of annoyance.

General Reina wore a smile and stood upright before turning around.

"I have checked... there is nothing," Gohan voiced from the side.

"No records, no birth certificate, no database whatsoever on this young girl. It's like she just appeared out of thin air," He added.

"How intriguing... coming into existence around the same period Gustav Crimson is suspected to be on earth. What an interesting coincidence indeed," General Reina gazed at E.E briefly to note his reaction.

E.E was quiet, seemingly racking his brain on how to respond to her.

"Since someone that doesn't exist is currently in here... I guess it wouldn't be what I do to her now would it?" General Reina suddenly reached out at that moment to grab Sersi.

"General Reina! What are you doing?!" E.E yelled while strutting forward but before he could get close, Gohan threw a glowing icy cube towards the floor before him.

Thriinn~

A triangular barrier of light suddenly surrounded E.E, trapping him in place.

"You use spatial abilities, right? That will keep you from interfering for a while," General Reina smiled while watching E.E bang the walls of the barrier constantly.

He tried to conjure a vortex but to no avail.

General Reina drove a fist into Seris's belly at that moment, causing her to spit out a mouthful of blood.

"Sersi! Let her go, you witch!" E.E voiced out in anguish.

"Just stay in there and don't interfere," General Reina turned to face Sersi once more before raising her.

"I'm only dealing with someone who shouldn't exist."

Immediately after saying that, she threw another punch forward.

"Enough!"

Chapter 1428 This Is The End For You

He tried to conjure a vortex but to no avail.

Sersi's eyes lit up with an azure glow as frost spread from her figure to the surroundings, turning the apartment into an icy domain in an instant.

General Reina's arm, which was connected to Sersi's neck, got frozen as well. Sersi freed herself from the General's clutches and conjured a bunch of icicles from mid-air.

She waved her hand forward, causing the icicles to shoot toward the triangular prison E.E was restrained in.

Bam! Bam! Bam!

The icicles did a bit of damage, causing the triangular prison to flicker a bit but it didn't manage to destroy it.

She conjured more but just as she was about to send them hurling forward, a loud shattering sound rang out behind her.

Sersi turned around to see a hand reaching for her throat.

"Kuuhhh!" She groaned in pain as General Reina who was unscathed, grabbed her by the throat and raised her like a weak, little, chick.

Sersi held General Reina's arm in a bid to force it away from her throat but to no avail. Frost spread from her hand to General Reina's arm and even her entire body but the moment her eyes emitted a Crimson glow, the ice shattered once more.

"Nice trick with the frost but this level of ice is not nearly enough to hold me," General Reina drove a fist into Sersi's belly, causing her to spit out a mouthful of blood.

Bang!

The entire building quaked from the strength of the punch, causing the already shattered window in the apartment to blast into more pieces as Sersi's belly caved in.

"Kurrchh!" A wave of pain spread across her entire body as she struggled to breathe from the impact of the punch.

"Sersi! Let her go, you witch!" E.E voiced out in anguish.

"Just stay in there and don't interfere," General Reina turned to face Sersi once more while keeping her feet above the floor.

"I'm only dealing with someone who shouldn't exist."

Immediately after saying that, she threw another punch forward.

"Enough!"

A masculine voice resonated within the apartment like a heavenly mandate. It was soft and hard at the same time, rippling across the surroundings with authority.

General Reina found herself unable to drive the punch forward any further as she heard the voice.

Gohan, who was still shivering from Sersi's frost, stared at the figure in their midst with utter disbelief.

"Gustav Crimson..."

General Reina turned around in shock as well, "Where?"

However, there was no one behind her.

She felt her left hand lighten and turned to peer forward again, only to realize that Sersi had been released from her clutches.

Gustav carried Sersi in princess style after putting a healing med in her mouth.

"You're truly here... on earth... I knew it!" She voiced in excitement.

She noticed that she was free to move her hands again and tried to grab a communication device from her storage.

"Kneel!" Gustav voiced.

General Reina suddenly had the unfathomable urge to go on her knees.

"What is happening?" Her voice cracked while she tried to resist.

Meanwhile, on the other end, Gohan had fallen to his knees already. E.E wasn't spared as well. He fell forward and his knees kissed the floors of the apartment.

"You can't resist the command of a Cosmic Superior being..." Gustav sounded like he was giving a divine mandate. One that couldn't be resisted by the likes of mere mortals.

"Now, kneel..." He added.

The urge suddenly increased by tenfold, forcing General Reina to her knees.

Bam!

The device in her grasp fell to the floor and slid over to Gustav's side. He carefully placed Sersi on another sofa and headed back toward General Reina.

He kicked the communication device away as he trotted forward and stopped the moment he arrived before General Reina's kneeling figure.

A detached sofa appeared directly before her struggling frame. Gustav took a seat with an unbothered expression while crossing his legs.

"I heard you were looking for me... well... here I am," He stated calmly.

The place descended into complete silence with General Reina struggling to gain control of her body.

"What? Cat's got your tongue?" Gustav leaned forward a little while asking.

"You wanted me... I'm right in front of you. Now, say something."

A sadistic grin suddenly appeared on Gustav's face at that moment, "Oh that's right. You can't."

"Be at ease," Gustav commanded.

Every one of them suddenly felt the pressure vanish.

E.E quickly jumped to his feet while yelling, "Come on, man. I'm here too!"

"My bad," Gustav flicked his index finger forward.

A small torrent of invisible waves shot toward the triangular prison.

Bang!

It shattered instantly, freeing E.E.

E.E wasted no time in scampering towards Gustav and standing behind him.

Meanwhile, General Reina remained in place breathing in and out profusely.

'How is he capable of such... with just his words?' She slowly raised her head and met Gustav's eyes.

Gustav stared back at her and with a smirk, "I know what you're thinking..." He stated.

"If only you could get to that and tap on the emergency button quick enough, this place would be stormed by tens of MBO operatives and I'd be taken into custody. You'll get rewarded and possibly promoted too... you just need to get to it and tap a button before I strip your body of its free will again," Gustav narrated while pointing at the corner where the communicative device was positioned.

"That's not what I'm thinking..." General Reina finally spoke.

"I'm thinking..."

~Zzzhinn~

Immense bloodline energy suddenly burst forth from her figure as she vanished from her spot.

E.E eyes widened in disbelief seeing as she had escaped, but in the next instant...

Bam!

Her figure reappeared in the balcony area.

"Arrrghhh!" Her loud scream resonated across the place as she tried to claw her way forward.

It was at that moment that E.E noticed that half of her body was missing. The missing half that held her legs was right in the living room with them.

A sea of scarlet liquid was splurging from her lower half as she pulled her torso forward with a look that showed that she was in excruciating pain.

"What the fuck just happened?" E.E was utterly confused.

"She tried to escape so I cut off her legs," Gustav answered.

"Her entire lower half is gone, man!" E.E pointed looking disgusted.

"Potato potahto," Gustav mumbled.

"But I didn't see you move?" E.E was still in disbelief.

"Well... my full strength already returned so, that's quite normal," Gustav shrugged.

"She's trying to... go..." E.E pointed at General Reina who was still clawing her way forward.

"Gohan, bring her back in here," Gustav said to the other MBO officer who was frozen in a spot with fear.

"Yes, sir!" Sweat dabbled down his face as his legs vibrated tremendously with every step he took.

"You already know what happens if you try to escape so..." Gustav cautioned Gohan who had arrived at the balcony area.

With how frightened Gohan was, the last thing on his mind was escaping.

'I'm dead. I'm dead. I'm dead... Damn it! I should never have come with her!' Gohan was screaming internally while dragging General Reina's figure toward the living room.

A trail of blood decorated the floor causing E.E to stare at Gustav with a look of disapproval.

"My rug is stained... augh..." He retched in disgust.

"Don't worry, I'll take care of it. After I'm done with these two," Gustav reassured him.

"I know you're in a lot of pain, however, I want you to listen to me and answer my questions. Who else did you tell of my suspected presence on earth?" Gustav questioned with an intense gaze.

"No...body..." She answered while writhing in immense agony.

"Tell me the truth," Gustav demanded.

"It is true," Gohan stated from behind.

Gustav's face rose as he shot Gohan a glance. Gohan felt chills spread across his body, causing him to gulp saliva in distress.

"She wanted to keep all the glory of catching you to herself so she refused to let anyone else know of her suspicion," Gohan rambled on as if his life depended on it.

Truthfully, it did...

"What a greedy woman," Gustav clicked his tongue twice in ridicule.

E.E also thought that she had acted very greedily but he still felt a little bad for her.

"You really should have just looked the other way," He stated.

"So what do you intend to do with them?" E.E questioned Gustav.

"The midget is lucky. He is quite weak so I can extract his memories. But for this one..." Gustav stared at General Reina.

"...This is the end for you."

Immediately after blurting it out, Gustav raised his left hand.

[Atomic Disintegration Has Been Activated]

"Goodbye, General," a swirling mass of milky-colored energy materialized above his palm.

Chapter 1429 Leaving Earth Again

"Goodbye, General," a swirling mass of milky-colored energy materialized above his palm.

"No... please I wo-n't te..ll..."

Her pleas were cut short as Gustav waved his palm downwards.

The milky-colored mass that resembled a flame, descended upon her torso.

General Reina was unable to scream as her vocal cords got obliterated along with the rest of her body. Within seconds, not even a shred of her existence could be spotted before Gustav.

"Congratulations, you just killed a General," E.E voiced from the side.

"No one will know," Gustav hinted at erasing Gohan's memories.

"She's a General... Her disappearance is bound to raise suspicion," E.E pointed out.

"It won't be a problem. She made sure of that by being so greedy about not informing any other person," Gustav tried to ease E.E.'s worries.

"...any other person except for him... Who do you think they will question first?" E.E voiced while gesturing at Officer Gohan.

"What if they investigate his movements and everything points back to me," E.E added, sounding distraught.

"E.E... relax. When I say I'll take care of it, I mean I will take care of it," Gustav stood to his feet while speaking.

E.E decided to calm down after hearing him. It wasn't Gustav's first rodeo after all. He had done worse and still managed to cover them up till that very moment.

When the entire saga began, Gustav put a sound restriction on the environment to prevent voices from escaping the confines of the apartment.

So, despite General Reina's screams, not a single soul outside of their apartment would have heard her.

Gustav walked towards Gohan who was still shivering in horror after watching General Reina get completely obliterated without as much as an expression of guilt or remorse on Gustav's face.

All Gohan could think of was how much he had heard of Gustav's mercilessness and now he was vividly going through an experience that confirmed them.

"Please, please..." His throat was dry because of the numerous times he had gulped down saliva, but he still managed to utter with a croaked voice.

"Keep quiet. I'm not gonna kill you," Gustav commanded while placing his hand on Officer Gohan's head.

Gohan muffled his heavy breathing in fear of pissing Gustav off.

[Mental Manipulation Has Been Activated]

"I'll just modify your memories...you're gonna forget that any of this happened," Gustav stated with a tone of certainty.

Almost immediately, Gohan's eyes suddenly turned listless.

....

....

....

"We're back," Ria voiced loudly as he arrived in E.E.'s apartment alongside Aildris.

"Welcome," E.E raised a cup of tea to them.

"Hehe. We did it," Ria yelled excitedly.

"Where is Gustav?" Aildris inquired after noticing that only E.E and Sersi were in.

"He's out tampering with some records. He'll be back after getting rid of traces of the incident that occurred here today," E.E answered with a slightly exhausted tone.

"Eh? Incident?"

"What happened?"

Ria and Aildris questioned simultaneously.

"Well... we got ambushed... kinda. That place you're stepping on right now is where an MBO general died," E.E pointed at Ria's legs.

"What?"

"An MBO General died?"

Both of them were mostly shocked because the apartment looked completely normal. It didn't seem like anything crazy had happened during their time away.

This was because Gustav had gotten rid of all the bloodstains using atomic manipulation. He had returned Gohan to the MBO tower after manipulating his memories and knocking him out.

E.E went on to explain everything that had happened while they were away and how Gustav's timely intervention pretty much saved the day.

"Are you okay, Sersi?" Aildris asked Sersi who was lying on the sofa towards the left.

"I'm good. Father erased that unruly woman from existence," Sersi voiced joyfully.

Aildris nodded in response while Ria made a strange face.

Zhing~

The Sacred Jewel appeared in the middle of the apartment emitting a bright glow.

"Turn it down SJ," E.E complained while shutting his eyes.

A red robe materialized out of nowhere and covered part of SJ's surface. Arms and legs grew out of his sides as well and soon SJ was standing on two feet.

"Thanks," E.E voiced while opening his eyes once more.

SJ proceeded to sit on the other end, waiting for Gustav's return.

"What about Endric?" Aildris questioned once more.

"He should be back in the spacecraft. Gustav sent him there."

....

....

Within a marvelously designed and computerized location, one could see a harmonious blend of functionality and aesthetics tailored for the unforgiving void of space.

Directly ahead where the command center lay was a semi-circular array of control panels and holographic displays stationed before ergonomically designed seats.

Two of the seats were occupied by a male and a female figure.

"You really can't be here," Endric said to the pretty girl on his left with white short hair.

"She is my best friend, remember? There is no way I'm missing out," Matilda responded with a stubborn expression.

"He won't let you," Endric shook his head.

"Gustav can suck on my toes for all I care. I am coming!" She voiced, undaunted.

"I won't suck on your toes but you are not coming,"

A familiar male voice rang out from behind.

"Big brother..."

"Gustav!"

They both turned around at the same time in shock.

"When did you...?" Matilda was more astonished than Endric since she had no idea of Gustav's current strength.

"It doesn't matter," Gustav cut her off while approaching.

"Hello to you too, hmph!" Matilda voiced begrudgingly.

It had been months since they had last set eyes on each other and yet Gustav couldn't even say hello to her.

"When did you return to earth? Shouldn't you still be there?" Gustav pointed up.

"Someone who was supposed to inform me about any matters relating to Angy chose to keep it to himself and wanted to go on a journey of recovery himself...

Thankfully, I put a bug on him the last time I saw him so of course I became aware of the happenings," Matilda crossed her arms while shooting a glare at Gustav.

Gustav rolled his eyes, "I should have known."

"Listen, Matilda, this isn't a joke. You cannot come," He added while gently shoving her towards the side.

"Hey Matilda,"

Aildris and Ria voiced while stepping into the spacecraft.

"But they can?" Matilda felt betrayed.

"They're stronger than you," Gustav tilted his head slightly.

Ria and Aildris had passed the test he set for them so he could no longer deny them access to join his endeavor.

"That is unfair. You and I worked side by side to restore planet Abruikis. If anything, I am more qualified than them," Matilda stomped furiously like a high school girl throwing tantrums.

"Ouch," Aildris muttered.

"I'm sorry Aildris, I was just trying to get him to see the point," She turned around while opening her arms to embrace him.

Aildris hugged her back, "It's been a while," He displayed a warm smile.

"Yes, it's been. How have you guys been..."

"We don't have time for this," Gustav interrupted before pleasantries could be properly exchanged.

"I'm leaving now before another crazed MBO officer comes in search of me. I don't want to leave a pile of bodies behind," Gustav proceeded to take a seat right before the main control panel.

The spacecraft engine came alive after Gustav pushed some buttons. It then quaked a little in anticipation of Gustav's directives.

Aldris and Ria swiftly moved towards the sides to also take their seats. They strapped themselves in and Matilda did the same.

"I thought you said she wasn't coming with us, " Endric said to Gustav.

"She isn't," Gustav responded while tapping the bracelet attached to his left wrist.

< Spatial Point Selected >

< Dimensional Travel In... >

< 3... >

Gustav stood to his feet once more and reappeared before Matilda.

"What are you doing?" Matilda questioned with a look of suspicion as Gustav reached out to grab her shoulder.

"This is for your good," Gustav stated in response.

< 1... >

Before Matilda could react, a burst of blueish light engulfed her figure and she vanished.

"Sheesh. That's harsh," Ria whistled from the side.

"Like I said, for her good," Gustav returned to his initial sitting position and pushed a throttle.

Zzzhiinnnn~

The world before them turned blurry as white lines appeared all around because of the speed of the spacecraft. Within a second, they had left Earth and arrived in outer space.

"Second time leaving the planet... I hope it doesn't turn out as bad as the first," Aildris muttered with a reminiscent tone.

"We're stronger now compared to back then," Ria folded his arms while voicing.

"Don't be overconfident... you have no idea what lies ahead," Gustav stated while peering at the view of the orbital bodies that lay before him.

The expanse of outer space spread vividly, charging their bodies with tension as a sense of foreboding overcame them.

Chapter 1430 He Is Still Guilty

- Two Days Later

Fwwwhiissshhh~

A Pentagon-shaped spacecraft with the Tarks' emblem drifted across space with incredible speed.

The twinkling, icy glows in the distance, gave that part of space a surreal beauty. It was the only source of illumination around there as dark matter spread as far as the eyes could see.

A few space rocks were scattered about the place but the spacecraft streaked forward undisturbed.

The spacecraft cut a blazing white line through the space in front of it, obliterating the rocks in its path.

Within the spacecraft, the passengers remained strapped to their seats as they vibrated constantly, emitting a blinking yellow light in the control room.

"Okay, so where exactly are we going now?" Ria realized he had never asked until that moment.

"Well, did we tell you about the time we visited Xelios Tower?" Endric questioned from the side.

"You two visited Xelios Tower?" Aildris was in disbelief while Ria was completely clueless.

"That's how we got information about how to get to the other side," Endric answered while trying to sound spooky.

"I thought that place was just a legend... to think it truly exists," Aildris replied deep in thought.

"What is this Xelios Tower?" Ria questioned.

"It's a place that can get you the answers to any question... but usually the price is hefty. Most times, impossible to pay," Endric explained with a solemn tone.

"Isn't it just cash?" Ria voiced with a clueless look.

"No," Aildris and Endric stated at the same time.

"Chill," Ria moved his neck backward in startlement.

Aildris turned to face Endric once more, "So they told you how to get Falco and Angy back?"

"They told us where to head and what to do after we got there to gain access to bring them back. That is where we are headed now," Endric answered once more.

"Does that mean we will finally get to pay back those monsters for ruining IYSOP and destroying Planet Ozious?" Ria questioned with anticipation.

"No," Endric shook his head.

"Why? This is our chance for a payday," Ria voiced with confusion etched on his face.

"You don't know, do you?" Endric turned his seat around to face them.

"Know what?"

"The reason Gustav doesn't want any of you two there is that, the other side is a lot different from our plane. This means that the strength of creatures from there wouldn't be dampened. They will be able to use their full power," Endric explained in a grave tone.

Ria's eyes widened in realization, "That wasn't their full power?"

"Not even close," Endric answered.

Ria recalled the Death Angels corroding everything in existence with just their presence, being unkillable and incredibly powerful. There was an explosion at the back of his mind when he realized that they would be way more powerful on that plane.

"Not to mention that our strengths would have been dampened..." Endric's revelation caused Ria to gulp saliva.

"Thankfully, Big Brother knows how to counter that," He added.

"So we're not going there to fight..."

"Not at all. We're only going to get our friends back. If we have any luck, we won't need to face any creature from there," Endric pointed out.

"How are we gonna do that?" Ria didn't see how it was possible to not encounter any being from there.

"Because the access point will be taking us directly to the people we're searching for. It's possible we could encounter beings from that plane, but if we act quickly, it's also possible that we won't..."

...

...

...

Within the vicissitudes of space, a platform shaped like a syringe, floated in place giving off an imposing aura.

From afar, it seemed very tiny, almost like it could be overlooked and missed. However, the moment one drew closer, the size underwent an unbelievable change, becoming incredibly massive and eye-catching.

Lines of white light surrounded it on all corners as it radiated in such an indescribable manner.

Spacecrafts flew into the perimeter and vanished as soon as they got bathed in the white lines of light it emitted.

Within the heart of this structure, was a sort of assembly point.

The interior looked so masterfully erected that one would think they had entered a higher dimension. The surroundings were bathed in inklings of starlights and the assembly point was structured in a circular format with smooth surfaces forming a spiral.

They were like stacks upon one another and they got smaller the higher one went.

In the middle of each circular stack, stations that looked like pulpits protruded from the bottom all the way to the top.

Thousands of those pulpits also represented thousands of extraterrestrial species who stood before them to represent their various planets.

Planet Phixiq, Planet Diaporonian, Planet Draconet, Planet Ozious, Planet Hixto, Planet Diov, Planet Tronvida, Planet Oxlrk, Planet Tribetes, Planet Ghundabault, Planet Xillion, Planet Klaxosape, Planet Torin, Planet Cirus, Planet Osiris, Planet Orion, Planet Ustanbid, Planet VA, Planet Roidinstack, Planet V#B, Planet Qivendale, Planet T429 and so many other that participated in IYSOP were all represented there by various extraterrestrial parties.

Every being there oozed indescribable power that was beyond the comprehension of ordinary folks. At the top of the circular structured stacks, nine out of ten pulpits were occupied, leaving the last one empty.

The beings at the top got to look down on the others that were spread across the ethereal-looking vicinity.

"We don't want him killed. The bounty on him should remain the same as before. Wanted alive," General Chell addressed the alliance from the top of the stack.

A few murmurs could be heard from the surroundings but they couldn't refute. It was Earth's decision and they had all decided to honor it.

They continued with the meeting after a few moments...

~"Ekurla are qun coq viws it..."~

One of the beings at the very top of the circular stacks spoke in a language that no human would be able to understand.

Fortunately, every being present within this structure had their translation devices equipped. So, despite the differences in languages between extraterrestrial species, they could hear one another.

"The universal fugitive was last spotted in the Xelios Tower. He was lost before the alliance could get to him," The extraterrestrial being who was among the council of the alliance leader, voiced loudly.

"We need as much information as we can get to understand his motives and movement to capture him. Our forces are spread too thin... you lots have to volunteer warriors from your planets to join the alliance corps," The extraterrestrial being who represented Planet Draconet chimed loudly.

A glowing light appeared above that read 'OZIOUS'. Everyone peered in the direction of the Planet Ozious representative who happened to be Vilax's father.

It was quite the fall from grace for them because usually, they'd be at the highest circular stack with the others.

"Planet Ozious?" One of the alliance leaders voiced.

The pulpit before Handler Three emitted a white glow which gave him the go-ahead to speak.

"The information on the universal fugitive is not up to date," He announced with a tone of certainty.

"What do you mean, not up to date?" General Chell questioned with a look of concern.

The other alliance leaders were just as curious after hearing that.

"The last time Gustav Crimson was spotted... not spotted..." Handler Three paused for a bit.

"Gustav Crimson didn't leave the Xelios Tower alone. He left with a group... a group that included my son..."

~Mummurs~ Mummurs~

Handler Three went on to narrate the turn of events dating back from when the Oxis group went with Gustav in search of Siefling to when they found him and all they had to do to save their lost people. He didn't leave out the part about Gustav being the major key to victory and how they saved many other species with his help.

A lot of the planetary representatives, especially the alliance leaders were getting restless as they listened to his narration. This was mostly because Gustav had just accomplished something that had taken them centuries of failures.

Siefling who was practically impossible to locate, was found and dealt with by a child who was only a bit older than twenty years of age.

Not only that, he had saved the lives of many others in the process, making the whole saga about him being a planet destroyer seem ridiculous.

He was supposed to be evil but Handler Three's exposition was putting a dent in his evil reputation and it didn't help their objective to have him captured.

"Seifiling is dead?" Another alliance leader blurted out in disbelief.

"Yes. He is gone forever and we have Gustav Crimson to thank for that. He saved the lives of billions... Not to mention recovering my people," Handler Three answered.

"But he is responsible for the destruction of your planet in the first place... This must be his way of trying to make up for it. He is still guilty," Another alliance leader voiced.

"What if he isn't?" Handler Three didn't know when he blurted it out.