

Bloodline 1621

Chapter 1621 Fate? What's That?

The clash between Angy's blade and Gustav's barrier created a shockwave that rippled through the surrounding area, sending Jack flying since he was currently unable to defend himself.

Gustav could feel the strain of maintaining the barrier against Angy's relentless power.

'Could it be...' Gustav mind raced with theories.

'Angy's existence has been altered and... Yarki is only effective against beings from this plane?' Gustav felt a strong urge to completely incinerate Falco's father at this moment.

His chest glowed up at this moment as a golden beam gathered and shot at Angy.

Thooommm~

It burst forth with unfathomable power, ramming straight into Angy and sending her hurling across the air.

"If I have to beat sense into you to bring back Angy, I will!" Gustav stated while springing forward with extreme speed.

He caught Angy's horn in mid air and spun her around before flinging her in a particular direction.

Angy flipped continuously across the air and slammed into a mountain, causing it to blast apart while her figure kept trailing forward without slowing.

Gustav's figure turned into a streak that followed her closely while arching his arm backwards to deliver another powerful strike.

Gustav's muscles rippled with newfound strength as he battled Angy across the world.

Every punch he landed sent shockwaves through the ground, causing tremors that echoed for miles.

Angy fought back with equal ferocity. Her half-black and half-white form was a blur of motion as she countered his attacks with her dark blade.

"You need to snap out of it, Angy!" Gustav roared, ramming her into a mountain. The peak crumbled under the force of their collision, sending rocks and debris cascading down the slopes.

Angy writhed and twisted, her eyes burning with a crazed intensity. Her half-black and half-white form radiated an eerie power, and her inverted horn gleamed ominously.

She lashed out with her dark blade, aiming to slice through Gustav's defenses. He caught her wrist mid-swing, twisting it with a force that made her drop the weapon.

"I will show you what it means to be a Cosmic Superior being!" Gustav declared while thrusting two fingers toward Angy's chest.

His fingers crackled with energy as a reddish and golden cross formed at their tips.

The cross phased through Angy's body, expanding rapidly. Angy's eyes widened in shock as the cross pulled her entire being towards it, binding her in place.

"Cosmic Separation!" Gustav's voice echoed with a powerful resonance.

Angy screamed in agony as the cross began to split her apart. One half of her was pure white, the other pitch black. Her body convulsed violently, the process tearing her in two. The splitting caused her to cry out, her voice filled with pain and confusion.

"Auuugghhhhhh!" Angy's voice, a blend of desperation and torment, reverberated in the air.

But Gustav was relentless. He pushed harder, focusing all his willpower on completing the separation. Beads of sweat formed on his brow as he poured more energy into the cross, determined to free her from the corruption that had taken hold.

Angy's body continued to split, the division nearly complete. Her screams intensified, echoing across the desolate landscape.

Just as Gustav was about to succeed, another horn burst from the other side of Angy's skull. Her power surged, and with a primal scream, she broke free from the cosmic bind.

Her eyes flared with an even greater intensity, and her form glowed with an unearthly light. She lunged at Gustav with newfound strength, her strikes faster and more powerful than before.

Gustav tried to counter, but she was too quick. Her blade slashed through his defenses, sending him flying through the air as a giant gash appeared on his belly.

'Fuck, if I hadn't been any slower, I would have been split in two,' Gustav eyes narrowed in disbelief.

"You can't keep this up forever," Gustav said through gritted teeth, wiping blood from his mouth. "I won't let you."

His belly merged together as he charged at her with blinding speed while his fists glowed with cosmic energy.

Angy met his assault head-on, their clash sending sparks flying in all directions. The ground beneath them cracked and splintered, unable to withstand the force of their battle.

Angy unleashed a barrage of strikes, each one faster and more precise than the last. Gustav deflected most of them, but a few landed, leaving deep cuts on his skin. He retaliated with a powerful uppercut, sending her skyward. He leaped after her, meeting her mid-air with a series of crushing blows.

Gustav attacks didn't necessarily do much damage but each of Angy's attacks were completely devastating.

Their forms barely visible as they moved at incredible speeds. The ground beneath them was torn asunder, the air crackling with energy.

"Remember who you are, Angy!" Gustav voiced with a strong tone. "Remember us! Remember everything we fought for!"

For a brief moment, Angy's eyes softened, the darkness within her receding.

But then, her resolve hardened, and she attacked with even more ferocity. She landed a powerful kick to Gustav's chest, sending him crashing through several buildings. He emerged from the rubble, bloodied but undeterred.

He charged at her with renewed determination while Angy met his assault head-on.

"Angy, stop this madness!" Gustav yelled, his voice echoing through the ruins.

However, Angy didn't spare him a in the slightest as they collided once more.

Their clash shook the earth, their blows causing shockwaves that leveled structures and uprooted trees. Angy's blade met Gustav's fists in a flurry of sparks and energy. Despite the pain, Gustav's determination burned brighter than ever.

"You are stronger than this," he said, blocking a strike that would have cleaved him in two. "I know you're still in there!"

With a burst of energy, Gustav activated his Cosmic Separation hoping to subdue her. The glowing cross in his eyes intensified, casting a radiant light that bathed the battlefield. Angy faltered for a moment, but her new horn seemed to shield her from the full effect.

"Die!"

She growled as her blade cut through the air with deadly precision.

Gustav managed to evade at the last second but the dark residual energy sent him flying.

Gustav gritted his teeth, trying to keep up with Angy's relentless assault. His muscles ached from the constant exertion, and every blow he landed felt like it took more out of him than it did her.

She was a whirlwind of destruction, her inverted horn gleaming with malevolent energy as she attacked with relentless ferocity.

Angy's expression remained blank, her eyes devoid of recognition as she pressed the attack. If it wasn't for regeneration, Gustav would have long been a goner.

Meanwhile, Jack was struggling against the overwhelming power of Gustav's Cosmic Superiority.

The oppressive energy had since brought him to his knees despite bearing the title of world strongest, but he wasn't one to be defeated easily.

Channeling his bloodline abilities, Jack formed a space construct around himself, causing his being to vibrate at a different frequency from the current plane.

The world around him shimmered as he phased partially out of existence. In this state, Jack was both on Earth and not, allowing him to bypass the effects of Gustav's Cosmic Superiority. Once free, he prepared to launch an attack.

Gustav, caught up in his battle with Angy, sensed the shift in energy but couldn't fully grasp what was happening.

His eyes widened as Angy suddenly vanished from his sight.

"Where did she go?" Gustav muttered, his eyes scanning the area frantically.

Before he could react, Angy reappeared behind Jack with a speed that even Gustav's eyes struggled to follow. The dark energy she emitted turned the sky to night, her blade materializing in her grasp once more.

"No!" Gustav shouted as his frame shot through the darkened landscape but his speed seemed to have reduced drastically.

In a blur of motion, Angy sliced diagonally with her blade while Jack rushed backwards with light speed.

The air was filled with the sickening sound of flesh and bone being severed.

Jack's eyes widened in shock as his body divided into two halves that fell to the ground, blood jetting out like a crimson fountain.

"I evaded... How did she..." these were Jack's last words as he stared at the other half of himself getting swallowed up by darkness.

"Angy, stop!" Gustav cried while rushing towards her, but he was too late.

The deed was done. Jack, the strongest Mixedblood, lay in disintegrating pieces on the ground.

"What did you just do?!" Gustav lost all composure as he screamed out but a fuse was instantly lit in his mind.

His heart pounded in his chest as he recalled the vision of the future. It was happening right before his eyes.

'Does this mean...?' Gustav immediately leapt backwards, distancing himself from Angy.

'I need to go,' He tried tapping on his dimensional bracelet but Angy suddenly appeared before him with her blade thrusting forward.

("Watch Out!") The system screamed in his head as the blade rippled through the air, aiming at his chest.

Chapter 1622 Ultimate Reverse

The Xyfect remained silent for a moment, their gazes piercing. Finally, one of them spoke, its voice like a cold wind. "So be it. But do not mistake our restraint for weakness. You have been warned."

"Yeah, we're not stopping. We're saving the universe regardless," Ria stated.

One of the beings, its voice deep and resonant, stepped forward. Its shape constantly morphed, shifting between humanoid, beastly, and forms beyond comprehension. "We cloned the teal-green planet for a reason. The sword is not meant to be found. It must remain where it is, forever beyond reach."

Endric's voice was steady, though his resolve burned with intensity. "You can make all the copies you want. It doesn't matter. We'll find it and bring it back."

Another of the beings, its face featureless except for two glowing eyes, tilted its head. "Are you challenging us, child? Do you truly understand the depth of your arrogance?"

Endric clenched his fists and his forehead glowing faintly as Husarius witnessed the scene as well. "I understand that my brother—" he paused with unyielding conviction, "will save this universe. And if you think we'll back down, you're sorely mistaken. In fact, you will tell us the real location of the sword or we're not leaving."

Ria smirked. "Well, it's been a while since we've had a real challenge. Why not? Let's get our butts kicked gloriously."

Sersi stepped forward, her voice cold yet determined. "You think you can scare us? You're mistaken. We've fought beings stronger than us before. We're not running."

The first cosmic superior being sighed, almost as if this was a chore. "So be it. We will teach you the folly of your defiance. You will leave here broken, or you will leave here dead."

Time seemed to slow as the three of them lunged forward, their combined energy lighting up the void like a supernova. Endric led the charge, his time candidate powers creating echoes of himself, each one attacking from a slightly different point in time.

"Husarius, give me everything," Endric muttered as he unleashed a telekinetic wave that cracked the void itself.

Ria followed close behind, his body glowing as he transformed the barren ground beneath them into jagged spikes that rose like a tidal wave, attempting to ensnare the cosmic superior being.

Sersi, staying at a distance, unleashed a barrage of freezing shards from her fingertips, each one carrying the intensity of an arctic storm.

The cosmic superior being moved without effort, waving a hand as the attacks dissolved into harmless sparks. "Child's play."

Reality twisted. The ground turned to flowing liquid beneath their feet, forcing them to leap and dodge as the terrain shifted unpredictably. The cosmic superior being flicked its hand, and their combined attacks morphed into harmless bubbles, floating away and popping in the air.

"Are you even trying?" it asked mockingly with its voice reverberating through their minds.

The air shimmered as the cosmic superior being created a domain. Endric, Ria, and Sersi were suddenly suspended mid-air as the laws of gravity reversed.

Then, just as quickly, they were slammed back to the ground with an earth-shaking impact.

"We can't let it control the field!" Endric shouted while activating his time candidate ability. A glowing green rune appeared on his forehead, and the domain began to slow, its effects partially countered as he manipulated the flow of time.

"I've got your back, Endric!" Ria called out, transforming the falling debris into floating platforms for them to stand on.

Sersi unleashed another frost attack, her shards forming jagged walls of ice that she hurled at their opponent. The cosmic superior being casually shattered the ice with a flick of its wrist, sending the shards flying back at them.

Endric blinked forward, appearing behind the cosmic superior being and striking with a concentrated burst of telekinetic energy. For the first time, the being staggered slightly.

"Gotcha, didn't I?" Endric smirked.

The being turned to him as its glowing eyes narrowed. "Amusing. But futile." It waved its hand, and Endric's telekinetic wave turned into a flock of birds, scattering into the void.

"What the hell?" Endric muttered as he dodged a retaliatory strike. The air around him warped as if it were liquid.

Ria lunged forward with his hands glowing as he transformed the birds into sharp spears of stone, hurtling them toward the being.

The cosmic superior being stopped them mid-air with a glance and sent them back with triple the speed. Ria barely managed to deflect them with a shield of compressed earth.

"We're out of our league here, Endric!" Ria shouted as sweat dripped from his brow.

"Not giving up!" Endric replied while narrowing his eyes.

Sersi joined in, her frost abilities creating a massive glacier that she slammed down toward the being. The cosmic superior being raised a hand, and the glacier shattered into harmless snowflakes.

"Impressive teamwork. But not enough."

Bruised and battered, Endric stood alone as Sersi and Ria were thrown back by a shockwave.

His green rune glowed brighter as he summoned the last of his strength. "If you think I'll stop now, you don't know me. I'm not fighting for myself. I'm fighting for my brother and for this universe."

The being tilted its head. "Your conviction is admirable. But conviction alone cannot defeat me. In the face of true power... conviction is utterly useless."

Endric charged as his telekinetic power surged with newfound intensity. He created a vortex of compressed energy around the being, forcing it to exert more effort than before.

For a moment, it looked as though Endric might have gained the upper hand... as though the being was getting crushed by telekinesis compression on all sides...

But the cosmic superior being simply smirked, and with a single motion, it unraveled the vortex and sent Endric hurtling to the ground.

All three of them lay on the ground, breathing heavily and unable to move. The cosmic superior being floated above them, unscathed and unimpressed.

"You've proven your determination. But that is all. Leave now, while you still have your lives."

Endric suddenly began to laugh causing the being to look unnerved.

"Is this what you call resilience? Laughter in the face of annihilation? Have you finally lost your mind, child? What a pity." The being's voice was calm, mocking, but laced with curiosity.

To its surprise, Endric laughed even harder, letting out deep sounds that echoed across the crystalline expanse. Despite the bruises on his face and the exhaustion in his limbs, he laughed harder and harder.

"What are you laughing at? Your defeat? Your imminent death? Speak, child!" The cosmic being's tone shifted to irritation.

Endric grinned through bloodied lips. "No, no, no... not that. I'm laughing because... because... I've got you exactly where I want you."

The cosmic superior being's glowing eyes narrowed. "You dare mock me? Foolishness. No matter. I will end this charade now—"

Before it could finish, a sudden ripple in the air behind it caused it to pause.

A figure materialized out of thin air, a faint distortion pulling it into existence like a mirage. It was an identical copy of Endric, a time clone.

And it stood behind the being, completely unnoticed until now.

He placed his hand on the cosmic superior being shoulder from behind, causing it to flinch a little. Never had it for a thousand years been snuck up on like this successfully.

The cosmic superior being turned slightly as its light flickered in confusion. "What is this trickery? Impossible! How—?"

"Oh, meet my friend. He's been hanging around, just outside of your grasp. You couldn't sense him because—well, let's just say you're not as infallible as you think." Endric's grin widened.

The cosmic superior being's light dimmed slightly as its confusion deepened. "Even if I didn't sense it, I would've known. You couldn't possibly—"

"Husarius, care to explain?" Endric interjected as his voice dripped with confidence.

A deep, resonant voice echoed from within him, emanating from the glowing green rune on his forehead. "I masked the clone's presence. Even for one as 'superior' as you, certain subtleties can go unnoticed when time itself bends to my will."

The cosmic superior being recoiled slightly. "You dare? You—"

Before it could act, the crystalline realm seemed to tremble as a powerful, time-altering energy rippled through the air through the clone's hand placed on its shoulder.

"Ultimate reverse," the clone said softly.

The cosmic superior being's form instantly began to distort. Its shimmering light flickered violently, and an overwhelming sense of panic emanated from it. "What... what are you doing?! Stop this at once! I command you!"

Endric pushed himself to his feet, wiping the blood from his mouth. "Oh, I would if I could. But you see, this little trick of mine? It's already in motion. You've been giving me all the time I needed to make it work. Every clash, every attack—it was all to meet the requirements."

The cosmic superior being's light grew dimmer as it began to shrink. Its body contorted as its form reverted. Glowing runes that once adorned its figure disappeared. Its once-invincible presence began to falter.

"This is impossible! I am beyond time! Beyond your mortal grasp!" it roared, but the roar turned to desperation as its voice began to weaken.

"Yeah, yeah, you're superior. We get it. But here's the thing—when time is your weapon, nothing is truly beyond reach." Endric's voice was steady now, filled with cold satisfaction.

Chapter 1623 A Fiery Galaxy

"Yeah, yeah, you're superior. We get it. But here's the thing—when time is your weapon, nothing is truly beyond reach." Endric's voice was steady now, filled with cold satisfaction.

The being's glowing form dissolved into a smaller, humanoid shape. The shimmering light vanished completely, leaving behind an alien figure with pale, translucent skin and wide, fearful eyes. It looked up at Endric, trembling.

"No! Please! You've reduced me to my former self! I—"

"Exactly," Endric interrupted. "You're not a cosmic superior being anymore. You're just... whatever you were before. Not so untouchable now, are you?"

The other two cosmic superior beings watched in stunned silence. For the first time, their confident auras wavered. One of them eyes narrowed dangerously as it spoke with a tone of anger and anguish. "You dare? Do you understand what you've done? You've defiled one of us! You will pay for this!"

The crystalline realm began to shimmer as the two remaining beings prepared to unleash their power.

Reality itself began to warp as their presence caused the ground to crack and the air to pulse with energy.

Endric raised a hand as he spoke with a calm voice laced with authority. "Try it, and I'll make sure you meet the same fate as your friend here. I'm sure you'd love to go back to being powerless mortals."

The two beings hesitated. Though their power far surpassed Endric's group, the display of the Ultimate Reverse had shaken them.

They glanced at each other hesitantly.

Endric continued with a cold tone. "I'm taking the sword. You've lost. Deal with it."

The cosmic superior beings didn't move, but their glowing forms dimmed slightly, a sign of reluctant acceptance.

Endric, Sersi, and Ria slowly began to retreat, keeping their eyes on the beings. The pale, trembling figure of the reverted cosmic superior being collapsed to the ground, clutching its head in disbelief.

"You will regret this, mortals," one of the remaining beings hissed as its voice trembled with suppressed rage.

Endric smirked. "Maybe. But not today."

The group reached the edge of the crystalline realm and the shimmering walls of the dimension began to ripple as they prepared to exit.

Endric's time clone merged back with him and the memories of everything flooded his mind.

As the portal to leave opened, Ria muttered, "That was way too close. I don't ever want to fight one of those again."

Sersi, though limping slightly, gave a weak smile. "Speak for yourself. I kind of enjoyed it."

Endric glanced back at the beings one last time as his green rune glowing faintly. "This isn't over. But for now, you stay out of our way, and we'll stay out of yours."

With that, the group vanished through the portal, leaving the crystalline realm behind. The remaining cosmic superior beings stood in silence as their forms flickered with rage and uncertainty.

As they reappeared in the vast emptiness of space, Sersi sighed heavily. "That was... insane. Unc, I don't know whether to thank you or yell at you for getting us into that mess."

Ria chuckled. "Let's go with both. Definitely both."

Endric leaned against the wall of their spacecraft as it materialized around them.

He closed his eyes briefly and sighed in exhaustion. "We've got what we need. The sword's location. Now we just have to get there before anything else happens."

He had bluffed to get them out of there unscathed but they needed to leave before the cosmic superior beings realized that he was completely spent and couldn't pull another Ultimate Reverse.

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The galaxy Gustav had entered was unlike any he had traversed before. Planets resembling molten orbs of fire orbited chaotically around a massive, sun-like star that emitted waves of intense heat.

The fiery light bathed everything in hues of orange, red, and gold, casting a perpetual glow across the region. Gustav's spacecraft began to groan as it adjusted its shields to withstand the intense radiation.

"Second to last vestige... one step closer," Gustav muttered as he analyzed the readings from his system. The vestige's presence was clear—it was within one of the molten planets directly ahead. He furrowed his brow as he eyed the fiery orb. 'In it? Of course. Nothing's ever straightforward.'

As Gustav descended onto the planet's surface, the temperature outside was unlike anything most life forms could endure.

Lava rivers snaked across the terrain, and geysers of molten rock erupted sporadically, sending embers into the thick, ash-filled atmosphere.

The ground trembled under his feet, radiating waves of unbearable heat. Gustav barely flinched as his body adjusted automatically to the conditions. His enhanced physiology rendered the deadly environment harmless.

"System, confirm the vestige's exact location," Gustav commanded with a calm look despite the infernal chaos surrounding him.

[Vestige located approximately 60,000 feet beneath the surface. Warning: Hostile entities detected. Proceed with caution.]

"Hostile, huh? Nothing new. Let's see what they've got."

Gustav began moving forward as the molten ground solidified beneath his steps while his cosmic energy radiated outward, cooling the immediate area around him.

However, as he approached the coordinates, a thunderous roar echoed across the fiery plains. From the shadows of towering magma-encrusted rocks figures began to emerge.

The beings that surrounded him were towering creatures. Their skin appeared like molten rock, veins of glowing lava coursing beneath the surface.

Their eyes burned like embers, and their voices were guttural and deep, resonating like the rumble of an earthquake. They carried massive weapons forged from the planet's magma, and their movements were deliberate and menacing.

"Human? No... outsider! Intruder!" one of them growled, stepping forward. Its molten blade rested on its shoulder, dripping fiery liquid.

"I don't want to fight. I just need something that's buried here." Gustav's voice was calm but firm. He stopped walking and crossed his arms as he scanned the growing circle of enemies.

The largest of the beings stepped forward with its molten chest glowing brighter as it emitted waves of heat. "Your kind is not welcome here, humanoid. Leave now, or be reduced to ash."

Gustav sighed while tilting his head. "Listen, I'm in no mood to deal with this. I need what's buried beneath your feet, and I'll take it one way or another. Trust me, you don't want the other way."

The creatures exchanged glances as their glowing eyes narrowed. "We do not care for your words. Your presence alone is an affront to our sacred grounds. Prepare yourself, outsider!"

Without further warning, the largest being lunged at Gustav, swinging its molten blade with enough force to cleave through the toughest of steels.

The air hissed as the blade descended, but Gustav didn't move. At the last moment, he raised a single hand and caught the blade effortlessly. His fingers clamped around the molten weapon as if it were made of paper.

"I warned you," Gustav voiced with a low and dangerous tone.

The creature roared in frustration, attempting to yank the weapon back, but Gustav's grip was unyielding. With a casual flick of his wrist, he shattered the weapon into molten shards, sending the giant creature stumbling backward.

The rest of the creatures roared in unison and charged. Their massive forms shook the ground with each step. Gustav remained still, watching their approach with an almost bored expression.

"Alright, guess we're doing this the hard way," he muttered.

As the first wave of creatures reached him, Gustav's body emitted a faint glow. With a single sweep of his hand, a powerful shockwave of energy erupted outward, knocking the attackers off their feet and sending them tumbling across the molten ground.

Some crashed into rocky formations, causing magma to spill out, while others were hurled into the rivers of lava.

"This is pointless," Gustav called out as he watched the creatures struggle to rise. "None of you can hurt me. And I'm definitely not leaving until I get what I came for. So why waste your lives?"

One of the fallen beings growled as its molten face twisted in defiance. "You will not defile our sacred grounds! Even if it costs us everything!"

The creatures regrouped, summoning pillars of fire and molten projectiles from the ground. They hurled them toward Gustav with unrelenting ferocity.

The air was soon filled with the sound of crackling fire and roaring magma. Gustav stood his ground, raising his hand as the projectiles came within inches of him.

"Enough," he said.

With a single clap of his hands, a shockwave of energy exploded outward. The fiery projectiles disintegrated mid-air as the ground beneath him solidified, and the creatures were thrown back once more.

This time, the force of the shockwave left them dazed and disoriented.

Gustav stepped forward, radiating with an aura of unparalleled power as the ground trembled beneath his feet.

The creatures, now battered and clearly outmatched, began to falter. The largest among them, the one who had first attacked, staggered to its feet and raised its glowing hand in a gesture of surrender.

"You... you are not of this world," its voice trembled with a mix of awe and fear. "What are you?"

"I'm someone you don't want as an enemy," Gustav glowing eyes locked onto the creature as he replied.

Chapter 1624: Merged With The Core

"Now, will you let me take what I came for, or do I have to keep proving my point?"

The creature hesitated, glancing at its fallen comrades before bowing its head. "The sacred ground belongs to the flames, but... we cannot stop you. Do what you must, outsider. But know that the flames will remember."

"That's more like it," Gustav's tone softened slightly. "I'll be out of your hair soon enough. Just stay out of my way."

With the creatures retreating, Gustav approached the coordinates provided by the system. The vestige was buried deep beneath the planet's molten surface, but this posed no challenge for him.

Gustav soon began to descend through the molten crust of the fiery planet. His hands emitted a faint milky-white glow as atomic disintegration allowed him to burrow effortlessly through layers of magma and solidified rock.

The heat around him was intense, but his body, infused with Outworldly power, treated it as nothing more than a mild inconvenience.

Rocks vaporized into glowing particles around him, creating a tunnel that collapsed mere seconds after he passed. The further he went, the more the pressure and heat increased, yet Gustav's expression remained calm.

His glowing eyes scanned for any anomalies.

"Sixty thousand feet beneath the surface, and the vestige is embedded within the core? Of course it is," he muttered to himself. "Why make it easy?"

After several minutes of descent, the pressure around him abruptly shifted. Gustav emerged into a vast, glowing chamber surrounded by pulsating magma streams. The chamber itself was spherical, with veins of molten rock coursing through the walls like fiery rivers, casting a hellish orange glow across the surroundings.

At the very center of the chamber was the planet's core, a massive orb of molten energy swirling and pulsating with fiery intensity. Embedded within the core was the vestige, radiating a faint, crystalline light that seemed out of place against the chaotic background of the planet's heart.

"There you are," Gustav voiced with a low tone.

He moved closer as the vibrations of the core intensified with every step. The heat here was unmatched, even by the standards of the molten surface. Each pulse of the core sent ripples of energy through the chamber, causing the walls to tremble slightly. Gustav could feel the raw, unbridled power emanating from the core, and yet, his focus remained entirely on the vestige.

As Gustav extended his hand toward the vestige, the system's voice echoed in his mind.

[Warning: The vestige is fully integrated with the planet's core. Forceful retrieval will result in the destabilization and subsequent destruction of the planet.]

'This upgrade really isn't so bad... it says things before I have to figure them out.'

Gustav pulled his hand back slightly while frowning. "Integrated with the core? Of course..."

He studied the vestige, watching as its crystalline structure pulsed in harmony with the core's energy. It was clear that the two were linked.

Their energies intertwined in such a way that separating them would be catastrophic.

"Great. Just great," Gustav muttered while pacing slightly. "So, if I take what's mine, this entire planet goes up in flames. Not ideal."

He glanced upward, thinking about the beings on the surface. While they had attacked him earlier, he understood their actions were driven by fear and territorial instincts.

They weren't inherently evil, and he had no desire to sentence an entire species to extinction.

"There has to be another way," he voiced aloud. "System, give me options."

[Analyzing...]

The system remained silent for a few moments as its internal mechanisms calculated and assessed the situation.

Meanwhile, Gustav continued to examine the core, walking around it as he thought through potential solutions.

The chamber's heat seemed to intensify, the pulsating energy of the core growing more erratic as if it could sense Gustav's intent. Each pulse sent tremors through the surrounding rock, and Gustav began to feel the precarious balance of the planet's structure.

On the surface, the fiery beings who had confronted Gustav earlier were growing restless. The ground beneath them had begun to quake, subtle at first but now impossible to ignore. Rivers of lava bubbled more violently, and geysers erupted with greater frequency.

"The outsider has reached the heart," one of them said, its voice rumbling like an avalanche.

"He will destroy us all!" another roared as its molten form glowed brighter with agitation.

"Perhaps he won't?": said a third, though its tone betrayed little confidence.

Back in the core's chamber, the system finally broke its silence.

[Solution identified: The vestige's energy can be carefully siphoned from the core without destabilizing the planet. This process will require precision and will take approximately 72 hours to complete. Warning: Core destabilization remains a possibility if the process is interrupted or mishandled.]

Gustav raised an eyebrow. "Three days? That's a lot of time to sit around in a molten death trap. But it beats destroying the planet. Let's do it."

The system began providing instructions, detailing how Gustav would need to carefully manipulate the vestige's energy while maintaining the core's balance. It was a delicate process, one that required intense focus and control.

Gustav positioned himself directly in front of the core as his hands glowed with Outworldly energy. He extended them toward the vestige causing his aura to form a protective barrier around him as the core's energy flared in response.

The crystalline light of the vestige began to shimmer more brightly as its energy reacted to Gustav's presence.

"Alright, easy does it," Gustav muttered with a focused tone.

He began to draw the vestige's energy toward him. Thin tendrils of crystalline light separated from the core and flowed into his hands. The process was slow and deliberate, each strand of energy carefully extracted to avoid destabilizing the core.

The chamber trembled slightly and the core's pulsations became more erratic as the vestige's energy was siphoned away.

Gustav's body glowed with an intense light as he channeled the energy through himself, ensuring it didn't overload the core's structure.

"Just keep it together, big guy," he said, addressing the core as if it were a living being. "We're almost there."

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As the hours passed, the core began to resist. Its fiery energy lashed out in bursts of molten light. These bursts struck Gustav's protective aura, causing it to shimmer and waver under the strain. It was almost like it didn't want to part with Gustav vestige.

"You're not making this easy," Gustav voiced with a strained but resolute tone. "But I'm not leaving without what's mine."

The system's voice chimed in. [Process 50% complete. Core destabilization risk has increased to 20%. Maintain focus.]

Gustav concentration remained unbroken as he continued to draw the vestige's energy. His body glowed brighter with each passing moment. The power of the vestige integrated with his own as the process neared completion.

Meanwhile, the fiery beings on the surface had sensed the growing instability of their planet. Driven by desperation and fear, they descended into the tunnels Gustav had created.

Their molten forms illuminated the dark passageways as they moved toward the core.

"The outsider must be stopped," one of them growled. "If he continues, the heart will shatter, and all will be lost."

When they reached the chamber, they froze at the sight before them. Gustav stood before the core, his body radiating an otherworldly light as tendrils of crystalline energy flowed into him. The core pulsed erratically, its fiery glow flickering as the vestige's energy was siphoned away.

"Leave now, outsider! You are dooming us all!" one of the beings roared.

Without turning, Gustav replied, "I'm saving you. But if you get in my way, that'll change real quick."

The beings hesitated. Their molten forms trembled as they weighed their options. The energy radiating from Gustav was unlike anything they had ever encountered, and they knew they stood no chance against him.

"Trust me," Gustav stated. "I don't want to destroy your planet. But this vestige belongs to me, and I'm taking it. So unless you want to make this worse, stay back. The moment the process is interrupted, you can miss your planet goodbye."

They all lingered backwards, not wanting to push it.

After three grueling days, the process was finally complete. The last of the vestige's energy separated from the core and flowed into Gustav.

The core stabilized as its pulsations returned to their normal rhythm while Gustav stepped back.

[Vestige absorbed. +1% of Outworldly power restored. Outworldly ability unlocked: Elemental Convergence.]

Gustav exhaled deeply before smiling. "Another step closer," he said softly.

He turned to face the fiery beings, who were watching him in fear and awe. "See? Told you I wouldn't destroy your planet. You're welcome."

Without waiting for a response, Gustav ascended back toward the surface, leaving the beings to process what had just occurred.

The beings would later come to discover that they would have eventually met their Waterloo had Gustav not retrieved the vestige. The core would have overloaded with power in the future and their planet would have been destroyed.

...

As Gustav made his way back toward his spacecraft, the fiery creatures watched him from a distance.

Their molten eyes were filled with a mixture of fear and respect. The largest of them stepped forward as Gustav prepared to leave.

"Outsider, you have shown great strength and mercy. The flames will not forget you."

Chapter 1625: Star Bumps

Gustav turned, nodding slightly. "Neither will I... can't even if I wanted to... I remember everything. "

With that, he boarded his spacecraft and ascended into the fiery skies, leaving the molten planet behind. The system's voice echoed in his mind as he set a course for the final vestige.

...

...

Gustav's spacecraft cruised effortlessly through the infinite stretch of space, its design cutting through the void as he moved toward the final vestige.

The power of 7% of his Outworldly strength coursed through his veins making his senses sharper. His abilities neared a level few in the universe could even comprehend.

As he gazed out at the stars, his mind wandered. ****Seven percent****, he thought. Seven percent of his full strength was already enough to manipulate dimensions, obliterate armadas, and sense fluctuations in the cosmos. Yet, he felt the daunting weight of the task ahead. ****Until the final vestige is mine, I am not whole.****

The Activation

A soft hum suddenly filled the spacecraft, breaking his train of thought. Gustav's brow furrowed as the hum grew louder, pulsating with a rhythm that resonated deep within him.

What the—? he muttered, glancing at the console.

It wasn't the ship. The source of the sound came from the crimson cube, the core retrieved from Ehyrian's realm, which now floated in the middle of the chamber. It glowed brighter with each pulse until the entire room was bathed in its light. Gustav stepped closer, his hand instinctively hovering over his weapon.

The cube began to rotate, faster and faster, until it stopped abruptly and projected a beam of light. The light condensed into a humanoid figure with an ethereal presence. Gustav's eyes widened as the figure of **Ehyrian** materialized before him, his regal features composed but tinged with urgency.

Ehyrian... Gustav whispered, recognizing the being immediately from the descriptions given by the monoliths.

Ehyrian's projection raised a hand. "Outworldly, you have done well to retrieve the vestiges so far," his voice was deep and commanding, yet carried a certain weariness, as if the projection itself bore the weight of countless millennia. "But your final task will be the most challenging yet."

The Warning

Gustav crossed his arms, his tone calm but inquisitive. "You said I'd need these vestiges to regain my strength, and I've followed through. What aren't you telling me about the last one?"

Ehyrian's projection flickered slightly, the energy sustaining it seeming strained. "The last vestige is no longer at its intended location. It has been taken by one of the Cosmic Superior beings."

Gustav's expression hardened. "The Xyfect. Let me guess—they took it to keep me from regaining my full power?"

Ehyrian nodded solemnly. "They fear what you represent. They believe that no being in the universe should possess power rivaling the deities of old. They have taken measures to ensure the vestige is kept from you. To retrieve it, you must face them."

"**I've already faced one of their kind, and it nearly cost me everything,**" Gustav admitted, his fists clenching. "How am I supposed to take on another one? And why not just destroy the vestige if they're so afraid of me?"

"Because they know its destruction would unleash chaos upon the universe," Ehyrian explained. "The vestige is not merely a fragment of your power; it is tied to the balance of existence itself. To destroy it would risk undoing the very fabric of reality. But make no mistake—they will not surrender it willingly. They will use it as a weapon against you."

The Task Ahead

Gustav's mind raced as he considered the implications. He had grown immensely powerful with only 7% of his Outworldly strength, yet the thought of facing another Cosmic Superior being filled him with unease. He had witnessed their ability to bend the very laws of reality, and he knew this encounter would push him to his limits.

Which one has it?" Gustav asked, his voice steady despite the storm brewing within him.

Ehyrian's projection flickered again, his features briefly distorted before stabilizing. "The one known as **Avaris** holds the vestige. He resides in the **Crimson Nexus**, a realm that exists beyond conventional space and time. It is a domain shaped entirely by his will, and you will find no natural laws there to aid you."

Great, another eldritch playground." Gustav exhaled sharply, his frustration evident. "Anything else I should know before I head into this death trap?"

Ehyrian's gaze softened slightly. "Trust in your instincts, Gustav. The Outworldly is more than just raw power. You are a force of creation and destruction, a balance between chaos and order. Remember who you are and what you fight for."

The Projection's Farewell

Gustav met Ehyrian's gaze, the weight of the words settling over him. "Why are you helping me? You're gone, yet you still orchestrated all of this. Why put your faith in me?"

Ehyrian's expression grew distant, as if recalling a memory long past. "Because I have seen what lies beyond. I have glimpsed the chaos that will consume the universe if Nocturnis is not stopped. And because... I know you will rise above it."

Before Gustav could press further, the projection began to fade, the crimson cube dimming until it returned to its inert state. Ehyrian's final words echoed softly in the chamber:

"**The universe does not need another deity. It needs you.**"

The silence that followed was deafening. Gustav stood motionless, his gaze fixed on the now-inert cube. A mixture of resolve and trepidation filled him as he turned toward the console.

Preparation for the Battle Ahead

Gustav's voice was calm but carried a sharp edge as he addressed the system. "Pull up everything we have on the Crimson Nexus. I want to know what I'm walking into."

The system's physical form materialized beside him, her red dress billowing slightly as she accessed the information. "The Crimson Nexus... A domain beyond conventional space. Only accessible through specific rifts, and even then, it's nearly impossible to navigate without being torn apart."

"**So, business as usual,**" Gustav muttered, already charting a course.

The system tilted her head, her expression unusually serious. "This isn't a place you can brute force, Gustav. Avaris is one of the most powerful Cosmic Superior beings for a reason. His realm is his weapon. Are you sure you're ready for this?"

Gustav smirked faintly, his confidence unwavering. "I've come this far, haven't I? Besides, I don't plan on losing. Not to him. Not to anyone."

Setting a Course

The spacecraft's engines roared to life as Gustav input the coordinates for the nearest rift to the Crimson Nexus. The journey ahead was fraught with uncertainty, but he pushed those thoughts aside. His focus remained solely on the vestige and what it represented.

As the stars streaked past him, Gustav allowed himself a brief moment of reflection. The weight of Ehyrian's words lingered in his mind, a reminder of the responsibility he bore as the Outworldly. Yet, beneath the burden, he felt a spark of determination—a fire that refused to be extinguished.

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"**Avaris won't know what hit him,**" Gustav said aloud, his voice filled with quiet resolve.

The system glanced at him, a hint of a smile on her lips. "Let's hope you're right. For all our sakes."

The spacecraft continued its journey, plunging deeper into the unknown as Gustav prepared for the battle that would decide the fate of his power—and perhaps the universe itself.

--SS

("Don't do anything stupid,")

'Watch m...'

"Man I am still so confused about this whole thing. Like what the hell is an Outworldly? Why is Falco involved? How the fuck is he not of earth but also not an alien? If these niggas are from another

dimension then what is their business with ours? How are you a threat to them? My brain's about to melt like jelly," E.E looked like smoke was about to evaporate from his head.

Everyone had the same question in mind and turned to face Gustav, hoping he would answer all of them.

"I don't know what to tell you guys... all I can say is, these people don't have good intentions for us and our universe would face peril if they were to successfully get rid of me now," Gustav said while shaking his head slightly.

He also had a lot that he wanted to figure out but unfortunately, this was the amount of information he currently had.

The group continued discussing till midnight before they decided to retire for the rest of the night.

Gustav had told them everything he knew but of course there was still a lot of confusion and speculations. Gustav couldn't decide whether or not to listen to the system.

It was currently taking everything in him not to head to where Captain Irand and his clones were currently held to question them.

Gustav sat on his bed and stared at the system notifications before him.

[Quest Successful: Uncover What The Indulus Prime Participants Are Up To]

[Rewards]

< + 10,000,000 EXP >

< Atomic Manipulation Bloodline Has Been Upgraded To Grade A >

< +200 Charm >

"Not bad but charm seems like a waste..." Gustav voiced while standing to his feet.

He moved towards the spot with a mirror and checked his face. There were visible changes to his looks.

Gustav jawline looked a lot more chiselled and well defined than before. To add to this, his skin was so smooth and milky looking, one could mistake it for that of a female if they touched him.

He was starting to look a little feminine with very attractive lips and streamlined nose abridged his face. His eyes still remain deep and cold but he was a whole level more attractive than he was before.

Gustav would most certainly be mistaken for a model celebrity if he walked into somewhere with his current looks.

("Being a male prostitute would suit you,") The system voiced.

"I have more things to worry about right now than prostitution," Gustav stated in response before walking away from the mirror.

("Why do you think Charm is useless? It could help you in unexpected situations,") The system questioned.

"It's not like other planets standards of beauty are the same. I may look good to an earthling but look ugly to a Klaxosape,"

("Not in this case. You will look good to any specie because Charm is a universal stats,") The system responded.

"Can it help me save Falco? Or bring Teemee back?" Gustav asked.

("...")

"No? Then it is useless," Gustav added before taking a seat.

"How long till disqualified planets begin leaving?" Gustav asked after a brief silence.

("Some leave immediately, some are waiting till IYSOP ends but I know why you're asking,") The system replied.

("They're still undergoing medical procedures so they will be here for a while,") The system added.

"Good... now the games can begin," Gustav muttered with a cold tone.

...

The night went by very quickly and the next morning arrived.

Everyone still discussed how the last major challenge went. Earth and Gustav remained one of the major debates amongst these discussions.

Some were wary of Gustav at this point and wondered if it was okay for someone who could take others supernatural ability to be allowed free will and movement. They didn't know if this power affected aliens or was only capable of affecting mixedbloods but they were still concerned.

Others could care less and only spoke of Gustav reverence. A lot of them who were aliens had developed a great amount of liking and respect for him. Stories about him began to spread everywhere. His accomplishments as an MBO officer even before IYSOP began.

Rumors about him being a Cosmic Superior Being had also started escalating. Cosmic Superior beings were extremely rare to the point that the last time anyone ran into one was over two hundred years ago.

It was unknown how many Cosmic Superior Beings existed at the moment but it was estimated that there might not be more than ten of them in this vast universe.

A new Cosmic Superior Being was unlikely... but based on everything Gustav had done so far, a lot of people believed the rumors.

This was happening despite the fact that Gustav had used Yarki at a moment where time was being manipulated. No one except people like Miss Aimee should have been able to witness him use it and yet the rumors had spread.

Still there was a lot of back and forth especially with many people saying, "If he was a Cosmic Superior Being, he wouldn't even need to fight,"

There was no doubt that Gustav and the earth would be a topic of debate for the next couple of days unless something else arose.

...

In an IYSOP medical centre, a group of five people laid on a bed of sorts. These five were positioned close to one another as they seemed to be suffering from the same ailment.

They had wrinkly transparent skins and very thin figures. Their limbs were bent like they were elastic due to how extremely thin they were.

It seemed like they were very old beings. Technological medical equipments were strapped to their bodies, seemingly preventing them from kicking the bucket.

An Ozis in red medical outfit walked in and began examining these beings one after the other.

It seemed to be a female Ozis. She spoke to them one after the other with a kind tone asking how they feel and generally showing concern.

They answered one after the other and she did her examinations till she arrived at the last one on the far left end.

"How are you feeling? Much better?" She questioned.

"I am trying doctor... my back aches and I feel joint pains..." The wrinkly being answered feebly.

"Sorry about that, I will administer a drug that will ease your pains," She said while whipping out a massive tool that looked like a syringe.

"Thank you doctor..." The moment he uttered these words he suddenly felt a small sting.

"Doc... tor...?" He voiced weakly while looking up at the doctor who displayed a sinister smile after stabbing the syringe like tool into his wrinkly arm.

He caught a glimpse of the purplish liquid the tool held before it completely penetrated his body.

"...It... hurts..." It was at this point he realised that this wasn't the doctor.

A sharp pain assaulted his senses as he felt a burning sensation spread across his body.

"Arrrrghhhh!" He yelled in pain while the doctor quickly covered his mouth.

"Wuubblhhrrrh!" His entire body shook as he experienced pain unlike anything he ever felt before.

"I told you I'd make you suffer hehehe..." The doctor whispered in his ear while covering his mouth.

His joints were flaming, his skin felt like it was getting sliced through and pepper was being added. It seemed like hot rod was moving through his belly and ultimately the feeling of all sorts of pain interlined.

"This is just the start... I will come everyday... watch out... I could be your doctor, your teammate, your brother, your father or even your uncle. I could be anyone so make sure you fear the approach of any soul regardless of who it might be... remember today and cry in dread anytime a person gets close to you. I am everywhere..." The moment the doctor finished saying this, she let go of the sickly being who kept trembling intensely in pain and fear.

"Urrrghhhh!" Orimon yelled in pain once more but the doctor turned invisible and completely vanished before anyone could come check on them.

"Arrrrghhh! It burns! It burns!" He kept yelling while the real medical officials trotted into the room with expressions of worry.

#####

("You sure are having fun,") The system voiced in Gustav's mind after he reappeared within his room.

"Only fair to make him suffer enough before sending him to join Teemee. A good tribute too," Gustav responded while his figure transformed from an Ozis into his original look.

("Well... It does seem like there is no point in trying to win the case anymore since they already got disqualified,") The system voiced with a tone of understanding.

It was indeed as the system said. The Xionsis got disqualified along with every other planet under a different color than red.

Now that they were disqualified, earth could no longer take up the case of trying to prove that the murder had been intentional and not accidental. The point of all that was to get them disqualified in the first place and now they were.

Chapter 1626 Dangerous Zones

Ria threw his hands up dramatically. "Great. Just what I wanted—dodging death traps while trying not to get vaporized in the middle of space."

Sersi smirked. "Look at it this way: you'll finally have an adventure worth bragging about."

The First Route

The ship's engines roared to life as they veered off the standard intergalactic path. The forbidden routes were uncharted, unpredictable, and filled with anomalies that could obliterate even the most advanced ships. As they entered the first stretch, the atmosphere in the cabin grew tense.

"Scanning the area," Endric announced, his fingers dancing across the console. His voice was steady, but his shoulders were tight. "We're heading into a cluster of gravitational anomalies. They're strong enough to pull us into a black hole if we're not careful."

"Lovely," Ria muttered, gripping the edge of his seat. "Why don't we just paint a target on the ship while we're at it?"

"Focus," Endric snapped. "Sersi, monitor the energy shields. If they drop below 60%, we're pulling out."

Sersi nodded, her fingers deftly adjusting the ship's defense systems. "Got it. Shields at 95% for now, but these gravitational fluctuations are intense. We'll have to tread carefully."

The ship began to shake violently as they entered the anomaly cluster. Streams of warped light surrounded them, bending and twisting as the gravitational forces tugged at the vessel.

"Increase thrust to 120%," Endric commanded. "We need to counteract the pull."

Ria quickly adjusted the controls, his usually playful demeanor replaced with focused determination. "Thrust increased. Let's hope this ship doesn't rip apart."

The ship lurched forward, narrowly avoiding a swirling vortex that appeared out of nowhere. The lights inside flickered as the shields absorbed a massive impact.

"Shields down to 72%!" Sersi called out. "We need to get through this cluster fast, or we're toast."

"Almost there," Endric said through gritted teeth, his eyes glued to the navigational charts. "Just hold it together a little longer."

The ship twisted and turned, dodging vortexes and gravitational surges with barely a moment to spare. Finally, they burst out of the cluster, the light around them stabilizing as they returned to normal space.

"Shields at 55%," Sersi reported, exhaling in relief. "That was too close."

"One down," Endric said, his tone grim. "Two more routes to go."

The Second Route

The second forbidden route was known as the **Oblivion Veil**, a stretch of space shrouded in thick, impenetrable darkness. No light could penetrate the veil, and any ship entering it had to rely entirely on sensors and instinct.

"Endric, tell me you've got a plan for this," Ria said, staring nervously at the black expanse ahead. "Because I'm not exactly thrilled about flying blind."

19:52

"Endric, tell me you've got a plan for this," Ria said, staring nervously at the black expanse ahead.
"Because I'm not exactly thrilled about flying blind."

"I'm working on it," Endric replied, activating the ship's advanced sensors. "The key is to move slowly and stay close to the energy signature of the veil. Straying too far from it could... well, let's just not stray."

Sersi leaned forward, her silver eyes glowing faintly. "I'll keep the shields reinforced, but we'll need to conserve energy. This place is a black hole for power."

As they entered the veil, the darkness enveloped them completely. The ship's external lights were useless, swallowed by the void. The only sounds were the hum of the engines and the faint beeping of the sensors.

"Stay on course," Endric instructed. "We're following the signature. If you see any sudden energy spikes, alert me immediately."

Minutes felt like hours as they inched forward through the darkness. The air inside the ship felt heavy, the oppressive silence amplifying every creak and groan of the vessel.

"I hate this," Ria muttered. "Feels like we're being watched."

"You're not wrong," Sersi said, her eyes scanning the monitors. "I'm picking up faint life signs. Multiple, actually."

"On screen," Endric ordered.

The monitor flickered to life, displaying blurry shapes moving in the darkness around them. The figures were humanoid but distorted, their movements unnatural.

"Energy shields up to maximum," Endric said sharply. "Prepare for evasive maneuvers."

Before they could react, the shapes lunged at the ship, their elongated limbs striking the hull with incredible force. The ship rocked violently, alarms blaring as the shields absorbed the impact.

"Shields at 38%!" Sersi shouted. "We can't take much more of this!"

"Ria, take the controls!" Endric barked. "Get us out of here, now!"

Ria grabbed the controls, weaving the ship through the darkness as more figures attacked. Sersi worked frantically to stabilize the shields, while Endric activated the ship's weapons systems.

"Targeting the energy signatures," Endric said, firing a barrage of plasma bolts. The projectiles lit up the darkness briefly, revealing dozens of the strange creatures swarming toward them.

"We're not gonna make it," Ria yelled. "The exit's still too far!"

"Yes, we will," Endric said firmly. "Sersi, reroute all non-essential power to the engines. Ria, prepare for a full-speed burst."

"But the shields—"

"Just do it!" Endric snapped.

Sersi quickly rerouted the power, and Ria pushed the engines to their limit. The ship surged forward, leaving the creatures behind as they broke free of the veil.

The Final Stretch

They emerged into a stretch of open space, the stars shining brightly around them. The silence was deafening after the chaos of the veil, but the relief was short-lived.

"Shields at 12%," Sersi reported, slumping back in her chair. "We're barely holding it together."

"That was... horrifying," Ria said, his hands still gripping the controls. "Please tell me that was the worst of it."

Endric checked the navigational charts, his face pale but determined. "We're almost there. One last push, and we'll reach the real planet."

The team exchanged weary but resolute looks. They had survived the forbidden routes, but the hardest part was yet to come. As the ship powered forward, the distant silhouette of the planet came into view, a stark reminder of the monumental task ahead.

---SS

Miss Aimee didn't respond immediately. Instead, she continued walking forward, with confident and deliberate strides.

Gustav watched in surprise as the magma-like liquid began to part before her, creating a narrow path through the molten sea.

Gustav's eyes widened in astonishment. "Miss Aimee, what are you doing? I thought you said not to use abilities."

Miss Aimee glanced back at him with a calm smile on her face. "Gustav, I am a transcendent being. My abilities won't affect the integrity of this planet's fragile core. I can create a path for us."

Gustav hesitated for a moment before following her, carefully stepping onto the newly formed path.

The heat radiating from the magma was intense, but the path Miss Aimee created was cool and solid under his feet.

"Why didn't you tell me earlier?" Gustav asked as they walked, his voice a mixture of relief and curiosity.

Miss Aimee's smile widened. "I wanted you to see the magnitude of what we are dealing with. Sometimes, experiencing the journey firsthand is the best way to understand the challenges we face."

Gustav nodded, absorbing her words. "So, where are we headed now?"

"To the heart of this place," Miss Aimee replied. "The path will lead us to it."

They continued walking, the path winding through the sea of molten liquid. The glowing magma cast eerie shadows on the cavern walls, creating a surreal and otherworldly atmosphere. Gustav couldn't help but marvel at the sight, even as he remained vigilant for any signs of danger.

As they walked, Gustav's mind raced with questions. "Miss Aimee, what exactly are we looking for down here?"

"We'll know when we see it," Miss Aimee answered.

Gustav was just curious as to what to look out for but it seemed like Miss Aimee wasn't too sure herself.

As Gustav and Miss Aimee continued their journey forward, the magma-like liquid continued to part before them, creating a pathway that snaked through the vast expanse of molten rock.

The walls of magma rose on either side, forming a corridor that shimmered with intense heat and light. Despite the treacherous surroundings, Gustav felt a sense of calm. His trust in Miss Aimee's abilities were unwavering.

They walked in silence for what seemed like hours, the only sounds being the bubbling of the magma and the soft tap of their own footsteps.

The path beneath their feet gradually began to change, shifting from the rough, uneven surface of the chasm to something more refined and constructed. The ground took on a smoother texture, and intricate patterns began to emerge, etched into the very rock itself.

Gustav paused, glancing around in awe. "The ground here... its... Unscathed."

Miss Aimee nodded. "Yes, kiddo. We're getting closer."

As they continued, the refined ground gave way to an expansive platform that stretched out before them.

It was incredibly large, its surface unscathed by the surrounding magma. The platform's structure was nearly indescribable. It was a blend of intricate patterns and futuristic designs that seemed both ancient and advanced.

At the center of the platform stood a structure that seemed to defy the very fabric of reality. It was both in time and out of time, a paradoxical blend of past and future.

Various technological constructs adorned its surface, their designs sleek and incredibly advanced. Holographic interfaces flickered with streams of data, and strange, glowing symbols adorned the walls.

Gustav's eyes widened in astonishment. "Is this it?"

Miss Aimee smiled, her eyes filled with a sense of reverence. "Yes Gustav, this is Dimension Six."

Gustav stepped forward, his gaze fixed on the structure. "Dimension Six... At last."

However, Gustav couldn't see the system notification alert that he had completed the second five years quest just yet.

He figured that he probably needed to get in first.

"The knowledge and power contained here will help you understand your origins. Prepare yourself, Gustav. What you'll find in there, will be beyond your current imagination."

"Bet..." Gustav mumbled.

They approached the structure, the air around them thrummed with energy.

Gustav could feel the power radiating from the platform, a tangible force that seemed to resonate with his very being. The intricate patterns on the ground pulsed with light, guiding their steps toward the heart of Dimension Six.

Miss Aimee and Gustav reached the entry point of Dimension Six, only to find themselves unable to proceed.

An invisible force seemed to push them back, preventing any further movement. The air around them thrummed with a strange energy, and the very fabric of reality seemed to shimmer and distort.

Gustav frowned as his brows furrowed. "Is there some sort of code for access?"

Miss Aimee's eyes scanned the surroundings, "Let's look around. The answers are often hidden in plain sight."

Gustav turned his attention to the walls around them, noticing for the intricate artistic depictions that adorned the stone. The carvings were beautiful and elaborate, telling a story through a series of images and symbols. He moved closer, examining them with keen interest.

"These carvings... they tell a tale," Gustav said, his voice filled with wonder. "It's about the creation and access to Dimension Six."

Miss Aimee nodded, joining him in examining the depictions. "Looks like the Slarkovs recorded some of their history and knowledge through art. Let's see what we can learn."

As they studied the carvings, the story began to unfold. The first series of images showed a group of beings, presumably the Slarkovs, standing before a darkened sky. Then a drop of something that looked like a water but certainly wasn't water, fell to the ground.

The ground caved in and some impossible structures came into existence. That was Dimension Six... a place depicted as a realm of infinite possibilities, where wishes could be granted, and resources were abundant.

"Oh?" Gustav mused, "it was like a paradise. A realm where anything was possible."

Miss Aimee pointed to the next set of images. "But look here. The dimension seemed to have demanded something in return."

The images showed a series of warnings, depicted through symbolic representations. The message was clear: the dimension would grant anything you needed, but greed would be met with severe punishment.

The final images were grim, showing individuals who had ignored the warnings being met with gruesome fates.

"So, the dimension punishes greed," Gustav said slowly. "It only grants what you need, not what you want. Those who were greedy faced dire consequences."

Miss Aimee's expression was serious. "It looks like the power of Dimension Six is immense, but it wishes to be respected. It possesses sentience. We must be mindful of our intentions."

Gustav nodded. "There must be a way to pass this barrier. We must be something we're missing."

They continued to examine the carvings, looking for any clues that might help them. Gustav's eyes fell on a small, almost hidden depiction near the bottom of one of the walls. It showed a figure getting something and afterwards getting pushed out.

After the depictions, the images seemed to display some changes. People trying to get in but being unable to.

"There is no access... It's locked... Forever," Gustav came to this realisation.

If the Dimension had been in existence since before the planet got pulled into the stagnant siterus void, there was no doubt that it had been locked for centuries already.

What were they supposed to do about that?

"There has to be some sort of way to get in," Gustav said while moving around.

He went around again and scanned the surroundings multiple times but still came up blank.

It looked like dimension six was throroughly sealed without no form of entry. Did that mean coming here was for naught?

He couldn't possibly let it end here now that they had reached this pivotal point.

"Miss Aimee, can I use my abilities now?" Gustav inquired.

"Yeah sure... Dimension Six blankets the surroundings so the planet's core will be o..." Even before Miss Aimee could answer completely...

Boom!

Gustav had thrown a fist at the invisible barrier preventing them from moving any further.

"I don't think that's gonna..." Before Miss Aimee could caution him again...

Boom!

Gustav fist rammed into it once more, causing the surroundings to tremble immensely.

Despite the amount of strength Gustav put into his fists, they were unable to punch a hole through whatever was hindering them.

He arched his arm back intensely, letting his energy climb to ridiculous levels as he prepared to strike again.

Miss Aimee's hair and clothes flapped intensely as the air crackled.

'He has really grown,' She couldn't help but smile as she watched him from the side.

Boom!

Gustav's fist drove into the hindrance, causing a devastating clash to ring out as torrents of wind swept across the surroundings.

Even the magma in the surroundings were affected by this, causing a storm of steam to erupt.

After a couple of seconds, the steam slowly reduced and the hindering invisible wall remained unmoving.

Even the ground beneath their feet didn't crack from Gustav's intensity. There was no doubt that dimension six power was astronomical.

"Cohila..." Gustav called forth as rhombus shaped patterns of light surrounded his form.

Chapter 1627 The Final Vestige

Gustav's spacecraft exited the wormhole smoothly, revealing an expanse of space unlike any he had seen before. The stars here seemed dimmer, as though their light had been partially drained by the immense force emanating from a central point. Suspended in this patch of space was a single, massive star glowing faintly crimson, pulsating with an ominous rhythm. It was as if the universe itself was warning him of the power that resided here.

He adjusted the controls, and the spacecraft slowed to a crawl. Gustav could feel it—the faint essence of his final vestige, almost imperceptible, hidden within the star's core. Yet, what overwhelmed his senses

even more was the overwhelming presence of a being. This wasn't just any being; this was one of the oldest cosmic superior beings in existence.

As Gustav floated closer, his senses sharpened. A ripple moved through the void, and space itself seemed to warp and twist, forming a massive figure before him. The being materialized, his form humanoid but impossibly vast, his silver hair cascading like a waterfall of starlight. His eyes were hollow, glowing orbs that reflected the very fabric of existence, and his robe shimmered with the light of countless galaxies. This was Thyrel, an ancient cosmic superior being and an old ally of Ehyrian—an ally who had turned against the Outworldly's vision.

"So," Thyrel said, his voice deep and resonant, echoing across the void. It was less a sound and more a vibration that Gustav felt in his very core. "The reincarnated Outworldly graces me with his presence."

Gustav stepped out of his spacecraft, floating effortlessly in the void. His piercing eyes locked onto Thyrel's, unfazed by the godlike being before him. "You knew I was coming," Gustav stated coldly.

"I did," Thyrel replied, his expression unreadable. "I could sense your approach from galaxies away. And yet, here you are, still naïve enough to think you can take what does not belong to you."

Gustav's eyes narrowed. "The vestige is mine. It's a fragment of my being. You're merely a thief holding onto what doesn't belong to you."

Thyrel chuckled, a sound that sent shockwaves rippling through the void. "Ehyrian always believed in you, despite your flaws. But I do not share his sentiments. I will not let you reach the level of the deities. It is a power no one should ever wield again."

"Is that your excuse for betraying Ehyrian?" Gustav asked, his tone sharp. "You, who once stood by his side, now hoard power in the name of protecting the universe? Hypocrisy suits you poorly, Thyrel."

Thyrel's expression darkened, his glowing eyes flaring. "Ehyrian's ideals blinded him. He failed to see the chaos his actions could bring. The deities once ruled unchecked, their power twisting the universe into their plaything. I will not allow history to repeat itself."

Gustav clenched his fists, cosmic energy radiating from his body in waves. "This isn't about the deities. It's about Nocturnis. If you think I'll let your fear of the past stop me from saving the future, you're mistaken."

Thyrel raised a hand, and the space around them began to shift and distort. Stars dimmed, and the crimson light of the central star grew brighter, casting an eerie glow over everything. "You are not ready, Outworldly. Your power, even now, is a shadow of what it once was. You will not take this vestige from me."

"We'll see about that," Gustav said, his voice calm but laced with resolve.

Thyrel struck first. A wave of energy, thick and suffocating, surged toward Gustav, warping the very fabric of reality as it moved. Gustav raised a hand, his aura flaring as he countered the attack with a burst of his own energy. The collision created a shockwave that rippled through the void, shattering smaller celestial bodies nearby.

"You may be ancient," Gustav said, pushing against the overwhelming force, "but you're not invincible."

Thyrel's eyes gleamed. "And you are far too arrogant."

The two clashed in a flurry of attacks. Thyrel summoned constructs of light and shadow, massive celestial weapons that bore down on Gustav with devastating force. Gustav dodged with precision, using his void-piercing boots to teleport between dimensions in bursts, appearing behind Thyrel to deliver a punch that shook the stars themselves.

Thyrel staggered but retaliated quickly, summoning a vortex that pulled Gustav in. The vortex crushed and compressed reality, but Gustav unleashed a burst of atomic disintegration, tearing through the vortex and escaping unscathed.

"You're stubborn," Thyrel admitted, his tone almost amused. "Ehyrian did choose well, it seems. But let me show you why I am the guardian of this vestige."

He raised his arms, and the crimson star began to pulse violently. Its light expanded, enveloping the battlefield. Within moments, the star transformed into a colossal, living construct, its fiery surface forming limbs and a face that radiated pure energy. It moved with purpose, swinging its massive arms toward Gustav.

Gustav's eyes glowed as he activated his God Eyes. He analyzed the construct's movements, finding weaknesses in its form. As the colossal arm came down, he teleported above it, gathering energy in his palm before slamming it into the star construct's surface. The impact created a massive crater, but the construct regenerated instantly.

"Impressive," Thyrel said, watching from a distance. "But futile. This is the heart of a star. It cannot be destroyed by brute force."

Gustav smirked. "Good thing brute force isn't my only trick."

He activated a unique ability, one he had regained with the last vestige. Dimensional folding. Space around the star construct warped and twisted as Gustav manipulated reality itself, folding dimensions around the construct to trap it in an infinite loop. The star construct roared, its fiery form flaring as it struggled against the confines of its new prison.

Thyrel's expression grew serious. "You've learned much, but not enough."

With a flick of his wrist, Thyrel unraveled Gustav's dimensional fold, freeing the star construct. Gustav narrowed his eyes, realizing he had underestimated just how deeply Thyrel understood the cosmos.

"Give up, Gustav," Thyrel said. "Even if you defeat me, you will never understand the true burden of power."

Gustav's aura flared brighter than ever, his determination unshaken. "You're wrong, Thyrel. The burden of power isn't to hoard it—it's to use it to protect those who can't protect themselves. That's something you'll never understand."

The battle continued, a cataclysmic clash that lit up the void with bursts of energy and cosmic explosions. Gustav pushed himself to his limits, his every move calculated and precise. Thyrel, for all his power, began to show signs of strain.

"You're losing, Thyrel," Gustav said, his voice steady. "This vestige belongs to me. Stand down, or I'll take it by force."

Thyrel glared at him, his pride refusing to yield. "Come, then, Outworldly. Let us see if you're worthy."

And with that, their battle reached its climax, the outcome to determine the fate of the vestige—and the universe itself.

Jack lunged at his attackers as his fists moved with blinding speed. The first assailant fell with a single blow, their body crumpling like a ragdoll. The second tried to counter, but Jack was too fast, disarming and incapacitating them in an instant.

"You're done," Jack growled as his eyes emitted an infuriating glow.

He grabbed the reptilian leader by the throat. "Who sent you?"

The leader struggled as their eyes widened with fear. "You can't...stop us," he choked.

Jack's grip tightened. "I don't have time for this," he said with a cold voice before hurling the leader into the void, sending them tumbling away into the darkness.

Turning his attention back to the remaining foes, Jack unleashed a flurry of attacks.

He moved with unseen blur while dismantling the enemy forces with precision and efficiency.

As the last of the assailants fell, Jack cast a glance back at Earth, his resolve hardening.

"I will keep my promise."

Activating his communication device, Jack sent a message to the MBO. "The threat has been neutralized," he reported, his tone clipped. "I'm heading back."

-"Oh hold on Jack, there is still somethi..."

"I'm going off duty for the rest of today. I have earned it,"

Without waiting for a response, Jack launched himself towards Earth, cutting through the atmosphere like a comet.

The ground below blurred as he sped towards the trial. His mind was focused on one thing: ensuring Gustav received a fair hearing.

...

When the prosecutor finished, Jareth Cole, Gustav's lawyer, rose to his feet.

He was a distinguished man with graying hair and a calm, authoritative presence.

His deep brown eyes radiated wisdom and determination. His tailored suit and calm demeanor commanded respect.

The prosecutor had said his but now it was his turn.

"Esteemed panel, members of the court, and citizens," he began, his voice steady. "We are here today not to condemn an innocent man, but to seek the truth. Gustav Crimson is not the monster he has been portrayed as."

He continued; "You've heard the prosecution's claims. You've listened to their accusations. Now, let me tell you about the real Gustav Crimson. The man who, for the past year, has dedicated his life to protecting the universe against the true forces of evil."

He paused, allowing his words to sink in before continuing. "Gustav evaded pursuit not out of guilt, but because he was on a mission. A mission to protect the universe from those responsible for the destruction of Planet Ozious. Had he been captured earlier, countless lives would have been lost, and planets would have been doomed."

Veran Kess, the prosecution lawyer, stood up. "Objection, your honor. There is no concrete evidence to support these claims."

The judge glanced at Jareth. "Mr. Cole, do you have evidence to support these claims?"

Jareth nodded confidently. "Yes, your honor, I do. I present to you documented evidence of Gustav's deeds over the past year, compiled meticulously by one of his closest allies, E.E." He gestured to the large holographic projection behind him, which began displaying various documents and images of Gustav's heroic acts.

The projection showed a planet with a dark sun looming and then another instance when the sun was nowhere to be seen. Multiple images of what seemed like native species of that planet could be seen cheering for him. Some fuzzy images displayed him battling against a bunch of rough looking aliens.

Each image was accompanied by detailed reports where the Lawyer explained the significance of his acts.

"As you can see," Jareth continued, "Gustav has been a force for good. He has saved countless lives and protected protected people. And we have witnesses who can attest to these deeds."

Veran Kess stood again. "Objection, your honor. These are just images and documents. There is no way to verify their authenticity."

The judge turned to Jareth. "Do you have witnesses, Mr. Cole?"

"Yes, your honor," Jareth replied. "I call upon our first witness, an Ozis who was among the Siefiling captives."

An elderly humanoid looking figure with insect like head and large, soulful eyes, took the stand. She introduced herself as Xetra. She had taken the stand from where the people from the Ozious ring were coupé up.

"Please tell the court what you witnessed," Jareth said.

Xetra nodded. "Gustav Crimson saved millions of us from Siefiling. We were abducted when our great Planet was being consumed by the darkness. The infamous Siefiling had made use of the ruckus to take us away and turned us into slaves. Siefiling had been at large for thousands of years and we met many others who had been enslaved by him. The alliance had never been able to catch him. Even our people had searched for us but we're unable find us. Gustav Crimson ended the reign of Siefiling. Without him, we would still be enslaved."

The jury listened intently as Xetra detailed the rescue operation, describing Gustav's bravery and determination.

"He put his life on the line for us and didn't save us alone. He also saved other species that had been captured by Siefiling all these years. Billions in number..."

Veran Kess stood to object but was quickly overruled by the judge.

"Thank you, Xetra," Jareth said. "I now call upon our next witness, a former child slave from the Nereus sector."

A young alien girl with green skin and bright yellow eyes took the stand. She looked nervous but determined. "My name is Aelara. I was a slave on Nereus to be sold off to a master. Gustav Crimson rescued me and many others. He fought against our captors and ensured we were safe."

The jury watched as Aelara described her ordeal and the heroic efforts of Gustav to free her and other children.

Veran Kess tried to interject again, but the judge silenced him with a glare. "Let the witness speak."

"Thank you, Aelara," Jareth said, turning to the jury. "And now, I call upon another witness, an elder from Planet Orion."

An elderly woman with wings a glowing halo above her head stepped forward. Her presence was calm and serene. "My name is Elder Seraphine. Our planet, Orion, was on the brink of destruction as you may have seen in the images. Our sun had turned dark and sought to consume us. We couldn't escape, we couldn't move... we couldn't even communicate with the Alliance to ask for help. We were doomed until Gustav Crimson arrived and saved us. He took our world out of harmway and braved the darkness with his allies."

Elder Seraphine's testimony was powerful, her words resonating deeply with everyone in the room.

She spoke of how Gustav's took the burden upon himself and rescued a world that had formerly condemned him to be a planet destroyer.

"Sir Gustav, if you can hear me..." She turned to face the tube Gustav was kept in, floating unconsciously.

"Thank you once again," she bowed with a look of appreciation.

"No matter how much the world condemns you... We from Planet Orion will forever stand with you."

Jareth turned to the jury with a deep expression. "These are not just words. These are firsthand accounts of the heroism and bravery of Gustav Crimson. He did not run from the law out of guilt. He was on a mission to protect the universe. And now, he stands accused of crimes he did not commit."

Veran Kess, looking increasingly frustrated, stood up. "Your honor, these are all compelling stories, but they do not prove Gustav's innocence. We need concrete evidence."

Jareth faced Veran Kess, his eyes blazing with determination. "We have concrete evidence, Mr. Kess. These witnesses have provided undeniable proof of Gustav's deeds. Their testimonies, combined with the documented evidence, paint a clear picture of a man who has risked his life over and over and yet still stands accused of distasteful crimes."

The judge nodded, looking thoughtful. "Mr. Kess, you will have your chance to cross-examine the witnesses, but for now, Mr. Cole's evidence stands."

Angy felt a glimmer of hope. The tide seemed to be turning in their favor. She looked at Gustav, still unconscious in the tube, and silently prayed that justice would prevail.

Veran Kess, realizing he was losing ground, tried to regain control. "Ladies and gentlemen, we must remember that Gustav Crimson is still responsible for countless deaths. Even if he did some good, it does not erase the fact that he evaded the law and caused destruction."

Jareth stepped forward, his voice rising with passion. "Gustav Crimson is a hero. He saved lives, protected planets, and fought against true evil. He is not a criminal. He is a protector. And we must not condemn him for doing what was necessary to save our universe."

The courtroom fell silent as the jury pondered Jareth's words. The judge looked at both lawyers before speaking. "We will take a recess before proceeding with the cross-examination of the witnesses."

As the court adjourned for the recess, Angy and the others gathered around Jareth. "You did great," Angy said, her voice filled with gratitude.

Jareth smiled. "We're not done yet. We still have a long way to go, but we're on the right path."

Chapter 1628 Heavenly Duties

Falco staggered back as his vision plunged into darkness.

"Falco!" Endric shouted while extending his hand to use telekinesis.

He attempted to hurl Axarof away, but his power rebounded off the Alliance leader, ineffective.

Axarof smirked, not even needing to move as he sent a forceful wave that smashed into Endric, launching him across the room and into a wall with a sickening thud.

Aildris transformed the environment into a kaleidoscope of shifting colors. He attempted to trap Axarof in a prism of vibrant hues... a prison of light and color meant to immobilize. "You're not invincible, Axarof!" he declared.

Axarof merely chuckled, his multiple limbs flexing as he shattered the colorful prison with ease. "Pathetic," he growled while sprinting forward.

He grabbing Aildris by the head and slammed him into the ground before he could react. The impact reverberated through the entire alliance, causing its very foundation in space to tremble.

Meanwhile, E.E. had been struggling to open vortexes in the right places. "Come on, come on," he muttered as sweat gathered around his brow.

Vortexes would appear in places that he didn't intend to open them in. The spatial disruption in the surroundings was no joke.

As Axarof turned his attention to him, E.E. succeeded in creating a vortex that materialised from within one of Axarof's right leg.

Half of Axarof's right leg was immediately consumed.

Axarof's roar of pain and fury echoed through the hall. "You'll pay for that child!" he bellowed as blood jetted out from his severed limb.

He surged forward as his remaining limbs propelled him with terrifying speed toward E.E., who began jumping from vortex to vortex to evade.

Falco, despite his blindness tried to help.

He lashed out with whips of dark energy, each strike vicious and wild. "I am not done!" he screamed with pain.

The dark energy ripped through the air, severing Alliance corps members in two with their screams mingling in the chaos. However, it didn't meet its precise mark.

Falco was still holding back so as not to put the others in danger and right now more than ever he couldn't go all out.

Axarof blocked the dark energy with his limbs as his focus split.

He aimed to finish off Falco, but Endric and E.E. combined their efforts to prevent him. Endric used his telekinesis to hurl debris and create barriers, while E.E. managed to create vortexes to redirect Axarof's attacks.

The battle raged on... The room was filled with the sounds of clashing powers and anguished cries.

Axarof's strength seemed insurmountable as he brutalized the group with devastating strikes. He caught Endric with a powerful blow, sending him sprawling to the ground, blood pouring from a deep gash on his side. Aildris became barely conscious as he tried to summon his strength to help but was crushed under the weight of Axarof's relentless assault.

Falco body trembled from blood loss and pain but he continued to whip his dark energy in desperate arcs.

Unfortunately, most of the attacks missed Axarof since Falco couldn't exactly aim well with missing eyes.

However, two more of Axarof's arms were sliced off but not before he grabbed Falco's throat to end him.

"You've lost," Axarof hissed in pain while tightening his grip.

E.E seeing Falco in mortal danger, unleashed a vortex from Axarof's waist, severing the powerful alliance leader in two.

"How dare you!"

Axarof two halves fell to the sides as a fountain of silver blood splurged out.

He was still very much alive due to his strength but his danger level had considerably decreased.

Just as it seemed they might gain the upper hand, two more Alliance leaders arrived.

Each of their presences were as intimidating as Axarof's. One, a towering figure with skin like molten metal, wielded a blade that crackled with electric energy. The other, a slender alien with eyes that glowed like burning coals, commanded an aura of immense psychic power.

This cannot be it!" Endric gasped, blood trickling from his mouth as he struggled to his feet.

'Husarius didn't you say it would be fine?' Endric tried to ask internally but didn't get a response.

The combined might of the two newly arrived Alliance leaders overwhelmed them.

Aldris was impaled through the shoulder by the electric blade causing a scream of agony that cut through the air.

Endric tried to protect him but was caught by a psychic blast that shattered his left leg, leaving him crumpled on the ground.

Falco, blinded and bleeding, was finally subdued by a crushing blow that knocked him unconscious.

E.E energy had almost been completely depleted due to repeatedly trying to open vortexes that could get them out of here but the disruptive spatial energy in the air was a great interference.

He fought valiantly, using every ounce of his strength to create vortexes and teleport around the room since this was the least he could go without issues .

Unfortunately, the combined efforts of the other leaders proved too much. E.E. was struck down by a powerful psychic wave.

His body crashed to the floor, barely conscious.

"Secure them," Axarof commanded with a cold voice. "...and get me a healer."

The Alliance corps moved in, binding the battered and broken group with energy restraints.

Some moved to help the injured and a few settled on Axarof. If he was weaker, he'd already be dead.

From the silent void of space outside the Alliance's fortress, Jack hovered in stealth.

His presence was masked by his immense control over spatial constructs.

He arrived a while ago. The journey from Earth took the group three days of travel and yet Jack got there within minutes.

He watched the chaos within, eyes narrowing as he observed the capture of E.E., Aildris, Endric, and Falco.

The entire alliance seemed alive with energy, a veritable maze of traps and barriers that had sprung up in perfect synchronicity to subdue the intruders.

All had been placed in areas that wasn't visible to anyone... Alliance corp members included.

"This was a setup," Jack muttered to himself, his voice lost in the vacuum of space.

His senses expanded, taking in every detail. His eyes were soon drawn to Falco, and he frowned. "Why didn't he use that power?" Jack's brow furrowed as he sensed the untapped areas within Falco. A dormant strength that had remained hidden during the battle.

Jack was stupefied because the tide could have been changed and he didn't expect anyone in Gustav's clique to possess such strength but now wasn't the time to dwell on it.

There was a much bigger problem right now. How would he help them?

Jack knew he couldn't intervene directly. Doing so would immediately implicate Earth in the eyes of the Alliance, leading to catastrophic diplomatic repercussions.

But he couldn't simply stand by and watch either. As the battered group was dragged through the alliance, Jack's mind formulated a plan. His gaze hardened as he made his decision.

"There's one thing I can do," He muttered.

With a low breath, Jack extended his hands, manipulating the spatial constructs with the precision of a maestro.

He focused on the disruptive energy field that permeated the Alliance fortress, designed to interfere with any spatial abilities.

His constructs danced through the barriers, weaving around the intricate traps and energy nodes. Slowly but surely, he began to neutralize the interference.

This was one way he could help without revealing himself.

"If they can figure it out," Jack murmured to himself, "they might still have a chance."

Inside the fortress, the Alliance leaders marched their prisoners through the corridors with triumphant expressions.

Axarof, still bleeding from his severed limb, glanced at E.E. with a mixture of contempt and curiosity.

"Futile efforts," Axarof sneered. "Did you really think you could outmaneuver the Alliance?"

"Now we have all of Gustav's accomplices."

E.E. gritted his teeth while struggling against his restraints. "What do you intend to do with us?"

"Isn't it obvious? Lure that planet destroyer out of hiding," The other alliance leader who just so happened to be a powerful Draconet Elder, voiced from the side.

"Gustav won't come... You'll be wasting your time," Endric chimed in with a low tone.

"Not if he hears of what we intend to do with you lots," The third Alliance leader who was from Planet Xillion voiced with an ominous tone.

"Nah nah don't play around like that. My skin is too delicate for torture... I don't want to end up as ugly as you three," Despite his grievous injuries, E.E still spoke without a hint of fear.

"You watch your to..." The second leader was still speaking when she suddenly paused.

All three of them paused at this moment like they had just realised something. E.E noticed the arrow like glows on the back of their necks and realised that they were receiving information.

Axarof suddenly turned to them with a look of distaste; "Gustav Crimson has been captured."

Chapter 1629: A Rupturing Change

Elias stood in the cave with his body weak and his face still bearing the strain of his long slumber. Though he was conscious, his energy was far from restored. His eyes, usually sharp and filled with an otherworldly wisdom, seemed tired, almost dull, as he gazed out into the cave's shadows.

"I need to regain my strength," Elias said with almost a whisper. [Enjoy more content from ReadNovelFull](#)

Oslov, still processing everything that had happened, looked at him with concern. "How can you do that? You were unconscious for so long. What will it take?"

"There are certain places on this Earth," Elias explained, "where I have stored iotas of my energy—hidden wells of power scattered across the globe. If I can reach them, I can begin to reclaim a part of my strength. It will not be everything, but I cannot confront the new Outworldly as I am."

Oslov stared at him with furrowed brows. "The new Outworldly? Elias, I don't even understand half of what you're saying. But if you're in danger—if the world is in danger—I want to help."

Elias nodded with a smile. "Your loyalty has always been unwavering, Oslov. But know this: there is no time. The fate of the universe at large depends on me. If I do not succeed, the balance that once protected all realms will be gone, and chaos will reign."

Oslov could see the gravity in Elias's expression, the weight of something far beyond mortal comprehension. He wasn't sure what he could do, but he knew he couldn't abandon his friend now. "I'm with you, Elias," he said firmly. "Whatever it takes."

With that, the group began to make their way out of the cave. The trek down the mountain was slow and careful, as Elias was still too weak to walk on his own.

Two of Oslov's trusted servants carried him on a makeshift stretcher, their steps cautious on the steep, rocky path. The mist hung heavy around them, and the wind carried a biting chill that seemed to seep into their bones.

When they finally reached the base of the mountain, Oslov ordered his entourage to prepare for the journey back to his estate. The trip was arduous, but they traveled with urgency, knowing that time was of the essence. When they arrived back at the estate, Lena was waiting for them.

Her eyes widened in shock as she saw Elias awake and alert for the first time in weeks.

"Elias!" she gasped while rushing forward. "You're awake! How...? What happened?"

Oslov shook his head slightly, looking as bewildered as she was. "I'm not even sure how to explain it," he admitted. "But Elias says we don't have much time."

Elias, still lying on the stretcher but with more clarity in his eyes now, nodded. "There is much I cannot reveal, Lena," he said softly. "But what I can say is that Oslov and I need to start our journey immediately. The longer we wait, the closer we come to losing everything."

Lena, though still filled with questions, could see the urgency in Elias's eyes and the determination in her husband's face. She placed a gentle hand on Oslov's shoulder. "Then go. Do what you must. But promise me, you'll both be careful."

Oslov nodded, his hand reaching up to cover hers. "I promise, Lena. I'll be back as soon as I can."

With that, Oslov and Elias bid their goodbyes to Lena and her baby just as quickly as they had arrived.

The journey took them across vast landscapes—dense forests, arid deserts, rolling hills, and remote islands.

Each location Elias had mentioned was more isolated than the last. As they traveled to these hidden spots, Oslov could see Elias slowly regaining his strength.

The first few days, Elias could barely stand. He relied on Oslov and the entourage to support him. His steps were shaky and his breathing labored.

But then, after reaching the first energy source—an ancient grove deep within a rainforest—Oslov noticed a change. Elias's pallor began to brighten, his movements grew more fluid, and his eyes regained a spark of their old brilliance.

By the time they reached the second location, a secluded temple carved into a cliffside overlooking the roaring sea, Elias was able to walk on his own.

His posture straightened, and he seemed to grow taller. His aura of power was slowly returning.

Oslov watched in awe as Elias performed supernatural feats that defied everything he knew.

One day, he watched Elias leap thousands of feet across the air, landing softly on a distant peak without so much as a sound.

On another occasion, Elias lifted a massive boulder with a single hand and set it aside as if it were nothing more than a pebble.

"By the gods..." Oslov murmured, his eyes wide. "How is this possible? I've known you for years, Elias, but I never imagined—"

Elias turned to him, his expression serious but tinged with a hint of amusement. "What you see now is only a fraction of my true strength," he said. "I have yet to regain even 5% of what I once was. But with each step, we grow closer."

Their travels became smoother as Elias continued to recover. He began to guide the entourage with more confidence, his senses attuned to the hidden energies scattered across the Earth.

At times, he would stop suddenly and his head would tilt as if listening to some far-off whisper. Then he would change their course by a few degrees.

One day, as they rested on a mountain ledge overlooking a valley bathed in golden light, Elias turned to Oslov with a serious expression. "Our time together is coming to an end, Oslov."

Oslov looked up, confused. "What do you mean? We've still got more places to go, right? More of your energy to reclaim?"

Elias shook his head slowly. "There are more places, yes. But the next few are far more dangerous, even for someone like me. I need to continue this journey alone. I cannot keep putting you in harm's way."

Oslov's face hardened with resolve. "I'm not letting you go alone, Elias. I've come this far with you, and I'm not turning back now. Whatever dangers there are, we'll face them together."

Elias looked at him with gratitude. "Your loyalty is a rare treasure, my friend. But this is a path you cannot follow. What lies ahead is beyond mortal comprehension, and I cannot risk your life."

Oslov's voice was firm and defiant. "I don't care. I'm staying with you, no matter what."

Elias sighed as a wry smile appeared on his face. "I knew you'd say that." Before Oslov could react, Elias raised a hand and snapped his fingers. In an instant, Oslov found himself back within the familiar halls of his estate, surrounded by his startled servants and guards.

"What the—" Oslov began, looking around in confusion.

And then, Elias's voice echoed softly in his mind, as if carried on the wind. "Stay safe, my friend."

Left on his own, Elias continued his journey to the final and most dangerous location—a place known only to him, hidden from the eyes of the world.

The air grew colder as he ventured further. The landscape became more treacherous with each step. Snow-capped peaks loomed in the distance, their sharp edges cutting into a stormy sky.

He knew this was the last of his energy wells on Earth. Unlike the others, this place was guarded by ancient forces—creatures born of the Earth's primal energies, slumbering for eons but ever vigilant.

Elias approached the heart of the mountains with his senses heightened. He could feel the presence of the guardians even before he saw them. Massive forms, like living rock and ice, began to stir from the landscape, their eyes glowing with a deep, ancient light.

"I am here to reclaim what is mine," Elias declared, his voice resonating across the frozen valley. "Stand down, and I will not harm you."

The guardians, towering beings of stone and frost, seemed to consider his words for a moment as their heavy gazes locked onto his.

Then, with a sound like grinding mountains, they began to move, positioning themselves between Elias and the source of his remaining strength.

"So be it," Elias murmured, his eyes narrowing. "I have no time to waste."

They were created from the storage of his energy, it only made sense for him to be the one to destroy them.

And with that, Elias lunged at the mountain sized guardians.

The first guardian, a giant of ice and rock, raised its massive arm, encased in solid ice that shimmered like crystal.

With a deafening roar, it swung down with the force of an avalanche, aiming to crush Elias where he stood. The sheer power of the attack shattered the ground beneath it, sending shockwaves rippling outwards.

Elias leapt backward just as the colossal fist slammed into the earth. The impact created a crater the size of a small lake causing ice and snow to erupt into the air like a geyser.

Chapter 1630: Astute Observation

Estela stepped forward and shoved the other Lieutenant aside before tapping on the communication console.

"You have a one-hour headstart. After that, we will take necessary actions to bring you into custody, with or without your cooperation," She voiced with conviction.

Her decision sparked an immediate backlash among her officers. Lieutenant Kael, visibly agitated, voiced his concern loudly.

"Commander, this is a mistake! He is manipulating the situation. He's a fugitive, a destroyer of worlds!"

Lieutenant Mora joined in, his voice a deep rumble.

"I must agree with Kael, Commander. Giving him a headstart could compromise our mission. Gustav is the villain here, not a hero. He needs to be detained now."

Estela turned to face her crew, her stature commanding and resolute.

"I have made my decision. We will give him the hour. It is not just his fate at stake but the lives of thousands. We must consider the broader implications of our actions." She paused briefly before taking a glance at every single one of them.

"We are pursuers of justice, not blind enforcers. We must see beyond the surface. Gustav Crimson's capture is important, but so are the lives of the oppressed on those spacecraft."

-Back in the Present-

As Gustav's spacecraft surged forward, breaking away from the gravitational pull of the Nereus Sector, Estela's ship remained a silent sentinel among the fleet.

Her eyes stayed fixed on the receding spacecraft.

'Gustav Crimson, who are you really? An architect of war or a harbinger of peace?' Estela thought to herself as she prepared to bridge the vast distance between them, not just in space but in understanding.

As the room buzzed with reluctant compliance and whispered discontent, two lieutenants, Kael and a lesser-known officer named Serin—a sleek, silver-skinned humanoid with delicate features and piercing yellow eyes—exchanged glances.

Their discontent with Estela's decision was clear and a silent agreement passed between them.

"We cannot let him get away," Serin whispered, her voice a sibilant hiss. "We should follow him discreetly."

Kael nodded in agreement, "Yes, we'll organize a stealth tail. Commander Estela won't know, and we'll be ready to act if he tries anything."

Undisclosed to Estela, Kael, and Serin quietly directed one of the smaller, faster alliance spacecraft to follow Gustav's ship at a safe distance. The vessel, equipped with cloaking technology, slipped away from the main fleet, its presence masked by the vastness of space.

Aboard their stealth ship, the crew worked silently, the tension palpable. The pilot, a nimble, dark-veined Thulian named Jax, maneuvered the ship with expert precision.

"Cloak engaged. We're invisible to their sensors," he murmured, his four eyes scanning multiple screens.

From within the craft, Kael and Serin monitored Gustav's path, their resolve firm but fraught with the risk of their rogue operation.

As Gustav's ship moved steadily towards its destination, the alliance stealth ship trailed behind. Kael and Serin watched cautiously, their plans a precarious gambit that could sway the balance of this high-stakes confrontation.

While Gustav stood at the helm, gazing out at the cosmos, the stars streaking past as they approached their destination.

"Command, we are approximately three hours from Planet Solquix," the spacecraft's AI announced, its voice a calm, neutral tone that contrasted sharply with the tension aboard.

Gustav nodded, tapping the console lightly as he pulled up the coordinates for Planet Solquix. The display showed a vibrant blue and green orb, a commercial hub planet known for its strict governance and strong alliance presence, making it a haven for those in need.

"Why did the alliance give us a one-hour headstart?" Gustav mused aloud, his brow furrowed in suspicion.

"It's unlike them to show leniency."

Ria, who had been coordinating the care of the rescued individuals, joined him at the console.

"Maybe they're starting to see reason."

Gustav shook his head, unconvinced.

"Or maybe it's a calculated move to get what they want without a fight. We need to be careful."

As they spoke, unknown to them, the rogue fleet led by Lieutenants Kael and Serin was closing in. Despite Commander Estela's orders for no approach till after an hour mark, they were driven by their convictions that Gustav must be stopped at all costs.

On the stealth ship, Lieutenant Kael stood beside the pilot, his eyes fixed on the sensor array.

"Increase speed. We need to catch up as soon as possible."

Serin, her features tense with anticipation, checked their weapons systems.

"Arming disruptors. We won't let him slip through."

Back on Gustav's ship, as they neared Planet Solquix, the atmosphere around the rescued individuals was a mix of anxiety and hopeful relief. The planet itself was a hub for intergalactic trade and safety, its cities sprawling with diverse cultures and its markets a bustling testament to its economic vitality.

"Preparing for a descent into Planet Solquix. Please secure all cargo and personnel," the AI instructed, its voice an urgent prompt amidst the growing uncertainty.

The planet stood before them in space as Gustav turned and spoke to Ria firmly, "Get everyone ready."

Just then, a warning blared through the spacecraft.

"Incoming projectile detected!" the AI alerted.

Gustav's eyes widened as he rushed to the defense controls.

"Brace for impact!"

The ship shuddered violently as a disruptor blast from the stealth ship hit, temporarily disabling the engines and sending them drifting. The cabin lights flickered, panic rising among the passengers.

"Report!" Gustav barked, gripping the console to steady himself.

"We've been hit by an energy disruptor, systems are down but slowly recovering. It's an ambush," the AI responded.

On the stealth ship, Kael smirked, his plan unfolding. "Keep firing. This ends now."

Gustav, assessing their dire situation, activated the ship's emergency defense protocols.

"Deploying countermeasures," the AI complied, releasing a burst of dense smoke and electromagnetic pulses, designed to disorient and delay the attackers.

Gustav's ship, enveloped in clouds of smoke and electromagnetic waves, became a ghost amid the cosmos. The stealth ship commanded by Lieutenant Kael struggled to regain its bearings, its sensors blaring with false alarms and distorted readings.

"Can't get a lock on them!" shouted the pilot, frustration evident in his voice as he toggled switches, trying to pierce through the deceptive fog Gustav had deployed.

Kael, standing rigid with determination, peered through the haze on their monitors.

"Keep at it! They can't have gone far. Boost the sensor gain, filter out the ECM noise."

Meanwhile, inside Gustav's ship, the situation was growing desperate. The engines had been knocked offline by the disruptor blast, and the AI's calm voice belied the urgency of their plight.

"Engine reboot in T minus twenty seconds."

Gustav, his hands firmly on the manual override controls, felt the weight of every second as they ticked by.

"Hold on, everyone. Just a bit more time," he muttered as he coaxed the ship's systems to respond.

The passengers, sensing the tension, clung to whatever they could as the spacecraft jostled and shook.

Ria, assisting by securing some frightened children, called out, "Gustav, how long?"

"Almost there, Ria. Keep everyone safe just in case," Gustav responded, his focus unyielding.

With only five seconds remaining for the engines to come back online, the stealth ship's sensors finally cut through the interference.

"Target reacquired!" the sensor operator exclaimed, relief laced with triumph in his voice.

Kael didn't hesitate.

"Fire all forward batteries! Take them down now!"

Kael didn't care that there were innocents on board. All he knew was that he couldn't relent in a chase against the infamous Gustav or it would mean his end.

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Now that the universe had given him an opportunity where Gustav was vulnerable because of his current actions, he would use it to the best of his ability.

The commands were executed with chilling efficiency.

Gustav, sensing the impending attack, reacted instinctively. He leaped upwards, his body morphing as he activated his Iro Silk ability. From his skin, diamond-like icicles spread rapidly, encasing the spacecraft in a shimmering, protective shell.

The stealth ship's weapons discharged a barrage of energy pulses, each one designed to overwhelm and destroy. As the pulses struck, Gustav's ship began to spiral uncontrollably, the force of the impacts magnified by their disabled state.

The interior of Gustav's ship trembled violently, the sounds of creaking metal and the roar of energy impacts filling the air. Passengers screamed, their voices mingled with the ship's alarms.

Gustav, his form shimmering with the icy sheen of Iro Silk, struggled to keep up with constantly reactivating the ability to cover up dents in the barrier.

"Hold on!" he shouted over the din, his voice a beacon of hope in the chaos as he navigated the spacecraft physically from within.

Each hit strained his ability to regenerate the protective ice, the Iro Silk shattering and reforming under the relentless assault.

Kael, observing the resilience of their target, gritted his teeth.

"Increase power output! Break through that defense!"

Back on Gustav's ship, the AI announced, "Engine reboot complete. Manual control required."

With no time to spare, Gustav dashed back to the helm, his hands flying over the controls to stabilize their harrowing descent.

"Re-engaging engines, now!"