

## Death 1261

Death... and me

Chapter 1261: Plans to stay a while longer

Although the pearls were used in a different manner, the Yin and Yang Starlight Body Cultivation Technique worked perfectly, allowing the twins to reach Second Grade Star Body after another day of hard work.

[See? Everything worked out just well. So, how do you feel right now?]

Roan took out his White Scythe and performed a few moves in the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm. “The difference isn’t that big.”

[But you know why that’s the case, right?]

Roan nodded in response. “I do. It’s because we’re already in the Saint Realm. The Second Grade Star Body would have a much bigger impact if our cultivation was in the Nascent Soul Realm, which was the minimum requirement for it. At the Saint Realm, we’re supposed to be breaking through into Third Grade Star Body instead.”

[That’s correct. You can improve your Star Body Grade every two cultivation realms, starting from the Core Formation Realm. With that said, the First Grade Star Body is most suitable for someone at the Core Formation and Core and Soul Fusion Realm. Nascent Soul and Soul Transformation would be the apt realms for Second Grade Star Body. Naturally, Saint Realm and Elemental Transformation would be the realms for Third Grade, which you still haven’t achieved.]

Nonetheless, Rean couldn’t help but comment, “To be honest, I find it really impressive. Try to use my Enhancement skill.”

Roan nodded and did as Rean said. Only then did he notice what Rean meant. “Impressive indeed.”

Rean smiled in response. “My Enhancement skill increases the raw strength in a person’s body. However, it has a limit. Now that our bodies had become stronger, that limit increased. The higher our Star Body Grade, the higher the effect of my Enhancement skill.”

Sister Orb was happy to hear that. [This is great! Have you noticed? Your limit at the moment against the Sacred Land geniuses was Late Stage Saint Realm. If you two fought together while using the Elemental Exchange, you could bring that to the Peak Stage Saint Realm. However, I believe you two can fight against Peak Stage Saint Realm cultivators of the Sacred Land with the Second Grade Star Body plus Rean's Enhancement skill. If you two fight together, perhaps you can once again jump an entire realm to fight.]

Roan wanted to put that to the test straight away. However, he knew there was a more pressing matter. "Alright, I'm going to the Alchemist Hall to see if someone accepted the request I left there three months ago. I will test my strength against the Saint Realm people of the Saint Realm Ranking Board after I'm done with that."

Rean then asked, "What about our departure? Shouldn't we leave straight away after you check out that Molten Divine Rock Flower?"

Roan nodded, saying, "We will. There's one guy within 30 positions of the Ranking Board who's at the Peak Stage of the Saint Realm. I will just fight that guy and see if I can get even. As soon as I finish, we're heading out. One or two extra hours here won't make much of a difference."

Roan then looked at Rean. "However, are you sure you want to leave straight away? You spent the last three months exchanging your equipment for pearls, right? You didn't have a chance to gather that many Rank Two Divine Stones. Don't you want to accumulate some Divine Stones before we go out? We won't have a Sacred Land or a Lukimira Sect full of Divine Veins to cultivate outside."

"This..." Rean had to admit Roan was right. He wanted to go out to find Qia, but would they go much further without money?

Roan also added, "Besides, you don't really think that the smugglers will help us for free, right?"

Rean sighed, knowing that Roan was right in that regard. "Fine, I guess I'll go head back to forge more weapons and armors. Without Divine Stones to pay for the journey, we will probably take a lot longer to arrive in Jhiod."

"It's good that you understand. Trust me when I say that you aren't the only one wanting to find your girl. I'm saying it exactly because I think it'll be much faster after gathering some wealth," Roan noted.

Rean didn't want to waste time either, so he returned to the Blacksmith Hall three days later after preparing more materials. Fortunately, he did have a lot of Earth's Remnants from his last visit to the Cosgles Village, so he just had to deal with the rest. "Alright, I'm back. I don't need Deep Sea Spiked Clam Pearls anymore. We're going back to Divine Stones. 100 Rank Two Divine Stones for normal Element Gathering Equipment. 300 Rank Two Divine Stones for the Special Edition."

\*Wow!\*

Naturally, everyone was delighted to hear that Rean would go back to work.

Meanwhile, Roan went to the Alchemist Hall to verify his request. At the counter, he asked the worker about it. "So, did anyone find the information I needed?"

The worker checked Roan's request before nodding, saying, "Yes, an alchemist called Glatica from the Core Sector of the Sacred Land left a message behind, saying she knew something about it." The worker then passed Roan her contact. "You can use this token at the Core Sector to have Glatica come out and talk to you. She should be there concocting pills at the moment."

Roan was satisfied to hear that. "Good."

Without wasting time, he went straight to the Core Sector before passing the token to one of the guards there. However, before he could do so, someone called his attention. "Oh! Roan! You're finally back!"

Roan looked in the voice's direction and immediately recognized the person. "Kihin, huh?"

After spending a few months with Roan, Kihin was already used to Roan's cold behavior. "That's me. Say, what made you come here to the Core Sector?"

Roan pondered over it for a bit before telling Kihin who he was looking for.

Kihin nodded after listening to him. "Oh, Glatica? Come, I'll bring you to her residence. There's no need to wait for the guards to call her out."

Roan didn't have a reason to refuse, so the two entered the Core Sector with Kihin's permission.

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Chapter 1262: Molten Divine Rock Flower

Along the way, Roan took the opportunity to ask Kihin. "So, how was it? Did you find your compatible star beyond the barrier?"

Kihin sighed in disappointment, telling Roan, "Not even close. You told me you could feel your star's presence when you got close enough. However, the sea of stars is just too huge. Besides, I don't know whether I would be able to feel its presence or not, even if I was close. Perhaps that was something that only happened to you."

Roan nodded. "Unfortunately, I can't confirm that either. But then again, the stars beyond the barrier are much better with Starlight Energy than the ones inside it. Don't forget what I told you. While you're looking for the right star, you won't be doing anything else. If it takes too long, you will lose too much of your young age, which you should be using for training."

Kihin sighed and nodded in understanding. "I know that, alright? I'm starting to consider leaving the Starlight Body Cultivation Technique aside for the moment. Once I get much older and time stops mattering too much, I'll go after the perfect star again."

Suddenly, Roan paused. "What did you say?"

Kihin looked at Roan, puzzled. "That I will leave body cultivation aside?"

Roan shook his head, replying, "No, after that."

"That I will wait until I'm much older so that time won't matter?" Kihin asked.

Roan's eyes lit up when an idea popped into his mind. "That's it. I think I know a way for you to find your compatible star."

“What?!” Kihin was shocked to hear that. “How?”

Roan shook his head, telling him, “Let me finish this thing with Glatica first, then I’ll come with you to your home and tell you what you should do.”

Kihin didn’t like that but nodded nonetheless. Immediately, he increased his pace. “Then let’s go there already, come on!”

Sometime later, the two arrived at Glatica’s residence. “Glatica, open the formation. I’m here with a friend.”

It didn’t take too long before the formation was opened and a woman appeared at the entrance. “What do you want? I’m busy.”

Kihin then looked at Roan, saying, “That’s your problem. Go ahead.”

Roan nodded before introducing himself. “I’m Roan Larks. I was the one who left the message about the Molten Divine Rock Flower in the Alchemist Hall. Do you have the information I seek?”

Glatica’s expression changed immediately after that. “Oh, so it was you! That depends. How much are you willing to pay for the information? I might as well tell you that there aren’t many people who know about that flower.”

Kihin was puzzled. He sure had never heard of something like it. But then again, he wasn’t an alchemist, so he didn’t intervene.

Roan nodded, telling her, “I’m willing to pay 100000 Merit Points.”

Glatica pondered over it for a bit and shook her head. “200000, and the information is yours.”

Kihin's mouth could not help but twitch after hearing their negotiation. "Hey, that's daylight robbery! You can buy four Rank Three Divine Stones with that!" Naturally, he knew how important such a huge amount of points was.

Roan then made a counter-proposal. "In any case, we'll just do useless bartering just so we can reach a middle ground. Let's not waste time with that. 150000 Merit Points. If you want, the Merit Points are yours. If not, then I'll ask someone else. It's not like I'm desperate for the information anyway."

Glatica nodded after hearing that. "I like your straightforwardness. Very well, 150000 Merit Points it is."

Roan also added, "We will include a Soul Binding Contract to make sure both sides are being true to each other."

Glatica was more than happy to comply. If Roan didn't say that, she would. "That's a given. Now, come inside."

The contract was very simple. Once signed, Glatica was obligated to tell the real information while Roan was obligated to pay 150000 Merit Points. However, Roan also added a clause where Glatica must not talk about this deal to anyone. Glatica didn't really care about such a small thing, so she accepted that. That was Roan's way of protecting himself. After all, if she leaked the information about him looking for this flower, perhaps the Blood Path Sect would have someone waiting for him once he went after it. He didn't mind Kihin seeing it as the guy did gain his trust.

Eventually, the contract took effect and bound their souls... well, Glatica's soul, at least. The contract had no effect on Roan, not that she knew that. Not to mention that Roan also paid to keep the uselessness of the contract a secret.

Glatica began to explain, "I have received your Merit Points. Very well, I'm part of the Searing Blood Race, so we're quite knowledgeable regarding items related to the Fire Element. The Molten Divine Rock Flower just so happens to be an item we would love to have."

"Where can I find it?" Roan asked.

However, she shook her head, explaining, "It won't be easy. First of all, you won't find this flower in our Huring Continent. My clan's elders traveled all around the realm in the past, and it was during one of those travels to the other continents that they found that flower."

Roan narrowed his eyes, asking, "So it's in another continent?"

"Correct." Glatica nodded. "To be more specific, it can be found in Treavin Continent as it's a huge desert. Fire Element is constant and very pure in certain parts of that continent, necessary for the flower's growth. The elder who brought one of those flowers in the past told me that he bought the flower in an auction there and that it's very rare. With that said, you will have to find it by yourself. Or, of course, you can try to buy it there."

Kihin couldn't help but comment, "Isn't that kind of useless information? There's no way he can travel to such a faraway continent."

Glatica laughed in response. "The agreement was that the information had to be real, not that it was easy. Now then, this is all that I know, so you two can leave already."

Roan nodded, not minding it too much. Treavin was also part of the journey, so he and Rean would get there eventually. "Alright, Kihin. A deal is a deal, so don't bother about it. Let's go."

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Chapter 1263: Helping Kihin

On their way back to Kihin's residence, Kihin couldn't help but ask, "Are you really okay with that? That was 150000 Merit Points! That's quite a lot, even for me in the Core Sector. In the end, that information is useless since you won't be heading to Treavin Continent anytime soon."

Roan just faintly smiled, not telling him that, in fact, he would be leaving soon. "Don't bother about that. Now, let's head back and try what I have in mind. Perhaps you'll be able to find your compatible star."

Kihin narrowed his eyes but didn't say anything. He didn't believe someone at Roan's level would travel anywhere that far anyway. "Alright then."

Back at Kihin's residence, he told his subordinates and workers to leave him and Roan alone.

Roan then warned Kihin one more time. "If it really works, you understand what it means to share this method with other people, right? I won't stop you from doing so. However, if you die because of this, that'll be your problem."

Kihin nodded, assuring Roan, "Don't worry. I have no intention of revealing it to anyone. First of all, I haven't told anyone about the method to break through the barrier in the first place. No, better than that, I didn't even realize there was a barrier. If you haven't told me about the barrier, I would eventually select a star inside it."

Roan was satisfied to hear that. "Then that's good. In any case, I'm not prohibiting you from sharing it. I'm just saying that you better be certain before you do it. After all, it was thanks to you that I found out about the barrier and the compatible stars in the first place."

Roan then went straight to the point. "Anyways, when you told me that you would wait until your age didn't matter much, I had an idea. As I told you before, my star is a black dwarf. Basically, it's a remnant of a real star that died tens of billions of years ago. I believe the trick here is age!"

"Age?" Kihin was puzzled. "Stars can live for a very long time, so all of them are of large ages in general. It's very hard to find young ones. Still, I don't know how 'age' can help me find my compatible star."

Roan then explained, "Starlight Energy is different from normal Starlight. Normal Starlight can be blocked and might not reach our location. Starlight, on the other hand, can definitely make its way here. Between the countless numbers of mixed Starlight Energy that we can feel, your compatible star's Starlight Energy is definitely there."

Kihin nodded, telling Roan, "That's considering that I truly have a compatible star, of course."

Roan agreed with Kihin. "Exactly. Now, here's the deal. You will enter the sea of stars with your mind once again. This time, however, you won't just keep moving around with your mind, trying to feel that compatible star. Instead, I want you to stay still and relax. Let all the Starlight Energies pass through you. No, to be more specific, let the starlights pass through your own Starlight."



Kihin was still puzzled. “I can’t see where you’re getting here. I did that already and didn’t feel anything.”

As mentioned before, everyone was born with Starlight in their bodies. It was just a matter of feeling it when using the Starlight Body Cultivation Technique.

Roan then explained, “That’s because you tried to feel it the wrong way. Here’s my idea. As you know, everyone is born with their own Starlight. That’s a given. However... I don’t think that Starlight was ours to start with.”

“This...” Kihin wasn’t an idiot. To enter the Core Sector, just having a connection in the Sacred Land wasn’t enough. You had to be strong and intelligent as well. “I see...” Immediately, Kihin felt like he was enlightened.

Roan could see that Kihin understood. “That’s exactly what you’re thinking. If the Starlight we are born with isn’t really ours, but something our compatible star put there, then everything becomes clearer. First of all, why would a living being have just one type of Starlight in their bodies when they’re born? That makes no sense as there are countless mixed Starlights all around us. We should have the same mix in our bodies, not just one type of Starlight. I believe that our bodies only accepted the Starlight that matched our bodies. Or, you could say that a specific star selected us at that moment. It doesn’t matter, though. The important thing is that we have a specific star’s Starlight in our bodies. That’s why a compatible star’s Starlight exists. We’re just connecting with the original owner of the Starlight in our bodies.”

Roan continued, “Now, I can guarantee you that no other starlight has the same age as another. Their moment of birth might have been very close, but they’re definitely not the same. Your objective is very simple. You will let the mixed Starlight pass through your body’s Starlight, and you will try to find that specific one that has a similar age to the Starlight in your own body.”

Kihin couldn’t help but ask, “But how will I determine the age of my own Starlight and the Starlights passing through it?”

Roan pointed at Kihin himself, replying, “It isn’t that hard if you think about it. Starlight needs to travel way too far to reach us here. During this time, it definitely suffers through some changes.” In fact, Roan was thinking about the various techniques humans used to track the stars back on Earth. Back there, humans could determine the approximate age of a star through the spectrum of the light that reached Earth, calling it redshift. He believed that Starlight Energy went through similar behavior. “The Starlight

in your body has the same age changes as your compatible star's. Look for it. The key is how old the Starlight Energy is."

Kihin immediately nodded after that. "Alright, I'll give it a try."

Even though Roan gave Kihin clues, the fact was that there were many Starlights that did have similar ages, so Kihin had a wide scope of stars to go after through the sea of stars. However, compared to the actual number of stars in total, he reduced the scope to something that was at least manageable. At the very least, now he could tell which direction he should go to find that specific Starlight Similarity.

Around a week later, the experts of the Realm of Gods once again looked at the sky. A new Star Body had appeared, much to their surprise.

"Someone... or some power... has found a way to locate the right star."

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Chapter 1264: Alright

The Realm of Gods was going crazy. Not long ago, two Star Bodies appeared at the same time. Now, another one had also appeared. It was obvious that some, somewhere, found a way to acquire a Star Body without relying on chance. If that was the case, wasn't the power behind this discovery going to become a threat to them? They had to find out who did it.

Unfortunately, none of them could ever imagine that it happened on such a desolate continent in the middle of nowhere. All the powers were keeping an eye on each other, thinking that only they could have done such a thing.

Rean and Kihin knew nothing about that, of course. Kihin was just delighted that he was able to find his compatible star. Sure, he still had to travel to several different places in the sea of stars in his mind. However, he at least knew the places he should go look for it. "It was like what you said! When I got close enough to my own star, I felt the connection between my Starlight and that star. You're definitely correct. The Starlight Energy in our bodies was definitely not ours at first. A star owned it at first!"

Roan was happy to hear that, saying in response, "That's good. Now then, I'll take my leave here. Remember, make sure you know what you're doing if you ever decide to share this method with others.

If I were you, I would first wait until I have the cultivation to protect myself before opening my mouth. But then again, I won't judge you if you decide otherwise."

Kihin didn't like it. He felt like he now owed Roan too much. "You're leaving already? I haven't even found a way to thank you for the help. You, more than anyone else, know how important such a thing is for me and my future."

Roan shook his head, telling him, "You already paid me the agreed amount of Merit Points. Besides, you were my helper this time. Just like you did with me, I had you try my own methods. The payment was the information that my process of finding the compatible star works."

Kihin nodded after hearing that. "I still think I owe you, so at least bring this with you." He then threw a spatial ring at Roan. Inside, there were around ten thousand Rank Two Divine Stones. Such a quantity was a lot, even for Kihin in the Core Sector."

Roan didn't refuse as he and Rean were just waiting for Rean to gather more Rank Two Divine Stones before leaving. "Thanks, I'll make good use of them." Of course, just to be sure, he asked Sister Orb to check if there was any tracker or anything like that there. Sure enough, the ring didn't have any.

Kihin couldn't help but let out a sigh after Roan left, making a vow to himself that if the opportunity appeared one day, he would give Roan a helping hand. 'But first, I have to grow strong enough to be someone who can help him. That guy... he's going very far with such talent and comprehension. Even I have to admit I'm not his match in that regard.'

Roan then informed Rean regarding what he found, which surprised Rean a lot. In any case, Rean was more satisfied with the Rank Two Divine Stones. 'Great! That will reduce my work time by a lot.'

Roan asked back, 'How much longer do you need to forge weapons and armors?'

'I'm planning to gather at least another twenty thousand Rank Two Divine Stones. This is a fortune that you might not even find in the Inner Sector of the Sacred Land. That includes disciples with big backgrounds. With this amount, I believe we won't have trouble paying smugglers to bring us through the continental barriers.'

Roan nodded in response to those words. 'Very well.'

Roan then took the chance of him being free to go to the Saint Realm Ranking Board to issue a new challenge. As mentioned before, he selected a Peak Stage Saint Realm cultivator in the Inner Sect. He had already achieved a lot of success in the Ranking Board due to his position and cultivation, but his sudden challenge against a Peak Stage Saint caught even more attention.

Though, it was quite unfortunate for the others that battles could be done behind closed doors. The guy Roan challenged knew that Roan was able to win against Late Stage Saint Realm cultivators, albeit with a lot of difficulties. He didn't know if Roan got stronger or not while still in the Initial Stage, but he definitely didn't want others to see him lose to someone three stages below his cultivation.

Fortunately for Roan, it turned out that Sister Orb was right. With the Second Grade Star Body and the limit for Rean's Enhancement skill increased, Roan was able to fight against the Peak Stage Saint guy without many issues. The battle didn't end instantly, but Roan did win with certain ease. Roan even let the guy select the field so that he could test his strength against the odds, so he was satisfied with the results.

After Roan's position in the rank changed, everyone was shocked shitless. Then again, they didn't see the fight. So what? His increase in the Saint Realm Ranking Board proved his victory. However, something not very Roan-like happened after that. Once Roan achieved his victory against the guy, Roan stopped appearing in the arena.

Even Rean was puzzled as he knew Roan would usually keep going there to test his cultivation and the Second Grade Star Body. 'Why did you stop? It's not like you care about catching attention since we have Etherian on our side.'

Roan shook his head, telling Rean, 'There's no need anymore. I just wanted to check a few differences between having the Second Grade Star Body and not having it. Fortunately, my battle with the last guy was enough to test it out. Now I can just wait until we reach the Third Grade or ascend to the next stage.'

Rean didn't insist. 'Well, if you say so. Although we just started to cultivate, it will take several months before we can try a breakthrough into the Middle Stage of the Saint Realm.'

Roan agreed with him in that regard. 'Correct. Anyway, just focus on your forging. I won't be going out anymore until you get the necessary Rank Two Divine Stones for our journey.'

'Alright.'

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Chapter 1265: Sale

And that's exactly what Rean did. He spent all his time forging the weapons while Roan just cultivated with Kentucky and Celis. Thanks to that, Rean also experienced an increase in cultivation even though he only did the elemental exchange with Roan. Eventually, the day finally came when Rean delivered the last Special Edition of his Element Gathering equipment. "Here you go, a set of flying knives capable of gathering Wind Element. Since there were quite a few pieces, I took three days to finish them all. The price is 1000 Rank Two Divine Stones."

The cultivator was delighted to see his knives and immediately used his Divine Sense on them. Sure enough, Wind Element gathered on their own, leaving a lot of space for the inscriptions he would add later. "1000 Rank Two Divine Stones... Over two years used to save them. However, I don't regret it at all. These little guys are perfect." The guy then passed the Divine Stones to Rean. "Thank you!"

Rean nodded before sending the stones into the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm. With Roan obtaining ten thousand from Kihin, the twins now had thirty thousand Rank Two Divine Stones to spend. Rean also took some Rank One Divine Stones for simpler trades, so there were another ten thousand of those. "Alright, everyone. I need to leave now. I'll let you know when I come back to continue forging." Well, Rean didn't think he would come back anymore anyway.

However, before he left, the Blacksmith Hall Master and a few other elders stopped him. "Wait a moment."

Rean looked at those guys and could tell that a few of them were the people who tried to figure out how his Element Gathering equipment worked. "Oh, Senior Grabol. I haven't seen you in the last few months. Tiao and Francis as well. The last time I saw you was during I tried out for the Blacksmith Hall. Is there anything I can help you with?"

Grabol and the others nodded in response. "We have been trying to figure out how your Element Gathering equipment worked. However, we finally reached the conclusion that there's some secret

involved during the forging process that can't be analyzed. No, to be more precise, once the equipment's finished, the method to create it disappears from its forging traits."

Rean had to admit the guy was really good. "So you noticed, huh? That's correct. It disappears, leaving behind the Element Gathering ability alone. However, that doesn't mean you can't figure out how it works by analyzing my equipment. It's just that it's very difficult."

Grabol nodded and went straight to the main topic. "Rean, we really wish to have your method to create Element Gathering Equipment. Would you mind coming up with a price? Before you refuse, I know that you have Elder Etherian backing you up. However, this kind of equipment is just too important for our Sacred Land. If it continues like this, even Senior Etherian won't be able to stop the other elders from coming after you for the methods."

"Alright." Rean immediately nodded.

"What?!" Let alone Grabol, even the disciples and the other elders were taken aback. How come he accepted it so easily? If it was any of the other blacksmiths, they would be extremely unwilling to do so.

Rean looked at Grabol and the others with a puzzled expression. "Is there a problem? If you don't want to buy the method, then so be it." Rean was leaving the Huring Continent, so he didn't mind doing it. That was a good way of securing some extra profit as well. Besides, he wouldn't talk about his tempering methods or the Earth's Remnants. His own Element Gathering equipment would still be the best.

"Wait, wait, wait!" Grabol immediately came back to himself. "We want! We definitely want it!"

Rean smiled in response, telling them, "Very well. Senior Grabol and the other elders saw how profitable this business could be, right? With that said, I hope you won't mind if I ask for a very high price for it."

Grabol immediately raised his hand. "You got one thing wrong. We do want the method, but we won't allow the method to leave the Sacred Land. The ones who will know of it are just a scant few, as it is directly related to the Sacred Land's strength. With that said, we won't be opening a business anywhere. We will only forge equipment for our disciples and elders. Also, those who learn it will have to sign a Soul Binding Contract, with the penalty of death in case they try to reveal the secret behind the methods."

Rean wasn't surprised to hear that. "Very well, that makes me even happier. In any case, I will still ask for a high price."

Grabol didn't mind. "That's a given. Paying you for this huge contribution to the Sacred Land is just the right thing to do."

Rean then stated his price. "1000 Rank Three Divine Stones."

Grabol's face went pale in an instant. "This..."

Before he could refuse, Rean intervened. "Don't come at me, telling me I can't have Rank Three Divine Stones because I'm not a Core Sector member. You said it yourself. This is directly related to the Sacred Land's strength as a whole. Even if I'm not a Core Sector member, surely I deserve such a payment."

Grabol shook his head. "It's not that. We would definitely make an exception for you since you're correct in your statement. It's just that 1000 Rank Three Divine Stones is truly very expensive."

Rean smiled in response. "Not really. You don't need to share the forging method, but you can still sell it to some big shots of the Huring Continent and recover the Divine Stones eventually. Think of the long term. It's definitely worth it."

Grabol then closed his eyes before he spread his Divine Sense. From the looks of it, he couldn't make that decision alone, so he contacted someone else. Around a minute later, he sighed and nodded, telling Rean, "Very well. One thousand it is."

"Thank you for your patronage." Rean was delighted to hear that.. "Please, bring everyone who wants and has the right to learn my method inside. I will only show how you do it once!"

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Chapter 1266: The Sacred Land's Demand

Grabol and three more elders came inside. Before Rean started to show his methods, Grabol forced the guys to sign a Soul Binding Contract. It was so that they wouldn't reveal the methods to anyone else without Grabol or the Sacred Land Master's permission. Yes, Kristio was the person Grabol contacted

about paying Rean for his method. Grabol would also share the method with Kristio later, just in case something happened to him.

With that out of the way, Rean spent one more day teaching those four how to forge Element Gathering equipment. It's just that the results they got weren't as good as Rean's. "Weren't your equipment a lot stronger?"

Rean nodded, saying, "That's obvious. The Element Gathering Method is one thing. My forging process is another. However, don't tell me you don't have your own forging methods that you keep a secret from others. Now that you know how to make your equipment gather a specific element, it's up to you to improve it and make them better."

Grabol nodded, saying, "Rean's right. We only needed the Element Gathering Method. I can definitely think of a hundred different ways to forge a piece of stronger equipment now that I know it. If we also rely on him for the normal forging, can we even call ourselves blacksmiths?"

The other three agreed with Grabol. "We were wrong, Grabol."

Rean smiled in response. Obviously, without the Earth's Remnants and the Soul Gem Blacksmith Workshop, he was certain they wouldn't be able to match the strength of his own equipment. 'In the end, they can't win against a technological world.'

Rean then turned around, preparing to leave. "Alright, our deal is done. Is there anything else you need from me?"

Grabol nodded before bringing out a Soul Binding Contract, telling Rean, "I'm truly sorry for forcing you to do this, but you must sign a Soul Binding Contract as well. I know it was you who created this method, and we're in the wrong to ask you that. However, our Sacred Land can't afford to let this method escape our walls. You will be prohibited from forging equipment that can gather elements outside the Blacksmith Hall of our Sacred Land. After all, we never know if someone will be watching you work even though you have no intention of teaching anything."

Rean narrowed his eyes after hearing that. "What did you say? You must be joking, right? So now what? Once I get a son, I can't teach him my own methods because you said so? This is ridiculous!"



Grabol's expression went slightly red with embarrassment. He knew that it was indeed a ridiculous request, and they would usually not ask such a thing. But then again, that's how important that method was. Just as he was about to try to talk with Rean, another voice echoed in their minds through Divine Sense. 'Rean, you only have two choices. One, sign the contract. Two, never come out of the Sacred Land ever again.'

"Land Master!" Grabol was surprised that Kristio would show himself in the end.

Rean's eyes narrowed even further as he could not help but ask, "Do you have no shame?"

'I don't,' Kristio answered straight away. 'If it's for the safety of my Sacred Land, I'm willing to be the most shameless person that has ever existed. In any case, I allowed Grabol to pay you that enormous price of 1000 Rank Three Divine Stones. I didn't need to do that, but I accepted nonetheless. That was my way of compensating for both your method and this last request. It's up to you whether you want to be permanently confined or not.'

Of course, Rean was just putting up an act. Soul Binding Contracts were useless against him. Not that he would tell them, of course. "Fine. However, you must leave an exception for me. If I decide to teach someone in the future, I can bring the person here and have them sign a Soul Binding Contract in front of you. Is this much okay?"

Kristio decided to allow that much. 'Very well. It will be included in the contract. Just be aware that this person will never be able to forge Element Gathering equipment outside of our Blacksmith Hall either.'

Grabol sighed in relief before he began to write the terms of the contract. Rean then used his blood, and soon, the contract burned up. Of course, the binding part was put on the dummy soul, so nothing could stop Rean from sharing his methods in the future if he wished to.

Grabol then touched Rean's shoulder with an apologetic expression. "I'm sorry, we had no other choice. At least you can still practice your forging in our Blacksmith Hall. I'll give you as much support as I can. Don't worry, our Blacksmith Hall doesn't lose to any branch of the Blacksmith Guild outside. As long as you only forge your Element Gathering equipment here, you're free to do whatever you want."

Rean was still angry, though. Even if it didn't work, the fact was that they wanted to seal his gold mine. "Whatever, I'm leaving." Without even looking back, Rean left the Blacksmith Hall.

Surprisingly, Etherian was outside, waiting for him. "Seems like you decided to sign the contract, huh?"

Rean glanced at him before asking, "You knew they would force me, right?"

"I knew," Etherian replied. "However, I was against it from the very start. I tried to plead for your sake, but Kristio and the others wouldn't listen. In the end, there's only so much I can do. It's quite a pitiful display for a man called one of the Ten Greats, don't you think?" Etherian didn't look happy about that either.

Rean could tell he wasn't lying, especially since there wasn't a need for him to do so. "It's fine. I'll manage."

Etherian then asked through a Divine Sense Message. 'You and your brother are leaving soon. Will you be okay not being able to use your Element Gathering Method anymore?'

Rean just shook his head, telling him, 'It's fine.. Don't worry about it.'

Death... and me

Chapter 1267: Going Out

After the deal, Rean went to Roan's residence and shared the things that happened to him. "Well, it was as we thought. They really tried to seal my knowledge."

Roan wasn't the least bit surprised by that, saying in response, "Our own individual power is impressive, but in the grand scheme of things, we're just Saint Realm experts. The Sacred Land wouldn't pay much attention to our secret since Etherian has our backs. However, we knew that your Element Gathering equipment was different from the very start. It would have been the same thing if you shared your communication system with them."

Rean nodded, telling Roan, "It still infuriates me, though. Oh well, at least I got a thousand Rank Three Divine Stones out of it. Sister Orb, how far in cultivation do you think we can go with these babies?"

[Hehehe! You've really made a nice deal there. If you don't mind wasting energy, these stones should be enough to bring Roan, Kentucky, Celis, and you up to the Initial Stage of the next realm. Of course, I'm talking about cultivation speed here. Using Rank Two Divine Stones or staying in the Sacred Land would eventually bring you there as well. However, I can guarantee that it would be a lot slower.]

Roan immediately asked, "So, how long do you think it would take us? I can tell that I can cultivate much faster with these Rank Three Divine Stones than anything else. To be honest, paying 50000 Merit Points for each stone is way too cheap, in my opinion. They're too good."

[I agree with you. Anyways, if you didn't use them, you would need around a year to reach the Middle Stage. Another year and a half for the Late Stage and an extra two years for the Peak Stage. Then, you would take another three years or so to accumulate enough energy to break through to the Elemental Transformation Realm.]

[However, with these Rank Three Divine Stones, you can cut that time in half! Six months for the Middle Stage, another nine months for the Late Stage, and one more year for the Peak Stage. Naturally, you only need another year and a half to try your breakthrough to the next realm. But then again, that's only if you don't mind wasting energy. If you cultivate using these Divine Stones carefully, it will take longer for you to reach those results. In exchange, they will last a lot longer, possibly being able to bring you up to the Middle Stage of the next realm.]

Roan didn't even need to think twice. "Strength is everything. Even if we waste a lot of the stones' energy, we should increase our power as fast as possible."

Rean nodded in agreement. "Then the wasteful method it is."

[I thought you would say something like that. Just distribute these Rank Three Divine Stones between you, Kentucky, and Celis. You can cultivate however you feel like after that.]

Rean then decided what to do. "I will build an Energy Gathering Formation to extract the energy of these stones even faster inside the Dimensional Realm. Celis will be able to cultivate there nonstop."

With that out of the way, Roan finally got up and said, "If you don't have anything else to do, it's time for us to leave. We already have enough Rank Two and Rank One Divine Stones for our journey."

Rean followed suit. "So be it. You already obtained all the information necessary from Senior Etherian, right?"

Roan nodded in response. "Yes." Soon after, light Element covered the twins' bodies before their appearance changed completely. They also used the alchemist dyes to change the color of their hairs. Roan then pointed to the side. "Come with me."

Roan then brought Rean to a corner of his residence, where a secret passage soon opened. "I haven't stayed still all this while. I asked Kihin how he was able to make a secret passage without anyone noticing and added it to my house as well. With this, no one will see us leaving my house."

Rean then saw a problem. "But what about Kentucky? He's still in the Beast Taming Hall. If we go there and fetch him, others will notice."

Roan shook his head, assuring Rean, "I already took care of that. While you were teaching the elders of the Blacksmith Hall, I passed by the Beast Taming Hall and let Kentucky leave. He'll be waiting for us at a designated point."

With everything out of the way, the twins sneaked out of Roan's residence. Following that, they left the Sacred Land through a teleport formation, heading to the city below. One must remember that the Sacred Land was floating right above Huring City. Nevertheless, Rean couldn't help but sigh as he looked up at the skies. 'In the end, we didn't find much about the formations that sustain the Sacred Land there. I wish I could have studied them a little.'

Roan shook his head, saying, 'Thye definitely wouldn't let you do so. First of all, other than Sister Orb, who told us about it, the number of people who know about those formations is very low. That's a secret we shouldn't be aware of as far as the Sacred Land is concerned.'

Rean had to admit Roan was right. 'Whatever. It's too late now.' Rean then asked something else. 'By the way, did you leave a secret message for Elder Etherian?'

Rean was talking about the message about the Flash Beast in Kamos Kingdom. They were planning to let the Sacred Land know about it after they were gone.

'I did.' Roan nodded as he answered. 'The message will be delivered to Etherian's residence in a month's time. By then, we should be well and truly gone already.'

Rean nodded after hearing that. 'Alright, let's fetch Kentucky and then head to the Cosgles Race's village. I want to take all the remaining Earth's Remnants they gathered during these last few months. I used most of the remnants I had, so I need to stockpile.'

Roan didn't mind as they could pass by there very fast. Outside the city, the twins found Kentucky, hiding in the place Roan told him to.. After putting the Demon Bird inside the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm, they returned to the city before teleporting away.

Death... and me

Chapter 1268: Passing By

After using the same methods to deceive anyone following them as before, Rean and Roan soon arrived at the Kamos Kingdom. They then headed straight to the Cosgles Race's village, which was still hidden thanks to Rean's formation. Of course, Rean could find and pass through it anytime he wanted.

Aien noticed that the formation had been opened, so he immediately came out to check who had arrived. "Oh, Rean! It's been a while!"

Rean was also happy to see the man. "Oh, hey! You broke through! Late Stage Soul Transformation Realm, huh? It seems like the Rank Two Divine Stones I left behind were of good use to you."

Aien laughed in response, saying, "Hahaha! I'm not the only one to make a breakthrough. Quite a few of our members had one, two, or even three breakthroughs during this time. Of course, the ones with three breakthroughs were the guys with lower cultivations. Anyways, we even got one new Nascent Soul Realm member." As he said that, he turned around and called the person. "Mito, come here for a second."

"Yes, elder."

Mito looked to be around his forties. Compared to the twins, his cultivation and age were terrible. However, in a place like this village, he could definitely be considered a genius to have reached that level

at that age. "This is Mito. He just broke through to the Initial Stage of the Nascent Soul Realm three weeks ago. It's all thanks to the Divine Stones you provided us."

Rean nodded at the guy, telling him, "Congratulations. It's good to see my Divine Stones are helping the village prosper a little."

Mito felt very grateful to Rean. "It was all thanks to you. I'll make sure to cultivate more so that I can help Elder Aien in the future."

Aien nodded, satisfied. "By the way, Rean. Thanks to your Divine Stones, we were able to cultivate much faster, so we generated a lot more Earth's Remnants. There are at least a hundred and fifty kilograms separated for you now."

Rean's eyes lit up after hearing that. "That much?! Holy shit! That will last me many years!" Of course, that was the case if Rean didn't start selling his equipment anymore. If he did so, then it wouldn't last that long.

"Many years?" Aien was taken aback. "That's quite troublesome. We will definitely gather much more than that if you take years to use it."

Rean then decided to tell Aien the other purpose of his visit. "To be honest, I don't know if I'm coming back anymore." Rean then used his Divine Sense to tell the whole story. Of course, he kept things like his destination out of the message.

Aien's expression turned awry after listening. "Then... you won't be buying our Earth's Remnants anymore?"

Rean nodded, sighing. "There's no helping it. I'm going to travel very far, and I have no plans to come back anymore. However, I'll buy all the Earth's Remnants you have at the moment. To make sure I can help, I'll pay even more. Here, take it."

Rean then threw a spatial ring to Aien, only for the latter to be taken aback after checking its contents. "O-O-One thousand Rank Two Divine Stones?! Just how long would this last us?"

Rean was happy to see that Aien liked it. "Besides, the spatial ring has an anti-Divine Energy leaking formation. With that said, no one will be able to tell that a lot of Divine Stones can be found inside your ring. That was one of the things that worried you the most, right? Just make sure not to spread this information, and you should be fine."

Nevertheless, Aien didn't like the fact Rean wasn't coming back anymore. "Are you truly never coming back?"

Rean pondered in silence for a bit before saying, "I can't say that I'll never come back. However, I have no idea if I'll come back either. Perhaps we will meet each other again someday."

Aien sighed and asked something else. "I understand. What about the Flash Beast under the mountain?"

Rean then explained, "I left a message to a trusted personage in the Sacred Land. He will provide your village with a new place to live before they try and do anything against it. The best-case scenario would be them not trying to aim at your village since it has way too little Divine Energy compared to big cities. But just to be sure, he will move you to another place with rich Earth Element concentration."

Aien nodded. "By the way, what about the Earth's Remnants?"

Rean couldn't help but laugh out loud. "Just tell them that I was buying it to use in my forging process. Hahaha!"

"This..." Aien didn't understand. "Didn't you say to keep it a secret?"

Rean nodded, telling him, "Yes, but that was because I was still here. Once I'm gone, then what's the point? The other blacksmiths from the Sacred Land will definitely try to find out how to use it. You can take that opportunity to sell them the Earth's Remnants. However, don't be greedy. You must remember that only I know how to use it. If you try to sell it for a high price, that might come back and bite at you. After all, it's useless if they can't find the correct method to use it."

Aien took the advice to heart. "Alright." Soon after, he brought Rean to a small hut where the Earth's Remnants they gathered so far were piled up. "This is everything we've accumulated until now. Make sure you bring everything with you. As for us, you have already helped us too much."

Aien then remembered something. "Oh, right! Our Cosgles Race is quite rare due to our flaws. However, that doesn't mean that our village is the only one." Following that, Aien passed a yellow bead to Rean. It shone with a gentle yellow light.

"What is this?" Rean asked.

"This is a Cosgles Bead," Aien told Rean. "We use it to find lost members outside. It will shine if you ever pass close to a place with people from the Cosgles Race. You can take that opportunity to stop there and buy their Earth's Remnants as well."

Rean obviously accepted that, thanking Aien. "Thank you."

Rean and Roan then stayed another hour in the village before they finally left.. This time, they were heading to Fovles Country to find Timoteo, the smuggler.

Death... and me

Chapter 1269: Just In Case

Of course, before that, Rean and Roan headed to the Lukimira Sect to grab Celis. Celis didn't seem very happy with the sudden visit as he wanted to stay still and just cultivate. "I already spread my roots out quite thoroughly, you know?"

Rean shrugged his shoulders, telling him, "But if you don't come, Kentucky won't be able to use the nest on you anymore. We both know that the connection between you two is what makes your cultivation quicker, right?"

Celis couldn't help but ask, "Just leave him here with me. You can come back some other time to take us."

The twins shook their heads before using a Divine Sense message to explain the situation. Only then did Celis give up, letting out a sigh as he said, "I see... it seems like there's no choice but to leave then."



Celis then left Lukimira Sect with the twins without anyone noticing. That's because he had long created a place for himself to stay there, where no one bothered him. It wouldn't be before a few days that someone would come by and find out that Celis was gone.

Naturally, the twins also sent Celis into the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm, who was delighted to see a lot of Rank Three Divine Stones. Kentucky was also happy to be able to use his nest again. With that, the bird and tree began to cultivate while the twins traveled.

The twins had more than enough to pay for teleportation, even without using the Sacred Land's token. With that, they arrived at Fovles Country without leaving any trace behind. Of course, Etherian knew that they would come here sooner or later, but he was the one who gave Rean and Roan the information, so it didn't matter.

After arriving in Fovles Country, the twins went to Yangxi City. Or, to be more precise, the Rockfoi Treasure Store, located there. According to Etherian's information, they had to find the store's owner, Jalel, and give him the secret message.

The Rockfoi Treasure Store was very small, practically hidden in the corner of the city. Rean and Roan even had some difficulty finding its location. In any case, it made sense that it didn't attract too much attention. Once inside, all they could see was a middle-aged man sitting behind the counter.

The old man looked at the twins before asking, "What do you want?"

Rean immediately asked back, "Are you Jalel?"

The guy narrowed his eyes, responding, "And what if I am?"

Rean then used a Divine Sense to pass the password Etherian gave him. 'The Green Beetle sent us.'

The man's eyes flickered a little before he got up and headed to the back of the store. "Follow me."

There, they found a teleport formation, which reminded Roan a lot of the black market back in the Sasamil Empire.

"There's a fee of 100 Rank One Divine Stones," the man said.

Rean didn't mind and immediately paid the fee. Soon after, the twins stepped on the teleport formation before it activated, sending them away. It turns out that the teleport formation sent the twins far away from the city, to the middle of nowhere...or so it seemed. It's just that there was a man waiting at the destination. Rean and Roan narrowed their eyes as they looked at the man. They could tell that the guy's cultivation was definitely much higher than their own. If he decided to attack, things would not be good for them.

However, the man didn't seem to care about the twins and simply pointed at a set of crevices on the land, asking, "Which continent?"

"Lanqueas," Rean answered straight away.

The man nodded, telling the two, "Leftmost opening. Go."

The twins nodded before entering the opening mentioned by the man. They soon found out they weren't the only ones there. There seemed to be a small hall inside with a closed gate at the back. In the hall, there were another twenty or so cultivators with cultivations varying from Nascent Soul Realm to above the Transition Realm. They all seemed to be waiting for something. They noticed when the twins came inside, but they ignored their presence right after.

Rean and Roan nodded at each other and went to a corner. One didn't need to be a genius to understand that those people came here with the same purpose as themselves. With that said, they just cultivated for the time being, like a few of the others.

Time passed, and soon, five days went by. During this time, no one talked about anything. However, the number of people there increased even more. The hall had almost 50 people waiting for the same thing.

Eventually, the gate at the back of the underground hall began to open, which caught everyone's attention. Five people came from inside. Their leader then looked at the people waiting there before saying, "I'm Timoteo, the one responsible for the journey. If you're here, that's because you need to leave our continent for some reason. Pursuers, breaking the law, killing someone, or simply wanting to experience a new place. Whatever the reason is, I don't care. All I need is your payment."

Timoteo's subordinates then began to walk by the people in the hall while Timoteo explained, "The payment to help cross the barrier is 2000 Rank Two Divine Stones for each head. Your cultivation matters little as the price won't change. Be aware that there will be no refunds either. It won't matter if you give up or not as the Divine Stones won't be given back."

Everyone passed spatial rings, which obviously had the payment mentioned by Timoteo. Without a doubt, everyone there had some deep background or did some incredible things to gather that amount. After all, Rank Two Divine Stones were extremely rare outside the Sacred Land. Even in the Sacred Land, it's not something one could get a great amount of that easily.

The twins' turn also arrived as Rean took out the Divine Stones and passed it over. In the end, they had to pay 4000 Rank Two Divine Stones. Sure, they would pay less if one of them hid in the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm. However, if something happened, the Dimensional Realm would be locked down, so no one would be able to enter or leave.. With that in mind, the twins preferred to stay outside, just in case.

Death... and me

Chapter 1270: Enjoy The Journey

Rean then looked at Roan. 'Holy shit! This is much more expensive than I predicted. Then again, the surprising thing here is that everyone here is paying the same amount. No wonder the powers of Huring Continent keep one eye closed towards the smugglers. This thing generates fortune!'

Roan agreed with Rean, saying, 'This is also good. The fact that this many came by shows that at least the service is actually satisfactory. Otherwise, we wouldn't have this many people here.'

Once the subordinates returned to Timoteo, he checked the contents of the spatial rings and smiled. "It's always good to do business with good payers. Now then, shall we head off? Follow me."

Timoteo returned to the gate, followed by the twins and the rest of the people. They passed by a few corridors until they were finally brought to another teleport formation. Seeing that, Roan asked Rean, 'Is this teleport formation going to send us to the other side?'

Rean immediately shook his head, telling him, 'I researched the Continental Barrier. A teleport formation that can send someone through it has to be something phenomenal. Nothing at the Golden-

level could achieve it, and I have my doubts if even Divine-level ones could do it. This formation is at the Golden-level, so it definitely can't do that either. However, this is a Golden Peak-level formation, so it will still send us quite a distance away.'

Roan nodded in response. 'It makes sense as Fovles Country is still far away from the Continental Barrier.'

The twins then stepped on it together with Timoteo and a few other members from the smuggling team. Soon, the teleport formation activated after many Divine Stones were inserted, making everyone disappear in a flash of silver light.

The twins' vision went blurry for a moment before returning to normal. However, they were immediately assaulted by a huge gale that almost made them lose their balance. They weren't the only ones, though. The rest who came to pass through the barrier felt the same gust of winds. The only ones who didn't seem affected were Timoteo and his team.

The twins then used their Divine Soul Power to affix themselves to the ground and took the opportunity to see what was happening.

"This thing is quite imposing," Rean said as he looked ahead. Right in front of them, there was something that looked like a gigantic wall of energy. The twins could tell that it wasn't exactly physical. Instead, it was made of chaotic Divine Energy and Elements.

The base of the wall was much bigger, which served as some kind of support to the wall of energy. The wall itself extended as far as the eye could see, be it to the skies or to the sides. But above all, it was the chaotic Divine Energy and Elements that truly instilled fear in the people. They were obviously several tens of kilometers away from the wall. However, the energy in it could already cause such havoc in their location.

One of the cultivators there couldn't help but comment, "No wonder they say it's almost impossible to pass through. Even with my Transition Realm cultivation, I would be shredded to pieces if I got just a few kilometers closer."

Timoteo nodded in agreement. "Indeed. You wouldn't even be able to 'touch' the wall. Death is the only option available if you go beyond this point with your current strength."

If that was the case for the Transition Realm people there, let alone people like Rean and the others, who were far from such realm. The people at the Nascent Soul Realm were even suffering to just stay in their current positions.

Timoteo saw how the low-level cultivators were starting to falter and spread his Divine Energy around them, telling them, "Don't worry. Since you have paid, I will have you delivered to the other side." It didn't have anything to do with doing the right thing. Since their reputation as smugglers was on the line, he always took it seriously. Well, with such huge profits, anyone would.

However, he didn't do anything else after that. He and everyone else just stayed still, looking at the wall. Eventually, someone couldn't help but ask, "Senior, what are we waiting for?"

Timoteo looked at the guy before explaining, "For the Wall Beast to come."

"Wall... Beast?" Except for a few, it seemed like the majority didn't know what Timoteo was talking about. In fact, Rean and Roan were oblivious to it.

However, before anyone could ask anything else, a weird sound came from the wall's direction.

\*Waaaooooooooooooooooooaoao...\*

Everyone looked in the direction of the sound, but they couldn't see anything other than the wall itself.

\*Waaaooooooooooooooooooaoao...\*

Nevertheless, the sound got closer and closer, which put everyone at unease as they remained vigilant.

Well, everyone except Timoteo and his team. "It's here. Everyone, be prepared. We're about to be eaten."

"Eaten?!" Those words obviously shocked the group. However, before they could ask anything else, a huge beast appeared in front of them. It looked like a whale but many times bigger than the whales Rean knew from Earth. The impressive thing was that it was gigantic, but they didn't see it approach them before it was already too late.

\*Chomp!\*

Suddenly, it engulfed the entire area where the cultivators were standing a moment ago, swallowing them whole. The whale-like beast then turned around and dived into the wall of energy once again. The wall's chaotic energy would possibly kill most of the people. However, the whale swam through it as if it was inside the water.

As for the cultivators... they were able to see the moment the whale jumped back into the wall even though they were inside it. Timoteo couldn't help but laugh when they saw everyone's faces, saying, "Hahaha! It never fails to entertain me."

He then began to explain, "This is the Wall Beast, the only living being capable of living inside the wall's energy. In fact, it would die if it left the wall for too long. As you can see, it is purely made of energy. That's why you can see through it and watch the wall's chaotic energy outside.. Now then, enjoy the journey."