Death 291

Death... and me

Chapter 291: On the Way

The mission Rean looked at was quite specific. It required them to help look for a certain someone in there. Anyone who found any clues of the person inside would be rewarded. It didn't seem anything out of the ordinary. After all, there was no lack of people who entered a forest teeming with Demon Beasts just to never appear again.

One of the things that caught Rean's attention was that this request talked about a Middle Stage Core and Soul Fusion Realm cultivator disappearing in there. Even if the guy or girl lost in a battle, they would still be able to run at such a level. Especially since Stage Four Demon Beasts haven't developed real intelligence with sentience.

Of course, just that wouldn't be enough to catch Rean's attention. The part that interested him was that the guy disappeared around the region Rean and Roan had to adventure into. Since they were already going there, they might as well keep an eye open.

The second part that interested Rean was the reward. The contractor was the Mayor of one of the Dalamu Sect Territory's Cities, Juan Amakal. What he offered was a Serene Blue Jade. This cultivation resource was excellent for Water Affinity cultivators. That's not something one could buy even if one had the money. Dalamu Sect doesn't have it, for example. It's not that it never had, but that it was definitely used by the Sect.

Serene Blue Jade can be used to guarantee a perfect breakthrough of a Water Element Cultivator. The only problem was that it only worked with breakthroughs below the Nascent Soul Level. That's also why the Sect doesn't have any. After all, the best thing to do was to use it on the geniuses of the Sect. After seeing that, Rean immediately thought about Malaka.

'Hey, ice block, look at this mission. We might take a look while we search for the place in the Jade Slip. If we get this Serene Blue Jade, we can give it to Malaka later. What do you think?'

Roan heard the content of the mission and pondered a bit.

'Well, wouldn't this guy or girl be dead by now? After all, even that Mayor hasn't found any clues so far.'

Rean agreed with him.

'That's true. However, this mission doesn't require us to definitely find the target or bring the target back. Any clues will be enough to receive the payment. It's like I said, we can simply look for both things at the same time. Even if we don't find the target, it's not like we lost anything. Who knows?'

Roan nodded in the end.

'So be it. I'm going back to get my things.'

Rean then took that mission without anyone knowing with Hulian's help before leaving his house. Right after, he went straight back to work on his Chaotic Breakthrough Energy.

Thanks to the perfect breakthrough provided by the Yin Yang Cultivation techniques, it only took Rean and Roan one month to stabilize their cultivations. Well, the Arena in the Inner Sect was of great help as well. That's because the top two hundred also posed a challenge to the twins while they weren't using each other's elements.

Eventually, the twins decided to leave. Rean first went to the Beast Taming Faction, where he fetched Kentucky. Reliance was still there, but he didn't try to stop them. Instead, he decided to use this time that Rean and Roan will be out with Kentucky to also go out. Reliance wasn't someone who often stayed in the Sect to start with, so he was getting really bored already.

Right after, the twins went to Hulian's house to see which teleport formation they could use.

"Here, take these tokens. They can activate the hidden teleport formation in the North-Northwest side of the Sect. The same thing as always, be sure to leave without anyone noticing. You can go through the route you used before to avoid more contact."

"Thank you, Elder Hulian. By the way, please inform Sect Master Mia that we might take a few weeks to come back."

Hulian nodded.

"Don't worry, I'll do that for you. Just make sure to come back alive, and that will be enough. Anyway, I also have things to do, so you two can leave now."

Rean and Roan didn't waste time. They quickly arrived at the teleport formation before teleporting outside. This time, however, Hulian didn't prepare any transportation for them. With their Core Formation Realm cultivation, they should be able to move fast enough on their own. Of course, it still wasn't as good as flying.

Ran then looked at the much bigger Kentucky before transmitting his intentions to the Minokawa.

'So, big guy, do you think you can carry the two of us now?'

Chick! Chick!

Kentucky immediately showed a confident expression, as if saying that they could leave everything with him. Rean laughed as he jumped on Kentucky's back. Roan didn't like it very much since there was almost no space. Still, flying would be much better.

Kentuck, who lost most of his fat by now, soon extended his wings and shot to the skies with a few flaps. He wasn't strong enough to do that with his body's power alone, though. Still, he knew how to enhance his capabilities with the Light Element. That being said, both of them working together allowed Kentucky to carry the twins now.

Sure enough, a lot of flying with Malaka on his back and his recent breakthrough allowed Kentucky to carry the twins for a very long distance before getting tired. It wasn't before Kentucky crossed the 500 kilometers that he first descended to recover his energies.

Rean was already delighted with Kentucky's endurance. Rean and Roan were heavier than Malaka to start with, and Kentucky was carrying both. In those conditions, Kentucky could still carry them for much longer than before his Stage Three breakthrough. Not to mention that it indeed saved the twins some time.

On the way, Rean and Roan also talked about their recent breakthrough.

"The Core Formation Realm is really different. Even while cultivating with Rank Three Spirit Stones, I think it will take no less than a year to reach the Middle Stage."

Roan nodded.

"That's to be expected. Our Spiritual Pools and Core need more energy to breakthrough. Besides, did you see the other cultivators at the Core and Soul Fusion Realm? So far, I haven't seen a single one younger than 25 years old or so in that Realm. I'll be thrilled if we reach that level at the age of 18 or so."

[Roan's right.]

Sister Orb's voice suddenly resounded in their minds.

[You two really do need a lot more energy to make breakthroughs. However, that is also one of the reasons why you are so strong at your level. The amount of Spiritual Energy you can use and manipulate would only be possible in others' dreams. Still, you are already cultivating extremely fast for your levels. Probably only members of the Imperial Family, who have access to much better resources, would be able to compare to your speed. Look at Calina, for example. She even entered the Core Formation Realm before you two. Well, you can reduce the time a little if you buy the Spiritual Energy Absorption Upgrades.]

Rean and Roan nodded. According to Calina, she had access to a certain amount of Rank Four Spirit Stones every month. That showed just how well-treated Imperial Blood could be treated. Mia would never allow low-level cultivators to use Rank Four Spirit Stones.

"Sister Orb, how long do you think it will take for us to break through into the next realm at this rate?"

[That's hard to say. Too many variables are present when it requires you two to cultivate together. Still, a wild guess would put you two between 18 and 22 years old.]

Rean and Roan had already turned 12, with Malaka doing the same just a few days after them. That means that they had at least 6 years of cultivation ahead, which was the best scenario without the upgrades.

[Don't complain about it. Otherwise, all the Core and Soul Fusion Realms cultivators in the world might join hands to kill you out of anger.]

Rean laughed and shook his head.

"It's okay. Our lifespans are already increased to 200 years, so we are still on the winning side even considering the time used for cultivation by far."

Roan nodded.

"It's good that you think like that."

For Roan, time had stopped being an issue a long time ago. His only reason to be in a hurry nowadays was because of the Soul Gem System's ridiculous requirements.

As they flew forward, Rean thought about something else.

"By the way, since we are going to Jiran Forest, we might as well pass by the Varen Tribe. I want to see mom and dad."

Surprisingly, Roan wasn't against this idea.

"Very well."

Death... and me

Chapter 292: Taking the Mission

Before heading to Varen Tribe, the twins had to stop by the city of Talamol. The mayor there was the one who put up the request and had the information about the person they should look for.

Between Rean and Roan, the only one who really caught a lot of attention was Rean because of his White Hair and Eyes. If Roan walked by himself, he didn't look that much different from others. That being said, no one paid too much attention to him as he went to the City Hall.

He stated his reason for the visit, which made the guards at the door look at him with doubtful expressions. Even though Roan's body gave the impression that he was around 14 years old, 14 years was still too young. Besides, they couldn't 'feel' his cultivation. Well, the truth was that their own cultivation was too low to perceive it, so they thought that Roan was an ordinary young man.

"Brat, do you even know what you are talking about? The mayor did post this request everywhere for anyone willing to look for the missing person. However, the core of the Jiran Forest is full of Stage Four Demon Beasts. What do you want to do there? You will only die, so go back home."

Well, Roan was already used to that. Hee just had to take out his Dalamu Sect Badge and show it to them. But before he did that, another voice came from behind.

"Are you two blind? This 'brat' you talked about can trash you two with a finger!"

Roan looked at the person who talked. It was a middle-aged man using a similar uniform as the guards at the front of the City Hall. However, Roan could tell that his cultivation was already in the Late Core Formation Realm. Well, it was pretty evident that he was in a high position in this city, so it made sense.

"You can't even tell that he is a Core Formation Realm cultivator. Why do I even keep you two here?"

The two guards were shocked to hear that. Isn't Roan way too young for that? Besides, they are only at the Energy Gathering Realm. How could they feel such high-level cultivation with their weak Spiritual Senses?

"So-Sorry, Captain Wacklan!"

As mentioned before, Jialin Country also had its own army instead of a sect. Most of the average and big cities had their presence. Wacklan just so happened to be part of it.
Roan then looked at the man before saying.
"Doesn't matter. Can I get the specifics of the mission and the description of the target? I'll be staying around that place for training, so I might as well keep an eye open. That Serene Blue Jade is very useful for me."
The man called Wacklan narrowed his eyes after hearing that.
"I admit that you must be a genius to be able to reach the Core Formation Realm at such age. At least, I've never seen one as young as you. Still, Stage Four Demon Beasts aren't something Core Formation Realm cultivators should mess with."
Roan didn't care.
"I just want to get the mission. Whatever comes next is my problem."
Wacklan sighed before nodding.
"Well, if you insist are you a Dalamu Sect Member? Oh well, obviously you are. Where else could we find someone like you in this place? Come with me."
Wacklan entered the City Hall with Roan and went to the mayor's office. After knocking on the door, they entered it.

Without even waiting for an answer, Wacklan left the room, leaving Roan and the Mayor behind. Roan's Spiritual Sense could tell that the mayor was at the Initial Stage of the Core and Soul Fusion Realm. That was quite a high cultivation for a place like this one.

"Juan, another one is looking for the searching mission. I have things to do, so you talk to him."

"You are Juan Amakal, right? I got your mission back in the Sect."
Juan looked at Roan and was shocked by his age and cultivation. Well, most of the people in the world would be anyway. He couldn't help but laugh a little in the end.
"Hehe Looking at you makes me wonder what I've been doing so far. Anyway, you are not here to hear about my complaints. I'm Juan Amakal, Mayor of Tamadol City. Still, are you sure you want to enter the Core of Jiran Forest with that cultivation?"
Roan nodded, not giving any explanation.
Juan then shrugged his shoulders and continued.
"Well, I'm not here to stop you. Who knows, you might really come back alive and find some clue. At the moment, I'm even accepting a kitten's helping hand in this issue."
Juan opened one of his table's drawers and took a picture from inside.
"Here, this is the person I need you to find. Her name is Latalia Amakal, my Aunt."
Roan took a look at the picture and saw that it was a woman.
"You do know that if she didn't come back until now, she is most likely dead already, right?"
Juan nodded.
"Yes. However, I have to try."
"Why?"

Juan shook his head.

"That's a personal issue. All I need is for you to look around while you are there. As long as you find any clue that Latalia is dead, you can return for the reward. Of course, if she is alive and in need of help, I'll be even more pleased if you help her come back."

"What if she doesn't want to come back?"

Roan still found it possible that a Middle Stage Core and Soul Fusion Realm wouldn't die that easily. Perhaps the woman herself didn't want to be found or come back, so he had to ascertain all the situations.

"Not a problem. If Latalia is fine, you wouldn't be of any help to her either. Just ask for something from her that can prove her identity, and that should be fine for me to pass you the reward. Of course, I will need you to tell me where you saw her."

Roan nodded. It was evident that there was a lot more behind in this story, but that wasn't his problem. He only wanted the Serene Blue Jade for Malaka.

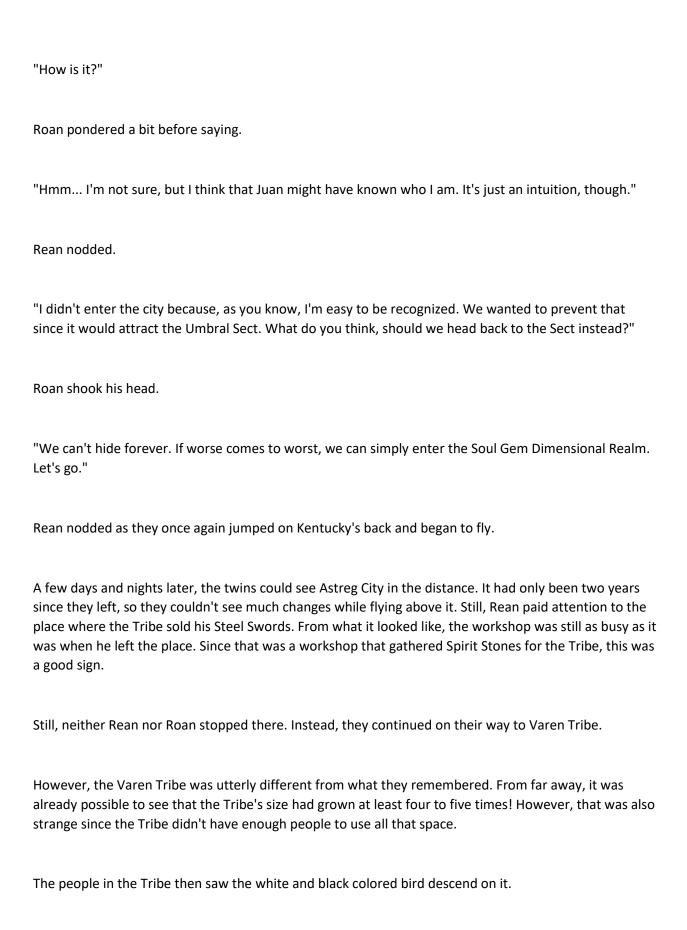
"Very well, I'm going now."

Roan left straight away. However, Juan narrowed his eyes once Roan was gone.

'Core Formation Realm at the age of 14 years old. Perhaps...'

Juan then took out a transmission talisman and poured his Spiritual Sense into it. After a few seconds, the talisman shone for a moment before transforming into blank paper once more.

Roan didn't waste time and left the city straight away. Somewhere hidden outside, Rean and Kentucky were waiting for him.



Immediately, the warriors of the Tribe passed the news as they gathered. After all, it could be a strong demon beast from nearby demon beast forests. However, they soon noticed that there were two people on the bird.
"Hey, those white and black hair, it's Rean and Roan!"
"Quick, call Tribe Leader over. The twins came back from the Dalamu Sect!"
"Oh, call Harmalia and Turen as well! They will definitely want to see their kids!"
Kentucky then landed right in the middle before retracting his wings.
"Such a mighty demon beast."
"Looks so cool!"
"As expected of the Dalamu Sect, don't you think?"
"I wonder what kind of sound it does?"
Rean heard that last comment and couldn't help himself.
"Hahaha! Do you wanna hear it?"
Rean then patted Kentucky, how took a deep breath and suddenly
Chick!
Boom!

Everyone fell with their faces on the ground kind of feeling.
Roan ignored all that bullshit and simply looked around. Soon, he noticed Juri coming over.
"Rean, Roan, you are finally back! Hahaha!"
Juri quickly approached and patted the two men's shoulders.
"Come, come! I already told the others to bring your parents to my home. You can meet everyone there."
Rean and Roan nodded. They were finally back once again.
Death and me
Chapter 293: Back to the Tribe
Rean and Roan quickly arrived at Juri's house, just in time to see Harmalia rushing over. She didn't mind anyone and immediately embraced the two while tears flowed from her eyes.
"Mom, we are back."
Harmalia nodded as she showed a bright smile.
"It's good that you are back!"
The twins then looked at their father, just in time to see him carrying a baby in his arms.
"This Who is that one?"

Harmalia laughed. She had received Rean and Roan's letters several times and answered them. However, she had purposely kept a secret from them to make a surprise once they came back. She quickly took the little bum from her husband before introducing the baby.
"Say hi to your little sister, Rana."
Rean was definitely happy to hear that. Well, even Roan showed a small change of expression, seeing the little girl. They knew that Harmalia always wanted a daughter, so it seemed like their father worked hard to make it happen.
The little girl was different from the two of them. She really carried their parent's eyes and hair colors. Obviously, there was no such thing as intelligence at this age as the twins had. She was a normal kid through and through. Nonetheless, Rean already liked her regardless.
"Mom, that's great! By the way, did you really have to name her similarly?"
Turen couldn't help but sigh.
"I tried to change her mind, but she was adamant about it."
Harmalia glared at Turen before saying.
"So what? It's a mother's right to put similar names if she wishes so. Rana Larks is a perfect name, okay?"
Turen shrugged his shoulders before turning his attention to his sons.
"By the way"

Bang, Bang!

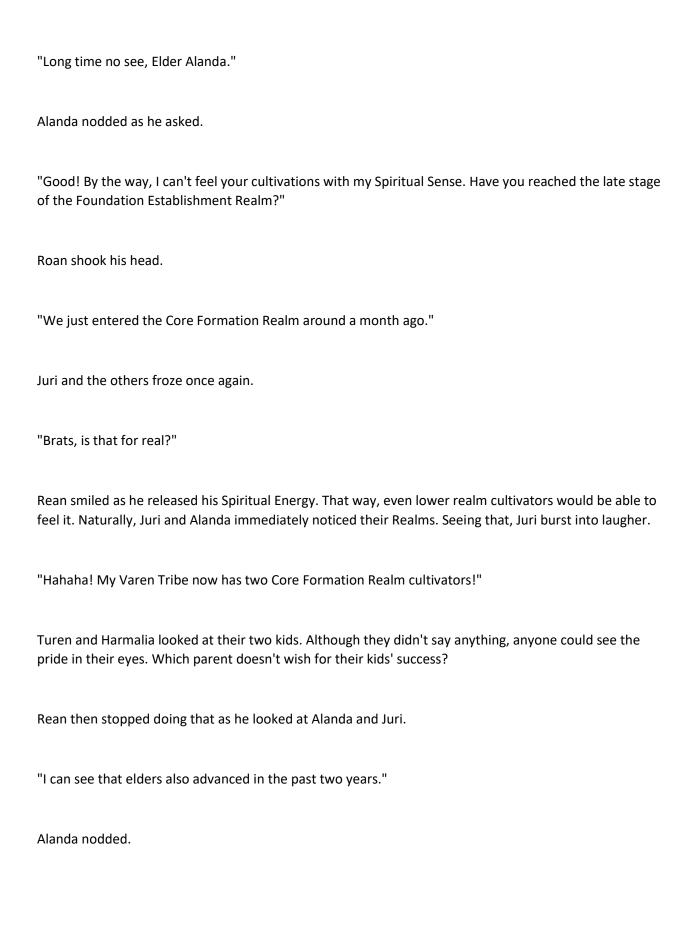
Turen then knocked Rean and Roan's heads. Well, at their level, Rean and Roan could have dodged easily, but they didn't do so.
"You brats! Two years! How come you took two entire years to come and visit? Even Malaka had passed by two times before."
Rean rubbed his head as he asked.
"Malaka came here? How come she didn't tell us?"
Roan understood why in an instant, saying.
"It was probably to keep the secret of our new sister."
Harmalia laughed as she nodded.
"Yes. I asked Malaka to not tell you anything so that I could make this surprise. You two are now older brothers, so you better protect her well."
Rean and Roan didn't dare to refuse.
"Certainly!"
Turen then looked at the enormous bird beside Rean and Roan before asking.
"And this demon beast? It seems quite strong."
Kentucky seemed to understand Turen's words as it stuffed his chest with pride.
Chick!



"His name is Kentucky. We found his egg in the hand of some bandits during a mission for the sect. In the end, I decided to raise it. Now, he is already this big. Believe it or not, Kentucky isn't even two years old yet, but is already a Stage Three Demon Beast." Juri and the others around felt their hearts almost stop. They all took several steps back and looked at Kentucky with some fear in their eyes. "Stage Three!" "Holy shit! How did the Larks Brats tame this thing?" "Harmalia just hugged it. What if it had attacked?" "Idiot, this is a tamed demon beast. It won't attack without the Larks Brats giving the order." "Yeah? Then why are you staying even further away?" "Ahem... the view from here is better." "Better your head!" Juri also looked at the Demon Bird for a moment before coming back to himself. "Alright. How long will you guys keep making this show in the middle of the Tribe? Go back to your work. Turen and the rest can come inside. As for Kentucky..." Rean shook his head.

Rean laughed helplessly after seeing the shameless Minokawa.





"Well, with those Spirit Stones from the Blacksmith Workshop and steel equipment, it would be weird if we haven't."

Alanda, who was in the Initial Stage of the Foundation Establishment two years ago, entered the middle stage. As for Juri, he went from the Middle Stage to the Late Stage. All of that was thanks to the Spirit Stones available to them.

Roan also looked at his parents in this world.

"Mother and Father seem to have finally entered the Energy Gathering Realm."

Rean made sure that his parents would have no issues with Spirit Stones. Especially after he began his trade with the Jamariz Workshop in Majorias City. That being said, even for a gray aptitude like theirs, the resources were enough to help them achieve the breakthrough. Their father was in the Middle Stage of the Energy Gathering Realm while Harmalia was in the Initial Stage.

"Well, that's because you helped this old man. I just feel somewhat embarrassed that you have to call a weakling like me as a father. Hahaha!"

Rean didn't like that joke, though.

"Don't worry, father. I might not be here all the time, but I can at least provide enough resources for you two to reach the Foundation Establishment Realm. In a place like the Astreg City's region, it should be more than enough to protect yourselves and Rana."

Harmalia and Turen smiled happily, not trying to refuse it. Filial piety was extremely important, and they just felt it to be right and proper. They, too, helped their own parents as much as they could in the past before they passed away.

"Oh, right! How come the Tribe got this big? I also saw a lot of faces I've never seen before."

Juri already expected that question.

"That was the result of having three members of our Tribe Joining the Dalamu Sect at once. If it was just one member, the other Tribes and similar powers around would exercise caution but not care too much. They would simply refrain from touching us. After all, if that member died, the Dalamu Sect's protection would be over as well. But since three joined at once, chances are that you won't die altogether. Because of that, a few Tribes saw a chance of acquiring some protection for a long time."

"They offered us to merge our tribes together. Of course, I didn't simply accept anyone. I have a good grasp of information about all the Tribes around our own. I selected three of them to merge together with us. It goes without saying that I also explained how our system worked. That being said, I took the Tribes that I believe could drop the old ways."

Roan couldn't help but ask.

"Wouldn't that make the new Tribe go through a power struggle in the future?"

Juri shook his head.

"Not while at least one of the three of you are alive. After all, none of them will dare to steal the power of the Tribe protected by Dalamu. During the next years, I'm sure our Tribe's system will convert them into real members. We did it once during a time where danger was much bigger, let alone now."

Rean and Roan decided to not intervene. Juri had brought the Tribe to the level it was before they were born. He definitely knew what he is doing.

Rean then changed his communication method to Spiritual Sense.

'By the way, how is that Purple Color Aptitude Baby?'

Death... and me

Chapter 294: Home Sweet Home

Juri and Alanda nodded.

'He's growing up just like any kid. He's still two years old, so we have another three years before he starts to cultivate here in the Tribe. However, his talent will definitely appear at that time. At the moment, I'm not sure about what I'm going to do with him.'

Roan then asked.

'Wouldn't it be good enough to simply put him in the Dalamu Sect? You don't need to worry about someone changing his way of thinking while we are there.'

Truth be told, Roan didn't mind the kid that much. However, he still cared about his parents in this world. Keeping a Purple Color Talent here might be dangerous in the future if someone found out about it.

Juri narrowed his eyes.

'What are you talking about? As if you two kids would have enough influence in a sect of that size to say something like that. Of course, I know you are not real kids, but that's how you look in the eyes of the elders there.'

Rean shook his head.

'Don't worry. We do have this influence you talked about. You have no idea how many things happened during this time in the Dalamu Sect. We can guarantee that he won't receive any brainwash treatment or anything like that.'

Juri and Alanda were quite surprised to hear that. Still, they know that Rean and Roan didn't have a reason to lie. After all, with their cultivation, they could simply kidnap the kid, and no one would be able to stop them on the Varen Tribe. One must remember that Foundation Establishment was the highest cultivation available in this Tribe at the moment.

'Well, if you say so, then I guess we can go ahead with this plan of yours. However, I would like to keep the kid in the Tribe for a few years after he starts cultivating. I won't lie. The most important thing for me is for everyone to have a sense of belonging to our home, to not forget it. That's how I always worked.'

Alanda agreed with Juri.

'That's right. Call it selfishness. We won't mind. You and Malaka left the Tribe when you were 10 years old. We want to keep Drian here until around the same time. Well, the two of you were much older than 10, but you understand what I mean.'

Roan nodded after hearing that.

'It's okay. That's your way of assuring the continuation of the protection given by the Dalamu Sect. I would have done the same. Anyway, the problem would be if you wanted to keep him here forever. With his talent, he would definitely feel confined in a place like this and leave by himself eventually. But if you take the initiative to let him go after he grows fond of the Tribe, that will give you the best result.'

Juri and Alanda were happy to hear that. It was good that Rean and Roan agreed with that plan.

Even though the conversation through Spiritual Sense didn't last long, the others in the room noticed it happening. In the end, the twins' father couldn't help but ask.

"What are you talking about? If it is some kind of sensitive topic, your mother and I can leave first."

Juri laughed after hearing that.

"Sorry, sorry. It's just that I had to ask a few things about the Dalamu Sect, so it wouldn't be good to talk about it in the open. Anyway, the twins already told me everything I wanted to know, so we are finished now. Besides, I invited you all for a banquet. How could I allow you to leave before we do it?"

Rean smiled as Roan simply nodded. They passed the rest of the day in the Tribe. During night time, the twins decided to stay in their parents' house, talking about their adventures outside. It went without saying that they kept the parts that shouldn't be talked about hidden, of course.

Later on, Rean used some of his time to play with his new sister. Well, he grew quite fond of her very fast. He even talked with Juri to reserve Spirit Stones for her in the future once she started to cultivate.

The Twins' presence in the Tribe for 10 years had indeed changed the balance of Yin and Yang there. Even though they left for over two years, the effects had barely changed. As mentioned before, that affected the fortune of the Tribe as a whole to the point where even more talents would be born there.

However, that didn't mean that everyone would be born with high aptitude colors. In fact, the majority would still be a Gray Colored Talent. There was nothing that even the Soul Gem System could do about it.

That being said, Rana was also one of them. She only had the most common and disregarded gray color talent when she was tested after being born for a month. Still, Rean didn't care. In his eyes, being normal was nothing to be sad about. After all, he still remembered how emotionless his life was on Earth due to his Soul Problem. Rean considered normal to be a great thing.

Besides, he didn't intend to leave her to cultivate on her own. While he and Roan were still on this planet, and even after he leaves, he will do his best to support her and his parents.

As Rean played with the little bum, Roan entered the room as well.

Seeing the ice block's cold face, Rean couldn't help but ask.

"What? Did you come here to say to not get too attached or some bullshit like that? If so, then you can leave already. I don't mind getting attached at all."

Roan surprisingly shook his head as he touched Rana's forehead.

"Although I'm not as excited as you, I can still feel the connection by bloodline between her and me. I couldn't care less about you and would have cut your head several times already if it didn't mean I would die too. However, she has nothing to do with the fact that I'm here, so I will give her my support as well. I already have one Malaka to take care of. This one shouldn't be as hard."

Rean looked at Roan as if he was looking at an alien. Suddenly, he went to the window in the room and began to look for something with a severe expression. Obviously, Roan noticed that.



After that, they left the room with Turen while Harmalia stayed to help Rana sleep.

In the living room, Roan took some papers and began to write several things on them. He had spent a lot of time in the Sect's Repository and got to read many cultivation techniques. Not to mention that Inner Sect Members had access to even better ones. He decided to use this chance to pass Harmalia and Turen two cultivation techniques that would usually only be available for Dalamu Inner Sect Disciples. As for permission, he would ask about that after he went back to the Sect.

"Father. Here are two techniques. The first one is suitable for your Earth Element Affinity. The other one is a Wind Element Cultivation Technique for mother. However, these techniques are supposed to only be available for Inner Sect Dalamu Disciples. That being said, do not spread it out, or you will invite a lot of problems to you two."

Turen shook his head in response.

"There is no need. If passing this technique to us will invite problems for you and your brother, then your mother and I have no need for it."

Rean smiled as he helped Roan in this rare moment of mutual agreement.

"Don't worry, dad. If it is just you and mom, Roan and I can get permission without receiving any punishment."

Turen narrowed his eyes as he looked at the two. It was indeed quite rare to see them acting together like that.

"Sigh... Fine. However, you better not be deceiving me about it."

Roan nodded.

"We aren't."

Rean and Roan then spent the rest of the night in their house before finally leaving in the morning.

As for Kentucky... Well, that pervert chicken got pampered by the Tribe's girls all day long. During the night, they even prepared a nest for it to sleep in. It was hard to say who was happier to have come to the Varen Tribe, the humans or the Minokawa.

Finally, they headed to Jiran Forest once more.

Death... and me

Chapter 295: Death Style, Sixth Form

Roan looked at the Jade Slip's information on the way and compared it to their location.

"Let's enter through the Southwest direction. That's the shortest path to the Core Region."

Rean nodded as he transmitted his intention to Kentucky. Back then, they only needed a few days to arrive at the forest's borders by foot. Not to mention that they were in the Energy Gathering Realm. But with Kentucky flying over the land, it only took them a few hours.

Finally, they spotted the forest in the distance. From above, it was possible to see one or more cultivators, most from nearby tribes like their own. There were also a few demon beasts here and there as they flew by. With Kentucky's Stage Three Cultivation, even the flying demon beasts of the border didn't get close to them.

The twins then entered the forest from above and continue on their way. Stage One or Two Demon Beasts at the outer region of the forest had no meaning for the twins. Kentucky also didn't feel any urger of eating these levels of Demon Cores anymore.

Jiran Forest was massive. Flying over the Outer Region alone took Kentucky more than two days. Not to mention that they selected the closest path to go. On the third day, the twins and Kentucky entered the Inner Region. That being said, Stage Two Demon beasts became a common sight while Stage Three ones would appear occasionally.

The Twins only had to deal with them when Kentucky landed to rest. Still, Stage Three Demon beasts were no threat anymore. If anything, the ones that appeared just had their Cores fed to the Minokawa. Of course, there were Flying Demon beasts at Stage Three as well. Sometimes, those Demon Beasts would come with an entire group to take Rean's group down.

Too bad that the twins were not the only ones that experienced an increase in their combat power after a breakthrough. Kentucky was also not something that Initial, Middle, or even Late Stage Three Demon Beasts could deal with. Unless, of course, they were some rare race like Kentucky himself. It's just that you can't find Minokawas and similar legendary beasts at every corner.

That was also something that always puzzled Rean. How did a Minokawa's egg end in the hands of an ordinary merchant? It seemed unlikely that Kentucky's parents would let his egg be taken that easily.

Other than demon beasts, Rean's group would find one or another Foundation Establishment or above cultivator's group. There was even one that overestimated themselves and tried to assault them while Kentucky was resting. After all, anyone capable of reaching this place was bound to have a few good things. Maybe they even had a lot of Demon Cores. In the middle of the wilderness, stealing and killing were nothing rare.

Between flights, rests, and quick battles, the twins took three more days to pass by the Inner Region. Only when they arrived close to the Core Region's border did Rean and Roan ask for Kentucky to go back to the ground.

The Core Region was known for its Stage Four Demon Beasts. However, the fact was that it had a lot more Stage One and Two, with a fair amount of Stage Three Beasts. Real Stage Four ones were the minority by far.

"Okay, we should take around two days to arrive in the region shown in the Jade Slip. We need to look for a mountain with four peaks. However, I can't tell how long it has been since this Jade Slip was made, so we don't know if that still exists."

Rean shrugged his shoulders.

"It's a mountain. Can it disappear that easily? Chances are that we might find it very fast. After all, it's a mountain. Anyway, now that we are here, you should be able to compare the Jade Slip information with the terrain, right? How big is the search area?"
Roan narrowed as he looked at it.
"From what I can see, it's a radius of 3000 kilometers."
Rean's mouth twitched.
"Are you kidding? Just how many mountains might we find with Four Peaks in a place that big? Is there no other clue?"
Roan shook his head.
"At least, I can't see any. Anyway, it wouldn't take more than a week or two to cover the entire area with our actual cultivation. Well, that is considering that nothing will happen in the meantime. Besides, it might be a good thing to find the target as well. Although there is no guarantee, the more we see this part of the core region, the bigger our chances."
Chick!
Suddenly, Kentucky looked in another direction with a serious expression. That was more than enough for Rean and Roan to know that Kentucky felt something was off.
Roar!
Tremble!
The ground shook as the roar got closer. Rean then used his Light Element to detect Life Force in the surroundings. It was then that he looked down at the ground. The enemy was there!

"Move!"
Rean, Roan, and Kentucky immediately jumped away. Right after, the ground they had been just a moment ago caved in. The Twins then sent their Spiritual Sense inside the hole and were finally able to see what's inside.
"Oh It's a Tusk Earth Lizard. To think this one was able to progress to Stage Four, that's quite rare."
Roan nodded.
"Indeed. Usually, Stage Three is their limit. This guy probably ate something that allowed it to cross that threshold. Anyway, it will be quite annoying if it decides to stay underground."
"Jump!"
Roan then disappeared from his position, just in time to see the ground under him caving again.
"Fuck it. I don't have the patience to wait for it to come out."
As soon as the Lizard finished creating that hole and was about to move again, Roan jumped right inside. Rean sighed but followed right behind as well. As for Kentucky. Well, the chick didn't want to go, so it simply stayed outside, waiting.
The Tusk Earth Lizard noticed the prey entering its hole by themselves. Without wasting time, it immediately gave up the plan to move again and immediately attacked. After all, the underground was its field.
Roar!
Earth Element gathered around the Lizard as the earth around moved according to its wishes. It decided to trap Rean and Roan there to prevent them from fleeing.

Roan snorted in response after seeing that.
"Hmph! It's quite confident."
Rean laughed as he nodded. As they fell, their hair changed into white and black color.
'Life Style, First Form, Enhancement.'
Light Element got locked inside their bodies as their overall strength skyrocketed. They didn't try to stop the fall. Instead, they used the falling rocks as steps to increase their speed of descent even more.
'This guy is quite big, just like those Decaying Golems from the Profound Abyss. It will be quite hard to break its defense.'
Roan nodded.
'Its thick skin is present even on its head. Our swords are just too small to cause any significant damage in the short term.'
That's a problem Roan understood after their cultivation increased. Demon beasts grew in size as their Stage increased. In some cases, like the Decaying Golem and this Earth Lizard, the twins' weapons were just not big enough to reach the vital organs. As for parts of their bodies that were more vulnerable, the beasts would usually keep them protected.
The only attack with some effect would be the Stellar Piercer. After all, it would shoot a sharp ray of Spiritual Energy mixed with Dark and Light Elements. If used at close range, the Spiritual Energy attack will pierce further than the swords' total length.

However, that was far from optimal since Stellar Piecer was supposed to be more like a long-range attack. As for the other forms, they were more suited for smaller targets like humans. Because of that, Roan worked on something new other than the First Movement Form, Shadow Steps, during the past six months in the Sect. On the way, Roan used the time Kentucky rested to help Rean practice it as well. It

was easy in their case since Roan could directly transmit all the memories necessary at once through their Soul Connection. The same thing went for the new movement form.

Suddenly, the Tusk Earth Lizard's scales got up and was shot in the Twins' direction.

'Death Style, First Movement Form, Shadow Steps.'

The twins became two shadows, merging with the surrounding darkness and dodging the Scales that came in their direction. The Lizard thought that the twins wouldn't be able to avoid all scales with the tunnel-like descent, but it was obviously wrong.

Roar!

Seeing that its initial attack didn't work, it immediately shot forward, intending to take the twins' head-on.

Rean and Roan didn't stop and accelerated even more.

'Death Style, First Defensive Form, Reversive Arcs!'

The Arcs of Light and Dark Threads created a giant bubble-like protection field, which retracted as they consumed the Lizard's attack energy. The twins didn't let that chance slip and immediately switched their stances.

Light and Dark Element gathered around the twins with the help of Spiritual Energy. However, instead of a smooth flow like the initial five forms, this one made those two elements grow chaotic. Light and Dark were not supposed to mix together as easy as Rean and Roan could make. They were supposed to be opposite elements, after all. Roan's new skill basically used this natural rejection between them to create a powerful and destructive attack.

'Death Style, Sixth Form, Destroyer!'

Death... and me

Chapter 296: Several Fronts

Rean and Roan's White and Dark Stars pierced the Lizard's thick skull. Right after, the chaotic Light and Dark Elemental Energies spread around as the Twins quickly shot back away. The chaotic opposite elements reached a critical point in just an instant when suddenly...

Boom!

An explosion generated by both elements blasted the top of the Tusk Earth Lizard's head! Surprisingly though, the Lizard didn't die.

Roar!

Noticing its own desperate situation, the enormous Lizard immediately tried to turn around and flee underground. Unfortunately, Rean and Roan were already prepared to attack if the first strike didn't work. With its own natural defense gone, the twins could aim directly for its head. Not only that, but they were faster than it to start with.

'Death Style, Third Form, Three Claws of the Dragon.'

With no protection whatsoever on its head, Rean and Roan's Six Dark and Light Swords slashed through the already damaged brain.

Roar!

With one last scream, the Tusk Earth Lizard's body stopped moving.

The Sixth Form of the Death Style didn't work the same way as the others. The first five forms aimed for the fastest killing time, taking all chances possible to finish the battle as soon as possible. Destroyer, however, was different. It was only useful against big targets since they didn't need to control it once they hit. They just need to let the energies spread and reach a critical point.

After all, if they pierced their swords in the body of a small target, that target would most likely be dead already. There was no need to do such a thing as making both energies go chaotic. Against them, fast killing strikes would definitely be much better. One could say that Destroyer was a skill created to decimate the enemy's defense.

Rean then looked at the Lizard's body, looking for something.

Stage Four Demon Beasts had a good chance of having a Demon Core, and this Lizard just so happened to be one of them. Rean quickly took the Demon Core before the twins shot up once more. Not long after, they emerged from the underground.

As soon as they came out, they saw Kentucky with another Demon Core in its beak. They looked around and soon found the bodies of three other demon beasts lying on the ground. All three of them at the Stage Three level. It turned out that these beasts attacked Kentucky when they saw it alone. However, Kentucky was much stronger than any Initial Stage Three demon beast, so he was able to take care of them by himself.

Gulp!

Burp

Rean laughed as he looked at the Stage Four Demon Beast's core in his hand. This battle ended up being a lot easier than they expected. The twins had just broken through the Core Formation Realm, though Stage Four Demon Beasts wouldn't die that easily. However, the Lizard had really chosen a terrible terrain for battle just now. Against other enemies, that small space would have given it an enormous advantage with its defense and high raw strength.

However, Roan's Shadow Steps turned the advantage in space against the Tusk Earth Lizard since it was fast enough to dodge any of its attacks. Also, it limited the movements that the Lizard itself could do inside there. All in all, everything played to the twins' advantage.

"Hey, Kentucky."

Rean then threw the Stage Four Demon Core at the Minokawa, who moved as fast as lightning to catch it.
Gulp!
Kentucky felt extremely satisfied once the energy of that Stage Four Demon core began to run through his body.
Chick! Chick!
Roan looked around and didn't see any other demon beast coming.
"Alright, let's keep going. Don't drop your guard. A battle against a Stage Four as easy as this one won't keep happening."
Rean nodded as the three of them departed.
While the twins rushed inside the Core Region, a new group with twenty-two cultivators appeared outside the Jiran Forest. They all wore Purple Robes with the emblem of the Umbral Sect embroidery or each of them. Each of their cultivations varied between the Late Stage Core Formation Realm and Middle Stage Core and Soul Fusion Realm.
Their leader, however, was at the Peak Stage of the Core and Soul Fusion. As they looked at the Jiran Forest in front, one group member couldn't help but ask that same leader.
"Senior Lian, are we really going to look for that boy in here? This Jiran forest is gigantic. Besides, even though the description matches, we are not after this twin. We need the white-haired one."
Lian Buran, who was in charge of this group, nodded his head.
"Vio, I understand what you mean. However, as far as we know, those twins rarely go out alone. If that Roan came to try this mission, his brother most likely followed him. As big as the Core Region of Jiran

Forest might be, we still need to try. Besides, the mayor told us the approximate area where his aunt told him she would go. We might have a good chance of finding those twins there. If we do so and kill them, we will have performed a huge achievement for the sect."

Another member then mentioned something else.

"Jiran Forest has many Stage Four Demon beasts, so it might also have Stage Five ones. Isn't that a little too risky? Unlike the Dalamu Sect, which most likely has some agreement with the Stage Five Demon beasts of its territory, we have nothing. Maybe we will be targeted as soon as we disclose our Umbral Energy in there."

Lian shook his head in response.

"Don't worry. Even if Jiran Forest has Stage Five Demon beasts, there shouldn't be more than one or two. If lucky, there might be three. The chances of bumping into one of them are very low. Also, we won't move as a full group. Instead, we will separate our group into four different ones. Even if one of the groups get caught by a stroke of misfortune, the other three can still continue the search."

Everyone nodded.

"Senior Lian. Rean is a very detrimental existence for our Umbral Sect. Since there is a good chance of finding him in this Forest, why didn't the sect dispatch Nascent Soul Realm elders to look for him? It would be several times faster and easier to scan this place."

Lian sighed as he explained.

"Unfortunately, our Umbral Sect is being watched all the time. If we do make some unusual movements, the Dalamu Sect will most likely act. We were lucky that the mayor of Tamadol City owed a debt to one of our elders. That's the only reason why he reported Roan's location to us. We don't want to scare the prey away because we are being too hasty. Don't worry, with our four groups searching simultaneously, we really have a good chance of finding them."

"Alright, we won't be able to hide our approach from now on. Change your sect robes to some everyday clothes, and let's enter."

The Umbral Sect Members nodded and changed before quickly heading for the Core Region.

Back in the Core Region, somewhere deep underground, a woman made her way through what seemed to be a maze. If Rean and Roan were here at the moment, they would immediately recognize her. She was Latalia Amakal, the target they were searching for together with the place in the Jade Slip.

'For fuck's sake! Just where the hell is the core?'

Latalia had been in this underground maze for weeks already. Fortunately, as a Core and Soul Fusion Realm cultivator, she didn't need food or water anymore. Otherwise, she would have died a long time ago. However, not being able to find a single clue in this place after flying around for so long already started to take a toll on her.

Roar!

'Shit!'

As soon as Latalia heard that roar, she turned around and disappeared into the maze's passages. Being lost in this place was not the only thing she had to care about. There were also a lot of creatures that lived here. Latalia tried to fight them before. At first, she found it to be relatively easy. Although the creatures had power equivalent to a Core and Soul Fusion Realm Cultivator, they didn't have any intelligence. It wasn't a problem to use a few tricks that led them into their own demise... or so she thought.

Unfortunately, she came to understand that it was impossible to kill them. She killed them several times, but they always recovered. When she finally began to run out of Spiritual Energy, she had to flee. She wanted to investigate further, but she had to keep moving before they recovered completely.

'It must be some kind of massive formation that keeps recreating those beasts. Well, that makes sense. If these beasts were real ones and had been locked here until now, they would have died already. Still, it's no wonder so many people began to disappear around this place. If they were trapped inside this location, then most of them would die indeed. They didn't know what they were getting into. Once they got trapped here, only death awaited them. Even my Amakal Family only has superficial knowledge about it. Still, why did this place only open now?'

Unfortunately, she also didn't find a way to deal with the formation either. She already gave up battling those monsters and would flee as soon as she heard them. Her only choice was to find the exit or a way to stop the beasts from resurging. However, that's not her plan. Latalia had other thoughts in mind regarding her stay here in this place.

Death... and me

Chapter 297: Training Continues

Rean and Roan knew nothing about what was happening. Instead, they just kept moving forward in the direction of the search range. Every now and then, they would bump into Demon Beasts. Still, as mentioned before, the majority of them were Stage Two or Three. These kinds of Demon Beasts posed little to no threat to the twins.

Of course, Stage Four Beasts also appeared. As strong as the twins might be, there was also a limit to how much they could fight against. At their Initial Stage of the Core Formation Realm, Rean and Roan could fight on equal terms with a Middle Stage Four demon beast while going all out. They only had a small advantage over Initial Stage Four Ones as well.

'Death Style, Second Form, Crescent Moon!'

Creee!

An arc of Light and Dark Element came from the twin's swords, aiming at a mob of demon beasts in front of them. Kentucky followed right behind the attack, flashing against any demon beast that dodged the attack.

Swish, swish, swish!

Puchi, puchi, puchi!

One demon beast after another dropped dead to the ground. Still, that was far from being enough. They had a cave to rest and didn't find anything with their Spiritual Senses at first. However, the cave was really deep, so they couldn't see that far. However, after staying there during the night, they suddenly felt the ground tremble. It turned out that the cave was also a lair for a bunch of Dark Cave Spiders.

The majority were only Stage Two ones, with a few Stage Three in the middle. However, the problem was that there were too many of them attacking the twins and Kentucky. Besides, they could tell with their Spiritual Sense that a Stage Four Beast was controlling all these spiders at the very back. It was quite intelligent since it knew how to use mobs to worn out its prey.

"Roan, should we retreat?" The battle didn't have much meaning since they couldn't approach the Mother Spider at the back. Besides, they were close to the entrance. As long as they turned around and run, those spiders wouldn't be able to stop the three of them. However, Roan shook his head. "No need. Let's take this opportunity to see how long we can last with our Spiritual Energy. I want to see if we will run out of energy or reach the mother spider first." Rean didn't mind since they had the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm for any emergency. "Alright." 'Death Style, Third Form, Three Claws of the Dragon.' 'Death Style, First Form...' 'Life Style...'

The battle continued for thirty minutes. Finally, the Mother Spider began to run out of subordinates and decided to step forward.

Creee!

Of course, it wasn't easy for the twins either. Both Rean and Roan had been hit by the spiders several times. Besides, these spiders' main issue was their poison. If not because Rean had his Third Form, Purification, they would have collapsed a long time ago. At the very least, they would need to consume some anti-poison pills.

Suddenly, the mother spider shot her web forward, trying to catch the twins unprepared. However, the only one stuck by it was Kentucky. Sure enough, Kentucky still only knew how to rely on speed and raw power. It lacked experience.

Seeing the chance, the Mother Spider controlled her brethren to hold Rean and Roan back while she attacked Kentucky. Stage Four Demon Beasts were only one realm away from acquiring sentience, so they were already intelligent enough to understand prioritizing something in battles.

Kentucky saw the Mother Spider coming at him and immediately ignited his feathers. Light and Dark Flames spread out of his body, and they destroyed the web holding him in place.

Shiiii...

Still, it was too late. The Mother Spider descended as it attacked with its mandibles.

Crash!

Although the Mother Spider was giant, Kentucky was quite big himself. It would be impossible for the Mother Spider to swallow him whole. That being said, she tried to crush his head first.

However, she really underestimated the Minokawa's defense. Some blood trickled out of Kentucky's head, but it was due to superficial damage to his skin. Most of the attack damage was stopped by the blade-like feathers and scales.

Well, Kentucky still panicked once he saw his head inside the Spider Mother's mouth.

Creeeeee!

His Dark and White Flames then burst with even more ferocity as he used his wings and legs to get himself free. The Mother Spider's defense was also quite good. However, the insides of her mouth were not as resistant. She could only resist the Life Destroying and Extreme Heat of the flames for a few seconds before giving up and letting Kentucky go.

Kentucky fell to the ground as the Mother Spider was pulled back with the help of her webs above the air. However, those few seconds were enough for Rean and Roan to open a path through the Mother Spider's younglings. The Mother Spider only had time to see the twins under her as they soared in her direction. Not only that. It wasn't just two enemies, but six instead!

'Death Style, Fifth Form, Mirage Assault!'

'Death Style, Four Form, Soaring Dragon!'

Three Reans and Roans soared as their Swords brimmed with Light and Dark Elements and Spiritual Energy.

Boom, boom, boom, boom, boom!

The Mother Spider was hit on her belly where her defense was the weakest.

Hisssssss!

The Spider Mother hissed as green blood poured down like fountains. Still, the Mother Spider was a Middle Stage Four demon beast. Not to mention that her younglings came to give her help in the very next moment.

Without any choice, Rean and Roan could only defend against the suicidal attacks of the weaker ones since there were still quite a few of them.

Clang, clang, clang, clang...



because they knew that this place was the Spider Mother's territory. Now that the Spider Mother was

injured, she wouldn't come out anytime soon, nor would her subordinates. This meant that they had a perfect place to rest.

They didn't go too far before concealing themselves beside a small cliff. Only then did the twins and Kentucky take out Spirit Stones to recover their Spiritual Energy.

"Phew... As expected of Stage Four Demon beasts. Even after being hit by Six Soaring Dragons at once, it still survived and ran away."

Roan nodded.

"That's good. It's this kind of battle I wish to experience."

Roan felt excellent since the number of enemies just now forced him to use his Shadow Steps to the limit. Still, he and Rean were hit by the spiders' attacks many, many times. That showed how much he had to improve with his techniques.

'Indeed. Battles with Spiritual Energy are completely different from Battles without it.'

The same could be said to Rean since his First Form, Enhancement, was active during the entire battle. The progress was slow. Still, Rean got even better at how to lock the Light Element in their body little by little, preventing it from escaping. That was the base of most of his Life Style Skills.

Rean then looked at Kentucky before asked Roan.

"What do you think?"

Roan understood what Rean meant before saying.

"There is nothing much that can be done. Kentucky is too young, so expecting impressive reflexes from it will not bring us anywhere. He can only rely on his own instincts to get better at fighting. However, it does, indeed, learn very fast. I doubt it would fall into the Spider Mother's Webs a second time in the

same situation. I guess, no, it is definitely due to its impressive bloodline. It just has to stop relying on its defense so much."

Rean laughed as he remembered Kentucky's frightened expression when the Spider Mother's mouth tried to eat his head.

"Hahaha! Don't worry. After being scared like that, I doubt it will purposely continue to take hits headon as it has done so far."

Sure enough, Kentucky's head was full of the images of the insides of the Spider Mother's mouth.

Rean then looked at Roan before asking.

"How far are we from the region of search?"

Roan looked at the Jade Slip before saying.

"We are close. Considering our speed, we should arrive there tomorrow afternoon."

Rean nodded as they spent the rest of the night recovering and pondering about today's experiences.

Death... and me

Chapter 298: Contact

Other than Demon Beasts, there were also a few groups of cultivators. Of course, it was not easy to find them. They would bump into one or two every 500 to 1000 kilometers. Sometimes even none. That makes sense since only those with high cultivation would dare to enter here.

If Rean and Roan found those people, then so would others as well. At the moment, Rean and Roan just so happened to be talking with one of those groups. As for the topic...

"Are you two sure that you are not lost? Where have you ever seen 14 years old brats like you two training in a place like this? I'm surprised that you haven't died yet."

This group had one Initial Stage Core and Soul Fusion Realm cultivator while the other three were at least at the late Stage of the Core Formation Realm. They had come to the Core of the Jiran Forest to gather demon beasts' materials and demon cores. After all, Stage Four demon cores and materials were still worth a lot even if they can only be sold for Rank Two Spirit Stones.

Roan became annoyed at their blabbering as Rean sighed helplessly. As much as this group has good intentions, being stopped for such a reason really bothered them. If anything, they were in a much better condition than them, with the Dimensional Realm available for emergencies.

"We appreciate your thoughts, but you don't need to worry. We are more than strong enough to survive in this place. We are members of the Dalamu Sect, after all."

The leader of that group nodded.

"That explains how two brats at your age were able to reach the Core Formation Realm so fast. This old man spent over 30 years to reach the same stage as you two. It took me even longer to arrive at the Core and Soul Fusion. Not to mention that I have no hope of reaching the Nascent Soul Realm one day. Still, even if you are from the Dalamu Sect, you should return. This cultivation of yours is too low."

Roan finally lost his patience.

"Whatever, just ignore them. Let's go."

Without even looking behind, Roan dashed into the forest. Rean bitterly smiled as he nodded.

"Don't worry, sir. We know the risk. Just leave us be."

Chick!

Kentucky saw the twins running away and quickly followed as well.

A man in this group couldn't help but ask the old leader.

"Father, is it really okay to leave them? Shouldn't we try to stop the two? I believe the Dalamu Sect would even give us a reward for helping bring those two geniuses back to their sect. After all, I don't think they would allow them to enter this Core Region with their cultivations."

The man pondered for a bit about the situation. Although he wasn't part of a sect, he at least knew how they work. As his son said, those sects wouldn't allow geniuses of that level to venture in a place like this without the necessary cultivation.

Another member of their group also added.

"I believe he is right, Clan Leader. Since our Lopin Clan lives in the Dalamu Sect's Territory, it wouldn't be a bad decision to acquire a favor from them. Besides, they are already lucky that no one tried to rob them yet and that it was us who came. Others would most likely try to rob them once they saw that they were part of the Dalamu Sect. After all, they are bound to have quite a few good items with the cultivation they are showing."

Well, the truth was that Rean and Roan had already encountered two groups like that. One was while they were still in the Inner Region, while the other was after they had just entered the Core Region. Robbers in a place like this weren't anything rare. Demon beasts were far from being the only risks to take here. Unfortunately for those two groups, they really selected the wrong group to attack.

Finally, the man nodded his head.

"Fine, but let's not try to stop the twins straight away. You are young, so you can see it. Something tells me that they are not as simple as they look. It's just like you said, they were way too lucky to not have been robbed so far. That makes one think, had they really been lucky or not?"

"Is father saying that they might really have the power to defend themselves with that cultivation?"

The Clan Leader nodded.

"It seems ridiculous, but you must understand one thing. Don't ever underestimate the sect's powers."

The Clan Leader's son and the other two companions looked at each other in dismay. Could that really be the case? The Clan Leader didn't wait for them to say anything before grabbing them with his Spiritual Energy and taking flight. At the Core and Soul Fusion Realm, one can finally use Spiritual Energy to fly, after all. It would be a lot easier to watch the twins like that.

Rean and Roan kept moving forward, as Roan commented.

"We already entered the region where we need to look for that mountain with four peaks."

Rean nodded.

"That's good. Let me fly with Kentucky to take a better look around."

Rean then jumped on Kentucky's back and transmitted his intention through Spiritual Sense. Kentucky immediately opened his wings as Light Element gathered in his body. In the next second, the Minokawa shot at high speeds to the sky.

Rean then looked around to see if he could see any mountain before uttering through their Soul Connection.

'I can see two mountains, but I can't tell if they have four peaks or not since they're covered by clouds.'

Roan nodded, not finding it too surprising.

'It seems like we will need to verify one by one from now on. Come down. You will gather too much attention if you keep flying above everyone's heads.'

Rean nodded before telling Kentucky to descend. However, he also noticed that the group of cultivators from a while ago was also nearby.

'Well, those guys seem to be following us.'
Roan couldn't care less, though.
'Ignore them. As long as they don't bother us, then that's fine.'
Rean then asked.
'What if we find this Jade Slip's location?'
Roan pondered a bit before saying.
'In that case, we can simply change direction and lead them somewhere else. After that, we will enter the Dimensional Realm and wait a while until they leave. Simple as that.'
'By the way, did you find any clue that might be related to the target we are looking for?'
Rean shook his head.
'The region is too big. That group of cultivators was basically the only one since we arrived in the searching area.'
Roan nodded again.
'Alright, let's keep an eye just in case we find something. It's not like we need to bring the old woman back anyway.'
Rean agreed with Roan when all of a sudden, he felt some familiar energy as he looked behind.

'Ah! Found another group. They are coming from the same direction as the guys from before. Could it be that they are gathering forces to attack us?' Roan snorted after hearing that. 'As if! They have a Core and Soul Fusion Realm member in their midst. Do you think they would feel afraid of two Initial Stage Core Formation Realm teenagers? If they wanted to attack us, they would have done so as soon as we met.' Rean nodded. No one knew about their real combat power, after all. However, his eyes narrowed after a while. The new group didn't seem to be anything different from the others they found in the past. However, Rean finally remembered where he had felt that familiar energy before. 'Umbral Energy!' He quickly patted Kentucky and had it fly down. Roan already heard his words through their Soul Connection, so he was already on guard too. As soon as Rean left everyone's sight, he touched Kentucky's body and sent the Minokawa into the Dimensional Realm. Soon after, Light Element gathered around his body while Roan stayed close to him. 'Light Style, Fourth Form, Hidden Radar!' With that, Rean would be able to feel all Spiritual Senses while being able to bend them in order for the two of them to be undetectable. Of course, Rean's bending ability had a limit. If the Spiritual Sense was too strong, he would still feel it but wouldn't be strong enough to bend it. Fortunately, the Umbral Sect's strongest member at the back was only at the Middle Stage Core and Soul Fusion Realm. Rean could just barely bend his Spiritual Sense with Light Element before it touched them. Roan then looked at Rean before asking. 'Have they noticed you?' Rean shook his head.

'I doubt so. It was because of the Umbral Energy that my attention was caught at first, but they definitely noticed the previous group that stopped us.'

Roan nodded.

'Since you can keep us hidden, let's go take a look. They most likely came for us, so I want to know how many are there.'

As soon as Rean's group disappeared, the Lopin Clan Leader showed a shocked expression. Rean's group had just disappeared right inside his Spiritual Sense. However, he didn't have time to think about that as his son called his attention.

"Father, there's a group coming."

The Clan Leader then looked behind and saw a six-member group moving in their direction.

"Be careful. There are two Core and Soul Fusion Realm cultivators with them. One Initial and one Middle Stage."

As the Umbral Sect group arrived, no one noticed the change in the light near their position. Sure enough, Rean also used his Light Element camouflage.

Death... and me

Chapter 299: Umbral Sect Attack

The Lopin Clan Leader then ignored Rean and Roan's disappearance and stepped forward to talk with the newcomers.

"I'm the head of the Lopin Clan, Rovan Lopin. What do these friends need?"

Rovan kept his guard up since the opposite side had the power to kill his group. If they really attacked, he wasn't sure if he could even escape, let alone his son and the other two.

As mentioned before, the Umbral Sect had separated into four groups. Two groups had six members, while the other two had five. The one at the Middle Stage of the Core and Soul Fusion then asked them a question.

"We are looking for two teenagers that have entered this part of the Core Region. They are twins with different hair colors, one white and one black. Have you seen them?"

Rovan and the others' expressions didn't change. They were all experienced enough to not give clues. Still, they didn't expect that such a high-level group would be looking for those teenagers. However, Rovan thought it to be strange. No one would openly look for members of the Dalamu Sect like that. After all, if you lived in the Dalamu Sect territory, it wouldn't be a good idea to pick a fight against them. Anyone who decided to attack those twins would only do so if they could guarantee that they could get rid of the evidence later.

"Who are you? Are you members of the Dalamu Sect?"

Obviously, the Umbral Sect members wouldn't tell the truth.

"That's none of your business. Have you seen them or not?"

Rovan then received a Spiritual Sense message from his son.

'Father, this is not a group we can mess with.'

Rovan nodded as he looked back at the guy.

"This friend is right. I was too harsh. I haven't seen them, but I'll keep it in mind if I notice a duo like that."

Rovan might not want problems, but it didn't mean he would say anything either. They couldn't prove that his group had seen Rean and Roan to start with. Besides, considering the Core Region's size, the

chances of them seeing the twins were meager as well. It wouldn't be strange if they didn't see anything. Rean didn't expect the guy to not tell the truth. Why would he hide it? However, Roan understood very well. 'You have the wrong idea. They were not trying to protect us. Instead, the Rovan guy just doesn't want any problems. The best way to do that is to pretend that he doesn't know anything. As soon as the guy from the Umbral Sect finishes his questions, Rovan will immediately take his members and get the hell out of here.' Rean sighed but nodded in the end. 'What do we do, then?' Roan then showed a cold smile as he looked at the two sides. The Umbral Sect guy snorted in response after hearing that answer. "Is that so? Then so be it." Umbral Energy began to gather around the guy's hands as he immediately used his Movement Technique. The Umbral Sect's presence in this place was a secret. When Rovan stopped to ask who they were, showing his doubt, they had already decided to get rid of this group. "Not good! It's the Umbral Sect!" Rovan reacted as fast as possible, but he got attacked by the Initial and Middle Stage Umbral Sect members. Besides, he wasn't part of a sect. His own combat power was already lower than the Initial Stage guy.

'Extreme Titan's Palm!'

'Umbral Heavenly Finger!'
Bang, Bang!
Rovan already vomited blood as he was sent flying back. At the same time, Umbral Energy began to invade his body and affect his organs.
The other members of the Umbral Sect didn't stay put either. They also attacked the very moment the two Core and Soul Fusion Realm members acted.
"Fuck! Run!"
The Lopin Clan members tried to flee, but how could the Umbral Sect members allow them?
"Hahaha! Do you think you can escape?"
Several flags were shot in various directions. In just a second, they created a circular zone around the battlefield. Suddenly, they began to shine with yellow light as Spiritual Energy linked them. Right after, something that looked like a yellow dome appeared in that area.
Rovan's heart sunk after seeing that. Those were Flag Formations that allowed one to use them even without having to build anything. Those things were very expensive and hard to make. However, if it was the Umbral Sect, it made sense that they could have some of those. Without breaking the barrier, none of them would be able to leave.
Taking advantage of the situation, the Umbral Sect members attacked with all their might.
"Old geezer, die!"
'Umbral Extermination!'

'Earth Convergence!'

Rovan quickly regained his bearings as he tried to resist. He pulled out his Saber, trying to use it to block the attacks with his own skill.

'Rise of the Flames!'

Fire Element gathered around his body as he slashed against the two-pronged attacks. He knew he wouldn't be able to fend them off, but it would at least give him some chance. He would then need to think about a way to escape this place after that.

However, he noticed something in his field of vision approaching his two attackers at high speeds. He couldn't tell what it was since it looked more like a distorted spot. The weird thing was that that distorted spot wasn't appearing in his Spiritual Sense. If he wasn't seeing it with his own eyes, he wouldn't even know it was there.

Obviously, the distortion was due to Rean's camouflage effect. As for the Spiritual Sense concealment, that came from the Hidden Radar Skill.

Roan stopped Rean from acting when the Umbral Sect members attacked first. He saw that they were acting complacent due to their numbers advantage. That was what he exactly wanted. After those two Core and Soul Fusion guys connected their attacks on Rovan and the Flag Formation activated, they got even more complacent. Only then did he and Rean began to move.

Because of the Flag Formation, those Umbral Sect members didn't think they would be attacked by anyone else. That being said, they completely dropped their guard as they were sure they had to only pay attention to Rovan's group.

'Life Style, First Form, Enhancement!'

'Death Style, First Movement Form, Shadow Steps!'

'Death Style, Third Form, Three Claws of the Dragon!'

The moment Rovan was about to receive a potentially fatal strike, that distortion in mid-air changed into a cloud of Dark and Light Elements and Spiritual Energy. From inside it, Rean and Roan appeared in a flash as their swords changed into claw-like attacks.

As shocked as Rovan could be, he would need to be an idiot to let such a change to pass. He understood what Rean's group was doing, so he increased his Fire Element and Spiritual Energy output as much as possible. With that, his defense display got even more appealing, creating the perfect moment for a sneak attack.

Sure enough, no one was expecting that someone was hidden inside the Flags' Protection Formation. By the time those two Core and Soul Fusion Realm cultivators noticed it, the six swords were already right on their backs! Besides, they were also in the middle of releasing their own skills, so they couldn't simply stop it that fast.

'What?! Where the hell they came from?!'

Both of them tried to change the course of their attacks, but how could Rovan let them do so? Instead of retreating while using his Rise of the Flames, he immediately pounced forward! That forced the Umbral Sect Members who were already in front of him to defend against his attack first.

Bang!

Still, those two's attacks were a lot more powerful than Rovan's. Not to mention that Rovan forced himself to take them head-on! Because of that, Rovan received severe injuries as his body was once again sent flying, crashing against the Flags' Protection Formation. Yet, if one looked at his face, they would see a smile appearing.

The Umbral Sect enemies tried to use their Spiritual Energy to create a barrier to block Rean and Roan's attack as much as possible. However, they were utterly underestimating Roan's Dark Element effects. Rean and Roan's Six Swords cut through their barriers like a hot knife on butter, landing all the attacks in the most critical points!

Swish, swich, swich, swich, swich!

Two heads and hearts were pierced through as two necks were slashed clean. They didn't even have time to scream before they were killed on the spot!

Because it was a sneak attack, the twins did not release the Mirage Assault. After all, Rean couldn't hide the two of them plus the clones at the same time from others' Spiritual Sense.

The rest of the Umbral Sect Members were shocked when they saw their two strongest members falling and immediately gave up attacking the Lopin Clan members. They moved in a different direction from the twins and tried to rush out of the Flag Formation. Since they were the owners, the Flag Formations could be deactivated anytime they wanted to.

Creeeee!

However, it was at this moment that they heard a loud cry as a Light and Dark Flame Meteor came crashing down from above them.

Boom!

Kentucky had entered the action, immediately blasting the area in front of the Umbral Sect Members! Without another choice, they could only step back while defending against the Minokawa's attack. Once again, they changed direction, trying to flee in another direction. Unfortunately, the king of the underworld's voice sounded in their ears at that moment.

'Did I give you permission to leave?'

Their hearts froze as they saw six black and white-haired twins appearing. Not to mention that the Lopin Clan members wouldn't let them simply go like that either. Their fates were sealed at that point.

Death... and me

Chapter 300: Bait Plan



Rean then approached the man as he laughed. "Old man, you did quite an excellent job just now. Instead of using that chance to retreat, you released even more power to catch their attention. I was even more impressed when you pounced forward to take their much stronger attacks head-on. Although I and the iceblock were still more or less confident about our chances of winning that fight, that made things a lot easier." Rean then patted his shoulder while praising the old man. Seeing how Rean didn't seem to care about his father's injures made Ervan angry, though. "Shut up! It was because of you that we got involved in this shit!" Rovan raised his hand to stop his son. "Wrong. That was not the twins' fault. It was evident that they didn't want us to follow them, but we did nonetheless. Blaming them for our own actions will not make things easier." Rean laughed again before saying. "Why are you acting like a dying old man? Get up already." Rovan didn't know what to say. Can't he see with his Spiritual Sense how bad his condition is? However, just as he was about to talk, Rean held Rovan's shoulder with his hands as he smiled. 'Life Style, Second Form, Instant Recover!' 'Life Style, Third Form, Purification!'

Right in front of everyone, Rovan's injuries began to disappear at high speeds. Rean's Light Element healed his body and protected his organs as Dark Element ran through his body and destroyed the Umbral Energy.

Rovan grunted in pain because of the Dark Element, but everyone ignored that. After all, they could all see with their Spiritual Senses how the Umbral Energy in Rovan's body quickly disappeared.

Rovan's grave injuries didn't take more than two minutes to disappear. Well, it was already a long time, though. That's because Rovan's cultivation was an entire realm above Rean. Rean's Healing abilities' effectiveness was deeply linked to the difference in cultivation, as mentioned in the past. Besides, it always took a lot more time to heal others than heal himself. If it was only Rean, it would have taken at most a few seconds.

The Umbral Energy took longer, though. The Purification Ability wasn't as fast as Instant Recovery, so Rovan had to hold the pain of having Dark Element running through his body for another 15 minutes or so. Well, if others could tell how fast he was recovering, then let alone himself. Just a moment ago, he thought he was done for. Who cares about pain when you can avoid death?

Finally, Rean's Light and Dark Element stopped coming out as he got up. As for Rovan, other than his worn clothes, he looked as well as he had ever been. In fact, the remaining Light Element in his body made him feel quite vigorous.

"Phew... Alright, old man. You can get up now. Thanks for the help a moment ago. We got to capture one of the guys of the Umbral Sect because of that."

Rean's abilities reminded Rovan of something he heard a few months ago.

"I know who you are! You are the boy from the Dalamu Sect that can heal Umbral Energy that everyone was talking about. The Umbral Sect had even put a bounty on your head for some time."

Rean laughed as he nodded his head.

"Hahaha! Well, now you know why these guys appeared in this place."

Suddenly, everyone began to hear screams coming from behind. Rean didn't even need to turn around to know that Roan already began to question the last survivor of this group.

Rovan and the others felt a chill on their back as they looked at Roan's evil smile. It was really a good thing that they didn't try to piss off these twins.

Around a minute later, Roan slashed his sword as the guy's head flew in the air. Rean didn't say anything this time. They already knew that the Umbral Sect was after them. Since they want them dead, they should be prepared to die too.

"Hey, ice block, what did you find?"

Roan glanced at Rean before saying.

"It seems like the marvelous Tamadol City's Mayor had some relationship with the Umbral Sect. He did indeed recognize me back then, so he warned these guys about our trip to the Jiran Forest."

Rean narrowed his eyes. That was quite a big risk to take when you live in the Dalamu Sect territory.

"I see. Anyway, we can deal with the guy later. What about the Umbral Sect? Are these guys all of them? Did they send Nascent Soul Realm cultivators after us?"

Roan shook his head.

"No. It seems like the Umbral Sect's Nascent Soul cultivators are under watch. Most likely, it is because of the communication system. The other sects don't want the Umbral Sect to find problems with Dalamu before they are done with their own communication system networks. This guy said that them leaving from the Sect was already very secretive."

Rean nodded.

"So, what can we expect?"



"Hahaha! Alright, alright. You did well just then."
When Rean and Roan finally revealed themselves, they also released Kentucky from the Soul Gem Dimensional Realm. He was responsible for helping the other guys and for preventing the Core Formation Realm enemies from escape.
"Alright, we are done here."
"What about the Flags' Protection Formation?"
"Don't worry, I already asked how to remove it."
Roan then extended his hands as Spiritual Energy came out from them. It quickly touched the barrier created from the Flags, which deactivated immediately. Roan then collected those flags before putting them into his bag. Or better, into the Dimensional Realm.
"Let's go!"
However, just as they were about to leave, Rovan stopped them.
"Wait! I have something to ask. Did you come here because of the missing people?"
Sure enough, Rean and Roan's attention was piqued.