

Destiny 1491

Chapter 1491 To the Awakened Continent (Part 3)

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As there was still a lot of time before the airship arrived at the Awakened Continent, the group had plenty of free time to do whatever they wanted.

After being banned from the casinos, the trio of Arthur, Leonard, and Chaotic Luck went back to the training room in high spirits. As a 'thank you' gift for earning them a lot of money, the pair gave Chaotic Luck a 'free' training session.

But they did not last that long as they were too annoyed by the unique 'ability' of the latter during their training. However, Chaotic Luck also suffered quite a beating during their session.

"Tsk! Fighting that guy is annoying s ever," mumbled Arthur as he rested inside the relaxing rooms adjacent to the training room where they came from.

Leonard glanced at him and smiled once he saw that the latter somewhat returned to his previous self.

Arthur had been training constantly both in the real world and inside the game, which worried those around him. Seeing him like this at least eased Leonard even for a little.

"At least that stupid luck of his is quite useful in other areas," commented Leonard while chuckling.

"Watching him bet on random cards and numbers without understanding the rules of the game, then winning the next instant is quite satisfying!" he added before breaking into laughter.

"Yeah! Those slot machines are quite funny as well! Every time he draws, a rain of gold will immediately follow," said Arthur as he laughed on the side.

"Tsk! It is a pity that we were banned by them not long after," complained Leonard as he recalled how they were dragged out of the casino after winning in every gambling game and emptying all the slot machines they encountered.

"I think we finally find the 'right' way to use that kid's annoying talent," said Leonard before wearing a devious grin. "Should we visit every gambling house once we land on the second continent?"

"I bet there will only be two outcomes when we head there. It is either they go bankrupt, or we are going to be blacklisted by them," said Arthur as he thought of something. "It will also not take long before we become notorious in that continent."

"We will at least quite a lot of gold that way," said Leonard before grinning. "We can even earn ourselves a hidden title in the process."

The two exchanged glances before the devious grin that they were wearing grew uglier.

Not far from them, Chaotic Luck, who collapsed on the ground after a full session of torture, could not help but roll his eyes at them. "At least discuss something like this where I can't hear you."

The duo ignored him as they continued their evil laugh. Chaotic Luck was too exhausted to complain longer, so he just ignored them and focused on resting.

Not long after, Alucard and Diablo entered the room after seeing Chaotic Luck through the semi-opened door.

Looking at the collapsed comrade on the ground and the evil duo laughing deviously on the side, the two somewhat guessed what just transpired during the training session. They could only shake their heads and send their pitying gazes at the poor kid before ignoring them completely.

Noticing their arrival, Leonard suddenly asked. "How's the pubs? Pretty good?"

The pair halted their steps and looked at each other before Alucard answered. "Pretty good. The ambiance is somewhat better than the ones we can find in the real world in some sense. You should give it a visit when you have time."

"The drinks that they offer are also quite good. But most importantly, they give decent buffs," added Diablo. "There are also quite a few unique buffs that you can only find from special potions."

Arthur and Leonard ignored the latter part of his words and focused on the first part of what he mentioned. They looked strangely at Diablo as if they were trying to say something.

Diablo realized their odd gazes a little later and gave them a confused look in return, seemingly asking if he said something wrong.

Arthur and Leonard exchanged glances before the latter asked. "I just remembered. How old are you again?"

Diablo knitted his brow before answering. "Seventeen, turning eighteen in two months."

At this point, Alucard suddenly realized something before hitting his forehead. "You are still underage, and you dare to drink? I know this is only a game, but it still-..."

"I can be considered an adult already given our international law. Fifteen years old is what is considered the legal age if I am not wrong," refuted Diablo.

"But you are neither a Martial Artist nor a Mentalist nor a Swordsman. You are not even an Assassin," said Arthur.

"According to international law, those at the age of fifteen can only be considered adults if they are practitioners of a certain discipline," added Leonard before pointing at Arthur. "Even this idiot knows the international laws despite him not paying any attention to the class."

Swoosh!

Leonard quickly leaned back and avoided the incoming fist from Arthur after he completed his words.

Alucard sighed as he just realized that he pulled an underage kid to hang out in the bar. This made him look like a bad influence on these kids.

Diablo turned to Alucard, who was beside him, before asking. "How old are you, by the way?"

Alucard looked at him straight to the eyes and said. "I am already nineteen and seven months this year."

He then patted Diablo's shoulders and apologized. "I am sorry. I thought that you were already of legal age. It is my fault. But you should have told me about your age earlier."

He then walked toward the training room while sighing and shaking his head.

Diablo stared blankly in the air before slowly turning to the others as he realized something. "Did he just say that I looked old compared to my real age?"

Arthur and Leonard turned their heads to the side, dodging his gaze, while Chaotic Luck ignored everything and acted as if he was dead.

Diablo squinted his eyes before following Alucard. "Hey! It has been a while since we spoke with each other. How about we give it a go for a round or two?"

Alucard smirked as he heard that. "Do you think I will be scared? Bring it on!"

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Meanwhile, on the deck of the airship, Alice just arrived as she wanted to get some fresh air. She just got separated from the other girls as they went their separate ways after their shopping spree.

Walking toward the bow, she suddenly noticed that there were a lot of birds gathered there. She slightly knitted her brow when she saw that and slowly approached them out of curiosity.

It was at that moment that she noticed that someone was sitting at the bow of the airship, where the birds gathered.

Slightly knitting her brow, she realized that it was Uno.

She watched Uno and the birds for quite a while before turning around to look for another spot to get fresh air. But before she could even take her step, she suddenly heard the latter talk.

"You are wasting too much of your talent."

She could not help but pause when she heard that and turned. "What do you mean by that."

Uno did not immediately reply as he watched the horizon before answering. "The true worth of a Gifted Adept is not during the battle, but from repeated training."

"Since you can adapt to any attacks after experiencing it once and counter it after the second experience, isn't it better to prepare yourself for everything after experiencing them ahead of time?"

"It will even be better if you torture yourself with a series of powerful techniques," he added while chuckling.

Alice stared at Uno's back for a while before hearing another set of words from the latter. "Your Mind Reader is not that bad, but you are using it a little too passively."

"It may be one of the worst ones when compared to the other peerless talents categorized to be listed at the top. But it rivals even the Godly Intuition once its wielder transformed it into Clairvoyance and fully mastered its powers."

Uno paused for a moment before continuing. "As a future Clairvoyant, why are not focusing on nurturing your talent?"

"Rather than wasting your time on useless things and distracting yourself with nonessential thoughts, why not focus on developing your talents and growing your powers?"

"You are chasing a wrong tail all this time because of your sense of superiority over others and inferiority to the past. If you don't rid of these things, you will be stuck in that place and never reach the peak that you are aiming for."

Alice slightly frowned before walking toward the railings of the deck and holding onto it while leaning forward. "You seem to be quite knowledgeable about a lot of things. Just who are you exactly?"

She was unaware of what happened to Shin as Evangeline and David had closely sealed the information and limited it to the most trusted people.

Aside from Leonard, Lorraine, and Cloe, who were currently staying at the Springfield Household, only a handful of people from the Springfield Family knew about this matter.

Of course, Shin's masters were also aware of this, but they couldn't disclose it to other people, who were not closely related to Shin.

But despite that being the case, Alice still someone odd whenever she saw Uno. The latter might be releasing a completely different air compared to Uno, but she still could not shake off the feeling that she might know this person.

Moreover, as a singer herself, her ears were quite sensitive. Even if Uno had a different tone compared to Shin, she still felt that his voice was very familiar. She just could not put her fingers on who exactly that voice belonged to.

The more she thought about it, the more curious she became. She had become very curious about the real identity of this person.

"Is that important?" said Uno as he continued. "As I said, you better forget about the useless things and focus on developing what you have."

"It is annoying to see someone with such potential waste their talents," he added.

Alice thought for a moment before turning to Uno. "How about to teach me how to become powerful then? Guide me on how to properly hone these talents."

Uno did not immediately respond as he finally turned his head toward her. He stared at her eyes which were filled with determination before sneering. "That's an interesting pair of eyes. Unfortunately, I have no interest in helping you."

"Why? You have already guided me with those words earlier, so why stop now? You may as well help me all the way," she said.

She did not know why she was talking to this person, or why she was asking for his help, but she found that she could trust his words and felt she could rely on him.

That overwhelming confidence and domineering tone of him seemed to be pulling her closer to him.

It was her first time feeling something like this – even more so when it was also her first time talking with this person.

This made her confused and curious at the same time, so she wanted to be a little greedier and know more about this mysterious member who seemed to come out of nowhere.

Uno remained silent for a moment before turning his head back to the horizon. "Because it is annoying."

Alice smiled without her knowing before asking. "Is it also the reason why you are here and all alone?"

Uno did not answer and ignored her. When Alice saw that, her lips curved even higher before saying. "Let me stay here and annoy you a little more then."

She found that this mysterious and scary expert who came out of nowhere, was not like how everyone thought he would be.

Chapter 1492 A Vessel

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On the airship deck, Alice began to chat with Uno, which was very unlike her. It was completely different from what she was supposed to be and her halo as an idol from the real world could not be seen immediately.

She had never run out of topic since she had never been this talkative before. The things that she wanted to share with others were now being shared with this person despite Uno not saying anything.

But since Uno kept on ignoring her, she did not know whether she was boring to talk with, or this guy just had a heart of stone instead.

After talking for a while, Alice stopped for a moment as a certain thought crossed her mind. She then smiled before she stopped talking and rested her throat for a moment.

Peace had returned to the deck once again when she stopped talking. Aside from the sounds of the blowing wind resonating with the barrier of the airship and the chirping of the birds, nothing else could be heard.

When Uno felt that Alice had given up at last and he could now return to his peaceful time, he suddenly heard a humming sound from behind.

When he turned his head and looked at her, he saw that she was now back to her standing position and holding onto the railings of the deck, humming a song.

Uno stared at her for a moment until she started singing one of her songs. Her voice quickly pierced through the peacefulness of the deck, enveloping everything with each word she sang. But despite 'breaking' the peace, another sense of 'peace' filled the air along with the emotions that were being carried by each verse she sang.

It was peaceful. It was also different from how she usually sang her songs during her concerts and other events.

Shin had criticized her for not having that much emotion when she was singing despite her beautiful and angelic voice. She could not accept it at first, but during her rehearsal along with the other members of the One Day Dairy, she realized her shortcomings and discovered that she still had a lot of things to learn.

With this, she developed a new style of singing after learning from Shin. It was more mature than her previous one as she now had more precise control over her voice and a variety of techniques.

Uno watched her for a couple of moments before turning his attention back to the horizon. Despite his indifference, he still let her do what she wanted and listened to her singing.

"Tsk! I just told her to stop wasting her time with useless things," he clicked his tongue, complaining.

Alice was able to hear his words despite him saying them in a low voice, but she ignored them as she became more immersed in her singing.

Real World, Dark Continent

In one of the most dangerous and unexplored areas within the continent, there was a massive underground city hidden under a dark forest.

This city possessed a very advanced technology that was not much inferior compared to the Sun-Moon Continent, which was said to be the most advanced place in the world and possessed the best technology out there.

Of course, there were still a few places that could also be labeled as the haven of researchers and scientists just as the World Researcher Center, World Gaming Organization, and such. They just happened to be an independent faction or ruled by a certain corporation, which was why not many were aware of this fact.

This underground city was one of the true main bases of the Black Serpent Mafia. It was also the place meant for them to develop their technology and where they sent all the research materials that they had gathered around the world.

Currently, in one of the rooms, there was a man in a laboratory gown standing in front of a huge cylindrical glass capsule. Within this capsule, a person was currently submerged in a special liquid made from a variety of herbs and chemical solutions.

"How is it?" another person entered the room, who was also wearing a laboratory gown.

This person had an ordinary look that could be seen anywhere in the streets, but he carried a mysterious air that made his current appearance look nothing but a disguise.

"You're here, Professor Asrin," said the other researcher from earlier, who was also wearing a pair of square glasses.

He was holding a tablet in his hand, which showed a bunch of data that represented the readings of the vitals and other parameters of the person within the glass.

"You can stop with the formality, Luka. We are not colleagues here," said the professor, who just entered.

"You mean to say fellow slaves of the organization," said Luka with a bitter smile.

"There is nothing we can do. We all have been captured by the Black Serpent Mafia during that incident. People have most likely forgotten about us already, thinking that we all have died during the plane crash," said Professor Asrin.

"We can neither leave this place nor contact people from the outside. Other than doing these immoral research projects they have given us, we can't do anything else," complained Luka.

Professor Asrin patted his shoulders and comforted him. "At least we are not killed like the rest. As long as we are useful to them and do our job right, they can do nothing to use."

"Moreover, we are also getting a proper meal at the very least. It is much better compared to those guys who have become the real slaves of the organizations," he added before turning his attention to the current subject of their project.

"Is this the man that we have to look after?" he asked before turning his head toward the monitor right beside the glass capsule and reading the parameters that were being displayed.

Luka nodded as he replied. "That is right. This person was brought here by that mummy and told us to do the usual tests."

He then frowned deeply as he added. "I don't know where they have found this person, but I found something strange in his body."

Professor Asrin raised his brows as his interest was piqued in the process. "Is that so? What is it?"

Luka handed the tablet that he was holding to the professor and continued. "If we look on the surface, we can't find anything wrong with him. He is very normal through and through."

"Aside from him having a few mutations due to his practice of being a Demonic Practitioner, there is nothing wrong with him."

"But here is where he becomes special. Other than having a perfect vessel for his Demonic Powers, he also possessed a great affinity for Mentalism."

The professor thought for a moment before asking. "He can be a dual practitioner and happens to have an affinity for both disciplines. This is nothing compared to our other subjects."

Luka nodded his head as he explained further. "That is also what I thought at first. But professor... take a look at this."

After a brief pause, as he arranged the data displayed on the screen of the tablet, he quickly continued. "When this person was first brought here, he was pretty much alive-... or more likely, he was only sleeping."

"But as he spends more time in the state of suspended animation, his body is slowly deteriorating as if he was in the middle of being decayed."

"The more I look at it, the more confused I become. That is when I tried a few more tests and discovered something that stunned me."

He paused for another time as displayed more data from another screen. "That is when I realized that this body of a Demonic Practitioner doesn't have a demonic core. The entire body itself is made of mere flesh that has been grown by Demonic Powers and Mental Energy."

"It is a perfect clone that followed the principles of Artificial Cell Construction, Self Mutation, Demonic Regeneration, and Mentalism Construct!"

Reaching this point, Luka seemed to have forgotten that they were slave researchers of this place and he became excited as he continued to explain. "This technology is something that we have been researching for a long time! Even if it is not a perfect product, it is still way advanced compared to our discoveries!"

The professor became immersed in reading the data displayed on the screens as he also found it quite intriguing. He did not know which expert had created such a cloning technique, but it was without a doubt ahead of their current researchers.

Out of the people he knew within their field, he could only think of three people who could potentially achieve such a feat.

But even then, there was only a single person among them who had succeeded and created something similar.

It was the person who was said to have created the 'First Vessel' or known to others as the 'Perfect Vessel'.

But even that person was supposedly an ordinary researcher as he had never been exposed to any of the mentioned techniques aside from the artificial ones and scientific projects. He never had practiced any kind of discipline.

Moreover, he supposedly had died a long time ago.

"Is there another person who has succeeded at creating an artificial life?" mumbled the professor as he felt they had discovered something they should not have.

Chapter 1493 The Forgotten Sea (Part 1)

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After a few more days of traveling, the airship reached a certain part of a high-level region. It was part of the Sea of Death which divided the Aurora and Awakened Continent. But despite them being a part of a single body of water, they were still on a whole different level.

The Sea of Death near the Aurora Continent was filled with powerful sea monsters and quite a lot of high-level regions, which were still quite hard for the current top experts to explore. There were also a couple of islands in those regions filled with powerful land monsters, which far surpassed the current limit of the players.

But all of these were nothing in front of the Sea of Death bordering the Awakened Continent. The sea monsters in this place were all on the same level as the ones that Shin had fought during the trial that the leaders of the Mysterious Instructors had prepared for him.

Some of them were even harder to deal with due to the difficulty of fighting under the water. Fighting under the water was much harder than the land. It could be similar to fighting in the air, but since the pressure under the water was much harder to deal with the air resistance, an underwater battle could be considered the hardest.

When the airship was right above the border between the two Seas of Death, Uno suddenly stood up and looked below.

He also opened a virtual map, seemingly trying to confirm the coordinates. Then he closed it again immediately after before turning to Alice, who was watching the view from her usual spot.

Since her first conversation with Uno, she regularly came to this place to accompany him and sing a couple of songs whenever she was free.

Uno was too lazy to bother with her, but he did not chase her away. He just ignored her presence and let her do whatever she wanted whenever she appeared.

He stared at her for a moment as she looked back at him with a confused look on her face. It was his first time leaving that spot since the first time seen him sitting in that place.

After a minute of silence, Uno finally opened his mouth. "Tell the others that am going ahead."

Alice frowned her brows in confusion. "What do you mean by that?"

"I still have some others that I have to deal with, so I will be leaving first," Uno did not explain properly as he suddenly jumped down from the bow of the airship and fell straight to the sea underneath.

Alice gasped when she saw that and quickly leaned forward to look. But Uno's figure immediately disappeared as the airship was moving quite fast.

She did not even see how Uno was able to pierce through the barrier protecting the airship as his figure suddenly turned into a blur that seemed to have been teleported out of the barrier and continued falling toward the water.

She felt quite conflicted as she saw a huge torrent of water flying toward the sky in the distance. She could only suspect that it was due to Uno's descent.

She squeezed something in her hands as she continued to watch from the distance. After that, she dejectedly walked back inside the airship with slumped shoulders and heavy steps.

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Uno fell straight to the sea as he did not even bother to look back. He then consumed a pill that he had prepared for this moment, which would let him able to breathe underwater for a day.

He then repeatedly turned to scan his surroundings, making sure that he had not attracted any powerful monster, which could also attack him when he was unprepared.

After making sure that the surroundings were clear and adjusting himself to make sure that he had become familiar with moving underwater, he opened his virtual map before facing a certain direction.

He waited for a couple of moments before swimming in that direction as fast as he could.

"This should be the nearest place where I can reach the place that the dwarf has mentioned," he mumbled as he regularly checked his path to make sure that he would not be going out of track.

From the memories that he had shared with Shin, he remembered that Berlin mentioned something about a part of the sea region after Shin had completed his 'Solar Breathing Technique'. It was about an underwater temple that could be found in the forgotten sea.

(Reference Chapter: 1190)

Uno suspected that it was something to do with another breathing technique similar to 'Solar Breathing'. It might not be a breathing technique, but a method to create one. After all, Berlin would not mention it after seeing the 'Solar Breathing'.

And since the setting was within the sea, it would not be hard to guess that it should be related to the element of water.

After his little investigation, there was no such thing as Forgotten Sea among the regions that could be found on the official website of the game. But according to the lores that he had read, it should be somewhere between the Aurora Continent and the Awakened Continent.

If Uno's guess was right, then this forgotten sea must be somewhere between the two Seas of Death.

This was the reason why he was in this place.

He did not plan to head to the Awakened Continent itself to accompany the others as he found this matter was more important than them.

One of the main obstructions that Shin had to break through the barrier between the stages of the Grandmaster Realm was his breathing techniques.

Since he could not unify the other breathing techniques and make them one, Shin was unable to proceed to the next step.

Shin already possessed the three breathing techniques that corresponded with the elements of fire, metal, and earth, which were the Solar Breathing, the Golden Immortality, and the Great Dominator Techniques respectively.

With this, he was only lacking the corresponding breathing techniques that would perfectly fit the elements of water and wood.

Shin had gotten an inheritance during the last incident, and it was related to nature given its properties, which were also related to wood elements. It would not be long before Shin was able to create a breathing for this element.

This left them with the water element.

Once Shin had completed all the breathing techniques and consolidated his powers with them, creating the absolute balance between the elements, he would be one step closer to reaching the Peak Grandmaster Realm.

Building the Spiritual Vessel for this stage would take less time given that Shin possessed the Spiritual Embryo Physique, which was the perfect vessel for Mentalism.

Creating his Spiritual Force would also follow naturally since the foundation that Shin had built was already perfect. The breathing techniques themselves were already a shortcut that he had unconsciously taken.

This was the reason why Uno had changed his mind when recalled what Berlin had mentioned. He would no longer accompany the group at the Awakened Continent as Shin's advancement in Mentalism was more important.

Once Shin had proceeded to this step, Uno could also advance with his Martial Arts and reach the Ethereal Opening Realm. After all, they both had to advance at the same time so that they could maintain the balance of 'their' body.

He also believed that this would put them back at the same starting point once again once Shin came back.

Thinking about this, Uno could not help but curve his mouth into a grin as he was somewhat getting excited.

It had been a while since he exchanged blows with each Shin after all.

Back at the Aurora Continent, all the apostles of Immortal were gathered on a certain shore.

Daven and Kazin stood at the forefront of the group as they looked at the group. The latter nodded his head after making sure that everyone was present.

"Where is the boss?" asked Rust as she walked over to the two.

"The boss is still in a bad mood because of what happened. There is no need to disturb him for something trivial," said Kazin as he clicked his tongue.

"Who would have thought that the Empyrean Talons would still be ahead of us," commented Rust as she recalled what happened within the time that they were exploring after the world announcement was broadcasted to everyone.

"I told you that we had forgotten something at that time," said Daven as he shook his head. "We have forgotten that Sickarius is the first to become a Tier 3 Class. Of course, he has more clues on reaching the second continent!"

"There is no need to dwell on it. At least, we are not left that behind," said Kazin as he turned around and saw a large boat coming their way that a skeleton skipper was rowing.

Looking over his shoulder, he signaled the group behind him to get ready. "Empyrean Talons – it seems like they are still our main target."

"Don't get too excited. Our destination is the Forsaken Islets while they are most likely heading to the Divine Empire," said Rust as she patted Kazin's shoulder. "It will take a very long time before we clash against them."

The moment when the huge boat reached the shore, Daven waved his hand and signaled everyone to embark.

Chapter 1494 The Forgotten Sea (Part 2)

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Swoosh!

Uno swam through the sea without any restrictions as if were a sea creature himself. With the Underwater Breathing Pill that he had consumed earlier, he did not encounter any problems along the way.

As for fighting, Uno did not encounter any sea monsters along the way, which made his journey quite smooth and easy.

He traveled for at least two days (in-game time), wandering in the sea of nothingness and spending one more pill that let him breathe underwater.

The sea was quite deep, but he did not explore too deep on it as the pressure was getting stronger and he was unable to withstand its strength the further he advanced. He could only stay on the level where the pressure was where he could withstand while spreading his senses in every direction to scan the surroundings.

He was also using a special method to see further ahead as he tried to find the said temple.

Ding

On the third day of exploring, a system notification finally rang in his ears, which also gave him good news.

System: You have found the Forgotten Sea!

System: Congratulations on being the first player to discover this special region! You will be rewarded with 1000 fame points and massive amounts of reputation points in the Awakened Continent.

Uno ignored the second notification as it was nothing of his concern. He was too focused on what was in front of him, which was completely different from what he had seen from these last couple of days filled with dullness and darkness of the abyss.

Before him was a whole new world. It was as if he had entered a portal and was transported into a different dimension.

The underwater place in front of him was like a paradise with a stunning view. A lot of sea plants and seaweeds could be found everywhere along with amazing corals and beautiful rock formations could be found wherever he turned.

There were also different kinds of sea creatures swimming everywhere, big and small alike. But from the peaceful atmosphere that this place had, all these sea creatures seemed to be tamed and friendly.

At least that was what it looked like on the surface as there was no conflict between these creatures.

Uno observed the sea creatures for a while and discovered that despite their peaceful appearance on the surface, they were still powerful monsters when provoked.

The school of smaller fish was not much of a problem since they were not that powerful to begin with. They were regular monsters with levels spanning between 125 to 145, which was much more manageable even if they were comparable to King Class Monsters of the same level as the monsters from the Aurora Continent.

The troublesome ones should be those mid-size monsters as they were secondary predator of this place with levels between 150 to 175.

As for the apex predators of this place, Uno could not find any signs of them even with the help of his special methods.

After observing the surroundings and the sea creatures swimming calmly around, Uno proceeded and looked for the clues that he was looking for.

Since he had finally found the Forgotten Sea, he only needed to look for the underground temple that Berlin had mentioned.

Along the way, he found quite a lot of exotic creatures ranging from odd-looking fishes to jellyfish, seahorses, and such. The shellfish like crabs, lobsters, oysters, scallops, and snails were quite intriguing too.

But what made Uno quite wary were the hidden threats lurking in the shadows of the sea. He just caught a glimpse of a couple of them, which forced him to halt his tracks and stay still due to the overwhelming pressure that they were emitting.

Even if he was confident with his strength, he knew his limit and understood that he was not a match for these powerful creatures. They far surpassed all the powerful monsters from the first continent, indicating the huge gap between the two places.

Among the sea creatures that Uno had encountered, there were four of them that gave him a very strong impression.

One of them was a humongous turtle that was swimming quite peacefully. It was unhindered by anything as most of the aggressive monsters did not dare to provoke it. The smaller creatures even swam under it, accompanying it wherever it went. It was being treated as some sort of protector by these weaker creatures to avoid those that could threaten them.

The other monster was a gigantic creature that resembled an octopus but with a much larger number of tentacles. Its body seemed to be stuck on the ground as it used a camouflage technique to hide its presence from other creatures, waiting for its prey to pass by.

When a huge whale mistakenly took that route, its massive body was immediately entangled by the tentacles and got crushed in a short moment before it was devoured by the creature.

Next was a sea serpent with a body that reached a span of dozens of kilometers. Its size would not lose to the octopus-like capture and the sea turtle in a bit while its ferocity far surpassed the two. It was aggressively hunting for its prey, devouring everything on its path. Even those that could be considered sea giants were nothing but food in front of this monster.

Then there was the final creature, which also left the strongest impression out of them all.

The size of this creature was way smaller compared to the first three. It could even be considered a bug in the face of the three. But its might was not a bit weaker in comparison.

This creature was as big as a human and even had a humanoid figure. It was a creature that seemed to be a cross-breed between a human and a fish, but it was neither an Ocean Naga nor any other race that a player could find on the official website of the game.

This humanoid creature had gills and fins along with a long fishtail connected to its back. Its entire body was covered with jade-like scales while its hands and feet had sharp claws that could tear through metal.

Its head could not be considered as human as it greatly resembled a frog. It seemed to be a hybrid between a frog and a fish. It also possessed sharp teeth that seemed to have the ability to crush rocks.

What was scarier about this monster was it spat a blue fire that could burn anything even under the water. This was the main reason why most of the sea creatures avoided its territory.

Uno caught a glimpse of their levels and saw that they all ranged between 300 and 350, which meant that they were at least at the peak of the Ascended Being and an early Enlightened Being.

It would still be far before he got the strength to hunt them, so Uno just swam passed by their respective territories, threading his way out of them.

Fortunately, these powerful creatures did not bother to glance at him as he was too weak in their eyes. He was no different from a plankton, so they did not pay him any attention.

Uno was also too busy to look for the underwater temple, so he did not bother to hunt some creatures that were within the range of his abilities.

He spent another day to reach a certain part of the sea that seemed to be being avoided by all sea creatures.

Or to be more precise, something deep within this region was warding off the sea creatures and warning them not to go deeper.

Uno could also sense this mysterious power, but he continued his advance since it was doing nothing to him. Aside from making his movements a little sluggish underwater, everything else was pretty much negligible.

Not long after, he finally found what he was looking for.

In the distance, there was a huge castle submerged in deep waters while being enclosed by a huge barrier that looked like a bubble.

The castle itself did not have anything special as it was filled with moss and its structures were very damaged and greatly ruined. But the transparent barrier covering it was emitting a special aura that seemed to be the source of the mysterious power that was discouraging the sea creatures from approaching this place.

As Uno approached the castle, a thunderous voice suddenly erupted and shook the region.

"Those who walk the path of evil are not permitted to enter the temple of the Sea God."

Right after those words reverberated under the sea, a series of notifications suddenly rang in Uno's ears.

Ding

System: Congratulations! You have discovered the temple of a Forgotten God – the Sea God Hyrdos!

Ding

System: Due to you walking the path of becoming an Evil God, you are forbidden to enter the temple.

Warning: Forcing your way will lead to you being struck by Heaven's Wrath, which will lead to an existence wipe (Character Deletion).

Uno slightly raised his brows when he saw that before shrugging his shoulders. "I guess this is the farthest I can go."

Since he could not continue, he could only wait for Shin to come back and handle the rest. He had already done everything he could, so he could rest from playing this game for the time being.

Since the monsters could not go near this place, Uno felt it safe to log out there. However, he still looked for a suitable place he found the safest before logging out of the game.

Now that he finished his business within the game, he felt that it was time to focus on dealing with the matters in the real world.

Chapter 1495 The Yin-Yang Cultivation Arts (Part 1)

...

Right after logging out of the game, Uno quickly got out of the gaming cabin so that he could start dealing with some urgent matters that had occurred recently.

The moment when he got out of the cabin, he suddenly paused and frowned as he felt something. He then raised his hands and saw an almost unnoticeable and somewhat transparent black miasma coming from them.

It was a sign that the Demonic Energy within his body was getting a little out of control, producing leaks.

This was also a sign that the seal on the Seed of Hatred had become somewhat ineffective against it despite the stronger version that Evangeline had created. The influence of the seal was no longer as strong as before due to the recent demon possession that Shin had experienced.

On top of that, Uno was also one of the reasons why this was happening. Since he was closely connected to the Seed of Hatred – as he was born from it – the leakage of Demonic Energy was starting to grow stronger. He was also drawing some of its powers as well, which also added to this reason.

The longer he possessed Shin's body, the weaker the seal's influence became. They needed Shin to come back as soon as possible before things could even become more serious.

Regardless, Uno had to deal with the situation as soon as possible. "Tsk!"

"That damn brat!" he cursed Shin under his breath before quickly sitting cross-legged on the ground and immediately starting to meditate.

He used the unique Qi Circulation Method that he had created after combining Professor Plum's technique and Adam's special method.

The qi circulation of the Yin-Yang Arts that Professor Plum had created gave an individual the ability to cultivate two types of qi while maintaining their balance. It also granted a dual-core to the practitioner once they had created their Golden Core during the Core Formation Stage.

Adam had helped Shin create the dual-core before and handled Professor Plum with a special method that could control the Demonic Energy. This perfected the missing piece of the Yin-Yang Arts that the professor had created.

Before, the Yin-Yang Art was yet to be completed since the old professor could only use his Sacred Qi to somewhat suppress the Wicked Qi to gain perfect control over it. But this was not the true balance that he was looking for.

With the special method that Adam had created, Professor Plum created a more solid version of the martial arts, which also let Shin able to wield the Sacred Qi and Demonic Energy without any issue.

During that time, the Sacred Qi and Demonic Energy were still in complete balance, which granted Shin complete control over them and let him utilize them to their full potential.

But at this moment, this balance was broken once again when the Primal Demonic Energy of the Seed of Hatred that Shin had inherited from Adam started influencing qi within Shin's dantian and even replaced the Demonic Energy that was occupying half of it.

Because of this, the Sacred Qi that was supposed to suppress the wicked nature of Demonic Energy started to lose its influence and put on the weaker side.

The Primal Demonic Energy was a grade higher than the Sacred Qi, returning the state of the two when the Yin-Yang Arts was still incomplete. But this time, the positions were flipped as the Sacred Qi was now on the losing end.

If not for the help of the Divinity Grade Mental Energy, which was in the same league of energy, and Uno being immune to the negative thoughts and wicked urges that the Primal Demonic Energy was giving him, then he would most likely have lost his mind already.

If Uno did nothing to transform the Sacred Qi into a higher form of energy, then this problem would become even more serious in the future.

Moreover, it would also become a huge obstacle when he was going to create his Natural Force.

Since Shin would most likely be different when he returned, Uno thought that it was now the right time for him to prepare.

He was purposely suppressing and delaying his realm so that Shin and he would be able to break through at the same time and maintain the balance between their realms and 'bodies'.

He was originally planning to create a higher form of energy for the Sacred Qi after Shin had come back since it could accidentally force him to break through his current realm once he was successful.

After all, this was the only thing that he lacked to break through the Ethereal Opening Stage as he already possessed the others. Even creating the Natural Body that he needed had already been completed ages ago when Shin had completed the two permanent Qi Reinforcement Techniques meant for the Sacred Qi and Demonic Energy.

The said techniques were meant for Ethereal Opening Stage Experts after all, which Professor Plum had broken down into multiple parts so that they could become easier to practice.

Shin was supposedly meant to train one of them – the Sacred God Physique. But since Adam's special method had completed a crucial part of the Yin-Yang Arts, Shin was also able to train the counterpart of the technique, which was the Chaotic Demon Body.

As both were permanent Qi Reinforcement Techniques, they had somewhat turned into a Natural Body that would host the Yin-Yang Arts.

This was even become even more perfected when Uno completed the Yin-Yang Arts and transformed it into the current 'Yin-Yang Cultivation Arts'. He had yet to fuse them and create a new version of permanent Qi Reinforcement Skill as he was purposely trying to delay his breakthrough.

Regardless, he was only lacking the final step for it, and he could complete it with little effort once he started.

Uno had already completed almost everything needed for the breakthrough and was only lacking these pieces to proceed.

He wanted to delay this for a little longer, but it seemed like he could no longer wait for more as the Primal Demonic Energy was starting to affect the body more. Once it had corrupted the body a little longer, the seed would most likely break free from its seal once again and initiate another Demonic Possession.

"Tsk! Why don't you just behave, you stupid thing," as Uno cursed, he quickly joined his hands together while placing them in front of his abdomen.

He then interlocked his fingers and made an opening with his hands, palms facing upwards. Joining the tip of his thumbs together, he closed his eyes and started regulating his breathing.

He first used the breathing technique of the Yin-Yang Cultivation Art before controlling the energies within him. He urged the Sacred Qi from his dantian in cocirculation, going through his entire body and using its special properties to wash over the corruption of the Primal Demonic Energy.

Since the gap between the two energies was quite huge, it took Uno quite a long time before he got rid of all the traces in every corner of his body and gathered them toward the part of his dantian that the Demonic Energy had occupied.

He did not even rest as he started refining and absorbing everything immediately after. He was successful, but it still came with a very high price. Due to the new 'supply' of Primal Demonic Energy, the side that it occupied became even stronger, breaking the balance of the two energies.

The Primal Demonic Energy started getting restless. It became more active and invaded the other side, trying to conquer it as well.

Uno slightly frowned as he quickly circulated his energies and forced the balance between them. But as the power gap was clear, achieving such a feat in a short time would be challenging.

Fortunately, he was not alone.

Swoosh! Swoosh!

When the situation was getting out of control, the Diviny Grade Mental Energy hidden deep inside Shin's Sea of Consciousness made its move.

It headed straight to his dantian and enclosed it, trying to seal it once again.

"Hey! Hey! I appreciate the help, but you should calm down a little. This much is not something to panic about," said Uno, seemingly trying to communicate with the Mental Energy.

Now that his consciousness was awake once again, the talents, energies, and special physiques that this body was hosting were divided between him and Shin once again.

He did not have the authority over the Divinity Grade Mental Energy just like how Shin lost his control over the Sacred Qi. The only thing they shared was the Primal Demonic Energy, which had a certain connection with them. But Uno had a stronger connection since he was born from it and other factors.

"Just hold it back for a little while as I handle the other," he said as he turned his attention to the Sacred Qi.

He focused his mind as he started moving the energy to a certain circulation rhythm.

Chapter 1496 The Yin-Yang Cultivation Arts (Part 2)

.....

Uno meditated and circulated the Sacred Qi within him, trying to cleanse his meridians and energy channels with it, while the Divinity Grade Mental Energy was suppressing the Primal Demonic Energy and trapping it within his dantian.

He was just preparing his body for the next step since it could put a lot of burden on his meridians once the Sacred Qi evolved and circulated throughout his body along with the Primal Demonic Energy.

This process would quite a while since Uno was not in an ideal place meant for focused cultivation. His environment was not suitable for this method since he would not have enough 'Force of Nature' to promote the Sacred Qi to the next level.

But given his strong connection with nature due to his special existence, he was able to draw more energy from it compared to other people.

Moreover, the energies within the Springfield Household were also way better than in other places, both in quality and quantity. However, it was still far from the ideal amount that Uno required for this situation.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

As he focused more on his Qi circulation, the energies within his body were gradually gaining momentum as time went by. Because of this, his absorption of energy from the surroundings was also getting faster to keep up with his circulation.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

In response, the Force of Nature within the room was immediately exhausted. But Uno did not stop and pulled more from other places.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

Due to the strong suction force that Uno was emitting, the air within the room moved in a spiral motion slowly gaining momentum and gradually getting stronger.

Not long after, it became powerful and turned into a hurricane of energy that was centered around Uno.

The strong gale was only present within the room, but it was pulling all the energies that it could reach from the whole household, which made the experts in the middle of their meditation and training in their respective martial arts sense it.

They all frowned due to being disturbed before turning toward the direction where the disturbance was coming from.

"What is this troublemaker doing this time?" mumbled David as he frowned deeply.

He had just gotten out of the gaming cabin since Alyssa just messaged him that their master was summoning him. From his room, he was able to immediately notice that the Force of Nature was being pulled toward Shin's room.

Upon using his Enlightened Eyes, he was able to see that Uno was sitting cross-legged on the floor and meditating at the center of the room.

Reading the movements of the energies spiraling around Uno and seeing them being absorbed like nothing despite their overwhelming amount, David could not help but frown even deeper. "Is he planning to break through right now? But that is not what he said to me previously."

He was not sure what Uno was planning to do, but he knew that he had to prevent any disturbance from distracting him.

Without even changing his clothes, he rushed toward Shin's room as fast as he could. He only used a special technique to wash over his body to remove the sweat and cleanse the odor that he currently had.

Naturally, he was not the only one who thought about this as Nathan, who had just come back from the military base, and Old Samuel, who was reading in his study earlier, were already guarding the room and preventing anyone from entering.

"Sir Nathan, Elder Samuel," greeted David while slightly bowing as he walked over them.

The two briefly nodded to acknowledge his presence before turning their attention back to the room. Even if there was a wall or a door dividing them, their senses could still let them 'see' what was happening inside the room.

Both of them were squinting their eyes as they closely observed what Uno was doing.

This kind of phenomenon was not something ordinary. It was not their first time seeing it as those at their level could achieve. A few blessed or talented individuals could achieve such a feat when they were at the Void Manifestation Stage while those with a deeper connection with nature could achieve the same feat at the peak of the Ethereal Opening Stage.

It was because those in the Ascension Realm had a strong connection to nature. After all, this realm itself focused on being an integral part of nature.

But there had never been anyone who could achieve such a feat at the Foundation Building Realm no matter how blessed or talented they were.

But contrary to what they knew, Uno was doing something similar with such a level of strength. Moreover, he was doing it with ease, without showing any difficulty or obstruction.

The expression on their faces became even more serious when they realized that this was just the start. The spiral of energies was starting to pick the pace and grow faster and stronger.

At the same time, Uno responded to it and devoured everything as if he were a bottomless pit.

They thought that Uno was doing this to break through at first, but they later realized that it was not the case after observing the circulation of energies within Uno's body a little closer.

Then these two peak experts realized that it was because of the special circulation technique that Uno had achieved such a feat.

Adding a natural gift that Uno possessed, which let him connect with nature naturally, he managed to achieve something that no one had ever done before.

"What an interesting technique. It is neither a pure Martial Arts nor any other discipline," commented Old Samuel as his eyes turned narrower. "At this point, it is more like a special method used by those old cultivators of the past – is it a Cultivation Technique?"

"But it is following a different principle compared to the Cultivation Techniques that are left behind by our ancestors," the old man quickly rejected the idea after seeing that Uno's technique was leaning towards the principles of modern martial arts rather than the ancient cultivation techniques.

Moreover, it greatly resembled the Yin-Yang Arts of Professor Plum, which he was very familiar with. But it also carried some properties that he was unaware of, which made it more complicated than what it already had been and somewhat special at the same time.

Regardless, he still found that whatever Uno was trying to do, it still greatly piqued his interest.

"What is this kid trying to do?" mumbled Nathan as he frowned.

It was at this point when a presence suddenly appeared beside them and explained. "He is trying to return the balance of the energies within his body."

Nathan turned to his side and found Evangeline had suddenly appeared without making any sign. 'She has become even more powerful.'

Nathan was aware of her presence, but he only realized it when she was a few meters away from him. He might be focusing on what was happening inside the room, but that did not mean he lowered his guard at all.

If not for certain circumstances, he would want to spar against her at least once.

He threw that thought at the back of his head before turning to her. "What do you mean by that?"

Despite his and his father keeping a close eye on what was happening to Uno and everything within his body, they could not see any deeper than what was shown at the surface due to how special Uno's existence was.

They could not see through him unlike when they were looking at Shin. It was as if a veil was shrouding Uno's secrets and preventing anyone from peering through it.

Evangeline set up an isolation barrier that enveloped the room to prevent others from spying inside. She also set up another to isolate themselves from the outside and prevent their conversation from being overheard by the others.

Seeing that, Nathan suddenly chuckled. "You are being too cautious. No one will dare to spy on us in this place, especially when we can sense them with such a small space."

He understood if she kept her disguise all the time since they could not afford to let anyone see her accidentally.

"It will never hurt to be extra careful. You should be aware that 'their' can reach everywhere," said Evangeline.

Even though she fully trusted Nathan and the Springfield Family, she had to always be careful since they would never know what could happen, especially after experiencing that betrayal years ago.

After that, she continued. "As you already know, Shin possessed the Demonic Energy and was able to wield it after inheriting it from his father. But it is also somewhat corrupting the body, which also makes the Seed of Hatred to be more active."

"To suppress it, he must use the Sacred Qi nurtured by Professor Plum's Yin-Yang Arts to create a balance while also cleansing the corruption."

"But since the Uno's consciousness has been awakened once again, and because his connection is stronger, Demonic Energy become more powerful and transformed into its Primal Form."

"This breaks the balance between the two energies, which is slowly crumbling to the point that even Shin's Divinity Grade Mental Energy is unable to suppress it."

She paused for a moment to focus on Uno before continuing. "The power of the Seed of Hatred must be leaking even with my seal. This is increasing its influence on the 'vessel', making taking over it much easier when the next Demonic Possession happens."

"Thus, Uno must have to promote the Sacred Qi into a higher form so that the balance will be restored. Once successful, he will be able to cleanse the body from the corruption that the Primal Demonic Energy has caused."

Hearing that, Nathan and Old Samuel frowned. The latter turned to her and asked. "That is easier said than done. It will be nothing to people of our level, but it is impossible for someone on the Foundation Realm."

Evangeline smiled mysteriously as she replied. "He might be just an alter ego, but his existence is quite special."

"You should already be aware of that by now," she then turned to the two as she added. "He should be needing more Force of Nature. Can I set up a Gathering Array here so that he can have more supply of energy?"

Old Samuel waved his hand, indicating that he did not care.

Getting the person, Evangeline nodded her hand before waving at David, who kept silent up until now. "Prepare the materials."

David nodded as he took out a bunch of things from his dimensional bag while Evangeline opened the door and entered.

Chapter 1497 The Yin-Yang Cultivation Arts (Part 3)

...

Uno immediately noticed that someone had entered the room but did not stop what he was doing. He also did not need to guess who it was as he was quite familiar with the presence of this person.

The presence of this person even added to his confidence. At least he did not need to worry about himself when things went wrong. Accidents happened because no one had expected them to happen, so even Uno was not one hundred percent confident with this method since the variables that the Seed of Hatred possessed became more unpredictable to the recent incidents.

It would never hurt to be a little extra careful when it comes to these things.

As he focused himself on cultivating, Evangeline swiftly set up the Gathering Array that would support him. She wrote a series of runes in the air which engraved themselves on the floor, ceiling, and walls of the room.

These runes interlinked with one another, connecting themselves and creating a unique sequence that applied their abilities.

Not long after, the array was completed and started pulling all the energies filling the entire household. It did not even stop there as the array continued to pull more and even reached the entire lake and mountain where the Springfield Household was located.

The Gathering Array that she had set up with ease looked like a simple array due to how easily she had created it. But this very array was way more powerful than most of the renowned Mentalists out there. This array was even more powerful than what those people could find in the famous cultivation cave and meditation haven run by big organizations.

With the support of the Gathering Array, Uno was able to absorb more energy supplies that he needed to elevate the Sacred Qi to another level.

After cleansing his body with the Sacred Qi, he then adjusted the circulation technique that he was using as he focused more on gathering the Force of Nature that he absorbed toward the other portion of his dantian that the Sacred Qi occupied and where the Golden Core was located.

He barely needed to refine the Force of Nature that he was absorbing since the Gathering Array itself had already refined it for him. What he was absorbing right now was the purest energies that he could possibly get.

The more he absorbed the Force of Nature and gathered them in his dantian, the Sacred Qi was slowly becoming denser. Its color was even changing from silver-white to a purer white color.

At the same time, the Golden Core was spinning rapidly as it continuously absorbed the supply of Sacred Qi that it was getting. It was also changing alongside the Qi surrounding it.

The original smooth and spotless surface of the core was starting to gain some patterns. It was a similar process when the Springfield Family turned their Golden Core into a special variant unique to their family members, the Dragon Core.

But instead of scales like the Dragon Core of the Springfield Family, the patterns that Uno's Golden Core looked like a series of ancient-looking runes. These runes filled the surface of the core while releasing a subtle glow of holiness.

It was a completely different aura compared to the Crimson Core situated at the other half of dantian that the Primal Demonic Energy had occupied.

This Crimson Core that Adam created previously when he was helping Shin stabilize his conflicting energies had naturally transformed itself when the Demonic Qi had transformed into the Primal Demonic Energy.

The sacred and holy aura that the Golden Core was starting to conflict with the evil and eerie aura that the Crimson Core was emitting, making the Primal Demonic Energy agitated once again.

This time, the Primal Demonic Energy was even more aggressive compared to earlier as it was now being supported by the Crimson Core.

This was the most crucial moment for Uno, so he could not afford to get interrupted by the other energy. He was in the middle of changing the properties of the Sacred Qi, so the consequence would be disastrous if it was tainted by the Primal Demonic Energy.

The Divinity Grade Mental Energy could help him buy some time, but it could not suppress the berserk Primal Demonic Energy since it did not have the full support of Shin's Spirit Pagoda (Special Version of Niwan Palace due to the influence of the Four Symbol Scripture).

Evangeline also could not help at this moment even though she noticed the problem. It was because her direct involvement would also affect the transformation process of the Sacred Qi and the Golden Core.

Regardless, she still got ready, preparing to get involved once things got a little serious.

Even Uno could not help but frown slightly when he realized the problem. He somewhat anticipated that something like this would happen, but he was not expecting that the Primal Demonic Energy would be this powerful when it went berserk alongside the Crimson Core.

The combined powers of the two were more powerful than he had expected.

"It is impossible for me to miscalculate it, though?" mumbled Uno to himself as he was trying to find where it went wrong.

He had already considered all the possibilities and calculated that everything would be within control. He should have enough time to transform his Golden Core and elevate the Sacred Qi to another level even if the Primal Demonic Energy got out of control.

Even if the influence of the Seed of Hatred had gotten stronger due to him being in control of the vessel for an extended period, its powers shouldn't be this strong and linger around the range of his control.

It was at this moment when he suddenly thought of something. "Could it be!?"

He then started smiling bitterly and mumbled. 'You, must have gained quite a lot of guts to dive deeper into that hole?'

A figure suddenly flashed before his eyes as he decided. 'Since you are decisively trying to gain that power, then I will welcome your challenge.'

In response, Uno quickly released his hands and started making a few seals with them. Then he communicated with the Divinity Grade Mental Energy. 'Hold it for three more minutes. That should be enough.'

At the same time, he said to Evangeline, who was observing the situation very closely. "I must trouble Madam to increase the efficiency of the Gathering Array to its fullest potential."

Evangeline was slightly taken aback by his words and wanted to say something. She was worried that Shin and Uno's body could not withstand such a powerful influx of energy. But she quickly stopped herself when she sensed an overwhelming confidence from Uno.

She did not know what just happened, but she suspected that it must be connected to Shin. With that, she quickly waved her hand, seemingly sending a command to the array to pull more energy.

With her permission, the Gathering Array seemed to have unlocked its limits and increased its suction force.

In response, the clouds above the Taal Lake gathered, covering the entire region in darkness. It was as if a huge storm was about to hit the area.

At the same time, the energies filling the atmosphere quickly gathered and headed toward the Springfield Household, particularly the room where the gathering array was located.

Due to the powerful suction force, the flow of energies could be seen by the naked eye as they moved toward the mansion of the Springfields.

With such a huge phenomenon, a lot of people noticed that something was happening in the Springfield Household.

Those who were observing the family and monitoring their movements due to the recent incidents quickly reported to their higher-ups.

Nathan and Old Samuel also realized that the situation was getting more serious. The latter turned to his son, who nodded as he quickly understood his intention.

Nathan picked up his advanced watch, dialed the number of his confidant, and ordered. "Put the entire house into the highest level of security, seal all the entrances and exits of our territory, and prevent anyone from approaching."

"Also, summoned the Golden Dragon Division and told them to be on standby," he added after a brief hesitation.

The confidant on the other side of the line instantly understood that this must be an emergency, so he did not dare to dillydally and quickly responded. "Yes, Commander!"

Back inside the room, responding to Uno's request, the Divinity Grade Mental Energy pulled more 'supply' from Shin's Spirit Pagoda to suppress the Primal Demonic Energy as Uno absorbed more from the continuous wave of energies that the Gathering Array was collecting.

A normal person could easily get drowned with such a wave of energy, resembling a towering tsunami rather than a surging tidal wave.

But it was nothing to Uno, who was devouring everything easily like a bottomless pit and even refining all the energies within an instant with his special technique under the 'Yin-Yang Cultivation Arts'.

With the rate at which he absorbed and refined the Force of Nature before turning them into his own Qi, the Sacred Qi, it did not take long before he gathered enough for what he needed.

Bang!

It did not take that long before he became successful, but even that was just the start of what was about to come next.

Chapter 1498 The Yin-Yang Cultivation Arts (Part 4)

...

Bang!

Right after the Golden Core completed its transformation and the Sacred Qi was elevated into higher energy, a strong surge of power quickly washed over Uno's entire body.

In response, he quickly adjusted the seals with his hands to change the control over the circulation of energy within his body.

At the same time, the Sacred God Physique, which was the permanent Qi Reinforcement Skill corresponding to this energy, also started changing. It matched itself with the newly elevated energy and changed the energy supporting it into the new version of Sacred Qi.

Bang!

But while it was happening, the Divinity Grade Mental Energy also could no longer suppress the Primal Demonic Energy as it broke through its seal and rushed toward every part of his body.

Swoosh!

Right after it happened, the berserk Primal Demonic Energy wreaked havoc within his body, trying to contest against the elevated Sacred Qi for sovereignty over the 'territory'.

In response to this, the permanent Qi Reinforcement Skill meant for the Primal Demonic Energy, the Chaotic Demon Body, also started to get affected by the berserk energy.

With the simultaneous transformation of the two permanent Qi Reinforcement Skills, Uno's entire body was thrown in havoc. His body had become a battlefield of the two forms of higher energies, making the situation more dangerous.

What was happening within his body was even being reflected on the outside the effects of the Qi Reinforcement Skills were constantly showing.

His bones, where the runes meant for the two skills were engraved, were constantly glowing with a pulsing light corresponding to the two energies.

His skin was shining with alternating black and white colors while his muscles, tendons, and innards were in the same state.

Swoosh! Swoosh!

At the same time, his entire body was currently set ablaze by the two energies. The 'flames' of the white Sacred Qi and the black Primal Demonic Energy clashed against each other like two flames in the forest that were heading in opposite directions.

Despite the painful process, Uno did not even flinch nor show any signs of discomfort. He maintained his calmness since the beginning while keeping the two energies under control.

But that was not even the main problem that he was currently facing. It was the simultaneous evolution of the two permanent Qi Reinforcement Skills that forced him to fuse them so that he could put them in absolute balance.

But if he did that, then he would most likely be promoted to the next realm, which he was purposely delaying.

Regardless, he still had to continue the process since he had the balance of the two energies to avoid any accidents that could possibly hurt his foundation.

The problem was the overall balance of the main vessel along with the Martial Arts and Mentalism that Uno and Shin had respectively would be broken once he broke through to the next realm.

But as he was considering these things, a sudden thought flashed through his mind. Just like how he naturally knew about things and the world, this thought just came out of nowhere and told him that he would not be breaking through to the next realm even if he gained everything that he needed.

He would not be advancing yet since he had yet to get the most crucial piece. It was not about his Natural Force since the newly elevated Sacred Qi and the Primal Demonic Energy were more than enough to cover it. Along with the dual cores that he possessed, his energies were more than enough to match the supplements and strength that a Natural Force could provide him and his body.

He would be similar to Shiella who possessed two types of Natural Force – the Flame Emperor Force and Ice Spirit Force that she had created – when she was still in the Ethereal Opening Stage.

At the same time, Uno also had the assistance of his Yin-Yang Cultivation Arts, which was perfect for controlling two types of energies due to its innate Twin Qi Circulation Technique.

The piece that he was lacking was something else. Uno did not have to think what it was as he had already gotten the idea why it was happening.

Since Shin was advancing toward their 'origin' and chasing for something within that 'place', something must be changing within the main vessel, which was leading to these changes.

With that, Uno no longer hesitated and quickly adjusted the seals with his hands once again. This time, he would be more aggressive.

He increased his rate of absorption, greedily devouring all the Force of Nature that the Gathering Array was providing him and swiftly refining them within an instant before circulating them within his body.

With his insane rate of absorption, the two permanent Qi Reinforcement Skills were wolfing all the nutrients that were being supplied to them – the Sacred Qi was getting most of the absorbed 'Force of Nature' while the Primal Demonic Energy was corrupting the rest, and converting them then taking the leaking energies from the Seed of Hatred which stabilized the balance between them.

This lasted for a few hours until the Sacred God Physique and Chaotic Demon Body finished their respective transformation.

The entire process was quite demanding even for Uno, making him drenched in sweat when the process was done. But he was still far from being done with everything.

Given the current situation, particularly with the assistance of the Gathering Array, Uno could not just waste this opportunity. He had to take advantage of the continuous supply of Force of Nature and his current state to fuse the two permanent Qi Reinforcement Skills and create an advanced and more powerful version of them.

He regulated his breath to adjust his condition a little and relax for a moment before continuing.

This time, he no longer just infused the majority of the absorbed energies towards his body, which were reinforced by the two skills, but also activated both simultaneously.

His bones shone with black and white colors along with the runes engraved with them. The surface of his skin grew some scales made of the two energies while his innards, muscles, and the rest of his body released a violent surge of power.

But due to the opposing properties of the two energies, his body was starting to show some signs of break. Cracks appeared on his scales and bones and his innards started bleeding along with his flesh.

His nose and eyes even started bleeding due to this, giving Evangeline who was watching from the side a slight scare. But she quickly calmed down as she could see that everything was still under control.

Within Uno's body, the bones were slowly changing as two sets of runes dyed them with their respective color. As this was happening, his bones were getting denser and tougher, signifying the newly enhanced power that they now possessed.

Not long after, the black runes seemed to have emerged 'victorious' and dyed the bones completely black. But at the same time, the white runes containing the Sacred Qi in higher form became more noticeable due to it. These runes were completely white and released a sacred aura that somehow blended with the ancient and eerie aura of the black bones.

Once he was done, Uno proceeded to the next step and started infusing the energies into his flesh, filling them with the combined power of the two higher forms of Qi.

With the surge of these energies, his flesh was repeatedly being crushed, rebuilt, purified, and reinforced in a constant cycle. In every cycle, the flesh became stronger and tougher. There was also a mixture of the two opposing energies in them, which were blending naturally with each other and even reinforcing one another.

Not long after, the flesh could no longer be enhanced as it reached its current limits. But at the same time, they now looked more like flesh made of the two energies rather than 'ordinary' flesh. Its color even carried the mixture of black and white.

After that, the next were the organs, for which he used a slightly different method.

...

As all of those were happening, Old Samuel and Nathan, who were observing everything from the outside of the room, simultaneously turned their heads toward a certain direction as they sensed huge numbers of presence heading to their territory from every direction.

The two paused for a moment as they observed those people before Old Samuel gestured to Nathan.

Nathan understood and raised his advanced watch in front of his mouth. "Activate the Grand Formation. Don't let anyone get near and keep an eye on the guests staying within the guest area."

Right after he issued the command, a pillar of light suddenly shot toward the sky, coming from the center of the Springfield Household. It then spread in every direction when it reached its apex height before covering the entire territory of the Springfields with a gigantic dome barrier.

"A lot of people are keeping an eye on us due to the recent events, so you have to be careful when dealing with them," said Old Samuel before turning his head back to what was happening inside the room.

"They will be curious about the phenomenon that is happening outside, but we can't disclose this kid's existence to them," added Old Samuel. "Handle it well."

Nathan clicked his tongue as he turned to Uno. "Shin is already a troublemaker, but who would have thought that this guy is more than just a problemmaker himself."

After that, he turned around and headed out to greet these uninvited guests.

Chapter 1499 The Springfields' Might

...

A huge crowd of people gathered at the entrance of the territory of the Springfield Family as they started at the ongoing phenomenon in the sky above and the continuous surge of energies gathering from every direction.

Such an event could only happen when an extremely powerful expert was trying to do something, particularly when they were about to break through.

Most of the experts would require a huge amount of energy from nature whenever they tried to do something big.

Whatever was causing this phenomenon, these people gathered in this place all wanted to know what the Springfield Family was up to.

Due to the recent events that were successively happening within the Soaring Continent, which involved the Springfield Family most of the time, everyone within the continent had to keep their eyes on them.

The World Government and the Federal Army, who were especially paying more attention to this continent due to a lot of organizations starting to operate and trying to set root in this place, had also relocated some of their resources and stationed some of their elite forces in here.

The Military Circle of the Soaring Continent was still the most powerful force within the continent due to the influential families that were involved with them. Due to the repeated incidents, the ones that had become the most powerful were still the Green and Springfield Families.

The ones that were usually right behind them started to lose their standings and influence due to them being found to be connected to the Shadow Alliance after the big war in the Central Region.

After the Springfield Family had exposed the Leon Family, more evidence was found, which proved the involvement of these families with the Shadow Alliance and other underground organizations.

Along with the support of the Stuart Family and the Potter Clan, which were the top Mentalist Families within the continent, the Springfield Family had gained more influence.

There was also the Levana Family, who were the in-laws of the Springfield due to Bernard marrying one of their heiresses.

With such an alliance, no other people would dare to carelessly provoke them.

But there had always been an exemption. The Green Family had become equally influential as the Springfield Family within the Military Circle due to them being the new head of another faction within the circle.

What left were the scattered factions of the less influential families, who also decided to remain neutral.

The rivalry between the Springfields and the Greens had become much more intense due to the repeated achievements that the former were constantly getting from the recent events within the continent.

This made the Greens hasten their progress and increase their partnership with some powerful organizations, who were willing to invest in their technological products.

Now that something was happening within the walls of the Springfield Household once again, the sly foxes from the other organizations were secretly rooting for the Green Family in what was about to come.

With such a big commotion, the Green Family couldn't let the Springfields get ahead of them.

...

In the distance, where a certain skyscraper was located, someone donning a military uniform and a general hat was currently looking in the direction of the mountain that was covered with the transparent dome.

The distance between the two places was not that far as those from the skyscraper could clearly see what was happening on the other side given their current realms.

This person was one of the generals that the World Government had dispatched to this continent to monitor the situation in this place and report to the headquarters regularly.

This general was currently having a teatime, which occasionally turned his head toward the direction of the Springfield Household. He was using his special ocular technique to closely observe the situation before retrieving his gaze and continuing his sips of his tea.

Clank!

Not long after, his confidant entered the room and reported. "We have already dispatched our people, general. We are waiting for your orders."

The general briefly nodded as he continued. "Put them on standby. We are not here to declare war on them. We are trying our luck to see if we will find any traces of the Heavenly Demon while monitoring the situation."

"Given his close relationship with the Springfields, I doubt that he will stay his hand if something goes wrong, or his friends are put at risk. Just like what happened at the Ace City," he added in a very calm manner as if the commotion within the Springfield Household was nothing to be concerned about.

"What about the Green Family, sir?" asked his confidant.

The general thought for a moment before saying. "You can support them with everything if they have the upper hand but do bother if they will be losing."

"There is no need to waste our effort and risk provoking the Springfields this early if the Greens are not worth investing in. It will be better to be a little more careful and wait for another opportunity to arise in the future," he added as if treating the latter family as some sort of cannon fodder.

"You may leave now," he instructed as he wanted to enjoy this teatime in silence.

"I understand, Sir," the confidant bowed before retreating and closing the door.

Not long after, he suddenly sensed an overwhelming aura coming from the sealed mountain and grinned. "It looks like the Dragon King will be taking the lead this time as well."

"I wonder what happened to the leader of the Brutal Special Force as we have never seen or heard anything about him since his last appearance at the war-torn area," he mumbled as he took another sip of his tea.

...

At the foot of the Spiritual Mountain, which would be leading toward the Springfield Household, a hole appeared from the barrier.

Then Nathan walked out of it along with a troop with intimidating pressure. Each member of the people uniformly walking behind was emitting a powerful and suffocating aura. They did not even bother to hide their realms, showcasing that each of them was at the peak of the Void Manifestation Stage with two people walking at the forefront, slightly behind Nathan, at the early phase of the Domain Realm.

These soldiers were not wearing the regular uniform of the military but donning the special suites that the Springfield Family had provided them, which were crafted from the finest materials and enchanted by mentalism techniques.

They were quite armed as they were carrying an assault rifle and a set of extra magazines on their tactical vests, but the threat that they were emitting far surpassed most of the armies with their auras alone.

There was an extra pistol holstered on their waists and a variety of military knives, daggers, or shortwords depending on their preference, which also made them distinguishable from one another.

Regardless, the golden outline on their black uniform and the golden dragon embroidered on the back, signified which force they belonged.

This troop was a part of the most elite and strongest force of the Springfield Family – the Golden Dragon Division.

Right after Nathan appeared with this division, the people, who arrived to investigate what the phenomenon was about, instantly realized that the Springfield Family was not messing around.

To dispatch their most pride division was basically telling everyone to get the 'f*ck' out of this place.

Nathan ignored the other people from the crowd and the onlookers in the distance. He quickly headed to the most noticeable group among them.

With the fancy and eye-catching outfits that they were wearing – the Battle Suits and Mechas – it was impossible to ignore them. This was the famed Mech Corps of the Green Family, which was as famous as the Dragon Division of the Springfield Family.

"What a rare visitor we have here. Isn't this the famous Commander Tristan Green of the Ghost Mech Corps?" greeted Nathan but with a very aggressive tone. "I wonder what has brought you here to our humble place?"

He then swept his gaze at everyone on the other side before continuing. "If I don't know you for being a coward, then I will mistake that your family is declaring war against our family for bringing such force with you."

"It is surely not meant for an ordinary visit, I presume?" he added as a powerful aura was released from his body and enfolded the entire place.

The corner of the other party twitched uncontrollably when he heard Nathan mocking. But before he could even refute it, an overwhelming pressure was quickly released and spread in every direction, filling the entire area.

'What a sly bastard,' praised Tristan, admitting that Nathan had handled the situation quite well.

By ignoring everyone who gathered in this place, Nathan had avoided directly creating a conflict with them. Then by heading toward them, who were the most noticeable among everyone, and saying those words, his sudden outburst of aura was suddenly justified – especially given the rivalry of their family.

It was not Tristan had not thought about this. He and his Mech Corps just did not have the time to unequip their suits as they just come back to the continent after finishing a special mission.

They had to rush to this place after the elders of the Green Family had instructed them to investigate the sudden phenomenon that appeared in the sky of the Springfield Household, which put them in this current situation.

Tristan wanted to curse, but he could not give the circumstances. He forced a smile as he responded. "Commander Nathan must have misunderstood us. We just rush toward here after noticing the commotion. Given that your family has declared war with the Black Serpent Mafia, we are afraid that those sly snakes have become bold enough to attack your household."

"As an 'ally' of our Military Circle, it is natural for us to come to your aid, don't you think?" he added cleverly.

"I see. I must have misunderstood your intention indeed," Nathan nodded but did not retrieve the already released aura as he continued. "Then you don't have to worry anymore. An elder of our family just happened to have been enlightened during his training and accidentally caused that phenomenon."

"Let me represent my family to apologize for the inconvenience," he might only be talking to Tristan on the surface. But given his domineering tone and threatening aura, it was clear that these words were meant for everyone.

In response to his words, the Golden Dragon Division behind him and standing in front of the entrance of the Spiritual Mountain intensified their respective auras, seemingly getting ready for something.

They remained in their 'rested' and idle position, but the threatening aura that each of them was releasing intimidated most of the people gathered.

The Springfields were clearly telling everyone that they were the master of this place.

Chapter 1500 Awakened

...

The entire place fell into complete silence as Nathan and the Golden Dragon Division continued to release their suffocating auras.

No one dared to open their mouth until Tristan Green did so, maintaining a stiff smile. "It is fine Commander Nathan. We can stay here and help you guard the place since we all are already here."

It would be impossible to go back empty-handed right now when they were already here. Since the ongoing phenomenon was still up in the sky and covering the entire mountain, whatever happening inside Springfields' territory must still be in process.

And since Nathan had to come out to ward off any ill intentions, it would only mean that it was something of utmost importance.

He was sure that the Springfield Family was hiding something. It was very obvious already and everyone here knew about it. But they could not demand anything from the Springfields since it was not their territory.

Nathan knew that these people were stubborn, especially when they were greedy. The Springfield Family was staying too much in the spotlight and taking almost all the benefits, which made a lot of functions look at them in envy.

It was unavoidable as those with power would be targeted by jealousy.

Nathan scoffed at them before returning to the entrance of the mountain while his subordinates set up a blockade in a disciplined and uniform manner.

He sat on a chair that came out of nowhere before resting, ignoring everyone.

He did not have any reason to demand them to leave since they did not do anything yet. All he could do was to do was to wait for their little troublemaker to finish whatever he was doing.

...

Back in the Springfield Household, Uno had finally overcome the most critical period. He had successfully transformed and fused the two permanent Qi Reinforcement Skills, creating a new one.

This new permanent Qi Reinforcement Skill was much more powerful and more efficient than the previous two versions since he would no longer need to switch between them when fighting.

This newly formed Qi Reinforcement Skill complimented both his advanced Sacred Qi and Primal Demonic Energy as it was created based on the two of them.

With all of these, his body returned to its former balance. His dantian was also filled with both of the energies while swirling around one another along with their respective cores.

What was left to do now was consolidate everything and ensure he did not overlook anything.

On the surface, he looked like a complete mess due to his bloody face and clothes due to the earlier process. But that was all into it since he was far from being in danger.

Evangeline, who was closely observing everything from start to finish, heaved a sigh of relief after making sure that everything was fine.

She then nodded her head and walked out of the room, leaving everything to Uno. She did not disable the Gathering Array since Uno still required quite a lot of energy to stabilize everything, so she just put it on the minimum faction, but let the absorption rate be on the same level.

Right after walking out of the room and closing the door behind her, she quickly informed the two waiting outside. "He survived the most dangerous stage, so there is no need to worry."

"You stay here and guard him just in case," she said to David before turning to Old Samuel. "Uncle Sam, you can look for others to use these rooms."

"I have adjusted the energy distribution of the array and divided it into four more rooms, transforming the rooms into temporary cultivation rooms. After all, it will be a huge waste if we don't use all the excess Force of Nature," she added along with a meaningful smile.

Old Samuel immediately understood her intention and nodded. "I will arrange everything. You can rest for now, Little Eve."

Evangeline smiled. "Thank you, Uncle Sam."

...

Later that day, Uno had finally finished consolidating his new strength. He had already adjusted to the new 'body' and fully enhanced dantian without exercising.

He innately knew how to adjust his new strength and utilized the empowered energies to their fullest potential, so there was no need to train them straightaway.

With all of this, he had already perfected the Yin-Yang Cultivation Arts. He now had both the flawless martial vessel and the perfect energies to match it.

Along with his innate talents and special physique, which were the Foresight and Thinking Reed talents and the Heavenly Martial Body respectively.

He could not help but feel an itch to fight someone in his current state.

But for now, he had to first clean himself from the mixture of impurities and dry blood that had solidified on his body for quite a while now.

But as he was trying to stand, he suddenly sensed a ripple inside his Sea of Consciousness.

He could not help but pause momentarily before saying. "You're finally back, huh."

He seemed to be talking to himself, but his word was clearly directed to someone else.

There was no immediate response, which made him frown a little. He was about to sit on the floor once again, planning to meditate and enter the Sea of Consciousness, a familiar voice suddenly sounded in his ears.

"Tsk! You went too far ahead once again."

Uno smirked as he heard those words and the familiar tone that he had almost forgotten. "Heh! You're not that bad either for diving too deep into that place. And almost reaching its greatest depths."

"I still failed to touch that power though," responded Shin inside Uno's head.

"But I gained something different," he added immediately after, which somewhat surprised Uno.

Uno smiled for a moment before taking the initiative to hand over the vessel to Shin. "Since you are already here, take over of the body and let me rest."

Swoosh!

He did not even wait for Shin to respond as his consciousness sank deep, which pushed Shin's consciousness to take over.

Right after his consciousness went to 'sleep', the structure of the body followed suit. All his talents and special abilities went to a dormant state. The dantian housing the two higher forms of energies was temporarily sealed along with the Heavenly Martial Body and the newly formed permanent Qi Reinforcement Skill.

Then, taking over, the Spiritual Embryo resurfaced along with its special abilities while the Divinity Grade Mental Energy was fully unlocked alongside the Spirit Pagoda inside Shin's mind.

(Special version of Niwan Palace).

As the vessel's Martial Arts were sealed, the Mentalism was fully awakened.

Shin was slightly taken aback when he took over the body as he became somewhat unfamiliar with it for not possessing it for quite a long time.

"Are you sure that you don't want to test your new abilities first?" asked Shin as he tried to adjust himself, adapting to his body, which sounded a little weird.

"Heh! You should tell yourself about it," responded Uno mockingly before adding. "I don't need it. And you should know it better than anyone."

Shin shrugged his shoulder as he stood up. It was at that moment that he noticed something strange. The foul stench coming from his body started to assault his nose, making it twitch uncomfortably.

"What have you done for being this stinky?" complained Shin as he swept his eyes around the room. He noticed that the Force of Nature filling the entire room was strangely high and pure.

Spreading his Spiritual Sense and activating his True Sight ocular technique, he instantly noticed the Gathering Array set up inside his room.

"What happened here?" he mumbled before 'turning' to Uno. "Hey, share your memory with me. Let me see what happened."

"You try finding it yourself," refused Uno as he went to sleep for real this time. "I need to rest and recover. I have pushed myself a little too much this time. I also have to keep an eye on the seed since it is left unattended for quite a while."

Uno was about to sink deep in the Sea of Consciousness when Shin suddenly said. "I'm sorry."

Uno paused for a moment, confused at the sudden apology. But he quickly realized what happened when Shin suddenly did that. It was not just because of what happened right now, but this apology also included that time when Shin erased everything from his memory, which also included his existence.

"Heh! You have always been a coward," mocked Uno before his consciousness slowly 'disappeared'.
"Let's talk about it next time."

When Uno 'left', Shin swept his gaze the entire room before sighing. He then walked toward the bathroom for a shower. He was stinking a little too much that even himself could not withstand the smell.

At the same time, he snapped his fingers, turning off the Gathering Array set up within his room. It would be a waste if he would leave it active when he was not using the energy that it was supplying.

He was unsure why, but he seemed to be quite familiar with this array despite seeing it for the first time. He knew how to manipulate it naturally as if he was the one who had created it.

But he quickly threw that thought at the back of his head as he noticed David's presence right outside his room. He then shook his head when he realized that David was sleeping while standing.

"Senior Brother never misses a chance. He still loves to slack off whenever he finds the opportunity for it."

He then proceeded to the bathroom while a certain glint flashed in his eyes as he turned.