

Evil 531

Chapter 531 - 531: Mysteries.

Rasmus and the others sailed to the sea on Arka's battleship and Arka's fleet following from behind. The naval commanders of the West Neva used their whole fleet to assist them. It was unsettling when the rain only poured the continent and not the sea around it.

"This is the complete map of West Neva, and based on the records, there are at least a hundred islands around the mainland. They're so spread that it might take weeks and even months to explore all of them," Marsius laid the map on the table.

"Even if we go into three groups, that still takes weeks," Venusius added as he looked at Rasmus and his group. "If the storm doesn't stop for another few days, the whole continent might drown."

Marsius and Venusius were Commanders of the West Sea, two of the eight commanders that belonged to Admiral Gustav, the Sea King. In terms of skill and strength, they were still way above Arka who had been in commander training in the past year.

"Not only that, the sea beasts roam around the sea. If we enter their territories, they will sink our ships so easily. It's not a great idea to split into three groups," Arka tapped his finger on the sea that was surrounded by islands.

"No, it's not a good plan to split into three groups," Rasmus shook his head in agreement. "Let's assume that the sea beasts have been corrupted by it as well, turning them into demonic beasts," he pointed out as he tried to memorize the map in his head.

The three commanders didn't even think of that possibility at all. When they took that as the truth, they realized that their fleet might get obliterated in an instant. The stakes and the risk had sky-rocketed in an instant and they realized this mission could become the most dangerous mission they had ever had.

"And what's the solution to that, Count Blackheart?" Arka asked, knowing that if they stayed together, it would take a while and that wouldn't be efficient. "You're not going to sacrifice the people on the mainland, don't you?" He stared at Rasmus with a cold expression.

"No, that's not my call to begin with. Aris is the one who decides that, and she doesn't want that either," Rasmus answered, assuring Arka and the two commanders.

Arka observed Rasmus' words and expressions, but he didn't see any deception.

"And what are we going to do?" Marsius looked at Rasmus and Aris, who stood side by side and stared at the map.

"Take us to the safest route that's close enough to those islands. We will take care of the demonic sea beasts for all of you first so we can split into groups after. At the same time, we will check if the sea is the cause of this catastrophe," Rasmus answered as he put his finger on the map and moved it in a circular motion on the sea.

The three commanders nodded with understanding, finding that plan to be not a bad one. The one who knew the West Sea the most was Venusius because he spent his whole life protecting the West Sea from pirates and smugglers. With that being said, Venusius took the lead of the three commander fleets with Yur's help.

Rasmus and the others stayed in one cabin, discussing the plan and trying to predict where the source of the corruption came from. However, Rasmus revealed his encounter with Belial to Aris, Rullein, and Serena.

"So you believed that Belial has something to do with this?" Serena asked as she crossed her legs and rested her chin on her fist, sitting at the small round wooden table with everyone.

"As much as I want it to be true, I don't think this is his doing. Something doesn't add up because of what Videl said about Belial's existence and what kind of being he is. Not only that, it's also because of my encounter with him before. He wasn't the type who persuaded or revealed the truth, he was passively waiting and the fact he desired the power within me, but he didn't chase after it. His desire is restrained, so I don't think this is his doing," Rasmus answered as he shook his head. "But I believe Videl knows him better than anyone here. So, let's hear what his opinion about Belial," he glanced at Videl with a serious expression.

Everyone's focus moved to Videl and waited for him to say anything about Belial.

"What do you want me to say? Belial is a loner, a pathetic being who have nobody around him but his mindless, lifeless, pathetic followers," Videll answered with venom in his words. "Just think about it for a moment. If Satan didn't know that the Womb of the Mother existed here in this world, then who else put that thing here? It can't miraculously come into this world. Have you ever thought that those monologues that Satan spoke from her mouth were fabricated so we would buy her innocence? She might use that opportunity to make Lilith her instrument to deceive us," he pointed out as he stared back at Rasmus.

Rasmus thought about that as well, but that wasn't as convincing as putting Belial as the instigator of this whole situation. There was a reason why he didn't believe Satan was trying to deceive them in the first place, and that her surprise about the Womb of the Mother was a genuine reaction.

"You know her better than anyone as well. Can you tell us if Satan has ever done that before? Scheming and deceiving those beings for her own gain?" Rasmus asked again.

At that point, Videll was quiet and couldn't answer Rasmus' question because he knew Satan and that lies or deceptions weren't Satan's skill. She upheld truth to the point that it had always become her power and why she was seen as superior compared to demons and angels. She had the knowledge, the truth, and the free will, yet she never stepped out of her boundaries, making her more loyal and yet independent at the same time.

"I don't know anything about Satan, but from my encounter with her, I don't think she knows anything about this either. There's a chance that the Fallen Watchers in West Neva know about this through Belial, but even so, why they didn't tell Satan when she's their leader?" Rasmus said as he looked out the window at the sea. "Some mysteries are better unsolved because sometimes they don't change anything," he muttered to himself.

At the same time on the peak of rocky mountain under the heavy and terrifying thunderstorm, Belial stood there like a statue. Every droplet of rain immediately evaporated before it could touch his black tattered robe or wings. He was unmoved until suddenly he felt a cold that made him clench, forcing him to face the unwanted encounter.

"Hiding in the open space as always," Satan said as she folded her majestic black feathered wings, standing behind Belial. "What are you doing up here on your own, Belial?" She asked as she walked past Belial so she could see Belial in the face.

"Waiting..." Belial answered.

"What are you waiting for?" Satan asked as she crossed her arms and tilted her head slightly.

"Time..." Belial answered.

"Is this your doing? You should understand that I sent the fallen here to help me, but it seems this whole situation is causing trouble to me. You were the first to come to this world, and I know that much..." Satan said as she closed the distance and slowly put her long and pale fingers under Belial's chin to lift his head. Her fingers sizzled from the intense heat that Belial produced. "You know that this is against His rules. So tell me the truth," she stared down into Belial's glowing bright red eyes.

"I didn't do it," Belial answered as he shook his head slowly. "I came into this world long before everyone else as you said. I fell into this world at this exact place where I stand. Those things have existed long before me," Belial finally revealed the truth to Satan.

"It wasn't your doing?" Satan furrowed her brows, but she knew Belial well that he wouldn't lie and that she could see lies better than any of her peers. She slowly let go of Belial's chin and took a few steps back.

"No, it wasn't my doing. I didn't know either, but my existence here only fueled the corruption. I didn't instigate this, I have been doing nothing but watching," Belial answered. "The answer should lie on the origin of this world that I am not interested in," he added.

A tug of a smile from the corner of Satan's lips appeared as she arched her brows, intrigued by what Belial said. Since Belial was the first demon that came into this new world, he held more knowledge.

"I trust your insight," Satan said as she spread her wings, ready to leave since there was no reason for her to stay in the damned continent that was slowly being corrupted by the power of the Womb of the Mother.

"They have descended, the light bringers..." Belial suddenly spoke before Satan could fly away.

"I'm aware," Satan smiled with her eyes closed before she flew away and disappeared.

Chapter 532 - 532: Power of Navy.

"We are here," Arka stood at the door, looking at Rasmus and the others that hadn't left the cabin in the past twenty hours. "The Walloce Trench is only five miles away, and we are right above the outer line. If we go closer to it, our anchors will be useless."

Rasmus nodded with understanding and went to the deck with the others. They saw nothing but a vast sea and no sight of any island no matter how far they looked. It still amazed Rasmus that Neva was a lot bigger than Earth, making it impossible to explore it in one life span.

The reason they wanted to check the Walloce Trench first was because the depth of the sea was unexplored. Even back on Earth with advanced technologies, humans barely mapped a third of the sea. In this world, the sea was a complete mystery about what was in the deep.

"Feel anything?" Rasmus asked as he walked to the side of the boat, staring at the location where the trench was.

"Nothing," Aris shook her head even with her draconic eyes.

"No, I can't feel anything either," Rullein shook her head even though she was supposed to be more sensitive to all types of corruption energies.

Yur didn't feel anything as well, nor Serena or Videl. They were all more sensitive in terms of sensing energies because their eyes couldn't see anything wrong with it. With that being said, Rasmus could only rely on them in times like this.

"Oh, I sense something coming though. The sea beasts are coming toward us, oddly moving in unison, which is unnatural," Rullein said with her eyes narrowed.

"How many?" Arka asked as he looked at Rullein, wanting to know what kind of danger they were going to face.

"Four of them," Rasmus answered when he began to sense the same energy when he dealt with the demonic beasts. "We are in the right place, one of the many places..." he added.

Arka who heard that immediately ordered to send a signal to the other ships. The mage released a blue fireball into the sky, giving a signal to prepare for battle. All of the ships began to prepare magic weapons, but they knew how big the sea beasts were and hoped they were enough.

Serena clasped her hands together and released a barrier of divine energy to protect the battleship while at the same time luring the demonic sea beasts toward them. It didn't take a while until they could see colossal silhouettes from underneath the water. Not long after that, they watched the sea sink and created a powerful whirlpool that pulled all the ships toward it.

"Drop the anchors!" Arka shouted.

All the ships began to drop their anchors, preventing them from getting sucked toward the deeper sea. When they managed to prevent the ships from being sucked into the whirlpool, a massive caudal fin emerged from the sea, big enough that it could crush the battleship when dropped right above it.

"It's a Cetus!" Marsius shouted, warning what kind of danger they were facing. "We need to move away now!" He looked at the mage to send the signal.

The mage shot a red flame into the sky, signaling the others to move away and retreat. However, it was already too late when the caudal fin smacked the sea water, creating a massive splash. The wave wasn't that high, but that wasn't what they feared, it was what came after that. Their fear came true when they saw the creature with a head like a dragon but with whiskers like a catfish. The body was of a sea lion that when the body emerged and hit the water, it created a massive wave like a tsunami.

Rasmus, Videl, and Serena were the ones who had never seen a sea beast before, and now it was right in front of them. The wave was so high that it could flip and even crush ships. Rasmus who saw the danger immediately jumped off the battleship without hesitation.

Aris and Rullein were surprised to see Rasmus making a move, and when they saw the energy that Rasmus had released, they realized what he was trying to do. The moment Rasmus' foot touched the water, it froze instantly and then spread rapidly in less than a few seconds to the point his power froze

the ocean at least a mile radius from where he was. Arka and the others were petrified by the immense power that Rasmus had shown.

Rasmus stood there and felt half of his body go numb because of the cold he had produced from his heart. However, he wasn't bothered by it and began to walk toward where the sea's demonic beasts were. He knew those creatures were powerful enough to break free from the ice, and he was right because not longer after that, the ice that trembled made a loud cracking and shattering sound along with the high-pitched roar of Cetus.

The demonic sea beasts appeared one after another, trying to break the ice on the water's surface with their sturdy bodies. Suddenly, a bright orange fireball was shot from the battleship and exploded in the sky, attracting the sea beasts for a moment.

"Fire!" Venusius shouted, his voice echoed throughout the frozen sea.

The cannons shot wind magic, a powerful, sharp, quick, and concentrated one into the frozen waves. Each shot pierced and shattered the big waves like they were nothing, and the cannons could release three magic spells repeatedly until Mana could recharge the weapons.

Each of the wind magic was enough to have pierced through the scales of the demonic sea beasts, shredding and cutting a big chunk of the bodies. There were a total of forty ships that each had the same destructive power, including the three battleships that belonged to each commander that could release twenty spells in the span of five seconds.

The four demonic sea beasts were trapped by the ice because Rasmus kept freezing the water around them. Every damage the magic weapon did was enough to hurt them to the point where their limbs, scales, and skin were flying off of their bodies. It looked like complete obliteration, shredding them until there was nothing left but pieces of their bodies on top of the frozen sea.

Rasmus finally saw the true destructive power of the naval army. No armies could stop the naval army if the naval army decided to obliterate a nation with those things. After he had witnessed the power of the naval army, he jumped and landed on the deck.

"Thank you, Count. We might struggle in dealing all of them at the same time, and it might destroy a few of our ships," Arka said as he approached Rasmus, who still couldn't believe a single man was capable of

freezing the sea. He knew that Rasmus barely showed his true power, and he knew that he should be aware of what kind of person that stood in front of him.

"So you can deal with demonic beasts easily," Rasmus said, ignoring the praise.

"Yes, but as you can see, we need to recharge the magic weapons. Although we seem powerful, right now we are limited by resource," Arka answered as he nodded and pointed down toward a room where the ship hid the Mana stone.

"Is that so?" Rasmus hummed as he nodded. "You should ask Carrion and Erlina, they could provide you with what the Navy needed. They owned ninety percent of the mines in South Neva, and they also owned thirty percent of the mines in Central Neva, or should I say the Centriva Continent now. They will give you a fair price," he added.

Arka narrowed his brows, realizing that Rasmus had tried to make the whole Navy depend on his people, which was a terrifying thing to imagine. He knew Rasmus owned a trading company that had monopolized South Neva and had entered Centriva as well. He realized that Ramsus wasn't just a powerful mage, he was also a businessman.

"I'll keep that in mind," Arka could only respond with that. "What's our next plan? Do you want us to go to the Walloce Trench?" He asked, trying to change the topic.

"No. Since you have shown us how powerful your fleet was, I believe all of you can go and check each island near the Walloce Trench. Yur will assists you and make sure nothing happens to all the ships," Rasmus answered as he shook his head and stared at the frozen sea.

"Then, what about you?" Arka furrowed his brows.

"We will explore the Walloce Trench from here on out. Seeing that demonic beasts exist here, meaning we are right on the suspicion," Rasmus walked to the edge of the ship. "What do you think?" He turned to look at Aris.

"Yes, that's what I thought as well," Aris nodded in agreement. "Let's go see what lies beneath the deepest part of West Neva," she looked at Rullein, Videl, Serena, and then at Rasmus.

They all nodded with understanding and jumped off the ship.

Arka watched the four of them walk on the frozen sea before he signaled to the others that they were leaving.

Chapter 533 - 533: The world underneath.

Rasmus walked at the front, freezing the sea for them to walk on the surface. Aris and Rullein were a bit concerned because Rasmus wasn't bothered to borrow the power of the Overlord even though Aris had shown how much she didn't want him to rely on it. For Rasmus, he knew that he had made his choice to use the Overlord's power and tried to understand it so he could find a way to tame it.

"Another one is coming," Rasmus said as he kept walking forward.

A sea serpent emerged from the sea, showing its might and creating a huge wave. Rasmus stared at the wave and immediately the wave froze in an instant. Videl dashed past Rasmus and jumped toward the sea serpent before it could attack them.

The moment the sea serpent opened its mouth to release a high-pressured water, Videl was already in front of its face. Videl's claws grew longer and sharper as he swung his hand over the sea serpent's neck, decapitating it before it could react. He then devoured its body, taking the demonic energy within its body and its head. Rasmus flicked his hand and created an ice surface for Videl to land on before the ice spread and connected to the ice platform under Rasmus' feet.

"It's thicker, the demonic energy from this one," Videl turned to look at Rasmus. "We should be able to find the Womb of the Mother's location once we have found the fully corrupted ones because that means we are close from the nest," he added.

"That's the plan," Rasmus nodded as he turned around to see how far they had walked. "We are two miles away from reaching the Walloce Trench," he turned to look at the vast sea in front of him.

"This is similar to the Efiva Mountain. We couldn't tell how dense the demonic energy was until we were inside the mountain and saw the swarm," Rullein said as she tried to sense the demonic energy but she couldn't sense anything.

"We have no choice but to dive deep into the trench," Aris nodded in agreement. "Let's move because we are running out of time," she said as she walked to the front.

They walked for miles and they killed every demonic sea beast that tried to stop them. The closer they were from the Walloce Trench, the more of them appearing as if preventing them from going further. It was like another feast for both Videl and Rullein, making themselves stronger.

When Rasmus stopped walking, everyone immediately looked down at the edge of the ice platform into the deep sea. They all felt the same unease feeling when they entered the Efiva Mountain. However, this time it would be a lot darker and deeper under the water. They knew swimming would be pointless because they couldn't fight underwater, especially against colossal demonic beasts.

"Any plans?" Serena asked as she looked at Aris and Rasmus.

Rasmus didn't say a word when suddenly a massive whirlpool formed in front of them. He made sure the ice platform was strong and deeply rooted under the sea so it wouldn't get sucked into the whirlpool. Everyone looked at him manipulating the ocean like it was nothing, merely using his thoughts and what he wanted the ocean to respond to.

"Well, that's a plan..." Videl tilted his head as he sighed. "We just jump into that thing?" He glanced at Rasmus.

"Yes, just jump. I can keep the whirlpool to reach the bottom of the Walloce Trench by creating a bigger whirlpool," Rasmus answered as he nodded. "Just use your energy to protect yourself from the pressure and whatever that exist down there," he pointed out.

They all nodded with understanding and flew toward the center of the whirlpool, staring down at nothing but the complete darkness that awaited them. Serena was a bit traumatized by darkness after what Satan did to her, and she didn't like it at all. However, she knew that she wasn't alone this time, everyone else was with them, and she could endure it.

Rasmus watched everyone fly down into the whirlpool and then he joined them after. The moment he entered the whirlpool, he widened the radius of the whirlpool so the deeper they went, the more space they had.

Arka and the others went to the first island when they suddenly heard loud echoes of ice cracking in the distance. Everyone looked toward the sea and their eyes widened when they saw the whirlpool, visible from where they were. They were petrified by what was going on because the whirlpool was so massive it could devour an island easily.

"Don't be afraid, that's Rasmus' doing. They're trying to enter the bottom of the sea to find the source of the problem," Yur assured, floating above the battleship and staring at the whirlpool. Yur watched everything unfold and knew it was Rasmus' doing.

"I see..." Arka replied nervously as he gulped.

Rasmus tried to calculate how deep the Walloce Trench was, but he had been falling down for more than a minute based on his watch. Another minute had passed and they were still free-falling and light could no longer reach where they were. On minute four, they felt an intense demonic energy from below them and the heat that could burn a human skin. They all slowed down their fall, and their eyes couldn't see anything but darkness even though they could see in the dark with their abilities.

"We are closing to reach the bottom, but we can't see a thing..." Rullein said loudly because the sloshing sound of the whirlpool was extremely loud.

Rasmus created a fire ball on his palm, but even so it was still pitch black, making it unnatural and feel wrong about the place they were.

"This is another separation realm," Serena said, her voice trembling from the trauma. "Why this place exist anywhere?" She asked Videl, not knowing where he was because of the complete darkness.

Videl knew that Serena was asking him because as the Devil he should know about the separation realm, Sheol. Sheol was a realm known as the bottom of the world of the living. A dark and empty realm where nobody remembered anything and darkness was the light in this realm. It was the realm of separation, a realm before the dead proceeded to their final judgment.

"This is Sheol, same as the one underneath Efiva Mountain," Videl said as he stared at nothing but darkness underneath him. "I don't know why this place exists in this world. I have no answer," he answered.

"I'll go down first, all of you wait here," Videl said as he descended slowly.

Nobody questioned Videl's decision and decided to stay and wait.

When Videl reached the bottom, he could feel mud under his soles and something crawled onto his legs, gripping tightly and painfully. He wasn't bothered by it, but he didn't let a mere realm dominate him when he was the ruler of Hell, a place that something like this was like a playground for him.

Videl transformed into his true form in the complete darkness, his eyes were the only thing that glowed in the dark where they grew bigger and bigger. Rasmus and the others could feel Videl's presence, but it was big, so big that they could feel Videl's presence right below their feet.

"A mere realm of darkness tries to devour me?" Videl's voice was like a rumbling thunder that disrupted the whirlpool Rasmus' had maintained carefully. "I'll devour this realm because you thought you could take me..." He grinned as he absorbed the whole realm and everything in it.

A dark red fire lit the darkness, and that was when Rasmus and the others saw Videl's one of his many forms. A colossal being with massive horns and wings beneath them, big enough that they could compare the True Dragon's body with his. When he flapped his wings, Rasmus and the others were sent flying back to the surface. It was so powerful that they were completely shocked by Videl's power while at the same time the whirlpool got disrupted and stopped spinning.

Everyone floated above the ocean silently, staring at the ocean and the gentle waves beneath them.

"Is he going to be okay?" Rullein asked, her eyes never leaving the water.

Nobody said a word until they saw a dark silhouette from underneath the water and they could feel a strong demonic energy. The demonic energy had a mix of Videl's energy and the corrupted energy combined. All of them flew way higher almost in unison, knowing that something didn't feel right.

When Videl emerged from the ocean, a massive wave was created and to everyone's shock, he was still in his demonic form with its eyes wide open and horns that entangled with each other on his skull. He freed his wings from the water, spreading it widely and creating a bigger wave than the previous one. He

was too big to be hidden, and that was when Arka and all the soldiers witnessed the existence of a demon that they thought was the source of the catastrophe.

"He's being corrupted!" Serena shouted as she immediately gathered divine energy.

"The Devil is being corrupted..." Rasmus' eyes narrowed as cold steam released from his pores, freezing his body and hair as his eyes began to glow. "What a troublesome situation," he muttered as he pulled out his black swords and Aristoria's sword. He then tossed Aristoria's sword at Aris.

Aris caught the sword without having to look as his hair turned bright blue and her eyes glowed bright blue with traces of her energy that looked like light trails. She was ready to fight with Aristoria's armor on her body, but she didn't expect to have the pleasure of beating Videl down.

"Take his energy, purify it, or destroy it if you have to. We need to beat him back to his senses," Rasmus said as he held his swords tightly.

"Don't mind if I do," Rullein grinned as black smoke spread like cloth behind her as it expanded rapidly before she completely turned into one and reappeared as a colossal shadowy figure from the smoke that had expanded.

Chapter 534 - 534: Energies.

Rasmus flew down toward Videl and swung his frozen black swords toward Videl's right shoulder. Because of Videl's colossal size, he couldn't dodge Rasmus' attack. However, when Rasmus' energy clashed with Videl's energy, he could see the ice on his black swords begin to crack and melt.

Videl glanced at Rasmus and roared at him, releasing a powerful beam of demonic energy from his mouth. Rasmus created a Mana barrier but it instantly got corrupted and shattered. Rasmus was exposed and got hit by them beam, sending him flying.

Rasmus was about to fall into the water when the extreme cold that his body produced was enough to froze the water below him. His ice body armor evaporated when it made contact with Videl's and the corrupted energies. He could feel those invasive energies entering his body and felt like every bone, muscle, and nerve was being corroded and melted.

Aris and Rullein flew toward Videl and combined their attacks, creating a light blue and dark orange trail and hue in the sky. Aris with her purifying energy and Rullein with her predatory energy clashed with Videl's and the corrupted energies.

The clash caused the whole sea to split open by the intensity. It was terrorizing and petrifying for Arka and the soldiers when they managed to use the island as a natural barrier. Even so, the intense energies in the air caused everyone to feel sick, primal fear, and even madness.

Both Aris and Rullein's energies managed to overpower Videl's and the corruption energies. Each attack took off a big chunk of Videl, both devoured and purified. Luckily that Videl was in colossal form, making it hard for him to dodge or attack those two. If Videl was in his human form, they might struggle to stop him.

Serena came right on time to protect Rasmus with her divine energy that could block all kinds of energies. She went to her knees in front of him, using her divine power to prevent corruption from spreading inside his body.

Rasmus was in pain to the point where he couldn't scream and went all four on the ice. He felt the left half of his body was melting while his other half was freezing cold that it burned.

Serena tried to purify the corruption that was already in the process with everything she could. However, both the corruption and the power of the Overlord within his body rejected her divine energy. She didn't know what to do at that point, and she knew if she didn't do something, Rasmus would be corrupted from both things within him.

Rasmus' vision blurred as his consciousness faded slowly. He could see Serena in front of him, her mouth was moving but he could only hear faint reverb of what she was saying. All he knew was the fact she looked terrified at something, something that might be what she saw.

"Leave..." Rasmus muttered under his heavy breath.

"What?" Serena furrowed her brows as she kept inserting divine energy into Rasmus' body. "No! I have to purify the corruption in your body!" She grabbed Rasmus' cheeks, seeing the black and purple veins slowly move from his left face to the right.

"I said, leave!" Rasmus shouted, but his voice was a lot deeper and rougher like a growl.

Serena felt the freezing cold begin to invade her body, forcing her to let go of her hand. The corruption also began to invade her other hand and forced her to completely let go of him. She gritted her teeth and clenched her fists before she suddenly charged toward Rasmus and flew away, carrying him away from the sea.

The immense cold, the corrosion, the burn sensations, all of them were too much for Serena. She was on the brink of losing her consciousness because half of her body was frozen and the other half was sizzling from corruption. When she saw an island, she threw Rasmus down before she lost consciousness and was free-falling onto the island.

Rasmus fell from the sky onto rocks and immediately the rocks and everything around him turned into sharp ice shards. Serena hit the sand on the beach while her divine power began to fight the energies that invaded her body.

On the other hand, Aris felt Rullein's attack grew weaker while Videl was growing stronger. She could see Rullein panting, something that only happened during a certain moment. She dodged the beams as she looked for Rasmus, wondering why Serena hadn't come to join them.

"Aris..." Rullein appeared behind Aris, her voice quiet and weak. "I'm... I'm tired..." She muttered. "I..." Before she could finish her sentence, she turned into black smoke and disappeared into thin air.

Aris knew something must have happened to Rasmus that caused Rullein to get affected by it as well. She didn't have time to think about anything but the threat in front of her. She readied her stance as she watched a hand that was big enough to build a big palace on the palm.

"You should be able to handle this on your own. Use the Aristoria bloodline power, controls it, and you will be able to create your own path just like I did," Aristoria's voice could be heard behind Aris. "Be like Rasmus. Don't ignore what you possess, use it and make it yours. One last push, and you should reach there," she pointed out.

Aris sighed as she closed her eyes while Videl's hand was getting closer and closer. Her body began to float and spread, glowing bright blue as her skin began to crack like porcelain. The moment she opened her eyes, the world looked different. Everything had turned into colors, strings and soft tissues of colors.

"Many times you had broken your limit. This time, you have broke through the last wall, the path that will lead you to be reborn into a True Dragon," Aristoria said as she floated in front of Aris. "But that path, you can ignore. Stay here for as long as you need because you now can move freely," she smiled before she moved away, reminding Aris that a threat was coming toward her.

Aris could see a dark purple and dark red color in front of her, moving so slowly or almost not moving at all. She flew toward it and when she raised her sword, she was surprised that her sword had turned into a light blue color. It felt like she was holding a light instead of a sword, and it felt bizarre because her perception and senses had changed completely.

Aris floated freely toward the darkness and swung her sword very gently. She watched as the blue light pierced and cut through the darkness. The blue light expanded and kept cutting through the darkness until it was split into two. From her perspective, it was slow and almost beautiful. However, in reality, Arka and the other's jaw dropped when Aris attack cut Videl's arm in half in a split second.

"Do not be swayed by the power or else it will make you take a step forward for more and more power that our bloodline has. Before you know it, you have turned into a Primeval being with no memories or desire, numbed by the endless and unimaginable power with unlimited potential," Aristoria warned as she stood beside Aris.

"I have learned to control it from Rasmus. I will use it, but I will not be blinded by it," Aris responded as she closed her eyes and opened it again, pulling her out of that transcendent state. "I'll be fine on my own now, thank you," she muttered to herself as she readied her stance and watched Videl scream in pain.

"You are me, and I'm you. Of course you can take care of yourself," Aristoria's voice faded away until it became quiet.

At the same time, Rullein woke up as she groaned and slowly sat up from her slumber. She looked around and she didn't remember anything at all or how she ended up there. She was in the middle of a blizzard, it was cold even for her. She then began to look around and couldn't see anything but snow.

After walking for a while and the blizzard seemed to calm down a little, Rullein saw a silhouette of a man on top of a boulder. She furrowed her brows and realized the silhouette belonged to Rasmus. At that moment she remembered everything, she remembered that she was fighting against Videl with Aris until she felt weak and lost her consciousness.

"Rasmus..." Rullein called as she narrowed her brows and approached Rasmus.

Rasmus didn't respond, his gaze was pointed at the distance in front of him until he slowly turned his head slightly and glanced at Rullein.

"You're here..." Rasmus said as he looked at the distance again.

"Where... are we..." Rullein asked as she looked around, still not knowing where she was.

"I was asking the same thing just a moment ago..." Rasmus answered, his gaze kept staring at the distance. "Until I saw those," he pointed to where he was staring.

Rullein tilted her head before she looked at where Rasmus was pointing. She could see an endless land in the distance, covered in tar and slimy substance that devoured everything it touched. She still had no idea where she was, and why the place was either covered in ice and blizzards or tar and slimy substances.

"We are inside my body right now, Rullein," Rasmus revealed as he folded his legs, sitting comfortably on top of the boulder. "The blizzards represent the Overlord's power and those things represent corruption energy. Both are fighting each other and see who will take over my body," he pointed out.

Rullein was stunned as she began to see what Rasmus meant.

"And why are you here..." Rullein asked as she looked up at Rasmus.

"I'm not sure either," Rasmus shook his head.

Chapter 535 - 535: Energies collide.

"Why are you so calm? Aren't you going to do something about this?" Rullein asked with her brows furrowed, confused as to why Rasmus didn't even feel threatened when his life was about to be snatched away by two powers.

"I'm thinking, not calm," Rasmus answered, his gaze distant and focused. "But as you can see, I can't do anything. The fact that I'm here, meaning that I no longer have control over my body. My body is vulnerable right now, and even Serena couldn't purify these two energies. Videl said that the Womb of the Mother is the source of all evil, meaning it's something primal," he turned his head to look at Rullein. "Not to mention, there's also Videl's energy in it, mixing together and turned it even more powerful."

"Yeah, but you should know that if one of them took over your body, I would disappear along with you. I don't want that," Rullein clenched her fists as she climbed up the boulder where Rasmus was sitting on. "I can't just stay here and do nothing. Come with me," she grabbed Rasmus' arm and pulled him up.

Rasmus was dragged off the boulder and didn't say a word as Rullein guided him toward the corrupted area ahead of them. He could see the black fire blazing wildly above the sea of tar, feeling

"You need to understand that my core is over there where the corrupted is slowly taking over your body," Rullein said as she pointed with her other free hand toward the dark and gloomy sky above the corrupted land. "Well, since you can see that I'm still here, meaning that my core is barely affected by corruption," she revealed as she turned her head to look at Rasmus. "Do you understand what that means?" She asked.

Rasmus hummed as he stared into Rullein's eyes, trying to understand what she was trying to imply. It took him a while to understand what she meant by it, that she might have a solution to the problem where she could be the one who could deal with corruption.

"Now you understand," Rullein smirked as she kept pulling Rasmus' arm. "I'll make all of them mine," she revealed.

However, Rasmus suddenly stopped moving and pulled Rullein instead. Rullein was startled when she suddenly was being yanked toward Rasmus. She could see in Rasmus' sharp gaze that he knew the risk and what it would cause to both of them.

"Videl couldn't even handle that corruption, what makes you different?" Rasmus asked with his brows raised.

"Don't worry," Rullein grinned as she stood in front of Rasmus. "He was greedy enough to devour whatever that was down there in the Walloce Trench. Yours on the other hand is only a tiny bit of what he had consumed. So we will be fine," she explained as she pulled Rasmus' hand again and led him toward the corrupted land.

"Why did you bring me along?" Rasmus asked with his brows furrowed.

"Because I want to try something with you," Rullein answered without looking back at Rasmus.

Rullein turned into black smoke and brought Rasmus along with her, teleporting to where her core was. It only took them a blink of an eye to reach Rullein's core, and it was the same dead tree that Rasmus had found when he met Rullein for the first time. It was on top of a small hill, covered in slimy substance and was burning by a black flame but unaffected by corruption at all.

"Okay, I'll explain to you what I'm planning to do," Rullein said as she looked around at the sea of tar and slime. "My power can become as invasive as this thing since my core is inside your body. With that being said, if I decided to let go of my power inside of your body, I can easily devour this thing, but there's an issue to that," her eyes stared into Rasmus' eyes.

"You can't undo what you will release?" Rasmus asked with his brows raised.

"Yes, but the good thing is that I can prevent the Overlord's power from taking over your body as well. Of course, I couldn't prevent the Overlord's power back then because I didn't intend to release my power within your body. Now that we are in this situation, I can devour this corruption while at the same time grow strong enough to fight against the Overlord's power," Rullein explained, her gaze stared at the blizzard in the distance. "And if I do that, you can take over your body again, under my influence that is...." she revealed.

"You're going to devour my consciousness?" Rasmus furrowed his brows.

"Yes... you can say it that way," Rullein answered, showing hesitation in her words. "Because right now, you have no control over your body and mind due to the two energies colliding to the point you have no place to interfere," she explained.

Rasmus thought about it for a moment, staring down at his feet dipped in tar that reached up to his ankle. He didn't know what would happen to him when Rullein could easily take over his mind and body if she wanted to in the future.

While Rasmus was deep in thought, suddenly the blizzard moved past the sea of tar. At the same time, the tar began to defrost and move above the thick snow. Both energies no longer collided with each other, they began to move to see who could devour his body faster.

"We are running out of time, Rasmus," Rullein said as she watched the blizzard move in rapid motion, trying to freeze whatever was below it. "We can ask Aris to do something about this, but for now, I want you to give me the permission to take deeper root into your body," she looked at Rasmus with a serious expression.

Rasmus stared into Rullein's eyes with a sharp gaze, his mind calculated every possible risk and outcome. He could tell that almost every possible risk and outcome would put him at a disadvantage. However, he had no other option but to put trust in Rullein.

"Do it," Rasmus nodded.

Without hesitation, Rullein turned into black smoke and flew into the dead tree. The tree branches began to move like fingers as the tar that had covered the tree was being absorbed. The tree began to grow bigger and bigger as it began to absorb the tar around it. The roots began to come out of the soil, expanding endlessly as they absorbed the flood of tar.

Rasmus watched as the tree began to produce sap along with black smoke that floated in all directions, making the tree look like it had bloomed. The more the tree absorbed the tar, the bigger it became. It was a normal sized dead tree before, but now it had grown wider and taller to the point it reached beyond the clouds.

Rasmus was standing on one of the branches, looking down at the ground to see how high it was. It was just a matter of an hour, the top half of the tree was invisible because of the black smoke that had

conquered the sky while the roots had conquered the ground. He then looked at the blizzard, slowly being devoured by the black smoke and the snow that was being absorbed by the roots.

While Rasmus was mesmerized by what he was witnessing, he suddenly felt weak and collapsed to his knees, his hands clung onto the tree's bark so he wouldn't fall off. He felt sleepy until he couldn't resist it anymore, losing his grip until he fell to the ground and hit the moving and entangled roots.

A pale arm came out in the gap of the root, reaching Rasmus' body and began to pull him into the gap. The tree began to grow infinitely like and was powerful enough to challenge the Overlord's power.

Rullein felt confident that she might be able to push the Overlord's power and decided to invade the other half of the vast land. However, it was when she realized she had just made a mistake as the snowy land slowly turned it ice shards, sharp enough to destroy all the invasive roots like they were nothing.

Rullein sat on the tree branch, watching her power being challenged by the Overlord's power. She didn't let it slide and decided to take it to the next level, turning the roots into thorny roots, breaking through the ice shards. Both powers showed off their might while trying to overpower each other.

The clash intensified until suddenly Rullein could see the pair of glowing eyes beneath the blizzard in the sky. A grin formed on her face as she turned into black smoke, becoming one with the polluted sky. A pair of glowing dark orange eyes stared back, challenging the Overlord.

At the same time, Rasmus regained consciousness and immediately opened his eyes because of the intense pain all over his body. He screamed and curled up to endure whatever was happening to his body. Tears began to fall on the icy island, not realizing that while he was unconscious, the Overlord's power had spread the whole island.

The tears melted the ice and released black smoke, just like the sap he saw from the dead tree. He felt his inside was melting while at the same time freezing cold like his inside was being stabbed by needles rapidly. It reminded him of the medicine he took in the Tower of Sand but the pain was a million times worse.

"Aaghh..." Rasmus grunted as his body began to release a black smoke that was hot enough to melt the ice.

Arka and the whole naval fleet were also trying to survive from the intense battle between Aris and Videl. One tsunami and hurricane after another hit the island in front of them. They were powerless in the face of death that might take them when suddenly the sea froze in an instant, shocking them.

"Are we safe now? Are we safe?!" A soldier screamed, his whole body trembling in fear as he tried to stand up by using the railing as support.

They all knew who was capable of freezing the sea. Arka climbed onto the crow's nest and used a binocular. He looked around when he saw an island that didn't make any sense at all. He saw a frozen island but was catching on black flames.

"What's going on over there..." Arka slowly pulled down his binoculars and saw the black smoke slowly going up into the sky, corrupting the white clouds into dark clouds.

Serena's fluttered open when she felt cold and hot at the same time. She wanted to get up until she realized her whole body was frozen on the frozen beach. She then felt mixed energies around her until she saw the frozen island that was engulfed in black flames while the black smoke corrupted the sky. When she saw a figure emerging from the black flame, her pupils trembled, petrified by what she saw.

"Rasmus...?" Serena asked in a trembling voice.

A shadowy black figure stood there with black flames that burned its body. The black smoke wrapped around its body like a robe and a flowing cape. A pair of heterochromatic eyes which glowed brightly and stared into Serena's soul. The left eye was glowing dark orange with purple hue while the right eye was glowing bright blue with purple hue. The figure emitted Videl's, Rullein's, Rasmus', the corrupted's, and the Overlord's powers that mixed into one.

The shadowy figure suddenly manifested into a human body, and it was Rasmus. He was completely naked as he walked toward Serena before he flicked his hand, melting the solid ice that had buried Serena's body.

"I really need help..." Rasmus said, his voice weak and fragile. His weak and trembling hand reached Serena's hoping that she could help him with whatever happened inside his body.

Before Serena could grab Rasmus' hand, he collapsed and fainted once again.

"Rasmus!" Serena screamed as she slowly got up but she hesitated to touch him. "What's happening to you..." She looked at Rasmus pained expression even in his unconscious state.

Chapter 536 - 536: Dying.

Aris dodged countless of the demonic energy beams that were released from Videl's wings. There were tiny gaps between the beams, but she could move through it like air. She could see the anger in Videl's eyes because he had used everything he had to kill her. Knowing that he couldn't fight properly, he decided to use a last effort move.

Bubbles began to merge from the water, popping and releasing hot gas into the air. Aris glanced down at the sea and noticed the whole sea began to boil. The sea had been contaminated by corruption and the hot gas would only prolong the heavy rain in West Neva. She had been looking for a solution to the problem, and that was to defeat Videl without killing him. She could easily cut him into parts, but she knew that she would kill him or even make him lose a big chunk of the power he had gathered in the past two years.

"You leave me no choice," Aris readied her stance as she began to see the world in strings and tissues of colors.

Videl roared and suddenly the ocean exploded, releasing flares of hellfire that soared into the sky. The ocean evaporated rapidly as the flares of hellfire began to move around before they all turned toward Aris from all directions, making sure she couldn't escape this time.

Aris was about to swing the light in her hand when suddenly she saw a shift in color from the corner of her eyes. She slowly turned around and stared at a single thread that had turned its color from bright to dark repeatedly. She tilted her head, staring at the black string for a moment before she used her perception to follow the string, moving through billions of threads, tissues, and colors in a flash. She saw five strings that connected into that one specific string, realizing who it belonged to.

"Rasmus..." Aris muttered, her expression cold and stoic.

At the same time, she noticed a lump of black strings from the corner of her eyes. She raised her brows when she realized those black strings belonged to demons. The numbers of humans that had reached

the final demonification process were quite a lot. They were flying toward the sea, realizing that their master, the true ruler of Hell was calling for them.

Aris tilted her head and looked at the other strings around the lump of black strings. She reached out her hand and pulled the light green strings around the black ones to her hands. She simply twisted the strings in her hands, entangling the black ones with the light green ones.

From Aris' perspective, the light green strings began to mix with the black ones. She could see the black strings turning paler and paler until the black strings turned light green. However, from the demons' perspective, they were shredded into pieces by the sudden change of air and pressure. They couldn't sense the danger and it happened in an instant.

"So this is how True Dragons used their power...." Aris muttered to herself before she looked at her surroundings where dark purple strings were coming toward her.

Aris gathered all the blue strings she could grab around her and she immediately spun around, entangling the blue strings with the dark purple ones. She had to hold thousands of blue strings to finally influence the black purple ones. In just a few seconds from her perspective, all the black purple ones turned pale purple. Even with her power, she couldn't neutralize the hellfire completely.

The hellfire hit Aris from all directions, creating a massive explosion that kept expanding while evaporating the ocean rapidly. Videl roared as he spread his wings, ready to fly away, but suddenly the explosion shrunk rapidly until it completely disappeared. Videl glared at Aris, who was unaffected by the hellfire. However, cracks appeared all over her skin, releasing light blue energy.

"You're at your limit. The more you let yourself use that power, the more you will be forced to rebirth," Aristoria warned Aris.

"I know, I'll make this quick," Aris answered as she stared down at Videl as the massive entangled black strings shook.

Aris raised her sword and traveled half of speed of light toward Videl as she swung her sword. She moved from one space to another in a blink of an eye, cutting off Videl's wings, arms, and his torso into pieces. She could see Videl's core and she made sure she didn't hit that or she might take Videl's life in

an accident. She focused on purifying Videl's overwhelming energy, especially the corruption that was gnawing at his body.

Videl's massive body turned into chunks before his body parts evaporated and turned into ashes as his remaining body sunk into the deep sea. Aris followed him into the water, making sure that he couldn't regenerate and preventing the corruption of energy from contaminating the ocean.

Aris watched as Videl's remaining body shrunk and reformed into a human body. She then swam toward him before he sunk deeper into the depth of the Walloce Trench. She grabbed him and went to the surface before she flew away toward the frozen island where Rasmus and Serena were.

When Aris landed on the frozen island, she watched Serena cut her wrist with the sharp ice shard. Serena forced Rasmus to drink her blood which contained a high divine power density. She kept cutting her wrist because her natural regeneration ability forced the open wound to heal. She had to feel the pain over and over again, but she didn't care at all, not until Rasmus could open his eyes.

"Move..." Aris said as she approached Serena.

"You can't do anything, Aris," Aristoria whispered into Aris' ear. "Your power will only kill him because right now there are too many different energies within his body. If he has to take your energy, you're only destroying him," she pointed out.

Serena looked at Aris carrying Videl in her arms, standing still as if she had hesitated to help Rasmus. She then continued to cut her wrist, forcing Rasmus to drink her blood.

"I don't know what happened to him..." Serena said as she watched her blood dripping into Rasmus' mouth. "But he's in danger..." She looked up at Aris.

Aris stared at the most complex strings she had ever seen when she stared at Rasmus. His existence was an entangled mess of bright blue, dark purple, gold, dark orange, and black strings.

"(If I untangled those strings, what would happen to him?)" Aris asked Aristoria.

"You can't. Every string you touch, they're imbued and affected by your power. If you even touch one string, the balance will tilt and that will endanger him," Aristoria answered. "Right now, Serena might be the only option. Unless there's another external neutral force that can stabilize his condition," she pointed out.

"(Neutral force?)" Aris raised her brows. "(Does dragon scales count as an external neutral force?)" She asked.

"That should work, but you should find Rasmus' strings first and connect the dragon scales with those," Aristoria answered as she nodded. "But be careful not to touch any of those strings..." She warned.

Aris stood in front of Rasmus and looked at the entangled mess of strings. She carefully reached out her hand where she wore the spatial ring. She looked through the strings but she didn't know which one to look for.

"(I can't find his string, I don't know which one...)" Aris furrowed her brows as she looked at every string in front of her.

"Humans have light brown strings. The real him is still human, not all those strings," Aristoria responded, helping Aris to find the string. "There... on your left..." She pointed out the five light brown strings.

Serena was confused when Aris suddenly reached out her hand with a distant gaze. She then watched Aris throw out hundreds of dragon scales and they all immediately became one with Rasmus' body. It was interesting to see that the scales melted into Rasmus' skin.

"Now all we can do is wait..." Aristoria said, her voice filled with concern.

Rasmus stood on top of the dead tree, looking at the chaos that was happening in his body. The thorns broke the ice while the ice shards froze the thorns, and the golden light that conquered the sky, weakening both of them. He didn't know what to do because the three powers were trying to dominate each other.

"What have you done?" Rasmus looked over his shoulder when he felt Rullein's presence.

Rullein lowered her head, knowing that it was her fault. If she wasn't being cocky and greedy, this wouldn't happen to Rasmus.

"There's a reason why I can't trust you. You're a Dark Spirit with overwhelming emotions to devour and conquer. But the fault is mine to trust you," Rasmus said calmly and watched the three powers destroy his body from within.

Rullein opened her mouth but decided not to say anything because she knew nothing could make things better. But then she felt something from the underground, tilting her head as she walked to the edge to look down. Suddenly, the ground trembled and something emerged, breaking the ice and the roots. Two giant scales pierced through the ground and merged into one, separating the ice and the roots. More and more scales emerged from the ground until it looked like a massive spine that separated two worlds.

The divine light that lit the sky suddenly descended and coated the scales, reinforcing them and preventing the scales from getting overpowered by the two powers. Not only that the divine power reinforced the scales, it went deeper along with the scales.

Rasmus looked at his body and it began to glow, realizing that Aris might have come to help him and that meant she had successfully taken care of Videl. His body slowly turned translucent until he disappeared into thin air.

"Rasmus?" Serena called, her voice barely above a whisper.

Rasmus opened his eyes and that made both Aris and Serena narrow their eyes. He noticed how they looked at him in disbelief. He slowly sat up but his whole body had given up on him, making him collapse once again. However, when he used his hands to prevent his face from hitting the solid ice, he saw his reflection on it. That was when he realized why Aris and Serena looked at him in disbelief.

"My eyes..." Rasmus hand reached to his cheek as he stared at his heterochromatic eyes. One had a dark orange iris and a dark purple pupil while the other one had a bright blue iris with a golden pupil.

"It's not just your eyes, look at your hair..." Serena said as she stared at Rasmus from the reflection.

Rasmus looked at his hair and realized it was no longer silver, it was light gray.

"What happened?" Rasmus asked as he turned to look at Aris and Serena.

"Your condition has stabilized, but you're dying," Aris answered with a serious expression. "Rullein's and the Overlord's powers won't stop. Sooner or later both of them will take the dragon scales and even Serena's divine power," she explained.

Rasmus scoffed, smirking in disbelief as he sat on his legs, staring at the frozen island that was burning.

"I guess Videl was right about Belial as a bad omen," Rasmus muttered.

Chapter 537 - 537: Left alone.

A battleship anchored in front of the frozen island to pick up Rasmus and the others. Arka personally came down the ship to understand what had happened. However, when he looked around, he only found Aris, alone on the island.

Arka used Aura to protect himself from the extreme cold and the fact the frozen island was also burning made it bizarre. The flame was dark purple, ominous and dangerous from seeing it alone. He knew he wouldn't be able to survive if he walked deeper into the island, at least with his current ability.

"Lady Aris, where's Count Blackheart and the others?" Arka asked, still looking around for Rasmus.

"He's here, but he doesn't want to meet with anyone at the moment," Aris answered, her expression stoic and unreadable. "We will continue our search for the source of the corruption. This time I know where they are, and we will get rid of them," she said and walked past Arka toward the battleship.

Arka followed Aris from behind, but he looked over his shoulder at the island. He wanted to know what was happening, and what was that colossal demon that they had defeated. So many questions in his mind but there was no answer to satisfy his curiosity.

Rasmus was sitting on a block of ice, his gaze distant and unfocused. He still processed what had just happened to him, especially to Videl who was still unconscious after he got defeated by Aris.

"She doesn't want to come out?" Serena looked at Rasmus as she let her divine energy purify the hellfire that had engulfed the island.

"No," Rasmus shook his head. "Let her be, she wants to be alone, just like everyone else," he added.

Serena hummed as she sat down beside Rasmus, staring at Videl's vulnerable state. She didn't know what to say and at the same time had so many things to say. She could sense that things would be different from this moment, something bad.

"Thank you," Rasmus said, his gaze fixated on his reflection. He stared at something that he didn't recognize, his own face.

"No..." Serena shook her head slowly. "You're not safe yet. You're not even in the right state to be so calm either. I failed once and I failed twice. I don't want to fail for the third time," she turned to look at Rasmus with a serious expression, her eyes stared into Rasmus' heterochromatic eyes.

"You think I didn't know? Your body is also affected by corruption," Rasmus glanced at Serena, seeing the corruption within Serena's body that persisted to corrupt her body and resisted divine power. "Take care of yourself first," he pointed out.

Rasmus' senses sharpened almost ten times more than before, nothing could hide from him anymore, not even the corruption of energy. He also felt stronger, way more than before. However, he didn't know if he could use those different powers without disrupting the balance within him.

"What are you planning to do?" Serena asked, her gaze shifted toward the dark sky that had gone lighter. "Something happened to all of us. For me, I wanted to go back, to rest and to..." She paused to clench her jaw. "I don't know..." She sighed as she looked down at her reflection.

When Serena tried so hard to save Rasmus, she muttered something that she shouldn't, God's name and how she had requested Him to help her. She felt bitter all the way to her core because not only was she desperate, God didn't listen to her request at all. She was disgusted by her own incapability and the fact she had to beg the one that had made her suffer for something trivial.

"I know what you did," Rasmus muttered, his gaze still fixated on his reflection. "Somehow I gained Rullein's ability to see the past but without having to touch the person's body first," he added.

Serena was shocked and wished that Rasmus didn't know what she had done.

"Can you keep it to yourself?" Serena asked, and her voice showed vulnerability.

"I'm planning to do so," Rasmus nodded.

"Thank you," Serena knew that Rasmus wouldn't use her weakness or what she said against her. She was glad that someone like Rasmus existed.

While the two of them were reflecting on the situation they were in, they heard loud explosions in the distance. They realized the naval fleet had bombarded an island with everything they had got. The echoes of the explosions were enough to tell that they had found the Womb of the Mother on one of the islands.

"Looks like they have found one," Serena said as she looked up at the sky.

"With Aris' awakened power, I don't think anything can hide from her anymore," Rasmus nodded. "She's becoming the thing she hated the most," he muttered to himself.

"We all are, aren't we?" Serena turned her head to look at Rasmus, her voice barely above a whisper.

Rasmus didn't say a word, not even denying Serena's question. Aris had awakened the power of a True Dragon, Videl lost his pride because he was being controlled by the very thing that he believed he had control over, Serena who relied on the being that had condemned her and punished her, and Rasmus who began to lose his identity and no longer had control over himself.

Hours had passed, Aris and the naval fleet had checked every island, killing countless demonic beasts and demonic sea beasts that roamed on the islands and sea. If it wasn't for Yur's help, they wouldn't be able to eliminate danger this fast and would take days. At the same time, Videl had regained his

consciousness, and just like Rasmus and Serena, he also had a bitter taste in his mouth for what had happened to him.

Aris went back to the island with Yur and it was no longer frozen or engulfed by the hellfire. Arka's battleship would come to pick everyone up, but it would take a while until his ship arrived on the island. She noticed the atmosphere on the island was heavier than before, and the fact that the energies that Rasmus's body released had grown dangerously denser. However, she noticed that Videl was nowhere on the island.

"Where did Videl go?" Aris asked, she still didn't want to let Videl unwatched, not after what had happened to him.

"He wanted to be alone and wished to be left alone undisturbed," Serena answered. "With the power he possesses, he's capable of commanding humans that had been turned into demons. With his influence, he could bring all the demons to his side instead of roaming around the continent unchecked and bringing chaos to the continent. He wanted to control them before the Fallen Watchers did or even before Satan did," she explained.

"Why? He shouldn't be left alone," Aris asked again, her expression cold and expressionless.

"I want to be left alone as well," Rasmus said as he stood up and walked past Aris.

"I also want to be alone for a moment," Serena looked at Aris with a soft smile on her face. "I believe we all want the same thing," she added.

Aris turned around to look at Rasmus, and without hesitation, she called his name.

"Rasmus," Aris furrowed her brows. She wanted to say a lot of things, but she couldn't form a single sentence, not when everything felt complicated. "What are you going to do? Should I remind you that you're still in danger?" She asked.

Rasmus paused his steps before he looked over his shoulder, his heterochromatic eyes stared into Aris' eyes, something that felt foreign and dangerous to Aris.

"I know, but you wouldn't have to repeat yourself if you already knew how to help me, wouldn't you?" Rasmus asked back.

Aris knew Rasmus all too well that sometimes it made her feel seen even through the ambiguity. Rasmus was right about it and Aris couldn't deny it when she didn't know how to help his condition. However, there was a method that could help him overcome his condition, it was just that she didn't know if it would actually help or only make things worse.

"There's a solution," Aris said before Rasmus could take another step away.

"I know, but you're unsure. Rather than speaking about something that you're unsure about, why don't we all have our time alone to think things thoroughly first?" Rasmus raised his brows.

Before Aris could say a word, she felt a dense demonic energy in the sky. It wasn't just her, Serena, Rasmus, and Yur also felt it. That was when they saw thousands of demons flying up high in the sky like a flock of birds migrating. They all watched as the demons flew toward an island.

"So that's where Videl is?" Aris asked with her brows raised.

"Looks like it..." Rasmus hummed, watching the demons ignore their existence.

At the same time on the island, Videl was standing still with his arms crossed, watching dozens after dozens of demons land around him. They all bent their knees, kneeling and their heads touched the ground with their wings folded, showing utmost obedience toward the King of Hell. However, there was a being that didn't belong with the crowd of demons, and that was when Videl's smirk appeared on his face.

"I owe you one once again," Videl said as he stared at the being wearing a burning ragged robe with ashes floating around it.

"Corruption waits for no one, and it will never stop until the end time," Belial said as he raised his head to stare into Videl's eyes. "You take something that you shouldn't possess. When the time comes, the debt will collect itself. You can fool them, but you can't fool corruption," he warned before he disappeared.

Videl chuckled, brushing off Belial's warning and watched thousands of demons worship him. He finally had his own army of demons, something that he could use for his next plan.

Chapter 538 - 538: An Act.

Rasmus and the others went back to the Brithia Kingdom and they could see that the rain had stopped after they destroyed what was beneath the Walloce Trench. Aris went to inform Queen Anastasia and the others about what had happened while Serena decided to meet Erlina and the others. Rasmus on the other hand went straight to his chamber, resting and waiting.

After Serena explained what had happened, Erlina, Carrion, Daryus, and Aider were concerned about Rasmus' condition. It wasn't the first time they had seen him like that, and things had been hard for him ever since his encounter with Satan.

"Wait, the first thing he wanted was to meet with Javi? Out of all people?" Carrion arched his brows, confused and curious.

"I'm not sure, maybe he wants to know how the Blackhands are doing. I think it's normal for him to care for them since they're useful for him," Serena shook her head, her expression showing burden and exhaustion. "You said that you want to visit Ceras Kingdom, Erlina. Can I tag along with you? I need some time away from everything," she looked at Erlina with her brows raised.

Erlina's expression stiffened when Serena mentioned the Ceras Kingdom, her hometown. That place was all the source of her nightmares, the things that kept her awake most of the nights. It wasn't a secret anymore among them that she wanted to seek revenge, to pay for what they had done to her mother.

"We are planning to leave in two days. I think it would be safe for us to travel by then," Erlina said under her breath, her gaze distant and unfocused.

"You have me, so everyone should be safe. But who's coming along with you? All of you?" Serena looked at Carrion, Daryus, and Aider.

"Yes, everyone will be coming with me. I need Aider's skill to gather information for me while Daryus wants to try to help the people there because that nation is full of corrupt nobles. For Carrion, well, he's

my partner. He has no choice but to follow me around," Erlina answered as he nodded her head and looked at Carrion with a teasing smile.

Serena hummed, and her eyelids got heavier and heavier. She was exhausted and she was still fighting corruption within her body.

Rasmus was drinking alone in his room when he sensed Javi entering his room from the open window. He filled the other glass with whiskey for Javi. He tapped the table with his fingers and then Javi sat across from him at the table.

"I need you to pay attention to your surroundings," Rasmus tapped his fingers slowly as he took a sip of whiskey, his gaze fixated on the window.

"I understand," Javi nodded.

Rasmus exhaled deeply, his tapping relaxed and slowed down a bit. He stared at the bright sky outside, not even once had he turned his head to look at Javi. He was deep in thought but things kept moving out of his reach.

"How's the situation out there, especially the two nations that have been invading the neighboring nations?" Rasmus asked, his fingers stopped tapping the table for a moment before his index finger began to tap the table again.

"They both lost half of their forces," Javi answered, his eyes focused on the glass of whiskey, not wanting to drink. "During their conquest, the corruption made both sides to kill their own armies," he explained.

"Only half?" Rasmus raised his brows, his index finger paused before he began to tap the table with his middle finger and ring finger. "I was expecting them to lose all of their forces, but it seems someone or something managed to stop the corruption," he said before he took a sip of his whiskey.

"We saw them, the two mysterious figures that neutralized the corruption. We are assuming they're the Prime Lords that you're looking for," Javi revealed, his expression unchanged and unfazed.

Rasmus hummed and nodded with understanding before he turned his head to look at Javi. He repositioned himself to face Javi completely, his arms folded on the table, his right fingers beginning to tap on the glass he was holding.

"What about the other nations?" Rasmus asked, his eyes stared into Javi's eyes.

"Every nation lost at least 70% of their forces. Soon they all will be taken by those two nations, estimated in a month or two," Javi finally saw Rasmus heterochromatic eyes that somehow made him feel uneasy and disturbed.

"What about the Blackhands? Any of them got affected by the corruption?" Rasmus looked down at his glass of whiskey, tapping it gently and slowly with his middle finger.

"Thanks to Lady Rullein, everyone is safe from the corruption. I ordered them to stay together for now in a safe place," Javi's gaze showed curiosity toward the drastic changes in Rasmus' appearance.

"You may leave now, be aware of your surroundings," Rasmus said and emptied his glass in one gulp.

Javi nodded with understanding and then walked past Rasmus before his presence disappeared. Rasmus sat there like a statue, his gaze empty and distant until he suddenly poured whiskey into his glass.

Serena was about to leave the room when suddenly Javi came in through the window. Everyone looked at him with a confused look because he should be with Rasmus, not with them. However, when Javi approached Serena and whispered something that took longer than the others had expected.

Erlina tried to read Serena's expression, but she didn't get anything because Serena's expression didn't change one bit, not even a muscle. When Javi pulled away and immediately left without saying a word, Serena stood up from the chair with a long sigh.

"I'll get some rest, I might sleep for a whole day today," Serena chuckled softly as she walked toward the door and left the room.

As soon as Serena left the room, her expression darkened and colder. Her gaze was filled with hatred, anger, and even disgust. She turned left at the end of the hallway when her room was on the right side. She went to see Aris because there was something Aris needed to know.

When Aris left the throne room, she saw Serena waiting for her with that cold expression. She raised her brows and was about to ask what had happened when suddenly Serena walked away and looked over her shoulder at Aris. She realized Serena wanted her to follow her, so she walked beside Serena without saying a word.

Serena created an invisible divine barrier, separating them from the outside world.

"Rasmus believes Videl is connected to this whole incident," Serena said as she kept walking.

"How so?" Aris asked, but she didn't show any sign of surprise.

"Rullein mentioned that Videl's power couldn't be devoured and blended in with her power and corruption. Rullein saw a glimpse of Videl's scheme that he was cooperating with Belial. It was all Videl's plan all along the moment he sent his minions to West Neva way ahead before us," Serena answered, her gaze fixated on the wall ahead of her. "His purpose was to devour corruption and to corrupt Rasmus so he could take control over his mind and body. This is his main purpose," she added. "Videl might not have realized this, but the moment his energy blended in with corruption, it made him vulnerable. That's why Rullein managed to get the truth on an accident."

"So you're saying that Rasmus is being watched from the inside? His thoughts and all are being observed?" Aris glanced at Serena with her brows furrowed. "If that's the case, wouldn't Videl know that we know?" She added.

"No, Rullein used a different method to communicate with Rasmus by using Rasmus' codes that only him and Javi knew by using fingers to communicate. She used that method to warn Rasmus about it, and I believe Videl hasn't realized it yet and he might overlooked this," Serena answered and turned her head to look at Aris. "Videl might have lied about a lot of things, and we don't know about them yet. Rasmus wants us to be aware of Videl's movements from now on because Videl might stab us in the back," she pointed out.

Aris' expression turned cold, mirroring Serena's when she realized Videl was being passive at the front and how he had managed to fool everyone with his act.

"Rasmus told us that Satan had warned him about Videl, about the bet, about everything that could be a lie or only half of the truth. Rasmus is powerless right now, and we might be the only ones that can help him," Serena said when she saw Aris' hatred, anger, and disgust in her face. "We are going to be betrayed by Videl, and now we have just given him the army that he needed," she said and stopped walking.

Aris stood there without saying a word, her face showing an intense killing intent, regretting that she didn't killed Videl back there.

"I might go to the north, Aris," Serena spoke with a serious expression. "Or perhaps South, whichever that can help us deal with that bastard," her voice filled with hatred and anger.

"North or South? Where?" Aris' snapped back to reality and turned her head to look at Serena.

"Either I go to meet with Satan herself to reveal Videl's plan or to the South where the cult is. Both sides want Videl to fail, and I think they will become a great ally," Serena answered under her breath. "Which is the safest? I'm not sure because I hate both of them," she crossed her arms, her gaze fixated on the stained glass.

"I see, then I'll stay by Rasmus' side. If you go to the north, Sanya might be able to help you. If you go to the South, the humans can help you as well. But be careful," Aris stared into Serena's eyes, showing genuine concern.

"I will. I will request Javi to lend me some of the Blackhands. Right now, I really need to rest," Serena said as she removed the barrier. "I'll take my leave now," she said before she turned around and walked away.

Aris listened to Serena's footsteps, thinking about what she should do for Rasmus, to help with his condition.

"He has the Dragon's Breath on him, use it to help him," Aristoria whispered.

"But the risk..." Aris muttered.

"There's no risk, my other self is within that Dragon's Breath and she will protect Rasmus no matter what," Aristoria pointed out.

Aris took a deep breath as she closed her eyes before she exhaled deeply, knowing that Aristoria might be right. However, she couldn't just trust everything unless she was convinced and believed that the method was risk-free.

"I'll think about it and let Rasmus be for now," Aris responded as she nodded with understanding.

Chapter 539 - 539: A rebirth.

"This thing isn't supposed to be here, and He had never allowed such a thing to exist in every world," Lucifer stared at the dozens of Wombs of the Mother around her, the ones that Satan herself had brought back with her.

"You and your brethren were the only ones who had access to divine knowledge, something He chose not to share even among the high-ranking angels," Satan turned around to look at Lucifer. "Tell me what you think," she raised her brows, listening to the beating of the Wombs of the Mother.

"You should know better than I do. You're God's accuser, a being who knows everything and to challenge them. That's your job, so you should know more than I do in this matter," Lucifer responded and looked at Satan with her brows furrowed.

"You overestimates my knowledge," Satan smiled as she looked at Satan.

Lucifer looked at Satan with a confused look at first because Lucifer knew that Satan knew more than her. Satan could access those knowledge and secrets, yet Lucifer was surprised when Satan humbled herself. It was always eerie for a being like her and even the angels when Satan, who stood the closest to God also inherited something similar, a mystery.

"The Kingdom of God has the Tree of Life, the one thing that said to store and produce souls. Every breeze would send souls down from the tree into the world of the living," Lucifer said as she looked at the Wombs of the Mothers around her, corrupting the abandoned temple. "The tree produces not lives but something deeper, an intent. These things, the Wombs of the Mother do the same thing, but the purpose is the quite opposite of what the Tree of Life does, it corrupts," she turned to look at Satan's expression. She could see that Satan already knew the answer but chose to listen directly from a Cherubim, a guardian.

"So, you also believe that God wasn't the one who brought these things here?" Satan asked as she turned around to look at Lucifer.

"Yes, God loves all of His creations, and these things only exist in Hell where Iblis ruled over," Lucifer answered as she nodded.

"So that narrows down the culprit behind these existence in the mortal world?" Satan asked once again, approaching Lucifer.

"You're saying that Iblis was the one behind all these? He came down here not long before us. How could he be the one who brought them here?" Lucifer narrowed her eyes, finding that the connection wasn't there yet between these two things.

"Well..." Satan paused to look at the corruption energy that the Wombs of the Mother released. "Belial hinted that the answer lies on how this world was created," she muttered under her breath. "That old friend of ours might have done something that we both aren't aware of. Whatever happened between him and God, there we wouldn't know unless we dissect him," she smiled coldly. "The separation realm exist here, it's deep beneath us, and that's the only lead we have on how these things can reach the world of the living," she added.

Lucifer realized there was a contradiction in their discussion that she couldn't help but point it out.

"But doesn't that mean God might have something to do with it? He is all-knowing, and He let this happen," Lucifer asked, realizing how everything became more blurry that it already was.

"Who are we to judge Him?" Satan asked back, but this time there was a hint of warning in her voice. She was known to be loyal and independent at the same time, and whenever she showed her loyalty to

God, even Lucifer couldn't help but feel fear. "I never said anything that He had nothing to do with this, you did," she pointed out.

Lucifer immediately lowered her head, her whole body trembled and even her breathing was uneven. Ermaine was standing there, silently listening to their conversation without understanding a single word they said. She had no idea how powerful God was because she was never told about God by Satan.

"Well, we can't speak about Him with our own mouths anymore, or perhaps we shouldn't," Satan said as she snapped her fingers, opening a massive portal in the sky. "We should use this to our advantage while we can. The angels have descended and walked among us in this world. We need to defeat the Orthias while we still have the upperhand and bring your brethren into this world," she added and then snapped her fingers, opening portals on the ceiling of the temple.

They all lowered their heads, waiting for Satan to speak of the reason behind her summoning them.

"Feast, because we are going to find that True Dragon that Rasmus and his people managed to defeat," Satan said as she spread her arms, presenting the Wombs of the Mother like nutritions for the Fallen Watchers.

Each womb was being devoured by five to six Fallen Watchers, absorbing the corruption energy. The Fallen Watchers were damned beings, fell from their grace and corruption had become their new identity. They all absorbed the wombs until the wombs shrunk and completely spent and disappeared. They left one out, the one behind Satan and nobody dared to touch that one.

The Fallen Watchers required time to digest the intense and primal corruption energy within their bodies. Satan had overseen their growth, making sure that none of them were being controlled by corruption itself. Even for beings like them, some of them have lost control over their minds and bodies because of the corruption. If it wasn't for Satan, who used her power to stabilize them, they would have become like Videl.

After a whole day of recuperation, all the Fallen Watchers had regained their original power and were even stronger than ever. They slowly maintained their forms, their true forms before their fell but in a corrupted version. Their skin were like ashes, their eyes were all-black, and some of them regained their halo over their heads even though they were fractured and incomplete.

"Everyone is okay?" Satan asked as she looked each one of them in the eyes.

All of them nodded and stared at her with gazes that were filled with loyalty. Satan then glanced at Ermaine, who had been standing there quietly like a docile and harmless child.

"My child..." Satan approached Ermaine and took her small hand. "Do you want to give it a try? I'll protect you if something happened to you," she guided Ermaine toward the Womb of the Mother and then stood beside Ermaine as she turned her head to look at Ermaine.

Ermaine looked up at Satan's face and she knew that she would be fine. She had been treated precious by Satan and she knew she could believe in Satan. She slowly turned her head to look at the beating giant black blob with a pungent smell and produced tar that flowed down to the ground.

The moment Ermaine's fingers touched the blob, she could feel sharp and long needles penetrated her fingers and all the way to her shoulder in an instant. She couldn't pull away her hand because her hand had been completely devoured by the blob. It was so painful she couldn't even scream while the needles began to spread all over her body and it felt like each of the needles pulled out branches of more needles.

Satan wrapped her arm around Ermaine's head and placed her hand to cover Ermaine's whole face. She gently pulled Ermaine's head toward her chest, letting Ermaine rest and rely on her. She could feel Ermaine's trembling body and sharp inhales every time the needles created more branches of more needles.

After what it felt like eternity for Ermaine, Satan grabbed Ermaine's hand and pulled it out of the blob. She immediately held Ermaine in her arms, carrying unconscious Ermaine from the pain. She stared down at Ermaine with a frown on her face, cradling Ermaine like a baby in her arms.

"Hmm, she's immune to this..." Satan said as she saw how the corruption immediately got dissolved and absorbed by Ermaine's life force. "This is a perfect food for her," she pointed out and glanced at the womb. "I'm sorry, my child..." She muttered as she stood in front of the Womb of the Mother and offered Ermaine to it.

Everyone watched Ermaine's whole body being devoured by the blob and they could hear muffled pain from inside the blob. Satan stood there in front of the blob, observing it from up close and making sure nothing bad would happen to Ermaine.

They watched as the blob slowly shrunk in size, slowly but surely until they finally saw a human shape on the ground that was still covered in tar and blob. When the blob was fully absorbed, they could hear the sob of Ermaine, her whole body trembling and in immense pain. Suddenly, her body stopped trembling and her sobbing stopped as well. Everyone stood there, witnessing something extraordinary when she slowly stood up and her body began to release a thick dark purple light of corruption that the stone wall and floor around her began to decay.

"How are you feeling?" Satan asked as she offered her hand to Ermaine.

"I'm..." Ermaine paused as she held Satan's hand, realizing that Satan wasn't affected by corruption. "I'm fine... I feel great..." She said as she stared into Satan's eyes with her glowing dark red eyes.

"Good, very good..." Satan smiled softly before she turned around. "Now, we should move and find the corpse of the True Dragon that Rasmus and his people defeated. It's time to make a move because another force has descended into this world," she said and began to walk toward the door.

The Fallen Watchers slowly moved to the sides, giving a path for Satan to walk while Ermaine and Lucifer followed her from behind. They all then followed Satan, ready to eliminate everything that was blocking Satan's path, their master's path.

Chapter 540 - 540: Getting to know each other.

Satan was floating up high in the sky, waiting for any news from the Fallen Watchers. She could see everything dozens of miles away, due to her weakened state that she couldn't see everything behind that. Even so, she couldn't sense anything after wandering for hours, flying around the biggest continent in the world.

"Looking for it is like looking for a needle in the haystack..." Satan muttered to herself, looking down at the heavy blizzard. "Did they hide it? They must be..." She hummed as she tilted her head, her wings flapping gracefully.

Finally Shemyaza came out of the clouds and flew up high toward Satan.

"We found nothing, but we found someone was watching us," Shemyaza said, and his expression showed a bit of concern. "We don't know who that is, but it was a woman and we are sure she was an Orthias," he added.

Satan hummed as she stared at Shemyaza's expression. The fact that all of the Fallen Watchers needed Satan's order to deal with this woman, she realized that the woman could be a powerful one. She then remembered there was one Orthias that had been helping the humans and the one who had massacred her army one time in a single swoop.

"Alone?" Satan raised her brows.

"She's alone, standing still in the vast icefield near the Dragon's Maw," Shemyaza nodded his head.

"Perhaps that's the one they called Sanya," Satan crossed her arms as she folded her wings. "If we can take her, we will gain another powerful vessel. But, if she's that confident to be on her own guarding the Dragon's Maw, we can't take her lightly," she muttered.

"What should we do? We tried to look for the body of the True Dragon for hours, but we couldn't find it. The area of the Dragon's Maw is protected by an unknown energy that the blizzard could easily freeze us to death," Shemyaza turned to look at the direction and pointed his finger at it.

"Let's pay her a visit. Bring everyone but we still..." Satan spread her wings and flew without making a noise.

Satan landed on the frozen sea, bare feet and unaffected by the cold. Lucifer and Ermaine landed behind her along with all the Fallen Watchers under her command. They all stared at the woman with long white hair and blue eyes, wearing a black robe and playing with light blue energy in between her fingers. The woman looked young and her non-challant attitude made the Fallen Watchers feel uneasy.

Sanya blinked slowly before her gaze focused on Illidan, the woman that had become Lucifer, both in mind and body. She didn't show any resentment or even any reaction, not even when she was facing the greatest force that terrified and threatened the whole Neva. She shifted her position, hugging herself with one arm while the other was hanging and hovering under her chin.

"Finally we meet each other, Sanya," Satan said, her voice quiet and yet it echoed throughout the icefield.

"And you must be Satan, a being from the higher realm," Sanya responded without hesitation. "You're here to see the Dragon's Maw? Go ahead," she smiled softly as she slowly walked to the side, giving them a path to walk into the thick mist.

Satan had heard enough about Sanya from Illidan's memories, but none of them were useful or helpful. That woman in front of her was so full of mysteries that the whole Orthias race was afraid of, not respected, but feared. There was no hierarchy in the Orthias race, only a sub-race called Aristoria, the one-of-a-kind breed that only existed once at a time. However, Satan knew that Sanya was the only closest Orthias to Aristoria and also the oldest.

"You're letting us go so easily? And what makes you think we came here for what lies behind the mist?" Satan asked as she moved forward, and then the others followed suit, keeping the same pace as hers.

"All of you came for me?" Sanya's eyes narrowed slightly as the energy she was playing with suddenly disappeared into thin air.

That slight change alone was enough to make all the Fallen Watchers put on guard, even Lucifer and Ermaine were ready to fight. Satan was smiling, finding another intriguing existence in this new world called Neva. So many mysteries, so little that Satan knew, and that only drove her desire to unfold everything by all means.

"Doesn't it seem like it?" Satan smiled coldly.

Satan unfolded her wings and released black feathers toward Sanya that broke the sound barrier easily. Sanya raised her brows and used the wind to change the feathers trajectory, changing the directions of the feathers that barely missed her body. She didn't even flinch and did that effortlessly.

Satan glanced over her shoulder and all of them knew what she was implying. All of them stayed put while she continued to close the distance between her and Sanya. When she was far enough, she spread her wings widely and suddenly the feathers that she had released flew past the mist. However, once again, Sanya changed their directions, preventing them from hitting her.

"Creating so many beings like them in this world?" Satan glanced upward as every feather on her wings snapped off of her wings.

Satan grabbed two of her feathers, holding one in each hand before the feathers turned into black-clad daggers. Thousands of feathers then flew toward Sanya and Satan had disappeared from Sanya's vision.

For the first time, Sanya moved her body and created a shockwave that sent all the feathers away from her. However, there was one feather that was falling right in front of her face. To her surprise, the feather turned into Satan, appearing right in front of her and stabbed the daggers right in Sanya's abdomen.

"Oh... interesting..." Satan narrowed her eyes when she realized that her daggers didn't even pierce through Sanya's skin. Suddenly, she was ablaze by a blue flame.

Sanya dashed away and pointed her right hand at Satan, clenching it tightly. Satan was crushed by the intense pressure and the sudden change of atmosphere. She thought she had killed Satan, but she knew she didn't because she didn't sense Satan's energy when she crushed that space.

The flying feathers flew toward space where Sanya had crushed Satan, clumping together until finally the feathers turned into wings and spread widely. Satan appeared at the same time, unharmed.

"Do you want to see more of me?" Satan tilted her head as she shed the feathers once again, each feather turned into her clone. "Tell me more about yourself," she smiled as her clones flew toward Sanya.

Sanya was unamused as she dashed backward, hiding herself in the mist. Satan's clones entered the mist but immediately got frozen. Each clone broke the others free from the ice, slowly but surely all of them reaching to where Sanya was. Satan and the others could only hear the sound of ice breaking and crumbling until suddenly a bright blue light flashed from behind the mist.

It went quiet for a moment before Sanya emerged from the mist, unharmed and still unamused. Satan was nowhere near her previous state during her fight with Aris, Rasmus, and Rullein, and she was nowhere near Sanya's level in her current state.

"That was fascinating power," Satan snapped her fingers as the frozen feathers flew back to her side and stuck onto her wings. She shed the ice when she flapped her wings. "Are you really not interested to fight?" She asked as she brushed her right wing with the back of her hand.

"You might win against me, but you would lose more than us..." Sanya replied as she flicked a trail of bright blue energy into the sky. It was small but it was bright and could be seen from miles away, shining like a star.

"Us..." Satan muttered as she glanced over her shoulder, knowing that the Orthias was around from the moment she arrived.

Lucifer and the others suddenly felt countless powerful energy from behind them. When they turned around hundreds of Orthias, all of them wearing black armor and standing tall with their weapons in their hands. Among them, three were at least a dozen times stronger compared to the rest, three of the Orthias Elders.

"You know Illidan and what she's capable, but Illidan isn't one-of-a-kind, she's one of the many, and there are more stronger than her," Sanya pointed out.

"We know, and we are here not to fight," Satan said as she folded her wings and opened a portal behind the Fallen Watchers. "We just want to know more about you, and another thing..." She added as she watched the Fallen Watchers enter the portal safely, leaving her behind on her own.

"And what that might be?" Sanya asked as her eyes began to glow bright blue.

"The force that killed the True Dragons..." Satan smiled as she took a few steps back toward the portal. "They have come into this world, again..." She raised her brows as half of her body had entered the portal, her gaze never leaving Sanya's. "Far south, be aware, and until we meet again... farewell," She smirked before she completely disappeared into the portal and then the portal closed.

Sanya turned her head toward South, her expression cold as her eyes glowed brighter than her pupils suddenly shrunk like dragon's eyes for a brief moment.