

## **GREED 301**

Chapter 301 Cain Vs Aeternus.

Bael returned to the ground. The geniuses have now become aware that one of them is choosing to achieve greatness. All of them returned to the ground to evolve except two of them. One of them is Cain who was sent here by the demon lord and another one is a genius subordinate of the noble demoness of lust, that voluptuous demoness.

"I am sorry to refuse your hospitality of greatness. I have to return to my mistress." He said earnestly.

The demoness of lust has a firm grip on her subordinates. Unlike other demons, she uses something other than violence to convince demons to become her subordinates. She doesn't have the highest amount of quality high-rank demons for no reason. Her bond is so tight that this demon wasn't tempted by Aeternus's offer of strength. He would rather return to his mistress and continue living his perfect life.

'She might even reward me for saying no. The only one I can't say no to will always be my mistress.' he thought earnestly.

He was willing to brave the chance that Aeternus is bluffing about letting them go unharmed. He would rather die than be away from his mistress.

Aeternus stretched out his hand and the chaos spark flew into it. He said to the demon. "You're free to go."

The love-sick demon bowed before flying away. The geniuses had been watching the situation and saw that Aeternus did as he said he would and let the demon go. It didn't change their minds though. They reached the ground and started their evolution.

"What about you?" He asked Cain.

Cain considered for a while before shaking his head and returning to the ground to evolve. He had changed his mind. He too is highly loyal to the demon lord and would have tried to leave for her. But he doesn't want his sacrifice to be in vain and he doesn't want this opportunity to be lost.

The sight of that demon leaving made him come up with two possible scenarios. Either Aeternus meant it and he is letting them go, or he has a way to kill that demon remotely. If it is the first option then Aeternus is a better alternative to serving the demon lord. If it is the second option, then Aeternus is more insidious than the demon lord.

The demon lord would never allow a demon to go after refusing to swear fealty. The numerous prisoners that she eats are proof of it but the demon lord can't do something to a demon outside of her reach. She couldn't do anything to Aeternus even though she hated him. In other words, Aeternus is a better alternative to serve than the demon lord.

Aeternus watched Cain return to the ground and shook his head. He doesn't know what the demon was thinking but he is letting that demon go. It is not because he is benevolent, it is because his parasites worked exactly as he told them they would. So he can't leave the demon remotely with them.

The alternative is to kill the demon right here in front of his potential subordinates. They might doubt him and refuse to swear fealty. Will he kill all of them then? He could still have the leaving demon killed but why bother? It is that demon's loss anyway. He doesn't want a demon that will give up an opportunity for greatness in his household. The Lord of Chaos house is not the demon lord, he is not a beggar but a chooser.

He saw Cain's stat and his ability so he knew who sent him and for what reason.

NAME: Cain

RACE: Demon of Unforgiveness

BLOODLINE/SIN: Unforgiveness.

DEMON RANK: High-Rank Demon.

HEALTH: 87%

STAMINA: 83%

MANA: 7311

SIN ENERGY: 4383

ATTACK RATING: Physique:180. Spirit:180. MAGIC:180.

DEFENSE RATING: Physique:180. Spirit:180. MAGIC:180.

SIN RANK: High-82%

STRENGTH: High-36

CONSTITUTION: High-36

ACTIVITY: High-36

AGILITY: High-36

MAGICAL POWER: High-36

PHYSICAL RESISTANCE: High-36

MAGICAL RESISTANCE: High-36

SPIRITUAL RESISTANCE: High-36

SPIRIT: High-36

PERCEPTION: High-36

OTHERS

MANA AFFINITY: 46%

CHAOS AFFINITY: 1%

SIN ABILITY: The Power of Unforgiveness(DIVINE): Damage done to you is reflected back at its source at higher power and passes through every defense unhindered to deal true damage.

Mind Predator (LEGENDARY): All damage done to you is reflected as soul damage to its source and at a higher power.

Mark of Unforgiveness (LEGENDARY): Each reflection of damage creates a mark on the source of the damage which debuffs every ability of the source. The mark can be stacked to increase their power to the limit of 75% debuff which lasts 1 day. The power of the marks is directly proportional to the amount of damage to you. Your death will lead to the triggering of all marks of unforgiveness which will debuff your killer by 90% and will last 100 years.

POWER FROM OATH OF THE LORD:

The Hoarding of Gluttony(LEGENDARY)- Store 8% of the power of a slain opponent to be used in the future. You can only store 16 times your maximum power.

STATUS: Hopefull

Cain is a rare type of demon. He is a demon of unforgiveness. He has a divine rank basic sin ability which means that if he had fused sin energy and mana together as a mid-rank demon then he would have the opportunity to choose Accumulation or two other abilities. It is obvious that he chose the second option. High-rank demons usually have two sin abilities apart from the one they get from the lords of their noble house but he has an extra 1.

It might seem like a bad idea not to go for Accumulation but it might not be so in the case of Cain. It could be that the method of Accumulation for his sin wasn't appropriate for him. Such as needing to constantly get hurt to Accumulate empowerment. If whoever is hurting him also gets hurt and probably in increasing amounts too, he won't be able to Accumulate empowerment because the process will kill the source of his pain.

His choice isn't bad. It is even great since they enhance each other. If someone attacks him and succeeds in doing damage to him, then the amount of damage he receives is reflected in the soul of his attacker. The reflected damage will bypass all defense and will be higher than the damage he was dealt with. Damage to the body can be healed easily. Damage to the soul on the other hand is a very serious matter.

What's worse is that each damage reflection will reduce the capabilities of his opponent until his opponent is helpless against him. His lack of Accumulation is supplemented by the ability from his Oath of the Lord from the demon lord.

The hoarding of Gluttony allows him to take some power from his slain enemies. This power can be used to recover his stamina or heal his health up to 16 times. This makes him 16 times more durable than anyone he fights. So he can afford to trade damage and will even win if all he does is stand doing nothing while he is attacked.

All of the sin abilities working together explain why he finished with those that have Accumulation and also why he was sent to deal with Aeternus. He isn't a threat to Aeternus alive, the problem will be after his death through the mark of unforgiveness.

Of course, he might cause a nuisance to Aeternus while alive but the creation of a mark of Unforgiveness due to his death will lead to serious consequences. A 90% debuff is not something that can be walked off. It can even lead to his death considering his precarious situation with Chaos energy.

"I wonder what will happen if we fight." He asked himself.

He began to think about the outcome of their fight to entertain himself while the fighting and evolution went on. A fight with Cain can lead to two possible outcomes, a successful reduction in Aeternus's situation or a waste of sacrifice. The uncertainty is because it is unknown if Cain's abilities will work on Aeternus in the first place.

Sin abilities that don't deal direct damage to him don't work on him. That mark of unforgiveness will be consumed by the Chaos energy around him and won't stick to him. Chaos burns everything.

The most important question is if Cain's damage reflection which is supposed to be able to pass through every defense can overcome Aeternus's damage reflection ability. Or will they be reflecting it between themselves until one of them tires out?

If it comes to that, then he believes that he will win in a competition of endurance. He could also avoid the competition entirely by killing Cain in one strike. If Cain dies, there will be no damage reflection and no creation of a mark of unforgiveness. But his death will trigger the debuff of the mark of unforgiveness that has been produced.

Killing Cain in one strike will render his ability useless and make Cain's death useless. If the demon lord knew that he can read others' statuses, then she wouldn't have sent someone with a glaring weakness to him.

Chapter 302 Zargoth Plane.

"It's good for Cain that he came here. He gets to swap out a Legendary Oath from the demon lord with a Divine Oath from me. It is his luck. I can't wait to bring that luck to her other subordinates. They deserve a better option." Aeternus said to himself.

Seeing Cain's talent made him realize how rich the demon lord is in talented subordinates. Her Oath of the lord might be a lesser rank than his but she has had thousands of years to accumulate the best talents in the plane. Forcing various geniuses in the domain of high-rank demons to be his subordinates won't make up the difference. But forcing her subordinates to become his might just do the trick.

The best way to become rich is not to save but to steal someone else's savings. In the demon realm, stealing is not a sin. It is just resource reallocation based on merit by might. The strongest gets to have the best stuff. The demon lord used this principle to force and coerce demons into her service, so she should be open to having the same done to her.

"If I do that, it will cause a war. Maybe I should do that during or after a war. Everything should be alright if I do it then. I'm so looking forward to the war." He grinned in anticipation.

He knows that a war is coming and he is expecting it. Much more than expecting it, he is anticipating it. War will give him the opportunity to get close enough to her subordinates and offer them a deal that they can't refuse.

Meanwhile the fights continued as another group finished with their quota. Their chaos spark formed and coalesced outside of their body. Most chose to evolve while some chose to leave.

The ones that chose to leave are mostly ordinary high-rank demons who have no confidence to survive the next round of elimination. They struggled to survive and don't want to risk their lives fighting anymore, especially since they will be fighting the geniuses next. He doesn't mind them leaving, he only needs excellent demons.

He shouted to the ones still fighting, "If you're still fighting by the time the first demon nobles finish evolving, then I cannot guarantee your life."

The fighting began to dwindle as more evolved and more left. The first batch of demon nobles finished evolving in 3 hours. The fortress had calmed down by that time.

"We'll have to move after this is done. I'm sure there won't be any foundation left" He said as he examined the fortress.

So many high-rank demons fighting within it had caused it to be flattened. The aftermath of fights between demon nobles will probably uproot the foundation too.

The new demon nobles went forward to greet their new lord. He accepted them and told them to wait for the others. They surrounded him in the sky while waiting. He spoke to them when they had all finished evolving.

"I will give you time to get used to your power and abilities. The next couple of days will be spent undergoing a tournament. Xander, you will join too."

"Yes, my lord." Xander's voice reached him from the shadow plane.

He isn't going to keep Xander out of the tournament. He wants the best and only the best. That's why he orchestrated this entire thing. If Xander is not among the best, then she will be discarded.

He began to explain the rules of the tournament to them. He doesn't want to waste good talent due to unfair situations like being ganged up on. He will let them choose their opponents based on their ranking. The earlier their evolution, the higher their rank. Xander is number zero, Infernox is number 1 and Bael is number 8th.

The arrangement is as fair as he could make it to give all of them equal chances. The difference in prowess due to Accumulation has reduced drastically due to their evolution but it is still present. That is why he is eliminating the use of Accumulation in the tournament. They are his subordinates now and have to listen to him even if they are about to die.

Genius or not, every demon noble has Accumulation but in varying amounts. Eliminating Accumulation evens the playing field and makes victory reliant on Skill alone. They also get to rest after each battle until they have fought and acquired 9 chaos sparks needed for their next evolution. There are about a thousand of them, so it will take some time to finish the competition.

The competition went on while both the domain of high-rank and noble demons were rocked by the impact of Aeternus's actions. A lot of high-rank demons died and a lot of subordinates were stolen from demon nobles. His actions also created more chaosling whose existence perpetuated chaos. His accumulation continued to increase steadily as the flame on his head grew bigger and bigger.

The competition ended on the 40th day and it left exactly 99 demon dukes with him. These 99 are the best he could get after careful sampling and selection. Xander survived too and maintained her place as number zero. Her ability to hide and ambush her opponent from the shadow realm is unique for a reason. It may not give her boosts to her stats but it is difficult to resolve. She was also able to pick vulnerable opponents because she had watched the earlier fights and knew her opponents.

Xander has grown bigger and stronger now after becoming a demon duke. Her 100m length has increased to 1km and her 5m diameter thickness also increased to 30m. She has two pairs of wings now and 6 horns. She also gained another ability. She was the one that carried him to another fortress where the Khaos family became silent.

Many demons had expected a lot of things from them, especially with the grandiose act that Aeternus pulled off so they were surprised that they chose to lie low. The demon nobles and the demon lord knew why he was staying away from the domain of demon nobles but there was nothing they can do about it. They could only watch as he amassed mid-rank demons to grow his army.



The demon lord felt that he should be pressured and that something ought to be done to make him come within her reach because she could feel that something bad will happen the longer this wait is prolonged.

Allowing Aeternus and his forces to Accumulate their power is obviously a bad thing. But Aeternus's silence isn't because he is trying to Accumulate as much empowerment as he can. Now that he has his generals, he is amassing an army and waiting for the signal to move.

The Zargoth Plane.

This plane looks normal if you gaze at it from above. Most of it is covered with the dry sands of a desert and the little part that has plants are small rare secluded plains. Overall it looks like a dry, hot, inhabitable land that has been battered with the heat of the sun.

The color Green is a good indication of life. It may be nearly absent on this plane, but Zargoth isn't deserted. It is inhabited by a useful race or mother high heaven would have scrapped the plane for parts to make another plane.

The desert is filled with grand cities built by the dominant inhabitants of this plane. You can see the inhabitants who are humanoids with various skin colors moving around the cities shirtless and unbothered by the desiccating heat or the dry, sandy air.

The immunity of these people to the heat and adverse conditions isn't what is odd here. Life always adapts to its environment and when there's mana, life adapts very well. The various colors of the skin of the inhabitants aren't odd either. Differentiation and Variation are good signs of the adaptation of the gene pool of a race. The pyramids at various parts of the city aren't what's odd either.

You'll only be able to notice what's odd if you drop a battle sage monkey into the city. The battle sage monkey will look like a miniature toy amongst real buildings. It is a matter of relativity. The battle sage monkey isn't miniature, the buildings and the inhabitants of this plane are gigantic. That's why Zargoth is also called the home of giants of order.

There are different types of giants in the realm of high heaven. But the giants of Zargoth are called the giants of order because of their immunity to magic. It is this ability of theirs that made their home plane

arid. So how can the heat of a desert affect them when they're the ones that caused the desert to appear?

This is the world that Legion-4 is born into. It's a beautiful world too if you ignore the sight of sand as far as the eye can see.

Chapter 303 The Law Of Order.

Legion-4 was selected to reincarnate as a giant of order because of their unique power. Gehaldirah had done some research on them and confirmed the common knowledge that their power is due to their divine ability being related to the law of order.

The law of order is a very unique law that is almost impossible to learn. It is very rare to come across like the law of chaos, because anything that comes close to order gets overwritten. That's why spells that come close to a giant of order get unraveled into their basic form of mana.

The law of order is very important for an Origin god to become a world god but it can't be comprehended. Instead, it is created. Since Origin gods can't learn it, they create a substitute for it using the other laws that they have learned. It may be artificial but it is under their control.

Legion-4's mission is to learn the true law of order. It is a difficult job and he started facing the difficulty of it right from the moment he was reincarnated just like legion-3. The law of Chaos wanted to corrode legion-3 and return him to the primordial form of pure entropy. The law of Order wants to mold legion-4's soul and make it rigid, immutable, and forever immune to change.

Now, legion-4 will like to be impervious to external influence but it means he can never change. Change is very important for adaptation. If he can't change, then he won't be able to grow in any way. It is not as if the immunity is absolute either. Powerful spells can overwhelm the effect of the domain of immunity around giants of order, maintain their form and hurt the giants.

Rigidity only means you will rather break than bend. If their immunity was so strong giants of Order will be among the top races of the realm and dragons won't be able to kill them. They won't be forced to stay in a plane that isn't fertile. They caused infertility to their plane but they can't change location because they don't have a choice.

If you think they are being forced to stay in their plane because of their ability to destabilize the environment, then you would be right. Their entire race has been barred from entering the Ancient

battlefield because of their ability. If you think it took a lot of strength to force their race to stay in the plane then you would be wrong. How threatening can a race that can never produce a lord of law be?

The law Order has made the race of giants big for nothing and it is trying to do the same to Legion-4 in the womb. But he will have none of it. Unlike the law of chaos that starts its modeling from the soul and extends to the body, the law of order starts from the body and extends to the soul.

Legion-4 could see the law fragments of Order modifying his entire body. It is a marvelous sight and he would be able to appreciate it if they are not trying to make him obsolete.

He looked at it and said, "Interesting."

It is undeniably interesting. The divine abilities of other races occur in specific body parts and organs. The giants of order have their divine ability based on their entire bodies.

It is interesting but that's the limit of his appreciation. He knew how to combat such over-controlling laws with no boundaries. He just has to contaminate the law of order just like legion-3 contaminated chaos with laws.

"I have to hurry." He exclaimed as he got to work.

He began cycling through different laws as fast as he can. He doesn't have as much time as legion-3 to fix his problem. The law of order isn't combative like the law of chaos. In a way, being immune to external influence is a good thing. The body likes control and homeostasis, so the law of order isn't being resisted by his body.

The second problem is that the law of order is modifying his body first, not his soul. He would be able to resist better if it were the soul. To call the body of a fetus weak is an overestimation. It is worse when that body is siding with the enemy like some traitor.

His body couldn't resist on its own so it became the battlefield between legion-4 and the law of order. Their fight had far larger implications than he expected. Another thing that happens to be connected to his body is his pregnant mother. If the battlefield were happening in the soul, his poor mother wouldn't be implicated.

We've already seen how Soverick, who was yet to be born affected his mother with his bloodline as a fetus. And his own divine ability was just his two small eyes while Legion-4 has to deal with his entire body acting up. Legion-4's mother couldn't take so much justling within her. She will definitely prefer if he kicked her all day long because this is life-threatening to her.

That's why she is being rushed to a church. She has been in pain for quite a while and it looked like she might miscarry. She was placed on a carriage that was headed for one of the pyramids in the city. This bronze-skinned giantess held her husband's hand for assurance. Her husband, legion-4's father, a silver-skinned and tattooed giant standing beside her on the carriage said to her.

"It's going to be okay, Hillo. You're going to be alright. I'll do my best to get the attention of the sun god. He will heal you."

She nodded and blinked the tears away. She is pregnant with their first child and doesn't want to lose it. Their race has low fertility which has become even lower in recent times. So every pregnancy is very important to her and their race.

'I hope the priests will be able to fix my problem.' she thought to herself.

It is very rare for giants of order to be sick or have complications but whenever they do, it is very difficult to heal them with external aid. Plants are rare in the Zargoth plane, so the option for vitality pills is absent. Giants of Order can't use magic and magic won't work on them, the only way to heal them is through the power of the gods. That's why they are heading to the pyramid where the sun god, their patron god descends to.

It took a while but they finally reached the church. Karak brought his struggling wife before a priest. He has a good standing in the city as an officer in the army so he is privileged enough to get quick service. He has a pretty high standing in society because only churches can have an army and he is part of the army of the sun god. That's why the blue-skinned priest with tattoos all over his skin that attended to them rushed over and examined her stomach quickly.

He looked at the couple and shook his head. "I'm sorry. Your child is misaligned. He will not make it."

The priest had sensed chaos and turmoil in her womb. It is this turmoil that is affecting the mother. Nothing can be done about the turmoil as far as he can see.

"What do we do now, father Pike?" Karak asked.

The priest felt sorry for the couple but he had to say the bad reality. "The pregnancy has to be destroyed to save your wife. It is the source of her problem. It is like a cancerous tumor within her. If it is not removed, she will die."

Hillo trembled and tried not to cry but tears were already streaking down her cheeks. Karak remained strong. One of them needs to be the backbone that supports the two of them.

He asked hopefully. "Is there nothing that can be done?"

The priest sighed and replied. "There's nothing impossible for god to do. If he gives you his attention then your wife will be healed."

Karak summoned all his willpower and spoke. "Then I wish to seek the attention of God."

The priest was not surprised. But the situation made him feel sorrier for them. "Are you certain? You know that God is very busy."

He was trying to tell the desperate father not to waste his time, effort, and wealth on seeking the attention of God. How many people have ever succeeded in such an endeavor? Gods hardly care about the affairs of mortals. This couple will be better off accepting their fate.

Hillo spoke, "Karak, maybe we should give up. We can try again."

The priest nodded in agreement. Just give up. A meeting with a priest is already expensive. Trying to seek the attention of their patron god will cost them all of their wealth and savings. It is not a wise thing to do since the odds of failure are almost 10 out of 10. The fact that you really want something doesn't mean you get it no matter how much you want it, need it, or deserve it.

Chapter 304 Imagine The Possibilities.

You get what you get, not what you need or what you deserve. That's the way of the world. That changes when you have the strength to acquire what you want. Then you get what your power enables you to get. You can steal and kill for what you want while the weak that you robbed and killed will have to deal with what they get. The weak don't have a choice in the matter unless they have faith.

It is the helplessness of the weak that makes them seek out faith. They ask for help since they can't help themselves.

"Let's do it." Karak didn't give up.

He felt he has no other choice if he wants to preserve his child and wife at the same time. The chances of getting help from his god might be small but it is his only option. It is all he has.

The priest finally relented, "Alright."

'It is their bad luck to have such a problem.' the priest thought to himself.

He has tried to convince them otherwise but if they're intent on wasting their wealth on chasing phantom opportunities then they can go ahead. It is all good too because he will get a cut out of their properties as the priest that led them to seek the attention of the sun god.

Hillo was taken by two junior priests to a prayer room with the statue of the sun god while Karak went to settle his bills. The church must be paid regardless of the outcome of the endeavor. The loss of their wealth motivated Hillo to struggle to kneel before the statue of the sun god. She had to get their money's worth out of this chance.

She began praying fervently before the statue of the sun god and called for his attention. The statue of the sun god is a round ball made of gold with tendrils or tentacles extending from it. One can feel a majestic aura coming from the statue. The aura makes it difficult to fill up the lungs so one will always feel out of breath in the presence of the statue. It is proof that the statue is not ordinary, but that doesn't mean the sun god is listening.

The service of seeking the attention of a god is a common practice in the culture of giants of order. They have been serving gods right from their tribalistic era. A patron god is a very important aspect of the life

of every giant of order since ancient times. Seeking the attention of your god should be a free and open service. It was free and open, but that changed when a priest had a brilliant idea to charge people for it.

To be fair, the priest wasn't aiming to make money off of it. He proposed that plan to limit the number of people crowding the church because they wanted to seek the attention of God. God wasn't answering anyway so all those people were just hogging space in the temple that could be used for something useless.

The idea was to discourage people from wasting the time of the priests and taking up valuable space in the church. It later morphed into the money-making scheme it is today. The sun god doesn't mind because he doesn't care. If anything, he is grateful for the reduction in noise.

Meanwhile, Legion-4 is still battling with the law of order. He has had some success but so does the law of order. The laws he used to try and contaminate order aren't working. Order is fundamentally immune to change and so it refused to be influenced by the laws he tried to use. Only the law of fire and light could temporarily influence the law of order and that's because they are too volatile and full of energy. It makes them difficult to be overwritten by order as opposed to earth, water, and air.

He is using origin essence to accumulate law fragments of those two laws and it succeeded in giving him a 30% coverage of his body but it is reducing as the 70% of the law of order increases steadily. The law of order is like the disciplined army of a dictator. The dictator's words are law and the army executes that law. The laws he is using aren't weaknesses of the army. They are just difficult stopgaps that will eventually be crushed by the army. He is slowly and surely losing the struggle.

Up above the plane of Zargoth, in the divine plane.

The grand god of the sun, Stelios was doing what most gods do with their time. Playing games, watching mortals, frolicking among mortals, eating good food, and anything apart from their job which is helping their believers. To be specific, Stelios is currently watching mortals and playing a war game.

Two tribes of giants of Order are fighting in the mortal realm and the gods are using them as chess pieces in their game. They chose sides, set up rules for fair play, and watch the mortals fight for their entertainment. He was enjoying his reality show when he sensed something odd. He searched for the source and traced it back to the statue close to Hillo.

"What is this? Origin power?" He asked in shock as he examined the fluctuations coming from her body.

It was not her prayers that drew his attention. Prayers are useless. Many people are praying every time for his help but he doesn't help, either he doesn't care or the prayers aren't reaching him. In his situation, he doesn't care. It is the effect of the Origin essence that Legion-4 is using that drew his attention.

The giants of order cannot go past transcendence because when their soul fuses with their body, it is then that the lock on their body by Order extends to their soul. It traps them and makes it impossible for them to go beyond that stage. The only alternative for them is the divine path. So they don't need Origin energy since they can't use it. But why is he sensing a potent type of origin energy from this female?

He had to know. To satiate his curiosity, he decided to listen to what the female is actually saying. He heard the gist of her problem and extended his divine sense through the statue. His divine sense swept through her body and found the problem.

"It is just as she says. Her pregnancy is the source of the problem. This is an opportunity for me." His eyes lit up with greed.

If they can't become lords of law, their only path to true immortality is to attend the trial tower of heaven in order to get Origin essence and the other things needed for them to make the switch from the path of divinity to the path of perfection. But the sun god, as powerful as he is, has a serious problem that has made it impossible for him to succeed in the trials. But here is an unborn child with the ability to sense or influence Origin energy.

"Imagine the possibilities. This child must not die." He said with resolve.

He made up his mind to do whatever it takes to save this child.

Then the sun god descended to the divine plane in all of his glory and might. The entire city felt the impact of his godly presence. The pyramid began to glow as if it is the sun and the sun is rising. The light of the sun bombarded the entire city. Darkness disappeared from even the corners of the city. The temperature of the city increased by a notch.



Everyone knew immediately knew that the sun god has arrived in the city. All the clergymen and believers rushed to the church to experience the presence of their god.

Hillo, the unfortunate mother was praying when she felt the presence of God on her. She began to pray more fervently, pouring forth her pleas and supplications lest he turns away from her, and she loses the attention of the sun god.

Thankfully he heard her prayers and descended. The statue shined brightly and a majestic presence gushed out of it. She closed her eyes so that she won't be blinded by the light or see something she isn't supposed to see.

A voice brimming with authority spoke to her. "You have gotten my attention special woman. You do not know how precious what you're carrying is to me. You are carrying my incarnation here on the earth. You are pregnant with the son of the sun god. Your body is in turmoil because it is bearing a heavy responsibility. I shall heal you and reduce your burden."

Divine energy gushed into her body and into her womb. Hillo felt relief immediately. It felt like the huge stone that she swallowed suddenly disappeared. It also startled Legion-4 who was battling with the law of order.

Chapter 305 Who Is The Father?

"Is my father a god? Am I the son of a god? Where is this divine energy coming from?"

His mother can't be a god because he would have sensed it. The divine energy is external not internal since it has to come from somewhere and it isn't from his mother. It could also have come from a completely unrelated god.

He was confused but not for long. The divine energy ignored him and began to unravel the fragments of order in his body. The ordered army of the law of order finally met its match. It was like a lever easily prying open floorboards. He got to work as soon as he saw the opportunity. The unraveling made it easy for him to tamper with the law of order and slot in the law of fire and light. Those two laws are also in perfect synchronization with the divine energy so the process went well.

Origin energy helps transcedents to manipulate laws. Divine energy helps gods to usurp laws. The law of order can resist changes from Legion-4, he is only one person. But divine energy is the energy

acquired from the belief of many. In a way, it is the manifestation of the corporation of a group of people with a common belief. To the law of order, divine energy is brute forcing it to change. Legion-4 is taking advantage of that to exert the changes he wants.

"This cannot end well." He thought to himself. "One problem at a time."

The way help came when he needed it is strange, to say the least. The most suspicious part is that the help came from a god. He understands that no help is free. Most help comes with hidden strings attached. Help from a god must have trouble attached to it just like a deal from a demon. It does not bode well for him.

But what can he do about it? Refuse the help? No, he won't do that. He just has to make sure he won't regret it and the best way to make that happen is to make his helper regret it. If Someone is going to regret this exchange of assistance, then it won't be him. That's called being progressive.

Out in the world, the sun god is feeling unprecedented happiness. His infusion of divine energy allowed him to acquire more information about his investment.

'So the child's body is resisting the chain of order and it is what is causing the discomfort in the woman. What a lucky encounter.'

Stelios felt like laughing but he can't because he has to maintain the image of a stately god. He has pinpointed the problem and it proved his conjecture right. The giants of Order are aware of the problem that plagues their race. They only find out when they become transcendents but it is too late for anything to be done then. It's not like anything can be done about the chains of order even before then.

The chains of Order are what they call the manifestation of the law of order that makes them immune to magic and also prevents them from interacting with other laws. One will need at least the power of transcendence to interact and resist the law of order, but it becomes too late when one finally acquires that power. The soul will become entrapped just like the body and become unable to resist the chains of order.

Even if someone actually gets a method to interact with the law fragments, the only way it can be changed is when someone becomes a titan of law. Law fragments make up bloodlines and divine

abilities and the only way to cast off the shackles of a divine ability is to replace it with another divine ability but that can only be done by a titan of law.

Titans of law who chose another path different from their divine ability will replace their innate divine ability. But the giants of orders can't do that if they can't even become lords of law. But here is an unborn child resisting the chain of order.

"Does the child have another divine ability or did something interfere with the chains of order?"

Stelios is trying to figure out why a child like this came to be. There are several ideas that are coming to him but he doesn't know because this case is unprecedented.

'Maybe it isn't unprecedented.' he wondered.

A lot of sick mothers and children have been ignored by the gods. It's not like the gods pay attention to everything, every time. Gods have a life outside of being the go-to help provider. So it is highly likely that situations like this happen frequently but no one has noticed.

If this mother had not come before his statue to pray which allowed him to sense the Origin energy from her, he wouldn't have stumbled upon this rare opportunity.

'The unique thing about this child is that it has something to do with Origin energy and that is enough for me. This child has to make it.' he thought to himself earnestly.

His happiness increased when he sensed the chains of Order being broken and resolved. Then it peaked when the unborn child began to resonate with his divine energy.

'This is too good to be true. So I can mark him in place of the chains of order. He really is my son now. This will make everything easier.'

He could feel a resonation of power between the unborn child and his domain. Fire and light were being imprinted unto the child in place of the chains of order. How could this child not be his son? Now, the gods will not have anything against him or suspect anything when he claims the child is his.

He completed the healing and double-checked that the fetus is doing alright like a concerned parent. Then he called for the bishop in charge of this church.

"This woman has been burdened with a divine mission. She is carrying my avatar here on earth. He is my son. She is to receive the best service possible. Then you will bring my son to the headquarters of the church as soon as he is born."

He ordered the bishop and the clergymen before he withdrew his presence.

The bishop became ecstatic for receiving such an important mission from his god. He moved to execute the order to the letter. Hillo began to receive utmost pampering. She was being waited on hand and foot. If she craved something, it was acquired immediately.

Stelios went to the headquarters to inform the pope to make preparations. The headquarters is in another city and it is the safest place that Stelios can keep his son in the mortal realm. He has to make sure that no evil befalls his son and no harm comes to him. So he will keep his son right under his nose where he can monitor him closely.

The pope received the divine order and started making preparations to receive the son of God. Soldiers from various churches made their way to the city where Hillo is to protect her and escort the son of God to the capital of the church when he is born.

News spread far and wide about the son of the sun god that is about to be born. Stelios had considered claiming that Hillo was a virgin that got pregnant without carnal entanglement. It will account for the inevitable differences between father and son, but it would be difficult to pull off.

First, there is the problem that is the husband and the people that knew about their marriage. Killing Karak won't solve the problem unless he can coerce Karak to claim she was pregnant before marriage and that he has never touched her.

Even that wouldn't work unless he kills everyone that knows about them. Giants of order have good memories and long lifespans. No one is going to forget the truth easily. Stelios would just be creating problems for himself if he claims that. It is better and much simpler to say that their unborn child a product of a sexual encounter with Hillo.

It is a lie of course. He didn't have any sexual encounters with Hillo. But it is more believable than some virgin birth. Even the power of a god cannot sell such bogus as a virgin birth. Gods create avatars every time and have sex with mortals a lot. This type of divine conception creates demigods.

The creation of demigods isn't a new occurrence, only rare. Hence it is more believable. A virgin birth will signify sacredness but why go so far when there is a more plausible alternative? Only when a demigod isn't common will someone need to come up with something so outlandish.

So he decided to go with the more believable lie that he had sex with her while pretending to be her husband. It is what he told everyone and they believe him because he is a god. A god can't lie. It is blasphemy to think or say otherwise. Even Karak and Hillo believe it. Stelios has become the father of the unborn child and that is it.

Chapter 306 Helios The Son Of The SUN GOD.

The news impacted the world in various ways. The impact on believers and clergymen is big, to say the least. A demigod is a special thing to them. The news has the least impact on Karak, the husband of Hillo. Karak doesn't blame his wife for her unfaithfulness. He takes it as a compliment that a god also finds her to be beautiful. What matters at the end of the day is that she will be safe.

It also helps that the child will be taken away as soon as it is born. Not that he has anything against the innocent child who is a result of the situation and had no hand in causing it. But he will certainly feel better not to be constantly reminded of the time his wife almost died because a god had sex with her.

As for Hillo, she spent her days blissful and happy. It is a great honor to bear the child of a god. People came far and wide to see her. She can have anything she wants. She ate nothing but elixirs. She was even being fed precious nectar, the drink of the gods. If she wasn't so weak she would have been given ambrosia too.

The nectar of the gods is more than enough. It can make gods drunk and can make a mortal forget their woes or any qualms that they have. So she was put in a state of perpetual intoxication.

She was treated like that until the day of her delivery 40 years after. It came very early instead of the normal 100 years of gestation because of all the good food that they fed her.

Stelios' attention and the attention of numerous gods were on the situation of the pregnancy. The other gods came to see the child of the sun god. Demigods are rare and can lead to great changes in the mortal realms. It will affect their games but nothing more, especially since the child is the son of the sun god. That's why no one tried to kill the mother during the pregnancy or sabotage the delivery.

Stelios is paying attention because there is more at stake here. He is more nervous than Karak the real father. Also, unlike the father, he is actually worried about the baby. Karak is only worried about his wife. Giving birth to a demigod is not a safe business for the mother. They didn't need to worry for long because Legion-4 is a punctual person by principle.

He has a lot of reasons to be early. He owes someone for the assistance of divine energy and is very eager to meet his creditor. Of course, he wishes that his creditor will choose to forgo the debt but he knows that the odds of that happening is too low.

A healthy baby boy, more than a meter tall was born. His skin is orange and he is also glowing, radiating light and heat into the environment. He looks like the perfect son of the sun god. Legion-4 was shown to his mother who hugged him tightly and wished him farewell.

Stelios descended to the church to examine the boy up close. 'This child is a splitting image of me. He even has a sun core.' he thought to himself.

Even he is starting to believe that he is the real father which isn't far from the truth. Legion-4 did some remodeling of his body with the available divine energy. It was available, so why not use it to make himself better? He is already in debt. It is better to make use of it to the best of his abilities. So in a way, Stelios contributed something to his existence.

A grand divine voice rang throughout the city, "This is my son. From today henceforth, he shall be called Helios, the son of the sun god."

Then the Cardinal that came from the headquarters took the baby and started the return journey to the headquarters immediately. Those are the sun god's orders. The contingent of soldiers fell into formation and escorted the demigod Helios to the city of the sun. Their bare feet matched on the bricked city grounds before they left the protective barrier of the city and entered the desert. They didn't waste time at all.

The populace of the city watched the procession of soldiers go, all the while cheering and celebrating. The child of a god was born that day in their city. In fact, a ceremony was started to celebrate the events. Karak and Hillo couldn't return to a normal life after that. With the wealth they received from gifts, money will be the last of their concern.

The gods were having a chat above the city with their divine sense.

"Congratulations, Stelios. Your demigod took after you." The goddess of power and might said to Stelios.

"Yes, you will have a bigger influence in the mortal realm now. I'm looking forward to the war games this century." The god of war also came to greet him.

These two gods are his best friends and allies. Coming to congratulate him is normal. His enemies also came.

The god of knowledge took one look at Helios and said, "He is just like you. It isn't such a good thing. He may have your strengths but he will also have your glaring weakness."

The goddess of Agriculture and nature, the god of the sky and tempest also joined in the mocking. They mainly focused on Stelios' weaknesses. The sun god is a very old and ancient god. His age has made him strong, but as the god of knowledge said, he has a glaring weakness. It is why his mates have gone on to become Origin gods while Stelios is stuck being a grand god.

Stelios took everything in stride. The presence of his enemies is normal. They will take any chance they have to mock him. His nemesis also came.

The goddess of the Night said to him, "This changes nothing in our eternal enmity."

Then she left. Her coming isn't odd, and neither is her behavior. She has to come and check out the latest development of her eternal foe and she isn't much of a talker too. She too is an ancient goddess with the same weakness as Stelios.

What is odd is that the Celestial God of Justice and Order came to have a look. The bickering gods became silent when they felt his presence.

"Your son is not bad." He said before leaving.

The gods resumed their boisterous conversation in his absence until things died down a few minutes later. Stelios was anxious in his divine plane. He felt like sweating and asking the celestial god what he meant when he said, "Your son is not bad."

"Did he notice anything? That is unlikely" Stelios questioned himself.

He had inspected Helios to examine him and most importantly to cover him with a layer of his divine might. The layer will prevent anything more than a surface examination of the boy. It is a way to protect the boy and hide any flaws or oddities that may make him look different from a demigod.

Stelios himself couldn't find anything out of place about Helios and he also covered the boy, that doesn't mean a celestial god couldn't find anything wrong. A celestial god might not have any path forward apart from becoming the supreme god because they are true gods, but they are very strong and should not be underestimated. This caution is doubled when the Celestial God of Justice and Order is also the only celestial god in the pantheon. That automatically makes him the supreme god.

"I had the chance to become the supreme, but my weakness stood in my way. I have another chance now and I'll not let anyone take it from me. If I am forced then I can only retaliate." Stelios said with conviction as he looked at his divine kingdom.

He knows something important about the Celestial Supreme that can be used as a weakness. He will only use it if he is forced to because using it means declaring war against a celestial while he is a grand god.

He has been saving this weakness for when he needs it the most. Helios is very important to him and anything that threatens his plan will have to be eliminated, even if that threat is the Celestial Supreme.

He gazed over his divine kingdom as he contemplated his plan and its contingencies.



The mortal city of the sun was modeled after his divine kingdom. His abode is at the center of the divine kingdom while ring structures of various diameters surround him. The rings rotate and revolve around him.

Angels and the spirits of his believers inhabit the rings and worship him. The closer the ring is to him, the better the conditions of living. His divine kingdom might be the paradise for his believers but their different levels of paradise is based on their faith and contribution to their god while they were alive. Even the afterlife for his believers isn't free. The act of saving the life of child must be very costly.

Chapter 307 The Good, Odd, And Bad.

Bank in the Mortal realm.

Helios the demigod is already used to his new life. He adapted to the good, the bad, and the odd. He met his father's Avatar. Which is good. He now knows who his creditor is. Then he was taken by Cardinal Hak who became his guardian to the city of the sun where he was raised.

He found it odd that a cardinal, one of the highest-ranking clergymen of the sun church is being made to take care of him. It might seem like they consider him to be very important but he is suspicious. He doesn't know if the importance attached to him is good or bad due to his unique circumstances.

He isn't unlike the other demigods that wholeheartedly believe that they are demigods. He knows he is not despite the fact that everyone says he is. So someone has to be lying and he suspects his creditor.

He sometimes finds himself wondering who else is on the secret apart from him and the sun god. The others that might know are his parents but his father died in battle a few years back and his mother died of grief soon after. Their deaths are enough for him to know how serious his unique circumstances are.

The bad thing about his situation that he is sure about is that he has been banned from leaving the city of the sun by the sun god. Cardinal Hak claimed it is for his protection but Helios thinks otherwise.

The city of the sun is large since it is the headquarters of the religion of the sun god, one of the oldest religions in the mortal realm. The city started small and has grown bigger over the years. It used to be a small walled city, but then another wall was built to extend the perimeter of the city. More walls were built as the years went by, while the old ones were left behind.

Cardinal Hak his guardian and religious teacher was telling him about the city of the sun.

"The city was modeled to imitate the scenery of the divine kingdom as seen through divine revelation sent to the third pope, pope Contus. The walls form the various rings that represent the various levels of dedication to our Lord."

Legion-4 was absentminded but he still had the space of mind to drop a snide comment. "More like they didn't do proper city planning but no one wants to admit that the city just sprung into existence after years of piling on. Instead, you're claiming it's divine intervention."

Cardinal Hak continued reading from his book as if he didn't hear what Helios said.

Helios grumbled. "Deaf old man."

Then he continued to read his own book. He had been living as Helios the demigod of the sun god for ten years and Cardinal Hak has been his guardian for all of them. Cardinal took care of his feeding, clothing, schedule, training, and other meetings. He is both Helios's father and mother. Helios is treated with utmost care and respect. He has more prestige in the church than the saints. So he is never scolded or rebuked. That's why Hak ignored him. The situation is good, but it is boring.

No one can find any fault with him and he is allowed to do almost anything he wants to do as long as Stelios gives permission. He wasn't even punished when he killed someone. How can the seed of a god do wrong?

Hak closed his book when he was done. "How has your training been going, Helios?" He asked the boy that sat opposite him.

Helios ignored him.

Hak continued, "It will be your 20th birthday in a few days. As I have mentioned a few times, there will be an exhibition competition in your honor. The sun god has decreed that you will compete to show your prestige and talents. You shouldn't embarrass your heavenly father."

Seeing as Helios ignored him and since he had said his piece, he left. He understands that he can only talk, he cannot force a demigod to do anything. Since he has already said the sun god decreed for Helios to do something, then Helios will do it. It is unnecessary to nag.

Then he went to have a prayer session. Hak felt happy and fulfilled. The arrival of Helios gave him a purpose and also made him closer to his god. To serve the child of his god is a dream come true for a lot of people, but apart from that, his god has been paying attention to him when he prays because of it.

He entered his prayer room and knelt before the statue of the sun god. Then he began to pray. Just like he did every day since he became in charge of Helios, he summarised the events of the day and made mention of anything odd.

Like always, Stelios is listening. And when Hak is done, he asked him a question.

"Will he be ready for the competition?"

Hak considered the question very well before answering, "I believe so."

"Good." Then Stelios left.

Hak stood up and returned to Helios's side. He doesn't need to sleep so he is able to keep a constant watch on Helios. He has a lot to do to make sure that Helios gets the best treatment, not that Helios cares.

Hak would check the clothes he will wear, his food to make sure nothing is wrong with it, and many others.

His close monitoring made him aware of all of Helios's behavior and quirks. He was able to notice the drastic change that happened to Helios about 10 years ago. Helios used to be hardworking. Always training and meditating. He never had fun. It was odd for a child to be serious and Hak was worried for the boy.

He tried to stop Helios but the boy just ignore him. That all changed after 10 years when Helios acquired his first stigmata. He stopped exercising and training. He won't even eat anymore unless it is something very precious. It was like he turned a new leaf but it was for the worse.

Now Hak is worried that Helios will mess up during his celebratory exhibition competition since he hasn't trained at all. The only thing he does is read books about rune crafting.

The question that the Sun God asked him after his prayer might seem harmless but it isn't. It is a subtle way of telling Hak to make sure that Helios is ready for the competition. He answered that he believes Helios will perform well, and now he has to make sure that Helios really performs well.

Hak returned to Helios's room. He had to get through the guards before he could be allowed in. The guards towered above 50 meters, some reaching 80 meters in height. They are excellent guards with very strong and big bodies.

The taller a giant of order is, the stronger he is. But these guards bowed to Hak and his 14-meter body. They respect him and he is also much stronger than them. They know this because of his identity and because he can modify his height. A giant that can modify his size is a sign of transcendence.

Hak passed through the checkpoints of guards and security before he is allowed entry into Helios' room. The room has the best that the mortal realm can offer but Hak knows that Helios doesn't care for any of it. It is a behavior of Helio that Hak found reassuring.

'The boy might be lazy, but he doesn't care about luxury either. He just considers everything frivolous. He won't turn out like those pompous demigods.' He thought to himself in pride.

He believes that Helios' behavior is a reflection of how well he thought the boy so he should get some credit for the good things that Helios does. The source of Helios' bad behaviors on the other hand is beyond his understanding. For example, how to get Helios to do anything, even if it is beneficial to him.

He said to Helios, "Helios, how about we go for some archery training?"

There is a respectful title for demigods but Helios doesn't like it. He insists that he should be called his name and only that. Hak couldn't change his mind or figure out what was wrong with "Divine son." Helios simply said he didn't like it.

The boy ignored him just like he expected. So he brought out the one thing that can change the boy's mind.

"You will get this if you do some archery." He said as he displayed the transparent crystal gem that seems to have a small star trapped within it.

He has assured the sun god that Helios will do well. That's what he ought to do as the guardian of the demigod. It is his job to also make sure that Helios gets some training and actually performs well. If bribing Helios will get him to train, then he will do it.

Chapter 308 Broken Limits.

Helios narrowed his eyes as he looked at the divine crystal and considered the proposal. "Fine, but I have to finish this book first."

Hak nodded and found a seat. He didn't bother to push the boy. He knows enough to know that that is the best he can get out of the boy. If he wants more then he has to offer more. You have to pay more for faster delivery.

He allowed himself to chuckle, 'He may not be hedonistic or decadent but he is too proud. It has come to the stage where we need the currency of the gods to batter with him and he is just 20 years old.'

Helios continued reading his book. He used to train but stopped that when Soverick acquired the Understanding of the entire pantheon of the gods. He was born ten years before Soverick and it has been 10 years since Soverick completed the divine dungeon. The growth rate of giants of order is very slow. 20 years is a very young age for them so his progress in refinement has been slow.

Soverick had been able to complete a lot in 2 years while he is just starting out. The babies of giants of Order are born as half-mana entities. Their bodies are mana bodies and they have a mana core at birth just like dragons. And just like dragons, they don't need to train for them to grow stronger. They will absorb mana from their environment passively as they grow. The older they get, the faster the rate of absorption is.

It is a good mechanism because it means they don't need to work hard to grow. The bad thing is that because they missed the vitality core stage and the body forging stage, they absorb vitality from their environment too. When this absorption of vitality combines with the natural anti-magic domain that they possess, it causes the siphoning of vitality in a wide radius around them instead of just what they eat. They absorb vitality and mana from the air, the earth, water, plants, and animals in their surroundings. The process escalates until a barren environment is created.

The law of order can be pretty bossy. It is the reason why they are born as mana entities, why they absorb from the environment, why it is extra difficult to become transcendents and why it is impossible for them to become lords of law. The absorption and the anti-magic domain can only be controlled when they become transcendents. But that is difficult, so they remain mana entities for a long time, all the while absorbing the vitality of the world like some parasites.

The environment suffers and the process doesn't stop. This results in the giant bodies of giants of Order as more vitality is stored in their bodies. It would have been good if they breakthrough to transcendence pretty quickly but that doesn't happen.

The bigger the body, the stronger the fragments of order in the body get, and since order resists change, the more difficult it is to become transcendent. Two factors affect the strength of a transcendent. They are the body and the soul.

The body of giants of order is very strong but their soul is originally lacking. They can't train their soul quickly with magic because they can't use it, so the stronger and bigger the body gets, the smaller the chance of breaking through becomes for them. This puts their race in a loop.

They are unable to become transcendents quickly all the while growing stronger by absorbing the vitality of the world. This phenomenon is why the other races didn't want them around. They are bad for the environment. So they were locked up into a single plane.

This restriction is why most of them don't know about the outside world or the realm of high heaven. They believe that their plane is all there is apart from the divine realm. They can't use technology because of their anti-magic domain or they would be able to communicate with the outside world. The law of order has made this race big for nothing, it has also made them backward and reliant on the path of divinity.

The law of order is the source of their strength and their weakness. Their strong body and weak soul all revolve around Order. Helios has broken that curse on his body and has become a bundle of anomalies.

It's just that the way he did it brought some attachments. The first anomaly is his sun core. He used divine energy, light, and fire elemental mana to create a focal point for his mana core.

It is an anomaly because giants of order don't create a focal point themselves. The law of order does it for them. That's why they can't control their anti-magic domain until they become transcendents. He can control his domain but it came with some strange effects.

His sun core affects him in a weird way. It resonates with the sun and gets stronger the higher the sun is in the sky. It also makes Helios stronger until Helios becomes his most powerful at noon. Then it goes downhill from there until he becomes incredibly weak at night.

These changes also affect his body. His body is at normal height in the morning. Then he grows bigger and taller until he reaches his biggest at noon. Then he starts to reduce until he becomes stunted at night.

He found the phenomenon appalling and tried everything to fix it. It is one of the reasons why he trained fervently when he was younger. But training didn't work at all because he is a giant of order. His body won't change because it is a mana body and because of the fragments of order within it. Only mana and life energy can affect it.

He is strong in the day, then he gets crippled at night. It is a huge disadvantage. He didn't give up training even though it was not working. He chose to focus on learning fighting skills but he stopped when Soverick became a child of the plane.

The understanding fixed his need for learning skills and the supply of infinite mana alleviated his problem. His strength still wanes but he can prevent himself from being crippled at night by relying on mana instead.

The second disadvantage and the most glaring one is the issue he has with his benefactor the sun god. Being a demigod comes with weakness at night and an attachment to the sun god. He has made plans but he still doesn't know what the aim of his divine father is.

If not for the fact that he wants to wait for his body to grow stronger and the plans of Legion, he would have broken through to transcendence already. Becoming a transcendent will give him some strength to

resist whatever schemes have been laid down for him. Because no matter the situation, strength is useful. Having more power is hardly a detriment.

NAME: Helios (Legion-4)

TITLE: Child Of The Virut Plane.

RACE: Giant Of Order.

BLOODLINE: Sunfire Royal bloodline.

POWER LEVEL (BODY): Mana Body (Complete)

POWER LEVEL (SOUL): Soul Reformation (Complete)

PHYSIQUE: Half-Divine Body

HP: 100%

STAMINA: 100%

ENERGY LEVEL (BODY ): Mana

ENERGY LEVEL (SOUL): Spiritual Energy

VITALITY: 1291

ENDURANCE: 1024



STRENGTH: 992

AGILITY: 576

PERCEPTION: 1,000,000,000

SPIRIT: 1011

LIMITER (BODY): 80%

LIMITER (SOUL): 0.000001%

DIVINE SENSE (GRADE): 101(B)

OTHERS

MANA AFFINITY: 100%

LAW AFFINITY: 50%

ELEMENTAL AFFINITY (GRADE): FIRE (DIVINE), LIGHT (DIVINE), ORDER (DIVINE).

STATUS: Healthy

He is a giant of order so the stats of his body and soul are already breaking through the limit of what's possible for mana entities. He was able to complete the conversion of his body quickly thanks to the infinite supply of mana but his body didn't stop growing.

His vitality and endurance broke the 1000 stat limit and his strength is also about to. This led to him having more wiggle room for his powerful soul.

He has a much stronger soul than normal giants so he can break through easily but he wants the advantage of a strong body and an equally powerful soul. Besides, he is not in a rush to break through just yet.

The other reason he hasn't broken through is that the sun god had told him that he has something planned for Helios when he is about to break through to transcendence. The sun god has already started preparing the so-called gift by marking his body with divine energy to create a Stigmata.

The Stigmata has modified his body and the law fragments on it to form an invisible tattoo on his back but he can sense the hidden tattoo. He can disregard the effect of the Stigmata and break through to transcendence but he will be severely weakened if he cuts out so many law fragments from his body. So he decided to brush up on the knowledge of Rune making so that he will understand what the Stigmata is for and what the sun god is planning for him.

Chapter 309 Runeless Helios.

The book he is currently reading is about Rune making. He doesn't know his real father but he knows it isn't the sun god and yet the grand god claims to be his father. It is not like Helios will trust his real father either but that lie is enough for him to know that there's something fishy going on here.

Why would a god claim him as his child? Could the god be mistaken and ignorant of it or did the god make the mistake on purpose? Whichever one it is, is likely to lead to a bad ending if he doesn't prepare for it.

"Alright, let's go."

Hak stood up and led the way to the training grounds.

"Your brother Divine Lord Staniel will train you today." He said to Helios.

Helios nodded. He is currently staying in the demigod section of the palace which is used to raise the children of the sun god. The sun god has had a lot of them over time. Some of them died in battle or old age and some of them ascended either on their own or as subsidiary gods of the Sun god. So even though he is currently the only demigod of the sun god alive in the mortal realms, his older siblings drop by once in a while to chat or teach him.

They passed through guards and servants. All these giants bowed to the 14-meter-tall Helios and Hak. Hak likes to match his height with that of Helios to be able to protect him better. Helios was 13 meters tall two hours ago but he has grown taller by a meter since then. Helios will continue to increase in height till noon when he reaches 15 meters then he will start to reduce reaching 5 meters at midnight.

They reached the archery field and found someone waiting for them. It was a giant about 115 meters tall. Apart from the height that will make this giant stand out, he looks just like an average giant to the untrained eyes. He is wearing a simple toga and sandals. There are numerous tattoos etched across the yellow skin of his muscular body. But Helios could perceive that the body is not made from flesh.

"Greetings brother." The giant's voice boomed.

"Hey," Helios replied unenthusiastically

"Why are you so glum all the time? You should be getting excited as the sun rises." Staniel asked.

The cycle of the sun affects more than his strength and size. It should also affect his mood but that's impossible because of his mind. The other thing that he can't control is his skin color. He starts red at dawn and becomes orange, then yellow at noon. Then he becomes brown at night.

He replied. "I am excited but it is not about this training."

He is excited about what he will get after the training. He will receive that divine crystal and try out some experiments in Rune making. The best things in this plane are related to the divine and only they can excite him.

Staniel began to reduce his size until he reached 15 meters. He laughed and asked, "Were you bribed again?"

Helios nodded.

Staniel shook his head. "I thought as much. You used to be so enthusiastic about training. Always asking me questions and begging me to train you how to fight. What happened to you?"

Staniel asked as he began to set up the environment.

The archery field began to shrink and morph to the specifications he set. The targets were set in a straight line with an interval of 100 meters between each target.

Helios watched the change with mild interest. He had inspected it a while back, so even though it is a divine artifact, he isn't as interested in it as he used to be.

"I realized that I am a natural genius. So there's no need for me to train."

"Is this because you're a demigod and your path to awakening is set? Do not let your heritage get to your head. You can still be killed before you awaken." Staniel warned him.

Being Awakened is the giant's term for transcending.

Helios nodded. "How about a bet? I'll prove my genius and you will give me more divine crystals."

Staniel considered his proposal and agreed. "I know I shouldn't encourage your lazy attitude but your exhibition competition is around the corner. Archery isn't bad for you to showcase. So I'll take the deal but there has to be some punishment if you fail."

"Sounds reasonable."

"Good. I'll give you one divine crystal for each target that you hit. You can stop when you want to stop and I'll let you go. If you go ahead and you fail, then you owe me the same number of days in training.

"Deal." Helios agreed.

If he hits all ten of them, he will get 10 divine crystals. If he misses at the sixth target, he will only have 5 crystals and he will owe 6 days of training. It is a good deal to him. Then he stretched his hands to Staniel and asked "Can I borrow your bow?"

Staniel asked in surprise, "Didn't you use the sunbow for your first Rune?"

"I didn't."

"Why not? The sun bow is a very important weapon for demigods of the sun."

"I haven't made any runes yet."

Staniel was shocked "What? You're two stars old and your body is as strong as those with 10 stars but you're telling me you don't have any runes. What have you been doing?"

He turned to Cardinal Hak. "Why did you allow this? What is he going to showcase during his second-star celebration?"

Hak bowed and replied. "Divine son Helios said that he prefers to create his own Rune himself. He refused to allow any Rune master to mark him."

Staniel was beginning to get angry "What kind of nonsense is that?"

Helio waved his worries away. "Don't worry, I'm already training to be a runemaster."

"And how long is that going to take before you get any good? How long before you can compare to the Runemasters? Runemasters take hundreds of years to reach their level of expertise."

Helios shrugged.

His reaction isn't a good enough answer for Staniel. His yellow skin was beginning to light up and his eyes were turning blue. He began to emit an increasing amount of light and heat. The surrounding was beginning to heat up.

Hak quickly intervened. "Please calm down, Divine lord Staniel."

Staniel breathed out and blue flames rushed out of his mouth. His eyes returned to the red color while his skin stopped changing to white.

He spoke after he had calmed down.

"Let's change the bet. I'll give you 1 divine crystal for the first target that you bring down. Two for the second, three for the third, and so forth. But if you miss, I want the same number of training days and for you to get a Rune of my choice. I'll increase the difficulty too. That shouldn't be a problem for you since you're a genius."

Staniel changed the archery field's configuration again. The interval between the ten targets became 200 meters. He has doubled the difficulty.

If he hits the sixth target, he gets 6 extra divine crystals for a total of 21. But if he gets greedy and misses the sixth, he only gets 15 and he will owe Staniel 6 days of training.

Hak spoke up again, "I don't think this is a good idea, divine lord Staniel."

Staniel rounded up on Hak in a flash. He became brighter for a brief moment and he appeared before Hak like a flash of light.

"You think him going around without a Rune is a good idea? I don't want him to embarrass the lineage of the sun god."

Hak tried not to flinch beneath Staniel's cold blue eyes. "It is not a good idea for him to be runeless, but it isn't a good idea for you to select a Rune for him either. A Rune is a lifelong matter that shouldn't be forced."

Demigods of the sun have their emotions affected by the cycle of the sun to become more positive. They get excited easily because of it. They also get angry quickly and are very proud. Helios' nonchalant behavior towards the upcoming talent exhibition isn't sitting well with Staniel.

Staniel was about to blow his lid again when Helios spoke, "I think the bet is a good idea. Let's go."

"See, he thinks it is a good idea. If you can take his word for him to be runeless, then you might as well take it now." Staniel said to Hak.

"I still need the bow." Helios requested again.

Stelios grunted but activated the runes for the sunbow on his body. The tattoos on his body began to glow with the activation.

Chapter 310 Rune Weapons.

Stelios grunted but activated the runes for the sunbow on his body.

Some of the tattoos on Staniel's body lit up and flashed at different frequencies. Then they rose from his yellow skin and came together to form the image of a three-dimensional holographic bow. Divine power from within the tattoos began to manifest. It solidified the hologram until a real bow is created in Staniel's hand.

Helios needs a bow for the bet and he doesn't have a rune yet, so Staniel must lend Helios his own sunbow. It is more powerful and will be difficult to control for the young demigod but it is all good as it will hinder Helios which will hopefully teach him a lesson about the importance of getting his own runes.

He handed the exquisite bow to Helios. Helios moved his hand about to feel the bow. It felt so real in his hands. It had texture, weight, a center of gravity, and elasticity like a real bow except it is an energy construct. The bow is a manifestation of runes that giants tattoo on their bodies. The runes mimic the Creation ability of world gods.

He wielded the bow and pulled its string back. An arrow formed within it as mana was drawn from his body. Since the mana in his body is mainly elements of fire and light, the arrow that is formed is reddish Orange.

Staniel clicked his tongue in reproach. "Is that the best you can do? Your mana conductivity is poor."

Helios ignored him. He didn't bother to put a lot of mana into the bow because it is a test. He can create an arrow that is pure white majorly composed of light elements, but why bother?

He released the first arrow and it hit the target. The small metal placed 200m away from him got knocked over when the arrow hit it.

"Very good, divine son Helios" Cardinal Hak complimented.

Staniel rebuked, "Don't encourage him."

While Helios complained, "Just call me Helios."

He hit the second one at 400m and the third at 600m.

Staniel nodded, "This isn't so bad. You're not as bad as I thought. But this isn't genius."

He decided to downplay Helios' performance. The fact that Helios could pull the bow is already impressive but he isn't going to praise the rebellious demigod.

Helios hit the fourth at 800m and the fifth at 1000m.

Staniel's tune changed, "Wow, maybe you're a genius. This ought to wow them at the exhibition."

Then helios hit the sixth at 1200m and the seventh at 1400m. He stopped shooting here.

He returned the bow to Staniel who was scowling. "Pay up you owe me 28 divine crystals," Helios said to him.



Staniel isn't happy with the way things had turned out. He doesn't care about the divine crystals but the loss of his opportunity to make Helios get a Rune. He doesn't consider Helios a genius. To him, Helios is just lucky to have a strong body, but the performance will reinforce Helios's false evaluation of his talent.

He tried tempting Helios. "Why don't you try the 8th one? I'll give you 10 divine crystals if you succeed."

Helios pretended to consider it. "No, I think I'm done for now."

He didn't give up. "I'll give you 20 divine crystals."

Cardinal Hak tried to dissuade Helios, "I don't think that is a good idea."

Helios hesitated before saying, "Give me 30 and I'll do it."

Stelios hurriedly stuffed the bow into Helios's hand, "Deal. You can't take it back now."

He figured that Helios had reached his limit. One small push is all he needs to make Helios fall from the pedestal that he has placed himself on. Helios is a child, how good could he be at Archery?

Helios strung the bow again and shot at the 8th target 1,600 meters away. His arrow hit true and the target fell.

"Now you owe me 58 divine crystals." He said calmly.

That smug smile on his face makes Stelios almost want to flare up again and maybe blow up his surroundings with a solar flare. But he kept his cool.

"Do the 9th one and I'll give you 50 divine crystals."

He is willing to give up now. He believes all Helios needs is a push in the right direction. Some failure to sober him up.

Helios answered, "I'm done."

Stanislav taunted him, "You are not a genius. You're scared of failing."

Helios shook his head and said, "I am more than a genius. It takes a genius to be excellent but it takes wisdom to know the limits to that excellence. I am a genius and I am wise, that's why I am stopping while I am ahead."

Stanislav gave up reluctantly. Another set of runes lit up and rose to form a small portal. He put his hands into it and brought out a pouch which he dropped onto Helios' waiting hands. The runes forming the portal dimmed and disappeared. Then they reappeared on his skin.

"That's 100 divine crystals. I must admit, you're not bad. You may be talented, but talent needs hard work if you want to be great."

"Thanks for the advice and the extra."

Helios agrees wholeheartedly that hard work is needed to be great but that's for others. He doesn't need hard work to be great because someone else has done it for him. Now, he just needs to achieve greatness.

The little he just showed is nowhere close to his real capabilities. Something like this doesn't interest him. If not for the divine crystals and his need for them, he wouldn't have bothered.

He has his eyes on greater things. The two most important ones right now are breaking more laws of the universe and terrorizing dragons. That's what he needs training for, not for some stupid exhibition competition because of some archaic rules from a backward race. Too bad that there's no manual on how to break the laws of the universe or he would spend his days reading that.

He started returning to his place. Hak followed behind obediently after bowing to Staniel. Staniel stayed behind and sighed as he watched Helios go. His bow deconstructed and disintegrated into energy streams that flowed onto his body to form the tattoo that made the bow.

A figure of light appeared beside Staniel. The figure chuckled and said, "Maybe he is a genius after all."

Staniel wasn't surprised by the appearance of the figure.

He said to the figure, "He might not be easily riled up like most of us, but he still has pride deep within his bones. I think he will do well during the exhibition competition, father."

Staniel knew that their father was lurking around. This is because the two of them were talking before Helios arrived. The sun god then hid himself from others. Staniel isn't the only that knows that. Helios could sense the sun god as soon as he came here. The only person that was clueless about the presence of the sun god is Cardinal Hak.

Stelios asked, "Will he do well enough for you to bet on him?"

"I'm not sure. It depends on the contest. If it is a contest of strength then I have no doubt he will win. His body is very strong. Too strong for his age. His Archery isn't so bad."

The archery skills that Helios exhibited are evaluated as not bad. Hitting a stationary object is considered "not bad." It is the basics of any weapon training. It doesn't matter the distance, as long as the target isn't moving, then it is "not bad."

Simple eye-to-hand coordination and targeting skills are enough to hit stationary objects. This level of skill is more than enough for a child of the giants of order.

Hitting moving objects is the real deal. It requires techniques and skills beyond the ordinary. To be impressive in archery, you have to be able to hit something moving past the speed of sound and beyond.

By Staniel's estimation, Helios has at least a thousand years to go before he can be impressive and that's if he practices constantly. He doesn't think Helios will get anywhere by sitting around and reading books, wasting his time thinking he can become a runemaster.

Stelios smiled in appreciation, "That's good enough."

"Pardon my curiosity, father. Why are you so concerned about the exhibition competition?"

Stelios answered solemnly, "Two demigods are coming to the event. They will certainly challenge him. I want him to be prepared."

Meanwhile, Helios returned to his room.

He was muttering to himself, "The art of Rune making. The act of making runes. The process of manifesting intent through the law of order."

Rune-making is a very important aspect of the life of giants of order. The history of Rune-making dates back to ancient times when heroic spirits began to exist. It was a time before transcendents. Notable and respected giants of Order were worshipped after their deaths. They might have been family ancestors or excellent generals. These heroic spirits were enshrined for one reason or the other. It was that simple practice that went on to lead to the creation of runes.