

GREED 861

Chapter 861 Harvesting His Loot.

The golden halo around the star is actually made out of several crowns of demon kings. The light bounces off of them as they revolve around the star so it looks like the star has a halo around it.

Each crown is an Avatar that he can use anytime to do his bidding anywhere in the realm or abyss. And unlike the avatars of other demon kings, his avatars have the power of Authority.

The snake demon king landed heavily on the smooth black atone on the top of the tower. He shook violently but he didn't wake up. Aeternus was on his throne. His body is even smaller than 10 meters tall. He is still less than 2 meters so the Colossal demon king dwarfs him by orders of magnitude.

The difference in size doesn't diminish his majesty though. He sat confidently as a king gracing a captive with the pleasure of his presence. Unfortunately, his captive doesn't appreciate the value of his presence. The snake demon king remained unconscious.

Aeternus didn't take offense to the behavior. He doesn't really need his captive to be conscious for what he wants to do to him. He raised one arm towards the snake demon king and pulled on his chains with his mind.

The bound demon king flew towards his hand. He must weigh thousands of tonnes the equivalent of millions of kilograms but he flew forward as if he was just a light feather. There was no resistance or struggle whatsoever. So his being unconscious is probably a good thing.

The snake demon king flew towards Aeternus headfirst to Aeternus's outstretched hand with his head. The head and hand collided like two mountains striking each other. Aeternus and the demon king of wrath were unmoved. But the throne groaned because it had to bear the brunt of the collision.

Aeternus caressed the head of his prize for a while. The head alone is bigger than him many times over so he only managed to caress a small inconsequential part of the head. Still, he did it because he is someone that appreciates his loot.

"Welcome to my divine plane." He said in greeting, "It is a pleasure having you here."

It is only right that he welcomes another demon king no matter the way they came to his plane. The snake demon king is still unconscious so he didn't hear the greeting. Aeternus did it anyway because being polite didn't cost him a thing. It is what separates the civilized from the savages.

Then he said, "It was nice working with you."

He activated his Chaos energy within his target. The wisps of black energy in the demon king's body went into a frenzy. They began to rampage uncontrollably. The snake demon king's eyes shot open immediately. His mouth spread open too. He used his mouth to utter the loudest scream that his weakened body could muster.

He screamed in pain. His entire being is being wracked by an existence-destroying pain. Even a demon king will scream. This scream was more of a roar. It caused the air to quake like thunder. And it traveled to the far edges of the plane.

The worst part is that his soul wasn't spared from the damage. His soul couldn't leave his body to return to the abyss because of the chain. It is very bad since Chaos energy can damage the soul too. So his body was eroded as well as his soul. It happened gradually and painfully. Aeternus could have sped up the deed but he wanted to enjoy the cries of pain.

He hummed to himself in appreciation. Even the demon king that he warped into his throne stirred due to the cry of pain. Something about the primal incomprehensible sounds resonated with its addled and broken mind. His throne felt a comradeship with this suffering demon king.

Aeternus executed his captive and he enjoyed the process. Then it ended when the colossal body of the snake demon king broke down completely into chaos energy. The once titanic figure became a pool of black energy. The only thing that could identify him as a demon king is the golden crown hovering above the black pool. The golden crown is the most valuable thing about the snake demon king.

The snake demon king must have a stash of wealth in his personal space but Aeternus can't access it. Probably no one will be able to access it ever again now that the owner is dead. Not unless he left a way for it to be accessed which is improbable since he is a demon. There is no reason for demons to share how to get their wealth with others. Their selfishness will not allow them to.

"This will do nicely," Aeternus said as he beckoned to the golden crown.

He is not a picky person. This shiny golden crown will have to be enough for him. He smiled and his golden eyes shone in anticipation as the crown flew to him. It sank into his skull and into his soul.

His soul glowed resplendently. It appeared around his head as a phantom. It looks like a bright round gem. There is a thick golden ring around it. There are also other golden rings hooked into the ring around his soul.

The thick golden ring around his soul looks like a key chain while the attached golden rings are like the keys. The extra golden rings are attached to the main ring that is bound around his soul. The new golden ring approached this gem which is his soul. It moved and attached itself to the main ring. The two of them made contact and fused to form the attachment.

Then the soul phantom collapsed into his head and disappeared. Aeternus's golden eyes began to shine brighter with the addition of another ring. There are more than 30 golden rings already on his soul so this might be the straw that finally breaks the camel's back.

Chapter 862 Patient Machinations And Meticulous Scheming..

His entire soul will shatter if he can't withstand the pressure brought about by the addition of the new crown. But he isn't worried at all. His soul has been reinforced by the Authority of a Celestial Supreme. That is why it is in the form of a solid gem and not just a mass of soul power without a definite shape.

The Authority of the Celestial Supreme serves as the anchor of a divine plane. It is strong enough to handle thousands of Celestial Godhoods. Meanwhile, his soul has grown much stronger with the increase in the level of his Authority. The addition of the two makes it so that he is more than capable of handling a hundred crowns.

The glow in his eyes died down after a few moments. It returned to its original state where it is only glowing faintly but it is a little brighter than before. It is almost unnoticeable since his eyes were bright before.

The addition of another crown to his repertoire led to some changes. He became more powerful but that isn't clearly visible. Some other visible changes occurred. A new ring appeared around the star at the center of the plane. It joined the others in circling the star. The other change that occurred was that the throne that he was sitting on groaned slightly. Aeternus has increased in mass so the strain on his poor throne has also increased.

At the point that Aeternus has reached, only a demon king or an equally powerful entity can be used as his throne. He is both heavy physically and spiritually and anything weaker will break if he makes his full weight to settle on it. So he didn't decide to use another demon king just for the fun of it. It is fun to have a demon king as his throne but it is also useful.

He can surely make a seat strong enough to withstand his mass but he prefers this throne so that his visitors will see what he did and believe that he did similar things to the other demon kings that he captured. They will then spread the rumor about his villainy to others. So it is necessary that he sit on a demon king so that others will be fooled about what he actually does with some of his captives.

He is a king of kings so the crowns of other demon kings make him stronger. But he can't go around killing demon kings wantonly or demon kings will hear word of it and decide to gang up on him to eliminate him. So he decided to weave a false story about what he does with his captives to avoid suspicion. It is a story that took a long time to set up. He did it a little by little over time.

First, he captured some demon kings. These demon kings offended him so he was justified in seeking revenge. He tortured them heavily and then let them go. They spread the news of their horrific experience to everyone. What he did isn't unusual. He isn't some psycho that tortures demon kings for pleasure. He did it because of revenge. So no one thought much of it or suspected anything.

Then he captured more demon kings. Some offended him while most didn't. He released the few that offended him so that they could tell others about the unfortunate thing that happened to them.

As for the innocent ones, he took their crowns and killed them permanently. He made sure never to kill them in front of anyone. Those that he kills never return and nothing is heard about them. They will never be able to tell anyone that they were captured wrongfully.

What the other demon kings will hear is that he captured some more demon kings that offended him. He tortured them, and eventually released them. After all, they have witnesses to the event. That's why he will ask two demon kings to accompany him in invading a plane when he can do it himself. It is so that he can capture one and release the other as a witness.

It is important that there is a witness to see his act of capturing demon kings. It is so that other demon kings will know what he did with the captives. They will assume he captured them for a power fetish. A witness will also have detailed information about his strength and why he captured the demon kings. It is important that they know because people, be they demons or normal races, do not fear what they think they know.

They will know that he is not an unreasonable maniac. All the captives that he captured did something to offend him. They will know that he can be worked with as long as they don't do something to piss him off. He will be able to ask other demon kings for collaboration that way. They won't have any reason to fear him so they will continue to accept his offer for collaboration. Some will even still look down on him and underestimate him because they think they know his strength.

If he did everything secretly, then assumptions about him would go wide. No one will know how strong he is and why he captured the demon kings. They will fear him because of that. No one will want to associate with him.

It is very important that they think that they know what he does with the captives. It is so that they will not suspect him of being a king of kings. After all, demon kings gain nothing by killing each other. And that's also why he must not kill and take the crown of another king in any place outside the privacy of his plane. It is practically announcing that he is an outlier.

All his patient machinations and meticulous scheming are done because most demon kings know each other. Kings of the abyss don't have a plane to themselves so they all stay on the 1st plane of the abyss. They communicate with each other and share rumors.

Chapter 863 The Rumor Mill.

The disappearance of one of them will be noticed quickly. They will ask questions and investigate what caused the disappearance of the demon king. This way, he won't be investigated because they believe that they know what he is up to.

They will only say, "He offended the Reaper? That's entirely his fault. I hope the Reaper will release him soon." And they will move on.

Rumors spread like wildfire in the rumor mill so he decided to take advantage of it instead of falling prey to it.

He kept up this facade by not killing the kings of demons that he captured. Most of the demon kings that he released are kings of demons. Kings of demons have planes. While they keep to themselves mostly and stay within their planes, they also have friends or partners that they work with to invade planes. It will also be quite noticeable that they have died since their plane will disappear when they are killed.

There's no way to hide his murder of kings of demons. So if he wants to kill one, he makes sure to go to their plane and kill them there. He will make a show of it so that no one will suspect him of ulterior motives. No one will question why the plane of a king of demons disappeared and why the demon king himself died. They know that the demon king offended the Reaper and died for it. Such a thing happens a lot. There's nothing much to know or see about it.

All of his acting and lying is stressful but he enjoys it. Sure, he is doing it to keep his nature hidden and himself safe. He learned about mob action when the high-rank demons of the plane he grew up in came together to eliminate him. So it is prudent that he tries not to rile up the other demon kings and demon gods.

But he also does it because he enjoys it and because it enables him to reel in the really big fish. Fear is not a proper tool to catch prey. If the prey is afraid of him, then they will run away from him. Fearless prey are bold enough to offend him thinking that they can get away with it. That gives him the proper cause to retaliate.

Most importantly, when there is a witness, then there is bound to be retribution. This retribution is bound to be big if the witness also knows that he has a lot of wealth. He has found that the best way to lure prey is to dangle irresistible bait at them and also cheat them out of their own share of wealth. He didn't have to wait for long before his bait reeled in a big fish.

Attacking a demon king's plane is tricky business. First, you have to find their plane in the abyss. It is what a group of 5 demon kings is doing right now. The succubus queen and four other demon kings came together for a single goal. That goal is to assault the plane of a demon king and force him to hand over his wealth. They don't plan to kill him. At least not until he hands over his wealth. To achieve that, they will use words and force when necessary to coerce him.

Again, their main aim is the Wealth of the Reaper. It is what the succubus queen used to tempt these other demon kings to join her. Killing him will not grant them any benefit. Every demon king has a personal space that they created with their Authority. They store their wealth in that space. The space is secure and can only be accessed by the soul of the demon king. So killing the Reaper is not their aim. They will not gain anything that way.

"Does anyone of you have any problems with it?" A canine demon king asked.

To be precise, it is just one of her heads that asked the question. The other two heads are glaring at the other demon kings, daring them to have any objections to what she said. While the head that asked the question is smiling innocently, the ruthless gaze of the other two heads is not encouraging to the demon kings.

This demon king is the leader of this expedition. It is a massive dog-like creature with three heads. She belongs to the race of hellhounds. Her fur is blood-red with sharp rough hair that will tear apart anything that they brush against. It is needless to say that she can't be petted without sufficient courage and protection.

Her fur is the least harmful part of her body. That title goes to her three heads full of sharp silver teeth and a tongue fashioned out of flames. The sharp blade-like claws on her six limbs do not come close to the kind of damage that those silver teeth can do. A single bite can rip the demon kings she is looking at in half.

This hellhound, who is also a demon king of wrath is one of the friends of the snake demon king and also the leader of this group. She wasn't elected into that position through a vote. She is the leader because she is the strongest. The fact that the succubus queen initiated the formation of the group does not grant her the privilege of being the leader. That honor goes to the only level 7 demon king among them.

The other demon kings respect her and have no problem with the hierarchy. They also have no problem with the proposed method that they will use to distribute the Reaper's wealth after they have it. The hellhound demon king proposed that she would take 40% of the wealth while the remaining four of them would take 15% each. Then she asked if they had a problem with it.

One of her heads asked amicably. The other two are glaring at the four of them as if daring them to speak up and give her a reason to use her intimidating teeth on them. It is clear to them what their answer must be.

Chapter 864 The Search For The Reaper.

The hellhound demon king is looking at them as if she wants an opportunity to prove that her teeth and the abundance of them in her three jaws are not for show.

Who would dare to say that they do not agree? Even the succubus queen who was cheated out of the leadership position can only smile and express her agreement while secretly cursing in her heart.

"Let us go since everyone agrees. I have another meeting today that I have to attend. I want to get this over with as soon as possible." The hellhound said after seeing that no one disagreed with her.

"Let us go since everyone agrees. I have another meeting today. I want to get this over with as soon as possible." The hellhound said after seeing that no one disagreed with her.

So they left the first plane of the abyss and plunged into the large body of purple water at the center of the plane. This sea of purple water is the original energy well. It extends down below to the other planes and provides energy to them. It is also the bridge that connects all the plane's together so they will be able to access every plane through it.

The group of demon kings sank into the energy well and found themselves in a world of darkness. Everything is dark as long as you use your eyes to see. They are demon kings with powerful divine senses and Authorities so they don't need their eyes. They were able to navigate their way through the energy sea.

The energy well is like an ocean of liquified energy. It is vast and it is powerful. The energy contained within its waters will make a high-rank demon explode on contact. Fortunately, high-rank demons can use their powerful mind to create a barrier that separates them from the purple water so that they are not overloaded with energy.

Demon kings don't need such precautions. The energy in the ocean is large but it is too weak to affect them more than the occasional tickle. So they should be relaxed as they transverse through the sea. What is odd is that they are relaxed. They shouldn't be relaxed since they are going into a demon king's plane to fight him. That is a very dangerous act because the plane of a demon king is where they are the strongest. So they shouldn't be relaxed at all. But they all are.

They are relaxed because they have no reason to fear. They have even agreed on how they will distribute the Reaper's wealth. And their leader is talking about a meeting she wants to go to after this fight. It is as if success is already within their grasp. As if there is no other alternative outcome. It is not baseless confidence though. They have a level 7 demon king while the Reaper is level 5. What could go wrong?

So they were relaxed as they tried to find the Reaper's plane. It is a tricky thing since none of them know where it is. His plane could be anywhere in the abyss. The energy sea doesn't pass through every plane in one single path. It separates a tributary from itself that supplies the planes of the abyss. So it is connected to every plane but that means that they will have to examine the end of every tributary to find the Reaper's plane.

The hellhound demon king ordered with a growl. "Everyone should scatter and look for it. I'll stay here and oversee the situation. You should return to me when you find it so that we can form up and attack it together."

The four demon kings nodded and agreed wordlessly. They separated to look for the Reaper's plane. At the end of each tributary is a large ball. They can peek into the plane if it is a normal plane without a demon king. A plane belonging to a demon king will resist peeking. So they will have to knock and ask for information politely or forcefully enter.

They can also use less aggressive methods like sensing the energy of the plane. Every demon king has a unique energy and aura signature that can be used to identify them. Using this non-aggressive method is accurate but it takes time. It will take them hours before they can find the Reaper's plane that way. They have to use it though because barging into the plane of a demon king without permission is an act of war. One enemy is already enough for them. There's no need to acquire more.

"This shameless dog. How can I be so unlucky?" The succubus queen asked herself while examining the energy signature of a plane.

She is complaining because the four of them are doing grunt work while the hellhound is not doing anything. They will spend less time searching if the hellhound joins in but she has refused to work and she will also take the bulk of the loot.

She didn't want to invite the hellhound demon king. She had to because the hellhound demon king came to her asking about the snake demon king. Apparently, the two of them like to wrestle. There is no benefit in killing each other so demon kings form connections with themselves. So the hellhound demon king came looking for the succubus because the snake demon king told her about his collaboration.

The snake demon king told the hellhound about the two partners that he was working with. The hellhound doesn't know much about the Reaper but the succubus queen lives on the first plane and is very popular. The succubus queen had to spill the beans about the snake demon king being captured.

She downplayed the event so that the hellhound wouldn't know about the Reaper's wealth but it was all for naught. The hellhound was going to rescue her wrestling partner no matter what. But then she found out that the succubus queen was already forming a group to attack the Reaper, so she decided to tag along.

Chapter 865 A Waste Of Good Celestial Authority.

The succubus queen wouldn't have minded if all the hellhound demon king did was tag along. No one will say no to free help. Especially when the help is level 7. But demons don't do things in moderation. The hellhound demon king took over the group and became its leader by force.

The group that she formed contained four demon kings including her. All of them are level 5 demon kings. The succubus queen would have very much liked to keep it that way. She intended to put together 5 demon kings with level 5 Authority. That way, she will be the leader and she will be able to take the bulk of the wealth. She was to take 30% while the rest took 17.5%. But the presence of a level 7 changed that.

Having a level 7 among them has granted them confidence but she doesn't think it was worth it. She doesn't think that they didn't need the boost in confidence or the power of a level 7 demon king. Five level 5 demon kings are already more than enough to pressure the Reaper into giving up his wealth. They will barge in forcefully into his plane and threaten him with violence. They will also swear an oath to leave him alone and not kill him after he has surrendered most of his wealth.

The use of only violence will not make a demon king give up their wealth. They have to be given a way out or they will get desperate and resort to extreme measures. The succubus queen had everything all planned out. 5 is also the right number that ensures that one of them will die if they fight the Reaper. The reaper might want to test his chances first knowing that they won't kill him without getting his wealth. So it is probable that they would have fought if 5 of them had shown up.

If they are 6, the reaper will give up directly without a fight. If they are 4, the reaper can take out one of them with his black beam which will leave 3. He has a much higher chance of success against 3 enemies. But if they are 5 and the reaper manages to kill 1 of them. 4 is still a good number to subdue him quickly. That means there will be more loot for the remaining four.

All of that won't happen anymore now. The reaper will capitulate as soon as he sees five of them with a level 7 demon king. He is reasonable enough to realize that he stands no chance at all. Then she will take just 15% of his wealth. She can't complain though. She isn't strong enough to ask for more and 15% of Aeternus's total wealth is bound to be a lot too.

If she does complain, it is certain that she will be on her own in that regard. The others surely won't agree with her. The presence of the level 7 demon king has only reduced their percentage of the loot from 17.5% to 15%. That's a worthy trade for the extra power. The one that suffers the most because of the addition of the demon king is her. Her initial pay of 30% got slashed in half.

She couldn't prevent the hellhound demon king from joining her group but she took some precautions. She has to be afraid of the hellhound for the very same reason that the Reaper will be afraid of the hellhound. The Hellhound is stronger than her and she can't trust her leader not to capture her to force her to give up her own wealth after they robbed the Reaper.

They only made an Oath not to act against each other until the loot has been secured unless their lives are in danger. Anything can happen after the heist. So she made sure to inform someone of her general plans so that someone would look for her in case she disappeared.

She didn't just stop at making plans in case of betrayal. She also made sure to complain and grumble about their indefatigable leader while she searched for the Reaper's plane. It took a few hours before they found his plane. All five of them gathered at the tributary leading into his plane.

The golden crowns on their heads made them stand out amidst the dark purple water. The light from their crowns showed their relaxed features. The battle is nearly upon them but they are still not nervous or anxious. They took turns to check out the energy signature and confirmed that it is the Reaper's. The bubble that represents his plane is covered by a dark film of corrosive energy that the Reaper is known for.

"So this is the plane. It looks reinforced and stronger than normal. Did he use the Authority of a Celestial Supreme to reinforce his plane? What a waste of resources." The hellhound demon king grumbled unhappily.

The Reaper's plane looks very strong and sturdy. It is not normal at all. Planes should not have external defenses. Their true power is realized when you are within their boundary instead of when you are outside. So the absurd defense of the Reaper's plane is odd. But there is an explanation for it.

Some demon kings use the Authority of the Celestial Supreme to strengthen their plane. It will make it very difficult to forcefully barge into and it will also make the demon king extra strong in their plane. It has no other benefits though so it is considered a waste of good resources.

It is much better to absorb the Authority of the Celestial Supreme to gain a level or exchange it with demon gods for other things. She knows a demon god that is very open to deals and will be very happy to get a Celestial Authority.

One of the demon kings said in excitement, "The Reaper must be very rich. He has to if he strengthened his plane to this level. We are in luck."

Chapter 866 Cocky And Rich.

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Another demon king said, "Yes we are in luck. But odds are that he is probably stronger now too."

"Even so, wealth awaits us."

The hellhound demon king said to them, "You're very lucky that I followed you now. Your little get-up wouldn't be able to take him on."

The increase in the defense of the plane is minimal compared to the increase in the power of Aeternus. He should be as powerful as a level 6 demon king normally but the reinforcement makes him as powerful as a level 7 demon king within his plane. That means that had the hellhound not been here, then they would have returned empty-handed, or worse, they would have died.

"Who will do the honor of gaining us entry?" The hellhound demon king asked the other four demon kings.

They are still going to attack the Reaper. The enforcement of his plane by the Authority of the Celestial Supreme is at a level 5 Authority. That means Aeternus is still Level 5. The empowerment of his plane will make him level 7 at most. They can manage him at level 7.

He would be level 6 if the external enforcement was level 6. That will make him level 8 within his plane which is too powerful for them. That's how things work. They can obviously see that the defense of his plane is at level 5 so they believe that they have nothing to fear.

It is one of the reasons why powerful demon kings don't use the Authority of a Celestial Supreme to empower their plane. It will make their strength obvious to those who are outside the plane. Defense is good but mystery is a better deterrent to passersby. No one will want to offend you if they don't know how strong you are. But the reaper is too cocky and rich for his own good.

The succubus queen offered, "Let me."

Her revenge is not going according to her plan but she wants to enjoy it anyway. She wants to be the first one to enter and see that faceless head of his. She wants to smirk and laugh in glee. She wants to see his fear and despair mixed with regret. So she offered to be the first to enter his plane. She wants to herald the retribution that she orchestrated.

The hellhound replied, "Go ahead then. And be quick about it. You guys have already wasted a lot of my time searching for the plane."

The succubus queen complained inwardly, "We wouldn't have spent that much time if you had joined us to search

She kept her thoughts to herself and focused on the plane that she is about to barge into. The bubble that is the plane is smaller than the space that it contains but it is still larger than the 10 kilometers form of the demon kings. The tributary of the energy sea completely submerged the bubble so all the demon kings are floating in the purple water.

The succubus moved forward to the bubble. Her dainty black bat wings fluttered behind her and her thin tail swung around because of her excitement. She can hardly wait to force her way into the bubble and make her demands.

The defense of the plane is stronger but it won't stop her from getting in. The increase in defense is mostly a side effect. It is a sign to tell them not to come and mess with the demon king inside the plane. That only makes her happier. It means she will get more wealth from the Reaper.

The defense is at level 5 and so is she. She can break it with a little effort. She was about to strike the bubble but it rippled slightly. A small whirlpool appeared on its surface. It is a door that will grant them free access to the plane. Apparently, she doesn't need to barge in. She is being invited in.

A look of surprise appeared on her face. Then her face fell in disappointment. She was hoping for a grand entry. But it seems she won't get it.

She thought angrily to herself. "It's all that shameless dog's fault."

The succubus queen is unhappy with the current situation but the hellhound is quite pleased. All three of her heads laughed, chuckled, or smiled.

"What a reasonable demon king." She said. "I've changed my mind. We won't cause him any problem if he cooperates peacefully."

The reaper had sensed the intruders and he decided to be reasonable instead of resisting. He must have realized that he stood no chance once he sensed the level 7 demon king among them. His behavior impressed the hellhound demon king and made her feel respected. She decided that she would cut the Reaper some slack. She will just rob him and won't damage his plane in any way. It is a reward for him for being so respectful.

She warned the others, "You hear that all of you? We rob and we will free who we want. Then we will leave. There will be no unnecessary violence if he doesn't initiate it."

"Yes."

"It is as you say."

They all agreed with her.

The Hellhound demon king nodded her three heads in satisfaction. It is truly nice to be respected. Unnecessary violence will be avoided. This will ensure that she finishes early and gets to attend the meeting that she has after this. It is a secret meeting that the demon god that she is allied with is holding.

Then she snapped at the succubus queen, "What are you waiting for? Lead the way already. We don't have all day."

The succubus queen entered the whirlpool after being prompted. The others followed after. A whirlpool had appeared in the sky within the plane. It is a very large whirlpool and it appeared very close to the center of the plane. A Colossal succubus queen came through the whirlpool into the plane. She entered it head first with a wide grin of anticipation on her face.

"This is it." She thought to herself. "I am going to have so much fun."

Chapter 867 Damnation.

The succubus queen felt the change in the atmosphere immediately after she entered the plane. It is a distinct feeling of alienation that lets her know that she is on someone else's territory. This plane has a Sovereign and she isn't the one. She knows without a doubt that the Sovereign of this plane can suppress her. But she isn't worried.

The feeling is a warning to her to behave herself. But she doesn't care. Instead, she spread her presence wantonly and with reckless abandon despite that warning. She feels no fear of being in his territory and feels no need to hold back.

The air stagnated due to the pressure of her existence. The demons in the plane were pressed to the ground no matter where they were. Some demons directly exploded. But there was no Chaos. The abrupt massacre didn't rile the demons up. There was only deadly silence.

The succubus queen smiled smugly. This is something she wouldn't be able to do in a normal situation and on her own. It is also something she doesn't even need to do. The Reaper must already know that she is here and he must know who she is so she doesn't need to announce her presence but she did it anyway. She did it with the smugness of someone who won a game.

"He thought he could cheat me. I have won now. Maybe I should ask him to have sex with me. I should make it one of his conditions for surrender. I want to humiliate him with sex." She thought to herself.

Then she roared with a mighty shout, "Reaper, where are you? Is this how to greet guests? Show yourself."

She is putting up an imposing manner in someone else's territory and she likes it. The wide smile on her face is a very good indication of how much she likes it. She also didn't need to ask where the Reaper is. She can feel his presence and tell where he is. He seems to have a weight that he didn't have before. That weight is pressing on her and warning her that he is dangerous. But she isn't afraid.

It isn't odd that his very presence is threatening her now unlike before. He is supposed to be stronger in his plane after all. The fact that he used the Authority of a Celestial Supreme to reinforce his plane explains why he seems very heavy and dangerous. But no matter how powerful he is, she has more powerful allies. So she isn't afraid.

"Not bad." She said haughtily as she observed his plane.

She knows where he is but she didn't address him immediately. She wants him to stew in fear and trepidation before she swoops in to rob him of everything that he is worth. So she took her time to examine the plane. She turned around with a dramatic flair to face him when she was done observing his plane. It was then that her eyes caught sight of the core of the plane.

Her eyes narrowed at the sight. Her pupils literally became as tiny as pins. There is nothing special about his plane but the core of the plane is very special. In fact, it is too special. The bright star is not the anomaly that is making her take a long look to ascertain what she is seeing. It is the golden halo around the star that is the cause of her agitation. To be precise, it is what makes up the halo that caused her to squint her eyes.

"Oh shit. Reaper is an abomination." She cursed silently in a voice that is barely a whisper. "We are doomed."

They are very small compared to the star that they cycle around but she can see the crowns that make up the halo and she can see that they are 36 in number. She understands the implication immediately. Now she knows what the Reaper does with his captives. She also understands why his plane has an increased defense.

"We are doomed." She repeated even weaker than the first whisper.

It is almost like she is having difficulty speaking. The pressure of the Reaper's existence is finally having some effect on her. It is making it difficult for her nonexistent lungs to expand and breathe. She seems to be suffocating or drowning in an ocean of regret.

She feels regret because they were wrong. The Reaper didn't need to use the Authority of the Celestial Supreme to reinforce his plane. He doesn't need it at all. Any plane will be very strong too after being reinforced with 36 crowns.

If that is true, then the apparent external defense of the plane must have been a lie. She shouldn't have been able to break into the plane at all. Unfortunately for her, she didn't have to. The door was opened

to her immediately. It was not the respectful invitation she thought it was. It was the beckoning of death.

The Reaper didn't let them in easily because he was afraid of them. He let them because he didn't want them to realize that his plane is too strong and be scared off. All of these understandings slammed into her mind and brought a single word to mind. That word is "Abomination."

"We are doomed." She thought to herself.

She can't speak anymore. She can only think. Most of what she is thinking about is how she regrets coming here and how the Reaper is an abomination. He is a demon king that feeds on other demon kings.

And much worse than that, he is a demon king who will be able to feed on other demon gods once he becomes a demon god himself. He is a demon king that will definitely reach the rank of Chaos entity if he manages to become a demon god.

That means he is a predator that she shouldn't have messed with. She knew all of this too late and it made all her strength leave her body. Hence the overwhelming feeling of regret.

Chapter 868 Despair.

The regret soon turned to weakness. The sensation of impending doom assaulted her mind and weakened it. She knows that she will not get out of this place alive. She will disappear like the others that were never heard from ever again.

Her heart sank and her emotions bled out of her. The world became grey and dark. It became hopeless. She couldn't feel anything apart from despair. Her previous happiness is nowhere to be seen.

The heaviness of the Reaper's presence settled on her mind and consciousness and threatened to drown her in hopeless despair. She ignored the warning that his presence conveyed earlier. Now she knows what sort of situation she is in. The heaviness of his presence is a reminder that she is in danger and this time, it is not an illusion that she can ignore.

She stood there frozen as her partners in crime entered the plane.

"What are you doing just standing there and gawking?" Someone asked in jest.

But she didn't answer. She continued to hawk at the core of the plane. Her partners laughed.

"Maybe she saw something so expensive she couldn't believe her eyes," They said.

Then they traced her line of view and also froze.

"What in the damnable abyss is going on?" Someone managed to ask but no one answered. They saw what she saw and they despaired. There was no other feeling that could replace that emotion.

Some of them became angry at her and some cursed in order to dispel their despair. Her face was slack and unresponsive as one of the demon kings accused her of treachery.

"You betrayed us, didn't you? You brought us to feed him. You brought us to our death."

This demon king accused her in a loud voice tinted heavily with outrage and anger. But he didn't do anything to her despite his obvious anger. He is just shouting to try and fight off the overwhelming feeling of despair. But it is all to no avail. Their fate is sealed and they know it. So despair crept into their minds and settled in.

If they have any hope of living in this place it is through the Reaper's benevolence. But he wouldn't let them go after knowing his secret. Even an oath will not suffice. They will surely die for knowing that he is an abomination. So the anger slowly bled out of the shouting. Even the loudness of the shouting decreased until silence reigned over the mind and emotions.

The black reaper could have hidden the crowns that made the halo around the core of the plane. Those crowns are pure manifestations of the real ones attached to his soul. The external ones can be withdrawn. All they would have seen upon entering his plane is that the core is bigger and more powerful than normal. They will easily attribute it to the use of the Authority of the Celestial Supreme. Their ignorance might save them.

But he didn't do that. He let them see his crowns for a reason. That reason cannot be good. That helps them to narrow it down to the highest possible option. The Reaper showed them his crowns to let them understand that he will surely kill them.

"What do we do now?" One of them summed up the courage to ask.

They tried to come up with a way to survive to starve off the despair. Escaping is not an option. They can't escape unless they destroy the core of the plane. That's why you don't enter the plane of a demon king unless you're absolutely sure you can kill that demon king within their plane.

You don't barge in or accept their invitation either without the strength to overpower the demon king once you enter the plane. Otherwise, you will be at their mercy. So they are at the Reaper's mercy. They are as helpless as the proverbial meat on the chopping block.

The worst of the situation is that the Reaper hasn't moved one inch. They know where he is and they can see him. He is sitting calmly on his throne at the top of the black tower in the center of the plane. The fact that his throne is fashioned out of a demon king is unsettling enough but it is the face-splitting grin on his face that informed them that he is toying with them.

When a demon king toys with someone, then they should expect a lot of pain in the near future. The way the reaper displayed his red teeth also indicates that he will enjoy the pain he inflicts on them very much. All of these is making their heart sink and making it extra difficult not to feel despair.

The Reaper looks different from what they usually see of him. He has red fire crystal skin. There are four horns with golden tips on his head. And there is a black flame burning from the top of his head. The black flame is scattered and makes his head look like he has hair.

There is a golden ring within the black flames burning on his head that matches his blazing golden eyes. Those same golden eyes are fixed on them. In them, they can see how little he thinks of them. They can see that they are doomed. That feeling is not undermined despite the Reaper looking like a dwarf.

No demon king should be that small. Even their reduced form is 10 meters. They are currently in their 10 kilometers tall while he is 1.7m. But the threat they feel from him is real and that's all that matters.

"What is going on?" Someone asked indignantly with a great shout. "I don't have time to waste. Get a move on damn it."

It was the hellhound demon king that asked that question. She is the last to enter the plane. She entered and saw all of them standing still while staring vacantly at the center of the plane. Their slacking off is wasting her precious time and she isn't one to hold back her displeasure so she complained.

Chapter 869 Everyone Must Know.

They should be harassing the Reaper right now and making demands not wasting time by standing around doing nothing. It seems they were waiting for her to do the honors. She appreciates the consideration but she has a meeting that she wants to get to soon.

"I guess I'll be the one to...." Her words caught in her throat.

She caught sight of the core of the plane. All three jaws of her three heads opened and slackened in shock. Then she turned around and ran. She tried to run back into the closing whirlpool. She slammed ineffectively into it. It rebuffed her attempt to force her way through. It is like she hit a sturdy wall.

She didn't give up though. She continued to try until the whirlpool shut down and disappeared completely into the sky. Her hope of escaping back the way she came died out. That hope was little to begin with but it was something. Now it is gone.

Despair was about to set in but she rejected it resolutely. "I have to inform the demon god that there is an abomination here." She said to herself. "Everyone must know that there is an abomination here. Everyone must know."

Then she rushed towards the edge of the plane. She rushed upwards and soon met an invisible barrier. The barrier is elastic and capable of nullifying physical force. So she was thrown back by the rebound force.

She rushed up again and clawed at the barrier. Her sharp claws tore at the barrier but it couldn't get a purchase. There was no friction or resistance from the barrier so there was no damage to the barrier either. It is like she is cutting an infinitely regenerating slime.

She gave up on wasting her effort quickly. She knows that pure physical attacks won't work on the barrier. Her attack was done purely out of frustration. So she got serious and attacked the barrier with all her power. Blue fire came out of one head, green fire came out of the second head, and red fire came out of the last head. The three fires combined to form a torrent of violet flame. The violet flames struck the barrier and actually damaged it.

This flame is special. The blue fire is a special flame that deals extra damage to magical or energy-based beings. The green fire is specifically for spiritual beings while the red fire is hellfire. Hellfire destroys physical beings or objects and it won't go out until it has nothing else to burn. The fusion of the three flames creates a fire that can burn all things, theoretically.

The violet flame is a special sin ability of hers. It is capable of damaging a barrier made out of spiritual, energy, and physical forces like the barrier around a plane. So the barrier got damaged immediately. It became black as if it scorched. She expected the blackened area to spread before a hole is torn in the barrier but that didn't happen. The spot she hit remained black and didn't spread no matter how much fire she poured onto it.

She stopped using her flames after a full minute to examine her progress. The black spot also receded and the barrier became transparent again. All she can see is a world of fire and volcanoes behind it. That is the reflection of the plane. There is nothing out there. But she desperately wants to get past this barrier into the nothingness.

"I have to tell the demon god." She said again with resolution.

Then she resumed her attack. But it is all futile. Chaos energy seeped from the barrier and coated it black. Then the chaos energy resisted her attacks. Nothing she can throw against it can bypass the barrier. But she keeps telling herself that she needs to inform the demon god. She needs to get out to inform the demon god of the abomination she found. And she needs to do it physically because she can't use any communication methods once she entered this plane.

The plane of a demon king is their dominion. She can't communicate with the outside world and she can't access her personal space within this plane. She is for all intent and purpose under the Dominion of the Reaper. He might as well be a god in this place. He would have been a false god had she been stronger. Unfortunately, she isn't, so she will be dealt with according to the whims of the Reaper. That is not something she is looking forward to.

She was attacking the barrier when she suddenly shifted. Space seemed to fold and warp around her. Her world sort of flipped. Then she found herself back with the group she came in with. She turned to run again but she wasn't moving despite her best attempts at reaching the barrier again.

Space was shrinking and stretching around her to make her efforts futile. She finally gave up when it sank into the thick skulls of her three heads that there is no way to leave and there is no use trying to. She is well and truly fucked.

"No. I can't die here to an abomination."

She shouted towards the smirking figure on the throne made of a demon king. "CARNAGE will try to look for me. My death won't go unnoticed for long. I will be avenged and you will be destroyed."

What she said is mostly true. She really has connections with a demon god. CARNAGE can be level-headed sometimes. One can have a nice conversation with it during those times when the demon god decides to resort to other avenues apart from violence. They will find that CARNAGE is a very shrewd businessman. It likes to make deals.

That's how the hellhound demon king got to know it. They became close after their deal and she is supposed to attend a meeting that CARNAGE will hold in a few hours. So the demon god will certainly notice that she is not around. The demon god won't care much since they are not so close but it will certainly ask around for her whereabouts.

Chapter 870 Desperation.

It is a coin toss on what could happen when CARNAGE finds out she is missing. The demon god might choose to investigate further when it finds out that she can't be reached or overlook her absence because it isn't so strange that no one can reach her. She might be invading a plane and she doesn't want anyone to know so she kept her whereabouts secret. But if the demon god investigates and actually discovers the Reaper, then his days will end.

The Reaper's smile widened despite her threat.

That wasn't the reaction she wanted. So she made sure to drive the point home. "Every demon god will hunt you once they know what you are. You will have nowhere to hide. You have to release me now or CARNAGE will look for me."

If CARNAGE or any demon god finds out that the Reaper is an Abomination, then they will all try to kill him. It is not an unprecedented situation. Abominations have existed before and they have been killed. Any demon king is hunted as soon as they are determined to be king of kings.

Demon gods eradicate any king of kings. It is not because of the threat that they pose to them now but because of the abomination that they will become as demon gods. Kings of kings become able to absorb demon gods when they become demon gods. That is something other demon gods can't do. But it is not a good thing at all.

A demon god is already a creature bordering on chaos. They have no fixed form and are like budding eldritch beings. Fusing with their sin and becoming the manifestation of their sin makes them struggle with their sanity. So absorbing each other is not a good thing at all. It will create a being of pure madness that raves and lives only for destruction.

Such a being is an abomination that threatens every demon and every plane within the realm tree. The abomination will eventually be eliminated by mother high heaven but they would have harmed other demon gods first. So every demon god endeavors to get rid of any king of kings that they encounter before they can become a threat.

Absorbing other demon gods for power is a shortcut to power but it is one that the price is too much to pay. The worst thing is that no one will be able to know the price they will pay until they have paid it. Then they will forget about the price because the price they paid is their sanity. There is no stopping the creation of an abomination once a demon god absorbs another demon god.

The Reaper continued to smile. The mockery and disdain in his eyes are obvious. She knows she must look and sound like a fool to him. She knows that her threats are unlikely to work. But what other choice does she have? She has none. Her life is at stake so she decided to risk looking like a fool and spouting foolish things for the chance that she might live. She is that desperate.

Aeternus or the one they call "The Reaper" wasn't fazed by her ominous words. He finally stood up from his comfortable throne. Then he took a step forward. That single step echoed throughout the plane. It struck fear into the hearts of all who heard it. That step also brought him before his five guests.

The five demon kings flinched. They took a few steps back to create space between them. They know that it is futile but they still did so in order to maintain a vague sense of safety.

They thought his presence felt heavy before. They are changing that evaluation of him now that he is so close to them. The gravity of his presence is overwhelming. It is almost suffocating. They don't breathe at all but they can feel a tightness in their chest. Even their beating hearts are struggling to pump blood through their bodies. His presence weighs on them spiritually, physically, and mentally.

Unlike them, Aeternus is actually feeling happy right now. He said with a smile, "Truly, the best way to set a trap is to use bait."

Then he spread his arm wide and grinned at them. "Welcome to my plane my esteemed guest. I rarely have visitors so I am happy that you visited me like so."

"Please let us live. We will..." one of them began begging for mercy but they shut up when they found that their mouth couldn't move anymore.

Space froze around their lips so they can't use their mouths to talk. The person can still communicate with their divine sense but they didn't because they got the hint. They are to keep quiet until he permits them to talk.

"Where was I?" He asked them, but no one answered. It was a rhetorical question. They are not supposed to answer and they shouldn't answer even if they want to.

So he continued without interruption. "You are at my mercy so you will do as I say. We will play a game. You lot will fight and kill each other. You will entertain me with your death. I might let the last person alive go if they entertain me well enough. That will be after extensive binding oaths and contracts. But salvation is possible. Do you understand me?"

Their faces changed when they heard what he said. They were listless before. But their faces went through a series of changes all because of hope. Their death was certain a moment ago. They were to die and nothing could save them. That was certain. But that has changed now. There is uncertainty about their future.

The uncertainty is both good and bad. But it is hopeful. It means that they might die or they might survive. Despair receded within them like a tide. Hope sparked in the darkness that it left behind. They have something to look forward to now.

