

## Heaven 771

Chapter 771: Touching a Dragon's Reverse Scale Is Not Wise.

The guard knew who this woman was, so he became nervous and quickly tried to reason with her, swimming toward her. "Madam Zhu! Do not overreact, these people have just arrived, and they aren't directly trying to talk to you."

However, Madam Zhu was like a bull that had seen red. She grabbed the guard by the neck with a furious expression. "Do you think I care?! Since these people dare to mock me, they must pay the price! I've never been insulted in my life, and I won't start today!"

Yasenia saw the face of the guard becoming red quickly as the woman strangled him and spoke up. "Madam Zhu, leave him alone. This is between us."

While Yasenia usually didn't care about other people, this guard had been nothing but nice to them. Seeing him die didn't sit right with Yasenia.

The four-meter-tall crustacean woman looked fiercely toward Yasenia and screamed. "Not only did you disrespect me, you now dare to give me orders!?" Her lips arched maliciously, and she said. "If I want to kill someone, I'll just do it!"

Then, she clenched her hand with the intention of breaking the guard's neck. Yasenia used her movement technique, appearing by her side in an instant, and used her index finger to poke five times on the wrist and forearm area.

Her energy sunk into Madam Zhu's body, forcing her hand to relax. Then, using her tail, she coiled it around the guard's torso and threw him toward her group. One of the maids stepped forward and caught him, feeding him a healing pill to avoid any complications.

Now face-to-face, Yasenia looked upward with a calm expression and spoke to her. "Now that he is out of the way, what's the problem?"

The dragoness naturally understood that her comment touched this woman's nerves somehow and that Madam Zhu was now acting extremely irrationally and emotionally, so she was willing to give her at least a chance to calm down before she took action.

Today, she wanted to spend a relaxing day with Kaleina and Flame without seeing blood, if possible. Of course, depending on the situation, things were bound to change.

The woman looked at her limp hand with wide eyes. The sensations in that area had disappeared, making her feel extremely uncomfortable. She pointed at Yasenia with her good hand, her face becoming redder because of anger. "You, you, you, you! Do you even know who I am!? My husband is the deputy City Lord of the Descending Ocean City! How dare you touch me!?"

Then, she turned around and screamed at the guards. "ALL OF YOU ARE USELESS! THERE IS A PERSON ATTACKING YOUR LORD, AND YOU DARE NOT COME TO SAVE ME!?"

The woman was screaming so loud that she was creating waves in the water above. Yasenia looked back and saw Kali and Cecile using their soft tails to protect Kaleina's and Flame's ears.

Suddenly, she felt danger and saw a merman clad in armor, one of the leading guards, appear by her side and punch her. His face was indifferent as he spoke before the blow. "Don't get us wrong. You just offended someone you shouldn't."

Yasenia deployed a large part of her strength, crossing her arms before the punch and tensing her body.

BANG!

The water around shook as Yasenia became a comet and flew back hundreds of meters, creating a bubble trail because of the speed she was piercing through. Finally, she smashed into the sand, creating an underwater sand explosion.

The dragoness chuckled, feeling her arms tingling. 'That hurt quite a lot.'

When she moved out of the stopped, she looked back at him with interest. 'A high-level Epoch Core. To think that even a deputy lord's wife has such a high-level guard, no wonder this city is considered one of the strongest cities of the mermaid race. There are probably more high-level Epoch Cores in this city than in my sect.'

Yasenia looked at her arms and saw a red mark appearing, telling her just how strong he was.

However, the ones surprised the most were the madam and the personal guard captain that attacked. The guard's face became serious. "Why are you hiding your strength?"

Yasenia blinked, looking back at him with a puzzled expression. "What do you mean?"

The guard sneered. "There is no need to act. You appear to be just in the fourth realm, and yet you could take one of my punches without dying? That's not possible!"

Yasenia paused, looking at him with a profound gaze. "You wanted to kill me with that attack?"

Seeing his affirmation, Yasenia looked at him and the madam pitifully. 'Oh, you poor bastard. You shouldn't have said that.'

In the next instant, fifty maids appeared around them and released their killing intent. The ocean around them seemed to darken as a suffocating pressure and the smell of blood permeated everywhere.

The faces of everyone present became deathly pale as the fear of death swallowed their souls.

Alaia's voice was chilly, sending shivers down everyone's spines. "Foolish creatures, you'll soon know what it means to offend those you shouldn't. Capture everyone!"

Before they could even react, the fifty maids attacked with perfect coordination. Their fists kicks, and blunt weapons sunk into the stomachs of each guard with muted sounds, leaving only the madam conscious.

There was only one high-level Epoch Core in the group, so it ended in an instant.

Seeing the preciously normal but now unconscious 200 people, Madam Zhu's body chilled as her heart almost stopped in fear. She quickly spoke with a stutter. "Y-You, if something happens to me, you'll have to deal with the retaliation of my husband!" Her eyes spun, and she added. "A-Also, I'm pregnant! Will you deal with a pregnant woman!?"

Well, sadly for her, these maids had been trained by Tatyana. Their empathy toward those who attacked Yasenia and those around them was nonexistent.

They've erased plenty of families in the past regardless of all their members' innocence because someone from that group tried to mess with Yasenia.

Alaia appeared before the woman's face, looking straight into her eyes with her emotionless deep blue slit eyes. After a while, she sneered. "Even if we wouldn't care, you are actually lying. Did you think that you would not be touched if you were pregnant?"

Madam Zhu's eyes shook, her face becoming a sickly white. "W-Wait, are you really going to capture me? Didn't you hear me!? I'm Madam Zhu, the wife of Zhu Xie!"

Alaia shook her head and tapped her forehead. Lightning bolts surrounded the four-meter-tall woman's body for a second, all her muscles tensing because of the powerful electricity triggering her nerves, and then she fell limp while closing her eyes.

Yasenia approached, and Alaia bowed 90 degrees. "I'm sorry, miss! I didn't realize that he was attacking to kill! Please punish us!"

Yasenia also didn't realize because his strength was somewhat lacking for a high-level Epoch Core, so her first thought was that he was holding back. Still, while it was normal for them to miss it, it was also the truth that they couldn't realize it.

Their job was to protect her, so even if a mortal attacked her with the intention to kill, it would be up to them to stop them. It might sound extremely strict, but imagine a mortal carrying a tool that activates with their life and can risk Yasenia's life.

It was a very niche situation, but on the offhand that it happened, the maids needed to be extremely attentive. With that in mind, Yasenia spoke. "You all will go into a 24-hour guard duty once we return to the sect for three months. Then, you'll complete the detection course for the next month. If any of you is unable to pass it, you'll be suspended from your maid duties for three years."

All the maids bowed and answered at once. "Yes, young miss!"

Yasenia looked at the guard and spoke to him. "Hey."

The guard straightened, and even underwater, Yasenia could see that he was sweating coldly. "W-What might you want from this little one, Lady Yasenia?"

Yasenia smiled. "I want to ask for a guide. Do you know where I can hire one? It would be interesting to have a guided visit."

The guard nodded like a pecking chicken. "Um, Lady Yasenia, what will you do with them?"

Yasenia looked sideways and looked at two of her level eight maids. "Carry them home and tie them all with the [Immortal Binding Ropes]." Those ropes suppressed the energy and bodily strength of cultivators, so once tied with it, it was impossible to escape. They had limits depending on their quality, but with enough good materials, even creating a rope for Tatyana's main body wasn't completely out of the question.

It was a lost art that Tatyana found in a secret realm exploration very long ago. Mirrory and Valeria knew about it

When they walked down and passed over a small hill, they finally saw the underwater city. There was another steep slope that went downwards, leading to a city big enough that, because of the water's refraction, they could not see the end of it by eye.

At a glance, the city was nearly 3000 meters under the water. While it would usually be completely dark at these depths, there was no problem because of the energy that was carried by the sunbeams.

The reason why oceans could be so deep and still harbor life in cultivation worlds is that the properties of water and light are slightly different.

Even at 20,000 meters in depth, there would be no problem in seeing around you. Of course, there was a limit to how deep the light could pierce, so areas where the ocean was completely in the dark still existed. Those areas had one of the highest concentrations of Yin energy in the world, creating many powerful beings that were conditioned to those environments.

Seeing the massive city, Kaleina exclaimed and swam forward by herself, looking around with glittering eyes. "Wow! There really is a city underwater!"

Yasenia smiled and was about to tell her to not go ahead by her own when her senses sharpened as something extremely quick approached Kaleina's direction.

Her face warped like a demon when she felt the malicious intention behind the people approaching. "WHO DARES!?"

Triggered by her wrathful roar, all the maids and even the spirits shot in the direction of the attackers about two kilometers away, engaging against a group of 75 aquatic human beasts.

The battle was an absolute stomp, and it didn't last more than ten seconds.

By the time they returned, Yasenia was hugging Kaleina and Flame and surrounded by all our girls.

The maids slammed them all against the sea floor, creating a massive underwater explosion that was quickly cleared with their energy control. Yasenia looked down coldly. "Who are you, and why were you aiming at my child?"

The leading water creature, a half-seal, half-human man, gritted his teeth and answered rudely. "Who the fuck was aiming at that cub? We don't know anything! Let us go before the mermaids come and take care of you because of your violent behavior!"

The guard at the side felt his lips twitch. "Why are there so many people bothering Lady Yasenia's group? Do they look weak or something?"

Meanwhile, Yasenia gave Kaleina to Cecile and approached one of the 75 people. Her tail, surrounded by a silvery aura, stabbed down and pierced the chest of a crab-like woman.

The chill from her Moon attribute seeped into the Low-level Epoch Core woman, making her scream. "AAH! COLD! COLD! STOP!"

The pain of feeling her insides freezing was almost unbearable.

Yasenia looked at the man as her Moon Energy slowly and painfully froze the woman held down by Alaia. "Answer, or she dies."

The man's eyes widened. "Y-You, don't you know that killing is strictly prohibited here!? If you kill her, you'll become the enemy of the mermaid race!"

Yasenia's lips arched in a sneer. "Wrong answer. [Draconic Crescent Moon]."

Her tail flashed three times, and the woman was sliced into pieces. Then, she moved toward the next person, and her tail stabbed a starfish man in the center of their body. "AHHH!"

The seal man shouted, anxious. "You, stop!"

Yasenia shook her head. "Wrong answer."

Then, her tail flashed again as she sliced another creature into chunks. Without saying anything, she approached another person.

That half-crab woman that she was approaching began trembling and begged. "Wait, wait! I'll answer, I'll answer. Please don't kill me!"

The man snarled. "YOU DARE!"

The crab-woman shouted back. "Fuck you! This time we've met a fucking lunatic! If you want to die, go alone!"

Yasenia stopped in front of her and looked down at her with extremely cold eyes. "Who asked you to attack my child?"

The crab-woman gulped down in fear as Yasenia's cold eyes hid an insanely burning wrath that felt as if it was about to come out and swallow her whole. "I-It was the [Seabed Assassin Coral Sect]! W-We are nothing but mercenaries that were hired! The order was that if we saw a dragon woman with a blue tail with golden rings, we should try to capture someone from that group before they entered the Descending Ocean City and send it to them! We know nothing more!"

Yasenia asked again. "Where is that sect? Why did you aim at my child?"

The crab woman was about to answer, but Yasenia felt an attack coming from the distance with extreme speed and accuracy aiming at the crab-woman's head. Still, it wasn't quick enough.

Even before that attack could make half the journey, Selena appeared, holding her large shield, and took the attack head-on.

BOOOM!

The water around her parted, but Selena stood still like a mountain, her snake tail not even dragging on the sand below her.

Yasenia laughed chillingly, the water around her swirling as a dense killing intent froze the water into ice that floated upward.

"It seems that our outing will have to change from city-viewing to sect-annihilation-viewing."

Chapter 772: Clara's Hunt.

Yasenia looked in the direction the attack came from and spoke coldly. "Clara."

Clara, Cecile's maid with light brown skin, silver hair, and silver eyes, stepped forward.

Yasenia ordered, full of killing intent. "Take a five-man group and hunt them down."

Clara bowed and disappeared, four other maids following right after.

Clara moved through the water at an extremely high speed, her massive spiritual sense expanding outward for hundreds of kilometers. Even underwater, the extra resistance was minimal.

Her silver eyes shone, looking around for traces and even scanning the ocean currents to see any deviations. While they were on missions, they called each other by numbers, so Clara used a communication device that every maid had and ordered. "Five, go east and follow the slope; Four,

accelerate and go straight forward; when I ask you, turn right. One, Two, and Three, come with me."

Clara went northeast at her quickest speed, flashing through the ocean like a mirage. Her silver eyes moved around constantly, searching for hints or energy traces. After a while, she stopped and approached a small rock at the side. 'Hm, a small shockwave moved the sand here recently. Probably, this is the spot where they shot from.'

With that in mind, Clara compressed her spiritual sense to a few hundred meters, but everything in the area entered her mind and was methodically dissected.

Her mind processed everything at ridiculous speeds as her [Hunt Intent] searched for traces all around the place. "One and Two go left from here. Three, follow me."

Clara's group of four separated and rushed in two opposite directions. Their figures blurred as they covered more and more areas, using their spiritual senses coordinately to search for clues. Just then, Clara's pupils shrunk as she found a small whirlpool 17 kilometers southwest. "All of you follow my energy pulse and surround the following area."

A ripple extended from her in an instant, covering hundreds of kilometers. All the maids that followed her made turns and covered large amounts of land with precision.

Only 20 seconds had passed since Clara started her hunt, but she was already on their tail.

While rushing through complex coral structures and other oceanic formations, she saw a broken coral and approached. She sniffed it with a technique to follow scent trails underwater and then closed her eyes, her senses spreading outward at insane speeds.

After half a second, Clara's eyes flew open, glowing softly. Energy gathered toward her, creating a powerful whirlpool. Then, she took out her bow, decisively pointing to her right and drawing it to a full moon. Her back muscles perfectly coordinated as the heavy bow bent, and then she released a single arrow.

**BOOM!**

The recoil from the Half-step Dantian Spiritualization arrow created a void in the ocean as it pierced through everything, creating a circular path that Maid Three followed in an instant.

After a few moments, Clara's lips arched coldly. There was a small energy fluctuation about 47 kilometers in the direction she shot the arrow. 'I found you.'

Meanwhile, a group of five people were moving at an extremely high speed through complex subaquatic biomes and erasing their traces as they moved. One of them, a merman, complained. "What the hell was that arrow? We barely dodged, and it came from who knows how far How did she know?"

A mermaid looked sideways with a cold expression as they never stopped moving. "Less speaking and more running. We are only 15 seconds away from entering the [Missing Chasm]. There, regardless of their strength, they won't be able to catch up."

The other four nodded as they moved quickly.

They dipped down a small opening, passed through many complex caves, and after five seconds, they appeared in a small opening that connected their current cave system with the next one.

However, when they appeared there, they saw a human woman holding a sword and wearing a maid outfit falling down on them like a raptor bird.

The sword of that woman twisted the water around as a massive crescent of pure energy shot at them.

They quickly defended themselves with body-strengthening skills.

BOOM!

A shark man, the leader of the group, exclaimed. "Disperse!"

All five of them regained their balance after being flung by the large explosion and shot in five different directions.

The maid decisively chose one of them and quickly followed after.

Three seconds later, the rest rejoined at a previously planned meeting point, but the one the maid chose to follow was missing. The mermaid anxiously said. "Almost all our routes have been cut; they are slowly trapping us in."

The shark man frowned and made a quick judgment of the situation. "Let's use the dark caves route. Although it's a bit dangerous because of that thing, we can use it to distract or even kill them."

They all nodded and quickly zipped through another complex cave system, eventually appearing in an open, large cave surrounded by algae and coral-filled rocks.

As they crossed through this large expanse with a large and gloomy hole in the middle, massive algae shot from that hole toward them.

Already expecting it, the shark man used all of his high-level Epoch Core strength and swung his fist at them.

BOOOM!

The cave shook but unexpectedly didn't blow up, showing extraordinary duress.

The algae that shot at them were blasted to bits. "Move quickly. This was just a testing move. The real one will come quickly after."

Right then, they saw a brown-skinned, silver-haired woman appear from the entrance they had just used, holding a bow and aiming at them with an indifferent face.

The shark man shouted. "DODGE!"

"[Moon Shaking Arrow]."

WHOOOM!

With a deep and buzzing sound that an arrow should not make when releasing, a tremendous energy wave followed the attack, freezing everything solid even at the depths they currently were.

The faces of the four people became pale as terror filled their bodies. "What kind of strength is this!?"

The arrow exploded, encasing the four of them in silvery ice without a chance to resist. Of course, it wasn't permanent, and the four of them were releasing all their strength crazily, slowly fracturing the ice that surrounded them.

Clara was about to move forward, but she felt something from the large hole, and her eyes moved indifferently to look at it. Then, she saw thousands of algae shot from a hole and even the ones on the walls that avoided being frozen shot at her.

The four people encased in the silvery ice could still look outside, so they became delighted.

Clara didn't give it another look and ordered. "Stop it."

Four maids broke through the solid ceiling, making the cave collapse. However, quicker than the cave collapsing, the four maids used their melee weapons to slice all the algae into pieces. One of them asked. "Zero, do we engage in combat with that?"

Clara shook her head. "No need. One, Two, and Four distract it while Five and I collect them."

The maids with the nicknames One, Two, and Four quickly dived into the black hole, and explosions began reverberating in the surroundings, making everything shake.

Five and Clara quickly opened the ice and captured all of them, tying their bodies with [Immortal Binding Ropes].

Clara commented. "Let's go. Three have already captured the last one."

One, Two, and Four exited the hole, and Clara was surprised to see that they had a few cuts on their bodies. She gave a deep look at the hole, but she didn't stay in this place any longer, and they all went back.

Yasenia was waiting on the other side, and one person from the mercenary group sneered. "You think your servants can catch them? You are dreaming. They are all trained assassins with thousands of years on their backs. As if a child like you can even begin to follow their trail."

Yasenia looked at the mercenary group leader and nodded. "You are right. I probably would be unable to do so." Suddenly, in the distance, several meteor-like lights appeared. Yasenia smirked coldly. "Thankfully, my maids aren't me."

After a few seconds, Clara and the rest of the maids reappeared in front of Yasenia, holding five maimed aquatic beast humans wearing similar-themed clothes. The mercenary leader's eyes widened. "H-How?"

Yasenia ignored him and approached. The fact that there were mermaids here meant nothing to Yasenia. It wasn't strange when some people from a race decided to deviate from the main group. She would naturally ask, but this didn't increase her doubts about the Mermaid Queen or anything.

Yasenia approached the five people tied in ropes. "I suppose that you are part of that How was it called? Right, the [Seabed Assassin Coral Sect]." Yasenia saw that the five of them were expressionless, but she continued talking as if she didn't see their indifference. "Answer, why were you targeting me? If the answer is not satisfactory, one of you will die until I kill all of you."

One of them, the merman, spat blood at Yasenia, staining the water before his mouth. Still, that attack was blocked by one of the maids, and nothing touched Yasenia. The man smiled coldly. "Then, kill us."



Yasenia's lips arched chillingly, her golden-red eyes flashing with wicked joy. "I see. You are trained." Yasenia crouched down, looking at that person eye-to-eye. "You know, when my mother trained me in torture methods, the people I loved torturing the most were trained assassins. The satisfaction and sense of achievement after a stubborn and trained assassin finally breaks and spills all their secrets was like a cold drink on a hot day."

Yasenia didn't see any changes in their expression, but with her incredibly sharp senses as a dragon, she felt a slight unnatural twitch appearing in his body.

Her lips arched further and she asked lowly. "You see. Usually, you wouldn't have to be too scared. After all, I do not rejoice in torturing. However, this time, someone attacked my daughter." Yasenia laughed, but those who heard that laugh only felt their bodies tremble. "So Will you become my torture practice subjects, or will you spill where your sect is, why did you attack us, and who asked your sect to attack us?"

The man in front of Yasenia smiled and spat at her again. Yasenia froze the water in front of his spit, blocking it, and then took the small disc of ice she created and used the sharp edge to slice one eye of that assassin.

Seeing the assassin's expression not change after he lost an eye, she flicked the ice disc away and clapped once. "Perfect~. You are better trained than average. Usually, after losing an eye, people react. But you managed to resist. You are excellent training subjects."

Yasenia turned around and beckoned Kaleina and Flame with a hand gesture. "Kaleina, Flame, come here. Mom will teach you torture."

The spirits, looking from the side, gulped.

Spirits were very easygoing creatures, so torture was something that none of them did. Even the "evilest" spirits would just involuntarily torture. For example, a Death Spirit that fed on negative emotions would possess a creature and show them fear just to nourish themselves. Still, it wasn't something done to make the other party suffer but more of a natural instinct.

If the spirits had a deep vendetta with someone, they would just annihilate them and everything related to it, most of the time, indiscriminately.

So, Yasenia's following actions would be something that made a few of them have a 180-degree change in how they looked at Yasenia.

They thought that she was a powerful dragon, but because of her soft side toward her family and her gentle personality toward Soluna, they felt that she was quite a good creature.

However

"AAAHHHH!!! I'LL SPEAK! I'LL SPEAK! PLEASE LET ME DIE!!!"

Seeing the assassin who had many parts of their body where they shouldn't be, as even the nerves and meridians were visible and being touched by certain substances, they decided that making Yasenia their enemy would be placed on a black list. Somehow, they felt that Yasenia would know methods for torturing a spirit.

Kaleina blinked as her claw severed one of the nerves. "Mommy, they told us that they want to speak. Do we end here?"

Yasenia patted her head. "A little bit more. We are almost done with the lesson."

"STOP! PEASE! I'LL SPEAK! I SWEAR TO THE HEAVENS THAT I'LL SPEAK!"

Flame, ignoring the shouts of the man, used her fire to burn a meridian, which brought about another stream of ghostly wails that could create nightmares for normal people, and looked at Yasenia with curiosity. "Aunty Yasenia, why do I need to heal this meridian with this liquid after I burned it?"

Yasenia smiled softly and explained. "After feeling too much pain, trained people gain a small amount of resistance, so with this liquid, we can regenerate all the nerves, making the "accustomed" nerves be reborn and returned to their original state before the torture started. Moreover, we increase the sensitivity by enhancing their energy conductivity for a few hours. In turn, the pain becomes fresh and even stronger again."

Flame nodded with an enlightened expression. "I see. So, if I do this" Flame dug into the man and used her flames to burn something deep inside him, making the trained assassin convulse. Then, she used a liquid Yasenia lent her, healing that part. " He shouts really loudly!"

Yasenia looked at the screaming man and used her tail to decapitate him. He was getting too noisy. "That's right, Flame. You both did a great job; come, give Mommy a hug."

Flame and Kaleina smiled softly and dug into Yasenia's arms, sniffing her relaxing scent. Even if they were taught to have less sensibility and empathy in these aspects, there was hidden stress that could build up.

So, Yasenia used her body to relax their nerves and rewrite the possibly bad experience with her hug and pampering.

After ten minutes, she released both children, and her eyes turned toward another assassin, the mermaid, making that person urinate in fear. The dragoness asked. "Will you also become an extra lesson, or will you speak?"

#### Chapter 773: Reasons

Meanwhile, on a deep chasm, about 500 kilometers away from the coast, there was a merman and a demon facing each other. The merman spoke coldly. "We've already done what we could. Now we just need to wait for the results. Is there anything else that you want?"

The green-skinned demon laughed, her twelve wings neatly folded behind her back. "Nothing more. I'll take my leave." She approached the five-meter-tall merman, grabbing his chin with a smirk. "It's a shame you rejected me, though. I think we could've had a great time together."

The demon woman was four meters tall, about a fifth smaller than the merman.

The merman didn't react, looking at her coldly. The demon woman grinned and then licked his cheek, quickly flashing backward when the merman punched at her gut.

Seeing his wrathful face, the demon woman laughed loudly and used her wind element to move away rapidly. "Bye-bye, handsome~. You are delicious~."

The merman, with a disgusted face, used his hand to clean his cheek from the sticky saliva.

A star-fish man at his side asked. "What do we do now, Sect Leader?"

A mermaid in the group also spoke with a frown. "Right, are you sure about this? Those demons didn't look trustworthy."

The merman looked at her. "And what was I supposed to do? The demons currently have the support of the Ocean Chasm Empire. Not to mention, they are hopelessly strong. That green demoness has the strength of a mid-level Epoch Core, yet she could easily dodge my full-blow punch after she disgustingly licked my face. If we had denied their request, we would probably already be dead."

The mermaid grimaced and then spoke. "What if the Astral Sky Clan comes here? I've heard that the Astral Sky Sect has uprooted many powers inland. Moreover, what about the Mermaid Race? We are not too far away from their territory. With the summit coming, if we make trouble, we'll get on the bad side of the Mermaid Queen."

The merman sneered. "While I admit the Astral Sky Clan are powerful and influential inland, here is the sea. Fighting underwater is a very different thing. So, while they are powerful, they have to lower their heads when they are in our territory. Moreover, we are a first-rate sect. Even if they miraculously come, our defenses are not easy to breach."

The merman then added. "We are now allied with the Ocean Chasm Empire and deeply connected. If the Mermaid Race wants to move, they will have to consider many things before they do so. The current political situation is extremely messy, so the mermaids won't go out of their way and spend effort on us when the outer world beings are causing trouble all around the world. At most, they will send a unit to attack us and make us suffer for a bit. Still, we are far from being eliminated. "

The merman sat on his coral seat and sighed. "Worst case scenario, we reduce our activities for half a century and gather our strength again. I honestly can't predict how the situation will unfold now that otherworldly beings are interfering."

The mermaid was still unconvinced. "Should we at least enter the high alert mode? We can activate the stealth and defensive formations to their maximum. It will consume a few Flawless Parus, but it should be worth activating until the Summit."

A crab woman at the side protested. "That's a waste of our fortune! While the fully activated formation is certainly strong, it is not worth activating it unless we are in a life-and-death situation. According to what we've heard, the Astral Sky Clan only has 400 people, with only 100 of those being Epoch Cores and even fewer being high-level Epoch Cores. Even if the infamous Peak-Level Dragon Woman comes, a single person is not enough to breach our defenses. No matter how strong, she will get tired and eventually defeated by us."

The mermaid sneered. "Right, because she got very tired while fighting 20,000 Epoch Core cultivators at that war."

The crab woman rolled her eyes. "A defensive battle and an open war is very different. We are in our home advantage, underwater, and our sect is inside a reinforced cliff with formations surrounding all entrances possible. Even if someone wants to enter our sect by force, we reside in a natural fortress, which is why our sect has been so successful, even when we focus on assassinations. All powers that managed to find us and attacked us failed to eliminate us."

The mermaid squinted. "What if the Mermaid Queen decides to step forward with an army personally? I've heard that the dragon and her have had many dealings lately."

The Sect Leader commented. "How would they find us, either way? It's not like our enemies will go and communicate any information to them before the summit. There are less than four days remaining until the summit starts. Nobody has time to meddle in small skirmishes. On the contrary, hoping for those powers to weaken, people will open one eye and close the other. Some might even throw blood into the shark tank to muddy the waters even more. But that's all."

The mermaid frowned, still unconvinced. The crab woman shook her head and said to her. "The people we sent are trained assassins. They are the pavilion masters of our five most successful assassin groups. Capturing them is completely out of the question, as they know thousands of ways to return to the sect without being followed. But, even if, by some miracle, they are captured, they won't be able to squeeze any information out of them. They might take a week, even if somehow they can do so."

The merman Sect Leader nodded. "That's right. Even if they are captured, which I doubt, they won't speak. They are heavily trained to resist all kinds of torture. That's another reason why I accepted their proposal so easily. Adding to that, those mercenaries have a reputation for not saying anything as well. In short, we are relatively safe."

BOOM!

Without any previous sign whatsoever, the entire cliff where the sect was built suddenly trembled as if an underwater earthquake had hit them.

They all stood up at once, their faces solemn.

Then, a mellow and seductive voice echoed around. "I'll give the Sect Leader 1 minute to come outside before I'll make them."

The people in the main room stiffened, looking at the Sect Leader, who was now looking outside with a crumpled expression.

The mermaid laughed in mockery as she looked at the crab woman and clapped. "You were right. How could they do it in one week? They just needed a few hours to extract information and find this place."

However, while the mermaid was mocking the crab woman, who had an expression as if she had just swallowed a bug, the rest of the executives of the sect panicked and began looking at the Sect Leader.

"Sect Leader, what do we do!? Didn't you say that there would be no problems!?"

"Sect Leader, if we talk with them and tell them our situation, they might understand! Please listen to their demands and go out."

"That's right, sect Leader, you should go outside and apologize to them. We might-."

"SILENCE!"

The merman's enraged voice echoed in their room, and his aura made the water around them tremble as if pressure as heavy as a mountain fell on all of them. "Is this how the elders from an assassin sect act!? What a disappointment! Is an otherworldly power that scary!? They are nothing but a new power that just arrived not long ago! At most, we defend ourselves until they give up! Otherworlder or not, they are all in the cultivation same realm as us!"

Everyone shut up, lowering their heads.

Then, he spoke with a murderous tone. "Call all elders of the peak-level Ethereal Soul realm and above. Even if they are strong, are we so cowardly that we won't even dare face them!? We are going to do what we do best. KILL!"

One of the elders, who was old and therefore fearful of death, felt the aura leaking from the beings outside, got scared and began blaming the merman. "You are a failure as a Sect Leader! How dare you even provoke them in the first place!? We should've asked for help from the mermaids as soon as the Demons contacted us, and yet-"

The merman looked at him with a cold expression and extended his arm. The water around that person stilled, and as the elder's eyes widened, he clenched his extended hand. "[Water Intent Level Five], [Crushing Ocean]."

With his words, the water around the elder suddenly compressed, creating a cavitation bubble that brought the weight of the ocean on the relatively weak mid-level Epoch Core elder.

BOOM!

With a muted explosion, that elder's body exploded in a gory red cloud that got swept away by the natural currents.

Then, the merman ordered the others without even looking at the result of his attack. "Let's go outside."

Nobody dared defy him.

Yasenia waited outside, and when the minute was about to run out, she saw humanoid sea creatures swimming out from the cliffside in the thousands. They were like a swarm of sardines as tens of thousands gathered.

One thing ocean creatures had going over land creatures was population. In most places, if land and water creatures could fight without environmental restrictions, water creatures would win eight out of ten times.

Of course, that was in an ideal scenario; reality was much different. Still, being underwater, subaquatic species had an advantage. That's why, for most land beings, oceans and seas were natural barriers that could separate continents in the same world for tens of thousands of years or even longer.

The popularity of Flying Ships in higher-level worlds is attributed mainly to this innate fear of the ocean all beings had. For example, even that random algae monster Clara encountered could fight three maids at once and injure them. Of course, in a fight to the death, the maids clearly had an advantage, but it showed that there were incredibly strange and strong creatures in the oceans of most worlds.

Yasenia looked at the nearly fifteen thousand beings with an indifferent face. Twelve thousand of those were Peak-Level Ethereal Souls, and most of the others were a combination of low and mid-level Epoch Cores.

There were around 35 high-level Epoch Cores, with none being at the peak level.

It was a relatively strong first-rated sect. If Yasenia wanted to face them without the maids, only using the accumulated power of the Astral Sky Sect, her only option would be to retreat and swallow the insult, abiding for her time until she could get revenge.

The Sect Leader, a tall merman about five meters in height, swam at the front of their group with a large harpoon-like spear.

He spoke solemnly. "Who are you? To dare come to our gate and act so arrogantly with such a small group, you better have a good reason!"

Yasenia used her tail and swished it from side to side, propelling herself forward at a gentle pace. She sent a few messages to the maids on how to act before advancing forward alone.

They were currently floating in the middle of a chasm, with cliffs at each side and bottomless darkness below them. The cliff where the Assassin Sect was had many cracks as a powerful attack from one of Yasenia's maids had hit it.

Both sides were incomparable in size, but Yasenia was unafraid. Her maids had many Dantian Spiritualization Realm Half-steps.

The spirits were ignorant about Yasenia, so they talked to the maids. Soluna was the one who spoke, her exotic, echoey voice sounding anxious. "Why are you letting her move forward alone? Yasenia might be your leader, but she is still weak, right? I can sense that she is just in the fourth realm! Moreover, didn't you all get punished because of the attack she received previously?"

Alaia, as the leader of the maids, smiled reassuringly. "Don't worry, Soluna. Yasenia is stronger than you think. She is one of the participants at this summit. Now that we've talked things out, mistakes like the previous one won't happen. Just look at the show." Alaia looked at the back of the dragoness and smirked. "Moreover, Yasenia is very angry currently. If she doesn't vent, she might explode."

The spirits opened their eyes, showing surprise at Alaia's confidence when Yasenia was approaching an actual High-level Epoch Core.

Embera commented. "Are you sure? If you want our help, we're happy to step forward."

Alaia understood that their words were out of goodwill, so she laughed softly and answered. "If she needs help, we will be the ones stepping out even before she asks for it. When we charge forward, you can all follow us if you want."

The spirits nodded and looked at Yasenia.

Chapter 774: Consequences. Dragon vs High-level Epoch Core.

"Who are you? To dare come to our gate and act so arrogantly with such a small group, you better have a good reason!"

After hearing such a question from the five-meter-tall merman, Yasenia's indifferent expression cooled down even more. "Do fish people think that others are lacking intelligence? What kind of asinine question is that? You ask about who I am. You know perfectly well who I am and why I came here."

The merman snorted. "There have been many years since anybody dared come to protest at my doorsteps. If you were assassinated in any way, you should search for who paid us to do so, not us. As the saying goes, don't blame the messenger; blame the one who wrote the message."

Yasenia's lips arched mockingly. "What's the point?"

The merman frowned. "What do you mean?"

Yasenia asked. "What's the point of all this bullshit? Did you expect me to go, 'Ah, sorry, how could I not remember, silly me! I'm going to leave now since everything was a misunderstanding.' Or something similar?"

The dragoness stopped about 1000 meters away from the merman, with plenty of space to maneuver and be heard by him. The width of the chasm reached several thousand meters, so while each group was on one side, both leaders were near the middle, face to face.

Yasenia's bottled anger finally began resurfacing, her pupils thinning to lines as a terrible aura began seeping from her and creating turbulent currents around her. "Do you think I need to interrogate anybody to know that your pitiful group allied with Demons? Or that the Demons are allied with the Ocean Chasm Empire, which you probably thought was a big enough backer to deter me from moving?"

The merman frowned. He could clearly feel that the dragon in front of him was at the peak of the fourth realm, and yet, the pressure and killing intent slowly radiating made his heart feel heavy. 'I'm feeling threatened by a fourth realm junior? How is this possible?'

Yasenia spoke word by word, her tone rising. "Usually, I don't really mind when someone tries to send assassins my way. It is a natural course of action while trying to push forward and take a bite out of someone else's resources. Who would sit aside when a new power appears and said power tries to steal resources? BUT!"

Yasenia growled, her irises slowly being tainted in a shade of bright red for the first time in many years. "You targeted Kaleina!"

Yasenia looked at them frostily, and the anger that she had controlled since the mercenaries tried to kidnap her baby finally erupted with a rumbling dragon roar and killing intent.

ROAR!

"HOW DARE YOU TRY TO TOUCH MY CHILD!?"

Her aura burst outward, rushing toward the merman. To counterattack, because of Yasenia's low level, instead of himself, five high-level Epoch Core seniors from the other side used theirs to counter.

One of them spat. "Disrespectful Junior, if you run rampant in front of your seniors, you will get hurt!"

However, their eyes widened in terror when the five high-level Epoch Core auras clashed against Yasenia's. The five auras were blasted into pieces as Yasenia's presence inundated the chasm, swallowing everything in Yasenia's Emphyrean presence.

Her [Monarch Intent], [War Intent], [Celestial Intent], Dragon Aura, and other similar aura-increasing abilities boosted her ability to pressure other cultivators several times over. Then, adding her refined soul strength, her presence magnified like a chemical chain reaction, swelling enough to be considered someone at the top of the continent spiritual-pressure-wise.

The faces of the spirits and everyone on the other side changed as the wrathful dragon enveloped everything and radiated waves of killing intent like a hurricane.

Yasenia, her irises glowing crimson out of pure wrath, roared majestically. "GET HURT!? INSECTS THAT DESERVE NOTHING BUT A PAINFUL AND SLOW DEATH. DID YOU THINK I CAME TO HAVE A CONVERSATION WITH THOSE THAT DARED AIM AT MY CHILD!?"

At that moment, everyone's heart skipped a beat.

Yasenia knew that she could let go of her anger because of the people behind her, so she didn't hold back or act as carefully as she usually would.

A first-rate sect with a few dozen high-level Epoch Cores? With her current military power, alliances, and general situation, she could stomp on them as she wanted.

"[Empyrean Cosmos Dragon Transformation]!"

The Sect Leader of the Assassin Sect felt the water moving as currents of energy traveled toward Yasenia, and the dragoness's body was enveloped in energy and ballooned.

The reason he didn't attack was because he still had confidence in the massive number difference. For him, even when he felt some danger coming from the beast, the dragon in front of him was just a jumping clown.

After just a second, a colossal dragon that could be compared with a small mountain dwarfed everything around her. With her massive size, even the previously tall merman looked nothing but similar to a slightly larger ant.

The dragon's low, otherworldly voice spread like the profoundness of the cosmos and the mystique of the stars.

"Your sect will be the example I'll set for those who try to cross my bottom line!"

Her draconic voice, accompanied by a terrifying low growl, hammered the heads of her enemies, making some of them dizzy.

Then, her [Empyrean Galaxy Domain] spread out, and the underwater sky changed from a beautiful blue reflecting the sunbeams to a dark sky filled with stars.

Besides the enchanting galaxy made out of thousands of white stars that suddenly appeared in the darkened sky, there was a giant Moon and Sun rotating around it.

Soluna's eyes shone with adoration as the Empyrean scenery appeared.

The other spirits naturally realized why Yasenia could touch Soluna. 'She herself is a being with both attributes. No wonder they are compatible with each other.'

The merman looked at the colossal dragon that appeared, surrounded by empyrean lights, and his face became cold as he pointed his spear at the beast. "Arrogant."

The merman used the same technique he used with the elder, wanting to deal with her as soon as possible. "Die. [Merman Scale Oceanic Body], [Water Intent Level Five], [Crushing Ocean]."

A gentle blue aura enveloped his body, increasing his strength, and then the same effect that happened around the elder occurred around Yasenia.



The water, as if it had become the maw of a terrifying monster, swallowed the giant dragon with a massive explosive sound.

BOOM!

The merman sneered as he saw the water swallow the dragon. "So much for-."

But the ethereal voice of the Empyrean Cosmos Dragon interrupted him.

"[Innate Skill: Celestial Dragon Body]."

The Sun, Moon, and Star Dragon Body appeared in her body together with the aura of [Celestial Intent Level Two]. Not long ago, she made a breakthrough when she refined her body with the help of the Body Cultivation Technique.

Simultaneously, her [Celestial Energy Star] began rotating at its maximum speed, feeding Celestial Energy through her meridians.

When the three skills that were about to collide in a chaotic mess were intertwined with the Celestial energy, they melded as one, and all of them spread around Yasenias enormous dragon body faster than anything else.

While the Ocean around her collapsed, Yasenias body released a primordial aura that pushed everything outward.

Like a star where the dance between gravity and the star core's strength created a delicate balance, the outward crushing force and inward pushing force came to a standstill just for a few instants.

However, unlike a star, Yasenias fate was not being crushed by the attack but by her primordial aura blasting the ocean, crushing toward her with immense strength.

A muted explosion occurred that created a kilometric void around the dragon could be seen.

The enormous dragon, glowing with celestial lights and spreading her wings majestically, floated in the void she created while her cold reptilian eyes locked onto the Merman.

The sight of a hole in the ocean was spectacular for those who were strong enough to follow the sequence of events.

Then, utterly unaffected by the Sect Leader's attack, Yasenias flapped her sky-shrouding wings, using her [Pegasus Gallop] and [Draconic Moon Charge], and became a streak of light that pierced into the ocean before the massive void she created closed because of the natural forces pushing on it.

The merman was a High-Level Epoch Core, but he wasn't a very powerful one. Of course, that was relative to Tengliu and similar beings.

Even if he fell into the "average" category, he still was a bona fide High-level Epoch Core.

Therefore, even though Yasenias had gained unimaginable speed for someone at her level and something of her size, she was within the limits of the reaction speed of the merman.

When the massive claw of the dragon clenched in a fist surrounded by silver lights appeared in front of his eyes like a small building, he used his own fist to meet with her.

"[Nascent Moon Burst]!"

"[Oceanic Crushing fist]!"

The void closed behind Yasenia just as their fists collided, creating another large gap in the ocean because of the strength of their fists meeting.

The power behind their attacks pushed both creatures back. However, the fact that Yasenia just exchanged a blow with a high-level Epoch Core and the result was equal strength surprised not only the people behind the merman but also the spirits, and even our girls opened their eyes slightly wider in surprise.

The girls knew that Yasenia's strength was starting to get out of hand for them because of how relatively slow Yasenia was advancing.

Their dragoness was taking each step very carefully, refining her strength to a level of perfection they didn't even realize was possible. Of course, they were doing something similar as well, which meant that the girls were also exceptionally strong, but thanks to all the special talents Yasenia had, her "peak" was higher than theirs at the same level.

After exchanging the first proving strike, Yasenia's body swirled with Sun, Moon, and Star energies as she released a barrage of close-combat skills.

The merman saw a massive claw followed by a phantom claw that dwarfed even the giant dragon, and he blocked it with a spear thrust. His eyes and spiritual sense condensed to see everything and captured the movements of the long tail slashing at him with silver energies.

He knew that the bodily strength of the large creature was not negligible, so he dodged backward, not knowing that [Draconic Crescent Moon] was both a ranged and melee attack.

A silver crescent hit the body cultivator right in the middle, pushing him back like a comet into the cliff at the side.

Yasenia didn't stop attacking for a moment and opened her maw, releasing a powerful [Moon Dragon Breath].

A massive wave of frost froze everything in its path, creating icebergs that floated upward.

The silver beam continuously striking the cliff made many feel horrified at the strength of the dragon's breath.

Yasenia's Galaxy Blue draconic eyes, affected by her Celestial Energy enveloping her entire body, flashed as her spiritual sense caught a signal behind her that appeared from the bottom right.

Using her wings to maneuver in the ocean, her body spun as she used a palm strike. "[Moon Splitting Palm]."

The merman, surrounded by a blue aura and holding the spear toward Yasenia, collided with the attack, piercing through and reaching the dragon's side.

BANG!

This time, it was Yasenia's turn to be sent flying.

The small-mountain-sized dragon flew backward, splitting a few scales on her side and drawing a bit of blood. However, the attack was unable to pierce deep enough to feel relevant, showing incredible sturdiness.

The merman and Yaseenia exchanged indifferent glances and rushed at each other again.

Their bodies moved across the water in curved patterns, meeting with each other after overcoming the recoil of their collision and constantly exchanging blows that made the ocean quake.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

Their path was strewn with gaps in the ocean that exploded after they left them, creating double the thunderous sounds.

The people observing had their mouths agape. A creature the size of Yaseenia was already rare in Distancia, but one with enough agility to perform all the incredible maneuvers she was currently performing was something that Distancia's people had never seen.

Yaseenia's body suddenly burst with silver light as [Empyrean Moon Collapse] unfolded, one of her strongest attacks, and the merman was sent flying again, with a few parts of his skin freezing as he spat a mouthful of blood.

Using the time frame she created, Yaseenia performed a seven-step movement, leaving behind stars at each step while creating the constellation of Ursa.

Yaseenia's voice echoed around like an almighty being who declared judgment.

"[Heavenly Constellation Steps, Second Sky: Ursa's Grasp]."

The image of a mountain dwarfing bear appeared behind Yaseenia, and then it entered her body. The dragon's agile and slim body tensed, making the perfectly carved muscles show even through her beautiful blue scales.

Her already profound aura underwent a complete transformation, forcing the indifferent face of the Assassin Sect Leader to change. 'What is this aura?'

Yaseenia's draconic mouth arched, revealing her sharp fangs as she used her four limbs to shoot forward like a shooting star.

"Now. Let's start round two."

Chapter 775: Battle's resolution.

The Assassin Sect Leader blinked and saw the giant dragon blurring as she sped toward him. 'Fast!'

She was still within his reaction time, but the current sped, and the previous one was incomparable.

He grabbed his large harpoon-like spear with two hands and prepared to retaliate. However, Yaseenia changed tactics.

When she was about 200 meters apart, neither too long nor short distance, the dragon abruptly stopped and took a deep breath

ROAAARR!!!!

Her energy and soul circulated and burst in an ethereal golden light. The water around her shook, and the dragon's voice spread in a tidal wave.

The Assassin leader didn't know what it was, but he either way tried to use his defensive skill to harden his body.

Then, the golden shockwave hit him like a hammer in the head would.

BANG!

His vision flashed white, and his ear rang. His body burned because the [Sun Dragon Breath] directly attacked his soul.

Being completely unprepared, he was wholly dazed for a moment, which Yasenia took advantage of.

With [Celestial Dragon Body], [Celestial Cosmos Dress], [Ursa's Grasp], [War Intent], and other similar buffing skills active, the dragon appeared in front of the man and punched at him using one of her strongest melee skills. "[Empyrean Sun Collapse]!"

The water around them boiled, and as her arm descended, the scales on Yasenia's right arm became golden.

From the outside, it felt as if the enormous dragon had suddenly grabbed a golden star that dyed part of her body in it, radiating intense heat.

The small-building-sized fist descended like a golden meteor and impacted him.

BOOOM!

The merman felt a scorching heat impacting his body, and all his muscles, bones, and organs cried in protest at the ridiculously strong attack.

Still, he was a high-level Epoch Core, so his defenses didn't crumble completely, managing to resist the sneak attack. Moreover, he had defended himself previously, and that defense remained half-erect after the Sun Dargon Breath struck, which is what saved him from receiving a heavy injury.

Seeing their leader being blasted like a shooting star against the distant cliff, many wanted to move and help, but some elders stopped them.

They had been observing the small group of 70 for a while, and the threat level they felt from them gave their souls chills as their limbs became numb. 'The moment that person moved to help, most of the people on the other side had shifted their eyes toward them. The feeling of death became extremely clear at that time.'

As assassins, they were trained to sense these things. Of course, with a limit, but this time, the threat was so clear that the elders that noticed doubted their senses and had to confirm with others.

Meanwhile, Yasenia knew that although her attack did damage, the fight was long from over. 'My attack power and lethality are still lacking against high-level Epoch Core defenses.'

She used her senses to feel her skills and frowned. 'My [Celestial Dragon Body] is soon coming to an end. Once it ends, I'll need to use another buffing Celestial Skill, which will take one chance to finish off the battle. After all, killing him with anything else but a Celestial Skill seems impossible.'

BOOM!

The cliff exploded, and from the dust cloud, the Merman appeared, his body scalded in many parts as blood poured out of his mouth. However, he didn't stop at all and rushed toward Yasenia with cold rage burning in his eyes.

Yasenia rushed forward to meet him as well and controlled her [Empyrean Galaxy Domain].

A profound ripple spread around, and the stars in the sky began falling.

Hundreds of stars, one after another, descended like meteors of light. When they were close, Yaseenia didn't make contact as she switched to a ranged attack method. "[Celestial Field Master], [Starfall], [Cosmic Sun Nova]."

A golden explosion of flames, this time physical, burst around Yaseenia and caused a reaction with the water, forcing a massive underwater detonation to occur that hurt even Yaseenia.

However, thanks to that, whatever attack the merman was prepared to retaliate with was completely nullified as he used it to defend himself.

A massive spear of water pierced through the explosion, creating a void that connected both Yaseenia and him.

Still, the merman couldn't use the gap he created as the hundreds of descending stars were already on top of him.

The perfectly layered attack made it impossible to approach for the time being as the enormous dragon began throwing ranged attacks without pause.

A giant silver crescent, a wave of stars, phantom palm strikes, dragon breaths, and many more skills flew the merman's way.

Yaseenia fought with otherworldly proficiency. Her breath attacks pierced the water as if it were air, her claws released hundreds of shadows when [Sun Dragon Claw] and similar skills were used, and her tail constantly intertwined with her attacks, releasing [Draconic Crescent Moon] one after another.

Then, with the help of her Body Path skills, like the nova skill and the palm skills, she managed to fill the gaps the sect leader managed to create, pushing him out constantly even when the Assassin Leader used his skills to suddenly close the gap.

The merman snarled. "Arrogant Dragon! Did you really think that you could win with such strength!? No matter how many of these skills you use, you are courting death! Once you get tired, it will be my win! [Water Traversing Silent Step]."

He used his tail to accelerate and tanked many attacks, receiving injuries but reaching Yaseenia's side. The dragoness's eyes flashed. '[Celestial Dragon Body] is going to fizzle at any moment. This is a good chance.'

Yaseenia used her wing and tail to shift her colossal body through the water extremely agilely, aided by [Pegasus Gallop]'s explosive acceleration and not losing to the merman's dexterity.

Instead of widening the distance to continue with her ranged bombardment, she retaliated.

Once the merman missed his attack, creating a massive blue wave that twisted the ocean in terrifying whirlpools, her enormous tail used her position shift momentum and fell at him, reinforced by [Draconic Dawn].

Her tail glowed silver and golden as it descended, squarely landing on the merman's back. Blood exploded as Dawn's opposing chill and heat and Yaseenia's hard scales peeled off the skin.

At the same time, all her accumulated Moon energy transformed into Sun Energy, and Yaseenia's scales gained a golden sheen.

BANG!

The merman was thrown into the cliff, but the dragoness never showed satisfaction.

Yasenia extended her arm and growled. "Come, [Draconic Heart]."

ROAR!

Followed by a low and echoing dragon cry, a massive sword scaled up enough for Yasenia to hold appeared in her grasp.

The hill-sized sword, blueish scales covering its entire length, swirled with terrifying energies as Yasenia lifted it upward.

After the merman burst out from the rock, an enormous explosion occurred on the cliff, and the sand wave spread for a few kilometers, large chunks of rocks falling toward the chasm below them.

When the merman appeared with a twisted expression of anger, his eyes spewing killing intent at being played, Yasenia's sword radiated golden light.

Yasenia slashed down with a terrifyingly cold face. "[Draconic Noon]."

The people looking from a distance saw the enormous sword descending, and then they saw white.

A Sun was born in the depths of the ocean, illuminating the dark chasm as the water around Yasenia superheated.

Thanks to the pressure, the boiling point was much higher, so instead of water, those outside the evaporation radius felt as if they had fallen inside lava.

WHOOM!

The Titanic dragon-shaped golden beam rushed toward the merman with unstoppable momentum.

This was the strongest Noon Yasenia ever used.

Feeling actual danger from the attack, he stopped his charge forward and unleashed his strongest defensive skill. "[Oceanic Barrier]!"

The water in front of him solidified, creating a giant shield, and Noon impacted with enough might to raze a few mountains to the ground.

The explosion blinded everyone, but since the weakest present were at the peak of the Ethereal Soul realm, they were quick to recover and see the result.

The sect leader was primarily unharmed, with a few burns on his skin, but he had blocked the attack successfully. "Your attack was powerful, but you can't kill me. You lack firepower."

Yasenia opened her maw, and the deep blackness at the back of her throat got illuminated.

"I know. [Celestial Dragon Breath]."

The Sect Leader's eyes widened as a bluish light instantly swallowed his vision.

Yasenia's dragon breath's recoil pushed her body back into the water, and she used her Spiritual Sense to aim at the person swallowed by her attack.

Her neck muscles strained as she twisted her face, following the leader trying to escape. Her throat burned, her meridians swelled, and right as [Celestial Dragon Body]'s effects disappeared, Yasenia finally lost the Sect Leader's position, and her [Celestial Dragon Breath] also stopped.

Yasenia's attack had left a massive hole in the cliff that extended far into the distance, changing the landscape around her attack.

After she lost him, she stopped attacking, her mouth numb because of the burns created by her own breath attack.

Still, her self-healing kicked in, and with [Celestial Cosmos Dress] enhancing its effects, she regenerated her body quickly.

Yasenia didn't lower her guard even if she couldn't feel or see the leader. Her eyes constantly moved as she floated in the water, creating small whirlpools around her with her mere presence.

However, after a few moments, nobody appeared around her, confusing her. 'Where did he go? Is he preparing an ambush? He is, after all, an assassin. Has she concealed his aura enough for even my dragon sense not to feel him?'

Yasenia looked around warily, and her senses stretched to the limit. She could even hear the breathing of a few fish nearby that had miraculously survived until now.

Even the people from the Assassin sect looked around with puzzled expressions.

After ten more minutes, Tatyana's message reached her. 'Little treasure, he escaped. I felt a spatial fluctuation, so he probably used a life-saving treasure to flee.'

Yasenia blinked a few times, and she began stopping to use her auras one by one.

Even if Tatyana told her that he left, she needed to be careful. One aura disappeared, then another, then another, and finally, all auras except [Celestial Cosmos Dress] had vanished.

She then carefully returned to the maid's side, her long body moving from side to side as her wings undulated and her tail swished behind her to propel her forward.

Dragons were excellent swimmers, and Yasenia proved it perfectly in this battle. Naturally, without the pill Kali concocted before they entered, she might've had more problems when fighting the High-level Epoch Core cultivator.

Yasenia was somewhat confused as to why he fled. 'While my attacks were strong, even [Celestial Dragon Breath] should not be able to kill him after one hit. I had calculated that I needed to hit at least three or four of them before I managed to weaken him enough to kill him then. Whether my energy would last until then is a complete mystery, so my chances of winning this battle were actually less than ten percent.'

Her body was riddled with injuries created during their close-combat exchange, leaving an actual trail of blood as she swam back to her group.

The burden of receiving a High-level Epoch Core's all-out attacks was significant. 'It hurts everywhere, sigh.'

However, she was very happy with the result.

While a level five intent was powerful, her intents could match up after being taken into account as consideration. 'If he had a level 6 intent, I would have received quite a harsh beating.'

Moreover, his specialization was assassination, so he was at least ten percent weaker in a fight head one because he couldn't use many of his tricks.

'All in all, I assessed the situation correctly and placed myself in a winning situation that otherwise would've been impossible.'

Facing a high-level Fifth realm person at the peak of the fourth was nothing but insanity, but thanks to Yasenia's many considerations, even when she did them while utterly enraged, resulted in her winning.

She was dissatisfied that he managed to escape; after all, she very much wanted to capture him and lock him up in her torture rooms because of his decision to attack her precious Kaleina. 'Still, it was a perfect situation to test my strength against a proper enemy that could force me to use my all.'

She shook her head, finally seeing the people she had left behind while they moved around and fought. 'Well, I need to deal with the Assassin sect now.'

Chapter 776: Astral Sky Abyss Sect.

The people from the Assassin Sect saw the majestic dragon return with injuries all across its body. But seeing her injuries made them feel fearful instead of happy; after all, their Sect Leader was not here. Moreover, [Celestial Dragon Breath] had actually scared the grand majority of the spectating people, and they were trembling while the giant dragon swam toward them.

They all began murmuring between each other with frowns.

"Did that dragon win?"

"How can a dragon be so strong? Weren't they a low-level beast?"

"Right? It's impossible for a dragon to surmount so many levels and fight equally. Any other dragon would've been dead in the first exchange."

"Well, she is bigger than any beast I've ever seen. Although she still can't compare with those creatures from the depths."

One of the elders frowned and shouted. "Silence! Prepare for battle!"

Once Yasenia joined her own group, she asked while looking at the thousands of cultivators preparing for battle. "Did you stop them from joining the battle?"

Alaia bowed and looked up. "Yes, Young Miss."

The enormous dragon nodded, and Kali approached with a worried look. "Open your mouth, love."

Kali was even smaller than Yasenia's eyeball, so the sight of such a small creature ordering the enormous being was quite a sight. Still, our lovely dragoness docilely obeyed her and opened her maw.

Kali had to swim backward to avoid being sucked in by the water entering Yasenia's mouth. Still, she managed to throw two green pills in the meantime. The pills followed the water, and after Yasenia gulped a mouthful of water with the two pills, she closed her giant mouth.



Yasenia instantly felt the healing effects as the healing waves unraveled and traveled through her veins and meridians.

In the meantime, one of the elders from the Assassin sect spoke aloud. "Dragon, you've already taken your revenge. Do you really want to fight us until the end?"

Yasenia turned her large dragon head in their direction and fixed her eyes on the mermaid holding two short swords. 'Her strength is similar to the merman.'

Her nose twitched, being sharp enough even to discern scents underwater, and she was able to pick up the merman's scent from her body. 'Hm? Are they a couple?'

The mermaid was normal-human sized, so she was a bit doubtful of how she would pair up with a five-meter-tall merman, a creature three times the average height of a human. 'Well, whatever.'

Yasenia looked at Kaleina, looking up at her with sparkling eyes together with Angel, Flame, and Soluna. Remembering how they wanted to steal her baby, the rational mind that told her to move to negotiations felt momentarily clouded with rage.

Still, she closed her eyes for a second and kept in that rage. However, she wasn't going to deal with them as usual. The punishment for attacking her little baby would be harsh, even if she had vented some of her anger in her recent fight.

"Mermaid, we'll kill all of you."

The mermaid's eyes cooled down, ready to attack, but Yasenia continued.

"However, I'll give you one chance and only one."

The mermaid and everyone else listened closely.

Yasenia looked at them, her wings leisurely moving to keep her dense body afloat. If she didn't move, she would sink down. "Surrender to me. Naturally, those who surrender will only be able to do so after taking a restrictive Heavenly oath. However, if more than 30% of each group is averse to surrendering, then we'll have to fight."

Yasenia squinted. "Don't think that you can buy time and wait for the mermaid race to come. That's the worst you can do. If they really arrive, they will take my side." Yasenia saw skeptical looks, so she added. "Whether you believe it or not, that's the truth."

Yasenia's ethereal voice reverberated around, like Heaven's ultimatum.

"Choose."

Then, as if to increase the sense of oppression brought by a small-mountain-sized dragon, all the maids behind Yasenia flashed around her and released their auras unhinged.

With a muted explosion, even space cracked as the powerful aura of the high-level maids twisted the world around them. The tempestuous energy vortex resulting from their aura release was enough to force the tens of thousands of beings to take a step back.

Soluna found it interesting, so she also stepped forward and joined the maids. The Spirits naturally wouldn't let their own princess on their own, so they all released their auras.

Then, the world almost collapsed.

The six peak-level Fifth Realm spirits were like concentrations of their elements that suddenly awakened. The water around them combined with their wills, gaining several forms and shapes.

The water around Embera began to boil, the one around the water spirit began to come under her control, etc.

With everything combined, it felt as if Immortals had descended in front of them.

Yasenia first spoke to the maids. "We will swallow them and rename them to [Astral Sky Abyss Sect]. They will be our first step to solidify our underwater foundations."

Then, added as she began moving toward the group accompanied by her maids and the spirits. "Surrender or perish! Those who surrender will be accepted under our banner. Those who resist will be eliminated!"

Most people saw the dragon rushing at them, accompanied by another sixty equally terrifying beings, and utterly scared from her previous show of might, they all began surrendering.

"I surrender!"

"Please, don't kill me!"

"I give up, I give up!"

"I never was even fond of this sect anyway! I give up!"

After a few cowardly people shouted aloud their current feelings, it was like a chain reaction. The elders and sect members who wanted to fight could only see helplessly how the grand majority of people turned and fled toward the sect, separating from the group.

By the time Yasenia arrived in front of them, the group had reduced to a pitiful 700 cultivators. Yasenia squinted and lifted her arm, a clear sign of the order she was about to give.

The seven hundred people had around seven high-level Epoch Core cultivators in their ranks, a far cry from the initial 35. Those seven could clearly feel that more than ten people on the other side had cultivation levels above theirs, which could only mean that there were more than ten peak-level Epoch Cores in front of them.

Still, these seven hundred were loyal, and one of them, the mermaid, shouted. "This is our sect! Regardless of how our end will only be an honorable one! If you want to swallow us, we'll make sure to at least peel one layer of your skin!"

Yasenia sneered with her eyes filled with killing intent. "A bunch of bastards that aim to kidnap a child have no right to an honorable death. Use the suppressing formation and capture as many as you can. They'll make good materials for future experiments."

Then, her arm fell.

The fifty maids, seven spirits, Cecile, Andrea, Ebirah, Evelyn, Sierra, Kali, and Angel, rushed forward. Yasenia stayed back together with Tatyana, Kaleina, and Flame.

However, she didn't stay back for nothing. Her [War Intent] spread like a tide, instantly enveloping the entire battlefield, and her [Monarch Intent] followed right after, making every ally feel her authority.

With [Cosmos Dragon Imperial Suppression] enhancing both intents and her presence, Yasenias controlled the entire battlefield and began conducting a perfectly coordinated attack.

Every single ally moved as if they were part of a single organism, moving between the 700 people like tigers in a herd of sheep.

Death, after death, after death followed Yasenias's commands, shaving the 700 people down to 400 in less than a minute.

Moreover, between those 400, only 200 were able to continue to fight.

The people resisting became pale as not even one of them had been able to land a significant blow on anyone.

It was a complete and utter massacre.

When three minutes passed, Yasenias stopped using her intent and stopped commanding. The battle was over, leaving the seven high-level Epoch Cores alive, and eliminating about 80% of the peak-level Ethereal Soul cultivators.

The ones fighting snapped out of the battle trance induced by the dragon and blinked in wonder. 'That was an experience.'

The girls had never been really commanded as they did today. The feeling of being connected to other people as they danced through the battlefield, dodging even before they sensed the attack, attacking places where there was nothing but suddenly a person appeared because of the battlefield changes, or coordinating with someone in a coordinated assault that left them helpless left an extremely satisfying aftertaste.

Evelyn exclaimed after shouting, her violet eyes shining as she launched herself to hug the snout of the giant dragon. "UOO! THAT WAS FREAKING AWESOME!"

Even the spirits couldn't help but look back at the majestic creature slowly moving her sky-shrouding wings. 'She managed to influence us enough to make us obey her?'

Of course, they didn't resist too much other than their instinctual resistance. But even then, Yasenias was able to not only influence them but also coordinate them with people they had never fought with before and create a seamless battle without major mistakes.

The worst injury any of them received was a punch or a kick that they blocked with their bodies, creating a small reddish patch of skin that had healed by now.

Meanwhile, Yasenias became cross-eyed as she looked at the tiny human hugging her nose and smiled. The girls, looking from the sides, burst into a peal of loud laughter at the silly image. 'Why is our dragoness so cute? Hahaha.'

After that, Yasenias moved toward the front of the sect and looked at one of the elders. "Open the defensive formation."

The elder approached with cold sweat falling through his back and coughed. "Sorry, Lady Dragon, only the sect master can activate and deactivate the formation."

Yasenias nodded and looked at Angel. "Open it, Baby."

Angel nodded and approached.

Twenty minutes later, the elders had shocked faces as they guided everyone into the sect. '2-20 minutes to unravel one of the strongest defensive formations in the continent?'

After that, it was a complete take-over.

However, it didn't take longer than two days to suppress the entire sect.

It was still not in a usable state, but the groundwork for assimilation after participating in the summit was done.

Naturally, a battle of that scale did not go unnoticed, and a few people from the mermaid clan arrived to see what was going on.

After knowing that Yaseenia was the one causing it, the Mermaid Queen arrived in person, which is why they could assimilate the entire first-rated sect so quickly.

When the elders of the assassin sect saw that the Mermaid Queen truly took Yaseenia's side, they were grateful in their minds that they decided to surrender.

The connections Yaseenia cultivated during her over 10-year stay on the Continent came in handy at a time like this. Many clan leaders sent a few people congratulating Yaseenia on "setting up" a new sect. Nobody commented that Yaseenia stole it because the situation was quite clearly the Assassin Sect's fault.

So, they all closed one eye and left the other open as they saw Yaseenia swallow an entire first-rated aquatic sect.

By the time everything was finished, only 10 hours were left before the start of the summit.

Kaleina had been in an extremely good mood because she could see her Mommy fight and also saw how she ate a first-rate sect at record speeds.

Soluna and the spirits also got to know Yaseenia again, looking in awe during those two days as Yaseenia meticulously and systematically broke down and absorbed the sect.

Yaseenia called a few of the non-maid elders and stationed them in the now new sect called [Astral Sky Abyss Sect] to take care of things until then.

She also made sure to send Ghana a letter to inform her about it and coordinate with the elders here to link and reform their laws to theirs.

It would take around one and a half years without the Mermaid Queen's help, but with her, it would probably be done in just a few months.

Having everything set up, Yaseenia could forget about it and focus on the upcoming summit.

Chapter 777: Arriving at the World Summit City.

With only ten hours left, Yaseenia reviewed the main advantages that could be won in this event. The summit was done to avoid conflict, so the results of this competition were the most important for the sects and other powers present in the Distancia Continent. If someone did well, they would enter a prosperous era until the next summit, and if someone lost or did badly, their power's survivability could be affected.

The main advantages that could be won by participating were resource allocations, rights to neutral hunting areas, overall position in the three major organizations the Thirty-Three clans, Three

Empires, and Nine Sects and ownership and shares of the top five largest Parus mines in the Continent, and many more advantages.

Other than that, if a powerful clan were to fail miserably and score very low, there was a chance that enemies would use their rights to steal their land, shops, and other properties.

Of course, people could resist, but since this was a global agreement, those who resisted usually ended up in quite a bad place. After all, these World Summits were the main thing that maintained the delicate balance in the continent and prevented all-out wars between top powers.

Therefore, while Yasenias was interested in ranking high up, she wasn't eager to the point that she wanted to send five maids to compete.

With how her alliance was developing and the self-made gardens, mines, and other resource locations, the Astral Sky Clan was not only financially tight, they were making profits so high that if other top powers saw them, they would probably drool.

The Astral Sky Clan's economy was so prosperous that even if their sect had ten times the cultivators, they would still be making a profit.

For now, though, most of those profits were because of Yasenias's spatial ring and the herbs she grew there. Heaven-ranked herbs were extremely precious, so they fetched high prices. Other than that, every formation Angel did, every piece of equipment Andrea forged, every pill Kali concocted, and every dress Evelyn sewed sold for hundreds of thousands of Flawless Parus through their Astral Sky Merchant group. Sometimes, even fetching millions.

Then, if you added the occasional work the maids created, which was not calculated in the aforementioned profits, Yasenias was a happy dragon swimming in riches. Well, she was swimming in riches for Distancia. If she were to go to a higher-level World, this would be different.

In short, Yasenias's intentions were mainly to test her own strength in a regulated competition and help Andrea, Kali, and Cecile stabilize their foundation through intense combat while also gaining global recognition among the public.

The last spot was for Eira, the maid sword Master, after considering the kind of competition and who would be the strongest aid. So, with a sword master of her level, our girls would be relatively safe, even if their enemies aimed to kill them inside the event, which was very probable.

With everything sorted out, all the people from the Astral Sky Sect who came together grouped up and moved toward the competition area.

Laurina walked by Yasenias's side and asked. "Little sis, do you have confidence?"

Yasenias nodded with a smile. "While I might not be the strongest, or even categorized in the top bracket strength-wise, I'm capable of at least fighting off the people that will be participating."

Laurina nodded and smiled wryly. "You are getting further and further away, little sis." She kicked a rock and sighed. "I feel like I won't ever be able to catch up and help you in the future."

Yasenias looked at the depressed Nature Dragon, a creature that was supposed to be extremely powerful, and sighed. "Regardless of how strong I am, you'll always be my big sis."

Laurina smiled, a bit forced, and nodded. "I know. It's just Nevermind." She smiled brightly and encouraged. "I'll be cheering, little sis! You better not lose!"

Yasenia nodded and gave her a small hug. "With you cheering me on, I'll be able to push beyond my limits."

Laurina laughed, snuggling her face in Yasenia's neck for a few seconds, and then retreated a step, going back with the other beast heirs into the group.

Yasenia looked forward, guiding everyone. However, as she guided her people, she also gave thought to what just happened. She could feel why most cultivators took cultivation as a lonely road.

Everyone's talent was different, and advancing at the same pace was almost impossible. One side would always need to slow down. Lately, Yasenia had stopped caring about that and focused on bettering herself the best she could, and it showed.

While her dears were still catching up, the difference in strength was getting wider. Even Andrea, who had an advantage cultivation-wise, had already been overcome by Yasenia strength-wise.

While Yasenia was at the high level of the Ethereal Soul, her Spiritual and Beast cultivation was extremely strong. 'At my current pace, I'll need around eight to ten years to stabilize my three paths and breakthrough perfectly.'

That would make her a fifth realm cultivator in three paths at the young age of around 65. A 65-year-old fifth realm cultivator was already considered monstrously talented if they just cultivated one path. Yasenia was cultivating three, and she was even slowing down to do so with perfect foundation.

By then, all her dears would've probably broken through, some of them even reaching the second level. Thinking so, Yasenia cheered herself. 'They can keep up. Even Andrea can keep up, thanks to her hard work and the aid of her Natural Treasure. Naturally, my dual cultivation is also extremely strong.'

Still, Andrea somewhat worried Yasenia. Evelyn had a God Inheritance, Kali had Valeria, Cecile was her [Interlocked Soul], and Angel had Mirrory and a Saint Inheritance. Kali and Evelyn also had Natural Treasures, which was the opportunity Andrea managed to find in the secret realm.

'However, I can't magically produce something to help her catch up.' Of course, Yasenia had confidence in the only being she had chosen to impregnate her. Her womb was quite literally Andrea-exclusive. 'Darling is not only hard-working and talented, but she is also extremely determined and has a perfect attitude toward cultivation. Honestly, she is the one who comes closest to a "normal" cultivator. And yet, she doesn't fall behind.'

Yasenia's tail almost started to wag in adoration. She was extremely proud of her darling. However, she had to control herself as behind her, the 400+ entourage followed her. 'My tail, stop! If you wag, my authority will take a hit!'

Somehow, she managed to stop herself.

As they walked, they approached the place for the World Summit. It was on top of a very tall mountain near the sea, which had an awe-inspiring view once near the top. They weren't still there, but Yasenia had heard the seniors speaking about it.

The mountain, to begin with, was around 200,000 meters tall. It not only touched but pierced the clouds.

At first, Yasenia didn't know what it was, as it was visible even from Ascending Ocean City. However, she got the information after she stopped her one-and-a-half-week session with Tatyana.

Once near the top, looking to the right, you could see the seemingly endless span of blue, and looking to the left, the lush environment that was most prevalent in Distancia would enter your eyes.

It felt as if the world was divided in two by the mountain.

Halfway through the mountain climb, Yasenia and the others could finally see a small city built into the side. Yasenia eyeballed the distances. 'The city is three-quarters up the mountain; we need Hm Around 20 kilometers left until we arrive? That should be right.' Of course, her "eyeballing" was probably more precise than many specialized items. A dragon's senses were ridiculously sharp, after all.

When they were 15 kilometers from the city, Yasenia stopped her group. People became confused, looking around, and someone asked. "Sect Master, why did we stop?"

Yasenia looked to the side. "Waiting for a few guests."

Everyone followed her gaze, and 100 people appeared, led by seven creatures. These seven creatures all had 12 fleshy wings, horns, and a deep and dark aura that revealed their origins.

Yasenia heard the mocking voice of the leading demon. "Has your stay in the city been pleasant, dragon? I heard that you had a few problems. Hahaha."

With a surprised expression, Yasenia commented. "Impressive, you are still seven demons! I thought that by the time the summit's date arrived, at least a few of you would have died. After all, the level of intelligence you demonstrated back then was impressively low."

Dyrathos, the Fire Demon, became angry, but Kyril, the Death Demon, stopped him. Their races were naturally not called as such, but for the sake of simplicity, let's go with that for now.

Kyril looked at Yasenia with her deep black eyes and commented. "I hope that no accidents happen during your stay at the World Summit. It would be a shame if everyone that came from your sect had an accident before the event begins."

Yasenia looked at her and smiled. "You are right. However, if my mind is working correctly, there are only 4 hours left until the summit starts. If something happened in this time frame, it would be quite a problem for the perpetrators, right? Defenses right before the start of the event are quite tight."

Kyril coldly smiled. "Well, the perpetrators might not care about that."

Yasenia nodded. "I see."

Then, she turned around and continued her climb, ignoring them. "Let's go."

The people behind Yasenia were confused, but they followed her, giving that blue-skinned demon a weird look. 'Is it okay to ignore her like that?'

The female demon paused, her eyes flashing coldly. 'She dares to ignore me?'

One of the female demons, the one that instigated the Assassin Sect, pouted. "Senior Sister, why must we follow the rules of this place? We can ignore everything, and once we return with what we

came to find, we can talk about this place to our seniors. I'm sure they will be happy to add this world with their rare Body Cultivation methods."

A male demon snorted. "We can't even use them because of our racial cultivation method. Why do you want them?"

The female demon looked at him disdainfully. "Can't we sell them to the humans? They are lost arts, if I remember correctly. Our seniors can probably buy a few worlds with them."

Kyryl looked at Dyrathos. "Can you stop being so emotional?"

Dyrathos snorted. "The day you find a non-emotional fire-related demon, give me a call. I'll gladly bow down to you and lick your tail."

Kyryl rolled her eyes. "Let's go. We need to prepare."

Meanwhile, in Yassenia's group, one of the Epoch Core elders asked. "Sect Master, why did we not use that flying ship you have to arrive at the meeting point? Wouldn't we avoid such situations?"

Yassenia answered calmly. "That's a problem. I wanted to see if there would be any ambushes."

Some people tensed, looking at Yassenia's back. That elder stuttered. "W-Why?"

The dragoness added. "I also wanted to see if there were traitors, which would usually be not impossible." Her laughter made a few people tremble. "It seems that they have decided not to act and become an honest member of the sect, though. Well, we'll see how they do in the future."

Nobody spoke, looking at each other with suspicious eyes.

Yassenia did not stop them. This kind of wariness would make it more difficult for someone to stir trouble from the inside. Actually, Yassenia had spoken without any basis whatsoever.

She didn't know if there were or not traitors inside. Still, if there were any, these words would be useful. If there weren't, even better.

While Yassenia was very confident in her management, she had allowed her sect members to roam free around the city in a show of trust. No matter how good her maids and information network were, it was impossible to control everything. One had to live with that. Hence, a habit of always taking into account such situations in a measured and non-paranoid manner was somewhat healthy.

'Do not mull over it too much, but also don't ignore the option completely.'

Their group arrived at a pair of enormous gates in silence. Two giant humanoid creatures with four arms guarded the gates on each side. Each of them with a height of 30 meters.

Yassenia's eyes flashed, and she remembered the female giant she had met when she arrived at Koran City for the first time.

'I wonder what she is doing now?'

These thoughts didn't linger too much in her head, refocusing on the task ahead.

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Evelyn: Oh? Celestial Theater? It has been a while!

Andrea: That's right. How many questions are pending, author?



Author: Hm A few. I wanted to save my fingers from writing extra for a while, but today, I feel quite perfect. So, let me answer All of them!

Andrea: All of them?

Author: Hehe. Yes! There are six questions pending, so let's try to burn through them at once! That way, the dears can start asking questions again without having those from 3 weeks ago unanswered.

Andrea: Makes sense. So, who are the ones that will be asking?

Author: Well, I summon you!

Dante: Hello! Hm?

Randomplant: Oh? We are quite a few.

Rizeres: Right. It's my first time here, though!

Ryru: It's my first time too!

Eila~: It's not mine, though~.

Angel: Wow~, so many people!

Author: Let's get to it. First, Dante.

Dante: Sure. First of all, congratulations on the impregnation, Tatyana! My question for Tatyana and Yasenia is: What are your aspirations for the child soon to be born? What are your predictions on their talent, bloodline, physique, etc.?

Yasenia: That's a difficult question.

Dante: How so?

Yasenia: I mean, my only desire is for her or him to be happy. Even if they are a mortal that can't cultivate, I wouldn't mind taking care of my child for all their mortal life, making sure that they are the happiest.

Tatyana: Well, I disagree a bit. I would prefer if they were born with an extremely strong bloodline and constitution and could become strong people who can protect themselves.

Dante: And if that doesn't happen?

Tatyana: What did you expect me to answer that I wouldn't care about them? I'm similar to Little Treasure in that regard. While I have expectations, if my child can't meet them, I'll just take care of them and make sure never to raise a Young Master.

Dante: That would be quite a failure. Haha.

Author: Next~.

Randomplant: I have two questions. First question!

Randomplant: Seniors, are there worlds where there is different energy from the one you cultivate? What are some examples? Can you cultivate other different energies, or is the one you always use (which you only refer to as energy) the only one you can use?

Mirrory: "Energy" is the only type of energy in our cosmos. That should answer those questions.

Randomplant: It does. Now, then, having dual Cultivation with Yasenia increases all characteristics, but which of these characteristics is usually the most difficult to increase with treasures? And, wouldn't increasing the capacity for understanding, which I see as the cultivator's intelligence or analytical capacity, be like saying that having sex with Yasenia makes you smarter?!

Tatyana: Pfft. Well, you are not wrong. The most important quality that Dual Cultivating with Yasenia does is purifying her partner. Cultivating, eating pills, fighting, eating, etc., build up impurities over time. These impurities are usually expelled as black goo with certain specialized pills (which are extremely rare), major breakthroughs, and other methods. At the same time, these impurities can impair a cultivator's advancement speed, strength, intelligence, etc.

Tatyana: So, Yasenia being able to cleanse us while dual cultivating is quite a big deal.

Randomplant: I see.

Rizeres: My turn~.

Author: Yep! Go for it!

Rizeres: Well, The Tail-Slapping Dao is very interesting. It allows slaps across great distances without Yasenia's direct control. My question is, are there other such "odd Daos"? Maybe a Spoon Dao? How about a Milk Dao?

Mirrory: Well There certainly are unlimited paths. AS long as the comprehension is deep enough, anything is possible. For example, a more common than you would think Dao is the "Wine Dao."

Mirrory: People who honestly follow this Dao increase their strength when drunk, and they can cultivate and gain strength by producing wine. Their beverages are one of the bests you can find across the entirety of the heavens.

Rizeres: Woah.

Ryru: Well, let me jump in, then.

Author: Go ahead, dear.

Ryru: is it possible for someone like Yasenia with multiple elements to merge/combine said elements or two people with different elements make a combo attack using the different elements? For example, could one combine the elements of fire and water or life and death?

Yasenia: I've done this in the past, haven't I? For example, my [Lunar Star Charge], or [Dawn] and [Dusk]. They combine Moon, Sun, and Star elements.

Cecile: My [Moon Freezing Catastrophe] combines Wind, Space, and Moon elements.

Ryru: That's right I somehow forgot, haha.

Author: If this wasn't what you meant to ask, don't fear asking in the comments down below, dear. However, don't feel shy. We are here to answer all questions, even if they end up being "silly questions."

Eila~: Can I ask? Can I ask?

Author: Go ahead, haha.

Eila~: Taty! Do you consider Yasenia a tomboy?

Author: See what I'm speaking about?

Ryru: I see

Tatyana: Well. A tomboy is a girl that acts manly, right? If so, Yasenias quite the opposite. Even when she walks normally, she is swaying her tempting hips and seducing everyone with unparalleled feminine appeal.

Eila~: Well I can't deny that

Tatyana: Then, her way of speaking is also feminine, and her actions, other than when she is overwhelming her enemies, is also relatively soft and charming.

Eila~: You are right

Tatyana: So, nop. I don't consider her a tomboy.

Author: And that's all for today! Bye-bye, dears.

Everyone else: Have a great day!

Chapter 778: A Small Stop In [Mountain Of The Coast City].

The two four-armed giants, both at the middle-level Epoch Core, asked with a thundering voice.

"Present yourselves!"

Even though they were middle-level, their height made the aura around them very imposing. Their strong bodies, large weapons, and armored bodies added to their presence, making them look like living buildings with weapons.

Still, Yasenias didn't see them as too large because even though she was very small compared to them in her human form, she would dwarf them with ease in her dragon form. So, when mentally comparing, she used her dragon form's size.

She answered calmly and steadily. "I am the Astral Sky Sect Master. Our group is the Astral Sky Sect group."

Both giant guards looked at a large stone plate on their hands and looked at the guest list. Once they found the Astral Sky Sect on the list, they both approached the giant gates and began pushing them open with a shout.

"THE ASTRAL SKY SECT HAS ARRIVED!"

Their loud and deep voice rumbled, spreading throughout the entire mountain.

The gates fully opened with a loud gong-like sound, and both guards spoke. "Astral Sky Sect, you are welcomed into the [Mountain Of The Coast City]."

Yasenias cupped her fist in respect and walked inside.

After entering, one Ethereal Soul elder, a young-looking woman but with a few centuries on her back, asked with a whisper to her friend. "Why don't they check more deeply? Is it okay to let us pass without proving our identity?"

Her friend whispered back. "Once inside, there are many who will know us. If someone dares to impersonate us, they will probably be hunted down or at least discovered before they can cause any

lasting damage. Moreover, with how much trouble Sect Master has been causing recently, it would be hard not to know her."

The young-looking woman chuckled. "That's true."

Contrary to Yasenia's expectations of a prosperous city, there weren't many buildings. Moreover, the city was also relatively small, with enough space to house not more than 100,000 people.

In cultivation terms, that was barely considered a city. It was more similar to a big town than anything else.

Yasenia lifted her eyebrow, curious. "What the deal with this mountain? I've heard that there are five like this one, but are we really going to conduct the World Summit here?"

Looking around, Yasenia saw that there was nothing like an arena or even a place wide enough for mid-level Epoch Cores to fight comfortably. The buildings were similarly humble, lacking any grandeur a place like this one should have.

Tatyana saw through her confusion and explained. "This mountain must be something more than just a place. It might have significant cultural value. In places like these, having the least amount of influence is usually best to avoid affecting the Feng shui of the place."

Yasenia acknowledged and sighed. "Honestly, Feng shui is one of the things I understand the least. I can assess it in simple places, but if you asked me to discern the Feng shui of this entire mountain, I would be lost."

Valeria chuckled. "That's normal, Yasenia. Feng shui is the art of perceiving the energies, fate, natural auras, and even luck of a certain place. If someone younger than 1,000 years old who hadn't been dedicating their life to understanding feng shui could discern the feng shui of this entire mountain, then they would be sought after by major sects even in the high-heavens."

Yasenia blinked. "I see."

Valeria extended her explanation of what feng shui was used for. "With deep knowledge of feng shui, you can find spots like the mountain basin we've located our sect, you can find spiritual ore veins or see the signs of one being nearby, you can read signs of secret realm opening, you can change the aura and energy creation of an entire biome without using formations, and you can even give a sect or power Heavenly Luck. Heavenly Luck is a very elusive concept that some cultivators don't believe it exists. I'm on the side that Heavenly Luck might exist, but our actions can't influence it, regardless of how deep your understanding of feng shui is."

The girls who heard her nodded, internalizing this information.

Evelyn pointed somewhere in the distance and commented. "Look at that."

The girls looked over and saw a massive door embedded on the mountain's side. Kali tilted her head, her fluffy fox ears flopping to the side adorably. "Should we go there?"

Yasenia patted Kali's head and caressed her fox ears, almost making her purr. "Let's look around first," she said.

Yasenia spoke aloud, turning so that the sect members could see her. "If any of you want to go shopping, I'll give you 50 minutes. Then, we'll gather here again. Once we finish the World Summit and come out, we can stop for longer if most of you want to."

With her words, around 160 people divided and went to spend their money. There were many famous shops, like those from the top powers and worldwide merchant groups.

From Yasenia's girls, Angel, Kali, Andrea, and Evelyn moved out, leaving Cecile, Tatyana, and Yasenia behind.

Naturally, five maids followed each of them for security, leaving the remaining 30 maids with Yasenia.

Tatyana asked. "Where should we go?"

Yasenia pointed at the side. "There is a shop there with chairs; it must be a restaurant or something similar."

Tatyana and Cecile looked over, and Tatyana smiled. "That's a jiuba. A place to gather socially and ask for drinks. It's similar to a bar you've seen before. Only, it's more specialized in alcohol."

The dragoness walked over out of curiosity while the rest of the people who didn't leave visited nearby shops instead of going full-on exploring. Some even moved to a place at the side and sat cross-legged, relaxing and speaking with people they knew.

Yasenia sat on one of the tables with Cecile and Tatyana, placing Kaleina and Flame at her sides. The chairs were for humanoids, so Kaleina had to coil herself and lean on the table.

A person wearing robes approached with a smile. She was quite a beautiful and elegant woman, her entire body exuding grace.

"Hello, dear customers. Is this the first time coming to a place such as ours?"

Yasenia blinked and smiled. "Very sharp. That's right, I'm new to a place like this. What can we order?"

The woman nodded and began explaining. "This is a place with different kinds of beverages as our main attraction. We also have some snacks to accompany them. Do you want a recommendation, or would you like to look at the menu?"

Yasenia pondered and looked at Cecile and Tatyana. "What do you think?"

Tatyana shrugged, and Cecile commented. "Does this wine work on cultivators?"

The woman nodded with a smile. "Naturally. We are proud to be the number one wine-makers in the entire world. If our wines can't make you drunk, then we won't even receive payment!"

Cecile's eyes shone with fighting spirit. "Bring the strongest one, then."

The woman's eyes flashed, and she smiled with a nod. "What would the two other guests want? Something similar to accompany your companion?"

Kaleina tugged Yasenia's arm. "What about us, Mommy?"

Yasenia patted her head. "I've prepared something myself. Here, a fresh fruit juice."

She took out two glasses, one easy to drink for a dragon, with an added mouthpiece to suck, and the other being a normal vase for Flame.

Then, Yasenya looked at the woman with a smile. "Sorry for that. While I don't like it a lot that you discerned my sweetheart's competitiveness and provoked her to buy your most expensive drink probably, I'm curious, so I'll let it slide. Give me the same."

The elegant hostess's smile faltered, her back becoming soaked in cold sweat. She instantly apologized. "I'm sorry, madam. It was this one's mistake for being too presumptuous."

Yasenya smiled at her. "No problem. Just carry the drinks over. What about you, Tatyana?"

Tatyana shrugged. "Let's have the same."

Yasenya's eyes went to her stomach, and she asked. "Are these beverages dangerous for pregnant women?"

The hostess shook her head. "I can swear that they aren't."

Yasenya smiled and commented calmly. "That's good. If something happens, I'll annihilate your entire bloodline, business, and everything related to it. I'll make you and the people at the helm of this business understand what the sentence 'wishing for death' means."

With a smile uglier than crying, the hostess quickly backed off and went to fetch the drinks.

Cecile blinked, curious. "Was that necessary?"

Yasenya shrugged. "I don't know. But better be safe than sorry."

Tatyana laughed, her red eyes softening with love. 'Has she forgotten who I actually am because of her worrying about me?' She leaned on her elbows, placing her chin between both her hands. 'Sigh, her overprotectiveness is so adorable.'

Kaleina and Flame looked at everything calmly.

It didn't take longer than a few moments to set up their drinks. The cup for holding the beverage was transparent, so the girls could see a bluish drink adorned with fruit floating on top of it and condensation droplets around the glass.

It looked quite appetizing at first glance.

Yasenya picked it up elegantly and gave it a small sniff. Her pupils dilated for a second, and she raised an eyebrow. "Interesting."

Tatyana paused and looked at Yasenya curiously. "Now that I think about it This is your first alcoholic beverage?"

Yasenya blinked and nodded. "That's right. I usually drink fruit juice, water, or something of a similar nature. I've never drunk fermented fruit juice."

Tatyana's eyebrow rose as her red eyes locked on Yasenya with interest. "Well Go on."

Yasenya, who was about to take a sip, paused, looking at Tatyana strangely. "What's wrong."

Tatyana smiled widely. "Nothing."

Cecile looked back and forth between them, similarly confused. She took a big gulp and frowned. "Is this supposed to feel hot?"

Tatyana chuckled. "Yes, it's normal."

Cecile nodded, her peerlessly beautiful face still scrunched. "It doesn't taste that good, and the sensation is uncomfortable. How can people drink this as if it were water?"

Yasenia took a gentle sip, her eyebrows similarly scrunching. As a Spiritual Cook, she could appreciate the drink more, even if she didn't dab a lot in the drink preparation side of the profession.

Still, she felt that it was not good flavor-wise. "This drink doesn't follow any balance in the flavors. I'm surprised if this is their best drink."

Cecile nodded, and Kaleina asked. "Mommy, can I take a sip?"

Yasenia shook her head. "No, the fermentation on this drink has created something that can make a person feel dizzy. You are a bit too weak to drink something at this level."

Kaleina looked at the blue drink and nodded. "Well, if Mommy says it's not good. It probably is not good."

Cecile asked. "Should we finish it?"

Yasenia nodded. "It's not completely unbearable. Having this kind of experience from time to time it's not bad."

Yasenia didn't want to deal with it for too long, so she elegantly began drinking the whole glass. The upward tilt was just enough for Yasenia to drink without making her look as if she was chugging it.

People paused as they saw Yasenia's elegant neck slowly gulping down the drink. Some people licked their lips and swallowed, feeling their throats getting dry as a strange arousal was ignited in them.

After she drank it, Yasenia slowly placed the drink down and leaned on the armrest. "Well, that was that."

Tatyana laughed after taking a sip on her own. "Well, they are good drinks, not because of their flavor."

Yasenia tilted her head, asking. "Then, why?"

Tatyana looked at them intently, but after a few moments, she saw no strange reaction from them. 'Hm Is this one too weak to take effect?'

Honestly, Tatyana would be surprised if Yasenia or Cecile could get drunk from something like this. Still, she had a small hope of seeing them drunk.

Sadly, it seemed that today was not the day. 'Well, it is what it is.'

Tatyana smiled and answered Yasenia. "Well, it's more about the effects of the drink and why it should be continentally praised."

Yasenia tilted her head. "Effects? Do you mean getting intoxicated? Doesn't that only happen to mortals? How could a cultivator's liver fail to purify such a weak toxin?"

Tatyana nodded. "There are some drinks that can do so. This place is, as you said, somewhat disappointing."

Yasenia asked thoughtfully. "Should I create wine?"

Tatyana's eyes lit up. "That would be nice."

Yasenia nodded with a smile. "I've avoided it for now because creating a good wine takes many years. However, I can start now for the far future."

Flame asked curiously. "How many years?"

Yasenia looked at her and answered. "Well, I would need around 1,250 years for a good low-level Heaven-Ranked wine. With the help of my ring, I can reduce that to 15 months or so."

Flame blinked a few times. "O-One thousand years?"

Yasenia laughed. "That's right."

Flame asked, incredulous. "T-Then, what about peak-level Heaven-ranked wines?"

Yasenia remembered what she had read and commented. "I think it was around four times as much? So nearly 5,000 years."

Flame looked at Yasenia's empty cup and asked. "What level was this drink?"

Yasenia answered. "Around mid-level Earth Ranked? From the ingredients I tasted It should've taken around 160 years to make it."

Flame made a small "oh" sound, completely flabbergasted. 'And this drink was not good for Auntie Yasenia? Did Auntie spoil my tastebuds with her food?'

Flame was suddenly nervous about eating other food other than what Yasenia cooked.

"Yaseniaaa!!"

When she heard that distinctive voice, the dragoness chuckled, having a sense of Deja-vu.

Chapter 779: Soluna's Developing Feelings.

"Yasenia!"

The call from the harmonic voice was difficult to confuse with anyone else's other than Soluna's.

Turning to look, Yasenia saw the adorable spirit flying her way with a wide smile, those exotic eyes glowing beautifully. She couldn't help but smile at the enthusiastic spirit and waved at her.

Soluna approached, her eyes locking on Yasenia's lap, but she held herself back because Flame and Kaleina were on Yasenia's sides. 'If they touch me by accident, something bad might happen.

So, without being able to come close to her other than hugging her from behind, Soluna did so, sticking her head over Yasenia's shoulder. "It has been a while, Yasenia!"

Yasenia turned her head and rolled her eyes playfully. "We haven't seen each other for just a few hours. Do you call that 'a while'?"

Soluna saw Yasenia's gorgeous face up-close and suddenly became strangely nervous. The beautiful golden slit eyes reminded her of the warm sun, while her pleasant aura and goddess-like seductive face made Soluna feel strangely flustered. 'H-Huh? W-What's wrong with me?'

The dragoness didn't hear an answer, and not knowing what the spirit looking at her was thinking, she smoothly continued the conversation. "I didn't think your group would arrive here. Have you come to cheer me on?"



Yasenia asked so because the only spirit that would be able to participate was Soluna. The other spirits were all too strong for the cultivation limit imposed on the competition.

Soluna's eyes followed Yasenia's luscious lips, but this time, she answered after blinking cutely once. "I've come to participate!"

Yasenia tilted her head, confused. "But, other than you, there aren't people who can participate, right? Remember that you must have a group of five."

Soluna shook her head. "I asked the Mermaid Queen, and she told me that five people was the maximum number of participants per group. I can take part by myself!"

Yasenia didn't know about this rule. Still, looking at the cute spirit clinging to her back and strangely close to her face, she asked with a bit of worry, meeting eye to eye. "Are you confident, Soluna? While it is true that this place is a bit backward, the strength of Body Cultivators is not something to take lightly."

Soluna answered a step behind, her two eyes becoming unfocused for a few moments as she looked at Yasenia. "Yes! I am quite strong!"

Embera heard Yasenia's concern, so she reassured her. "While Soluna is just a First Level Spirit Core Harmony Realm Spirit, the equivalent to the First Level of the Dantian Spiritualization Realm, her strength is profound. Don't worry too much, Yasenia."

Yasenia nodded and looked sideways at Cecile with an amused smile. She felt a battle spirit coming from her sweetheart when Embera explained it. 'Are you that eager?'

Cecile nodded lightly outwardly, but inside, she began talking almost without end.

'I wanted to fight her at least once since I saw her. I can feel her strength and deep connection with the Moon attribute, so that's something I want to compete with. It would be interesting if I win compatibility-wise against a spirit like Soluna. My Moon Phoenix bloodline is strong, after all. More so after I bathed in the tears of that Primordial True Phoenix. Moreover, other than Valeria, I've never fought a proper spirit, so it will be quite fun to see what kind of tactics they have.'

Cecile continued. 'What do you think I should do to fight her? I think that a dragged-out fight will be unfavorable for me even when I'm a Phoenix, and I excel at long battles. Spirits feel like they would be monster-like stamina-wise because they are born from the very essence of energy. Plus, Mirrory has said that they can be as strong as Dragons and Phoenixes at the same level. Although she just implied that some can and most aren't, Soluna is probably in that category. Otherwise, she wouldn't have captured your interest as much. After all, with your Celestial Energy, unless the purity of Moon, Sun, and Star energies reaches a certain threshold, you would ignore them.'

Cecile rationalized. 'I was thinking about using space to mess up with her body, but did you know that space around her is extremely solid? The small probing attempts I've sent her way were similar to throwing a rock in an extremely deep pond. I think I would have an easier time moving the space around you than the one around her.'

Cecile then added. "She is also in the fifth realm. While I practice three paths, the jump from the fourth to the fifth realm is enormous, so I should be at a disadvantage in that regard as well."

Thinking like such, Cecile commented. 'But even with all of this, I think I have a chance to win because of the edge my space attribute gives me. While it might be unusable offensively, it will

become a very powerful defensive advantage. Soluna seems like the type to stomp her enemies with pure might and large-scale skills. Because of her privileged birth, she probably has yet to face creatures that forced her to fight with finesse, stomping everything with raw might.'

Cecile then asked. 'By the way, what intent level do you think she has? Should we ask? It might be a bit rude, but I think that if she answers, I can have an advantage. In the worst-case scenario, she has a level 6 intent. If she does so Then, my chances of winning will go from forty to less than ten percent. We are advancing in cultivation relatively quickly, but leveling up intents is something we can't rush. This reminds me'

Cecile's pleasant and cool voice kept ringing in Yasenia's head nonstop, making Yasenia want to laugh. Yasenia thought to herself as she memorized the questions that Cecile threw her way to answer when she had a chance. 'She is speaking so fast that I can't find an opportunity to speak.'

Regardless, Yasenia found her extremely adorable when Cecile went on her rants in her head.

Soluna looked from the side and saw Yasenia's lips arch in a seductive arc, those golden eyes softening as she looked at someone. Following her gaze, she saw the indifferent and cold-looking Phoenix woman.

For a moment, she couldn't help but feel a strange squeeze in her heart, making Soluna puzzled again. 'What's happening to me?'

Looking back and forth for a few moments, an impulse of wanting Yasenia to look at herself as she was looking at the Phoenix sprouted in her heart, pushing her to call her. "Y-Yasenia!"

Soluna saw Yasenia looking at her, making her feel some kind of anticipation, but the moment the enchanting golden slit eyes landed on her, instead of the tenderness she had felt before, just a gentle look remained without any deep emotions. "Yes?"

A sense of loss filled Soluna's heart, and the next words she wanted to say got stuck in her throat. "I- Um. Nothing, hehe. I just wanted to call."

Soluna saw Yasenia laugh, making the seductive face lit up with her smile. The sight of her lips arching forced Soluna's eyes downwards again. 'I wish she could look at me like that and then use her lips'

Soluna paused, blinking and feeling confused. 'Huh? Using her lips?'

The image of her lips and Yasenia's lips overlapping suddenly appeared in Soluna's mind, and her entire face brightened in embarrassment. Soluna, surprised by the sudden urge, blushed embarrassedly. 'What am I thinking about? Do I want to overlap my lips with Yasenia? Why?'

Yasenia, who had turned to speak when Flame called her, felt a wave of heat that didn't bother her from the side. She turned to look at the spirit. 'She has been acting strange for a while. Is she okay?'

Yasenia saw Soluna's bright face and asked softly, raising her hand to place it on Soluna's forehead. "Are you okay, Soluna? You've been acting strange for a while."

Soluna exclaimed and backed away as if the feeling of Yasenia's soft skin burned her. "Ah!? Yes, yes! I'm okay, hahaha. Don't worry, Yasenia!"

Her exotic eyes moved around frantically, sneaking glances at Yasenia's perfectly soft and moist lips. Soluna gulped. 'T-They look really nice Not! What's this strange urge!? Have I been cursed!? I need to ask Embera later to check on me Maybe my core has something wrong with it.'

Yasenia tilted her head, touching her own face. "Is there something in my face?"

With her core pounding, she looked sideways, avoiding Yasenia's figure. With a shy voice, Soluna whispered. "Nothing, you are just very pretty."

Yasenia blinked and laughed. It was common knowledge to know that normal spirits didn't have sexual urges; their method to reproduce was asexual for the main part, after all. So, Yasenia didn't think deeply about her words. "Thank you, Soluna. There is no need to sneak around like that. If you want to look, you are most welcome."

Soluna looked at the floor, her hair dancing with bright flames in embarrassment. "Yes" Then, Soluna opened her mouth, wanting to ask if it was okay to sit on her lap, but someone interrupted her.

"Yasenia~!"

She turned to the side and saw Angel running over with a few books between her arms. Extremely naturally, Angel approached and was lifted by Yasenia's tail. Angel then lifted her knees, and Yasenia planted Angel on her lap, hugging her waist and landing a soft kiss on her lips.

Soluna's dancing hair calmed down, and her face became strange.

Embera approached and asked. "Soluna, are you okay?"

Soluna looked at her, and taking advantage of Angel's showing things to Yasenia and taking away her attention, she approached and whispered, "E-Embera, I think my core is damaged."

Embera's face fell, and she quickly asked. "Are you sure? Do you need to use healing medicine? If it is too serious, we can ask"

Soluna quickly stopped her from raising her voice. "Shh! That's not what I meant. Also, don't speak aloud. I'm whispering for a reason here!"

Embera leaned down and nodded. "Okay, tell me."

Soluna took a deep breath and commented. "It's just a few strange feelings that are in my mind."

Embera looked at her, waiting for her to explain. Soluna began. "W-Well, you see, after that day when Yasenia fought with that powerful person, she has always been in my mind."

Embera nodded in agreement. "She fought admirably. It's normal to think about it. For someone at her level, it was a masterfully fought battle."

Soluna's eyes glowed. "Right!?" She was about to ramble, but she suddenly remembered what she wanted to ask. "D-Don't distract me!"

Embera nodded seriously. "I won't speak again until you explain."

Soluna nodded and commented. "So, when we separated after Yasenia took over that sect, I've been very eager to see her again. The urge is also increasing by the second."

Embera blinked and nodded, still confused as to where this was going.

Soluna commented, her face becoming a bit brighter. "T-Then, when I saw her face up close, my mind started thinking strangely!"

Embera asked with her eyes because she was unable to speak. Soluna coughed and said with a flustered and shy voice. "I-I suddenly wanted to overlap my lips with Yasenia, and my core started pounding and tingling when I imagined that."

Embera was puzzled. "Why would you want to overlap lips with Yasenia?"

Soluna commented embarrassedly. "I don't know!"

Embera looked at the dragoness and asked. "Do you want to copy what she usually does with her mates?"

Soluna looked over and imagined herself in Angel's position, making her core pound again. "Y-Yes."

Embera rubbed her chin. "Hm Then, why don't you ask when you and Yasenia are alone? I feel that asking before her mates might be rude. After all, you'll be taking away from them."

Soluna nodded a few times, looking at Embera with serious eyes.

Embera added. "When you are together, you should ask if Yasenia could overlap her lips with yours." Soluna imagined the situation.

She was in Yasenia's arms, her waist firmly held by her two strong and firm arms. Looking down at her, Yasenia's soft and tender eyes she had previously seen only had her in the reflection.

Then, Yasenia slowly lowered her head, whispering words with her enchanting voice, and their lips overlapped.

Soluna's face lit up like a small Sun, and her energies began to go berserk.

Embera quickly calmed her down before she actually exploded. "W-Wait. If that's too much, you can ask for her to place her lips somewhere else."

The spirit of the Sun and the Moon calmed down, blinking in confusion. "Where?"

Embera, who had blurted it out in desperation, was lost. 'You ask me, who do I ask!?'

She suddenly caught Yasenia kissing Angel on the cheek from her periphery and coughed. "How about here?"

Looking at where Embera pointed, Soluna tilted her head, imagining the situation.

This time, she was embraced in Yasenia's arms, looking up at her. Yasenia's face came closer, her face resembling the usual gentle look instead of that tender gaze she gave the phoenix, and those moist and soft lips landed on her cheeks.

Soluna screamed in her head and placed her hands on her face. 'Ahhhh!!!!'

Embera became twitchy as she saw Soluna's energies going wild. Thankfully, this time, she felt no risk of exploding.

Soluna went back to Yasenia's side, but unable to concentrate for a single moment, she just answered things a bit dazedly.

Yasenia didn't know what the spirit had in mind, but thinking that she might be nervous about participating alone, she took care of her until the hour to meet up with her sect members arrived.

Everyone started returning shortly after, but Yasenia realized that three Ethereal Soul elders were missing.

Yasenia frowned and ordered. "Search for them."

Chapter 780: Five Mountains.

After Yasenia asked the maids to search for the three missing people, Doriel and Clara moved together with four other maids.

In the meantime, Yasenia looked around and asked, "Does anybody know where they went or what they are up to?"

Looking around, she didn't see anyone who knew about it, so she lifted an eyebrow. "Is there anyone who knows those three?"

Seeing the continued silence, Yasenia got thoughtful. 'Hm Nobody knows them? Peak-level Epoch Cores are already considered Core Elders, and they have quite a few dealings with each other. Now you are telling me that nobody knows them?'

The dragoness thought of many different scenarios, but she didn't have clues, so it could really be anything. 'But, the most probable scenario is that they thought I discovered them and they were traitors because of my previous comment. So, taking advantage of the chance I gave them to roam freely, they escaped or returned to their original powers. Now Will Doriel, Clara, and the others find them or not?'

Yasenia wasn't worried that it was a trap because each maid had enough life-saving treasures on them. Moreover, on the off-chance that something happened, she had confidence that they could resist and ask for help until the others arrived.

Plus, the place they were was not ideal to provoke people.

Regardless of how strong the Demons were, disrespecting the World Summit openly would gain them the wrath of everyone. Even the Continental Shadows had a history of punishing those who messed up with the event.

The maids returned ten minutes later. Doriel was holding one scared cat woman, and Clara was holding one terrified lizard man.

However, Yasenia blinked when she didn't recognize their faces. "Who-" The dragoness paused and sniffed. Her sharp sense of smell detected the hidden scent that they had in the past. " Oh?"

Yasenia smiled and approached, her hips sashaying temptingly. "Well, well. You two managed to impersonate someone for so long under my radar? Very good. Talented, if I might say so myself."

Yasenia leaned down and asked with a smile that didn't reach her eyes. "Where is the other one and the people who you impersonated?"

The cat woman stuttered, tears slowly building in her eyes. "W-We don't know. We were tasked to keep an eye on you and inform other people, nothing more, I swear!"

Yasenia laughed. "Do you think I care about you? I'll ask again on the off-chance that you didn't hear me correctly." Yasenia lifted her chin and looked down at her with thinned pupils. "Where are my sect members?"

The cat woman felt the finger on her chin and a chill went up her spine. It was cold like ice cubes, and the predatory draconic gaze looking down on her made her legs tremble so badly that if Doriel weren't holding her, she would've probably fallen on her butt. "L-Lady Yasenia, I really don't-"

Yasenia released her and walked toward the man, leaving one sentence behind. "Tie her up and prepare to send her to the torture rooms when we return."

The cat woman, terrified out of her mind, wanted to beg. However, Doriel grabbed her chin and turned her head forcefully. "[Malevolent Devil Gaze: Nightmare]."

The cat woman's pupils expanded as she peered into the bottomless black abyss that was Doriel's eyes, and her body went limp as her mind fell into a chaotic, unending nightmare.

The dog man's gag was released, but unlike the cat woman, who had received information about Yasenia's true nature beforehand, he was fearless.

Once Yasenia was close, he lifted his leg and attacked Yasenia without holding back, revealing low-level Epoch Core strength.

The air before Yasenia compressed as his leg shot fast like lightning toward her dantian.

Yasenia looked at the approaching leg with cold eyes.

The dog man was expecting to see Yasenia's face full of pain, but instead, she saw the dragoness looking down at him with the same indifferent expression.

There was a change, though. He couldn't sense his leg.

Looking down, he saw a stump with blood pouring out. Then, dazedly looking up again, he saw a woman wearing a maid outfit who was as white as snow, holding a bloodied sword and standing faithfully by Yasenia's side.

Eira, looking at the dog man with disgust in her usually emotionless silver eyes, gently sheathed her sword after flicking the dirty fluids away.

Yasenia, looking at him with a bored expression and knowing that this person wouldn't say anything, spoke. "Send him as well. Also, gag him before he starts screaming in pain."

The man, who finally registered his leg being sliced, was about to shout when Clara took a strange, slimy liquid and shoved it down his throat, blocking his airway and silencing the about-to-explode cry of pain.

Yasenia turned to the maids and asked. "Explain your findings."

Doriel passed the gaged cat woman, who had become a crying mess, to another maid. Then, she cleaned her hands with a handkerchief before bowing respectfully toward Yasenia. Before she spoke, she instantly deployed a [Sound Cancelling Formation].

"There is no need to worry, Young Miss. For an initial assessment, we can guess that they were placed as substitutes during their outing. The techniques are relatively high level, and since we didn't bother checking because there was no real danger, they managed to sneak into our group."

Yasenia tilted her head. "What about our formation?"

Doriel straightened and commented. "Remember how you didn't spend as much time this time? We cut down on the detection methods. As long as they had the Sect's robes, their registered auras, and the same appearance, there wasn't any more in-depth detection built."

Yasenia nodded. "Well, it is what it is. They would've been discovered as soon as they did something suspicious, so it's okay."

Doriel nodded.

"What about the powers they come from and the third one?"

Doriel answered. "While we are skilled, the third one was surrounded by many people. I came to ask what are your orders about it. Should we declare war against those three powers and kidnap that person anyway?"

Yasenia shook her head. "You did well in coming to me. We are about to begin the World Summit. The last thing I want is unnecessary drama."

The dragoness pondered and commented. "Place his name on the assassin board with high-level rewards. Also, mark him as a traitor. Our assassin department can have fun with them while the rest of the sect sees what happens when one betrays us."

Doriel nodded. "Understood. We'll manipulate the information to make it seem as if they were the original people."

Yasenia nodded. "What about the original members?"

Doriel shook her head. "Probably dead."

Yasenia sighed. "I see. Try to find them. If they've gone through torture, give them some treasures and give them a good home in Astral Sky City."

Yasenia dispelled the formation and ordered. "Let's go!"

While one of the maids quickly took those two down the mountain to place them together with the rest of the prisoners they had taken during their two weeks in Ascending Ocean City, Yasenia's group arrived in front of the doors placed on the side of the mountain. Those prisoners would be moved at a later date and spend the rest of their days in the torture rooms in Astral Sky Sect.

Yasenia saw that no one was beside the doors, making her puzzled. "Hm Should we just enter?"

Embera commented. "It seems like that."

Yasenia approached and touched the doors, trying to push them open. "Huh?"

Our dragoness realized that the doors were too heavy to move with her raw strength. 'Nonsense.'

Yasenia could probably lift a small hill with ease, not to mention pushing open doors around 100 meters tall.

Yasenia frowned, looking up at the large doors. "Are they closed?"

Andrea chuckled. "Since you can't move them, now they are closed?"

Yasenia looked at her and pouted. "Yes!"

Andrea laughed and kissed her pouty mouth. Then, she asked. "Well, seniors, what's your verdict?"

Tatyana smiled playfully. "Well, Little Treasure needs to train a bit more. It's open."

Yasenia dramatically clutched her chest, involuntarily deforming it temptingly. "Impossible, am I weak?"

Yasenia paused when no one followed her silly act and looked at them with confusion, only to see them all looking at her chest. Her lips twitched. 'Perverts. All of them.'

She sighed and turned, this time using [Celestial Cosmos Dress].

Her robes transformed beautifully, giving her an empyrean look and presence. Then, she pushed.

OOOOMMM!

The loud grinding sound of the 100-meter-tall doors opening followed, and when Yasenia couldn't open them more because of her arms, she gathered strength and pushed.

BANG!

Both doors slammed open, hitting the mountain cliff and making the entire place quake.

The dragoness smirked as her dress slowly transformed back into her usual revealing blue dress. "Done."

Angel, Kaleina, Flame, and Soluna clapped with stars in their eyes.

Yasenia turned toward Andrea with an eyebrow raised and smiled charmingly. "Am I weak?"

Andrea approached and hugged her waist, looking at her with seductive eyes on her own. "Are you weak? If not, why do you always" Andrea whispered by placing her mouth near her ear. "fall below me?"

Yasenia blushed and snuggled in her arms. "Darling~."

Slap!

Yasenia's butt jiggled as Tatyana playfully scolded. "Let's go inside."

Yasenia blinked and nodded, following Tatyana while holding Andrea's hand.

Once they crossed the doors leading into the mountain, they were welcomed by a hollow mountain. It looked as if someone had dug the insides of the mountain out, leaving a carcass outside.

Still, there were many thick pillars to support the gigantic place from collapsing.

Even Yasenia had to give recognition this time. "This is impressive."

The girls all agreed. One had to give credit where it was due.

While the others looked around in awe, the Mermaid Queen appeared in front of her with a smile. "Little Yasenia, you've arrived."

Yasenia approached and gave her a gentle hug as a greeting. "This place is truly impressive. Be it the architecture, formations, materials used, or everything else. I'm honestly awed this time."



The Mermaid Queen guided them personally, and when she heard Yasenia, she laughed. "Agreed. This is one of the most ancient yet mysterious places in the entire continent. There are five mountains like this one across Distancia where the World Summits are held."

Yasenia blinked and asked. "Oh. You didn't do this?"

The Mermaid Queen shook her head with a laugh. "You overestimate us. These five mountains were there from a long time ago. We have the ability to do the maintenance, but to build something like this in a few hundred years is impossible. As you've realized, there weren't any [Living Materials] used, so the time and amount of work needed to do this would be insane. These five mountains are all 200,000 meters tall, and more than half of their entire volume has been emptied while creating many intricate things on their inside. They are basically sacred spots that all beings respect."

Yasenia nodded with the intention of learning a bit more about their history later on her own.