

## Heaven 781

Chapter 781: Ascending to the Summit.

Yasenia and her group followed the Mermaid Queen upward through a set of stairs that protruded from the side of the cliff.

The stairs were very wide and spacious. Moreover, each step was long. Walking at a normal speed, Yasenia needed to take ten strides before approaching the next stair.

While walking leisurely and observing the astonishing architecture, Yasenia pondered. "Mermaid Queen, I'm curious. Why have you decided that the limit to the World Summit should be the middle-level Epoch Core? Wouldn't it give more advantage to the top powers to compete with high or even peak-level cultivators?"

The Mermaid Queen explained. "Well, first of all, it's the attack power of people at each level." The Mermaid Queen paused and approached the cliff. The dragoness's eye shot upward when she saw her punch at the wall with what seemed all her strength.

Yasenia's pupils shrunk as the air was forcefully compressed so strongly by the Mermaid Queen's fist that it created a flash of light before impacting the mountain.

BOOM!

The shockwave pushed Yasenia two steps back. The dragoness was sure that a small mountain could've been flattened with that strength. However, when she looked over, she saw a large crack on the uneven stone wall. "Ho?"

The Mermaid Queen smiled when she saw Yasenia showing a look of understanding. "You expected a hole, right?"

Yasenia nodded as she looked at the cracked wall. "Hm?"

The Mermaid Queen looked at the gradually closing fissure and commented. "This mountain is extremely durable. However, it isn't solid enough to bear the weight of powerful high-level Epoch Cores fighting. That was my full-strength punch but without using any powerful buffing skills or energy."

The Mermaid Queen continued guiding them and continued speaking. "If we, the top powers, fought inside here, the chances of the mountain crumbling would become increasingly high. However, we can rest assured if mid-level Epoch Cores fight. Even those geniuses would have to intentionally attack the mountain walls to make it crumble or destabilize the formations adhered throughout the walls."

Yasenia nodded. "I see. No wonder you've placed a cultivation limit. But what happens if a sect with strong mid-level cultivators but no high-level cultivators wins?"

The Mermaid Queen shrugged. "They would naturally be the winners and receive whatever rewards there are." Then, she added. "However, gaining a powerful treasure and keeping it is another thing. If the winner is strong enough to protect whatever they won, perfect. If not, it's natural that other people will prey on them. In most of these cases, a top power approaches those people and offers to be swallowed by them. 99% agree."

Yasenia asked, more or less knowing the answer. "What happens to that last percent?"

The Mermaid Queen chuckled. "Well At a later time, when the dust settles, the winnings are reorganized."

Yasenia continued asking questions. "This is a World Summit, so I presume there will be some kind of conversation between the top winners after the event, right?"

The Mermaid Queen affirmed her guess, which pushed the dragoness to ask. "Are there unofficial matches at that time to reorganize the rewards?"

The Mermaid Queen nodded one more time. "Naturally. The thing we never interrupt is the actual competition. What happens afterward is up to the heavens to decide."

Yasenia tilted her head. "What stops someone from attacking everyone after the summit?"

The Mermaid Queen explained. "If they didn't manage to get a good position, then the chances of them being strong enough to rob those ranked above are very slim. Remember that the people participating today are the top powers, Yasenia. There are no 'stronger' people or backers to fall into. Whoever wins all is usually the strongest. During all the summits I've been part of, my mermaid race managed to rank second in the Thirty-Three Clans group. However, this year, we are aiming for the first spot. After all, this mountain is the closest to the sea, which makes the ambient mana very rich in water energies and similar."

Yasenia didn't continue that line of questions and instead steered toward a more important conversation. "Can I know what kind of event we will need to go through? As a newbie, I've received very limited information."

The Mermaid Queen laughed. "That's against the rules, little Yasenia. You'll know in a few hours. For now, come to the place reserved for the Astral Sky Sect."

Yasenia sighed with a smile but didn't insist.

Meanwhile, seeing the fidgeting Soluna, Embera spoke. "Mermaid Queen, we will station together with the Astral Sky Sect."

The beautiful mermaid looked at the spirits for a few moments and then nodded. "Sure. As long as Yasenia is okay with it, I don't mind."

She was a cautious woman, and she felt that offending the spirit group was not a good move. The threat coming from every single one of them made her body feel cold.

Yasenia nodded. "There are no problems."

Soluna exclaimed. "Yay!"

Yasenia chuckled. "Are you that excited?"

Soluna blushed and nodded, shyly hugging Yasenia's arm. "Yes. I really like being with you."

Their group traveled through a set of stairs that led upward and reached a place with 550 hexagonal floating platforms separated by nearly 100 meters. They were all layered, one on top of the other like a vertical beehive. What surprised Yasenia, however, was the ceiling, or, well, lack of.

Yasenia never realized that the mountain was actually open because clouds covered the top. She could clearly see the evening sky through the gap between platforms. The dragoness heard Angel at the side exclaiming, "Woah"

The Mermaid Queen laughed. "Welcome to the top of the [Mountain Of The Coast]."

Looking around, Evelyn commented. "There are names on top of each platform."

Yasenia nodded and looked around, trying to spot theirs.

"You can't see it from here. We are all the way at the top."

The dragoness blinked. "Us as well? Aren't we considered a new power?"

The Mermaid Queen snorted. "So what? You've proven yourself time and time again. Whoever doesn't agree that a junior of your age who has achieved as much is not worth it to be so high up is just a jealous and delusional fool!"

Yasenia stifled her laughter. During these last years of interaction, almost all the leaders had started treating Yasenia as their junior. She was actually very well-received by them.

This giant floating structure had ten floors. The first floor had 100 platforms, the second floor 90, and so on.

The top place had ten platforms.

Yasenia's Astral Sky Clan was located on the 9th floor, the place where there were 20 platforms.

As their group climbed and overcame many powers, they received many nasty gazes. Yasenia saw that a few of the elders had started shrinking in shame and frowned.

"Stick your chest out! What are you afraid of!? Is this how the elders of my Astral Sky Clan act!?"

Her shout echoed like a thunderclap, startling everyone.

One sect on the sixth level sneered. "Little girl, you are too arrogant."

Yasenia looked over, and her lips arched coldly. "[Flame Horse Beast Sect]. Do you think you have the qualifications to open your mouth with your second-rated strength? If you don't want a peak-level Epoch Core knocking on your doorsteps after the event" Yasenia unleashed her dragon aura and spat coldly. "Shut up."

The cultivation world was a place where people feared the strong and bullied the weak. Acting arrogant in this situation could certainly create some enemies. However, that was if Yasenia was alone.

The Mermaid Queen followed her words. "They've been invited by me and many other leaders. If you have complaints, I'll hear them."

Her tone was much less imposing or impactful than Yasenia's, but the effect was ten times better.

Yasenia could shut up those weaker than her, but the authority of the Mermaid Queen could silence 99% of the people here.

Tengliu, Coraline, and all the other leaders allied with Yasenia also flew down and looked around once.

That one look made all powers look away in fear.

Tengliu snorted and then dove into Yasenia's arms. "Little Yasenia~!"

The dragoness knew that dodging here would hurt Tengliu's face too much, so with a twitching eyebrow. She didn't dodge.

The silver bird fell face first into her bosom, laughing perversely as she rubbed her face in her breasts. "Little Yaseia~, you are so soft~."

The girls internally cursed at the perverted bird. Still, none of them stopped her as they knew that Tengliu actually didn't mean any harm. During all these years, they've come to understand how Tengliu worked.

Her hug and kiss on the cheek were similar to a handshake for other people. Of course, that didn't mean they would allow it, but in situations like this, those thoughts made them relaxed.

'Harpies are too perverted.'

Tatyana said at the side with a smiling voice. "Tengliu~, that's enough."

Tengliu jumped like a scared bird and straightened her back. "Yes, ma'am."

The rest of the leaders rolled their eyes, and everyone moved to the top of the hovering platforms.

Once they arrived, the dragoness was quick to find hers, and she also realized that she was surrounded by the Harpies, Lamias, Phoenix, Lobsters, and other allies.

The Mermaid Queen sighed. "Sadly, I can't be here with you. I need to be on the top floor."

Yaseia couldn't help but chuckle. "Such a cozy spot you prepared for me. Don't worry about not being able to accompany me. We are not that far away either way."

The Mermaid Queen laughed softly. "While we don't want to underestimate you, you are still our junior. So, let these seniors take care of you in this situation."

Yaseia could feel the goodwill behind the gesture, so she nodded with a smile. "Well, then we will take advantage of it."

After her group of 400+ flew and landed on their platform, a few leaders who hadn't come down before, like Wuria, the Glass Lamia Matriarch, or Gireila, the Ember Phoenix Matriarch, came to say hello.

A magnetic and deep male voice interrupted their talk. "Oh? Look at who is here. Are you here as a spectator? With your pitiful strength, other than that, anything else is impossible."

Tengliu rolled her eyes and looked to the side. "Fu Lang Zu, has your temper shortened after losing your limbs? If you are not careful, you will end up like the Garuda Patriarch."

Yaseia looked over and saw the black-furred wolf man accompanied by the silver-furred Zephyrith and another ten wolf people, all in the high-level Epoch Core.

Between them, there was even an elderly one with unfathomable strength. Yaseia could feel extreme danger coming from that elderly wolf. Her pupils shrunk when she finally realized his level. "This Peak-level Epoch Core?"

Alaia whispered, confirming her guess: "That wolf beast human is a peak-level Epoch Core. Moreover, he is at the limit of the realm. Cultivation-wise, he is considered prepared to break through if Distancia Heavens weren't limiting his cultivation. His overall strength is higher than

mine, but my Intent and skills are probably more developed. The fight would be a 40-60 in his favor."

Yasenia nodded and looked at the elderly wolf with a deeper gaze. '40-60 with Alaia? He is really strong.'

The ability to fight her maids at the same cultivation level was something that needed to be praised regardless of the opponent's affiliation.

Of course, the last level of the fifth realm was extremely vast. After all, the next breakthrough was the step to exit the mortal realms. So, the distance in strength between a cultivator who recently entered the peak level and one that had reached its maximum potential was as wide as a low-level fifth realm compared to a high-level fifth realm.

Chapter 782: Conversation Between Top Powers and Yasenia.

"Fu Lang Zu, has your temper shortened after losing your limbs? If you are not careful, you will end up like the Garuda Patriarch."

After hearing Tengliu's words, Fu Lang Zu sneered. "Do you not have anything else to mock me with? It seems that I overestimated your intelligence."

Tengliu's lips arched. "You just have fewer things than usual to mock, so I can't help but focus on your missing qualities."

Fu Lang Zu showed his fangs in a dangerous and handsome smile. "I could probably make you go missing if we fought."

Tengliu laughed, dismissing him. "Sure, sure."

The Holy Beast Empire's Emperor appeared and snorted. "What are you two, children?"

The Abyss Chasm Empire's Emperor also appeared. "It's a shame, truly."

The Holy Beast Emperor looked over. "What do you mean?"

The Abyss Chasm Emperor shook his head. "Why didn't you surrender to the Divines? At least, you would've made a decent opponent. However, now that we have the Demon's backing and you choose" He looked at Yasenia with an indifferent face. "That. We are not competing even at the same level."

Yasenia looked at him and chuckled.

With a frown, the Abyss Chasm Emperor looked over. "What are you laughing about, junior? Have your parents not taught you about respect toward your elders?"

Yasenia smiled coldly. "You are acting as if the Demons are some sort of big deal. Oh, they are so powerful that when I slaughtered one of their kind in front of them, they decided not to act~."

The Abyss Chasm Emperor shook his head. "Ignorant. If you think that just because of that, you are over them, then you are delusional. I don't know from what kind of place you come from, but there are tens of cultivators in the Transcendent Realm from where the Demons come. One of those is enough to annihilate you with one look."

Yasenia lifted her eyebrow. "Oh Tens of them?"

The Demons appeared and Dyrathos, the flame demon leader, mocked. "What, are you learning to be afraid now, Dragon?"

Yasenia blinked and smiled. "I didn't expect it from brainless creatures, but I think you would be able to feel my nervousness if I were, right? After all, Demons are quite acute at detecting negative emotions. Say, try to find anything like that in me."

Dyrathos ridiculed. "Did you think that you can hide behind your tools and try to deceive me? Regardless if I can or not, the fact that you have been speaking in circles is quite telling of your mental situation."

With a sigh, our dragoness shook her head. "Honestly, what have you come here to do? You can't attack me, you can't influence me, and you can't prove any of your claims." Yasenia's eyes flashed, and she smiled. "How about now I say that my mother is in the Law Creator Realm? Would you believe me?"

The girls and maids behind Yasenia had to hold back their bodies from reacting, many of them stifling their laughter. 'That tone They'll probably take it as a joke.'

Dyrathos and the other demons mockingly laughed. Dyrathos sneered. "Little girl, if you knew what those words mean, you wouldn't speak them so easily. Do you even understand how terrifying a Law Creator truly is? Even our Demon Sovereigns can only match up to them. They are powerhouses of the Universe everywhere except in the high-heavens. One of them can rule galaxies worth of territory."

Yasenia blinked and tilted her head. "Really?"

Her hand, holding Tatyana's hand, squeezed as if asking why she hadn't said it before. Tatyana didn't react; she just smiled as she looked at her, making Yasenia want to take a bite out of frustration. 'I know so little about you'

Tatyana's eyes bent with laughter. 'Didn't you tell me in the past that you wanted to discover things about me by yourself?'

Yasenia secretly cursed at her past self.

Dyrathos looked at Yasenia with disdain in his eyes. "You didn't even know that, and you claim that your mother is in that esteemed realm? As the Abyss Chasm Emperor said, it seems that you lack respect for the seniors."

Yasenia's eyebrow twitched, annoyed. 'They got a one up on me because of that silly detail.' Then, she threw it to the back of her mind. 'Whatever, I can't win all vocal confrontations.'

Suddenly, the old man from the Wolf Clan looked at Yasenia and spoke slowly but clearly. "You are the most talented junior I've ever met in my 14,000 years of life."

Yasenia looked over, her thoughts drifting at what she heard from Alaia previously. 'No wonder he is so strong. He must've been stuck at this level for a while already. Unable to break through, the only thing he can do is refine his strength in the same realm as much as possible. Therefore, he can fight against Alaia, who just entered the Half-step Dantian Spiritualization Realm.'

Strangely, Yasenia couldn't feel hostility coming from him, puzzling her.

Therefore, she bowed honestly, cupping her fist. "It is an honor to be evaluated as such by senior."

The old man's eyes flashed, and he smiled a little, his muddy eyes brightening slightly. "Respectful even when our powers are at odds. Admirable. While I don't know why you are acting provocatively with those brats Tell me, child, why are you at odds with young Lang Zu."

Yasenia answered respectfully at his first words. "While they are seniors, they are taking a fight with this junior. Then, doesn't that degrade them to the same level as I? While seniors deserve respect, they also need to earn it." Yasenia looked at the demons and the other Continental Shadow seniors and shook her head. "They are just a disappointing bunch that want to bully me and push me down because I've become a clear obstacle in their plans. If nobody ever attacked me, I would probably not be here at all. I just wanted to develop and then leave this place silently, yet people can't help but provoke me time and time again."

The powers felt that they had been slapped in the face. Some needed to hold back their anger, forcing their faces to become a shade of red.

Yasenia ignored it and turned toward the Wolf Senior. After thinking for a few seconds, she decided to explain it objectively. "It went like this, respected elder. After I arrived at Koran City, a city ruled by one of Fu Lang Zu's sons, I was oppressed by him. I naturally resisted and didn't vow down. As a consequence, there was a conflict that eventually ended in me killing Fu Lang Zu's son as well as annihilating one of the second-rate sects under Fu Lang Zu's control called [Five Shadow Fangs Sect]."

The people around didn't interrupt, wanting to learn more about this conflict.

However, Yasenia continued with a neutral tone, neither adding nor subtracting anything. "Then, after the secret realm more than four years ago, I found many treasures, and he wanted to steal them by force. My subordinates managed to repel him and slice his arm and leg because he attacked with the intention of killing me after breaking a non-attacking agreement. Because of that, our enmity deepened."

Yasenia finished by saying. "After other conflicts, he sent an army my way in conjunction with other powers to test my strength. I similarly repelled it, reaching today's situation. My words can be easily confirmed with a little bit of investigation."

Hearing Yasenia's words, many people listening could feel how neutral and sincere Yasenia's tone was. She presented facts without adding any emotions from her point of view.

Moreover, many powers knew how petty some people from the Wolf Clan could be. Therefore, they understood that what Yasenia spoke was probably close to 90% of the truth, making many people look disapprovingly at Fu Lang Zu.

The elderly wolf looked at Fu Lang Zu. "Are her words the truth?"

Fu Lang Zu sneered, not looking at all as if what he had just heard was a problem. "Old man, she has challenged the pride of our pack time and time again. If she was obedient from the beginning, nothing like this would've happened."

Yasenia looked at him mockingly but didn't answer. Their current conflict was not something that could be resolved with words.

The old man sighed, his white wolf ears softly lowering. "It looks like the fault is on our part."

Many people raised eyebrows, and even Fu Lang Zu's face changed.

The old man commented. "Yasenia, right?"

Curious, Yasenia answered. "Yes, senior."

"While it is the truth that you have been wronged, sadly, my race's alliance is with those who want to oppose you."

Yasenia knew that the elderly wolf would take Fu Lang Zu's side regardless, so she easily nodded with a smile. "I understand. Not everything can be resolved with words. Even if you declared that you want to become my ally, it is impossible to accept as a grand majority in the Wolf Race is already afflicted by propaganda and many other means. Alliance has been impossible for a long time already."

The old man's muddy eyes shone with praise, and then he sighed and placed his hands on his back. "It's a shame, truly. I would've loved having a granddaughter like you."

Yasenia smiled. "It would not have been a difficult outcome in a different situation. Senior is wise, so having an elder such as yourself would be any junior's privilege. It's a shame that the leader of the wolf race is Fu Lang Zu and not senior."

The old man laughed. "Good! I wish you luck, Young Yasenia. I hope you manage to survive our means."

Yasenia cupped her fists again, smiling. "I would wish senior for a long life, but that would be problematic for me. I will just wish for a peaceful and satisfying end for senior."

The old wolf burst into laughter. "Good speech! Lang Zu, let's go. There is no meaning in continuing our conversation. All that needed to be said has already been exchanged."

Fu Lang Zu followed after giving a glare at Yasenia.

Meanwhile, Zephyrith had been communicating with Sierra. You could see a gentle wag on her tail as her usual emotionless red eyes shone with hidden joy and shyness. 'Sierra has become so strong and beautiful~.'

The Ancient Beast Rank Aura that Sierra allowed Zephyrith to feel made the Fate Wolf feel her heart pounding. The joy of being courted by such a high-level bloodline wolf was fulfilling to a fundamental level. Moreover, since Zephyrith and Sierra had been slowly deepening their bonds with the communication device, Zephyrith right now was feeling like a little girl being courted by the most popular mate.

Tatyana commented as she looked at the retreating back of the old wolf. "An interesting person."

Yasenia agreed. "But we can't let him live. Such a person will give us many headaches if left alive."

Doriel asked, her hand caressing the pommel of her dagger resting on her waist. "Shall I assassinate him?"

Yasenia looked at her. "Can you do it with 100% confidence? He can fight with Alaia to a standstill, so he can't be weak. If you fail, being captured is the last of your worries. Let's forget about desperate maneuvers for now."

Kali asked. "What about poisons? Don't we have that extremely powerful poison that we got from that kid back in the Sky Continent?"



Yasenia blinked. "You mean the Transcendent-level Poison that supposedly could affect Mom?"

Kali nodded.

Yasenia got thoughtful. "Hm I think that wasting a poison that can kill Transcendence Level cultivators on him is a waste. Let's let it be for now. Once we start an all-out war, we can plan how to do it."

Doriel and Kali nodded. "Understood."

Chapter 783: World Summit Rules.

After the wolves left, Yasenia turned to look at the rest. "Is there anything more that you want to say? I think I've made my position quite clear. The Demons want to dominate this world, the Divines are also similar, and the Beast group has also started having those intentions. Of the other three foreign groups, I've already talked with the Spirits; the humans have been doing their thing, and the Undead have been as silent as their dead heart."

Yasenia looked around where the Divines, humans, undead, and beasts were looking in this direction with curiosity, each within their own groups. "While I still don't know why all of you people arrived at Distancia so suddenly, I already expected to meet foreign groups eventually."

Then, she stated. "So, if you have nothing else to say or any other provocative comments to make, I would like to start preparing for the event."

Few people snorted and looked away, while others silently returned to their positions.

Yasenia looked at Tengliu and the others and nodded. "See you later."

They all nodded back and flew to their own platforms. The Mermaid Queen left a message before she flew upward. "Both portals for you and the spirits will appear on your platform. I've already changed it so that there aren't any problems with the spirits remaining by your side."

Yasenia acknowledged.

After that, there was nothing other than waiting for the start of the actual event.

As they waited, an exceedingly handsome man with long blonde hair and six soft-looking wings appeared in several places at the same time.

Our dragoness blinked and then realized that it was the work of the formations that were in place so that everyone could see the person speaking.

"Welcome to the [World Summit]. Your host this time will be I, Lornerat, the Sect Master from the first rated power, [Sunless Sect]."

Yasenia tried to recall with her powerful mind. 'The Sunless Sect is a relatively strong first-rated sect that had competed with Nine Sects in the past in several areas. They are located in the northwest of the continent and have at least three Main Cities, each with around 300 million inhabitants. Without us and my maids, the current Astral Sky Sect would be slightly weaker than them, but not by much.'

Lornerat, the man from a winged race, continued.

"We've gathered in the [Mountain of the Coast] for today's event, where all the top powers will fight for resources and supremacy. The participants are, as always, the top 550 powers, an extra 20,000

powers recommended by the top 200 powers from the past World Summit, and 29,450 more applicants who had to test their strength to participate, for a total of 50,000 powers."

Lornerat smiled handsomely. "The weakest participants this year are top-notch Second Rated Sects. Moreover, this year, there are many new and upcoming powers that can shake the foundations established for generations."

Lornerat gave a quick look to Yasenia and the rest of the foreign powers.

Yasenia hummed in her mind. 'No wonder people were so angry. Thanks to my connections, I've squeezed myself into the top 30 without much of a struggle. Even if I don't manage to win, I have the right to invite other powers allied to me for the next World Summit.'

Yasenia blinked. 'Not that it matters much, though. I'll probably be gone by the time the next World Summit happens. After all, World Summits happen every century at the earliest. From what I've read, there have been times when no World Summit was called after more than a millennium.'

The handsome man from the six-winged race continued a speech made to increase the prestige of the World Summit.

His clear yet deep voice, pleasant cadence while speaking, striking appearance, and adequate tone and gestures made the otherwise boring speech quite manageable.

Yasenia nodded. 'No wonder they chose him as a host. Even if he speaks gibberish, there would be people willing to listen.'

Yasenia felt a sudden pinch on her waist, and she turned to look at Tatyana with a puzzled expression. She whispered. "What's wrong?"

Tatyana asked. "Is he good-looking?"

Yasenia looked at the man and nodded, answering objectively. "Naturally."

The pinch got worse, making Yasenia almost gasp. "W-What's wrong, Mom?"

Tatyana snorted. "Nothing."

The dragoness's eyebrows twitched. 'Why is she so moody?'

Evelyn coughed. "Love, she is jealous."

The dragoness looked at Evelyn with an incredulous expression. "What are you talking about?"

The girls looked at their lover helplessly. Their lovely dragoness trusted them so much that the concept of actual jealousy was somewhat vague.

While Yasenia sometimes acted a bit jealous, it was more playful than anything else. So, when facing actual jealousy coming from them, the usual sharp dragoness was at a loss.

However, she wasn't silly. So, after answering Evelyn out of pure instinct, she turned to look at the calm-looking Tatyana with an amused expression. "Why would you be jealous?"

She hugged her tenderly from behind and placed her hands on her stomach, kissing her earlobe gently. "Isn't this little one enough proof of my love?"

Tatyana blushed and snorted. Contrary to her gesture, though, she turned around and snuggled in her arms, followed by taking in a greedy deep breath. "Don't look at good-looking people too much."

Yasenia nodded, and instead of looking at him, she continued listening while pampering not only Tatyana but the rest of her girls as well by using her tail to tickle, hug, or play with them.

After a long introduction that lasted almost 30 minutes, the man spoke.

"Without further ado, let me introduce the rules for the [Mountain Of The Coast World Summit]."

Lornerat waved his hand, and a giant scroll unfolded on top of all the platforms. Another scroll was unfolded below the floating platforms for the rest of the powers to see.

Unlike the top 550, the rest of the powers were in a large stadium-like place, separated into groups and looking upward as one.

With 400 people in each of the 49,450 powers, there were nearly 20 million people attending the summit. All of them were considered "Top powers" around the World, which revealed how vast a cultivation world truly was.

Remember that 75% of those people were all peak-level Ethereal Souls, with the rest all being inside the Epoch Core Realm.

Our girls looked at the scroll that was densely packed with letters, showing several rules.

Tengliu's message reached Yasenia. 'Use your spiritual sense and energy and send it into the scroll.'

Yasenia blinked and did so. All the information was directly imprinted in her mind after her spiritual sense and energy met with the scroll.

Her eyes became hazy for two seconds as her powerful mind organized everything, snapping out of her daze in the next instant. Things like prohibiting breaking through during the event, the maximum cultivation rank for participants being mid-level Epoch Core, the maximum number of participants being five, not being able to deliver lethal strikes maliciously after the other side surrendered, prohibiting the use of temporary enhancing/poison/harming artifacts with the exception of skills, prohibiting the use of outside help for your team, and many more nuances appeared in her mind.

Yasenia sent a message thanking Tengliu after revising everything.

Yasenia thought after internalizing the rules. 'Kali's alchemy is slightly restricted with the ban of poisons and temporary enhancement pills, but there are no major problems for us. Surprisingly, I can't find rules against humans competing. They probably never thought that a human would become strong enough to participate, or these rules were made long before Beast Humans took over Distancia.'

After a while, Yasenia realized that besides some of her treasures being restricted, she could participate almost without considering the rules. 'Beat people until they surrendered, easy.'

After a while, Lornerat spoke. "I hope you've internalized the rules. The competition will be divided into two phases. The first is in an elimination section, where all powers will fight in one large arena. The following event will be a five-against-five tournament with a point system."

"The group battle will be divided into seven fights, four 1 against 1, two 3 against 3, and one 5 against 5. It will be a best of seven, meaning the first group to score four points wins and will pass to the next battle."

Having explained the general phases, Lornierat went in-depth for the first part.

"The first all against all will start at the inner mountain's bottom area. Then, you will have to climb up to the top. To go from level to level, there are small tests, and in between the tests, you can find treasures that you can gather. They are all between low-level Earth and with some that can reach the Heaven Rank. The higher you climb, the better the treasures. Because of how infrequently we use the Summit Mountains, each time they accumulate enough naturally formed treasures to be considered a treasure trove."

Yasenia tilted her head and asked Coraline, who was relatively close to her, through a mental message. "Does nobody enter these mountains when there aren't summits?"

Coraline nodded. "All powers have agreed to protect them and use them as a way to divide everything and avoid conflict. One of the reasons for the lack of large conflicts is the World Summits. The positions of the Nine Sects, Three Empires, and Thirty-Three clans are decided here as well. Very rarely was a "named" top power thrown out of their position by force. After all, there is a certain level of connection and protection between all of us. Your arrival and involvement have stirred the World the most for the last thousands of years."

Yasenia nodded, not feeling apologetic for "stirring the pot."

While this continent looked stale and war-free, Yasenia had seen much higher levels of corruption than in war-engulfed worlds. Because of petty conflict, there were also many deaths, many of them quite worse than being killed at a war.

Naturally, death during the war could also be terrible if, for example, you were captured by the other side. So, neither situation was ideal.

For example, if Yasenia had been an average cultivator instead of who she was, there was no chance that she would have been able to lift the Astral Sky Sect to its current height. The oppression from the Fu Family back in Koran City would've probably ended in a tragic outcome.

Even remaining as a second-rate power would have been a problem without seeking aid from a top power.

Seeking for aid was not bad per se. The problem was that once you became a subordinate sect, the chances of surpassing that sect you'd become part of became increasingly small. After all, the larger sect would send people so that they would fill the positions of power.

This was something Yasenia recently did when assimilating the Assassin sect. While killing the "loyal" people, she also sent a few elders from her Sect to take over important positions.

Using this method, one must be careful of low-level cultivators that might harbor rancor.

After all, you would want to avoid a case of 200 years in the future being attacked by a small fry of the past that had grown exponentially because of some godly chance encounter.

Therefore, it was of utmost importance to improve the living conditions of the low-level cultivators while taking over a sect, even if it would slowly limit the benefits in the future. The important part was creating the "sensation" of being better than before.

This was not a problem for Yasenia, though. Even if she gave just 10% of the benefits that Astral Sky Sect's headquarters gave, she could satisfy this usually demanding condition.

Of course, if the person was a righteous prick who was lost in a delusion, it didn't matter what you did; you would fall into the "enemy" category regardless.

Chapter 784: Lottery. Embracing Tranquility.

The winged man presenting the games concluded. "Now, let's move toward drawing lots. As previously designed, there are 22 areas, and the top 22 powers will each go to one. This top 22 are the Three Empires, the Nine Sects and the Top Ten of the Thirty-Three Clans."

"Areas 1,2 and 3 will go to the Empires, areas 4 to 12 will go to the Nine Sects, and the rest will go to the top ten clans."

To make it fair, there was a large rolling sphere filled with 49,978 different balls, each with one number. The numbers went from 23 to 50,000.

When the man clapped, 22 similarly winged beast humans flew to the platform with the giant sphere. Each of them was beautiful and elegant, wearing similar robes and standing behind the handsome winged man.

The man smiled and commented. "As per usual, the host is tasked to create a fair distribution among the powers. So, this time, we've done it by lottery. When you arrived, each power was assigned one number at random, and that number will be revealed to you now."

Yasenia felt the formation around her, trying to send something directly into her mind. She slowly accepted the message, and the number 34,654 appeared in her head.

Lornerat waited until he received the notice that everyone got the message and nodded. Then, he flapped his six wings and hovered before the large sphere. "The 22 assistants below each represent one of the areas."

After he said that, a number floated above their heads ranging from 1 to 22.

"They will approach one by one and roll the giant sphere, making one of the balls fall through the hole at the bottom when stopped. Then, the number they show will be paired with the area that corresponds to the number they represent. For example, if number 12 takes out the ball with the number 100, the power assigned with the number 100 will enter the 12th area."

Nobody complained. This method was transparent enough that cheating on it would be extremely difficult. After all, many spiritual senses were locked on the giant sphere, making it the most guarded item in the entire continent for the few seconds that this lottery would last.

Number 1 approached and used a lever to roll the giant sphere. The sound of marble balls hitting each other was the only sound heard, and after 5 seconds, she stopped.

A pure white ball fell from a hole at the bottom, rolling slowly until it landed in front of Number 1.

Number 1 picked it up and then spoke clearly. "Number 12,451! Number 12,451! Number 12,451!"

After repeating it three times, Number 1 moved aside, and number one took her position. The process didn't last longer than 20 seconds.

Yasenia calculated, and her lips twitched. 'At this pace, the lottery will last more or less 11 days.'

However, when she looked around, she saw that people had no problem with that. Tatyana looked at Yasenia and asked. "What's wrong?"

Yasenia explained, and Tatyana tilted her head. "Isn't it just 11 days?"

The dragoness felt a bit speechless.

Tatyana laughed, her ruby-like eyes gleaming softly. "You are accustomed to high-pace living, but usually, cultivation matters last this much. I've even participated in events where the assigning lasted months, and the events lasted years."

Tatyana hugged her arm and smiled. "It's time you begin to feel how a cultivator lives and get accustomed to it. In cultivation terms, you are considered extremely hyperactive. One week doing one thing, the next week doing another, and the following one creating something new. Sigh, such a tiring life. Take it easier, love."

The dragoness, who had become accustomed to being a workaholic, looked between the sphere and Tatyana, thinking. 'Do you know how many things I can get done in 11 days!?'

But, knowing that there was no reason to speed things up, Yasenia took a deep breath and sat cross-legged, informing the rest of it.

Kaleina and Flame were not nearly strong enough to be able to not fall asleep during all 11 days, so Yasenia prepared bedding for when they wanted to sleep. She created a few peak-level Heaven-ranked defensive formations that wouldn't break even if Alaia released her dragon breath at point blank, just to be safe.

The few powers around Yasenia saw the extremely high-level materials that slowly fused into formation ink by Angel with their eyes twitching. 'What kind of godlike thing are you doing in the middle of an event!?'

Other than that, Yasenia took out a few books to read. After all, cultivating here was impossible. One became too vulnerable while cultivating.

Naturally, the rest of the people would stand dazedly around without doing anything for 11 days. Many powers took advantage of this time to meditate, relax, or do other small activities.

There were even some Dual Cultivation Sects who sent caution out of the window.

Those places were naturally blocked from view and sound by our dragoness.

Time flew by. The first day passed, the seconds also did, and on the fifth day of the lottery, Yasenia finally heard her number.

"Number 34,654! Number 34,654! Number 34,654!"

The dragoness lifted her hand while petting the sleeping Kaleina and Flame, looking at the person holding the ball. 'Number 8, huh.'

Tengliu, Coraline, the Mermaid Queen, and a few other leaders sent Yasenia a message simultaneously.

"That's the [Nine Shadow Fang Sect]'s area."

Yasenia lifted an eyebrow and felt a gaze landing on her. Turning to the right, she saw the people from the Shadow Fang Sect looking her way with cold and emotionless eyes.

Yasenia smirked and chuckled. 'Action since the very start? That's good.' Then, she looked at the scrolls and looked at the small map for the first floor.

'Area 8 Area 8 There it is.'

While they were inside a mountain, that didn't mean that all areas were mountainous and desolate regions. There were forests, deserts, and many other types of biomes.

The one Yasenia's group landed in was a gloomy swamp. There was even a light fog that affected the Spiritual Sense.

"Mm~."

Yasenia heard Kaleina groaning as she snuggled closer to her while asleep. She looked down at the two darlings sleeping in her arms and drooling out of comfort and stifled her laughter. 'They are so cute.'

Yasenia was half-lying on the bed prepared for them, and both children were hugging her to sleep. They fell asleep like that because Yasenia was reading them a book before their time to sleep.

So, while she read and hugged them, her calming body scent and warmth relaxed them enough to fall asleep.

Andrea sat by her side, touching Yasenia's head. "Are you tired, love? We can move them onto the bed if you want."

Yasenia shook her head softly. "Don't worry, let them rest on me for today. They were a bit more tired than usual."

Andrea nodded and leaned forward, cautious not to wake up the two darlings. "Don't push yourself, okay? Remember that we have to fight in a while."

Yasenia nodded as she lifted her head, asking for a kiss. Andrea naturally obliged and leaned down to capture the dragoness's soft and sweet lips.

After kissing for a few minutes, Andrea gave Yasenia one more peck between her eyebrows and stood up from the bed, moving toward the side where the rest of the girls were.

The "sleeping area" they'd created had anti-spying functions as well, so nobody could see anything from the outside.

After Andrea left, Angel entered. Angel looked at the two children by Yasenia's side and slowly made her way in between, landing face down between Yasenia's large breasts and taking in a deep breath. "Sigh~, so comfortable."

The dragoness chuckled when her third baby was added to the mix, and she gently used her tail to squeeze Angel's body with an expert tail massage.

Angel felt the squishy, long appendage coil around her and sometimes apply pressure, provoking a face that melted in comfort. "It feels so nice~."

"Does it? I know you love it when I coiled it around here, right?"

The dragoness's tail moved toward Angel's arm and undulated the pressure, making her muscles feel as if they were being liquified in a good way.

When Yasenia's tail stopped applying pressure, her arm fell, soft enough to appear boneless. Then, the dragoness repeated the motions on Angel's other arm.

Our baby purred in comfort, her large blue eyes watery as she joined the other two drooling on top of Yasenia.

Thankfully, our dragoness didn't mind. Instead, she internally laughed. 'Does it feel that great? So cute~.'

After making Angel's other arm limp, the tail moved and pressured on Angel's back, the tip poked like fingers, sometimes dragging across the skin and other times making quick taps.

Thanks to Yasenia's ability to soften her scales, it felt like a bumpy, smooth surface instead of raspy, lighting up the nerves in comforting pleasure.

Angel, her face buried between Yasenia's marshmallow-like breasts, slowly closed her eyes. While she had plenty of stamina as a high-level cultivator, Yasenia had placed Angel to sleep almost daily, so she had never lost the habits.

The only times Angel lost sleep was when she was too concentrated when studying formations.

Other than at those punctual times, our baby was always carried to bed and placed to sleep by having lovely sex and cuddles. "Yasenia~. Muah."

Angel kissed the breasts surrounding her head with tap kisses. The dragoness smiled, lowering the tail to non-sexually massage Angel's athletic little but.

While our baby had a great front, she was a bit flat hip-wise. Not that it mattered.

Carefully moving Kaleina and Flame, Yasenia managed to move her arms enough to place her hands on top of Angel's head. With that, she started using her fingers to play with her soft and long hair.

Angel's golden locks reached around the back of her knees when left loose, so more often than not, Yasenia liked styling Angel's hair.

While her current range of motion was very small because of her honestly uncomfortable position, the dragoness continued her tail massage as she played with Angel's long hair.

She didn't speak because she knew that her baby was about to fall asleep. The slowing rhythm of her breathing was all too familiar to Yasenia.

Looking down at the three sleeping dears, one on her left shoulder, one between her breasts, and one on her right shoulder, Yasenia felt full.

She really treasured these moments of comfort and love she shared with them. 'It would be nice if I could go to bed each day like this, surrounded by my loves, and not care about anything else.'

As a dragon, Yasenia had ambitions. It was part of who she was. However, her lovers have managed to occupy such a large part of the dragon's heart that all her instincts were now secondary.



She would feel happy if they were fulfilled, but as long as her family could smile, the dragon was happy to lay everything down Or, on the contrary. Extend her wings to fly and fight the entire world.

If the result of her actions was the happiness of her family, this Celestial Dragon was ready to do anything.

Chapter 785: [Nine Silent Fang Sect]'s Schemes.

The lottery finished, and everyone started getting ready to be transported.

Tengliu looked at Yasenia from a distance with a frown and mentally asked. 'Are you really going to be alright? You should've already realized which group is the "leader" of the eighth area, right?'

Yasenia turned to look at the silver harpy and nodded. 'They are the [Nine Silent Fang Assassin Sect], right?'

Coraline joined the mental conversation. 'There are plenty of groups who will avoid offending them, and to do so, quite a few will probably not hesitate to group up on you. Unlike normally, you don't have the backing of seniors inside. Even with Eira's strength, there are limits.'

Yasenia smiled at them. 'I know. Don't worry. It is supposedly prohibited from attacking after a call for surrender, right? While I don't trust that mechanism too much, the formation automatically disqualifies anyone who attacks those who had surrendered. After being disqualified, you can't pick up any more treasures, and if you insist on disrupting the event, the killing formation activates. So, the chances of many groups taking this risk are really not that high. Even then, I would just surrender and leave the event.'

Yasenia shrugged. 'We are not participating to win, but to hone ourselves. While there are risks, they fall into the acceptable risks section.'

The seniors looked at the nonchalant dragon with worry, but they didn't insist.

Lornerat, the host, concluded. "Now that everything is in place, let's transport all our participants to their corresponding areas!"

Soluna approached Yasenia and smiled shyly. "Good luck, Yasenia. If we see each other inside, please take care of me."

Yasenia looked down at her with a smile and stepped forward to hug her. Soluna's hair flared up, but her arms obediently went around the soft dragoness's body. "Be careful, Soluna."

Soluna, buried in Yasenia's soft flesh, nodded and spoke in a whisper. "Yes"

Then, Andrea, Cecile, Kali, Yasenia, and Eira stepped toward their own transportation circle. Before stepping onto it, the dragoness looked around, but she didn't feel any gazes directed at her.

Looking down, she could read the formation lines to discern the nature of the circle. 'The last thing I want is for this thing to have any tricks.'

However, after looking at it closely for five minutes, she couldn't see any problems. Moreover, if there was anything odd, Angel, Tatyana, or any of the maids proficient in formations would've told her.

Andrea knew how cautious her love was, so she asked, knowing why they were waiting in front of the circle. "Everything in place?"

Yasenia nodded. "I can't see anything odd."

Kali chuckled. "Then, let's go."

With a synchronous step, the five of them stepped into the circular formation.

Yasenia's eyesight was filled with white for a moment, and her vision flickered.

Then, when her vision returned to her, the dragoness found herself in the middle of a swamp, knee-deep in muddy water.

Looking up, she saw a rocky ceiling, around 5000 meters upward. 'Hm Flying stealthily in my dragon form will be tricky. There are no clouds at all. It's just a rocky ceiling.'

By now, Yasenia was 500 meters long without counting the tail and around 200 meters in height while standing on all fours. Her wing span was similar to her body's length, at 600 meters. If one counted the tail, her length was approaching 1000 meters.

Her growth was such that even Cecile, who was the closest to her size-wise, had started becoming a bit small.

Cecile's proportions were 600 meters wing span and around 200 meters tall when standing on her talons. Her three Phoenix tails would stretch behind her majestically for 300 meters. While being enormous, her size lost in volume to a dragon of a similar size.

Meanwhile, Kali's fox form was an entire weight class below Yasenia. She was currently 300 meters long without counting her tails and around 550 if you counted them. Her height was noticeably smaller than Yasenia's, at around 150 meters. She would reach slightly below her shoulders if they were aligned side by side.

However, the three were majestic beasts of massive sizes, rare to see in places like Distancia. If they decided to transform, they would shock many people.

Yasenia, Cecile, Andrea, and Kali looked around attentively while Eira stayed faithfully by their side. Andrea pointed northward from where they were. "There is the pillar to climb to the next area."

Yasenia and the rest looked over and began moving while expanding their spiritual sense.

Their bodies flashed through the swamp, their steps quick enough for them to be running over the water. The surface tension created by their quick steps was more than enough for our girls to feel as if the water was solid ground.

Cecile spoke. "At our pace, we'll take two days to arrive at the pillar."

Kali blinked. "Isn't it a bit unfair for those who appear near it?"

Yasenia tilted her head. "I guess? However, we should focus more on our surroundings than on reaching out as soon as possible. We are sharing an area with an assassin group and many other powers that might want to suck up to them. Assassin sects are double-edged because most powers would want them gone as soon as one appears."

Yasenia continued. "However, if an assassin sect manages to reach the top of a continent, that means that its reputation, strength, and influence are deep enough not to be shaken by such things. They are the perfect power to deliver missions to deal with your enemies since, more often than not, as long as you have money, assassin sects that have reached certain heights will aim at anyone. Many low-level struggles use this large assassin powers to tilt wars to their favor."

The girls nodded, understanding the logic behind her words.

Yasenia sighed. "In short, to gain a favor from them, many sects participating will attack us. After all, if they attack us, they will probably be able to request the sect to eliminate [That] annoying enemy."

Kali asked, unsure. "But, wouldn't they be doing enemies out of us?"

Yasenia smiled. "Remember that we are far from being known worldwide. We are just a new power. While we've mingled with the top of Distancia, the middle to low levels still are very ignorant of us."

Kali realized. "That is one of the aims you talked about, right?"

Yasenia nodded. "That's right, honey. We should show our strength without holding anything back this time."

Kali blinked. "So, do I call Valeria from the start?"

Yasenia chuckled. "Only when we are in a pinch. But you can ask Valeria to use a few auras on our level. Treat her as a superior general of your army. If either Valeria or Eira feel that they need to involve themselves, they are more than welcome."

Kali nodded. "Have you heard, Valeria?"

Valeria's nature-like gentle voice echoed in their minds. "I've heard, Kali. Use me at will, as you are my master."

While they zoomed through the swamp, Yasenia's pupils thinned as she sent a mental message to her girls. With seamless coordination, all of them slowed down and hid their auras as best as possible.

Not caring about the muddy water, they all crouched down and submerged their bodies in a particularly deep area. There were a few plants and animals that attacked them from time to time, but a single aura burst incapacitated all of them.

Yasenia commented. "That group seems to be waiting for something. They also failed to discover us thanks to our stealthiness."

They didn't run without any care in the world. They were using a method to hide their aura while running. This kind of stealth method was basic, and almost all cultivators knew some, but it was an art profound enough that Yasenia and the other girls had yet to master the one they were learning.

The better one's proficiency, the stronger the stealth effects. Almost all mortal cultivators would be unable to detect them if they used the technique at the maximum level unless they were close enough to be seen by their eyes.

Cecile asked, her blue eyes shining. "Should we engage?"

Yasenia patted her underwater with her tail. "Not so fast, sweetheart. Let's wait for a few seconds. Remember that our objective is arriving at the pillar."

Cecile snorted. "Aren't we here to hone our skills?"

Yasenia rolled her eyes. "Only the top 1024 groups that arrive at the top are able to participate in the following tournament. There are only five floors, so we'll be late if we engage with every group we see."

Cecile pouted, making Kali and Andrea chuckle.

Yasenia turned to look at them thoughtfully. "Let's try to move around them."

With her order, all five of them moved relatively slowly, using their maximum speed without losing any stealth.

They used around 5 minutes to circle them, and only 10 minutes later, they spotted another group standing still around 5,000 meters from them. Yasenia squinted, feeling something amiss. "Wait. This is strange."

Andrea agreed. "One group being still is possible, but two of them is very improbable."

Kali asked. "Why?"

Andrea explained. "We've just entered the event. Do you think any of the mid-level Epoch Cores need time to rest?"

Kali realized while Cecile commented. "There is another group 30 kilometers in that direction."

Yasenia looked over and made a mental map in her head. Then, she asked. "Sweetheart, can you spot all groups in a radius of 50 kilometers?"

Cecile nodded. "Give me 25 minutes."

Then, Cecile's body flickered in and out of existence as she used her Spatial skills to move by herself.

Yasenia wasn't worried. Cecile was the one spending the most time outside the sect fighting, hunting, and doing similar other activities.

Remember that Cecile's strength was far from being enough to walk unhinged around the forests surrounding the Astral Sky Sect, as wild beasts reaching mid-levels of the Legendary Core Beast realm roamed around densely packed.

Yasenia also asked Kali to summon a few plant creatures and send them looking around and cleaning small monsters.

Around 30 minutes later, Cecile returned. "Here is the map, my love."

Yasenia used energy to clean her hands and grabbed the parchment made out of animal skin. "Hm"

Seeing their dear frown, Andrea asked. "Is it aimed at us, after all?"

The dragoness tilted her head. "But How did they know where we would land and how to surround the area so quickly? They are close enough that if we engage with any of the groups, the energy waves of the battle will alert the other groups."

Kali asked with a grumble. "Did they do something shady?"

Yasenia nodded. "Without a doubt. The formation we crossed probably wasn't that random, after all. Was it modified to detect our landing spot?"

Andrea blinked. "But, for that, they would need to know which formation we were going to use and even our number, right?"

The dragoness laughed helplessly. "Who knows how they did it? There are 1000 different ways. But it is a fact that we are probably ankles deep in some kind of trap."

Yasenia looked at the map again and spoke. "If we continue forward, it might become hard. Let's go left for a few hours and then continue toward the tower. I don't believe that all groups here are from the same alliance or something. If we feel a fight somewhere, that means that the people there are probably not related to this. When we discover that, let's walk in that direction and take a route toward the central pillar."

The other four nodded, and they backtracked for 30 minutes before circling around the area infested with several groups.

Yasenia was confident in facing two and, with some luck, three average groups at once. Of course, if the mid-level Epoch Cores were above average, facing one group was close to their limits for Kali, Andrea, Cecile, and Yasenia.

After running for two hours, they finally heard the sounds of battle.

Seeing the enormous shockwaves and large explosions in the distance, Yasenia nodded. "Perfect, let's stop and aim toward the pillar again. If we start being surrounded one more time, that means that the problem is with us."

With her words, Yasenia's group tried approaching again.

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Tatyana: Oh? It's been a while.

Yasenia: Indeed.

Evelyn: Isn't it normal for fewer questions to come if the Author takes a while to answer them?

Author: I'm doing my best, okay? The other novels take a while to write!

Evelyn: Excuses.

Author: Whatever. I summon you!

Fightnguru: Hello~.

Kali: Welcome. What's your question?

Fightnguru: Well, a chapter pushed my curiosity, and I wanted to ask each of you about what kind of drunk everyone is.

Angel: Drunk? Like, do we like milk or water more? Oh, I like Yasenia's breastmilk the most!

Fightnguru: Not in that way Also, really? Is it that delicious?

Angel: Yes! Sweet and savory with a perfect consistency that slides down your throat, leaving a relaxing afterstate~.

Fightnguru: I see

Tatyana: They haven't become drunk ever, Fightnguru.

Fightnguru: Really?

Tatyana: Would I lie? Remember that Alcohol, more known as wine in cultivation backgrounds, is something that an average cultivator doesn't really know about. They might like strong drinks, but to intoxicate a cultivator, you need very strong substances. Even a whiff of a low-level Spiritual Rank wine would kill a mortal. After all, alcohol is a kind of poison.

Fightnguru: I never thought about it like that

Tatyana: Hence, they are unaware Well, maybe Andrea has experience?

Andrea: Haha, well, I know what you are talking about, at least, but I've never been drunk.

Fightnguru: Well, it will be interesting to see in the future.

Tatyana: That's for sure, haha.

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

Chapter 786: First Confrontation.

Yasenia's group moved at an extremely high speed toward the central pillar. Andrea asked, "Do we not check who was fighting over there?"

Yasenia shook her head. "There is no need. This is area 8, and from what I've investigated, there are no real allies that we know of here."

Andrea nodded in understanding.

Kali pondered. "When do we engage in combat, Yasenia?"

"As I said before, our objective is to reach the fifth floor in the top 1024. Therefore, we must avoid fighting as much as possible."

With that in mind, they continued moving through the unending swamp, taking detours to avoid confrontations and ignoring battles occurring all around.

However, avoiding it forever was naturally not possible.

After one and a half days of constant running, they finally reached a point close enough to the central pillar when they were unable to continue to avoid trouble.

Cecile commented. "We've been quick, but many of the paths leading forward are guarded. It is impossible to move stealthily without using Valeria's [Ethereal Blossom]-level stealth."

Yasenia remembered. "That plant was one of Valeria's strongest summons, right? A perfect assassin or something like that?" Remembering the grayish doll-like body, Yasenia chuckled. "It is quite a cute thing at a glance."

While thinking so, Yasenia felt a strange energy wave phasing through her body, and her pupils thinned.

With immediate reactions, Yasenias ordered. "Follow me. There are five people in the southeast direction that have used some sort of scanning feature. Let's engage before they realize."

With her words, Andrea, Cecile, and Kali instantly covered themselves in strengthening auras and shot right behind Yasenias.

Eira followed a few hundred meters behind, with her hand on the pommel of her sword.

On the other side of the energy pulse, one bear man asked. "Leader, won't this energy pulse startle people?"

The leader, another bear man, shook his head. "How could it be? Wasn't it faint even here? As it spreads, it becomes even more unnoticeable. Only perverted people would be able to sense something as light as this in an environment full of many other energy signals."

That same one asked. "What do we do until we get the signal back, leader? Sect Master placed you at the lead, so we'll follow your orders."

The bear man leader with a hulking stature nodded. "Let's first wait. We've already made a pact with the Nine Sect to fight them if we see them."

A bear woman in the group snorted. "I didn't expect them to have something like this. How do you think they had it ready?"

The leader shrugged. "They've been at odds for a while. It is normal for the strongest Assassin Sect to-."

Suddenly, his pupils shrunk, and he hastily threw a palm strike toward his back. "[Adamium Paw Collapse]!"

His skin and bones hardened like metal as his body spun, gathering momentum.

When he completely turned, he finally saw what was coming his way.

It was an extremely powerful black arrow surrounded by a tempestuous silver blizzard.

BOOM!

His palm and the arrow collided in a massive explosion. The [Moon Freezing Catastrophe] skill acted after the collision, creating a monstrous hurricane of Spatial, Wind, and Moon energies that swallowed the five people.

The tempestuous disaster that the skill called upon tried to shred their bodies into pieces as even the space around them seemed about to collapse.

Still, they were talented Mid-Level Epoch Cores. There was no way that a single attack could defeat them.

"GRAAAH!"

With a wrathful shout, the five bearkin exploded with energy, blasting the powerful hurricane into pieces.

Their bodies had some light injuries but nothing too noticeable.

The leader who blocked the attack felt a tingling on his paw. Looking at his hand, he saw a hole with blood dripping. Then, he shouted. "Be careful! They have an archer! We need to get their location before anything else."

Right after his words, the sky lit up with a silver light as hundreds of silver meteors rained on them.

Still, the five people weren't pushovers. Each of them used their preferred weapons to release as many attacks and block everything with ease. The falling silver meteors were unable to reach closer than 200 meters from them as they used their limited ranged skills to parry all of them.

However, while they were looking up, they missed what was happening below their feet.

With the sound of water bursting upward, colossal roots soared to the sky, connecting the high ceiling and the ground.

The bear man leader and his group became alert. The bear woman asked with a tense face. "What are those? Do you know anything like that? Plant manipulation should not be this strong!"

The leader commented as he looked around. "They seem to be surrounding us. I have a bad feeling about this. Let's leave the encirclement quickly!"

Hurriedly moving outside the encirclement created by the ten roots, they looked around attentively, searching for threats.

Still, as they moved, two people appeared in front of them, landing elegantly in the water before them.

One of them was an absolutely gorgeous dragon woman wearing a long, ethereal dress and holding a sword that was almost bigger than herself.

The other was a tall knight wearing draconic black armor that had red veins glowing because of the magma circulating inside.

The knight held another giant weapon, a two-handed halberd modified to have a massive ax edge and a relatively shorter pole. At a glance, the weapon reached around two and a half meters long.

However, admiring was one thing. Stopping their actions was another.

The five mid-level Epoch Cores shot forward with the intention of trampling on them. The leader shouted. "You are too confident! [Adamium Bear Charge]!"

The five bearkin used the same skill, their muscles swelling as their bodies shot forward like unstoppable meteors.

As they charged, those two moved while the sky lit up like before in another random direction, as if a silver sun had manifested.

However, ignoring that, their eyes were locked on the two people blocking their way.

Faster than their charge, the several arrows weren't aimed at all of them, but one of the weaker-looking bearkin.

That bearkin felt danger and was forced to stop his charge while turning around to face the curving arrows that were falling at him like guided projectiles. 'Don't underestimate me!'

"[Adamium Bear Body]!"



As soon as he stopped and swung his pole arm weapon in the direction of the falling arrows, the powerful attack arrived.

CLANG! CLANG! CLANG! CLANG!

His body moved extremely quickly, sending powerful attacks in the direction of the arrows and blasting them apart. However, each time an arrow landed on his weapon, he felt his hands getting numb. 'Heavy!'

Meanwhile, the bear man leader was forced to make a choice. When he saw one of his people stopping, he could either order the others to stop or continue their initial plan while placing his trust in the straggler.

The world around him was slowed down as his mind spun, but ultimately, he chose to ignore it and continue forward. "Charge!"

With his words, the other three bearkin that were about to hesitate about their next step became determined and stomped the ground, firmly landing against the land below the water and pushing against the ground, creating four massive surges of water as if four bombs had exploded.

The dragon woman with the giant sword moved it upward, silver radiance exploding in a sphere around her, while the armored woman struck her halberd downward, creating a massive wave of molten-red substance that rose like a tsunami and threatened to swallow them.

However, as body cultivators, attacks that relied on environmental factors like heat, cold, etc., didn't affect them as much, thanks to their ridiculously enhanced bodies.

So, while covering their bodies in strengthening auras, the four of them rushed forward toward the wave, slamming onto it like a massive boulder would if thrown from a high altitude into a lake.

BANG!

The extraordinarily viscous material that composed that giant molten wave struggled to remain connected as four holes were created from where the four powerful bearkin burst through.

Even with a helmet on, the bearkin leader could see the surprise in the armored being. His body hurt from severe burn wounds, but they couldn't pierce through. He smiled wildly. 'Now it's time to trample you two!'

Still, before they could reach them, the dragon woman's skill was released.

As the dragoness swung her giant sword downward and pierced it on the ground, a massive silver dome resembling the Full Moon in the sky ballooned outward.

The bear-man leader was as decisive as before and roared. "Destroy it!"

Their charge skill had become weakened after breaking through the wave, but it was more than enough to trample whatever defensive skill the dragon woman deployed. 'If the sources are correct, her effective combat strengths should be around an average mid-level Epoch Core. You can't resist four of us smashing at once!'

They had realized who they were fighting the seconds they saw the ridiculously gorgeous dragon woman. After all, there wasn't a second creature like her in the current Distancia.

The synonym for the most beautiful dragon woman had eventually been firmly associated with the Astral Sky Sect Master, Yasenia Dravory.

With a powerful shout, the four bear men impacted against the dome.

BOOM!

The silver dome bent as if made out of rubber, with several cracks appearing around it. However, to the four bearkin surprises, it withstood their combined attacks.

Looking inside, they saw the calm golden eyes of the dragon woman looking at them with chilling calmness. Her voice, as enticing as her looks, echoed around with deterring might.

"Unleash them."

The four bearkin, dazed for a fraction of a second, felt their spines chilling and hastily looked around.

The ten pillars of vines and roots wriggled as if they were alive.

At some point, the bearkin missed a few large fruits that were strewn all over its structure.

Those fruits exploded from the roots to the top, releasing a whitish-blue smog that began covering everything.

The bear man leader's pupils shrunk, feeling danger from that strange mist.

Moreover, that wasn't all. Those roots opened in several places and slowly withered, summoning hundreds of creatures that dropped like a plague.

In the few seconds that they stopped to defend themselves from whatever was coming out of those giant pillars, the five versus five had changed into an environmentally disadvantaged five versus an army.

Moreover, among all the leafy beings, a group made of 100 dryads stood out the most. They were all clad in different garments, some attires looking heavy and solid while others looked agile and lithe. Above all, they were orderly, and their eyes showed a hint of intelligence.

Still, the bearkin didn't feel as much danger from them. 'That was not the thing that made my spine feel a chill. While they are strong, they are not unmanageable'

And soon, the answer came.

In the middle of every plant creature, one of them floated upward.

An enchanting, green-skinned, three-meter-tall woman wearing an open floral dress and holding a staff with a golden orb on top looked down on them with her indifferent green eyes.

The bearkin leader shouted as he raised his weapon and turned to look at the dragon woman and the armored woman. "Quickly deal with these two before that one comes over! Don't hold anything back!"

The dragon woman's lips arched as a deep, bloody red color slowly spread through her golden irises.

"Try it."

## Chapter 787: Tense Fight.

After Yasenias managed to split one of them from the group of five and place the rest just before herself and Andrea, they started the second part of the plan. First, Yasenias used a large chunk of energy to reinforce [Draconic Full Moon]. This forced the four mid-level Epoch Cores to struggle against her defense for around 3 or 4 seconds.

By the time those four seconds went by, Kali's army was arriving and the smog she released already swallowed the surroundings.

After her defense exploded, Andrea extended her hand and combined her Natural Treasure with her [Molten Sun] innate skill.

The massive sphere of pure energy manifested above the four bear men and instantly exploded, creating a downpour of superheated material.

The four bear men took care of it by slamming their palms upward with enough strength to level common mountains.

The explosion pushed the downpour into the ceiling, splattering it all around.

Still, what the bearkin didn't realize was that Yasenias and Andrea had used that small timeframe to approach into a melee distance.

The bear woman felt extreme danger and quickly turned around.

Andrea appeared in front of her, covered in her [Obliterating Chromosphere], and swinging down her heave halberd with [Warring Sun Art: Foundation Crumbling].

The bear woman swung her large mace and met head-on with Andrea.

BOOM!

Andrea took back two steps, but her attack was not meant to be damaging. [Foundation Crumbling] was extremely adept at bursting open defensive stances, as the name implied.

The bear woman's arm was blasted backward with a tremendously strong explosion, making her face change. 'Such a strong pushing power!'

However, she was confused. 'That attack doesn't feel like it could hurt me.'

"Xiong Na! Behind you!"

The urgent call coming from her leader startled her, but it was too late.

"[Celestial Cosmos Palm]."

From behind, pressure strong enough to constrict her entire being appeared. Her face changed to one of horror as a lithe and elegant palm landed right at the middle of her back.

The impact pierced into her body, destroying her spine and organs into bits as her eyes bulged and her stomach burst open from the pressure. "GAH!" Then, the sound from the impact echoed like a bomb exploding.

BANG!

The body of the bear woman was blasted into one of the pillars Kali summoned, and the gorgeous celestial light bloomed like a lotus from the point of impact. Behind that explosion, Yasenia's cold and indifferent figure appeared, her knees bent as her palm slowly retracted.

While the body cultivator's defense was terrifying, Celestial Energy was one of the most destructive energies. A clean hit from Yasenia's full-strength palm strike while using a Celestial Skill was almost a death sentence for anything below the High-Level Epoch Core.

The fact that the bear woman didn't instantly die and explode into bits was a testament to a Body Cultivator's sturdiness. A Dantian Spiritualization Realm cultivator of the same strength would've been annihilated on the spot.

"TLL KILL YOU!"

The bear man leader angered after seeing the bear woman fly off with her stomach burst open, charged at Yasenia like a relentless bull.

The dragoness, fully expecting it, made seven quick steps while leaving a star behind in each of them. "[Heavenly Constellation Steps, Second Sky: Ursa's Grasp]."

The image of a gigantic cosmic bear appeared, towering high enough almost to touch the ceiling, and then it was absorbed into Yasenia's body.

Her aura changed as Yasenia's body became pleasantly athletic without losing her curves. She held her sword with two hands and swiftly slashed at the incoming bear man.

The bear-man leader grabbed his own mace and swung it in a destructive arc. The sheer speed of the attack sent columns of water rising in its wake, propelled by the force of its motion.

Yasenia's footwork became precise and elegant as [Firmament Battle Dance] was unleashed, and then, she used one skill that she hadn't used in years: [Lingering Star Steps].

This skill allowed her to create a temporary illusion that followed her initial motion while she herself changed her movements.

Of course, because of its low level, the bear-man leader was only distracted for a fraction of a second, but this minuscule time window allowed Yasenia to take half a step sideways and spin as she crouched.

The bear man's enormous mace flew right above Yasenia's head, touching some strands of her long black hair.

The time seemed to stop as the bear-man looked downward with wide eyes at the crouched dragoness looking up at him with cold eyes. 'Oh no. The momentum is too big to change directions.'

Yasenia's powerful legs pushed upward as her shoulder, arm, chest, and back muscles dragged her heavy sword in an upward strike. "[Draconic Sunrise]."

A flash of golden light drew a beautiful arc, aiming at the bear man's right arm.

The leader used his strengthening skills on his arm, changing his entire arm into something even more solid than some low-level Heaven Ranked metals. With confidence, he started changing the motions of his mace and ignored Yasenia's strike.

'Unless her sword can cut through Heaven-ranked weapons, it won't be able to slice my body! I'll use her attack to stop my body from delivering a lethal hit!'

However, he miscalculated.

Yasenia's [Draconic Heart] had long been firmly standing at the peak level of the Heaven Rank, unable to push through into Quasi-transcendence because of Yasenia's lack of strength.

Still, a low-level, Heaven-ranked weapon's hardness was nothing for it.

SLASH!

The golden flash didn't get stuck in the bear man's leader as he expected, but it cut through and flew upward, allowing Yasenia to take a step back and dodge his downward motion.

BANG!

The mace fell onto the muddy water, creating a massive crater, and simultaneously, one arm flew into the sky.

From the outside, this short sequence of movement felt as if Yasenia had become something akin to water, and she slid between all the attacks, eventually slicing his arm off.

It looked extremely beautiful, as the golden trail told the people who were looking at the beautiful path that her giant sword took.

The bear man's wide eyes met with the dragon's blood-colored, freezing eyes. 'W-Wasn't she a junior? How is she so skilled?'

Those two cold red slit eyes seemed to peer through his existence as they observed his every move, making him feel a chill of terror for a moment.

While all this happened, Andrea dealt with the other two bear men with the help of Kali's army.

Her body was surrounded by magma as the heat around her increased exponentially, making even them feel their fine hairs igniting and their skin below cooking. Without their energy covering their bodies, they might've been on fire by now.

However, bearing pain was a specialty for Body Cultivators, so the two of them ignored everything and lunged at the magma juggernaut. Andrea deployed every skill and intent in her arsenal, entering a stalemate.

Her lack of cultivation level made it almost impossible for her to break through the defenses of mid-level Epoch Cores, but her own powerful battle arts and defensive capabilities were sturdy enough to exchange moves with them.

Moreover, with Kali supporting her and the smog approaching, Andrea was sure to be able to hold them back until Yasenia dealt with the bear man leader.

However, the three of them, while exchanging, almost stopped their fight when they saw Yasenia's masterful sword display.

Even Eira and Valeria, who were closely observing from a distance, felt their eyes light up.

Taking advantage of the momentary pause, Yasenia took a deep breath and roared. "[Sun Dragon Roar]!"

ROAR!

An explosive dragon roar burst from the dragoness's throat, hitting their souls with a burning aura that made them feel as if their insides were on fire.

The bear-man leader shook off his confusion quickly enough to defend Yasenia's follow-up attack.

BOOM!

Even then, the powerful impact created by [Nascent Sun Burst], the body cultivation skill she recently learned, forced his feet to leave the ground as his giant body flew backward.

His eyes, burning with anger and a hint of fear, followed Yasenia's next movement, only to be surprised again. 'Huh? She is leaving?'

As he flew backward, the dragoness used [Pegasus Gallop] and [Draconic Sun Charge] to become a golden meteor and join Andrea's fight.

'YOU DARE IGNORE ME!?!'

As soon as the momentum pushing him backward weakened enough, the muscles all around his body bulged, and he charged at Yasenia.

However, from the sky, a mass of green creatures fell on him, with a powerful green aura around them. After blasting a few dozen flying, they managed to stop him and began assaulting him with complex attack patterns that made him feel constricted. 'WHO IS MESSING WITH ME NOW!?!'

Tracking back the origin of the green aura, his eyes landed on the floating three-meter-tall woman. His face became serious. 'It's her?'

With no other choice, even when he was eager to shake these plant creatures off and pummel Yasenia to the ground, he began fighting and methodically killing the creatures.

Andrea's and Yasenia's combination was delightful as they gradually chipped away at the two bear men's defenses.

In the meantime, Kali herself and the 100 dryads, accompanied by the smog, reached the bear man being held back by Cecile's arrow barrage.

Knowing that this kind of unnatural mist was nothing but harmful, the bear man closed his nose and mouth, holding his breath. Cultivators at this level could hold their breath for weeks or even months with ease, so inhaling poisons was usually not effective.

He was in for a surprise, though. As soon as the smog touched his skin and fur, a piercing pain was transmitted to his brain, as if countless little bugs were gnawing at his skin. With quick reactions, he protected his body with a layer of energy. 'What is this!?!'

Looking at his skin, he could see the smog attaching to his body and strangely wriggling as if it were alive, giving him goosebumps. 'What in Heaven's name is this!?!'

A nature-like and gentle voice reached him. "Now is not the time to check out your skin."

His spiritual sense instantly caught not only the silver-meteor-like arrows but hundreds of wooden arrows surrounded in a greenish aura.

He swung his polearm with quick reflexes and tried to strike at the thousands of incoming attacks. A few of them got through, striking his body and breaking the layer of energy he deployed.

The second his skin was exposed to the smog, it began itching again, so he had to spend energy reconstructing the energy layer continuously. This type of fighting style was suffocating, making him want to rip his hair off in frustration.

Moreover, what made his chest hurt was the sword-wielding three-tailed fox walking around the battlefield with relaxed steps, swaying her three tails from time to time, presumably controlling the plant creatures around the entire battlefield.

Still, what made him want to eat someone was that he still didn't even know how the fourth attacker looked. 'WHERE THE HELL IS THIS ANNOYING ARCHER!?'

The attacks were coming from so far away that, because of all the disruptions, he still hadn't been able to find them.

He started feeling fatigued as he tried to fight his way out. 'W-What's wrong?'

He swung his polearm, feeling his muscles becoming strangely tired. 'I can usually fight for weeks. What the hell is wrong with me?'

Quickly observing his companions, he saw that all of them had energy layers, showing that they were worried about the strange substance floating in the air as much as he was. 'It must be that.'

He looked at his arm, and his facial expression changed to one of horror. 'What in Heaven's name!?'

The arm that had been exposed the worst had patches of purplish skin, and the strange purple color was slowly spreading across his body. Without a single moment of hesitation, he hastily entered into a defensive stance to check his insides, and his pace became blue.

'Poison? Living Poison? What kind of abhorrent thing is this!?'

Naturally, he was not the only one noticing the strangeness, and the rest of the bearkin became increasingly flustered.

Chapter 788: Scorched Earth and Frozen Land.

Their fight extended for four more minutes. With most of the battlefield under their control, Yasenia and Andrea focused on weakening the two mid-level Epoch Cores they were fighting.

Knowing her lover's attack power, Andrea acted like the main combatant, while Yasenia took advantage of the opportunity created by their combination to deal with them.

Because of Andrea's nature of making everything around her an inferno, Kali didn't send almost any plant creatures to help her. She used her usual 100-Dryad army to fight the straggler with Cecile while she sent the rest of the creatures constantly being produced toward the bear-man leader.

Those creatures sent there were controlled by Valeria and buffed by her to the point that the bear man was losing terrain over time to the "cannon fodder" plant summons.

Overall, the fight was in a stalemate while our girls slowly gained an advantage. That was especially true in Andrea's and Yasenia's combat area.

While plant creatures could help because of the increasingly high temperatures, the poisonous fog Kali released was something created with Andrea in mind. The organisms forming that fog thrived in high-temperature environments.

So, while Yasenia and Andrea sometimes managed to burst open their energy defenses, the poisonous substance in the air would latch onto them and spread quickly.

After four minutes had passed, Yasenia could already see how much it was affecting them. While using her skills quickly to fight off one of the bear human's attacks, she communicated with Andrea.

'They are at least 20% weaker. Darling, use a large burst of strength and take their attention. I think I can finish off one of them.'

Andrea took three steps forward, and her armored palm shot forward, meeting the punch of the bear man. "[Sun Burning Palm]."

Bang!

The collision forced Andrea to take back five steps, but her opponent groaned in pain. Thanks to Yasenia adding heat to the surroundings by only using her Sun Attributed skills, the surroundings were literally set aflame.

Even if they were in the swamp environment, the water around them had long evaporated, and all vegetation had been carbonized in a radius of 3 kilometers.

Even the other two battlefields had been affected by the heat waves constantly flowing from their fighting place.

'Love, I'll do so if this winning strategy doesn't rely on you almost losing your life.'

Yasenia laughed helplessly while she deflected an enormous phantom palm with [Draconic Sunrise]. That brown bear palm was bisected, and Yasenia asked, changing to attack. 'Do we really have that much leisure?'

Andrea stomped the ground, summoning a giant wall of magma by Yasenia's side, protecting her from a metallic projectile shooting at her at ridiculous speed. 'Even if we don't, I'll make sure we do.'

Yasenia felt the determination coming from Andrea, so she reassured her. 'Don't worry, Darling. I know what I'm doing.'

Andrea looked to the side, looking firmly at Yasenia's face, and saw confidence and zero rush. This relaxed her quite a bit.

She was a bit stubborn because it had been too close when the bear-man leader attacked Yasenia back then. A small misstep and that large mace would've landed squarely on Yasenia's body. While it wouldn't have killed her, heavy injuries were guaranteed.

Andrea hadn't trained so much to have her dear dragoness take such risks.

All her skills were suited to prolonged battles and endurance fighting, so while she couldn't win against people much higher in her own realm, Andrea was confident that she wouldn't lose.

After evaluating the battle situation with her [Level 3 Battle Intent] aided by Yasenia's [Monarch Intent], she nodded. 'Good. I'll create an opening.'



"[Solar Body], [Sun Devourer]."

Torrents of heat rushed toward her like a fire hurricane, making her lava-like armor heat up to the point that even Andrea herself was starting to feel it.

Cultivators had an innate resistance to their own skills thanks to energy's characteristics, but it wasn't absolute immunity.

However, the fact that Andrea was starting to feel heat meant that those around her were getting cooked alive.

The two bear men frowned, and one of them cursed. "Just how high can she increase the temperature!? Even my energy shield is barely holding on against it."

The other one commented. "I've also felt as if she is getting stronger. Maybe the armored woman is more dangerous than the dragon woman. Should we refocus on her?"

The first one looked at how Yasenia was moving around like a predator surrounding her prey. He was about to deny his suggestion when a massive ripple of Sun Energy came from the armored woman. "Huh?"

Andrea rushed at them with [Sun Chasing Steps] and [Sun Obliterating Charge], becoming an actual fiery meteor of destruction.

"[Sun Obliterating War Dance], [Warring Sun Battle Art: Molten Landscape]."

Like a fire goddess of war, Andrea's steps became heavy but agile while her weapon spun four times, and she abruptly stopped before reaching them.

With the gathered momentum and the nature of her charge skill, which allowed her to deliver all her accumulated momentum at once, her halberd drew a vertical path.

The bear man's face changed as he shouted. "Dodge!"

They each dodged right and left while Andrea aimed right at the middle.

Once she finished her rising motion, the land before Andrea surged upward and burst in a catastrophic wave of pure molten lava that engulfed everything.

One of the middle-level Epoch Cores cursed under his breath. "These people are crazy. They all gave an aura of peak-level Ethereal Souls, but they are all monsters!"

However, as he focused on the gigantic attack and Andrea, he realized late that someone else was approaching from the back at incredible speeds.

His mind instantly flashed with the figure of the bear woman being burst open, making his flushed face because of heat visibly pale. 'She won't get me as well'

Roaring in his mind, he concentrated his spiritual sense on his back and hastily turned around toward the direction of the quickly approaching dragon woman.

His large sword's edge flashed as he attacked the rapidly approaching Yasenia. "DIE!"

However, to his surprise, Yasenia jumped. Jumping into a battle fought on land was like placing a large target on oneself, so it was nothing but stupid. 'Did she want to be flashy or something?'

Looking upward with a sneer, he prepared to release a powerful assault of attacks on the person around 100 meters above himself.

"[Draconic Dusk]."

His sneering face crumpled as an attack that felt like the sky was falling loomed over him.

"[Adamium Bear Palm Annihilation]!"

He attacked upward, summoning a massive palm that met with the gigantic attack, creating a devastating explosion mid-air. "Ha! I blocked it-."

But what he didn't know was that Draconic Dusk, in addition to being a very powerful attack, transformed all the Sun energy accumulated inside Yasenia into Moon energy.

His eyes were filled with silver light as Yasenia descended, carrying the weight of the Moon down with her.

"[Midnight: Falling Sky]."

Thousands of white stars and a large silver meteor that froze everything even before it hit pushed on him with 100 times more pressure than the previous attack.

BOOOOOOOOOM!!!!!!

The other three battlefields paused when the land-changing explosion blew everything apart with a gigantic shockwave.

Whoosh!

With powerful winds, the silver smoke that froze everything around the impact point was cleared, revealing a silver-eyed Yasenia looking at them coldly.

The terrifyingly indifferent gaze was like a goddess looking down at ants as she slowly walked toward them. Behind her, a tundra where before there was a hellish landscape appeared.

Even our spectating girls felt a chill rushing up their spines.

Midnight was one of Yasenia's strongest non-celestial skills that could rival with one given enough time. The Fallen Sky variation was even stronger, as she not only used Moon energy but also all her accumulated stars.

Those under its attack would first be bombarded by thousands of house-sized explosive stars, followed by a mountain-leveling strike.

Moreover, the dragoness had already accumulated Sun energy and Stars with [Starry Sky] for a while. So, after changing that energy from Sun Energy to Moon Energy and releasing everything on the weakened middle-level Epoch Core, the results were as shown.

Annihilation.

The bear man leader's face dropped, showing anger and fear. This dragon woman had shown her ability to one-hit-kill people at their level twice.

It might have been a coincidence or luck the first time, but the second time, it was not. The dragon woman's attack power was absurd.

Usually, battles of their level lasted for hours, as both sides needed to slowly weaken the other side's defenses. Insane attack power that could instantly kill others while being almost an entire realm below was unheard of!

The bear-man leader was going insane. 'Crazy! Crazy people! Who the hell told us that they were easy prey!? Who the hell thinks that dragons are weak!? I hope all of them go and die! Bastards! Bastards!'

Seeing the dragon woman clenching the giant sword and ready to charge at another one from his group, he shouted. "We surrender!"

The ambient energy surrounded the three of them, giving them the event's protection.

When the bear-man leader saw the dragon woman stop and look at him indifferently, he gulped. "W-We surrendered. Let us go."

Yasenia nodded. "Sure. Kali, unsummon everything."

A powerful ripple of life energy touched every creature, and the plant beings slowly lost form and fell down, mixing with the earth and creating beautiful flower beds.

Of course, the plants born from this were not that strong, and because of the residual heat and chill from Andrea's attacks and Yasenia's [Midnight], most of those plants died.

The giant pillars also wilted as they crumbled and fell down, and the water that had been pushed out because of the shockwaves slowly made its way back.

The sight was majestic as everything changed from a land filled with destruction to something with an actual biome.

With time, Andrea's heated area would slowly cool down, and Yasenia's frozen land would heat up, returning everything to normal.

Life had its ways into the most extreme places in the universe, and this time, it was not different.

The only summon that didn't disappear was Valeria, who floated down and stood behind Kali.

Meanwhile, the three remaining bearkin finally saw a silver shooting star approaching from the distance, which revealed the annoying archer that had contributed to most of the tactics they faced.

The bear-man leader chewed his lips in frustration. 'If it weren't for that Phoenix Woman, we wouldn't have had so much trouble. Winning wasn't completely out of the question either.'

Cecile looked at them once and then ignored them, gently landing by Yasenia while flapping her large silver wings.

He shook his head and moved to retrieve the bear woman's corpse and what was left of the splattered bear man Yasenia bombarded to death.

The bear woman was alive thanks to her resilience, but with the heavy wound she received and Kali's poison, she succumbed to her injuries quite quickly. When the bear man leader and the other two arrived at where she was, the body was half-consumed and almost unrecognizable.

One of the bearkin gritted his teeth as he saw the fallen bear woman. "Was there a need to kill her?"

The bear man leader commented flatly. "It wasn't a malicious kill, so the formation didn't act. That dragon woman just delivered an attack with her full strength, and Xiong Na couldn't react in time. Let's go and use this time to collect a few herbs. We are now mostly untouchable, and we can also inform the assassin sect of their path if we ever meet them."

The other two nodded and followed him after they stored away the bear woman's corpse and the remains of the other person.

As they left, one of them muttered. "We should've never agreed to this."

The bear man leader commented with an absentminded voice. "Did you realize?"

The last bear man asked. "What?"

The bear man leader muttered. "They were four."

The other two frowned, not understanding, until they realized. Then, their eyes widened.

The bear man leader smiled wryly. "The assassin sect is in for a rude surprise."

Chapter 789: Reaching the First Destination.

After the bear men left, Yasenia told the others to rest. Andrea took off her helmet and held it under her armpit. "That was intense. Mid-level Epoch Cores are not a joke."

Cecile floated downward, landing by their side. "How are your injuries, Andrea, Yasenia?"

Yasenia looked down at the closing wound on her chest and nodded. "Almost healed."

Kali frowned as she approached and used her life energy to heal her. "You are too reckless. What if the attack wasn't an upward swing but a downward one? You would've been embedded in the rock on our feet!"

Yasenia chuckled. "If he attacked downward, I had already prepared to use my movement technique to minimize the momentum of the strike."

Kali looked up helplessly and kissed her chin. "I know, I know. But you must be careful."

Yasenia's tail wagged after she felt the soft kiss.

The dragoness looked at Valeria and asked. "How was it?"

Valeria smiled. "Good. The battlefield control was praiseworthy. There were a few things that you girls overlooked and took for granted, but other than that, it was decent."

Yasenia nodded thoughtfully and asked about these things. Valeria explained them for a few minutes, enlightening Yasenia and the others.

Andrea asked. "Love, how are your Celestial Energy reserves?"

Yasenia chuckled. "Don't worry. I can fight another three or four battles like this one today before it runs out."

Andrea nodded. "Keep track of it because that's our best way to deliver lethal attacks. Without their special offensive power, we can only gradually weaken our enemies before striking them down. We don't have any strength advantage against mid-level Epoch Cores; on the contrary, after this battle, I've realized that without your Celestial Skills, we would be quite helpless."

Cecile agreed, explaining in length. "Yasenia is clearly our central attacker. We should use our powers to hold the enemies back and create openings for her. With our combination, it is very doable. My ranged attack support, Kali's army and supporting skills, and Andrea's ability to pin down enemies are perfect to create a battlefield where Yasenia can move comfortably. Moreover, I realized that the small army controlled by Valeria is as strong as one of us, so Kali counts as two people even when Valeria is holding back and using Kali's summons instead of hers. For the next battle, Valeria should act as an independent offensive force instead of grouping it as one with Kali."

Cecile looked at Kali. "Kali, you should focus on controlling and fighting with your 100 dryads, as you did this time. Ignore the rest of the summons and leave them to Valeria. Treat her as a general of your army while you act as an elite force."

Kali agreed. "I had thought the same. I couldn't deal any significant blow to the one you and I pinned down mostly because I was too preoccupied with the rest of the battlefield. I lost a few opportunities to deliver a damaging strike."

Yasenia listened to their analysis and interjected. "While it is true that I'm the strongest striking force, remember that all of you also have lethal strikes. If Darling's last distracting attack that allowed me to kill the second bearkin was instead used as an offense, it could create extensive damage. The same is true for many of your skills, Honey, Sweetheart."

The girls listened attentively.

The dragoness smiled softly. "Remember that when the strength of both sides is the same, battles are more about taking advantage of the mistakes the other party commits than creating opportunities ourselves while taking risks. Body Cultivators are resilient, but their weakness is their rather rigid attacking style. Use our advantage in attacking patterns and soul attacks while chipping down their sturdy defenses. Also, we must always be careful if any opponents have Level 5 intents. This time, there weren't any."

Andrea commented. "Mid-Level Epoch Cores with Level 5 Intents are almost non-existent, right?"

Yasenia nodded. "Tengliu is the native with the highest Intent Level at Level 6. The rest of the leaders all have their intents at Level 5 or below. That's why Eira and the rest have such a high advantage while the cultivation realms are not that far apart. Although, thanks to the environment we've provided, quite a few of them are on the verge of breaking through."

Eira blinked and commented in a cold and clear voice while tugging at Yasenia's dress. "Young Miss, our martial arts are also many levels above them. Even with the same Intent Level, we would be superior."

Yasenia looked at her proud little face and hugged her with a laugh. "Yes, yes. My Eira is the best and most talented."

Eira's cold and indifferent face melted in comfort, and she almost purred while rubbing her face on Yasenia's supple and smooth skin. "Young Miss~."

Kali softly giggled. "The contrast of all the maids when they interact with Yasenia and the rest of the world always takes me by surprise, haha."

The other two nodded with amused expressions.

Yasenia released Eira and approached Cecile, hugging her waist and kissing her lips. "Sweetheart. You've done a fantastic job in this battle. I'm extremely impressed."

Andrea and Kali agreed, and Andrea chuckled. "Having you overlooking the battlefield is truly refreshing. The occasional helping arrow always comes as a pleasant surprise."

Kali smiled as well and added. "The arrows come at perfect timing and hit extremely annoying places, creating very needed time windows in such high-paced battles."

Cecile nodded with her usual deadpan expression. "I just did my job. Andrea's defense and Kali's ability to weaken them also contributed a lot."

Yasenia also hugged and kissed Andrea and Kali and then commented. "Let's move on. You should've recovered enough energy already, right?"

The three of them nodded, and thus, our group restarted their advance toward the central pillar.

Instead of taking a straight route, they chose to deviate for a few hours while avoiding battles before running toward the destination.

As they ran through the swamp at dizzying speeds, Andrea asked. "Love, when do you think the Assassin Sect will act?"

Yasenia pondered. "While they have a grudge against us, they've contacted so many sects that they probably think our ascent is almost impossible. From the reaction of the bearkin, the information they divulged about us is of juniors who think a bit too highly of themselves. You saw the surprise on their faces when we started showing strength."

Yasenia added. "While they can wait for us and try to fight us head-on, they are assassins. They either have rushed toward the next level to either wait for us and ambush us on the second floor, or they are waiting for us at the entrance to the second floor. If they are in neither of those two places, they probably rushed upward to avoid missing the top 1024 spots."

Yasenia reminded them. "While we are an objective, we are secondary targets. The Nine Shadow Fang Sect will never let go of their [Nine Sect] position. If they lose it, it is like losing a limb. So, their top priority was never us but reaching the top as fast as possible. While they can probably wait for a day or two, longer than that is illogical."

The girls found her analysis reasonable. Kali sighed with admiration. "You really think of everything, love."

The dragoness shook her head with a smile. "I'm just thinking from a logical position after analyzing all the information at hand. My guess can be completely wrong if I've underestimated the pettiness of the world's top powers. Our grudge with the Assassin Sect is not as deep, so it would be truly surprising if I'm wrong this time."

After half a day of traveling, they were close enough to the pillar to see the roots finally. There was a hole that allowed the pillar to stretch far higher than the rest of the floor.

Yasenia saw many groups waiting around without fighting, so she decided to approach after a few moments of observation. She warned. "Never relax, not even after we enter the pillar."

As they walked forward, a group of five beast humans stopped them. The leader sneered. "Hey, quite a surprise seeing you here again."

Yasenia blinked and asked with honest confusion. "Who are you?"

The leader paused while the groups around laughed. Filled with embarrassment and anger, he snarled with a red face. "Are you acting stupid!? We are the [Four Pearls Snake Sect]!"

Yasenia felt a bit ashamed because she truly didn't remember. 'Did I miss some important report? Maybe I've been a bit lazy lately? I should've checked things more deeply'

Eira saw through Yasenia's thoughts and commented. "Young Miss, they are no one. It's probably someone who clashed with us in an obscure place and thinks we are intentionally targeting them. A small group with imaginations of grandeur."

Yasenia blinked and asked, looking at her. "Really?"

The people from the Snake Sect felt their faces swelling with blood out of anger.

Eira nodded. "Yes. It happens often. People's self-esteem is too high, and they imagine non-existent enemies and schemes."

Yasenia sighed in relief. "I see." Then, the dragoness turned toward the five-man group, whose expressions were colorful enough to depict a rainbow, and smiled. "It seems to all be a misunderstanding. Have a nice day."

Then, she walked toward the pillar without giving them a second look.

The Snake leader naturally wouldn't allow himself to be humiliated in such a manner. "Where do you think you are going!? We are not done yet!"

Yasenia paused and frowned, turning around. "It is a misunderstanding; why are you getting so agitated over it?"

"You've humiliated us, and you dare speak that way!? I challenge you to a life-and-death duel."

Yasenia snorted, crossing her arms under her ample bosom. "I refuse. I don't have time for this. Now, can I go? I've already eliminated a group before arriving here. I don't mind eliminating another one."

Seeing that the snake man was about to snap at her again, Yasenia grew annoyed and released all her auras, reinforcing them with her Celestial Intent.

The words that were about to leave his throat were stuck as the Yasenia felt infinitely larger while a mountainous pressure slammed onto him. The dragoness's ethereal voice echoed while her long black hair gently swayed with her auras. "Can I leave now?"

The people who were watching with amused expressions were quick to change, looking at Yasenia with emotions ranging from fear to excitement.

The dragoness dispelled her auras and snorted, turning around elegantly while her hair, dress, and tail followed her turning motion.

Still, the snake man was much more persistent than Yasenia thought. After the pressure vanished, he recovered and felt as if his honor had been eternally tarnished by a junior walking all over him.

With anger clouding his mind, he tried to start a sneak attack. "Since you dare offend me, die!"

Yasenia never lowered her guard and was about to turn when Eira stepped forward.

Grabbing the hilt of her silvery sword and the scabbard, a flash of light followed with her cold and cutting chant. "[Sword Intent Level 9]."

SLASH!

The people around were confused when the snake man suddenly stopped after that strange flash of light. After all, the pure white woman with the sword hanging on her waist didn't move.

Yasenia didn't even bother looking back as she commanded. "Let's go."

The girls shook their heads as they looked at the motionless snake man. 'Is face really that important? Look, now you lost your life.'

The spectators were confused, not to mention the four companions of the snake man.

So, one of them approached. "Hey, leader. Are you okay?"

Hearing no response, he grabbed his shoulder, intending to turn him, only for the human beast to see the head and body fall limp in different directions.

The eyes of everyone present widened with horror. 'H-He died!?' Looking at the six people entering through the pillar's main door, many gulped and swore in their minds not to offend the Astral Sky Clan.

Chapter 790: First World Summit Trial and an Accident.

After approaching the gates while ignoring everyone else, Yasenia's group opened them and crossed them. The room they entered was a dark room with a single circular formation in the middle, around 100 meters wide.

First of all, Yasenia used the aura ripple to check the nature of the formation while also observing the lines. Without Angel or Tatyana, they had to check via what Mirrory and the other seniors taught them back in the Secret Realm's library trial.

A pulse of energy rippled from all of them as they analyzed the formation. Yasenia nodded. "Nothing wrong with it."

The girls looked at Yasenia strangely, but they followed her words. Andrea commented with an unsure expression. "I felt a bit of danger."

Yasenia nodded. "Well, it's a trial, so it must be dangerous Right?"

Kali asked with a smile. "What kind of trial do you think it is?"

Yasenia shrugged. "We'll see once we go over."

Cecile blinked twice, but she didn't say anything and followed her.

Without delay, they stepped forward, and once they reached the center, a pillar of light shot upward, connecting with the ceiling, and their bodies disappeared.

Right after they left, a shadow appeared from the corner of the room. This person took out a communication device and whispered. "They've entered the first trial. What do we do now, boss?"

The other side answered, and the beast human that appeared from the shadows stepped into the circle as well, disappearing from there.



Meanwhile, once they reopened their eyes, they looked around at the vast landscape filled with red rocks with wonder. Andrea asked once she made sure that nobody was around. "Love, why didn't we kill that person?"

Yasenia smiled. "They'll underestimate our detecting capabilities that way."

Andrea's eyes widened. "Oh! I know what you are aiming for. If we let that person go after we have released our detecting spells, it will appear as if we were unaware of his existence, so their group will take more risks when approaching us if they do so stealthily, giving us plenty of time to prepare."

Yasenia nodded. "Plus, if they have a connection with other groups, they'll share it as well. It's a good way to allow enemies to think they are hiding when they are not."

Kali blinked and looked to their left. "Love, I felt a Life Energy pulse that way."

They all looked over and extended their spiritual sense in that direction. The eyesight metaphorically stretched across the land, finally landing on a mass of creatures heading their way quite quickly.

Andrea tilted her head. "Rock beings?"

Cecile answered. "Golems. They are similar to spirits, but their level is much lower, and they are artificial. They don't have conscious thoughts other than the orders they received from whatever created them. The complexity of these orders varies depending on the level of the skill and the caster."

Yasenia asked, looking around. "Should we destroy them? There is nothing written around."

Valeria chuckled. "Not always is the challenge explained. Sometimes you need to discover it."

The girls nodded and pondered. Eira reminded them. "15 seconds until they arrive."

Yasenia commented. "They are quite slow, but I can feel that their level is quite high, around the 3rd or 4th level of the Dantian Spiritualization Realm."

Kali hummed. "Weaker than a mid-level Epoch Core but stronger than a low-level Epoch Core, right?"

Yasenia nodded and chuckled. "It's quite funny that, as spiritual cultivators, we've gotten accustomed to measuring things with Body Cultivation."

Andrea asked. "So, do we face them?"

The dragoness shook her head. "Let's circle around them. They are not that big. [Empyrean Cosmos Dragon Transformation]."

The girls jumped backward as a hurricane of energies surrounded their dragoness, quickly revealing the majestic, small-mountain-sized dragon. They had to twist their heads completely to look upward at Yasenia's lowering head. "Hop on."

Andrea and the rest jumped up for around 30 meters, landing between Yasenia's golden horns. Then, the dragoness extended her wings, creating a massive shadow, and flapped while jumping.

The body that should not be able to lift from the ground quickly flew upward. Kali felt her hair and tails being blown by the wind and smiled, squinting her eyes. "I never get tired of this."

Yasenia's ethereal and gorgeous dragon voice reached them. "Is it fun, honey?"

Kali nodded, sitting down and caressing the hard scales below her. "Very. I wish I could fly with you every day for hours to no end."

Cecile nodded. "Agreed."

Yasenia commented, tilting her body slightly so that they could look down at a sharper angle. "Look over there."

The girls looked over where Yasenia commented and saw a massive volcano-like structure. From the mouth of that volcano-like thing, rocks were spewed out occasionally. After hitting the ground and rolling down a long slope, the rocks opened like a puzzle and transformed into humanoid rock beings.

Yasenia was about to comment when her pupils shrunk, feeling something coming her way at tremendous speed. She flapped one of her wings with ridiculous reflexes, doing a barrel roll and dodging to the right.

The girls weren't prepared and flew off Yasenia's head. They were momentarily confused, feeling the weightlessness as they fell, and then they saw a massive rock fly through the place where Yasenia had just flown.

Yasenia shouted. "I'll fly by. Grab yourselves to me!"

Using [Heavenly Constellation Steps]'s base form, her body accelerated and quickly passed by their side.

Without much complications, all the girls used their own abilities to latch onto the giant dragon flying by.

Yasenia felt the five people landing on her, so she quickly began to fly in confusing patterns.

She would dip down, then wildly turn to the right and extend her wings to decelerate. After that, using one of her charge skills, she would abruptly accelerate in a completely different direction.

Her giant dragon body left a twisting trail behind her, with rocks often piercing through it.

Looking down, Yasenia and the girls could see the now hundreds of rock beings transforming the rock below them and then flinging it at them. "Dears, how good can you attack while I'm moving as I am?"

The girls who were seeing the sky flip around felt their lips twitching. Andrea, her fingers piercing through one of Yasenia's scales to have a better grip and not be flung, commented. "We can try."

Hearing her strained voice, Yasenia chuckled. "They are all clumped together. Just throw attacks at random."

Kali threw seeds in their direction while asking. "Love, shouldn't we be quick? If we delay too much, we'll be unable to classify in the top 1024."

The dragoness summoned her [Empyrean Cosmos Galaxy Domain], [Starry Sky], and [Dance In The Firmament].

With the first two skills, the sky changed, becoming a night sky with a colossal Sun and Moon orbiting a massive galaxy of thousands of building-sized stars.

Her battle dance skills made her movements smoother and more fluid, helping her dears not feel as dizzy as she flew around.

Following that, Andrea used [Star Born Searing Flame Explosion] and [Molten Sun], her two most powerful ranged attacks, and rained molten magma on them.

Cecile had frozen her legs to Yasenia's body, using her masterful archery to rain silver meteors from above.

Meanwhile, Kali had pierced a few of Yasenia's scales with her roots, tying herself to the giant dragon while dropping down seeds.

Once these seeds hit the ground, they all exploded with uncontrolled flora. Roots, flowers, trees, and much more sprouted continuously, devouring the stone giants.

Finally, Yasenia herself bombarded the strange volcano with all her ranged attack skills.

Phantom Stars, Suns, Moons, and multicolored beams rained from above like a cataclysm.

Andrea laughed and shouted through all the thundering sounds. "No wonder dragons are feared! Hahaha, if the thing below were a city, she would've already razed it to the ground!"

Yasenia smiled and commented. "Dears, stop attacking for a second and focus on not being flung away."

They all reinforced their way of attaching themselves to her without a single second of hesitation.

Yasenia suddenly made a reverse loop after angling her wigs, and when coming down, she folded them while tucking her legs in and straightening her body.

BOOM!

The air around Yasenia continuously exploded as her speed increased several times over. Andrea gulped. "Love, you don't intend to ram it over, right?"

Yasenia didn't answer but opened her maw. "[Celestial Dragon Breath]."

WHOOOM!

The powerful recoil from the attack hit our girls like a hammer, making their heads buzz for a second. This was the first time Yasenia used that attack while they were on her back.

Andrea almost cursed. 'If I didn't use molten metal to attach myself to her, the shockwave would've blasted me flying.'

While she thought as such, the attack landed on the volcano, releasing blinding light as if an enormous Sun had appeared in the middle of nothing.

Yasenia quickly extended her wings and angled them to curve her descending trajectory into an upward motion. However, her momentum was big enough that she couldn't completely dodge the explosion created by her dragon breath. Yasenia squinted as she felt her scales burning for a second.

However, it was just a moment before she flew to the sky.

Worried, the dragoness asked. "Is everyone okay?"

She knew that they were on her back because her spiritual sense had been constantly monitoring them. Still, she couldn't tell if they were unscathed.

Andrea coughed once. "I am okay. The shockwave was quite something."

Cecile said coldly. "A few burns here, nothing serious."

Kali hissed. "A bit serious burns, but I can heal them without problems."

Eira spoke. "Perfectly fine here."

Valeria chuckled. "I'm also perfectly fine as well."

Yasenia smiled. "Good." Then, she finally focused on the disaster caused by her.

The girls looked over and sucked in a deep breath. Where a 2000-meter-tall volcano stood, now there was a massive bubbling crater. The Dragon's breath attack had annihilated the entire thing, leaving nothing but molten rocks behind.

Andrea laughed. "I really don't want to be on the other side of this attack of yours, love."

Yasenia smiled and said tenderly, her dragon voice echoing with gentleness. "You won't. Ever."

Not expecting the sudden sweetness, Andrea blushed. "Cough. I know."

Cecile commented. "Look at the Golems."

The girls looked over and saw that the golems fighting with the plants Kali summoned slowly lost strength and began crumbling.

The dragoness blinked as she flew above them. "Did I destroy their source or something?"

Valeria muttered. "I think you killed someone or something, Yasenia."

The dragoness's eyebrow twitched. "Did I?"

Valeria nodded, making our girls feel a bit guilty. Yasenia muttered. "Will the trial not work for others from now on? Now, I feel bad"

Andrea smiled wryly. "Love, that's the wrong thing to feel bad over."

Yasenia turned her head to look at her shoulder, where Andrea was at the time. "Wrong thing?"

Andrea sighed with a helpless smile. "At least feel a bit bad for the life you just took, love."

The dragoness realized. "Oh! Right But didn't they attack us?"

Andrea was the one who paused this time. "Hm Well It was their job I don't think they would attack us until we died no?"

Yasenia smiled. "We'll never know~."

Valeria reassured them. "It wasn't the thing controlling the beings."

The girls looked at the tall green woman with deadpan expressions. Yasenia asked. "Didn't you just say?"

Valeria blinked. "Hm? I said that you killed someone. These rock spirits were created by a formation engraved in the volcano."

Seeing a large white circle appearing in the distance, Yasenia flew over, guessing that it was the exit to the trial. Kali asked. "Were they the person stalking us in the room before entering here? Maybe they entered after us, and they moved toward the volcano."

Andrea asked. "Why would they do that?"

Yasenia tilted her head. "Tamper with it?"

Cecile commented indifferently. "We'll never know."

The girls all agreed, placing the matter to the back of their heads and entering the second floor.

Meanwhile, outside, the people of that person's group became confused when they lost contact with the other person.