

Heaven 811

Chapter 811: Powerful Undead.

While not all Undead look similar, because of the Death Energy running in their bodies and the large amounts of Yin energy, it was normal for their appearances to be emaciated.

Naturally, the stronger the Undead, the better they got used to the overly large amounts of Yin and Death energies going around their body, and they would gradually be able to recover a human-like appearance. Once an Undead goes a transformation from undead to Specter, meaning reaching the realm of Specter Corpse Lord, the equivalent to Transcendence Realm, they would become indistinguishable from a normal living creature at a glance.

Of course, once their energies were unleashed, it would become more than apparent that they were not living beings. However, before that, if the other party didn't have any special means, passing as a normal living creature was not a problem at all.

Meanwhile, this fact didn't usually apply to undead created by skills. For example, Tatyana's "soldiers" would always be skeletal, regardless of their strength, and her "generals" would always be human-like.

The group leader stepped forward and spoke with a breathy voice. This creepy tone was caused by his lungs not functioning normally. "Dragon We want to speak"

Yasenia looked at him and nodded. "Sure. Go ahead and tell me."

The leader tilted his head. "Hm?"

The dragoness looked at him for a few moments, and seeing that he was still observing her, she asked with a strange tone. "Is there something wrong?"

He spoke, blinking slowly. "My name is Wu Rongyao, Dra No, Yasenia."

The dragoness nodded. Wu Rongyao got thoughtful for a few seconds and then commented slowly. "Our first intention in speaking with you was to check your attitude. However, I've changed my mind."

Yasenia blinked and nodded, not asking why.

Wu Rongyao said. "First, let me tell you about why all our groups have come to this place. While you might've already listened to it from the mouth of the Spirits, it's not bad to say our part."

The dragoness squinted. "Why the sudden goodwill? I could see that you were aiming to get my corpse and turn it into an Undead. Am I wrong?"

Wu Rongyao cackled slowly. "That thought has yet to change. Still, I feel like while alive, you have a certain beauty that you might lose when becoming undead"

The dragoness couldn't understand. 'Hm Do I trust them?' Honestly, Yasenia had felt a bit off since the beginning. While she didn't discriminate by appearances, the Undead were the antithesis of life.

They would always have this strange aura around them that made most living creatures feel odd. It was a thought that was uncontrollable, something aking to the nature of those alive.

That's why making honest alliances was highly complicated for the undead and the living. If there were any alliances, they would be entirely based on benefits. Naturally, this applies to alliances between the living, but you should understand what I mean.

I digress.

While Yasenia understood that the feelings were probably her natural resistance toward the Undead, she went and took a step ahead. "Well, speak about it. Listening is free, as some say."

Wu Rongyao chuckled. "Well The reason for us and the others to come is because our seniors detected an anomaly this way. It was the creation of a very powerful technique, and after checking the source, it directed us toward this place."

Yasenia nodded. The spirits had certainly told her the same. However, Wu Rongyao was not done speaking. "While the other five groups only detected this, we detected another anomaly. Moreover, it happened twice. We ignored it both times because too many resources were needed to send someone to investigate. Still, the recent event that the other groups came for was an opportunity to kill two birds with one stone."

Yasenia tilted her head, not knowing what they were talking about. "Two events of a similar nature?"

Wu Rongyao clarified. "These two events I'm speaking about are pulses of really profound and pure Death energy. The first was a pulse of Death energy so profound that even our seniors felt it from several star systems away. It happened around 15 years ago. We've discovered a land filled with it in the southern part of the continent. Everything in a 10,000 km radius is completely filled with rich Death Energy."

The dragoness paused and recalled events from that time. 'Oh. I know.'

Andrea whispered in her head. 'It's Tatyana, isn't it?'"

Yasenia's lips twitched. 'Perhaps'

"The second was around six years ago. This time, not only was there an extremely powerful Death Energy ripple, but after that, our seniors detected spatial weaves dwarfing the Death energy."

Kali smirked. 'Definitely, Tatyana.'

Cecile agreed. 'Tatyana screwed up.'

Eira coughed. 'Young Miss, we are not perfect. Everyone can make mistakes.'

Yasenia listened to them and snorted. 'I don't care. Once I return, I'll give her anything she wants.'

Wu Rongyao continued. "So, I wanted to ask. Do you know anything about this situation?"

Yasenia pretended to think about it and then shook her head. "I know about the first one because the leaders had isolated that area. They have even agreed not to involve themselves with the perpetrator because Well. You've seen how powerful the Death energy there is."

Wu Rongyao nodded, getting thoughtful. "I see. Well Thanks for answering."

Yasenia smiled a little. "You are welcome."

Wu Rongyao looked at Yasenia and then at the others. "Miss Yasenia, this is not meant to be offensive, but I can feel that only you and the woman with a sword at her waist are a match for us. We'll try not to be insidious as a sign of thanks, but I hope they don't force themselves and know when to surrender."

The dragoness nodded. "No offense taken. That's the truth, after all. I would appreciate it if you did so. We'll also place safety above all."

Wu Rongyao nodded and turned around. When Yasenia was about to leave, Wu Rongyao paused his steps. "Mis Yasenia"

The dragoness blinked and turned to look at the undead. "Anything else?"

Wu Rongyao hesitated, and after a few seconds, he asked. "Who is the red-eyed woman in your group?"

To be honest, the first time they saw Tatyana, the undead had felt their still hearts thump. It was such a powerful emotion of raw fear that they chose to alter their initial plans.

At first, the undead planned to go to a place in this continent and start slaughtering left and right, creating a small army of Undead and eventually a sect.

However, they placed those plans aside when they noticed Tatyana's existence.

The corner of Yasenia's lips arched when she heard that question. "Why?"

Wu Rongyao looked at Yasenia's knowing expression and smiled wryly. "You should know why, even though I don't understand it myself."

Yasenia laughed. "Well, I can reveal one thing. She can control and summon undead. Perhaps your instincts are telling you to be careful with her."

Wu Rongyao's face lit up in realization. "No wonder, no wonder" Then, they left while muttering.

Yasenia guided the girls toward the room by the Arena's side, where the participants rested as the others fought.

Andrea asked. "So, what order will we participate in this time?"

Yasenia sat on the couch and crossed her long legs. "No need to think too hard. Just decide on an order and go."

The girls nodded, and Cecile chose to go first.

After she landed in the arena, her icy blue gaze landed on the robe-wearing undead on the other side. Her eyes moved toward his waist, and she saw a sword.

Cecile thought. 'There seem to be two kinds of styles in their group: one that uses swords and another that uses staff.'

The undead on the other side spoke with a low laugh and brittle. "Little Phoenix, be careful. Or else, you might become an undead before you know it, hahaha."

Cecile lifted her white eyebrow. "A Phoenix turning into an Undead? Too bad, as my race is one that can even cheat Death."

The undead laughed. "Nothing can escape from Death, little Phoenix. Now, start with your skills; I'll wait."

Cecile squinted as her energy in the Dantian began surging. "If you underestimate me too much You'll gain frostbite."

BOOM!

A hurricane of white flames and wind swirled around Cecile as all her buffing skills were released at once. Her aura skyrocketed, creating a massive layer of silver frost that covered half of the arena.

The undead on the other side changed his tone. "Ho? I admit I underestimated you. However, that's still not quite enough."

After he spoke, his body began emitting a dense black mist, and a tremendous pressure that overpowered Cecile's exploded outward. As if that was not enough, he laughed as he spoke. "[Death Sword Intent Level Five]."

As he unsheathed his sword, the aura around him became extremely shard and deadly. The silver frost that had been consuming everything was sliced into pieces, stopping in its tracks wherever it touched his aura.

Cecile's face became extremely solemn. 'A level five intent?'

While overcoming a level four intent with a few level three intents was possible, overcoming a level five intent was another matter. To overcome a level 5 intent, you needed a few level 4 intents.

The reason was that each level allowed the cultivator to control a more profound and more complex part of the energy. Intent focused on manipulating a concept and releasing it outside or mixing it with one's strength and skills.

The difference between levels was not as simple as being stronger. The other side controlled energy better suppressed almost all auras and could bring out more strength with the same amount of energy.

Cecile, who was not even in the Fifth Cultivation Realm, had no chance of breaching the gap that the undead's cultivation and intents created.

A good representation would be if Cecile appeared in a fight barehanded while the other side had a spear. The chances of winning were hopeless to that degree.

Cecile's lips arched as her icy blue eyes were lit ablaze with determination. 'A difficult fight? Isn't this what I wanted since the start of this competition!?'

"[Innate Skill: Lunar Phoenix Body]! [Innate Skill: Moonlight Ash Domain]!"

The hurricane of flames swirling around Cecile sunk into her body as a new one entirely made of grey ash inundated everything.

The undead spoke. "Useless. [Death Slash]."

SLASH!

A massive black crescent cut the arena in half, passing through where Cecile was standing.

However, the undead didn't show a victorious look even after his attack seemingly bisected Cecile.

His sunken eyes looked around, and he whispered. "There you are."

Cecile appeared in the sky to his right, her bow drawn into a full moon as an enormous phantom bow appeared behind her. "[Moon Freezing Catastrophe]!"

The undead turned, sword in hand, and calculated the speed of the attack to cut it perfectly. However, to his surprise, the enormous black, silver, and green arrow disappeared and appeared right before his nose. 'Ho? Spatial movement?'

BOOM!

Cecile looked at the spot where the arrow exploded in a catastrophic mix of Wind, Moon, and Spatial energies with a grave face. 'He was able to see me long before I could attack.'

After the attack calmed down, Cecile realized no one was there, and she expanded her senses, becoming extremely alert. 'Huh? Where is-'

STAB!

Cecile's eyes widened as a sword pierced her back, appearing right in front of her eyes. Then, the eerie voice of the undead reached her ears. "Little bird I got you~."

Chapter 812: Battle Result. Andrea's Objective.

"[Astral Shift]!"

The undead was surprised this time when the woman he impaled with his sword managed to escape. 'Was I too slow? No, I could clearly feel the sword slicing through skin and bones. Her reaction speed exceeded my expectations, making it possible for her to escape.'

Suddenly, a massive wave of energy descended on him from his right. He looked over and saw several silver meteors falling like rain. He quickly drew his sword and sliced everything coming his way in half.

The undead chuckled. 'She is more slippery than I thought. Where is she?'

Cecile had used her spatial energy to isolate her aura, making it highly complicated to notice her presence. If the Undead wanted to spot Cecile, he would need to do so by sight.

The undead became thoughtful as the cloud of ash surrounding everything impaired his sight. The damaging Moon energy in the cloud didn't reach him because his own aura created a protective shield. However, this didn't help with the visibility. 'What to do'

Previously, he was able to fool Cecile and use her own domain against her because he hid his aura by releasing a faint death energy shield. When he combined it with his undead nature, which allowed him to feel like a dead body, and then when he used that to deceive the Spiritual sense, he was able to create an almost perfect cover for himself.

What he did was practically deceive the Spiritual Sense of the cultivators by "pretending" to be dead and making them ignore him. After all, the spiritual sense was used to distinguish enemies, not corpses on the ground, so people often overlooked this.

However, it was quite a risky move that wouldn't work twice because it was easy to get used to. After all, discovering the trickery was not that complicated.

Cecile would probably lure him into a trap if he tried to do the same. Hence, he needed to find other methods to close the gap.

While he wasn't worried about falling into Cecile's traps, receiving more damage than planned was something almost bound to happen if he was too greedy. His sword moved as the undead sliced the attacks coming from Cecile.

Although the attacks revealed the direction where Cecile was, that was not wholly true, as [Astral Shift]'s powerful mobile nature habilitated Cecile's way of fighting to be foolproof.

Even then, steady and slowly, the undead retaliated against Cecile's barrage and slowly closed the distance. 'The attacks are heavy, constant, and precise. Every time I cross enough distance, she teleports away and continues delivering her attacks. I have two well, three paths to victory.'

'The first'

The undead felt the usual fluctuation and quickly shifted, using a movement technique he mastered to rush forward like a ghost while evading all attacks.

His speed was fast enough to be seen as a blur.

As a result, his barrier couldn't wholly block Cecile's Moonlight Ash Domain, causing frost to build on his robe and skin. However, he managed to close enough distance to see her.

His sword was as quick as he was, slicing through the barrage of arrows targeted at him when he was close enough.

Even then, quicker than his footwork, Cecile looked at him indifferently, a patch of red blood staining the center of her dress, and she used Astral Shift to blink away.

The undead's stiff lips arched as he sent several black crescents in one direction, destroying a giant white fire tornado that was going his way. 'The first method doesn't work. The second is stalling out the battle until she runs out of energy. However, doing that feels a bit boring.'

The undead cackled, his eyes glowing with an eerie light. Then, he spoke aloud. "For the third method Brute force! [Corpse King Sword Barrage]!"

His sword started dancing in a spherical path around him, creating a black sphere out of the trails left by his sword.

Naturally, the slashes he did weren't just melee.

The Undead became a dark sphere of death as countless sword lights imbued with the Level 5 Intent sliced through everything.

Cecile quickly blinked away when one of them was about to hit her. Unfortunately, where she appeared, another one was waiting for her.

Her face became solemn as she quickly used [Hollow Moon Steps] and dodged sideways, only for a third and a fourth crescent to heed her way. 'Huh? He is attacking at random?'

The Moon Phoenix Woman's face became ugly as she quickly dodged and tried to counterattack, only for her attacks to lose in the strength contest and be sliced by the terrifying hurricane of sword lights.

'I want to transform, but my bigger body will be quickly spotted and slashed up by him Do I need to use that skill?'

Cecile's mind stopped on the name of that skill as she barely dodged another crescent. She pondered for a few seconds, only for her spiritual sense to pick up something coming from her left. 'Dodge!'

She stomped the air and flapped her wings, jumping backward as a sword made its way through the place where her neck stood. 'That trick again?!'

The undead cackled. "It seems that you didn't lower your guard. I shall praise you for that. However, now that I'm this close, it is the end."

BOOM!

A massive aura spread from him, causing everything to be enveloped in an aura of undeath. Cecile was only confused for a moment until her senses perceived the space around her, solidifying a large chunk. 'I can't blink away easily now.'

The undead looked at Cecile and spoke. "Surrender. It is your loss."

Cecile opened her mouth a few times, struggling with whether to use her final trump card or not. The Undead shook his head. "I can smell that you are a very young creature. Your life aura feels fresh. If you are considering whether to use a trump card at the cost of damaging yourself, and that trump card doesn't give you a 100 percent chance of winning, don't use it."

Cecile's eyes opened slightly. "How?"

The undead looked at Cecile with profound eyes. "I felt the resolution to die coming from you."

Cecile paused and looked at him for a few seconds. Then, she sighed and looked upward for a few seconds as the ashes flying around settled down.

"I lose."

The judge appeared and shouted. "Winner, Wu Cang Ba!"

The undead saw the complicated expression on Cecile and chuckled. "Don't be harsh on yourself. If I would tell you my age, you would be surprised. Honestly, the fact that you could match up to me in this limited space is impressive. If we were in an open field, capturing you like I just did would be almost impossible."

Cecile nodded and turned around.

Once she returned, Yasenia smiled at her. "How was it? Fighting a true mid-level Fifth realm cultivator?"

Cecile pondered. "If it is a battle to the death, I don't know who the final winner could be. After all, I have a quite powerful trump card. However, unless I'm forced to use it, I don't want to use that skill."

Yasenia agreed. "That skill should not be used unless necessary. With it, you are strong enough to even face me in my Celestial State for a long time. However, it's quite" Yasenia paused, not knowing how to say it.

Andrea blinked as she stood up for her match. "Which skill?"

Cecile looked over and smirked. "If you don't remember, that's your fault."

Andrea burst into laughter. "I think I know which one you are talking about. I just wanted confirmation."

Cecile nodded.

Andrea jumped into the arena and looked toward the other side. "Oh? It's you?"

On the other side, Wu Rongyao nodded. "Wu Rongyao, you should be called Andrea?"

Andrea hadn't put on her helmet yet, so she smiled and nodded. "That's my name. It is a pleasure fighting you, senior Wu."

Wu Rongyao smiled stiffly. "Well, junior. Don't resent me too much for this win."

Andrea smiled, showing her teeth. "It won't be that easy, senior."

Wu Rongyao cackled. The laugh sounded mocking, but Andrea knew it wasn't. "That's a good spirit; show me what you have, junior."

Andrea nodded solemnly and put on her helmet. "I'll do my best."

Then, her body burst into an inferno as her every aura and domain expanded from her position. Wu Rongyao looked on with praise. "Good skills. While they lack in firepower, they are really good against group or even single enemies."

Then, Wu Rongyao took his staff and tapped the butt of it on the ground. "[Corpse King Grand Summoning]."

From a spatial rift behind Wu Rongyao, undead began flooding the place. Andrea looked at that and asked, confused. "Senior, um, can I kill those?"

Wu Rongyao didn't understand for a second and then cackled. "They are different from me, a natural undead. They have no real soul. Similar to puppets. If you can, of course, kill as many as you want."

Andrea nodded firmly and lifted her halberd high with both her hands. "[Warring Sun Art: Molten Landscape]."

As the halberd descended, a gigantic wave of magma spread around, further increasing the already hellish temperatures.

Wu Rongyao nodded. 'She has a good tactic. Simple, yet effective. If we weren't so far apart realm-wise and age-wise, she would be a really tough opponent.'

With a wave of his hand, he released his Intent. "[Soul Intent Level 5]."

Andrea's lips twitched inside her helmet. 'Another level 5 intent? Do they all have them?'

After the intent was released, Andrea realized that all the undead suddenly looked more alive, and their movements became smoother and more stable. 'Soul Intent Is he using it to strengthen the souls of his undead summons? Interesting application. However, I need to be careful with his attacks. It seems that physical defense will not be that useful.'

Andrea charged forward, using [Searing Solar Prominence] and [Star Born Searing Mantle].

Instantly, wide arcs of magma reaching hundreds of meters tall spawned around Andrea in waves while a cape made entirely of molten magma spread from her back.

Then, she used [Sun Explosion] with the large Phantom Sun she had previously summoned during her preparations.

BOOM!

From the sky, a massive fireball of pure Sun energy expanded, hitting the undead that had charged forward.

Wu Rongyao looked at all of this with interest in his dead eyes. 'Powerful. However, the heat is not enough to heavily damage my summons. How about this, [Corpse Enhanced Arms].'

One of the taller undead, a bulky skeletal one reaching almost 5 meters tall, had extra bones appear around his naked arms, making it seem as if he had gained a set of muscles made out of bones.

Naturally, these bones weren't rigid, so the summon could punch perfectly fine. Well, more than perfectly fine.

BANG!

The fireball created by exploding the phantom sun was blasted into pieces as it rushed first in the lines of the more than 800 undead.

Andrea looked at it with a severe expression. 'My objective for this battle Reach Wu Rongyao and manage to land a blow on him.'

Chapter 813: Andrea's Perseverance.

"[Sun Obliterating Charge]!"

Her armored foot stomped the ground, and then Andrea's body accelerated, smashing against the reinforced undead like a golden meteor.

That undead could not react and had to meet with Andrea head-on.

A giant explosion occurred, blasting the undead flying into a terrible state. Andrea's halberd had cleaved it in half, and the impact's strength had broken most of its bones.

Right after her impact, Andrea was swarmed while Wu Rongyao sent an enhancing aura across his undead army. Andrea looked around and moved, her face filled with determination. 'One down, 799 to go.'

Andrea was not phased and unleashed her skills one after another.

Like a goddess of war, her Battle Intent and Perseverance intent worked in tandem, gradually increasing her strength as her combat skills shone as bright as her flames.

[Warring Sun Battle Art] skills flew one after another, allowing her to combine into an army-battling fighting style. With the occasional [Sun Molten Pillar] to control the angles, undead people were allowed to attack her, and [Sun Obliterating War Dance], Andrea's proficiency while smashing creatures increased severalfold.

Her large weapon seemed weightless as Andrea swung it at every undead that came her way.

A step forward was accompanied by a large swing that split two of them in half. Using [Searing Solar Prominence] and [Solar Domain], massive arcs of molten material that were then superheated burst from her surroundings, as if the undead were not walking on land but on the Sun's surface.

One fell, then another, then another. Andrea needed to take time to defend against their barrage, but slowly and steadily, she continued dwindling down the numbers.

After destroying around 80 of them, they suddenly changed tactics, as five of them threw themselves at Andrea without caring about life and death. Andrea snorted and used [Sun Obliterating Charge] again, pushing through into the undead army while blasting off those who came in her way.

Then, to clear some space, Andrea used her entire body to release a powerful [Sun Burning Palm] forward, summoning a massive wave of magma that drowned around twenty undead under a searing magma bath.

However, Andrea was not satisfied. 'Faster. I need to go faster!'

Her weapon moved as if it had a mind of its own, and her feet constantly moved her around the battlefield and in between the enemy ranks. [Sun Chasing Steps] allowed her to move with precision and swiftness while her War Dance guided her body to the rhythm of slaughter.

While she was thrashing the army left and right, Andrea was not making much progress toward her objective. Her current situation was similar to the one Kali's enemies often found themselves in.

She was constantly killing undead, but from time to time, Andrea could see a few of them being rebuilt by Wu Rongyao's energy, slowing the pace at which she destroyed the entire thing.

While Andrea had experienced fighting Kali a few times, her face became solemn while feeling the sensation of being suffocated.

To motivate herself, she shouted. "I'm not done yet!"

Wu Rongyao looked from afar, and his stiff lips arched a bit. 'Not bad.'

Meanwhile, Andrea rushed forward, ignoring everything but the creatures before herself, and she began spinning and hitting everything with her large halberd.

BANG! BANG! BANG!

The warrior woman piercing through the army while tanking every strike like an absolute juggernaut depicted the imagery of an undefeated flaming general.

Her skills constantly increased the inferno building around her, and her every strike was calculated to allow her to advance. 'Forward, forward, forward!'

Wu Rongyao was surprised to see that the attacks on Andrea didn't wholly penetrate her defenses. 'Very sturdy. But... even the attacks that had pierced once then stopped piercing even if they landed on the same spot. What's happening?'

What the Corpse King didn't know was that Andrea's body had various layers of defense. Her outermost layer consisted of a solid energy defense barrier created by the pure heat radiating from her. While it was not powerful, it would ensure that low-level attacks didn't even touch her.

In short, our heroic woman was able to just walk across low-level battlefields and suffer no damage with just this outermost layer.

Then, Andrea had the [Obliterating Chromosphere], a layer of thick magma covering her entire body, making her look like a monster made of pure molten material.

Additionally, a cape made similarly of molten substances added to her overall defense, making her back not a weak point but her most armored part.

Below the layer of pure molten material, Andrea's quasi-transcendent armor stood like a solid wall. Most attacks that managed to cross her outer layers were instantly blocked by it.

Moreover, as a high-level item, it had regenerative properties that were activated by consuming heat. So, even if an attack managed to pierce the armor's defense as well, hitting in the same spot would be met with the renewed armor instead of Andrea's body.

Quasi-transcendent items were really strong, but to bring out all the strength of an item, one also needed to have enough cultivation level, or bringing out an equipment's strength would not be possible.

Mirrory was a great example, Angel was not even able to bring out a part of her real body, making her mostly useless for the current Angel other than the weapon spirit helping her.

Of course, Mirrory being able to help Angel was an advantage any cultivator would want, and hence, having high-level equipment was not completely useless, but you understand where I'm going with this.

Speaking of Andrea's defense, the layers mentioned were only the physical ones, as Andrea had the [Sun Obliterating Armament] skill, which further strengthened her defensive and offensive abilities.

When you add skills like her [Sun Obliterating War Dance], and the escalating strength her intents and [Solar Body] gave her, you would understand why Andrea was such a hard nut to crack.

So, as the weapons of the undead landed on her while Andrea charged forward, the worst injuries were some deep cuts of lucky strikes that managed to pierce all her defenses.

Still, those places were later reinforced by energy, deflecting other attacks that landed on the supposed weak point.

Wu Rongyao naturally didn't stand still in one place and moved together with her army, creating distance between them as Andrea shortened it.

This chasing game went on for around ten more minutes, making Andrea begin to breathe in roughly. Her magma armor was torn in a few places, and the number of Undead was still at around 300. Her body under her armor was marred with cuts, and blood stained her skin. But if Wu Rongyao had been able to see below her helmet, he would've seen Andrea's eyes constantly monitoring his movements.

Nevertheless, as time went on, Andrea's momentum and strength constantly increased.

While at first, one or two undead would be blasted flying by her swings, now four or five would become soaring shattered charred bones and flesh that rained on others.

Moreover, Wu Rongyao realized that the heat of the battlefield had reached a high enough point that some of the weaker undead were starting to get significantly affected. Even he was feeling the heat enough to need to protect himself with death energy consciously.

He couldn't help but praise again in his mind. 'Amazing skill set. If we were on the same level, I probably would be unable to win.'

Of course, admiring was one thing. Not acting against it was another. 'Let's finish this quickly. Wu Cang Ba was clever in that regard; instead of giving time to his opponent, he chose a swift battle result. These girls can become dangerous if given enough time.'

And so, for the first time, Wu Rongyao stepped forward toward Andrea. Below Andrea's helmet, her light green eyes flashed.

"[Corpse King Royal Aura]."

BOOM!

Like a black curtain swallowing the day, the temperature plummeted, and all the undead roared as strength filled their weakened bodies.

But Wu Rongyao felt strange; the effects were much stronger than he had anticipated. 'Hm? All the heat is gone? Shouldn't a clash between both auras have happened?'

Suddenly, a signal of danger hit his soul as the middle of the blackened arena was illuminated with radiating golden light.

The presence of this miniature Sun felt as if his opponent was telling him that while the day was swallowed, the Sun still appeared, shining brighter than ever before.

BOOOM!

A golden meteor shot through the undead army, completely piercing through with unstoppable force. Moreover, as Andrea exited the mob of undead, she jumped and roared. "[SOLAR DESCENT]!"

A few moments earlier, Andrea had been observing Wu Rongyao. She knew this was not his entire strength because it felt lacking compared to the previous undead.

When the massive aura of death inundated the entire place, Andrea's expression didn't change. She had long since expected that the summoner would have something like this hiding up their sleeves.

As soon as he covered everything with his presence, Andrea used her [Sun Devourer] skill to swallow all the heat energy around her and increase her strength monstrously for a brief time.

Her body, glowing like a miniature Sun, was able to bulldoze through the army, and she used her gathered strength to jump at him, becoming a golden streak that divided the darkness that had just descended.

Wu Rongyao's lips arched wildly, and he waved his staff as a welcome. "GOOD! [Corpse King's Defense]!"

BOOM!

A massive explosion of sun energies created a fireball that consumed everything. The enormous fireball expanded outward and dissolved the closest undead while also damaging some further away, killing around 50 more undead and damaging another 60.

After the effects passed, you could see Andrea in the middle of a small crater, breathing heavily while looking at the broken wall made out of skeletons in front of herself.

Beyond the wall, Wu Rongyao stood with a few burns but mostly unaffected. The wounds looked grievous, but it was not something that could help Andrea reverse the current battle situation.

Of course, Andrea didn't surrender. She would fight until defeat, as that was her character and base as a person. Even if you can't do it, try! You will probably be met with failure, but if not? You would've completed something you previously deemed as impossible.

Wu Rongyao immediately cast a few offensive spells, sending crescents and orbs of Death energy at Andrea. And while he kept her busy, the undead army arrived while stepping on the seriously heated-up material.

The following fight was Andrea struggling to continue fighting as Wu Rongyao used all his means to corner and defeat Andrea. Battle Intent and Perseverance Intent went into overdrive as she fought, fought, and fought again.

Of course, escalating intents had the advantage of making you grow in battle. However, if one would say their disadvantage, it was them consuming more and more energy as they gained that strength that shouldn't belong to them.

Finally, 15 minutes later, Wu Rongyao managed to use a combination with his summons and cornered Andrea enough to approach her at a melee distance and touch her forehead with the staff.

Andrea stopped, and every creature present also did so. With a tired smile under her helmet, Andrea chuckled. "In the end, I could only land one strike, huh? Hahaha, it's my loss, senior."

Wu Rongyao grinned. "Well fought, junior. You've gained my admiration."

The judge appeared and shouted. "Winner, Wu Rongyao!"

Chapter 814: Plant Army vs Undead Army.

Andrea returned and took off her helmet and armor, showing red-stained clothes with cuts everywhere. Her head had been mostly protected while using her skills, so there wasn't anything wrong with it other than the soaked hair, wet with sweat, and her slightly paler complexion.

Yasenia approached and smiled. "Welcome, Darling. How are you feeling?"

Andrea shook her head before kissing her. "I'm just exhausted. I'm going to sit in that recovery place that the organizers set up."

Cecile, who was lying there as well, opened one of her eyes. "Good fight."

Andrea smiled. "Thanks."

Cecile then closed her eyes again and relaxed, moving aside and opening space for Andrea to sit.

Yasenia looked at Kali and saw her thoughtful gaze. "Honey, is everything all right?"

Kali looked at Yasenia and asked. "Love, if I lose Would you mind?"

Yasenia walked forward and gathered her in her arms, looking down at her with confusion. "Why would I, Honey?"

Kali said. "Because I have the ability to win. If I lose, it is because I'm not using Valeria, who, at the end of the day, is my trump card and the core of most of my skills."

Yasenia asked. "So, you are wondering whether you losing without using Valeria would make me think you did it on purpose and, therefore, be upset?"

Kali looked up at her tall loved and nodded. The dragoness chuckled. "Honey, there is no need. Fight as you please as long as you are fighting and doing your best. I wouldn't mind if you were giving yourself disadvantages. We didn't come to win the tournament but to learn and fight people of our level. How has the experience been?"

Kali smiled. "Good. I managed to understand many things I was not aware of."

Yasenia hugged her tightly, squeezing their breasts together. "Then, do the same this time. Fight, and whether you win or lose, just do your best."

Kali laughed and returned the hug, not only with her arms but also with her tails. Both women entangled themselves for a few moments. Kali buried her face in Yasenia's neck, sniffing her aroma while her fox ears danced in happiness. 'Ah, so nice~.'

In her lover's arms, Kali felt protected and safe from harm. 'I'm so happy to have her,' she thought.

After that small moment together, Kali jumped into the arena. In her mind, Valeria spoke. 'Summon me, Kali.'

Kali blinked. 'Huh? But I don't want to use you.'

Valeria chuckled gently. 'I know. I'll just be outside, protecting you, just in case.'

Kali realized and nodded. 'Okay, I can do that.'

The first thing Kali did was look at her opponent. To her surprise, it was a female Undead. While it was not that rare, most undeads were androgynous, tilting more toward male appearance. After all, natural undeads were born from pure death energy; gender meant little to them. It was more of an accessory left from the people they were born from.

Regardless, it was not like it didn't completely matter. As undeads became more complete, they were even able to have progeny normally by mixing with other undead.

However, because of the nature of what an Undead was, having progeny with a being that was alive, regardless of how much that person practiced death-attribute-related arts, was impossible.

Because, in essence, that person had life energy, which greatly conflicted with the creation of life. That's why people born with the Death attribute could have children, albeit with a bit more difficulty.

The undead smiled a bit, her stiff lips arching upward. "Hello, Junior. My name is Wu Xian Nu, it is a pleasure to meet such talented children such as yourself."

Kali smiled respectfully under her veil and bowed elegantly. "The pleasure is mine, Lady Wu. I hope we can have an interesting match."

Wu Xian Nu nodded and looked at her with interest. "I feel an extremely potent life energy coming from you. What are your attributes, child?"

Kali placed a hand before her mouth and said with a chuckle. "Life, Nature, and Wood."

Wu Xian Nu also laughed. "Quite the attributes to face. My attributes are Ice and Death."

Kali nodded, her three tails dancing slowly. Then, her eyes moved to the staff Wu Xian Nu held. 'It is similar to Wu Rongyao's. She should also be a summoner. Army vs army, huh?'

The judge appeared and started the countdown.

"Kali against Wu Xian Nu. The match begins in 10 9"

Both sides expanded their auras as their bodies released dense waves of opposite energies.

In the middle of the arena, Kali's pure Life energy and Wu Xian Nu's Death energy clashed, creating visible waves.

Then, both sides began summoning. Because it was a battle against many, Kali didn't stop at her usual 100 Dryads.

After summoning her army's core, the dryads, Kali briefly called upon Valeria.

BOOM!

The life energies in the entire arena soared without control, making Wu Xian Nu's face go from relaxed to terrified. 'What is this amount of Life energy!?'

A thick green vine that transformed into Valeria appeared from the ground by Kali's side. Valeria looked at Wu Xian Nu and smiled. "Don't worry, I won't participate in this fight, not even as a support."

Wu Xian Nu blinked incredulously. 'It talks!?' Snapping out of her surprise, the female undead nodded somewhat respectfully. "I understand."

While she was an undead, Valeria's life energy was so pure that it felt comfortable even for Wu Xian Nu. Naturally, this effect was created by Valeria herself. With just a thought, that aura would become poison.

Kali saw that the timer was about to hit zero, so she quickly used her other summoning skills to create a small army to accompany the Dryads. Giant treants, man-eating plants, life spirits, and similar other creatures appeared in the hundreds. The final size of her army was 700 creatures.

Wu Xian Nu didn't fall behind, even when Valeria's presence surprised her. Around her, several black rifts opened and spewed countless ghosts, wraiths, and banshees. By the end of her summoning, there were nearly 1000 beings floating around her.

While Wu Rongyao specialized in skeletons and zombies, Wu Xian Nu took the path of apparitions.

The sky around Wu Xian Nu became covered in translucent silhouettes, while the ground around Kali was covered in plant creatures.

Both sides, the opposites of the same coin, face each other in silence even after the countdown has reached zero as if they had an agreement.

Then, both women looked at each other across the battlefield and nodded.

"[Ghost King's March]."

"[Innate Skill: Flower World Domain]."

Both sides chanted simultaneously, separating the arena into a flower field and a misty land.

The largest plant creatures rushed forward, and the rest of the army followed behind while the undead did the same.

As they approached, Kali pointed at one of the treants at the lead. "[Life Enhancement: Verdant Core]."

A green aura enveloped the 15-meter-tall creature, and while circling around it, it sunk into its chest and created a head-sized green sphere. The creature's eyes became much more lively, while the entire aura became more stable and incredibly stronger.

Verdant Core not only increased the plant creature's physical attributes, but it also gave it a much more powerful mind. It basically gave it a temporary mind.

'Open a path.'

A grunt reached Kali from the other side, and the giant treant charged forward and clashed with the army made of ghosts.

BANG!

The loud sound of the collision echoed, followed by many in kind as the two armies collided.

Kali's spiritual sense took everything in as her intents enveloped her entire army. While she had expected it, she couldn't help but smile wryly. 'My army is weaker.'

"[Healing Life Aura], [Whispering Blossom Essence Dance]."

A pulse of energy covered the entire army, increasing their already high regeneration to an absurd degree.

Creatures clashed, the limbs of the plant creatures flew, and the bodies of some ghosts exploded after being hit.

At the front of the entire army, the large treant that Kali summoned fought bravely, its large fists and strong legs hitting everything that approached.

However, as it fought, suddenly, it was repelled. Seeing the treant take a few steps back, Kali looked over and sent a quick wave of energy. "[Life Enhancement: Vitality]."

"RAAAH!"

The treant let out an echoing shout as it looked at the creature that pushed him away.

It was a slim female ghost wearing an armor that hid everything about her body. She held a large sword as she floated mid-air, her eyes glowing with a ghostly flame as they looked at the large treant.

It was clearly an extraordinary summon from Wu Xian Nu. Kali hummed. 'I need to move my dryads quicker.'

"[Innate Skill, Nature Fox First Tail: Nascent Life]."

Around her, 50 plant creatures of wildly varied shapes appeared. Kali did not control these summons but naturally created them as she gave reigns to the Life energy combined with Nature and Wood to give shape to new life.

"[Innate Skill, Nature Fox Second Tail: Blooming Life]."

The 50 plant creatures weren't stronger than the rest of her army. However, after [Blooming Life] covered them, their bodies quickly refined as some of them multiplied further, dividing themselves.

The number grew to 73 while their bodies became much more streamlined and perfected. However, Kali was not done.

As they currently were, they would not be able to make a difference on the battlefield, where her numbers had fallen to 650 while her enemy still had more than 900 ghosts.

The only reason for Kali's army's advantage kill-wise was the 100 Dryads putting in work in the middle of the war. Their presence was extraordinary to the point that Wu Xian Nu had noticed them. Thankfully, Kali had already predicted it and placed the treants and other sturdy creatures around them.

If the 100 dryads were her sword, her other 600 summons were their shield.

But, with just the dryads, it was not enough.

"[Innate Skill, Nature Fox Third Tail: Developing Life]."

The 73 beings around Kali were enveloped in Kali's aura once more, and their bodies began wriggling and bulging.

BOOM!

A massive aura exploded from them, instantly creating a change in the battlefield's atmosphere. Then, Kali pointed forward and ordered. "Go. [Fox Essence Boost: Fox Flower Land]."

Fox Essence Boost was the skill that increased the strength of the following skill she cast. With it, [Fox Flower Land] was quick to cover the entire battlefield, combining with [Flower World Domain] and covering everything in flowers.

Instead of a battlefield, Kali made it look as if she was creating a flower field in spring. However, while the surroundings were beautiful, once the 73 new plant monsters arrived at the front lines, Wu Xian Nu had no other choice but to admit it. "Strong."

The 73 beings were similar to the dryads, becoming powerful killing machines as they worked in tandem with the rest.

Wu Xian Nu smiled, even when her army was being slaughtered little by little. "Since you've used a strong card, I'll do the same. [Ghost King's 100 Concubines]."

"AHHHHHHH!!!"

The sounds of 100 women screaming spread around like a cacophony of terror, together with a thick aura of death.

Chapter 815: Knight and Dragoness.

Kali's face changed as her spiritual sense spread. She looked at the 100 ghostly women who appeared, all wearing the same purple and white royal dress, and she commanded her dryads to go and intercept them.

Her army moved, using her 73 creatures summoned by her innate skills as a core, and changed the battlefield to make her dryads and the concubines meet.

The armored dryads took the front, while the melee ones took the sides and protected the archers and skill users.

Soon, a full-blown exchange began while Kali's and Wu Xiang Nu's auras buffed both sides.

Sadly, Kali was outclassed.

First, the concubines' base power was much higher. After all, they were summoned from a person of a much higher cultivation level. Then, while Kali's auras seemed to do better work, it was just enough to make her creatures equal to hers.

However, intents were another matter altogether.

While Kali had Level 3 intents, Wu Xiang Nu had Level 5 intents. Even if Kali's were better, it was not enough to breach that difference.

So, when both sides collided, the one that got instantly suppressed was Kali's. Her armored dryads were not strong enough to resist the attacks, her melee dryads were not fast enough to block all the attempts at attacking the vulnerable backline, the archers were not quick enough to score deadly shots, and the supporting dryad's skills were not effective enough to help the others.

Kali could only use her skills to give them temporary bursts of strength, but even with that, her army was slowly collapsing.

Wu Xiang Nu looked at Kali and asked. "Do you have anything else, junior?"

Kali shook her head. "I don't. This is all my strength."

Wu Xiang Nu smiled. "It's really good. It would be a hard match if it weren't for my Level 5 intents. Moreover" Wu Xiang Nu's eyes moved to Kali's side. "If that summon had participated, the outcome might've been different."

Kali looked at Valeria and shook her head. "I won't use her this time. Wu Xiang Nu, how are your personal skills?"

Wu Xiang Nu smirked. "Good enough not to lose to the mid-level Epoch Cores within a short amount of time."

Kali was similar, so she felt that she really had nothing else to play with besides her parasites. Parasites naturally didn't only affect the living. The undead could similarly be affected as long as the parasite had evolved enough in the direction of eating death-energy-rich flesh, energy, or souls.

Then, some of her poisons could be effective on the undead. But because of the rules, her ability to use them was very limited. Kali was satisfied with this outcome.

She didn't surrender and continued fighting. Her army slowly dwindled as the undead gained an advantage. Even when she used [Spirit Overgrowth], the skill that allowed a plant to go berserk and burn its life as a means to unlock its potential, she could only delay the inevitable.

However, as she resisted, she managed to last more than 20 minutes, making Wu Xiang Nu and the rest of the people spectating respect her.

By the end, Kali was panting, her energy reserves extremely low. Finally, one of the remaining 63 concubines managed to appear before her and used her long nails to try and pierce Kali's neck.

Valeria stepped forward, her body disappearing and reappearing beside that concubine. With her staff, she struck it more than 100 times in less than an instant.

BOOM!

The concubine flew like a shooting star, smashing into the Undead army with a large explosion that sent the undead flying around in pieces. When she struck the ground, the concubine exploded into pieces.

Valeria looked at Wu Xiang Nu and said. "Enough. You've won."

Wu Xiang Nu nodded. "The attack wasn't going to pierce her neck. I had controlled her to stop after pricking her skin."

Valeria nodded. "I know. That's why I only attacked it and not you."

Wu Xiang Nu nodded calmly, but inside, her soul was thumping in fear. "Too strong! If she participated, I would've had no chance!"

Kali looked between them and smiled. "I surrender."

The judge descended and shouted. "Winner, Wu Xiang Nu!"

Kali sighed and looked at the battlefield filled with dead creatures. During the 20 minutes, both sides had summoned more beings, so the number of dead creatures was nearing four thousand. "Well, I did my best."

Valeria patted her head and smiled. "You did well. Lasting almost half an hour is a very big achievement."

Kali nodded, and they returned to the resting area. Valeria became a beam of green light and entered Kali's body.

The next battle was the two against 2.

Yasenia stood up and stretched. "Finally, my turn, huh?"

Andrea stepped forward and smiled at her. "How will we fight?"

Yasenia looked at Andrea up and down, checking if she had completely recovered. After being satisfied with her inspection, she commented. "While we are strong using the dragon rider style, I think we will do better without it."

Andrea pondered and asked. "You reasoning?"

Yasenia explained. "We don't know if we are fighting two summoners, two sword users, or a combination of one summoner and one sword user. Regardless, I will have to endure all the punishment because their strength is higher than yours, so you will probably miss some of their attacks. In the end, the dragon rider is the main offense while the dragon they ride is their support."

Yasenia poked Andrea's cheek with a teasing smile. "If we want to win, I can't be in a supporting stance but an active one."

Andrea moved her mouth and bit the mischievous fingers. "Okay. I'm convinced."

Yasenia blinked twice, and her cheeks became rosy. Then, she coughed and turned around. "Let's go, Darling."

Andrea laughed and followed behind. "Sure. Let's go, love."

When Andrea and Yasenia jumped down, they looked over to the other side and were surprised. Yasenia laughed wryly. "This combination is a bit"

Andrea rubbed her forehead and nodded.

The judge appeared and shouted. "Yasenia and Andrea against Wu Rongyao and Wu Xiang Nu!"

Both undead smirked, and Wu Rongyao cackled. "Are you prepared to face an endless army, juniors?"

Yasenia's lips arched as she smiled, showing her sharp fangs. "Fighting armies is my strong point, seniors. Be careful."

Andrea waved her black and golden halberd and said. "Let's have a good match, seniors."

The countdown started, and Andrea and the two undead seniors began preparing for the battle.

Yasenia closed her eyes as she felt the energy, and the [Celestial Energy Star] in her dantian spun.

Wu Rongyao and Wu Xiang Nu looked at Yasenia with carefulness. They didn't know how strong this junior was, but she was clearly the strongest, so they wouldn't lower their guards.

Since the beginning, both of them had used all their skills to summon a massive combined army of 2500 undead. Their auras and intents interlocked and affected everything. Soon, the combined armies' pressure was enough to suppress even average high-level Epoch Cores.

However, soon, Yasenia opened her eyes, and her auras surged like a tsunami of pressure.

BOOM!

Her surroundings quaked as the air around Yasenia trembled. Simultaneously, the sky darkened, and a galaxy of stars appeared, orbited by a large Sun and Moon.

As this was happening, Yasenia used [Scorched Sun Domain], a domain that created pillars of sunfire around her. Because she was fighting with Andrea, Yasenia used skills that synergized with her.

Then, when two seconds were left, the dragoness used her other buffing skills like [Celestial Cosmos Dress], [Waning Moon], [Cosmos Body Reinforcement], and more, increasing her overall power to a whole new dimension.

By the time the match was about to start, a suffocating storm of auras was swirling around the imposing and seductive dragons.

Both undeads looked at Yasenia with unprecedented seriousness. While her current strength was terrifying for someone at her level, it was manageable. However, they could see that Yasenia was not done yet.

Just as the judge shouted zero, the spinning [Celestial Energy Star] released Celestial Energy into her energy stream, and the preparations from the start combined into a skill that made her aura take another leap.

"[Celestial Dragon Body]!"

ROAR!

A deafening and resounding dragon cry followed the burst of her aura as the massive image of her dragon form briefly materialized and then dove into her own body.

As Yasenias swung her sword once, the air exploded from her raw strength, creating a massive forward gale. "Let's go. [Draconic Sun Charge]."

Andrea nodded. "[Solar Charge]."

They both stomped simultaneously and burst forward, rushing fearlessly toward the undead army.

Meanwhile, both undead looked at each other once and saw the astonishment in each other's gaze.

'We can't relax. This is far from being won.'

'Agreed. Focus on Andrea and try to weaken her. Once she is out of combat, we will focus all our efforts on Yasenias.'

Yasenias was the first to arrive and swung her sword horizontally while releasing a massive [Draconic Sunset] that created a wave of pure, explosive, Sun energy.

BOOM!

A large part of the frontal army that moved to block Yasenias's way was flung as if they were made out of straws. Then, Andrea overcame her and used [Warring Sun Battle Art: Molten Landscape].

She struck the ground and created a wave that swallowed everything before them. Yasenias followed up on her attack by looking left and opening her mouth. "[Sun Dragon Breath]."

A beam of pure Sun energy scorched the air and blasted the undead that were trying to sneak from there while Andrea turned right and stomped the ground, using [Molten Pillar] to block that part.

Hundreds of ghosts flew at them from the sky, but Yasenias was not fazed. After stopping Sun Dragon Breath, she swung her hand skyward, activating [Sun Dragon Claw].

The phantom of her claw, reaching more than 200 meters wide, collided and created another explosion that opened the sky above them.

Andrea and Yasenias moved forward without stopping for a second, their bodies going back and forth as skill after skill was released.

Their combination was seamless, and Yasenias's intents and auras guided them into a beautiful dance of slaughter.

"[Dance In The Firmament]."

"[Sun Obliterating War Dance]."

As one, their bodies accelerated further and almost became one as their sword and halberd slaughtered one undead after another.

Yasenia's tail was attacking behind her, constantly using [Draconic Sunrise] to stagger the undead who were trying to pincer attack them.

From the outside, it looked like a golden streak slicing through the army in complex yet beautiful patterns, slowly but surely closing the distance with one of the undead seniors.

Wu Rongyao cackled. "Impressive."

Yasenia's eyes were constantly moving as she suddenly exchanged a glance with Andrea, and they stopped. She pointed upward with her massive sword, and Yasenia's mellow and slightly deep voice echoed with imposing momentum.

"[Starfall]."

Then the sky fell. The stars, the moon, the sun, the galaxy, everything fell as if the day of judgment had arrived.

Chapter 816: Rampaging Through The Undead Army.

After Yasenia activated [Starfall], she also used her [Empyrean Galaxy Domain] to make the Sun and the Moon fall to different sides of the army. The galaxy of stars, filled with thousands of them, split apart into units and rained on everything.

The result was a devastating explosion that engulfed everything, including Yasenia and Andrea.

The two senior undead were shocked at the potency of the attack. While it hadn't decimated their entire army, it had reduced it by more than 70 percent.

Of the remaining 300 undead, some were heavily injured. Wu Rongyao frowned and communicated with Wu Xian Nu. 'They shouldn't have done this out of desperation. It's too early. Pay attention.'

Wu Xian Nu quickly communicated. 'Careful, they are going for you!'

Wu Rongyao caught the step later than Wu Xian Nu, and from the debris and dust, Andrea and Yasenia burst forth unscathed. Yasenia had warned Andrea about her attack, so Andrea prepared and created a defense to protect them from the shockwaves.

Right after it ended, both of them hid their presence as much as they could and managed to speed past the encirclement to appear by Wu Rongyao's side.

The senior undead was naturally not a pushover, so while Wu Xian Nu rushed to his aid, he prepared for melee combat after summoning a massive wall of skeletons. 'This should buy a few seconds-'

"[Celestial Dragon Breath]!"

BOOOM!

Wu Rongyao's senses screamed danger as he quickly deployed a defensive skill right before him. Right after, the beam that had weakened after piercing his wall of skeletons struck and blasted him flying.

The [Celestial Dragon Breath] enhanced by [Celestial Dragon Body] was highly destructive. It was enough to penetrate all layers of defense and damage Wu Rongyao's body in a non-negligible way.

That was not all.

Andrea didn't just look from the side. She took advantage of Yasenia's powerful attack and summoned her [Molten Sun], exploding it right after with [Sun Explosion].

Wu Xian Nu arrived right at that moment, waving her staff to summon a massive skeletal hand that rushed forward and grabbed the molten lake created by Andrea to retrieve Wu Rongyao from it.

Andrea and Yasenia didn't want to give them a second of rest, so both of them rushed toward them with the intention of finishing the fight.

Wu Xian Nu blocked their way with a few hastily summoned defensive measures, but Andrea and Yasenia blasted through them quickly.

The fight was extremely high-paced, but when they were about to arrive, Yasenia needed to stop and swung her sword sideways.

A giant undead holding a sword bigger than Yasenia's [Draconic Heart] was struck off by her, followed right after by a dozen more arrived. The dragoness clenched her muscles and grabbed her sword with two hands, doing several quick slashes that sent burning crescents their way.

Her attacks landed with sonorous explosions, creating extra wounds on the already injured creatures.

Seven steps were quickly executed with incredible fluidity, allowing the dragoness to summon [Ursa's Grasp] and increase her physical strength by an entire level. "ROAR!"

Her throat vibrated with her roar as her body was filled with powerful energy, and she shot in the direction Andrea had continued in their initial charge.

Meanwhile, Andrea, who had already increased her strength considerably with her skills, arrived in front of Wu Xian Nu and the recently rescued Wu Rongyao.

Wu Rongyao's state looked miserable, as a large part of his body was mangled. Still, Andrea didn't let her senses deceive her. For the Undead, the body was not as crucial as their soul. It was one of the few races that had eliminated many of the body's weaknesses while sacrificing their ability to reproduce as quickly.

Andrea lifted her arm as she arrived and used [Star Born Searing Flame Explosion], throwing a ball of concentrated Natural Treasure fire.

Wu Xian Nu sent a bone spear toward it, making the two of them collide.

BOOM!

An enormous explosion of bright red flames engulfed everything, taking Wu Xian Nu by surprise. She didn't expect such a small ball to have so much destructive power behind it.

Wu Rongyao, who had just recovered, lifted his staff and chanted, creating another defense. Wu Xian Nu quickly asked. 'How are you doing, Rongyao?'

Wu Rongyao chuckled. 'She got me good with that one. The attribute behind her attack is strange, and not only did it damage my body, but my soul did not come out unscathed. I'm actually worse than what I look.'

Wu Xian Nu's lips twitched. 'That's new. An attribute that works on the soul?'

Wu Rongyao warned. 'Be careful. Andrea is breaking through, and the dragoness has already gotten rid of the undead restricting her.'

Wu Xian Nu groaned. 'Already!? Can't she relax for a bit?'

Her empyrean voice answered her. "[Sun Dragon Roar]!"

ROOOAR!

A powerful golden wave spread around together with her powerful voice, and when it hit the undead, all of them went up into flames.

Wu Xian Nu and Wu Rongyao screamed in pain and quickly moved away by using escaping skills. "AHHH!"

Andrea's and Yasenia's eyes flashed and followed behind them. 'Soul attacks are this effective?'

To not lose the surprise, Yasenia ultimately forced her meridians and throat and roared again.

ROAR!

The second wave hit them, but this time, both senior undead managed to erect a soul barrier to block the roar.

Yasenia clicked her tongue. 'In the end, I was too slow. I've completely destroyed my vocal cords after Celestial Dragon Breath and these two dragon roars. I won't be able to use any for quite a while.'

Andrea nodded. 'Let's continue our aggression. The heat I've accumulated is close to the maximum I can absorb.'

Yasenia focused her domain, which had been doing work during the fight, and focused it around Andrea. Then, she quickly used [Draconic Sunrise] and [Draconic Sunset], increasing the heat around exponentially quicker. 'Darling, I need you to use that mode to buy me some time. [Celestial Dragon Body] is coming to an end.'

Andrea acknowledged and finally used [Sun Devourer]. The flames around rushed toward her, and her body burst into flames as her strength rapidly increased.

Yasenia quickly took her chance to deactivate Celestial Dragon Body and relax her meridians. Of course, while her strength decreased, it was still a notch above Andrea's strength before she used [Sun Devourer].

Andrea attacked the undead pair with a barrage of extremely powerful Sun attacks, and Yasenia supported from the side with her own. 'Darling, when you are halfway, tell me. We'll try to finish them off.'

'I got it.'

Meanwhile, Wu Rongyao and Wu Xian Nu were planning on how to create breathing room to resummon their undead. The numbers were already below 150, and more were falling by the second as they rushed to help them.

However, while Andrea was strong, she was not on the same level as Yasenia while using Celestial Skills. "[Corpse King Night]!"

A sphere of darkness descended and swallowed both Andrea and Yasenia. Taking this chance, Wu Rongyao said. "Resummon, quickly!"

But, our girls had managed to latch to their necks and refused to let go. "[CELESTIAL DRAGON CLAW]!"

BOOM!

A massive celestial blue claw pierced the sphere of darkness and ripped it to shreds. Then, it continued forward and fell on them, forcing them to stop their summoning and defend.

Wu Xian Nu gritted her teeth. "Persistent!"

Both women appeared and quickly charged at them. The following minutes became a game of cat and mouse, with our girls attacking them and making them retreat.

After around 4 minutes, Andrea's [Sun Devourer] state was coming to an end, so Yasenia and she went all out.

"[Internal Celestial Cosmos Ignition], [Empyrean Sun Collapse]."

"[Sun Obliteration Charge], [Solar Descent]!"

Two bright suns manifested in the arena, illuminating everything with their radiance.

The heat emitted from them as they streaked above the ground toward the two senior undead liquified the floor.

Yasenia lifted her sword, and Andrea prepared her halberd, and both of them shouted as they smashed down through the defenses set up by Wu Xian Nu and Wu Rongayo.

BOOOM!

A massive explosion of energy swallowed the entire place, consuming the remaining undead.

The spectators watched while holding their breath, waiting for the aftermath.

The second they could see what was happening, they saw Andrea's halberd barely being blocked by Wu Rongyao while Yasenia's sword was piercing Wu Xian Nu's stomach. However, because of his previous injuries, Wu Rongyao received a lot of damage from the energies emitted by their attacks, making him look quite horrible.

Seeing the state of his companion, Wu Rongyao sighed and spoke. "We Surrender."

The judge appeared and shouted. "Winner, Yasenia and Andrea!"

Andrea was exhilarated and turned to look, only to see Yasenia fall forward. She quickly deactivated all her skills and rushed at her, catching her mid-fall. "Love?"

Yasenia coughed and smiled, her voice still hoarse because of the Celestial Dragon Breath and the two Dragon Roars. "Sorry, that last skill took a toll on me. I'm okay now, darling. You can leave me on the ground."

Andrea looked down at the sexy and tired dragoness and smiled. "You are as light as a feather. Don't worry, dear."

Yasenia laughed and coiled her tail around her. "Liar."

Andrea smirked and carried the dragoness toward in front of the undead. Wu Rongyao and Wu Xian Nu smiled. "Well fought, juniors."

Yasenia shook her head. "We were lucky that you both were unaware of my strength. The next time we fight, we will most likely lose."

The two undead seniors didn't deny it. They didn't expect Yasenia to have such terrifying army-destroying capabilities. Even when she didn't focus on destroying the undead, her skills' shockwaves and side effects were constantly hurting her.

However, now that they knew, they could exploit this by summoning a small but elite group of undead. Moreover, they could join themselves from the start. With the help of their Level 5 intents, Yasenia and Andrea would probably be helpless, needing a streak of luck to win.

As they walked back, Andrea asked Yasenia with seriousness. "How tired are you, love?"

Yasenia lifted her head from the nook of her neck and blinked. "I'm tired, but not so much. I just went a bit too hard on that last attack. If they hadn't been defeated, I wouldn't have fallen. After all, my Celestial Skill was still ongoing. It was the loss of tension that made me momentarily dizzy. I'm perfectly fine, other than being exhausted."

Andrea nodded and smiled. "That's a relief."

Yasenia looked at her with an amused expression. "And what if it wasn't? Are you telling me to go easier and lose?"

Andrea smirked. "What if I do?"

Yasenia stuck out her tongue. "I won't do it~. I want to fight with my all~."

Andrea burst into laughter, not expecting that reaction. "You are sometimes adorable, my love."

Yasenia grinned, hugging her neck tightly and burying her face in it. Andrea liked this position a lot because Yasenia's soft thighs wrapped around her arm while her large breasts rested on her body. Moreover, her upper arm had to go around and grab the outer one's side for better support. It was an intimate and lovely position. Not to mention, the loving tail that coiled around her body and squeezed her here and there was a delightful sensation.

Chapter 817: Cecile and Kali's struggle.

The following fight was registered as Kali and Cecile. After all, fight participants needed to be registered first.

Cecile and Kali looked at each other and saw in their eyes that they had no chance.

Individually, Kali and Cecile were no match for their opponents. Despite their strong synergy, it was clear that their combined strength was not enough to bridge the gap against two Level 5 Intent bearers as Yasenia did while wielding her Celestial Skills with ease.

Things would be different if they were at the same level, but you must remember that not only were these two more skillful, but the undead were similar to a powerful Level 6 Dantian Spiritualization Realm cultivator.

Their chances of winning without using Valeria were null. However, this didn't discourage them. Fighting a battle that you know is lost is often foolish, but in the current situation, not fighting it would be a shame.

The other side had only shown friendly vibes, so worrying about what might happen was not something they needed to do now. What they needed to do instead was fight, fight, and try their best.

Once they arrived, the judge appeared and presented both sides, starting the countdown right after.

Cecile and Kali looked at the two opponents, their eyes moving toward the waist of the two undeads. Seeing the swords hanging there radiating Death energy, they couldn't help but become wary.

Kali didn't dare hold back a single bit and used all her summoning skills, including her innate skill.

Around 900 creatures appeared around her in an impressive spectacle of strength. Her auras similarly unfolded, creating a world of flowers that surrounded everything.

Unlike other times, most flowers were white and blue in nature. The reason was Kali's slight tweaking to the skills to create ice-resistant flowers. Flowers in cold environments usually had that variety of colors for survival reasons and much more.

As soon as the flower field was unleashed, Cecile's auras also spread out, covering the place in a blizzard and a torrent of ashes. While you would think this impeded Kali's actions, they didn't affect her as much as they did to the opponents.

The plant creatures had other senses, which allowed them to see through the ash domain that was not aiming at them. Domains were mostly indiscriminate skills, but the cultivator had quite a lot of control over them. That's why they were used without fear during wars, as damaging allies with them was actually exceptionally unusual.

When the countdown dropped to zero, all the plant creatures rushed forward while the two undead recreated Yaseia's and Andrea's scene.

With extreme precision, their swords flashed one after another, creating flashes of light as plant creatures were sliced into pieces.

Cecile rained several powerful arrows toward them in hopes of slowing them down. However, they didn't do as much as she wanted.

Still, her attacks were not something that could be ignored, especially after Cecile used all her strength-increase skills and threw a barrage of what one would call meteors rather than arrows.

Powerful blasts spread while Kali and Cecile communicated and interlocked their auras. This time, Kali decided to step forward rather than be in the background, just buffing her army.

Against powerful single-target cultivators, an army could do two things. It either overran them, or it was not a big enough threat. In this situation, her summons were not strong enough or had enough lethality to pose a significant threat. Only the summons that she personally buffed with her single-target skills could somewhat resist the sword strikes.

When Kali mixed with the army and started using her skills, several large roots, stronger than the ones that had been summoned until now, started attacking. Not only that, her flower field gained an added thorn field while wooden walls were erected in the way of some of their attacks.

This slowed down their advance toward her, but rushing forward meant that she was closer. So, Even then, they were not able to breach the defenses of the two Undead. Some attacks landed on them by luck, but the damage they did was not significant enough, making the Phoenix and Fox look at them while pondering.

One of the undead cackled. "Not bad, not bad! Continue! Attack more! I'm just starting to have fun!"

The other said coldly. "Focus. We need to finish quickly, or they might be able to surprise us like they did to Senior Brother and Junior Sister."

The first undead clicked his tongue. "Sure. Let's up our attack a notch, then."

Accompanied by dreadful winds, their aura surged and became sharper and deadlier. Their swords glowed with black death energy, and then, as they swung the weapons, trails of energy were left behind.

The second another plant was cut, a large part of their body was rotted away, giving a clear example of what happened when their attacks landed successfully.

Cecile frowned and used [Astral shift] aggressively, appearing at tricky angles while attacking with her most powerful skills. Her high mobility was used to the limits as her bow continuously tensed, sending a barrage of arrows per second that would look like a laser for a mortal looking.

This proved to be somewhat effective, as the two attacking Undead restrained themselves as they switched to a defensive battle.

Still, Cecile looked at the plant army that had been sliced in more than half in no more than 5 minutes with a large frown. 'At this pace, we will lose quickly.'

Kali who had been struggling to keep herself safe asked. 'Any ideas?'

Cecile's lips arched in a wry smile. 'How about using Valeria?'

Kali laughed. 'If you have enough energy to joke around, you are not pumping arrows fast enough!'

Cecile wanted to roll her eyes as she sent 20 consecutive arrows that curved through the air to aim for their feet, hands, and head.

The undead she aimed at moved, his quick reflexes kicking in. With a flash of his sword and ten quick slashes, the 20 arrows got deflected with incredible efficiency. He used the power behind the arrows to sometimes bounce his strike and hit other arrows in an incredible display of swordsmanship.

Cecile couldn't help but admire. 'Strong.'

The fight continued, and Cecile decided to transform into her phoenix form at the same time as Kali turned into her fox form.

Their bodies changed, and they became gargantuan creatures.

QYA~!

ROAR!

Now, in their beast forms, their strength increases exponentially. Although it was riskier because of their size, the reason Cecile avoided becoming a Phoenix in her one-against-one duel was the lack of support.

With the plant army, Cecile thought that it should be possible to take this form and attack.

She was right.

With both of them taking their beast forms and the remaining plant army holding the two swordsmen back, a rain of white fire and countless roots and wooden projectiles were thrown at them.

The fight quickly changed directions. The Phoenix circling above and the fox attacking from the ground combined into a powerful combo that become effective even on these high-level Undead.

The one with the cold voice spoke. "We need to close the distance. I'll cover you, don't miss."

The other undead nodded.

While attacks rained on them, the undead's eyes moved around as his spiritual sense covered everything. Every attack, every movement, every skill, and every breath appeared in his mind as the world slowed down.

Kali, who had a close link with life, felt a chill, and her muscles tensed.

The undead's sword glowed as his body exploded in an eruption of energy. "[Corpse King Death Slash]."

A black line appeared, crossing the army and rushing toward Kali's fox body. However, having felt it coming, the giant fox jumped sideways and avoided it. "That was close-Huh!?"

Kali quickly wrapped her body in wooden armor, increasing her resilience as much as she could in the small time frame she felt she had.

Then, the other undead that had rushed through the void created by that slash appeared by Kali's side "[Corpse King Slaughter Strike]."

BOOM!

The giant fox's body was blown away several hundred meters until she collided with the side of the arena. Because of her size, she tipped over and fell on the other side of the wall.

Cecile's face became solemn. Seeing a fox as large as Kali flying was quite an impacting sight. Her keen eyesight caught the undead that attacked Kali, quickly moving toward her, and she dove down.

However, she realized too late that the undead's lips had arched the moment she descended to help Kali. A whisper entered Cecile's ears. "Gotcha."

The other undead appeared right above her, making Cecile's eyes quiver once. "When?"

BANG!

The enormous phoenix was slammed downward, and the Undead that hit Kali appeared by Cecile's side, his sword touching the feathers on her neck.

Cecile's giant phoenix eyes looked at the petite creature, and she spoke while munching her words. "We lost."

The other undead landed by Cecile's head side and showed a slight smile. "Well fought. I think you should've transformed earlier. The domains and auras got stronger in your beast forms."

Cecile slowly stood up with the help of her wings, the large cut on her back quickly regenerating. "I agree."

The Undead who hit Kali laughed. "A woman of few words."

They all heard a few heavy steps and saw Kali slowly approaching, still in her fox form. On her side, there was a large cut that was similarly healing. "Well fought, seniors."

The two nodded and spoke a bit more with the two giant beasts. They were kind enough to let them know what they found challenging and what they found easy to deal with.

Cecile and Kali gained a few insights, and they both bowed their heads in respect. "Thank you for the guidance, seniors."

After acknowledging their thanks, they turned around and left.

Cecile looked at the fox, and Kali smiled. "Well. This makes it 1-4, right?"

Cecile nodded, her beak moving up and down. "We lost."

Kali approached and used her head to rub on her feathers. "Don't be so sad. We made it to the top 64. That's really good."

"Hm. I agree. If we found them earlier, we would've lost."

Kali blinked. "Actually, we might've not. Yasenia wanted to gain a respectable place, even if the top positions weren't in her sight. So, Eira and Valeria would've probably participated."

Cecile blinked. "Fair point."

Kali smirked. "So, don't worry. First, let's heal these wounds before we turn back into our human forms. Then, we need to prepare for what's about to come."

Cecile blinked. "Meaning?"

Kali snorted. "What Yasenia has been doing in the background. Haven't you noticed that she has been building up everything?"

Cecile laughed. "Have you forgotten what I am to Yasenia?"

Kali paused and laughed. "Right."

Chapter 818: Conversation with demons. Spectating Soluna.

Yasenia welcomed her two giant dears by transforming into her dragon form and opening her wings. The phoenix and fox quickly walked forward and were surrounded by Yasenia's large wings.

"How was the fight, loves?"

Yasenia's ethereally beautiful voice reached the two injured beasts, making them feel relaxed and protected. Kali smiled and lifted her fox face to look at Yasenia's draconic one. "It was difficult. The feeling of not being able to do much was quite prevalent during the entire fight, so I don't know. It was an interesting experience, that much I can say."

The dragoness leaned down, rubbing her face with Kali's. "Your fur is so soft, Honey~."

Kali chuckled. "Your scales are also nice and smooth~."

Then, the dragon looked at Cecile and also approached her face, snuggling with the beautiful silvery bird between her wings. "How about you, Sweetheart?"

Cecile pondered for a while and looked at her with a frown. "I want to become stronger."

Yasenia laughed. "Then, when we return, you need to break through."

Cecile nodded. "I got a few hints. I'm sure I'm prepared to break through."

Andrea landed on Yasenia's nose with a smile. "Well, girls. We need to go."

The three giant beasts looked sideways and saw the judge pointing upward, telling them to leave the arena. While it had some self-recovery skills, the judges cleaned everything afterward.

Valeria approached Kali and Cecile. "Come here, Kali, Cecile. I'll heal you."

The giant three-tailed foxes and Moon Phoenix stepped out of Yasenia's embrace and presented their wounds to Valeria.

Energy flowed out of Valeria's body and transformed into two streams of vital energy, gently surrounding the wounds and accelerating their regeneration drastically while also expelling the Death Energy leftovers from the attack.

About five seconds later, they were perfectly healed, with their fur and feathers having regrown.

Cecile extended her giant wings a few times and flapped them to feel her back. "Hm. Perfect."

Kali also stretched, twisting her body, and smiled. "Thank you, Valeria."

Without delaying it anymore, as they were starting to get an increasingly growling look from the judge, all of them flew upward. Eira muttered. "Young Miss, while I understand your objective, why didn't you let me participate more often? We could've practiced five against five."

Yasenia pondered. "Hm Five against five was something we should've definitely tried. We could have you pin down one enemy while we fought the rest." Then, she shrugged. "But, while interesting, it was not something that we needed to do. The thing that interested me the most was the one against one."

Eira guessed. "It is best for Andrea, Cecile, and Kali to understand their strength and completely stabilize their foundation."

Yasenia nodded. "That was the intention since the very beginning. And for large group battles, we had that one on the first floor of the first part. So, I'm satisfied."

Yasenia and the others landed on the platform, receiving admiring gazes from people around, especially the sect members. By now, it was not a secret that Yasenia, while she was a sect master,

was also a junior. Hence, when other powers heard that she was participating, they never took her into account.

People just believed that she wouldn't be able to reach far, most thinking that even overcoming the first part of the summit would be out of her reach.

Still, time and time again, Yasenia proved them wrong. Did Eira help? She did. Her presence was essential. However, for someone at their level, Yasenia's achievements were nothing but miraculous. Something that had never happened in the history of the World Summit competition.

The sect members were extremely excited as well.

"Sect master is so cool!"

"They actually reached the top 64! That's insane. Hasn't the Sect Master yet to break through into the Epoch Core realm?"

"Not only that, but the rest of Sect Master's lovers are also below Epoch Core. The only one at that level is that maid-wearing woman."

"Can you imagine her strength once she reaches those heights?"

A person from another power at the side heard them and snorted. "That is if she can reach. Heaven is not gentle with too talented people."

Many frowned and turned to look. When they saw the colorful-skinned beings with many fleshy wings on their back, many that had wanted to get back at them didn't do so.

Demons, Divines, and other "alien" races had already made a name for themselves by smashing the opposition. All six groups, Soluna included, were in the top 32.

Dyrathos, the demon leader, sneered. "In the end, you are just that. Top 64 is a good position for you."

Yasenia looked at him, and her lips arched. "I would've loved to see where you would've placed if you had participated at the Count Demon Realm instead of the Duke Demon Real."

Dyrathos lifted an eyebrow. "When someone dies, they don't look at 'What they could've been' but 'what they were.' So, if you die because of lack of cultivation, it's not unfair, you just weren't strong enough to face those who you provoked."

Yasenia nodded. "You are right. When creatures die, the legacy is what they were, not what they could've been. Remember that, Dyrathos."

Dyrathos frowned. "What do you mean by those words?"

The dragoness shrugged. "You guess. I just vomited what you told me while agreeing."

Dyrathos' frown deepened. "Are you mocking me!?"

Yasenia almost laughed, but she kept a straight face. "I am agreeing with you right now. Is there anything wrong with that? Or can't enemies agree on some viewpoints?"

Dyrathos wanted to speak again, but the Death-attributed demon, Kyril stopped him. "Dyrathos, we've talked about this. If you let her get to your nerves so easily, you are not fit to be the leader."

Dyrathos took a deep breath and turned around. "Whatever, she won't be laughing for long."

Kyрил sighed and looked at Yaseña. "Why do you hate our race so much?"

Yaseña lifted her eyebrow. "How about the fact that your seniors are currently trying to invade my home world?"

Kyрил snorted. "Aren't you trying to invade this world as well? If we hadn't arrived, you would've probably swallowed the entire continent."

Yaseña smiled. "But I'm not raping, killing, and destroying everything in my way as I do so."

Kyрил mocked. "Sophistry. Your end goal is not different from ours. Take this world for yourself and monopolize their resources."

Yaseña shook her head. "While I wouldn't mind discussing with you for a while, my group is leaving soon."

Kyрил laughed coldly. "If you are afraid, go ahead. You have no way of retorting to my words, so you are fleeing."

Yaseña cupped her fist and spoke with an exaggeratedly fake tone. "Oh no~. You've discovered me~. What should I do~? Right, I'll flee! Goodbye~!"

Then, she turned toward the others and ordered in her usual tone. "We are leaving."

"Yes, sect master!"

Tengliu approached. "Yaseña, you are leaving already?"

Yaseña nodded. "Yes. We've lost, so there is nothing else to see here, right?"

Tengliu laughed. "Has anybody else left?"

Yaseña looked around and realized. "Hm? Why are people here still?"

Tengliu explained. "The summit is an event that doesn't happen often. Moreover, it is also a place where future leaders fight." Yaseña tilted her head.

Tengliu walked toward her with a smirk. "Did you think the mid-level Epoch Cores sent by the powers are random? They are the strongest middle-level Epoch Cores of each power." Tengliu added. "But that's not all. Most of these have a lot of power inside their sects."

Tengliu turned and called a harpy from her group. "For example, of my people, she is the most talented and probably the harpy that will succeed me."

The black-feathered harpy bent her back gently, her curvaceous body moving attractively with her motions. "Hello, Sect Master Yaseña. This is our first time meeting. My name is Mei Ziran, one of the elders working below Lady Tengliu."

Yaseña bowed back, highlighting her voluminous chest that attracted gazes as if it had gravitational powers. "A pleasure to meet you, Mei Ziran. I'm Yaseña, the Sect Master of the Astral Sky Sect."

Mei Ziran stole a look at Yaseña's chest with a twitch on her lips. 'Big.'

Yaseña looked back into the purple eyes of the white-feathered harpy. "Hm. I understand now. So, we should wait and see everything Speaking of which, Mei Ziran, how do you see yourself against Demons and similar? Who do you fear the most?"

The black-feathered harpy thought deeply and spoke. "That Sun and Moon woman."

Yasenia blinked. "Soluna?"

The black-feathered harpy nodded solemnly. "While the others are strong, I can see myself fighting back. However, that woman is terrifying."

Yasenia looked down, and her eyes scanned the area for Soluna. As a single participant, Soluna participated in all battles by herself. While it usually wasn't allowed, that was when there were four or more people in the group.

Groups with three people could send a participant twice in the two-versus-two matches. Then, all participants were allowed to participate as they pleased in groups of two or one person.

Many niche rules clarified odd situations, which didn't affect Yasenia, as she was participating with a five-person group.

After a few moments, Yasenia finally found Soluna's arena. 'Oh, she is in her third one-versus-one match.'

She knew because of the 2-0 score in Soluna's favor.

Her opponents were actually one of the Nine Sects, the Nine Devil Puppet Sect. They were a faction allied with the Continental Shadows, one of the main parties.

Meanwhile, Soluna stood in the middle of the arena, her face as cold as the Moon's surface while her aura was blazing like a solar inferno.

Standing there, she looked as if the Goddesses of the Moon and Sun had decided to descend and take over her body.

When her opponent jumped from the stands, Yasenia could clearly see that other than tension, there was a hint of fear radiating from his gestures. 'Is Soluna this oppressive?'

The judge appeared and shouted. "Soluna against Mo Yu! The match will start in 10 9"

The countdown began, and Yasenia saw the puppet master summon 12 beings made of different "parts" that were clearly from but not limited to humanoid creatures.

Then, spiritual threads latched on the puppets as the puppet master strengthened all of them enough to make each of them release a terrifying aura. Yasenia's face was solemn as she looked. 'That looks strong. Without Celestial Skills, I would've only around a thirty percent chance of winning... Hm That's not too accurate, though.' Guessing your winning chances was complicated.

However, Yasenia wasn't looking because of that, she was looking because she wanted to see Soluna in action.

Finally, the countdown reached zero, and both sides moved.

The 12 puppets rushed forward and circled Soluna. To Yasenia's surprise, Soluna ignored the puppets and rushed toward the cultivator.

Naturally, this triggered a trap set up by the puppet cultivator. He had seen his previous two companions get stomped by this being, so he had planned some countermeasures. "[12 Devil Puppet Circle Of Imprisonment]!"

A profound ripple of energy spread from all the puppets and the puppet master, creating an interwoven layer of energy that soon transformed into a solid wall, blocking Soluna's escape.

However, Soluna continued forward without any care and waved one hand. "[Sunbeam]."

Then, the arena was swallowed by light, as if a Sun had appeared in there, followed by a terrifying explosion.

Chapter 819: Soluna's Overwhelming Strength. [End Of Book 13]

"[Sunbeam]."

Soluna's attack was extremely fast to be unleashed. As soon as Soluna's gesture was done, the arena was swallowed by light, as if a Sun had descended, followed by a terrifying explosion.

The wall containing Soluna was obliterated into pieces, and the puppets that created it received heavy backlash, making their bodies crack in many places.

Yet, there was no respite for the puppets, no time to heal or recover, for Soluna was already hurtling towards their summoner like a comet, leaving in her wake a shimmering trail of silver and gold.

The puppet master's face was solemn, his heart speeding up as the Sun and Moon Empyrean spirit rushed forward with a cold and indifferent face. Feeling a threat, he hastily recalled all his puppets toward himself by spatial techniques, making them disappear and appear between Soluna and his body.

Soluna waved her other hand.

"[Moonbeam]."

WHOOM!

A silvery soft light with a terrifyingly low and reverberating sound rushed out from her, changing the landscape into a frozen hell.

One second, the surroundings were normal, in the following one, everything was frozen.

On the other side of the attack, the 12 puppets were quick to react, controlled by their master, and they used powerful skills one after another to fight off the attack.

Their weapons released deep and powerful energy that would effortlessly level a mountain.

BOOM!

An enormous collision occurred, and half of the puppets got blasted backward, flying by their summoner's side as their bodies hit the wall far behind him.

The rest withstood the attack, preparing to counterattack.

However, Soluna was already in front of them, and their bodies covered in frost greatly impeded their mobility. This was detrimental and forced them to go on the defensive again.

Soluna approached them, and instead of using a skill, she punched them.

Nothing fancy.

Nothing spectacular.

Soluna just threw a standard punch with relatively weak strength behind it.

The spectators who were looking for the first time were confused. The two previous attacks were enough to level mountain ranges, yet the current punch would have trouble dealing enough damage to a mountain to look significant.

The puppet she aimed at first was quick to react. While they were puppets, they had some degree of self-agency because of the cultivator's relatively high level. So, with surgical precision, the puppet used its spear and thrust forward toward Soluna's hand, intending to cripple her arm.

Then, Soluna's skin touched the tip of the spear.

Light.

Blinding light erupted everywhere.

The light released by [Sunbeam] was nothing but a firefly before the Sun compared to the current events.

When the spectators that were blinded looked over again, there was nothing in the arena.

Not only that but there was an enormous crater in the middle of the arena, where Soluna stood leisurely, her face as indifferent as it had been when the battle started.

Still, the cultivators with sharp eyes found out that Soluna's fist had disappeared.

Yasenia pondered. 'Has the harsh contact with the spear caused a reaction between the barely stable Sun and Moon energies, resulting in a pure conversion from mass to energy?' Yasenia then paused and thought of the first time she extended her hand to touch Soluna's head.

At that time, Soluna was looking at her with a strange face. Only now did Yasenia realize that it was pity. The dragoness's erupted in cold sweat. 'My constitution saved me from certain death. With her current strength, not even Mom could've saved me from such a close distance.'

Yasenia was not that knowledgeable about Valeria's and Mirrory's limits so that she couldn't say for sure. However, the fact that she almost died unknowingly was a fact.

In the arena, a person appeared and shouted. "Soluna, disqualified!"

Everyone blinked in surprise. Soluna looked over and frowned. "Why?"

The person who appeared looked at Soluna with a face that was clearly holding back anger. "Your attack killed the judge. You are disqualified."

Soluna paused and snorted. "That's his fault for being too close to the battle. It's not like they are there to intervene. They are just an announcer for the battle's start and for the winner."

The person who appeared snarled. "The rules are clear; even unintentional killing of the judge will disqualify you."

Soluna barked a laugh, her lips arching with derision. "Nonsensical rule. If someone places a mortal as a judge and they die, should I also lower my head and accept my defeat? If they were stronger, they wouldn't have died."

That person who appeared floating above Soluna shouted. "As if there is a single creature in this world that can resist that attack!? You were clearly malicious!"

Soluna looked at him, and her body flickered, appearing only a palm away from him. The memory of what happened now crossed the man's mind, and he released a muted scream as he rushed backward in fear. "WHAT ARE YOU DOING!? BACK OFF, MONSTER!"

Soluna looked at him with pure and unadulterated contempt, her voice sounding like two people speaking at once, reaching far and wide. "Pathetic creature. Where are your guts now, huh? Since I'm disqualified either way, how about I kill you too?"

Soluna made a faint of rushing forward, and the man turned around and ran at his maximum speed.

After he left, Soluna looked around and asked. "Now, can the organizer come and speak? Or will you send another gutless creature with airs of grandeur?"

Lornerat appeared in the arena, looking at Soluna with a cold expression. "We clarified this rule since the beginning. There is nothing to talk about."

Soluna looked at him and squinted. "Are you really ok with disqualifying one of the strongest participants because of a clearly unintentional death?"

Lornerat said again. "That's the rules."

Soluna turned around, her golden and silvery hair shining beautifully. "What an asinine decision. It seems that Body Cultivators think with the heart instead of the brain. Such a beautifully complex organ you fleshy beings have, and it is completely wasted in you."

Then, she rushed upward toward Yaseia's platform.

Lornerat's face became black at the sudden insult. However, he couldn't do anything. So, he could only glare at Soluna's back as she left.

Then, he announced. "Winner, Nine Devil Puppet Sect!"

Meanwhile, above the arenas, Soluna rushed toward Yaseia and made a pouting face. "Yaseia, they bullied me!"

Yaseia's eyebrow twitched. 'I think it was you who bullied not only them but even their ancestors. You killed one of their people, and they almost had to apologize for it.'

Cecile, at the side, made a slight sound, failing to hold back her laughter.

The dragoness coughed and coaxed the Empyrean Spirit in her arms. "There, there. While I agree that you shouldn't be disqualified, as it was clearly the judge's fault, the rules are the rules, and as the organizer, they also have responsibilities."

Soluna snorted, making Yaseia and the rest laugh. The dragoness looked at her for a few seconds, making Soluna's face lit with some flames as she blushed. "W-What's wrong?"

Yaseia smirked. "You are really strong."

Soluna smiled bashfully. "Hehe, not as strong as you~."

Yaseia blinked and thought about it. 'Well, I do have an advantage in that I don't trigger her body's special response. However, is that good or bad?' While she pondered, she felt Soluna using her good hand to stealthily poke here and there around her body, making her blink. 'What is she doing?'

Meanwhile, Soluna was enchanted. 'So soft Wow, my finger sinks, but it pops out because of the nice elasticity of her skin Are all fleshy beings like her?'

Yasenia ignored the curious spirit and looked at the arenas. "Well, now, we just wait. Alaia, how is the situation back at home?"

Alaia commented. "We've received a message from Ghana telling us that everything is under control. There were a few attempts at breaking through the defensive formations of Astral Sky City and the Astral Sky Sect, but they all ended in failure. The miscommunications you were worried about happened because one of our message relay stations got compromised. However, Ghana has already retaken it. We are having small-scale battles on many fronts while the newly acquired sect in the ocean is already paying off."

Yasenia felt relaxed. "So, they haven't started attacking us yet. They are proving our response time and a few other things"

Alaia agreed. "That seems to be the case."

Yasenia asked if there was a detailed report, and Alaia took out one. Giving it a read, Yasenia lifted her eyebrow. "Ghana is doing exceptionally well."

Alaia nodded. "It was worth it in the long run not getting rid of her when she didn't show total loyalty back then."

Yasenia tilted her head. "You mean our first encounter with Tengliu?"

Alaia smiled. "I heard that you became quite angered."

Yasenia rolled her eyes and then said. "Speaking of which, I'm getting very close to finally being as strong or stronger than her."

Cecile said. "Finally."

The dragoness laughed. "Why, still resentful?"

Cecile nodded. "At least, I want some closure to feel relaxed in my mind. While I agree that she has been a great help and that things would've been much more complicated without her, I still think that some sort of punishment is due."

Yasenia agreed that it needed some sort of closure, as leaving it slip by felt a bit wrong. "Well, that's for the future. Let's focus on the present, though. What are our immediate plans?"

The girls pondered. Yasenia often asked them questions like these to train their thoughts and not allow them just to follow whatever she said. Yasenia didn't want them to be people who just nodded at her suggestions and followed like little tails. She wanted them to be able to think with her and reach conclusions.

Andrea commented. "We need to make sure our outside shops are secure, or at least, limit their activity."

Kali added. "We also need to change our information relay points. If one is compromised, others might be too."

Angel blinked. "We need to sort out the capable formation masters to move around in defended groups. They are the backbone of a defensive battle."

Evelyn suggested. "How about mobilizing that assassin squad you've been growing? Since we are starting a war state and we've managed to secure a top 64 in the summit, we can start killing with much less restraint."

Yasenia smiled, satisfied. "We'll implement all the ideas you've suggested. They are all really good. I just need to touch on a few details."

Evelyn looked at Cecile and smirked. "Why didn't you suggest anything?"

Cecile blinked. "I did."

Evelyn was confused. "How-Oh!" Then, she laughed after the realization sank in. "Typical of our quiet but not so quiet Phoenix~."

Cecile tilted her head. "Wanna hear it?"

Evelyn was curious, so she nodded. Cecile said. "We need to train combat-ready people with the formations Angel took from the Secret Realm."

Evelyn remembered. "Oh! The ones Angel copied before she went to meet with Yasenia? Those all ended up being formations to recreate the monoliths we found in Lost Town, right?"

Cecile nodded. "Moreover, with the books Angel bought there about formation making, she can recreate them to a point. Although, they don't feel nearly as realistic as the ones in Lost Town."

Angel pouted. "Those were made by someone stronger than Mommy Tatyana!"

Tatyana didn't deny it and laughed. "Well, that's probably true."

As they spoke about plans, etc, placing a sound-blocking formation around them, time went by, and the tournament finally came to an end.

Chapter 820: Rewards and Top 10 of the World Summit.

After the week of combat passed, the final results were finally out. Everyone more or less knew the positions as most stayed to see, and if you looked around, you couldn't see many happy faces. Some even wore scowls.

Angel sat on Yasenia's lap as they waited and chuckled. "It is indeed surprising."

Kali's fox tails moved slowly and she smiled back. "The continent's reaction will be interesting. Oh, he is here."

Soluna who was sitting alone at the side, to not affect anyone with her special constitution, snorted. "Stupid."

Evelyn grinned. "Still upset at the disqualification."

Soluna nodded. "Yes"

While they spoke, Lornerat appeared, flashing his usual handsome smile, and announced to everyone. "The summit is finally done. There have been as many tragedies as there have been joys. Everyone fought their hardest, and everyone gave their all. And our current positions are the results!"

One person from a low-level ground shouted. "Are you willing to leave the positions as they are?"

Lornerat looked down at the person who spoke and snorted. "As I said many times, I'll just follow the rules as they are, no exceptions. While I'm also surprised by the results, I won't do anything about it."

Lornerat looked around, regaining her refreshing and handsome look. "Those who don't know must be curious, right? While usually, we would announce the top 16 starting from the sixteenth, I'll make an exception this year so that everyone is on the same page. Let's start from the top!"

Lornerat spread his wings, gaining an imposing look, and said loudly. "Creatures of Distancia, the summits' results are the following! There are plenty of changes from last year while a lot of upsets happened. Let's start by showing the winners!"

Most powers looked on with frowns and growls after they saw who was the final winner. Those who didn't know gained a stunned look, while others were incredulous.

"The winner this year of the World Summit is the [Aquafia Human City Sect]!"

Lornerat was smiling, but inside he was still feeling incredulous. 'Humans won, huh?' He had been the judge for the last matches, so he knew full well how strong they were. While he didn't like humans, he couldn't deny that they'd righteously won by their own strength. 'There was that one woman called Tang Xian who completely dominated her matches with her strange powers.'

Lornerat recalled her ways and got a chill going up his spine.

Meanwhile, the leader of the human group, An Meiling, looked around at the gazes she was receiving and smiled coldly. "What, dissatisfied? Fight us."

"You disgusting human should go die in a corner!"

"That's right, your race is evil and doesn't have a place in Distancia!"

"You spawn of aberrations. How could you not be developed enough not to be able to show your beast traits."

"That's right, our hero fought to kill you all. Why are you trying to break our peace by interrupting a sacred tournament!?"

Many of such screams rained on them like droplets of water would.

However, the humans remained nonchalant. An Meiling, especially, looked around with a cold and analytical gaze as if she was calculating and seeing through many plans at once.

Ou Junwei, the other leader of the group, said. "Should we leave, junior sister?"

An Meiling nodded. "Sure. Let's go. There is no need to stay here anymore Hm."

The group saw her pause for a second, her gaze going through the groups of people and landing somewhere only An Meiling could see because of her position.

On the other side of her gaze, a pair of beautiful golden draconic eyes met with hers. An Meiling's gaze deepened as she saw Yasenía looking their way calmly while hugging a petite, blonde, human girl sitting on her lap. 'It seems that the Astral Sky Clan is a bit different from what Tang Xian told me. I'll need to investigate.'

Because Tang Xian insisted that Yasenía was the vilest creature ever to exist, An Meiling knew that those two had a story. Still, she decided to take Tang Xian's side without looking much into it

because Tang Xian was one of the few humans with relatively powerful strength in this entirely forsaken place.

During her stay, she went around to see the human situation more deeply, and to say that she wasn't amused was an understatement.

But against all odds, the place where she thought she would be the worst human discrimination, the cities controlled by the Astral Sky sect, were not only quite welcoming; An Meiling had even seen people enforcing laws to protect humans.

It was the truth that the laws were still somewhat biased, and a similar situation to this one outside Distancia would be considered quite horrendous. However, for Distancia Humans? What Yasenía built was nothing but a paradise on earth.

Plus, after asking around, she had also come to know that there was a very large group of humans inside the sect itself and that everyone from that group was considered the chosen ones, as the happiness felt by liberation was nothing but a dream-like scenario for them.

Plus, An Meiling had clearly realized that some of Yasenía's lovers were human, very strong ones at that. Moreover, the deep feelings of love and trust that had been shown were almost impossible to fake. 'There might be a deeper story between that crazy woman and the dragon. Perhaps I can have a chat with her.'

Yasenía saw An Meiling looking at her meaningfully and blinked. 'What's wrong? Does she want to tell me anything?'

"The rewards as the first place will be a peak-level Heaven-ranked material, 30% of the shares of the largest Parus Mine near their power, a spot reserved in the Nine Sects if they want to take it, a spot reserved as one of the Three Empires if they want to take it, a spot reserved as the highest in the Thirty-Three clans if they want it ownership of 20,000,000 square kilometers around their main headquarters, the ability to participate in any secret realm without being impeded, a mid-level Heaven-Ranked Formation Core with a Defensive formation already written, ten years of a non-attack agreement from all individuals, and a one-time use to buy any product in any auction."

An Meiling nodded, finding the rewards attractive. 'It was good that I paused to listen to them, while hearing them later wouldn't be that bad, knowing earlier will help us plan.'

What she needed the most was "legitimacy" and time. Having ownership of the land already gave her an edge to work with, while the ten years were enough to set up some defenses at least.

With that ownership and protection won before the entire world, there was no one who could tell them to move or attack them in a righteous way. If they did, they would be disrespecting the World Summit's validity.

Moreover, as the lords, if they wanted to tax the living beings around them, it was possible. Sadly, the place Tang Xian chose as a headquarters was not close to any people as it was in the middle of a desert, and she had used it for hiding. 'I hope we can swallow ten or twenty towns at least. We can fill them with humans; in around 500 years, our population should be able to skyrocket to a few billion as long as we can keep the land mostly safe.'

Lornerat didn't linger on them much and continued the announcements. "In the second place, we have the [Divine Salvation Sect]! They fought hard, almost cornering the winners to their demise. However, they were not strong enough and eventually lost 4-3."

Selioranis smiled and looked at An Meiling's group retreating back. "We would've won if you didn't use that demonic skill."

An Meiling didn't even pause her steps. "Bad luck, I guess."

Selioranis, the Divine with blue and white feathered wings, felt the corner of his eye twitch. Auriel looked at him and smiled. "Does it matter, senior brother? We could be considered the winners, as no matter how much land and resources they have, many sects will probably attack them after that 10-year protection is gone. What can they do in ten years? There are, being generous with my guess, 20 powerful humans in Distancia. They are doomed."

Selioranis paused and found logic in her words. "Even then, leaving a weakened enemy to recover even a little is not a wise decision."

Auriel shrugged. "While I agree, there is really nothing we can do. If we break the World Summit rules, the allies we've made could probably stop supporting us."

Selioranis nodded. "I guess that's true."

Lornerat commented. "The rewards as the second place will be a high-level Heaven-ranked material, 15% of the shares of the largest Parus Mine near their power, a spot reserved in the Nine Sects if they want to take it, a spot reserved as one of the Three Empires if they want to take it, a spot reserved as the highest in the Thirty-Three clans unless the first place took it if they want it, ownership of 10,000,000 square kilometers around their main headquarters, the ability to participate in any secret realm without being impeded, a mid-level Heaven-Ranked Formation Core with a Defensive formation already written, five years of a non-attack agreement from all individuals, and a one-time use to buy any product in any auction."

Wyrin, the female Divine who led the participating group to almost victory, commented in an upset tone. "That's much less than them! We are in the second place!"

Selioranis smiled and patted her head. "Don't be upset. It is more than enough. Moreover, that Nine Sect title will come in handy."

Lornerat didn't stop there and continued with his announcements. "On the third place, the [Hellura Demon Sect] stands proud!"

His words sparked conversation while the Demons snorted. One of them sneered. "Those divines were lucky that our pairing was completely against our favor. If our succubus weren't paired with Wyrin and was instead paired with a male Divine, we would've won."

Kyril stopped them. "We got third, that's enough. Moreover, our rewards are not that much worse. It seems that first place gets the biggest slice, but second, third, and so on have similar rewards."

Lornerat then began speaking at a quicker cadence.

"On the fourth place, the [Ocean Swallowing Mermaids]"

"On the Fifth place, the [Corpse King Ghost Sect]"

"On the Sixth place, the [Tinaror Beast Kingdom]"

"On the Seventh place, the [Holy Beast Empire]"

"On the Eighth place, the [Ocean Chasm Empire]"

"On the Ninth place, the [Jade Thunderbirds]"

"On the Tenth place, the [Nine Golden Body Sect]"

The announcements moved one by one until the 16th.

After that, Lornorat presented them as groups. Everyone in the top 32 would receive a certain reward, those in the top 64 would as well receive the same reward, etc.

Our girls, who had reached the top 64, received the following. "For the top 64, the powers will receive the right to claim a Parus mine as theirs, 100 kg of peak-level Earth Rank materials of choice, the rightful ownership of the lands they surround, and a reward of 100,000 Flawless Parus."

Yasenia heard it and shrugged. "Not bad."