

## Heaven 831

Chapter 831: Back in the Astral Sky Sect.

Yasenia arrived at the sect's entrance and saw all the girls, spirits, and maids who were going to return with her already waiting. Alaia was also there to say goodbye to all the maids who were not leaving. Alaia took a step forward and bowed respectfully. "Young Miss, have a safe trip."

Yasenia chuckled. "Well, with the flying boat, we'll have no problems reaching safely." Yasenia poked Alaia's forehead and smiled. "Remember to tell me when you are going to return so that I can send someone with the boat to pick everyone up."

Alaia shook her head, her voice firm. "I prefer if we return by ourselves, Young Miss." Then, Alaia added while looking into Yasenia's eyes with a secret glint. "I want to prove our strength and independence."

Yasenia blinked, confused for a moment. "Prove what? You don't need to..." Then, she realized. "Oh!"

Yasenia laughed and said with interest in her golden eyes. "Then, go on and prove yourselves, Alaia."

Internally, though, Yasenia asked. 'Do you want to see if you get ambushed?'

Alaia nodded with a slight smile. "Thank you, Young Miss. We will not disappoint you."

Still, Alaia mentally added, 'We can do another deeper clean-up if that happens. So, don't worry about transport. I want to use ourselves as bait.'

Yasenia gave Alaia a hug and said sincerely. "Be careful."

Alaia chuckled and hugged her back. "Of course. We've just started properly serving you, Young Miss. None of us has the intention of perishing so soon."

Yasenia nodded and walked toward the open area before the sect. It was in the Abyss that she had fought the previous Sect Master, which made Yasenia recall that fight. 'It was dangerous. Also, I didn't expect him to be so cautious as to retreat at the slightest sign of inconvenience.'

The dragoness waved her hand as she remembered those memories, energy gathering in front of her and connecting with the spatial ring's inner space. Then, with a small spatial warp, the enormous ship manifested in front of her. Because it didn't have the anti-water defenses on, it was inundated quickly, but it was not a problem at all.

Yasenia connected her consciousness with it and boarded on the deck. The rest followed behind her, and soon everybody was on board. Just to be sure, Yasenia checked again if they'd left anyone behind. 'Everyone is here. Perfect. Let's go.'

The shields around the warship activated, and a bubble pushed all the water away from the insides of the structure. After just one second, the area around the boat was completely filled with air, and everyone inside had been dried by the formations.

Yasenia used the coordinates to lock onto the Astral Sky Sect and activated the warship at it's maximum speed. Yasenia smirked. "Let's go."

BOOM!

The people watching blinked and saw a void where the flying boat had previously stood. They followed the void and saw an open path the boat had left behind, which was quickly closed as the water collapsed.

The tremendous pressure of the deep ocean water created an effect similar to a cavitation bubble, unleashing a chain explosion that echoed like a firecracker but many times more powerful and leaving a trail of bubbles that slowly floated upward.

"What kind of transportation method does Sect Master have!?"

"That's honestly ridiculous. I actually blinked at the wrong timing and couldn't see what happened."

"Don't worry. I had my eyes wide open the whole time, and I still couldn't see what happened. I just saw the boat flicker, and then, puff, it was gone. I'm a high-level Unification Realm expert and couldn't even see its shadow!"

Alaia clapped once, using her profound cultivation, spreading a soundwave that echoed in the beings of everyone present. "Enough. Return to what you were doing first, and then you can gossip as you want. However, remember to complete your tasks if you have any first."

Everyone obeyed, knowing that the yellow- and azure-scaled dragon woman was a peak-level being. While the cultivation of most maids was still a mystery, Alaia was the head maid and thus representative of the group.

After the summit, Alaia stopped bothering to hide her cultivation realm, allowing everyone to feel her strength at a superficial level. The way people looked at Yasenia after publicly revealing herself was one of horror. After all, Eira's performance had been terrifying, and yet Eira was a Level Six Dantian Spiritualization Realm.

People could only imagine what kind of absolute monster Alaia was.

Meanwhile, Yasenia's group sliced through the skies, moving at a ridiculous speed. Angel looked around and asked. "When are we arriving?"

Yasenia didn't answer for three seconds, making Angel look up with doubt. Then, the dragoness smiled. "Now."

Angel blinked, and the boat came to an abrupt stop. The cute blonde girl approached the railing and looked down, her eyes widening. "Wow, that's our sect!"

Yasenia turned around and spoke. "Let's go through the entrance. We've had an excellent run in the summit for the group we sent, so doing a bit of morale-uplifting will be possible."

The dragoness floated upward, and the rest followed behind her.

Meanwhile, the guards saw a group suddenly appear on a floating ship above the sect and got scared. "Are we being attacked!? Senior, we have to-" Slap! "Guaha!"

A man slapped the back of his head, forcing a strange sound out of his mouth. "What attack!? That's the Sect Master's boat! Go to inform Lady Ghana!"

The sound of flapping wings was heard above them, and when they looked up, they saw a naked, brown-feathered harpy landing softly. "No need to call me. I'm here."

Nobody dared to look at her lustfully. For the last months, Ghana had led the entire Astral Sky Sect by herself. While she didn't do anything groundbreaking, everything continued working as before, making it appear as if their Sect Master had never left.

This surprised many people because, although their Sect Master was very young, her capabilities were ridiculous. Everyone had already stopped treating Yasenias as a junior, and her every word and decision was taken extremely seriously.

Ghana looked up, her eyes shining with admiration toward the descending dragoness. This experience allowed her to deeply feel what Yasenias took care of every day with relative ease.

The workload, deep plans, careful thinking, and accurate predictions in all the documents written by Yasenias were incredibly detailed, to the point that Ghana felt lacking compared to her.

If Yasenias was already someone like this at around 50 to 60 years old, she didn't want to imagine what heights she would reach when adding one or two zeroes to that age.

Behind Ghana, there were hundreds of beings, all administrators and high-level elders, who took care of some core matters while the main group was away.

They all held their breath as the goddess-like woman descended from the sky as if she was leaving the heavens to live with mortals. Her beauty, temperament, aura, and strength were all profound and combined into her natural charisma and presence.

As she slowly descended, her beautiful blue dress and long black hair trailed behind her like a cloud, giving her an immortal and unsullied vibe, even when her body was nothing but the manifestation of the carnal sin of lust.

When Yasenias's feet touched the ground, they all bowed at once, shouting loud and clear.

"Welcome back, Sect Master! We congratulate you on managing to score in the top 64!"

Yasenias looked up, her draconic golden eyes examining them one by one. "I've received and read all the reports." Yasenias's lips thinly rose up. "Well done. You've all managed to bear the weight of a newly established sect that has spread its arms all around. And yet, you didn't falter and could even make progress in our situation."

Yasenias slowly walked forward, traversing the path left in the middle by all the people who had come to welcome her. Her hips sashayed seductively at the rhythm of the gentle swishing of her extensive and thick dragon tail. "While there are many things left to polish, it is above what I expected. As such, I'll give some of you a promotion, allowing you to continue in your current positions. Also, there will be a bonus of 10% in your pay for the next year."

They all spoke again at once. "Thank you, Sect Master!"

Yasenias nodded, and as soon as she passed them, she said. "Get up and follow me. There is a war incoming and too much work to do. I'll organize the rewards the following month and send them to your quarters when they are ready. If they are not there by the end of the month, go to the treasury manager and speak with them."

Ghana hastened her steps a bit and passed a document she had brought with her. "Sect Master, we've discovered these places thanks to the assassin group's growth in mastery. Also, our production is increasing day by day, making us almost self-sufficient without the aid of your family's products.

We still lack a bit, though. The Astral Sky Merchant group is doing its best to spread our products around the continent. Yet there has been a lot of interference everywhere."

Yasenia commented. "I guess that other than our usual enemies, the local powers weren't happy when the popular Astral Sky Sect set up a shop in their places. Am I wrong?"

Ghana smiled with admiration and shook her head. "No, you've hit the nail right on the head. That's the most pressing matter. However, we are already quite saturated, so I didn't take any action and decided to wait and play on the defensive until you returned."

Yasenia looked at her and asked with a smirk. "And if I didn't return?"

Ghana paused, looking at Yasenia with a confused expression. "Why would that happen?"

Yasenia shrugged as she walked across the Astral Sect's Streets. The disciples all around looked at her with admiration, infatuation, and adoration. She expected it after her performance at the summit, so she didn't pay much attention.

"Why wouldn't it happen?" Yasenia answered. "Accidents are really easy to occur in a cultivation society. Everyone is after everyone's heads, so losing it when you least expect it is a common occurrence."

Ghana coughed. "Sorry, Sect Master. It never occurred to me that Sect Master never returned, and hence, I didn't make any plans for that situation."

Yasenia nodded. "Good enough. Speaking honestly is best. Don't worry. I also never expected it, but I was confirming if you did so." Yasenia continued. "How are the preparations for that?"

Ghana tilted her head until she remembered. "Oh! I've already set up everything. You just need to tell me the day, and we'll close it for your family to break through comfortably and safely. We'll also return most cultivators from the outside, just in case we need protection."

Yasenia shook her head. "No need to call back anyone. It's not like they will be able to help if anything happens. Just make sure that during those days, there is an emergency area for people that really need to break through."

Ghana nodded. "Understood."

Chapter 832: Arriving Home. Kaleina's strangeness.

Yasenia proceeded to walk across the entire sect with the rest, parading while being welcomed by the sect members. There was conversation everywhere about her achievements, but Yasenia never stopped once during this, also giving a cold yet authoritarian aura.

It took her around 5 hours to do so at a moderate pace. On the way, she spoke with Ghana about many matters but never went into details. Ghana asked, "What are your plans, Sect Master?"

Yasenia started. "I will go to the office and-."

Tatyana snorted. "No, you won't."

Yasenia blinked twice, turning to look at Tatyana. "Eh?"

Tatyana lifted an eyebrow. "You haven't heard me?"

Yasenia coughed. "I heard, I heard. But... why?"

Tatyana linked arms with her, dragging her away toward their residence. "You just arrived here, and you want to disappear another month doing who knows what? I didn't support you making this sect to have your time stolen away from me by it! Let the maids do all the work; that's why I summoned them in the first place!"

Yasenia's lips twitched. "But-."

Tatyana gave her a side eye, making her words get stuck in her throat. "I allowed you to do as you pleased until after the summit because it was a learning time. From now on, it's just rinse and repeat, plus a few war strategies. You are plenty good at them for your age. At age 60, I was..." Tatyana paused and frowned. "What was I doing at that time? Killing people? No..." Tatyana dismissed it. "Anyway, I wasn't doing all of this!"

Yasenia didn't know whether to laugh or cry. "Okay, okay. I'll spend time with you and the other girls."

Tatyana nodded. "That's right. Doriel!"

Doriel approached and bowed slightly. "Yes, Lady Tatyana?"

Tatyana waved her hand and commented. "Clean up the small troubles and sort all the information to give to my little treasure later. If there is a major decision that needs Yasenia's approval, come to our house and ask for it. Also, speed up the human assimilation plan and refine it. With the new human sect, we have a competition where there wasn't previously any."

Tatyana added. "Also, expect those juniors to come for a talk. While they are helping that crazy child, Tang Xian, they are doing so because they don't have any other option. The Divines and Demons are the people you need to be careful of the otherworlders. The rest are harmless, and honestly, quite stu..." Tatyana looked at the spirits and coughed. "Sturdy and not worth the hassle. They are not even our enemies."

Embera looked at Tatyana speechlessly. 'She was about to say stupid, didn't she?'

Doriel asked. "What about the Undead? They looked competent..." Doriel looked at Tatyana and coughed. "Ah. Nevermind. With Lady Tatyana here, they are nothing."

A military advisor who had been listening asked. "Why not? The news we've received-."

Tatyana waved her hand and her Death Energy spread around like a tide of darkness. From the ground, tens of thousands of undead rose while moaning a cacophony of desperate howls. Tatyana looked at that person, her red eyes glowing slightly. "They are no problem. Before me, any Undead is nothing but a subject."

Her tone sounded regal and chilling, giving everyone a single warning. "I'm called the Death Empress not as a decoration but because all undead weaker than me are nothing but my subjects. Even those stronger have to be careful."

At some point, the man Tatyana was speaking to had subconsciously fallen to his knee. 'W-What? When? How? Why did I-?'

"Answer."

Tatyana's voice, carrying her [Empress Intent Level 9], hit him like a hammer, and out of pure pressure, she forced him to answer. "Understood, Your Majesty."

Tatyana waved her hand again, dispelling everything and sending the undead back while returning freedom to that man. "It's good. However, this is the first and only time I'm saying this, so make it known." Tatyana looked away and spat. "I hate repeating myself."

The rest didn't dare speak. They weren't expecting to be suddenly surrounded by thousands of undead by a gesture of a hand. Tatyana looked at Doriel, and Doriel nodded. "We will follow your orders, Lady Tatyana. Have a nice evening with Young Miss."

Then, the thirty-seven maids that returned with them started moving as one while Tatyana leisurely pulled a dumbfounded Yasenias toward their home. "It's that easy?"

Tatyana saw her expression and smiled. "Little treasure. You are fantastic at leading, but there is a very big flaw that you've yet to fix completely." Yasenias listened attentively. "You still try to do everything by yourself. In short, you are too controlling."

Yasenias opened her mouth, wanting to say how she had been relegating a lot of work to other people, including Andrea, Angel, and the others, but she didn't speak in the end. Tatyana looked up at her and chuckled. "You are doing much better now, love. And this process is slow and gradual. I'm just pointing it out. So, go slowly. Learning how to rule is a matter of hundreds and thousands of years of experience."

Tatyana commented. "To be honest with you, there have been many times I just wanted to step forward without holding anything back and deal with every problem in Distancia myself. However, I haven't done so yet for one reason only. I was seeing betterment in your attitude toward work relegation as your trust in your subordinates increased."

Yasenias asked. "What changed?"

Tatyana snorted. "I'm pregnant, and I was practically ignored for one week! I was left alone for longer during the event, but that was inevitable. However, what happened this week is unacceptable!"

Yasenias's face became guilt-ridden. "I'm sorry, Tatyana. It seems I really lost focus for a few days after the summit."

Tatyana pouted. "I'm not satisfied with just that."

Seeing the usually composed Death Empress pouting was a direct hit to Yasenias's heart. Yasenias lifted her up in a princess hug and carried her toward their house while the rest followed behind and laughed.

Once they arrived at their home, Yasenias saw plenty of reports accumulated in her personal office with her spiritual sense, but Tatyana grabbed her hand and led her to the sofa in their living room. It wasn't really necessary, as Yasenias was already not going to go there. "Relax for a moment. Let Doriel and the others do these things."

Yasenias laughed. "Are you that afraid that I will go?"

Tatyana clicked her tongue. "Evil paperwork. You can't free yourself from it even when you reach my level. It's wicked, really."

Yasenias rolled her eyes as she sat on the large sofa, Tatyana and Cecile flanking her, while Flame and Kaleina sat by her legs' sides on the comfortable and warm rug.

Yasenia asked, curious. "Are you usually this laid-back during wartime, Mom?"

Tatyana rolled her eyes gently. "As if doing things one or two days prior can change anything."

The dragoness blinked. "It can't?"

Tatyana smirked. "It can."

Kali, who had just taken a sip of tea, coughed and choked on the beverage. Yasenia looked at the Death Empress with her eyebrow twitching. "Then...?"

Tatyana commented. "You aren't in a dire situation. Is there any reason to be so rushed?" Tatyana took the drink she asked a maid to do and took an elegant sip. "These kinds of wars take several years to unfold and get a winner. Is there a point in rushing things? If you create a plan, they will create a counterplan, and you'll have to plan around it later. Of course, they will also create a counterplan to that, and things snowball until you are playing tag with each other."

The girls got thoughtful and understood where Tatyana wanted to go. After all, these lessons weren't just for Yasenia. The others also participated in many things, getting increasingly more responsibilities.

She extended her arms and placed them around Tatyana's and Cecile's waists. Her hand on Tatyana's navel rubbed it in circles, trying to feel the slightest bump, but to no avail. "Tsk, ts. The little one is taking their sweet time."

Tatyana clearly saw the disappointed expression and almost laughed. "So impatient~. Hahaha."

The dragoness snorted. "It's my... second child. Of course, I'll be impatient."

Evelyn laughed while caressing Kaleina's body. "I can imagine how she will flutter around like a nervous bee when we are all in term. This time, if it weren't for the summit, she would've probably not separated from her."

The other girls easily imagined and laughed as well, making Yasenia's pout grow.

Andrea spoke. "By the way, love."

The dragoness looked over, and Andrea smiled. "Prepare the tribulation area. I will tackle the fifth tribulation in one and a half weeks."

Yasenia's eyebrows jumped in surprise. "So soon?"

Andrea nodded. "My battle with the undead and the previous ones gave me a few ideas, so I'm ready as long as I gather enough energy to break through."

Yasenia nodded thoughtfully. "Sure, I'll do so. Are you confident, darling?"

Andrea nodded. "I think I've prepared the best I can. Now, I need just to do it."

Yasenia laughed. "That's a very good way to put it." It was about time to get dinner, so Yasenia gave each of them the sandwich that she had prepared.

The girls looked at it and smiled hungrily because it smelled delicious. Angel commented. "It looks so nice~."

Kali agreed. "Very juicy and thick. Honestly, I'm having trouble thinking where and how to bite it."

Evelyn, with her face full of grease and a large chunk missing from it, blinked, speaking with her mouth half-full. "Troublfe wif wha?"

Kali's lips twitched. "Trouble not becoming someone like you right now."

Evelyn rolled her eyes. "We are between family. Is there such a need for modesty?"

Kali sighed. "Well, I agree..." Evelyn nodded, but Kali continued with a smirk. "With what Andrea told me, there is no saving you."

Andrea, who just took a bite, blinked, not expecting to be thrown under the bus. She wanted to speak, but her mouth was full. Evelyn looked at her with playful scorn. "Ho~ ho~, miss, do you have any problems with me? Do you want to taste some of this!"

Andrea swallowed and spoke with a raised eyebrow. "Taste what? Are you tempting me?"

Evelyn coughed and looked sideways, her dirty mind going a round trip who knows where.

Angel asked while coming to her side and plopping her butt on Yasenia's lap. "What meat is this? It's so flavorful!"

Yasenia laughed. "Fu Lang Zu."

The girls paused for a second, looking between Yasenia and the meat.

Yasenia blinked and asked. "Is there something wrong?"

Evelyn said, speechless. "You've managed to cook that piece of shit so deliciously? Are you sure you haven't entered the Transcendence realm of Spiritual Cooking?"

Andrea, who just took another bite, almost choked with laughter. As they were talking, they couldn't help but notice the loud and voracious munching coming from Yasenia's side.

Looking over, they saw Kaleina devouring the food with glittering eyes. It was much more vicious than usual as she ripped the food to shreds, making some food fly around.

Yasenia looked and her face went from a smile to confused to severe. "Hurry up and clear this place!"

Chapter 833: Kaleina enters the Evolved Core Realm.

After she warned them, Yasenia quickly dashed forward and carried Kaleina to the garden. She couldn't help but smile wryly. 'Must always something happen when we are relaxing? Well, it's not like I didn't expect it at all.'

She was quick enough with the placement change that Kaleina didn't even sense being moved to the garden. As soon as she placed her down, Yasenia retreated with the rest, leaving Kaleina in the middle of the garden alone with what remained of the sandwich and three more in case she wanted more. 'If they get destroyed by the tribulation, it doesn't matter.'

Andrea asked, curious. "Were you expecting something like this?"

Yasenia shook her head as she looked up at the slowly gathering light grey clouds. "No. But it's also not surprising."

Andrea nodded. "You were quick to react, to be honest. I failed to sense anything until you said so."



The other girls agreed with Andrea. Cecile and then Evelyn, who was playing with her, were the only ones who reacted as soon as Yaseenia. Cecile commented, "Hm The tribulation feels off. It's a bit stronger than it should be."

Yaseenia looked at Kaleina as she devoured the final piece of meat and then felt a pulse of energy coming from her. More than feel, though, it felt more like the absence of energy. Yaseenia lifted her eyebrow. "Void Energy?"

Void Energy was contradictory for people who didn't have it because it was an energy that made the other energies "disappear." While, in truth, Void Energy just sent everything it touched "outside" of space and into the [Void].

Therefore, void energy's sensation was a lack of feeling and deprivation of sense.

During all these years of care on Yaseenia's and the rest's part, Kaleina and Flame both reached the peak of the first realm, Flame for Body Cultivation and Kaleina for Beast Cultivation.

Flame was stuck there for a few more years until her body fully matured, but Kaleina was not as such.

Beasts could break through as long as their core developed enough and they had absorbed enough energy. That's why some beasts with powerful bloodlines were born with cultivation they had developed while being gestated.

Our dragoness was filled with a mix of uncertainty and excitement, unsure of when and how she would break through but confident that it was imminent. She had a hunch that it wouldn't take more than three years. 'Fu Lang Zu's meat seems to be much more potent than I anticipated. But the reaction is quite intense; what could be the reason for that?'

Yaseenia observed that Kaleina was entirely focused on herself, ignoring everything else. 'Hm, it seems that the extra meat was- Oh, never mind.'

Kaleina's nose twitched, and she began munching on another sandwich, gaining extra energy that could be seen going through her body as streaks of light. She was satiated after eating another one, leaving the other two there.

Then, Kaleina, with her body full of energy, began stretching and looking upward to the sky. Her golden eyes glowed as her purple-gold body crackled with energy. Then, a powerful bloodline pressure spread around the place as Kaleina opened her mouth and, for the first time, roared like a real dragon.

"ROAR!"

The powerful sound coming from the bottom of her throat was smooth yet imposing. Thanks to her Void attribute, it reverberated with the body in a unique way. It was very different from Yaseenia's deep and overpowering dragon cry.

When Yaseenia roared, you would feel small and want to cower in fear and awe as the sound seemed to weigh on your body and soul.

When Kaleina roared, your mind would go blank as the body sensations felt faint for a fraction of a second before returning to normal.

Right after her roar, the light grey clouds lit up, and a bolt of thin lightning dropped in the blink of an eye.

BANG!

Kaleina's serpentine body stiffened as electricity crackled through it. Her face twisted in pain as some of her scales cracked.

Yasneia's face changed, and she asked, "Why was it so quick?"

Tatyana pondered and looked up at the tribulation clouds. Her spiritual sense extended toward them, enveloping them in an enormous net where she could observe at will. "Hm It seems that there aren't just three bolts; there are five."

Three was the standard number for creatures entering the second realm. Having almost double was quite rare. The dragoness was honestly confused.

Mirrory appeared, floating about like always, and looked up as well. "That little one is not only breaking through, it seems."

Tatyana nodded. "I agree, but do you know what is happening?"

Mirrory pondered as she observed the clouds charging and shooting the second bolt of lightning.

BANG!

Her eyes followed it and observed the changes happening inside Kaleina. The pain she was experiencing was far beyond what the lightning should've done, and Mirrory had a few ideas in her head. "I think I know, but I'm not one hundred percent sure. Do you want to hear either way?"

Yasenia nodded. "It's better than looking while not knowing anything. She is far more injured than she should be because she can't really defend herself with the Heavenly Lightning's speed."

Mirrory commented. "Well, I think that hatchling is trying to transform."

Angel blinked and asked, confused. "Transform into what?"

Yasenia muttered, her voice incredulous. "She is humanizing when she is just in the second realm? Are you sure?"

The girls were stunned when they heard Yasenia looking at the little dragon struggling with a profound gaze. Humanizing was usually done much later because of maturity problems. However, the fact that Kaleina could do so already gave away how special her bloodline was.

If the bloodline was powerful enough, there would never be a need to reach such a stage to humanize. For our girls, Kaleina gaining that ability in just the second realm was nothing but something miraculous.

Mirrory commented. "It's no wonder you couldn't hatch her previously. She comes probably from a high-level world, perhaps even higher. Your bloodline level before your awakening was just not enough."

Yasenia had already guessed it, but having it confirmed was another thing. As she saw the third lightning bolt about to drop, she asked. "How are Kaleina's chances?"

Tatyana hugged her arm. "Don't worry. If the second tribulation could kill her, that bloodline of hers would honestly be wasted. Oh, look."

Yasenia looked over and saw Kaleina looking up with defiant eyes. Her golden eyes shone with determination and strength, and just before the lightning bolt descended, a wave of Void Energy surrounded her body, making it flicker.

BANG!

The lightning bolt landed either way. However, the girls could clearly see that the damage it did was much less than even the first one. Kaleina looked up and roared. "ROAR!"

Evelyn smiled. "She is very similar to you, Yasenia."

Yasenia's lips arched proudly. "Of course, she is my daughter, after all."

RUMBLE!

The clouds shook, and the fourth bolt fell while Kaleina did the same trick. The impact was much more potent than before, creating more injuries across Kaleina's serpentine body.

However, even when she was aching and burning everywhere, Kaleina kept her face straight, clenching her jaw as her claws sank into the soft dirt. "COME!"

RUMBLE!

The fifth and last bolt fell with double the strength of the previous one, striking Kaleina into the ground from the sheer strength behind it and creating a small explosion.

Yasenia wanted to rush forward, but Tatyana grabbed her hand, stopping her. The dragoness was so focused on Kaleina's well-being that she almost threw the hand away. However, before that, she remembered who it was and stopped herself. "What's wrong? Why are you stopping me?"

Tatyana smirked. "Wait a moment, she is going to transform, so she needs focus. You can go right after she does so."

Yasenia struggled, her body fidgeting. Still, she didn't rush forward.

The girls could clearly see what was happening in the small crater created by the lightning bolt and saw Kaleina's body growing in size. Her body lengthened and thickened, becoming much more dragon-like. Her purple scales with golden patterns were clearly reflected, while a beautiful mane that changed from purple to golden slowly grew.

Her body, now around 6 meters long, was already too big for Yasenia to carry around without Kaleina dragging on the floor. Moreover, because she was a dragon and not a snake, she was much thicker and had the same proportions, looking powerful and elegant.

The girls noticed Kaleina's energy rotating inside her while spreading around thinly. As more and more energy was released from the core, Kaleina's body began strangely shifting and becoming translucent. It was as if she was changing between a ghostly form with white glitter inside and her usual look.

Then, her body began to shrink. It was a very gradual process.

You could see the energy moving and carefully changing her. Her scales slowly blended with her skin, her mane gradually separated except around her head, and her draconic face changed as it gained increasingly clear human-like features.

The first transformation was always the slowest one.

Yasenia didn't sit during the entire event; she was standing attentively while watching Kaleina gain an increasingly noticeable human form.

As with most beasts, all her draconic traits disappeared, making her purely human-looking. Her shape was clearly that of a child, looking around eight years old.

Yasenia quickly rushed forward and used her arms to pick up the small girl carefully. Her movements as she did so were slow and gentle, holding her as if making a bit too much strength would break her. "Baby, are you awake?"

Kaleina's eyelids trembled, and she slowly opened her big and round eyes, revealing a pair of charming golden slit eyes identical to Yasenia's.

Seeing that image, the girls couldn't help but pause. If they didn't know the child's true origins, looking blankly at Yasenia, they would've really thought that she was her biological daughter.

Kaleina's body was, well, that of a child, while her hair was purple like her scales. Still, it wasn't wholly purple. It had golden highlights that gave it a beautiful mix of colors. Her round face was adorable, and her beautiful straight eyebrows and long eyelashes made her so pretty that those looking were tempted to pinch her.

Kaleina looked around, confused, and then her eyes remained fixed on Yasenia's smiling, soft golden eyes as if entranced. Her heart felt full of satisfaction as the love coming from her mother filled her. "Mommy?"

Kaleina saw her mother's smile widen gently as she softly spoke to her. The soothing voice calmed her body, while the familiar beating heart made her entire body soft and completely reliant on her. "I'm here, my baby. How are you feeling?"

Chapter 834: The Spirits' Concern.

The girls around looked at the precious little girl in Yasenia's arms and almost squealed. Angel said with a little shout. "She is so cute!"

Evelyn instantly agreed. "Adorable, to be honest. Her face is just like that of a little doll. Also, have you seen her eyes?"

Kali laughed. "Identical to Yasenia's."

Andrea joked. "Did Yasenia place that egg and lied to us, setting up the whole auction event?"

Evelyn burst into laughter. "Frankly, if she had done that, the admiration I would feel for the dedication to go so far would make anything else irrelevant."

Cecile lifted her eyebrow. "You are not sincere."

Evelyn rolled her eyes. "it's a way to put it, Cecile. No need to say what I would truly feel."

Cecile laughed.

Meanwhile, Kaleina was exploring her new body while being cradled in Yaseenia's arms.

First, she lifted one hand, looking at her cute and plump little fingers. Curious, she wriggled them, making several strange movements. Kaleina looked up at Yaseenia and laughed. "They look so different from my claws~. So soft and... Hm... flexible? Hahaha."

"Human hands are quite useful, love." Yaseenia used her tail and left arm to cradle her. Her right hand went behind Kaleina's, making Kaleina exclaim at the size difference. "My hands are so tiny compared to yours, Mommy!"

The dragoness chuckled, and while supporting Kaleina's hand with hers, she guided her and spoke. "They are not that different from your claws, but when you use them, they are much more flexible. Look."

Yaseenia summoned a thin and short metal rod and began spinning it between her fingers. Kaleina saw Yaseenia perfectly manipulating her human fingers with ridiculous speed and precision to make her fingers spin the rod with wide eyes.

Yaseenia smiled. "See? Try to remember how I'm moving this thing; I'll let you go in a few seconds."

Kaleina's eyes glittered, and she nodded. "Okay!"

Yaseenia stopped helping her, and instantaneously, the metal rod flew off Kaleina's fingers. "Ah-!"

With Yaseenia's reflexes, she quickly caught the flying object before it could leave her arm's reach, bringing it back with a laugh. Kaleina blinked and said with awe. "Mommy, you are so quick!" Then, she pouted, making an extremely adorable face. "I couldn't do it."

The dragoness gave her a little peck because she looked too cute and spoke. "It's normal, love. Don't worry about not being able to use them properly. We'll have training in everything, including hand control when we learn martial arts for your human form."

Kaleina nodded and heard steps from her left, making her turn her head toward the sound. She saw Flame approaching with a mixed expression. Kaleina waved one hand excitedly. "Flame! Look, look! Now we are very similar!"

Yaseenia saw that Flame didn't know how to react to the sudden change, looking between herself and Kaleina, so Yaseenia encouraged her. "Flame, you are Kaleina's big sister in using a human body, so you need to teach her well."

Flame's confusion disappeared, and realization dawned on her. She put on a serious expression and nodded. "I will, Aunty Yaseenia."

The dragoness smiled and beckoned her, hugging her into her arms by Kaleina's side when she was close enough.

Flame blushed as the dragoness's arms buried her in softness and a pleasant and relaxing scent. She couldn't help but smile happily. 'Aunty Yaseenia's hug is so nice~.'

The dragoness slowly stood up, using her arms and tail to lift the not-so-small Flame and little Kaleina.

Soluna approached, blinking curiously. "So, that's how a beast gains their human form?"

Yaseenia looked at her and asked. "You hadn't seen any in the past?"

Soluna shook her head. "I haven't. I've been in the spirit world since they discovered me. I never really went out other than this time. Because they needed a low-level but powerful spirit, I was chosen for the first time~."

Yasenia briefly freed one of her hands to pat her hair and asked. "Are you glad you came here?"

Soluna smiled brightly. "Yes!"

Yasenia laughed and continued walking back to the house while looking at Kaleina. Kaleina looked at Yasenia and blinked her round eyes. "What's wrong, Mommy?"

Yasenia's smile softened. "Nothing, love. I'm just admiring my pretty daughter."

Kaleina giggled and kissed Yasenia's cheek with a loud sound. "I love you, Mommy!"

The dragoness happily walked back with the rest. Evelyn looked at the naked Kaleina and waved her hand. "Here, some clothes for the little darling."

Yasenia lifted an eyebrow in surprise. "When did you do this? These are mid-level Earth Ranked!"

Kaleina looked at the pink silk dress with glittering eyes. It was similar to a robe, with a wide belt to tie at the waist. While the dress was pink, the edges were white. Kaleina exclaimed. "So pretty! I really like them, Mama Evelyn!"

Evelyn smiled and snapped her fingers. The robe undid itself into fine threads and gently surrounded Kaleina's body. Kaleina and Flame looked at it with awe as it rebuilt itself around her without Yasenia needing to place her down.

After a few seconds, Kaleina was now fully dressed in a beautiful pink dress, looking cuter than ever. Andrea was nearby and couldn't help it, so she patted her head. "You look adorable, Kaleina."

Kaleina grinned widely, showing her sharp fangs. "Thank you, Mama Andrea!"

The family went inside and sat again in the living room. The expansive windows let plenty of natural light in and gave them a perfect view.

Embera and the rest of the spirits were also here, sitting with them. The furniture didn't have any problems as it was sturdy and durable. Most of it was peak-level Earth Ranked, while quite a few were in the Heaven Ranked.

This was something that almost gave a heart attack to the leaders of the other factions. Heaven-ranked furniture was really not on their checklist of things to expect inside a house. That didn't mean they didn't have any, but it was a punctual thing done mostly to show lavishness, not a real option for furnishing the house.

Embera asked. "Yasenia, I'm curious. What are your plans for us? While we have agreed to follow you for now instead of creating our own power, we don't want to be your tools."

Soluna looked at Embera with a frown, and Embera raised one hand. "Let me speak, princess."

Soluna considered and nodded. "Go ahead." While Soluna liked Yasenia a lot, that didn't mean she would defend her regardless of who was speaking.

Yasenia smiled as well. "Speak openly. I rather hate word plays between allies, so just be frank in what you want to ask."

Embera nodded. "Our strength is for all to see. We are a group that could, quite honestly, face against the groups sent by the Divines and Demons combined and somewhat tie, if not win. This is not an opinion but more of an objective thought after I've seen their performances."

Yasenia didn't deny it. Spirits were honestly a race that not even Demons and Divines dared antagonize easily. They were on par with many strong dragon races, and with their special bodies and almost unending energy, they were a force to be reckoned with.

Soluna showed it by bulldozing her way through the ranks alone at just the first Level of the fifth realm, also called the Spirit Core Harmony Realm.

Embera continued. "So, while we will help you because Soluna decided to side with you, we have no intention of becoming a spear that you can point at somebody and launch at will."

Soluna heard Embera and found it reasonable, so she looked at Yasenia and waited for her answer.

Yasenia reassured them. "Don't worry, I never had that intention. To be honest with you, Soluna is also the reason I let you come here and be so close to us." The dragoness chuckled. "As you said, you are all powerful individuals, and yet I'm letting you be this close with many of my close and fragile people like Kaleina or Tatyana. This is a show of trust toward your group."

Embera had already realized this. That's why she could be so forward-spoken with this issue. She trusted Yasenia would answer truthfully and something that would probably not hurt their current companionship.

"Hence, what I want for you, Spirits, is nothing more than to not stand in my way. That's it."

Embera blinked. "That's it?"

Yasenia shrugged. "If you want to join and fight with us, perfect. If you don't want to do that, just stay aside." Looking deep into her eyes, the dragoness stated. "What I don't want is forced collaboration or you stopping me from doing what I will."

Embera was confused. "Why would we do that?"

The dragoness explained. "Because many will die. The flames of war are already unstoppable and are currently gaining strength as we speak. More people are mobilizing, many more sightings of enemy forces are being reported, our disciple's injury rate because of external factors is increasing, and our allies are also feeling enough stress that they've slowly tightened their borders and recalled quite a few groups."

Yasenia commented, leaning back on the sofa to get more comfortable and crossing her legs. She was holding Kaleina and Flame on each side, so her movement was easy. "I don't know when, how, why, who, or what will cause the trigger to be pressed. But I know it's near, and we are probably going to be the ones assaulting these places."

Embera got thoughtful and nodded. "I've felt quite a few places with concentrated energy."

Yasenia smiled and threw each of the spirits a dark blue-colored jade identification card with golden edges. "This is the one used by Supreme Elders. It gives you free access to almost every place in the entire sect. I've restricted a few benefits, but it will work for what you want it. If you want something extra, you are always welcome to contact my maids. That identification card has an inbuilt communication tool, so use it."

Embera turned it around and smirked. "Fancy, I like it."

Angel smiled proudly. "I made it with Andrea's and Kali's help!"

Embera patted her head with her magma-like arm and smiled. "it's really well done."

Yasenia leaned back and looked at Soluna, who didn't receive a card. "Hm... I was hesitating to give you this, but well, here."

Soluna looked at the card and saw a purple jade card. "What's this?"

Yasenia explained. "That's unlimited access to every part of the sect. If you want to visit something or somewhere, you just need to flash this card, and you will be able to enter. Only the maids, top-tier members, and my close family have them." Yasenia specified. "Well, my family members have permissions above that level, but it's good enough nonetheless."

Soluna smiled broadly. "Thanks a lot, Yasenia! I love it!"

Cecile looked at Soluna and asked. "Do you want to go hunting?"

Soluna blinked. "Hunting? So sudden?"

Cecile tilted her head. "Sudden?"

Yasenia coughed. "She has been wondering that for a few days. She probably wants to compete in something."

Soluna laughed mischievously. "Oh! You want to challenge me!? I accept!"

Cecile smirked. "Prepare to lose."

Then, they left to play together somewhere. Yasenia looked at their back and sighed, feeling content. 'It has been a while since I had such a relaxing day.'

The dragoness conveniently ignored what had happened with Kaleina just now.

\*\*\*\*\*

Yasenia: Hm? Oh!

Tatyana: \*Looks around\* It has been a while.

Author: Hehe, Welcome back to the Celestial Theater!

Evelyn: \*Smirking\* I can see spiderwebs, and this is somewhere in the middle of space.

Author: ...

Author: I refuse to answer that! I summon you!

Randomplant: Hello~. It has been a while. Can we expect more of this?

Author: ... I'll do what I can. To be honest, keeping up with two daily novels is quite harsh, hahaha. But I like it! And I hope you, dears, like both stories as well!

Randomplant: Sure~. Well, here goes the question.

Randomplant: What happens to the seniors in the worlds that lose against the demon invasion (those who do not die in combat or did not join the war)? And what happens to their legacies (or families (it's also a legacy, right?))? Do the demons let them continue their legacies?



Mirrory: Well, Demons assimilate the worlds and then change their rules to more brutal ones. While usually worlds are defined by the law of the jungle, meaning the stronger fist wins, Demon worlds are also quite harsh on weak people.

Mirrory: To not get lengthy here, Demon Worlds naturally have many races and cultures inside them, but the predominant one will always be demons. Many demon races are vicious by nature, so they don't have a great time.

Randomplant: I see. Thanks for the answer!

Author: And that's all for the Celestial Theater~. I'll see you again... hm... whenever I can! Hahaha.

The girls: Bye-bye~.

Chapter 835: Cecile's and Soluna's Outing.

Yasenia accompanied Cecile and Soluna until the entrance of the sect, carrying Kaleina while holding Flame's hand. The five of them took it easy, never rushing their pace.

Soluna was curious about hunting. While she was many times older than Cecile, that didn't mean they spent the time in a similar way. Usually, while cultivators were very old, they spent much of that time cultivating. Years of close-door cultivation, training, studying, etc.

For Spirits, time was not a consuming force. Their nature, shaped by their long lifespan, was not as curious as other creatures. Their existence was marked by a serene lack of urgency, a stark contrast to the rest of the world.

If anything, a spirit going to "sleep" in a place with their attribute felt abundant for years because they felt comfortable would be more common than seeing them entering a secret realm out of curiosity.

That's one of the many reasons Valeria never saw a Spirit-based power in her lifetime and was so surprised to learn about them. A spirit-based society was an unnatural thing to happen.

Similar beings with naturally long lifespans also didn't search for dominance, which is why so many intelligent beast groups lived in forests, mountains, valleys, or similar landmarks without developing a working society. They allowed themselves to be dominated by natural laws, having a leader who was usually the strongest.

So, Soluna, who had never hunted because of her lack of needing intake, was very curious about what Cecile suggested and accepted without thinking much.

Cecile gave a hug to Yasenia before leaving, and Soluna shyly approached as well, receiving one from the amused dragoness.

Cecile looked at Soluna as they flew away and spoke. "Have you ever hunted, Soluna?"

Soluna shook her head. "I know what hunting is, but I've never practiced it myself."

Cecile nodded and explained. "The objective of hunting is a bit different than that of mortals. When mortals hunt, they hunt mainly for food while also aiming for pelts and bones to create tools and clothes. We, as cultivators, also need those things, but at the same time, they aren't our priority."

Soluna hummed in understanding as they flew through the sky and asked. "So, what's the objective?"

Cecile explained, her voice keeping her usual cold tone. "It varies from person to person. Some do it to polish their strength; others to make a living off beasts' materials; few to sharpen their instincts; and many do it to get the beast cores living inside most beasts."

Soluna looked at the forest passing by below them with curious eyes. Her spiritual sense had been spread all the time, so she had spotted quite a few creatures.

As they flew, her senses made her look upward as she caught a flying beast descending toward them. Cecile looked up as well and spoke flatly. "Dodge."

Cecile's silver wings moved, and her body made a sharp lateral descent, dodging the creature.

Soluna was also quick to get out of the way as the giant flying condor missed them right in the middle.

Soluna pouted. "Ah! Why are you attacking us?"

Cecile communicated mentally. 'This one is not intelligent. He was probably attracted by our energy signatures. Beasts thrive off eating stronger and weaker monsters to improve themselves, so my bloodline should've felt very tempting.'

Soluna realized and asked. 'Is he coming for you- oh. He is.'

Soluna saw the condor make a sharp turn mid-air and follow right behind Cecile. Unsure of what to do, she asked. 'Cecile, do we kill it?'

Cecile commented. 'No need. This beast is just a level ten Fusion Core Beast.'

Soluna saw Cecile fly up quickly, leaving a silver trail behind her, and when she was high enough, Cecile stopped mid-air.

Then, the temperature around plummeted as clouds gathered around her. A snow hurricane followed while Moon, Wind, and Space energies gathered.

Soon, a majestic silvery phoenix surrounded by white flames burst out from the middle of the blizzard. The beauty of the creature transcended species as the cold blue eyes of the Phoenix that tripled the size of the condor looked down on it.

The level ten Fusion Core beast was quickly scared witless. It hastily stopped its pursuit and flapped its wings disorderly as it fled while cawing in defeat.

Cecile flapped her wings slowly in mid-air, looking at the retreating creature emotionlessly.

Soluna's eyes glittered as she approached. "Wow! Cecile, your beast form is so pretty."

The enormous Phoenix looked at the small spirit and spoke flatly and coldly. "Thanks."

Soluna blinked. 'Hm? Do her feelings become more indifferent when she transforms?' Soluna's not knowing a few things didn't mean that she was completely innocent. As a nearly three-thousand-year-old spirit, she was naturally not ignorant.

Cecile turned her head and continued flying in her beast form while Soluna flew by her side. Soluna gave Cecile a few looks, noticing the lack of intent to start a conversation coming from the giant creature. "Cecile, are you okay?"

Cecile's blue phoenix eye moved. "Hm?"

Soluna coughed and spoke awkwardly. "Nothing, it's just that you've become a bit cold."

Cecile looked forward again. "Have I?"

Soluna's lips twitched. 'Is she like this with Yasenia too?'

Cecile's beak opened slowly as she calmly pronounced. "The others have also told me."

Soluna paid attention and asked. "About what?"

Cecile paused a bit, leaving nothing but the sound of her wings moving tons of air to propel herself forward slowly. "When I transform, they say that I am much more indifferent to everything," Cecile said slowly as if she didn't intend to talk further.

Soluna pondered. 'They? Is she referring to Evelyn and the rest?'

However, she added not much later. "To be honest, I feel the most comfortable in my beast form. Yasenia is also as such. However, because our instincts also get magnified, we don't usually use them."

The corner of Cecile's beak arched slightly upward as her entire aura changed to a warmer one. "When Yasenia and I take some time alone at night to fly together, we always chase each other and play fight. It's honestly one of the things I look forward to the most."

Soluna's eyes flickered. 'Oh? So, she does change when Yasenia comes into the conversation.'

She couldn't help but admire Yasenia more. 'Even this indifferent Phoenix becomes much warmer just when she talks about her! Hehe, Yasenia is awesome ~.'

Cecile laughed a bit and spoke with her usual bluntness. "There were even times when we almost mated in our beast forms."

Soluna choked and entered a coughing fit, interrupting Cecile's words. The silver phoenix, unsure as to what happened, asked. "Are you okay, Soluna?"

It was natural for Cecile to ask, as a Spirit choking was honestly difficult to comprehend. 'How does she even choke? Isn't she made out of pure energy?'

Soluna smiled awkwardly and shook her head. "Yes, yes. Don't worry, you can continue."

Cecile paused and stopped flapping, allowing her body to glide through the sky while shrouding the forest below in her enormous shadow. As a 600-meter-wide creature, she was like a small mountain that managed to take flight.

"Hm... Even if you say continue. There isn't much else to say." Cecile said calmly. "I don't know if I become colder when I'm in my beast form, as I feel really relaxed and natural. Just know I'm not intentionally ignoring you or being cold."

Soluna looked at the blue phoenix eye and heard her speak. "Just speak your mind. I don't dislike you, so don't hold back."

Soluna felt a bit shy and nodded with a beaming smile. "Okay! Thanks, Cecile. I also like you a lot! Your Moon Energy is really pure and nice~."

Cecile commented. "Well, my race is called Moon Phoenix for a reason."

Soluna commented. "I had never heard of this Phoenix race, to be honest. I always thought that Phoenixes could only remain in the Yang side of the spectrum. Fire, light, magma, glass, life, etc. I never knew a Phoenix that's entire Yin in nature like you could even exist!"

Cecile was trying to find a proper hunting spot as she answered. "I've heard that Moon Phoenix are actually quite a powerful bunch in the upper heavens."

Soluna's eyes widened. "Really?" Her harmonic voice sounded incredulous. "If they are known and still live, they must be really strong!"

Cecile nodded. "They are strong, yes. Strong enough that almost every mid- and low-level world has legends of them. I even found a few in Distancia."

"Really? Can I read about it?" Soluna's exotic Moon and Sun pupils shone with interest.

Cecile nodded again. "Sure... Hm. We've arrived, follow me."

Soluna followed Cecile's gaze and saw a large prairie just after the enormous forest they flew over. "What's there, Cecile?"

Cecile answered. "Creatures here are relatively low level, so we can descend and rest here appropriately if we needed. Moreover, if you look north, you can spot another forest, this one with much larger trees. That's the place where we will hunt. The creatures there are strong, some even reaching the fifth and sixth level of the Legendary Core Beast realm."

Soluna exclaimed. "Wow! There are such high-level creatures in the wild?"

Cecile used her large wings to slow down her descent, her powerful talons gently landing on the ground. Soluna didn't completely descend, stopping at Cecile's head level at around 200 meters from the ground.

"There are even stronger creatures. People always underestimate nature. The most dangerous places in the World are always deep within nature, aren't they? Cultivation is the art of simulating nature and stealing the world's energy for personal use."

Cecile shook her phoenix head. "Naturally, the beings that are part of nature will be much stronger as a base. I, for example, can't go further than 20% of that forest. I would probably die if I ever recklessly threw myself to more than 40% depth."

Soluna asked, curious. "So, what's our objective?"

Cecile looked at the spirit and commented. "Hunting is the art of slaying while keeping yourself hidden for many. However, asking you to do such when you have never even participated in the activity is unfair. Hence, our objective is to find a Level four Legendary Core Beast, kill or incapacitate it, and bring proof back here of that success."

Soluna tilted her head. "Kill or incapacitate?"

Cecile nodded. "If you have enough strength not to kill, that's for the best. However, we are fighting a creature with all our strength; accidents might happen."

Soluna blinked. "But if we beat it up and then release it back, won't it be hunted down by other beasts?"

Cecile nodded. "That's why, here."

With a thought, the spatial ring that had transformed into a talon bracelet shone for a moment, summoning a pill jar.

Cecile spoke. "These are high-level heaven-ranked healing pills. We will give it to the beasts we've hunted if we manage not to kill them."

Soluna looked at the jar floating before her with a puzzled expression. "Why go so far as to use this?"

Cecile pondered. "While I don't mind killing, I'm a beast as well. I wouldn't like it if someone came and hunted me down because my feathers are pretty. So, while I like hunting, it is for strengthening myself, not an action to kill. If they die, I won't grieve. However, if I can avoid their death, I will."

Soluna's gaze toward Cecile changed. 'So, she isn't as indifferent as she looks. Interesting.'

Cecile looked up at the sky and spoke. "When the sun starts to set, if you haven't found a Level four beast, return."

Soluna commented. "What about a higher level?"

Cecile shook her head. "The objective of hunting is searching for specific prey. I haven't gone deeper than level this time, taking into account that it is your first time. Sometimes I give myself objectives such as the color of their pelt, gender, and even age of the creature."

Soluna's eyes flashed again. 'So strict. Her hunting proficiency must be strong.'

Cecile extended her wings and spoke. "Let's start."

Soluna nodded, and both women flashed at their highest speeds toward the forest.

Chapter 836: A Relaxing Stroll Through the Sect.

While Cecile and Soluna had their fun, Yasenia was walking around with Kaleina, Flame, Angel, and Andrea in the sect. Their small group of five was very conspicuous since Yasenia's characteristic tail was easy to discern. Yet, thanks to the casual clothes Yasenia was wearing, people knew that she was just visiting the place and not for serious matters, so besides a few nods, people didn't bother them.

Unsurprisingly, the sect's inhabitants couldn't help but speculate about their group.

"Could those two be the Sect Master's offspring?"

"I heard that the red-winged Phoenix girl is not. However, she had been fully adopted by her. I've seen her live together with Sect Master's family many times."

A woman said sourly, "She is so lucky. I would give anything to be adopted by Sect Master."

A man at the side nodded. "Living with Sect Master must be a dream come true."

"Can you stop looking at Sec Master's breasts?"

The man coughed and said falsely out of embarrassment. "You are also looking, so don't speak much."

The woman who spoke shut up, turning around and leaving with a red face.

The man, who said it just because was stunned. 'Well, it's understandable.'

Meanwhile, an elderly man at the side commented. "That's the luck of nine lifetimes for that child. Heavens smiled upon that girl."

Yasenia naturally heard the whispers, but she ignored them. Instead, she continued grabbing Kaleina's and Flame's hands while walking and asked. "Where do you want to go, dears?"

Kaleina, still adjusting to her newfound bipedalism, ambled along. The others matched her pace, understanding her struggle. "Mommy, can we find something to eat? I'm hungry!" she exclaimed, her hunger palpable.

Yasenia smiled and suggested. "Of course, dear. Do you want to go somewhere in the sect, or do we travel to Astral Sky City?"

Kaleina pondered, using her chubby finger to tap her chin. The girls looked at her and found her adorable. Flame even commented with a blush. "Cute."

Kaleina blinked and gazed at Flame with her golden slit eyes. Then, she smiled, causing her eyes to bend into crescents. "You are also pretty, Flame!"

Flame's face became almost as red as her hair and she looked away shyly, making our girls laugh. Kaleina giggled as well and looked up at Yasenia. "I want to eat something here, Mommy!"

The dragoness heard her and started looking around. "Dears, any idea of a good restaurant around here?"

Angel shook her head. "I only eat your food, so I don't know."

Yasenia smiled and used her tail to caress her head. "Don't worry, baby." Then, she looked at Andrea and asked. "What about you, Darling?"

Andrea smiled and nodded. "I actually know one place that's not far from here. With Kaleina's walking speed, we should arrive in forty minutes or so."

Kaleina clenched one fist and exclaimed. "I'll walk faster, Mama Andrea!"

Andrea laughed and caressed her purple-gold hair. "Don't worry, Kaleina. Walk at your pace and learn slowly. We have nothing much to do, you can take your time. Your Mommy and us won't go anywhere."

Angel nodded. "That's right! Today is a relaxation day!"

Kaleina smiled cutely, making our girls almost squeal. 'So cute~.'

They walked along the sect's streets, observing the bustling place. After the new recruitment rounds, the number of people in the sect was already in the hundreds of thousands. The sect was designed to hold a lot of people, so it didn't look crowded. However, because of the strict entry requirements, the dragoness was expecting the sect population to become constant at around one or two million people.

It was a considerable number since most of those people could be considered talented. Still, it wasn't that much compared to what other top powers had. In fact, she was shot by more than one order of magnitude.

She wasn't worried, in any case. After all, the Astral Sky Sect had been aiming to be an elite sect since the very beginning. While their general numbers would probably never catch up, their top powerhouses would eventually surpass theirs.

It didn't matter if her sect had 1 million and theirs had 100 million if Yaseenia's sect housed many more peak experts. Moreover, it's not like her power didn't have numbers.

While the Astral Sky Sect would not have as many people, that was not the same for Astral Sky City, Astral Dragon City, and Astral Sky Abyss Sect.

These places were there to expand the sect's average population without considering as much general behavior. Abolishing corruption was a lost battle unless the people in charge were physically and mentally unable to be corrupted.

What Yaseenia's policies made was making it extremely difficult to create seeds of corruption and, if they appeared, be efficient at tackling them. Not even future Sect Masters would be safe from the laws she had placed, so if future Sect Masters went rogue, it would not be too difficult to take that position from them.

Yaseenia sighed. 'Only a complete collapse in power and someone cracking down the formation that we set up would be able to make the Astral Sky Sect disappear.'

Kaleina's voice reached her as she thought of all these matters. "Mommy, are you okay? Why are you sighing?"

The dragoness snapped out of her thoughts and smiled. "Nothing to worry about, love. How is your human body? Anything off?"

Kaleina shook her head. "I feel energetic and healthy! But..." Kaleina poked her arm and laughed. "It's so soft~, I feel like I would get hurt easily by any weapon!"

Andrea smiled. "It is true that your human body is weaker, but with it, you might be able to do actions that were difficult previously. Especially those that need nimbleness. Later, we can try crafting together again."

Angel chimed in. "Formations are very useful, Kaleina. With your human body, you'll do better for sure!"

Kaleina nodded enthusiastically. "I will do my best!"

Flame smiled. "You can also learn to wield weapons now, Kaleina. Didn't you want to swing a sword like Aunty Yaseenia?"

Kaleina exclaimed, her golden eyes glittering. "Ohhh! That's right! I can now swing a giant sword and mince my enemies like Mommy does!"

Yaseenia laughed. "You want to learn how to use giant swords? Little Baby, they are not for everyone, so don't be upset if you can't do it, okay?"

Kaleina pouted. "I'll show you I can do it, Mommy!"

The dragoness smirked. "I'll teach you to the best of my abilities. However, you must also try to learn about other weapons. Trying to use one you like is usually the best. Still, remember that there are people who have a natural affinity or talent toward certain weapons."

Flame was curious. "Do you have that, Aunty Yasenya?"

The dragoness shook her head. "I don't. I can manage and fight with many different weapons. The giant broadsword just fitted my battle style best, so it is the one I use the most. However, Draheart is awesome and can transform into many different weapons."

Kaleina blinked. "Draheart can?"

Yasenya summoned [Draconic Heart] in a dagger shape. First, the red core appeared, and from it, a blue liquid-like spread and took shape in an instant. When it fell on Yasenya's hand, an excellent and powerful-looking dagger was left. "See? Now, it is a dagger."

Flame asked, remembering Cecile. "Can it turn into a bow?"

Yasenya commanded Draheart through her energy, and the red core divided while creating two half-moon arcs. It looked gorgeous as the red gem's center became the place where arrows shot while the bow's arcs were beautifully curved with a scaly design.

Flame's eyes glittered. "Wow!"

Yasenya looked at it as well. "Honestly, this is the first time I've changed it into a bow. Let's see..."

Yasenya placed her hands in the air as if there was a string and an arrow knocked and pulled back. A string and arrow made of Yasenya's energy materialized and followed the dragoness's hand movements.

She felt resistance, forcing her muscles to tense as she drew it. 'Heavy.'

Then, she pointed skywards and released.

BOOOM!

The air above Yasenya exploded upward as the arrow shot into the sky, leaving circular clouds of pure pressurized air. The dragoness lifted her eyebrow. 'Ho... I think I can use this.'

Flame and Kaleina looked up with their mouths open.

Even though it was a powerful attack, nothing got harmed, thanks to the formation protecting everything from the shockwave. It just looked mighty and powerful. The dragoness looked around and smiled. "Don't worry, I was just doing something my daughter asked for. Continue on with your days."

Everyone who almost got a heart attack from the loud and explosive sound nodded awkwardly.

They didn't take long to reach the restaurant Andrea talked about. It was called [Skyline Delish] and had quite a luxurious ambiance around it. The dragoness walked forward with the rest, and the receptionist approached with urgent steps. "Sect Master, we are pleased that you want to eat here. Would you like a VIP room? We can guide you to one if you please."

Yasenya smiled. "Hm. Sure, guide me. Is there a room with a nice view that's not occupied?"

The receptionist nodded with a wide smile. "We have two, actually. Even if they were filled, we could've moved those dinners to make space for you, Sect Master."



Yasenia followed while shaking her head. "Don't do that. This sect isn't one where you can bully others with power and influence. If there are any problems, go to one of the reporting buildings built around the entire sect."

The receptionist looked at Yasenia with surprised eyes, and he answered with a smile. "I'll keep that in mind, Sect Master."

Yasenia nodded. "That's for the better. While you need to be respectful to higher-ranked elders, there is no need to lower yourself like a slave."

The dragoness looked around and suddenly witnessed something she didn't expect. She gently raised as she asked, looking at one of the waiters. "A human?"

The receptionist who was guiding Yasenia paused and asked carefully, "Is there anything wrong, sect master?"

The dragoness smiled. "A problem? On the contrary, I'm glad to see one here. It seems that the slow assimilation is working. How is it working with a human?"

The receptionist pondered. "It's... an interesting experience. I'm like most beast humans, as I quite despise the human race. Still interacting with her has been eye-opening. While she is ignorant on some matters and we can only give her the most common workloads, she does them seriously."

Yasenia nodded. "We've also created a training and education system for humans to slowly be added into society. Because of their global enslavement, their knowledge is, in general, very limited. We know that only one in a million humans in Distancia has some kind of literacy. Hence, while they probably will only be able to do basic work for a few generations, with time, I hope that we can create a harmonious society."

The receptionist smiled. "That's a wonderful ideal, Sect Master. I'll speak with the manager and tell him what you said."

The dragoness didn't mind. Her objective was to create a sect where all races were admitted unless they were inherently problematic. There were no significant discrepancies between human beasts and humans, as both sides were equally likely to become a problem.

For now, Yasenia has bought around 40,000 slaves from all around the world and placed them in educational institutions. This year was their first graduation year. Hence, a few of them were already walking around in the sect.

Ghana completed all of this while she was away. Seeing it somewhat working as intended was good news for Yasenia. 'It seems that the plans can continue to move forward. Well, I hope the integration of the first batch succeeds. If it doesn't, making humans proper denizens of the world will be an arduous task.'

Yasenia just wanted a place where her children would be able to live a proper life even if they were born entirely human. It was a possibility; after all, Evelyn, Andrea, and Angel were wholly human, which made having human children possible if fate wanted to.

Chapter 837: Warring Sun Battle Art vs Heavenly Tribulation.

Since then, one week has passed, and Yasenia has started working a bit daily. The maids have been relatively busy managing the sect during this time after the summit. Many reports indicated how the

newly established sects were doing. From the looks of it, they were still mid-building, as their defensive formations were not finished yet.

Yasenia was honestly tempted to send her 50 maids to attack them and raze them to the ground. However, she was also not ready to take part in the war; she was too weak. If all-out war broke out, having time to break through might be lacking, effectively locking her in the fourth realm for a while.

The dragoness moved into her room, following her usual martial art moves while thinking about all of these things. She felt her pores and breath sucking in energy while her meridians transported it toward her Dantian. Her smooth movements allowed energy to spread quickly while her energy reserves constantly increased.

Little by little, Yasenia got stronger as she practiced, and her Body Cultivation level increased. The feeling of getting stronger was delightful for Yasenia. 'It has been a while. With all the summit, my cultivation realm got stuck for a while.'

As her energy rotated around her body, the Yin energy stored from her dual cultivation sessions with all the girls merged with it, increasing the effects it had on her body.

The two immortal-ranked cultivation techniques worked together in tandem, gently but rapidly increasing her own strength. The effects were noticeable and quick, becoming a source of motivation.

Yasenia lost herself in the sensations and didn't realize she had been cultivating for three days. By the time she snapped out of her daze, it was the morning of the fourth day. The dragoness stopped, her body glistening with sweat, but her breath was calm and collected.

Her hand flicked and summoned a towel from her Spatial Ring. Then, she took off her clothes and lightly wiped her body. She grabbed one of her breasts and lifted it, cleaning below and in between where sweat accumulated the most.

The towel had self-cleansing abilities, so she didn't need a shower. Moreover, thanks to Yasenia's particular constitution, even her sweat smelled fragrant, so it wasn't like she needed showering at all in the first place.

Still, Yasenia liked to keep herself fresh if she could, so she often cleaned herself after training. After putting her dress back on, the dragoness walked outside, tying her hair in a loose braid.

Her hands were nimble and quick, making the usually time-consuming hairstyle a quick hand gesture. "Today is Andrea's breakthrough. I wonder if there will be any complications."

Yasenia was curious about the implications of breaking through while treading two cultivation paths. She had made quite a few assumptions that she wanted to confirm with Andrea's breakthrough.

Yasenia flew quickly through the sect while mounting on Draheart, and she was quick to arrive at the Tribulation Plaza, the place where most people came to break through. It was filled with formations that helped channel Heaven's energy and became helpful all around the sect.

Once there, she couldn't see anybody. While Tribulations were not something common, with the number of people in the sect, it actually happened much more often than one would think.

Still, today, there was no one here as Ghana promised, leaving the place entirely for Andrea.

Everyone arrived half an hour later and saw Yaseña standing there with a calm and free expression. Her beautiful, simple white dress and braided hair gave her a demure, pure appearance that was rarely seen on her.

Even when her curves pushed the dress in tempting arcs, the feeling of peaceful gentleness didn't disappear. On the contrary, her curves now looked more motherly and gentler than seductive and alluring.

The people who arrived couldn't help but pause and stare as Yaseña looked over and smiled. "Welcome. How are you feeling, Darling?"

Andrea scratched her cheek with a bit of shyness, feeling like a husband who was welcomed by his wife. "I feel perfectly fine, love. Thanks for asking."

Kaleina trotted forward with a beaming smile. "Mommy, you are so pretty today!"

The dragoness leaned down and swooped her up, placing one arm under her butt while guiding her to hug her neck for balance. "Thanks, little baby. You are also looking very pretty today."

Kaleina laughed, her bright smile seemingly illuminating their surroundings.

Yaseña looked at Cecile and Soluna and smiled. "How was your hunt? You took a while to return, eh."

Cecile commented. "Soluna lost a few times in a row, so she didn't want to return until she won at least once."

Soluna coughed. "But I won in the end!"

Cecile gave her a side glance. "You did, but with what methods? Who goes deep into the forest and uses a mountain-raiding attack to hunt their prey?"

Soluna coughed twice this time, feeling guilty. "W-Well, it didn't die, did it."

Cecile was as brutal as ever and cut her excuses short. "They would honestly be better dead than alive. They lost a limb, after all."

Soluna fiddled with her fingers while looking at Yaseña pitifully. The dragoness laughed. "Well, I'm glad you had fun, even at the cost of the lives of some beasts."

Cecile had probably carried over every creature they had killed, if they had killed any, making their deaths not useless. Legendary Core Beast Rank materials were very sought after for the highest-level blacksmithing and tailoring. So, in the end, being hunted while competing or when another person was alone made little of a difference.

Andrea walked forward, donning her black and golden armor, and summoned her halberd.

Yaseña approached right before she put on the helmet and planted a kiss on her cheek. Then, she teased. "Don't come back darker than you currently are. Your skin tone is perfect now~."

Andrea rolled her light green eyes with a smile and returned the kiss with a light lip-to-lip touch. "Sure, sure. I will try and avoid my skin tone from darkening." Yaseña laughed.

Angel and the rest cheered from behind when they saw Andrea putting on her helmet and finally walking toward the center.

The spirits were also curious about human tribulation. They expected it to be similar to theirs, as the heavens didn't change their cards much during the tribulations before the Transcendent realm.

Andrea reached the middle of the Tribulation Plaza and took a deep breath. Then, she connected with her dantian and started circulating her Spiritual Path cultivation method.

Her energy quickly moved through her meridians as she attacked the bottleneck holding her back from the Dantian Spiritualization Realm. With each energy rotation, that bottleneck was loosened, and after one hour of meditation, she managed to do so.

Boom!

An explosion of energy swallowed her surroundings, and energy became turbulent and rushed toward the armor-wearing woman.

However, there was an unexpected event. While this happened, another explosion of energy around Andrea of similar strength occurred.

The girls were confused, but the seniors quickly understood. Tatyana asked with a frown. "Both paths at the same time?"

Mirrory frowned. "Wrong, it wasn't intentional. Andrea's composure faltered for a fraction of a second. She probably was surprised that it happened."

Yasenia listened to them and looked upward with a grave expression. The initial dark grey clouds had turned blacker and denser, followed by a booming thunderclap.

RUMBLE!

The sky roared, seemingly ready to tear everything asunder, and a massive pressure descended from the clouds onto Andrea.

Andrea felt her entire body becoming at least ten times as heavy, making her face change to one of horror. 'Why did I break through the other path? While I had both paths at the limit of the fourth realm, I could feel that the loosening of the Body Path bottleneck was around three weeks away. However, I broke through. Moreover, so naturally? Why?'

She did not know the answer to her doubts because where would you be able to find a similar situation to the one that she was going through?

RUMBLE!

Another deafening rumbling was heard as lightning serpents began appearing one after another in the skies. The clouds, darker than ever for Andrea, looked like a sea hiding hundreds of lightning dragons as they were as such.

A total of 181 Lightning Bolts were rumbling in the sky, ready to fall.

Yasenia looked at Andrea with concern, still not understanding why Andrea broke through both paths at once. "Have you discovered why it happened? Why did Andrea breakthrough the second path when she purposely left it out?"

Mirrory answered. "Her Spiritual and Body Path might be different cultivation methods. Still, both methods reside in the dantian. If the Spiritual Path is triggered, the Body Path will try to follow behind regardless of the cultivator's control as long as it is close enough to be triggered."

Mirrory pointed at something. "Did you see how quickly her body absorbed energy during those moments when she was concentrating? She took an hour because the body was not only preparing to break the Spiritual bottleneck but also the Body one."

Mirrory looked at Yasenya and spoke. "In short, you girls will have to break through all your paths at once."

The dragoness grimaced. "All of them at once?" The girls understood what that meant and couldn't help but worry about Yasenya.

Yasenya shook her head, recovering her expression and looking at Andrea. "Flora, prepare yourself and all the medical staff nearby. Valeria, please help Andrea when she finishes if she is in a critical condition."

Meanwhile, on Andrea's part, the first of the 162 lightning bolts descended. Andrea waved her halberd, striking it with enormous strength and blasting it into light particles.

Still, the heavens didn't give her a single second of rest. One after another, a rain of lightning bolts thicker than a house rained one after another with increased intensity.

**BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG!**

Andrea used her skills, defense, and martial arts to defend herself from the onslaught. And yet, with each attack, she was being pushed down stronger and harder each time.

Andrea began shouting the number of the bolt to motivate herself. "Sixty-one! Sixty-two! Sixty-three! COME ON! [HEAVEN BORN FLAME DEFENSE]"

81... 102... 115...

Lightning bolt after lightning bolt rained. By now, chunks of her magma armor had been cleanly blasted off, revealing her armor in many places. However, Andrea didn't stop swinging her halberd for a second.

Her Perseverance Intent strongly affected her body as she became increasingly injured. Her skin was being charred by lightning, her muscles were incessantly twitching, and her vision kept flickering with white as each Heavenly Lightning Bolt illuminated her vision with raw power.

145... 154... 159...

With three Lightning Bolts left, even her trusty Quasi-transcendent had been pierced through in a few places, revealing her now burnt skin.

Andrea was exhausted beyond belief, but she pushed on with an echoing shout. "I'M NOT DONE YET, HEAVENS! [SUN DEVOURER]!"

Her attacks had created a scorching inferno around her, but that was all absorbed as the first of the last three bolts descended with incredible might.

The strength behind the Heavenly Lightning Bolt was probably enough to flatten an entire mountain.

However, Andrea's feet remained stuck on the ground as her position was as stable as when she first started.

The ground around Andrea was scorched black, but the ground below her soles was as spotless as it was when she arrived. Meaning that during the entire onslaught, Andrea didn't move an inch!

With [Sun Devourer] active, Andrea's halberd left a trail of searing flames in its wake as a massive crescent of pure Sun energy was blasted into the sky.

BOOM!

The attacks collided, nullifying each other.

Andrea was not done yet, as she used [Molten Sun] to create a massive golden star on top of her that collided with the second to last attack.

Finally, using all her remaining strength, Andrea roared and used her newest skill of the warring sun art series.

"DISAPPEAR! [WARRING SUN BATTLE ART: SUN WAVE LIBERATION]."

All her accumulated heat was channeled into the halberd, and as she pierced upward, a pillar of red light pierced toward the heavens, smashing right against the last descending Lightning Bolt.

BOOOOOOM!

The sky was ripped asunder as the massive collision created a blast that pushed the clouds apart.

Chapter 838: Recovering While Talking About How Spirits Cultivate.

Andrea placed the butt of her halberd on the ground and leaned on it with an almost powerless body. Her armor was broken in a few parts, but thanks to its high quality, it could slowly repair itself as long as Andrea used enough quality materials. So, Andrea was not too worried about that.

While she felt her legs about to give up, a refreshing natural scent hit her nose as to pair of arms lifted her into quite a broad embrace. From the feeling, even before looking at the person, she knew it was Valeria. There wasn't any other woman in their group that could carry her like this, after all.

Valeria's soothing and gentle voice reached her ears, calming her rapidly beating heart. "Store your armor, Andrea. You don't need it anymore."

Following her instructions, Andrea stripped down her armor with a thought, storing it in her ring and going completely naked. She didn't mind at all because Valeria was a senior and, right now, the person who was probably going to heal her.

The world around her shifted and spun for a few moments, and then they appeared in a room. Valeria's calming voice reached her. "We are in the infirmary. Don't worry about the rest, they will arrive quickly."

Her body was placed down on one of the beds, and their healing formations instantly activated, slowly stabilizing her situation. She was honestly not in any life-threatening danger; however, her injuries were deep and problematic. It was certainly not a type of wound that would heal without extra attention.

Plus, unlike Yasenia, Cecile, or Kali, her body didn't have an insane regeneration factor that could easily mend deep wounds. As a recently advanced Dantian Spiritualization Realm and Epoch Core Body Realm, her body was not completely helpless against deep wounds.

However, it was naturally not almighty. If not, Fu Lang Zu could've regrown his severed arm without much problem at all.

Speaking of which, Yasenia learned via her informants that Fu Lang Zu had managed to gather quite a few of the herbs needed to create the limb regrowth pill. While the maids were interrupting his attempts one way or another, Distancia was too big. Adding the Demons probably meddling in those affairs, it was a matter of time before Fu Lang Zu could find all of the materials.

Andrea laid on the bed relaxed, closing her eyes while looking inside her. She had finally broken through into the Fifth Realm, and the initial changes were honestly terrifying, even for her.

The first thing she realized was why the Epoch Core Body realm was called such. A very small core had appeared inside her body above the place where her spiritualized Dantian was. It was pretty far up, located right below the heart and behind the bottommost part of the sternum.

This extra core was something between flesh and energy, a mix of both, as it connected via a spiritualized meridian with her real Dantian and also connected with the heart.

This [Epoch Core] felt similar to something Andrea had read in the past. At that time, she thought those books were too speculative, but this time, she couldn't help but doubt her previous certainty about the matter. 'That book said that there are three Dantians, one two fingers below the navel, one in the heart, and another in the center of the forehead. Is this the case with this Epoch Core?'

Andrea couldn't help but be doubtful and frown. Valeria, who was spreading medical cream on her body, asked. "Did it hurt, Andrea?"

Andrea shook her head. "No, it didn't- It's just-."

BAM!

The door was swung wide open as Yasenia rushed inside and instantly arrived by Andrea's side. Andrea was bombarded by the dragoness's attractive yet worried voice. "How are you feeling, Darling? Is your body well? Do you feel weak? How about injuries? Are there any that you are having trouble healing? Also-. HPHY!"

Valeria chopped the top of her head, forcing a strange sound to exit her mouth. Yasenia pouted while looking up. "What's wrong? I'm just asking normal questions."

Andrea burst into laughter but hissed right away as she pulled on her wounds. The dragoness forgot about the chop and grabbed her hand while her tail swished nervously behind her, hitting quite a few things and making the fall with a loud clatter. Still, the dragoness didn't mind. "Does it hurt? Do you want me to give kisses in the wounded areas?"

Andrea controlled her laughter and answered. "No need, no need. Why are you so worried? Look at my body. Do I look heavily injured?"

Yasenia observed Andrea's perfectly sculpted body and blinked twice. "Hm~."

Andrea saw Yasenia's eyes roaming her body with a predatory look and coughed once. "Y-Yasenia, look for injuries, not for... whatever you are looking for."

Yasenia smirked a hint of seductiveness in her smile. "You look really... appetizing."

Andrea sighed with a smile, making Yasenia laugh and lean by her side. "But, yes. I can see that Valeria is doing a superb job in healing my darling."

Valeria, who had already finished spreading the cream she had prepared, commented. "With this, you should slowly heal without losing any effectiveness or benefits. It's also completely natural, so it will absorb through the skin and help you stabilize the foundation as well."

The rest of the girls arrived and walked inside with calm steps. Angel skipped over with light steps and asked. "How are you doing, Andrea?"

Andrea reached out and ran her fingers through her silky blonde hair. "Everything is fine; thanks for asking, Angel."

Angel smiled cutely. "Good!"

Embera, the fire spirit, commented. "As always, you have an exciting way of using of heat and energy. It's honestly quite impressive for a young human."

Andrea nodded and admitted. "Our talks on fire energy helped me quite a bit in understanding how to channel some aspects of my Sun Energy. That last attack was an application of a few things you told me."

Embera laughed. "I noticed. I'm happy it helped."

Soluna tugged Yasenia's dress and asked. "Are all tribulations this powerful? Will yours be the same?"

The dragoness paused and realized that Soluna was born in her current realm, so she has not needed to go through any tribulations yet. Embera commented. "Honestly, most spirits don't get complicated Heavenly Tribulations. They are usually really easy to pass. Our realm's largest bottleneck to the next is usually understanding our own element and our ability to manipulate, become one with it, and create it. The closer we are to the energy found in the environment, the further we can bring out its characteristic."

Embera looked at Soluna and explained. "Soluna had been struggling to increase her realm in the first place because she has yet to comprehend a way of developing her own body without breaking the balance."

Soluna laughed. "But I've gained many insights!"

The spirits looked at her with surprise. Embera asked. "How?"

Soluna hugged Yasenia's side with a grin. "Thanks to Yasenia, hehehe. Seeing her use that special energy has been an eye-opening experience. The way she manipulates Sun and Moon energies with Star energy to create such complex and unique skills is dashing and cool!"

Her exotic Moon and Sun pupils glowed with adoration as her body energies danced happily while remembering those times. Embera became thoughtful and looked at Yasenia.

The dragoness smiled. "No need to be so hesitant. You want to ask if I can use those skills to show her, right?"



Embera nodded with an awkward smile. "It would honestly be helpful. While she wouldn't have taken much time at the rate she was learning, speeding up the process is always welcomed."

Evelyn asked. "How much time would she have needed if she had not received Yasenias help?"

Embera looked at Soluna with a doubtful look. "What do you think, Soluna? Between four and five?"

Soluna pondered. "Perhaps three, but yeah, around that time."

Evelyn nodded. "Four to five years is really quick."

The spirits looked at Evelyn with strange faces, making the blue-haired woman flinch. "Did I say something wrong?"

Embera laughed. "No, it's just that we are speaking in hundreds of years, not individual years."

Evelyn almost choked. "I-I see, so around four to five hundred years... That's... Um..." Evelyn wanted to say quickly, but she didn't know much.

Soluna chuckled. "That's quick! I would be just nearly 3,500 years old by the time I learned! Understanding how to cultivate my elements by that age is really fast! I know a pure Moon Energy spirit; she took over ten thousand years to start cultivating!"

Andrea joined and asked. "What's the average age for a normal spirit to be able to increase their cultivation by themselves? I imagine that there are other ways besides this one to get stronger, right?"

The water spirit commented, her voice soothing like the sound of crashing waves on the shore. "There are certainly other ways other than cultivating in a energy-rich area with our own element. However, these methods are not as reliable. It is similar to the cultivation treasures you find in the wild to increase your own strength. Have you found any?"

Andrea nodded. "I have a Heaven-born Flame, so I know what you are referring to."

The water spirit added. "That's right, there are other ways. However, answering your question, it is very difficult to tell the average. We don't really care much about other spirits, so we don't know an average enough to give you a concrete number. Still, I can say that it should be around one to two thousand years if the elements are simple enough. For example, I took around 800 years to start mine." She pointed at the Light Spirit at the side and added. "On the other hand, Nyxeris here took 6,000 years."

Nyxeris rolled his eyes. "Is there a need to speak about that? It is something that happened so long ago. Also, aren't we in the same realm? I caught up, okay!"

The water spirit laughed.

The girls became thoughtful. From her words, estimating an average was nothing but speculation. The examples she gave were too particular to generalize. But even if they took Nyxeris as an untalented spirit, if they even existed, Soluna's speed was certainly quick.

They spoke for some time, and Andrea suddenly remembered what she was going to ask. "Right, when I entered the Epoch Core Realm, there was an interesting change inside of me."

Tatyana asked, interest clear in her elegant voice. "Oh? Do tell."

Andrea nodded and started explaining. "Well..."

Chapter 839: Details of the [Epoch Core].

Tatyana and Valeria looked over, clear interest shining in their eyes. Mirrory even materialized herself, making our girls pay deep attention to what Andrea was going to say.

Andrea explained with an uncertain tone. "Several years ago, even before I met Yasenya, I liked reading books in Master Irina's workplace. Between them, there was one book that spoke about the theoretical Dantians, and it said that there isn't just one, but three of them."

The girls blinked, finding the concept a bit ridiculous, but to their surprise, the seniors didn't seem to find it strange and continued listening to the bedridden woman without interrupting.

Andrea took the clue and further spoke about her guesses. "Then, when I read about the books about the Epoch Core realm, they spoke that the cultivator created this core to use as a nucleus to increase their physical strength to the next level. The core of the Epoch Core Realm is more of a storage where the body gets energy instead of all-use storage like the Dantian two fingers below our navel."

The girls, having delved into their own research, were not entirely unfamiliar with these concepts. Andrea continued. "However, the texts I came across didn't specify its location, as if it was a given."

Evelyn inquired with interest. "What do you mean?"

Andrea pointed to the lower part of her chest, right above the diaphragm, and commented. "It is right here, behind the sternum and right below the heart."

The girls blinked, but Kali didn't look surprised. Valeria, Tatyana, and Mirrory were similarly unfazed. Andrea looked at them, especially at Kali, and asked, "You already knew?"

Kali tilted her head, her large fox ears flopping to the side. "Well, I knew that it was there. After all, I've dissected a few Epoch Core Realm cultivators. We also had the ones we got from the city, remember?"

Evelyn asked. "The wife of the acting City Lord?"

Kali nodded, which prompted Evelyn to ask. "Speaking of which. What happened to the Acting City Lord? He has been awfully silent for someone who lost his wife."

Yasenya answered. "Linghui Mingyu, the Mermaid Queen, was informed by me of what happened. After doing her own investigation, she discovered quite a few corrupt people and started a clean-up. You haven't heard of him because the Mermaid Queen apprehended him."

Evelyn laughed. "So, it is like that. No wonder." Then, she looked at Andrea and said, while scratching her cheek. "Sorry for interrupting Andrea. So, summarizing what you said, after entering the Epoch Core Realm, the core we thought would appear in our Dantian turned out to be right below the heart."

Andrea laughed. "That's a good summary, yes. Now I'm guessing that the core is probably the second dantian or the middle Dantian."

Andrea said, a bit doubtful. "According to the book I read, there are three of them. One is in the middle of the forehead between the eyebrows, called the upper dantian; the other is close to the heart, called the middle Dantian; and the last is the lower Dantian, two fingers below the navel."

Tatyana leaned back in her chair and asked with a smile. "So, you told us all this because you want to confirm with us?"

Andrea nodded. "That's right."

Tatyana chuckled. "The middle Dantian has always been a mystery, but not anymore. Even I myself didn't know how to activate to or even where the middle Dantian was. I have an entire group of Transcendent realm cultivators investigating this thing back in Sky Continent. However, who would've thought."

Tatyana smiled. "Well, you are right. That book was telling the truth. Although, it was probably speculative. That core in the middle of your chest is the middle Dantian. Personally, only after fighting and dissecting Body Cultivators with Kali did I finally realize why all the efforts from people in the past had failed."

Mirrory hummed. "I didn't know that even that information got lost after the Heavenly Cataclysm. The entire cultivation world has been thrown back for an entire eon."

Tatyana rolled her eyes. "An eon is quite an exaggeration."

Mirrory looked at her with a smirk. "Is it?"

Tatyana snorted. "I don't believe we are as primitive as people one eon ago. At most, I can give you fifty million years, but more than that, I find it difficult to fathom."

Mirrory commented. "That's because you are thinking that things like the Heavenly Cataclysm happen often. I'll tell you that they don't. While there have been many fights, wars, and situations where gods and goddesses fell like flies during the long cultivation history, Heaven had never interrupted other than striking down some utterly deviant people that would make you look like a Saint."

Tatyana crossed her arms. "Even then, an eon is a billion years. Not even Valeria is that old. Are you telling me that the current cultivators are as primitive as those before Valeria was born?"

Valeria blinked. "Do you know my age?"

Tatyana gave her a side-eye. "I don't. But are you older than an eon?"

Valeria shook her head. "I'm actually not, but why are you so confident that I'm not?"

Tatyana shrugged and said confidently. "Instinct."

Valeria was speechless. Tatyana turned toward Mirrory and commented. "Are you really dying on that hill? You sure you want to say that we were thrown back that much?"

Mirrory nodded again, her face unchanging. "I am. The knowledge about the three Dantians has been passed down since time immemorial. Although the cultivation paths were not always the same, the ones you are currently threading are nothing but new paths created from the original cultivation path."

Mirrory commented. "Before the Heavenly Cataclysm, people with the three Dantians unlocked were few but not that rare. It is a fact that most creatures had considered the Body Cultivation path extinct until you discovered this forsaken place by pure chance. Perhaps other places that cultivate the Body Path are out there, but none of the high-level worlds seem to be aware of it."

Tatyana got thoughtful. "Hm... Fair. Still, if the story of this world is true, then that Distancia guy is probably out there using Body Cultivation. There is a chance that Body Cultivation has already spread in the places he visited."

Mirrory snorted. "A cultivator sharing his secrets? Distancia seems to be a person with a self-righteous character but a narrow view of the world. He probably thinks that his beliefs are the correct ones and what others think is incorrect unless it aligns with his thoughts. A person like that doesn't share the core of his strength easily."

Mirrory analyzed. "He probably left it behind in Distancia because of how isolated this place is. By the time the body cultivation of this place starts spreading, he will already be in another complete dimension of strength. Moreover, compared to his, what people here in Distancia know would be nothing but the basics."

Tatyana pondered and couldn't help but agree. "Well, you are right. I also have a few secrets that I haven't told others." Then, the Death Empress looked at Andrea. "Regardless. The three Dantians are real and something you girls will have to unlock in the future if you want to become a true powerhouse of the cultivation world."

Valeria added. "There are a few more things that we must get for higher realms, but for now, having unlocked the middle Dantian is more than enough for you girls to be completely unmatched in the same realm."

Yasenia crossed her legs and pondered. "What do we do with the other otherworlders? They also know about this."

Tatyana smiled. "They thought they did."

Yasenia asked, confused. "What do you mean? They've clearly sent signals out, right?"

Tatyana snorted. "Do you think those signals can travel such large distances without a single obstacle? While they have a lot of permanency, and if their worlds were in the nearby vicinity, it might be possible that these people come from who knows where. The reason they came was because..."

Tatyana looked at the spirits and smiled. However, her smile was terrifyingly cold. "What I'm about to say concerns your mission, but it has something to do with us. You can either leave the room or stay, but make an oath that you will never intentionally or unintentionally spread information about it without our permission."

Embera knew that Tatyana was anything but a simple human woman, so she took her words very seriously. Even when her strength was at the peak of the Fifth realm, she didn't dare disrespect her. Even now, when Tatyana sent a wave of her suppressive aura, they felt as if they were going to suffocate even though they were spirits.

Embera cleared her throat and explained solemnly. "Since this concerns our mission, staying should probably be best. The seniors from our home world told us to investigate and, if possible, bring back whatever caused the cosmic fluctuation."

Tatyana nodded and spoke. "Well, I don't care what their intentions were, are, or will be. Just swear this oath, and you'll be fine."

Streams of energy hit the foreheads of all the spirits present, Soluna included. After reviewing the oath, they didn't find any problems, so they all recited it.

Tatyana was now somewhat reassured. Even if oaths weren't completely effective, she had observed their personalities, and she was sure that they wouldn't spread it even if they had known without oaths.

Still, some security locks were due because Yasenias safety was at risk.

Tatyana turned toward Yasenias and continued where she left off. "As I was saying, these spirits came here because of the fluctuation created the day we made that cultivation technique. The energy fluctuation of an Immortal-Ranked Cultivation Technique being created is powerful and deep. So much so that it had probably made a round around the entire lower heavens."

Tatyana placed her chin on the palm of her hand as she amusedly looked at the wide-eyed spirits. "We've seen only these groups as otherworlders because, as I said, this is the lower heavens, and only worlds on the verge of ascending would have people powerful enough to start tracking where it came from."

Embera stuttered while speaking rapidly. "W-Wait, wait, what rank? What kind of cultivation technique can create a fluctuation powerful enough to shake the foundations of the ENTIRE lower heavens!?"

Tatyana lifted her eyebrow. "You probably don't know it. Immortal Rank."

Nyxeris, the light spirit, asked with an uncertain expression. "So, um. How many ranks is that above a peak-level Transcendent Treasure?"

Tatyana rolled her eyes. "A lot."

The spirits felt their lips twitch.

Andrea asked. "So, is there anything special I must do with this new Dantian, or, as Body Cultivators call it, [Epoch Core]?"

Tatyana nodded. "Yes, you have to practice its use like any other skill. You need to analyze its connections and paths closely and how it turns energy into bodily strength. Moreover, since it is linked with your spiritualized Dantian, you need to find a way to make both of them link together."

Tatyana clarified. "This last step is for the far future, so don't worry much about it now. Your priority is making use of the [Epoch Core] as if it were your second nature. Try to use it to strengthen your entire body, release bursts during impact, and much more. In short, think of it and your muscles as one."

Andrea frowned, finding it complicated. It wasn't only she, as the rest of the girls similarly found all of what Tatyana said quite a tricky matter. Andrea sighed. "Well, I'll try my best."

Tatyana laughed. "As you should."

Chapter 840: Visiting the Fox's room.

Following Andrea's triumphant tribulation, life seemed to regain its usual rhythm. However, deeply impacted by Andrea's words, Kali and Cecile made a crucial decision. They would delay their plans

for the tribulation, for if Andrea's experience was any indication, they were about to face not two but three simultaneous tribulations.

Their beast core was already strained and ready to break through, their spiritual path similarly at its limit, and their body path on the brink of forcefully increasing its level.

They chose to utilize these additional weeks not for physical strengthening, a feat nearly impossible in such a short span, but to fortify their mental resilience.

Will was a powerful facet of a cultivator that was needed during tribulations. A Heavenly Tribulation was usually seen as a bunch of lightning bolts striking a cultivator. However, it was much more than that.

The feeling of being below the dark thunderous clouds and knowing that lightning bolts would fall on you to try and kill you was a mental strain. Then, the innate pressure carried by the heavens was also something that attacked the mind during the whole ordeal. The Heavens were nothing but an almighty figure in the eyes of most. That kind of entity aiming right at you while preparing to strike you dead was something that not everyone could overcome mentally and emotionally.

A Heavenly Tribulation, putting it in the simplest way, was a terrifying event for everyone.

Yasenia had shown her anxiety toward her oncoming one several times over. Now that they knew they had to face all tribulations simultaneously, the other girls also lacked their previous confidence.

With such a mentality, challenging the heavens was nothing else but a suicide mission. Andrea could go through thanks to her unwavering determination reflected by her [Perseverance Intent], but the truth was that she was scared the second both paths broke through.

Yasenia walked around their manor with a direction in mind. She had just finished her cultivation session and daily work and was free for the rest of the day. Her steps were light, and her tail gently swished behind her. She wore a light purple dress with a loose fit that still highlighted her curves. With her figure, finding a dress that completely hid her figure would be like putting on a potato sack, something our dragoness naturally didn't want to do.

The maids walking around the mansion greeted her as she walked, and Yasenia smiled at them and sometimes even stopped to chat for a few minutes at a time. After forty minutes of walking, she arrived at a simple yet luxurious-looking door. It was wooden with intricate details that went unnoticed until you focused on the design. It gives a cozy feeling while not looking lacking in any way.

Lifting her beautiful hand and bending her long and slender fingers, Yasenia knocked three times. "Honey, are you inside?"

The dragoness waited patiently, her hands behind her back as she waited patiently. If she entered without knocking, Yasenia knew that Kali wouldn't get angry. Not any of them, to be exact. They were always pleasantly surprised each time they saw her, after all.

With their current focus on cultivation, their time together had lessened for quite a lot. Thankfully, they didn't need to go into close-door cultivation yet because Yasenia's dual cultivation made things much more efficient, quick, and overall better than close-door cultivation.

It didn't take long before the door gently opened, revealing the fox woman. Her chestnut-colored hair was tied in a low ponytail, and she looked youthful and casual. Her two large fox ears were

straightened, clearly showing her delight from seeing Yasenia, while her three tails were wagging happily behind her.

The dragoness saw Kali's clear and happy verdant green eyes and couldn't help but feel happy, too, making her own tail wag.

Flora, who came with a few things Kali asked for, couldn't help but clutch her heart after seeing both of them. 'What is this!? Is tail wagging infectious!? They are so cute!'

Yasenia opened her arms and asked while surrounding Kali in a hug. "How are you doing, Honey?"

Kali passed her arms around Yasenia's slender and soft waist while burying her face in her neck. Thanks to their height difference, Yasenia's neck was right there to snuggle, making it a really comfortable position. Of course, there was a big plus, and that was their breasts squishing together.

The feeling of the dragoness's abundant chest colliding with hers was honestly divine as her entire body softened like a blob in the seductive woman's arms. 'Ah~, I think I will never get tired of Yasenia's hug.'

"I'm doing fine, Yasenia. Is there anything you wanted when coming here?"

The dragoness smiled and entered, walking awkwardly without breaking the tight hug and leaving the door open for Flora. "Well, I wanted to check up on you. What we discovered about the tribulations must've placed pressure on you, right? The previous hurdle that you were sure to overcome, now you are doubting yourself."

Kali paused, and Yasenia took the chance to lift her up and sit on the bed, placing Kali's soft hand behind her lap while surrounding the fox's waist with her arms.

Kali blinked and looked sideways, right into the dragoness's loving golden eyes, making her flustered. The slit pupils that gently expanded and constricted were hypnotizing, while the golden color swirled slowly in what seemed waves of liquid gold.

The enchanting eyes of her lover were such that Kali didn't doubt that if she wanted, her lover could probably seduce people with just her gaze. Kali blinked, bringing back her focus to the conversation. "Um, well. It's true that I was a bit shocked, but I'm already fine. It was just that I didn't expect to need to fight so hard, hahaha. However, with Valeria, I'm honestly not afraid."

Yasenia agreed with her. Valeria was considered Kali's strength since she was part of her skills. The same was true with Mirrory, as she was considered Angel's tool, not an outside being.

Ebirah and Sierra, on the other hand, had limits in their ability to interfere with their masters' tribulations.

In short, she was in a position where she could intervene. Still, Valeria and Kali had talked about this matter a lot, and unless absolutely necessary, Valeria didn't want to interfere in Kali's growth other than positively.

Fighting off the Heavenly Tribulation was a way of growth that didn't lose out to constant training. Tribulations forged the cultivator's mind and body in ways any other thing couldn't.

There was always a noticeable difference between cultivators who had advanced using only natural advantages and others who heavily relied on tools.

Kali looked at Yasenia and became worried. She opened her mouth a few times, not knowing how to ask without seeming too negative.

The dragoness saw through her hesitation and leaned forward to kiss her lips once softly. Kali was momentarily surprised but quickly reciprocated. The feeling of Yasenia's tender lips was like medicine for her heart. After kissing for a few minutes, Kali separated, her verdant green eyes moist and her face tainted with a blush. Even though she wanted, she couldn't really put into words how much she loved kissing her. So, she just expressed herself in the most natural way. "Yasenia, I love you."

The dragoness smiled, poking the tips of the nose together. "I love you too, Kali."

Kali smiled and laughed softly, feeling happy. Then, she grabbed one of Yasenia's hands and started playing with it. Her tails moved behind her, searching for Yasenia's tail, which promptly moved to play with them.

As their digits interlocked, Kali finally asked. "Aren't you scared?"

Yasenia paused for a few seconds and answered. "Hm... To be honest, I'm not scared." Kali looked into Yasenia's eyes as the dragoness spoke. "I'm... How to say it... Worried? No, that's not it. Hm..."

Kali blinked and asked. "Uneasy? Anxious?"

Yasenia shook her head and sighed. "Concerned should be the word. I'm not fearful, but I always wonder what would happen if I ever don't make it. I'm not uneasy, but I can feel that the time is getting close. I'm not anxious, but I can feel my mind drifting more."

The dragoness smiled. "So, I think Concerned is a good word to describe how I'm feeling."

Kali nodded, understanding where Yasenia was going. During all this time, she had been secretly monitoring Yasenia's heartbeat, and she didn't feel a change throughout. While it was a bit underhanded, Kali knew that their dragoness rarely showed her weak part to them.

Mind you, it was not because Yasenia was scared that showing her weak side would change their views or something, but because her nature as a Dragon, as the head of the harem, and as the de facto leader of their group pushed her to be strong.

Everything Yasenia faced was something someone of her age would never have to face. Although Yasenia was close to 60, her opponents had always been the people the average 60-year-old looked up to as seniors.

If Yasenia fought with people of her age instead of fighting always up, it wouldn't even be a fight. The dragoness was so far outside the "average" scale that those called "average" would be suppressed with just the pressure from her gaze.

A look from Yasenia would bring down to their knees almost anyone of her age. Kali and the rest similarly never considered themselves as someone who could confidently follow her.

The fact that they had similar cultivation levels was all thanks to Yasenia's ridiculously rich and nourishing Yang energy, which she shared with them during dual cultivating. Yes, they worked hard. Yes, they never lacked the effort. Yes, they were talented individuals.

But, above everything, Yasenia's heavy lifting allowed them to be where they currently were.



Kali couldn't help but sigh. She felt like something was chasing Yasenias, always behind her. If Yasenias ever stopped for a second, that something would try to swallow her whole, not leaving even her remains behind.

That's why they never told her anything about taking a break. Instead, they chose to step up and carry her burden together. That's why, recently, Yasenias's workload has lessened considerably. Evelyn, Andrea, Kali, Cecile, and even Angel all had become strong in their own fields, completely stripping the dragoness of the need to check on anything profession-related.

Yasenias shifted their position a bit so that they were more comfortable, and Kali looked at her with her usual gentle and soothing smile. "Say, how many bolts do you think my tribulation will have? 200? 300?"

Yasenias pondered, unsure. Then, her mellow and slightly low, seductive voice reached Kali's fox ears. "Honestly, mom never taught me things about various cultivation paths besides some speculative matters, so in this matter, I'm as ignorant as you are."

Kali hummed and asked. "Well, if you had to guess?"

The dragoness laughed and asked. "Do you want me to say a number at random?"

Kali lifted her eyebrow and smirked. "That's right."

Yasenias chuckled and thought for a few seconds. "How about... 140!"

Kali blinked twice. "140? That's less than Andrea, right?"

The dragoness nodded. "Yes, but I feel like the heavens don't really like to throw lightning. There must be a moment where each bolt changes and becomes stronger, or something similar."

Kali asked with interest. "Ho? How so?"

Yasenias pointed at one fact. "Can you imagine someone of mom's level being targeted by these lightning bolts?"

Kali imagined it and almost burst into laughter. "I just imagined it, and the Tatyana in my imagination rolled her eyes while looking at the Heavenly Tribulation."

Yasenias laughed aloud. "That's something she would certainly do. Moreover, do you remember the bolt that killed me in the secret realm? Or the one that targeted Mom when she first arrived at Distancia? Those hints pushed me to think of that outcome."

Kali found it logical and agreed. "It makes sense. If not, high-level cultivators wouldn't be that terrified of Heavenly Tribulations. I've heard that many just don't advance even when they can because they fear death."

Yasenias nodded. "It's a very common matter. That's why you see so many low-level old people, even in worlds where it is possible to go further. First, talent is a limiter, but mental strength is a bigger limiter, in my opinion. While some can achieve more, they are not ambitious enough to risk everything for that when their lives are practically solved as they are."

Kali agreed wholeheartedly.