Lightning 1191

Lightning Is the Only Way

Chapter 1191: True World

Orthar stepped to the side while Gravis and Mortis were still looking at Arc with shocked expressions.

However, when Orthar stepped to the side, it signaled the beginning of the battle.

BANG!

Arc released a tiny explosion of Heavenly Lightning and charged into the distance with incredible speeds.

Then, Arc stretched his arms to his side.

CRRRRRR!

A gigantic planet formed behind him, and Arc's entire Energy nearly left his being.

The planet grew until it was over a hundred thousand kilometers wide.

Rivers, oceans, forests, deserts, mountains, volcanoes, craters, swamps, meadows, steppes, and everything one would associate with a true world formed behind him.

In an instant, a true world was created.

Creating such a world showed one's power over reality and existence itself.

Life appeared in an instant, and the life evolved into humans.

On Arc's planet, many humans opened their eyes as they rammed their hands into the ground.

CRRRR!

All the humans pulled fully formed suits of armor and weapons out of the ground.

The humans shone for an instant, and their equipment fused with them.

Wisdom and intelligence appeared in the humans' eyes.

They looked with worship and undying loyalty at Arc.

And then, they looked with righteous anger and hatred at Gravis and Mortis.

"Fight!" one human shouted.

"FIGHT!" an army of voices echoed.

All of this had happened so fast that Gravis and Mortis couldn't even react.

SHING!

An army of over four million Peak Immortal Emperors appeared between Arc and his opponents.

Their armors shone in complex Formation Arrays, and all their power was linked.

One person stepped forward. He had white hair, and his eyes shone with endless wisdom. Uncountable Laws reflected in his eyes, and he took out a long spear.

All the humans behind him took out their own weapons, and they all performed different attacks.

The eyes of the general glistened with even more wisdom.

Four million different Form Laws had just been created and handed over to the leading person.

In an instant, the leading person created several level eight Form Laws by absorbing the knowledge of the four million other Form Laws.

BRRRRR!

The Element of Blaze burned across every single human in the army.

WHOOOM!

The Blaze shot forward, concentrated, and gathered on the leading person's spear.

Gravis' and Mortis' eyes widened.

Power!

Such power!

If that attack got unleashed, they would die!

BANG!

Mortis charged forward.

The general unleashed his spear.

SHING!

However, the fire suddenly vanished.

Mortis had arrived before the general could unleash his attack.

Mortis was Gravis' Star, and Mortis' domain took effect.

Every Star had a domain that suppressed one thing and strengthened another.

What was the domain of the Star of Sentience?

The domain of the Star of Sentience could eradicate all level seven Laws.

But wait, wasn't that worse than the actual ability of the Law of Sentience? After all, it could suppress all the level eight Laws.

Well, the difference was that the Star of Sentience didn't suppress the user.

The general couldn't use level seven Laws anymore, but Gravis and Mortis could use them.

The general's eyes widened in surprise, but he quickly adapted.

Mortis arrived in front of the general, and he unleashed his Form Law.

Mortis' Form Law took a while to unleash, but the short moment of surprise of the general had given Mortis exactly that opening.

Mortis' saber swung down.

BOOOOM!

The general's spear blocked Mortis' saber.

CRK!

Mortis' saber cracked.

However, the general's arm didn't move.

His physical power, along with his powerful Form Law, was just too overwhelming.

He was only a Peak Immortal Emperor, but the combined power of all these Peak Immortal Emperors perfectly fused into him.

Mortis narrowed his eyes as he saw that the general easily resisted his attack.

Mortis knew that if the general could block that attack, he could also block a Lightning Crescent.

Mortis' mind immediately gave the general an evaluation.

"Undefeatable."

SHING!

At the same time, Gravis unleashed his Form Law from a distance.

However, he didn't target the general, but the army behind him.

WHOOM!

However, just when the strike was about to reach the army, it suddenly halted. Then, it slowly vanished into nothingness.

Gravis narrowed his eyes as he felt space warp in front of his attack.

Gravis looked over at Arc, who was currently hovering over his planet.

Arc had expanded the space between the army and Gravis' Form Law to impossible lengths.

Gravis' strike had traveled for millions if not billions of kilometers before it eventually lost all power and vanished.

However, from the outside, it had seemingly stopped in place.

Gravis immediately knew that Arc knew the True Law of Space.

Such a feat would have been impossible otherwise.

At the same time, the general pushed his spear forward with unimaginable speed.

SHING!

The void was seemingly destroyed, and a long, black line stretched into infinity.

However, Mortis had vanished.

For an instant, the general narrowed his eyes as he realized that his prey had escaped.

Yet, he also realized that he had regained access to his Laws.

The army behind the general shone in a burning, while light, which then focused on the general.

WHOOOOM!

However, the light vanished again as Gravis activated his actual Law of Sentience.

The general glared with hatred at Gravis when he felt that all his Laws had left him again.

Then, the general stepped forward.

BOOOOM!

In an instant, the general arrived at Gravis' location, and his spear punched forward.

BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG!

Over ten shields had been summoned in front of Gravis, but they were all destroyed in an instant.

Those shields had all had the power of Hard Pure Materials of the ninth level of the Star God Realm.

The spear reached Gravis, but Gravis barely managed to evade to the side.

The shields had delayed the strike just enough for him to evade.

'The True Law of Hard Complex Materials,' Gravis realized.

His enemy's weapon was far superior to his own.

Gravis had already tried to redirect the strike with his Major Law of Perceived Reality, but that hadn't worked. Arc also knew that Law, which made it unusable against him or his general.

BOOOM!

However, just when the general missed his attack, the planet below Arc exploded.

Arc's eyes widened in surprise. Logically, it should have been impossible for anyone to destroy his planet. After all, there were trillions of kilometers of stretched space between his planet and the battlefield.

Mortis appeared at the place where Arc's planet had just been.

When Mortis was intangible, he was immune to all Laws.

That included the Law of Space.

Mortis had noticed that Arc's planet was absorbing Energy like crazy.

In just an instant, Arc's empty Energy storages had been refilled, and he had been about to summon the next army of humans.

Luckily, Mortis had destroyed Arc's planet before they could unite.

Four million Peak Immortal Emperors united was an unopposable force.

Four million Peak Immortal Emperors divided were weak.

All of them had been annihilated and transformed into Heavenly Lightning, which quickly entered Mortis' saber.

Mortis' saber violently crackled with lightning as he vanished again.

Arc's eyes widened.

Then, Mortis appeared beside Arc, and he was already mid-swing.

Lightning Is the Only Way

Chapter 1192: Perilous Fight

Arc was about to be hit by a Lightning Crescent.

However, he didn't appear nervous.

CRK!

A crack in the air appeared as Mortis' saber was suddenly stopped in the middle of his swing.

Mortis' eyes widened in shock.

Something had happened that he would have never expected to happen.

Mortis had lost control over his lightning!

"All Laws must obey the Law of the True World."

Mortis felt this sentence resonate throughout the surroundings.

It was like Arc's will had physically manifested.

Then, the Heavenly Lightning in Mortis' saber left it and directly shot at Mortis.

BOOOM!

Mortis' body exploded as his own Lightning Crescent hit him.

An instant later, Mortis' body reappeared.

He was uninjured but shocked.

If Mortis hadn't been immune to lightning, he would have died.

In actuality, if all Laws of Mortis' attack had been reflected on him, he would have actually died.

Why?

Because his Lightning Crescent had been infused with the Major Law of Death.

If Mortis had been hit by that power, he would have stopped existing.

Luckily, the Major Law of Death didn't follow Arc's orders.

The attack had failed from both sides, but Mortis and Gravis had gained valuable knowledge.

'The ability of the Star of the True World is control over all Laws,' they realized.

What a terrifying ability.

Everything that naturally existed in a world couldn't be used as a weapon, and it would become one's enemy on top of that.

If Mortis had used a different Element, he would have been severely injured, at least.

However, Mortis quickly recovered.

CRK!

Mortis transformed into his beast form and attacked Arc with his saber.

Arc was two levels below Mortis, which gave Mortis the advantage of a more powerful body.

Mortis struck.

SHING!

However, he missed.

Arc's body had blurred, and he had stepped to the side in an instant.

The True Law of Space was a level nine Law, and the Law of Sentience couldn't suppress it.

Then, Arc lunged forward with his sword.

BANG!

Mortis barely managed to put his saber in front of Arc's sword.

Luckily, Arc only had the physical power of a level three Star God, which was nothing in comparison to the general.

So, even though Arc's weapon was superior to Mortis' weapon, Arc wasn't powerful enough to break Mortis' saber.

At the same time, the general lunged at Gravis again.

CRK!

Gravis transformed into his beast form, and he extended one of his left arms to the side.

BZZZ!

Some Heavenly Lightning appeared in his arm.

SHING!

The general's spear punched through Gravis' arm, which surprised the general.

He had targeted Gravis' body!

Gravis had used the effect of Heavenly Lightning's magnetism to redirect the attack of the general.

Then, Gravis unleashed his Form Law towards the general.

BANG!

The general moved with unreal speeds and blocked the attack with his spear.

Gravis jumped back to gain some distance during that moment and unleashed his Form Law again.

The Form Law shot towards the army behind the general.

In the distance, Arc's eyes shone.

The Form Law halted again and dissipated as Arc expanded space.

That's when Mortis unleashed his Form Law.

Every moment of distraction was pivotal in battle.

SHING!

Arc managed to move to the side, but his left hand was cut off.

Arc quickly tried to heal it, but his eyes widened when he realized that there was nothing to be healed.

It was like he had always had only one hand.

Arc narrowed his eyes as he used the level eight Law of Body Growth together with the Major Law of Life to create a new arm.

WHOOOM!

Yet, the level eight Law of Body Growth was suppressed by Mortis' Law of Sentience.

The Major Law of Life could create new bodies up to the Peak Immortal Emperor Realm. However, it couldn't grow the bodies of Star Gods. It needed the relevant Growth Law for that, but the Growth Law had been suppressed by the Law of Sentience.

Because of that, Arc's hand couldn't be regenerated.

Arc realized that he had underestimated his opponent.

At the same time, in the distance, the general unleashed another attack at Gravis.

Gravis activated his speed-related Laws to evade to the side.

Arc's eyes shone.

Suddenly, Gravis' speed was slowed to a ridiculous degree.

It was like he was standing still!

Gravis looked at the approaching spear of the general.

BANG!

Gravis transformed into Void Lightning, and the spear destroyed about 20% of all the lightning.

In the distance, Mortis unleashed another attack at Arc.

Gravis knew that he couldn't possibly defeat the general.

He was truly undefeatable.

At least not while Arc was paying attention.

So, the only thing Gravis could do was survive and distract Arc until Mortis could kill him.

Without Mortis, Gravis would be helpless, and without Gravis, Mortis would be helpless.

The Major Law of the True World was just too overwhelmingly powerful.

If Mortis hadn't had his ability to become intangible, Arc would have created an infinite number of additional soldiers with his planet.

If Mortis didn't have access to the Major Law of Death, Arc would have already fully regenerated.

If Mortis hadn't been immune to his own lightning, he would have already died.

The two of them needed all their inherent advantages just to stay alive.

Arc was two levels below them, but without all these advantages, Gravis and Mortis wouldn't even be able to put up a fight.

Arc had been distracted by Gravis again, and Mortis used this opportunity to attack him again. He used a normal attack since his Form Law was too slow.

Mortis' Form Law had been created to counter someone at a higher Realm than him, but Arc was in a lower Realm. This meant that the destructive power of one of Mortis' normal attacks was enough to kill Arc. Additionally, his normal attacks were way faster than his Form Law.

BANG!

An incredibly powerful explosion of the Hurricane and Adamantite Elements appeared beside Arc, which threw Mortis' saber to the side.

Due to the level difference, Arc had used nearly 20% of his Energy storage to throw off Mortis' attack.

However, it had worked.

Time and space warped around Arc while Mortis' attack was thrown to the side.

Arc's speed reached unfathomable realms, and he stabbed Mortis' head with his sword.

SHING!

However, Mortis had vanished.

Mortis had become intangible.

Arc's eyes narrowed as he realized that Mortis' invisibility wasn't as simple as he had thought.

He had been sure that his attack had been too fast for Mortis to evade, which meant that Mortis had some unknown ability.

This copy of Arc didn't know about Gravis' and Mortis' abilities, which was why he had made wrong calls a couple of times.

At the same time, the general's spear shot forward again.

Gravis' tail moved from behind him to intercept the spear.

BANG!

At the last second, a small armor plate appeared on Gravis' tail, and as soon as it touched the spear, it violently exploded with Blaze.

Gravis' tail was reduced to ashes.

SHING!

Yet, the explosion's force pushed Gravis to the distance, allowing him to escape from the strike.

Arc could control Laws, but what was there to control about an explosion?

It would explode regardless.

If the explosion moved towards the spear, the spear would be slowed.

If the explosion moved towards Gravis, he would be injured and pushed away.

There was nothing Arc could do about that.

Sadly, creating such a powerful explosion with the Blaze Element needed over 10% of Gravis' Energy.

It would have been easier with Heavenly Lightning, but Gravis knew that Arc would have simply transformed the Heavenly Lightning's properties to magnetism.

That would kill Gravis.

While Gravis was thrown away, he unleashed another attack with his Form Law at the army behind the general.

Arc expanded the space again.

Every time he expanded space, it ate up a bit of his Energy.

However, that expenditure was necessary.

If Arc didn't do that, a huge chunk of the army would be destroyed, which would weaken the general significantly.

SHING!

Mortis appeared again with another attack.

Arc's eyes narrowed as he looked at Mortis.

Suddenly, Mortis' body froze.

His eyes were just as intense as before, and they showed how determined he was at killing this copy of Arc.

However, he simply didn't move anymore.

Time had frozen.

Gravis saw this from a distance, and his eyes widened.

Arc stabbed his sword towards Mortis.

Gravis' mind was going wild.

Mortis couldn't make himself intangible when he couldn't will it.

Sure, Gravis could make Mortis intangible, but what then?

Arc would just freeze time for both Gravis and Mortis after that.

At that time, Mortis would die.

Gravis could also die.

The only reason why Arc hadn't used the True Law of Time previously was that he was afraid of any unforeseen powers. Additionally, to freeze time for someone two levels above him took an unreal amount of Energy.

Gravis had to do something!

Lightning Is the Only Way

Chapter 1193: On the Cusp of Death

Gravis' mind raced as he tried his best to come up with an actual solution.

Mortis would be able to survive this strike, but the one after that would kill him.

Gravis' perception connected with Mortis' perception, and Gravis felt how it felt to be frozen in time.

Understanding enveloped Gravis' mind as all his past interactions with time fused.

Gravis' eyes shone.

SHING!

Mortis became intangible due to Gravis' order, and Arc's attack missed.

Arc's eyes narrowed.

The general unleashed another attack at Gravis.

This time, it was Gravis who was distracted.

Gravis realized that he couldn't evade and only barely managed to move upward a bit.

BANG!

The spear punched through Gravis' chest and destroyed nearly all of it.

Usually, a Cultivator would unleash their Law to make the opponent explode from inside, but since all the Laws of the general were suppressed, he couldn't do that.

At that moment, Mortis reappeared and unleashed another attack at Arc.

Arc gritted his teeth and froze time for both Mortis and Gravis.

Mortis stopped in his tracks.

Gravis also stopped.

The general pulled his spear out again and stabbed it towards Gravis' head.

Arc slashed at Mortis.

SHING! CLANK!

Gravis suddenly moved to the side as Mortis blocked Arc's slash.

Arc's eyes widened.

There was only one explanation for why the two of them could escape frozen time.

They knew the True Law of Time!

Knowing the True Law of Time made one immune to all Time Laws.

Gravis and Mortis had faked being frozen to force Arc to use more of his Energy, and it had worked.

Arc now had less than 50% of his Energy left.

Mortis activated his own True Law of Time. He hadn't been able to use the Major Law of Time previously since it was only at the power of a level seven Law, but now, it had the power of a level nine Law.

Mortis moved with incredible speeds, and Arc barely managed to evade to the side by using his own True Law of Time on himself.

However, the speed difference was just too vast.

SHING!

A huge chunk of Arc's left side was cut off with the Major Law of Death.

Gravis saw his chance and unleashed another attack at the army behind the general with his Form Law.

Arc's eyes focused on the army again, but then, his eyes widened in terror.

"ААААННННН!"

Arc suddenly shouted in unreal pain as his concentration waned.

The general's eyes widened as he glanced at Arc.

"My lord!" the general shouted in fear.

Mortis' attack hadn't only been loaded with the Major Law of Death but also with the True Law of Suffering.

Just for a second, Mortis had deactivated his Law of Sentience so that he could use that Law.

Luckily, Arc hadn't noticed that his Laws had returned for just an instant.

Due to the pain, Arc couldn't use the True Law of Space to isolate the army.

Gravis' Form Law hit the army.

BOOOOOOM!

Gravis' attack exploded, enveloping the entire army.

At the same time, the general shouted in pain.

A deep cut appeared on his torso, and it radiated the aura of the Major Law of Death.

The army reappeared, but the members were all in different conditions.

Some were missing arms.

Some were missing legs.

Some were bisected.

Some had even died.

The general's condition was equivalent to the average condition of his army, and the general's condition showed that the average of his army was severely injured.

The army could have sacrificed some individuals to keep the others perfectly healthy, but that would reduce the overall power of the general.

The more members of the army were alive, the more powerful the general was.

Because of that, they had decided to share the injuries amongst everyone.

This meant that every survivor was heavily injured now, but the general didn't lose too much power.

Gravis immediately unleashed another attack with his Form Law.

BANG!

The general appeared in front of the attack and blocked it.

In the distance, Mortis was attacking Arc again.

Arc barely recovered his faculties with gritted teeth.

BANG! SHING!

Space suddenly exploded around Arc as he forcefully tore space apart to teleport away.

That move used up 10% of Arc's Energy, but it was instantaneous, and it couldn't be stopped as long as the other side didn't know the True Law of Space.

Arc appeared far in the distance.

Mortis vanished as he became intangible again.

Arc's eyes burned with fury.

And then, Arc looked at Gravis.

BANG! SHING!

Space around Arc exploded again as he arrived in front of Gravis.

The general unleashed another attack at Gravis.

Gravis gritted his teeth.

SHING!

A second saber appeared in another two hands of Gravis, and Arc noticed that Gravis was ready for his attack.

Arc realized that attacking Gravis was risky.

The general was basically invincible in front of Gravis, which meant that Arc didn't have to fear for him.

However, Arc wasn't.

Arc also gritted his teeth as he made a decision.

Arc extended his hands towards Gravis' direction.

Gravis suddenly felt a force interact with his body.

Gravis hadn't felt this force before.

It felt like... decomposition.

It was like a natural deterioration of life itself.

It wasn't like Death, which completely canceled Energy out.

No, it was like the force of Life was trying to vanish from Gravis.

However, it was only trying.

Arc's eyes widened in shock.

He had just used the power of the Law of Sentient Life!

This Law exchanged Energy for the direct deterioration of Life Energy in someone else, and the scary thing about it was that it couldn't be stopped.

However, it was stopped!

Arc could only come up with one explanation, but that explanation was impossible.

The only possibility of why his Law couldn't work was that Gravis was not comprised of Energy.

But how would that even work!?

The attack of the general arrived.

BZZZZ!

Gravis transformed into Void Lightning again.

However, the general had already seen that move before.

SHING! SHING!

The general unleashed several quick strikes, taking out nearly 80% of the Void Lightning.

The remaining Void Lightning moved to the side and charged towards Arc.

Gravis rematerialized.

Luckily, he had absorbed more Energy than necessary to become a level four Star God, which meant that he was still a level four Star God.

Otherwise, he would have fallen a level.

However, Gravis had still used up an incredible amount of Energy with this maneuver, but it was necessary.

The general would have killed him if that attack had hit. Gravis had basically used up all his tricks for staying alive.

He was running out of escape methods, and he had to end the fight quickly.

As Gravis charged at Arc, Mortis also reappeared behind him.

Mortis unleashed an attack, while Gravis unleashed his Form Law.

Arc's eyes narrowed.

WHOOOM!

Gravis' Form Law was stopped by the True Law of Space.

SHING!

Mortis cut off the remainder of Arc's left arm.

Arc gritted his teeth as an unending amount of pain assaulted him.

However, he had already felt the pain, and he was prepared for it.

Then, Gravis opened his mouth, and a wide beam of Heavenly Lightning left it.

It was the all-out attack of beasts.

This attack didn't use a specific Law, which made it immune towards the control the Major Law of the True World had over all the Laws.

The attack vanished as it couldn't overcome the expanded space.

However, more of Arc's Energy was used up.

In the instant Gravis unleashed his all-out attack, he transformed into Void Lightning.

Only a little bit of Void Lightning was left.

Why did he do that?

If Gravis remained in his material body, his Realm would reduce, but as long as he remained in the form of Void Lightning, his Realm would be unstable.

This meant that it couldn't pull down Mortis with it.

If Gravis transformed into his physical body, both he and Mortis would fall to the third level of the Star God Realm. At that point, the fight would be over.

Right now, Mortis was still full of Energy, and he unleashed a Lightning Crescent.

Arc quickly took control over the Lightning Crescent and stopped it in its track.

However, Mortis charged through the Lightning Crescent like it didn't exist and attacked Arc.

Arc had been busy controlling the Lightning Crescent's sheer power, which allowed Mortis to close in.

Mortis' saber slashed towards Arc's head.

Arc only looked with intense eyes at the approaching saber.

BANG!

The general appeared between Arc and Mortis, blocking the blow.

Mortis gritted his teeth in frustration.

Meanwhile, the cloud of Void Lightning charged at the Lightning Crescent and absorbed it.

The Lightning Crescent was pulled along by the cloud of Void Lightning and joined it.

However, this was only temporary Energy from Mortis, and it couldn't increase Gravis' Realm. If it worked like that, Gravis could just shoot Lightning Crescents at himself to become more powerful.

The cloud of Void Lightning pulled the Heavenly Lightning behind itself and charged at the army.

The general immediately charged after the cloud of Void Lightning.

Mortis charged at Arc.

Arc knew that he couldn't fully evade the strike, so he blocked it with his sword.

BANG!

Arc's sword was thrown into the distance.

The sword left the range of their Spirit Sense in an instant, making it impossible to retrieve it.

However, Arc managed to stay alive.

Meanwhile, the general closed in on the cloud of Void Lightning.

He was far faster than the cloud of Void Lightning, and he struck towards it.

This strike would reduce it to nothingness.

Meanwhile, Gravis' mind focused on something.

This was his last chance.

And eventually, he succeeded.

Lightning Is the Only Way

Chapter 1194: Fifth Trial

The general struck with his spear towards the cloud of Void Lightning.

His strike would hit, and the cloud of Void Lightning would turn to nothingness.

SHING!

The attack struck.

However, the cloud of Void Lightning escaped!

The general's eyes widened in terror and shock.

What!?

How!?

Had the cloud of Void Lightning sped up!?

The general realized that the cloud of Void Lightning had sped up by quite a bit, which had made the general misjudge the distance.

"AAAAHHHH!"

Painful screams of terror rang throughout the nothingness.

It came from the army.

The general looked over, and his expression turned into horror.

What was he seeing!?

His soldiers were turning into husks!

The ball of Heavenly Lightning was shrinking while the soldiers were turning to husks.

What had happened?

As Gravis was charging over, he had fully focused on the Soul Laws.

Gravis' mind was working overtime at this critical moment of danger, and he had managed to comprehend the Major Law of Soul Infusion, a level five Law.

That in itself wasn't very useful, but it started a chain reaction.

When Gravis comprehended the Law of Soul Infusion, he automatically comprehended the Major Law of the Soul, which was a level six Law.

However, when Gravis comprehended the Major Law of the Soul, he automatically comprehended the Major Law of Life, a level seven Law.

Lastly, the Major Law of Life fused with the Major Law of Sentience, creating the Major Law of Sentient Life!

Gravis' Star was immediately upgraded as it now also included the Life Laws.

It had transformed from the Star of Sentience to the Star of Sentient Life!

With the major Law of Sentient Life, Gravis received the ability to exchange Energy for Life Energy.

Gravis used that ability to transform the Energy in the Lightning Crescent into a force of deterioration for all the Peak Immortal Emperors in the army.

Their armors couldn't protect them against such an attack.

Because of that, around 98% of the army was turned into nothing but husks.

The power of the general had fallen to the level of a level one Star God.

That was why he had slowed down.

However, the cloud of Void Lightning didn't stop, and it shot towards the army.

Arc noticed it, but he couldn't waste any more Energy.

SHING!

Arc gritted his teeth as Mortis used the Major Law of Death and the True Law of Suffering again to injure Arc.

Gravis reached the army, and he transformed from Void Lightning into Heavenly Lightning.

BZZZZ!

The sound of an electric spark echoed throughout the nothingness, and the army was turned into Heavenly Lightning.

The Heavenly Lightning grew and absorbed all the corpses.

The general knew that his end had arrived.

He was only a normal Peak Immortal Emperor now.

After absorbing all the Energy, Gravis transformed back.

He had absorbed enough Energy to not fall an entire level.

Gravis looked at the general with cold eyes.

BANG!

The general was turned into nothingness as Gravis' Spirit squished him like an ant.

Arc's eyes widened in terror.

What could he do!?

Arc barely managed to evade another one of Mortis' attacks.

SHING!

That's when Gravis unleashed his Form Law.

Arc could evade one attack, but not two.

Gravis' Form Law bisected Arc and made it impossible for him to regenerate.

SHING!

That's when Mortis destroyed Arc's head.

It was over.

It was finally over.

Silence.

Gravis and Mortis released deep sighs.

That had been way too close.

If Arc had known their abilities beforehand...

If Arc had been able to adapt to the situation with his creative personality...

If they hadn't been immune to so many of Arc's abilities...

Gravis and Mortis had had so many arguably unfair advantages over Arc, but they had only barely won.

Even more, Arc had been two levels below them.

If Arc had been on their level...

The general would have killed Gravis with his first strike.

"You managed to survive," Orthar said as he reappeared.

Gravis and Mortis didn't answer as they focused on calming down.

"Reap your rewards and evaluate your gains," Orthar said. "You will need them for the fifth and last trial."

Mortis' and Gravis' eyes widened.

Right!

This had been the fourth trial, not the fifth!

There was one more!

"The fifth trial can't be as difficult as this, right?" Gravis asked with an exhausted voice.

"Reach the ninth level of the Star God Realm before entering the fifth trial," Orthar said.

Then, he disappeared.

Gravis and Mortis looked at each other with worry.

They only remained silent for some seconds.

"One thing at a time," Gravis said.

Mortis nodded.

Over the next minute, the two of them calmed down.

BANG!

That's when their Will-Aura explosively rose.

Their Will-Aura shot through the roof, and it increased by several levels.

Eventually, it settled in the fifth level of the Ancestral God Realm.

Gravis and Mortis wanted to feel relieved, but the fifth trial hung over their head.

What had Orthar planned for them?

It couldn't be a fight, right?

Arc was already as powerful as it got.

Did he want them to jump seven levels?

No, Gravis was sure that couldn't be it.

Right now, Gravis could probably attempt to jump seven levels, but if Orthar wanted to do that to them, he wouldn't ask them to become level nine Star Gods first.

The average power of the opponents always increased with each level.

Jumping seven levels now would be reduced to maybe jumping six levels at the level nine Star God Realm.

Additionally, their Will-Auras would be too weak at that point.

"Let's just listen to him," Gravis said. "If he says we should become level nine Star Gods, we should do so. After all, he was right when he said we couldn't win if we hadn't been level four Star Gods."

Mortis nodded.

Over the next years, Gravis and Mortis strategized.

Then, they absorbed God Stones until they became level nine Star Gods.

Gravis was now at the end of the Star God Realm.

From now on, he would only fight Ancestral Gods.

Except for Arc, Gravis and Mortis were the most powerful Star Gods in existence.

Eventually, the two of them readied themselves and entered the hallway to the fifth and final trial.

When they had walked to the fourth trial, they had been full of battle-intent and conviction, but now, they were solemn.

What could the last trial be?

After some hours, the two of them arrived in front of the last gate.

The two of them looked at each other, and they nodded one last time.

Then, they pushed open the door.

The two of them saw the area for their last trial.

BOOOOOM!

Volcanoes exploded all over the world.

Everything was bathed in an impossible powerful kind of fire.

It was red like blood, and its power was apocalyptic.

The two of them immediately realized that this was the ninth-level Law equivalent of the Fire Element.

It was Heavenly Fire.

For a second, the two of them thought that their last trial was about comprehending a Law, but that thought vanished as they saw the person standing beside Orthar.

Gravis and Mortis would only fight Ancestral Gods from now on?

No.

There was one last Star God.

Their eyes widened in surprise and horror.

Besides Orthar stood a level nine Star God.

He had black hair, and he had a shaved chin.

A black saber hung on his back.

His eyes only spoke of the absence of compassion.

His eyes only showed absolute destruction, arrogance, and conviction.

Even more, his Will-Aura was... unimaginable!

He was a Star God, but his Will-Aura...

His Will-Aura...

It was on the level of a level one Divine God!

Even more, Gravis and Mortis felt the power of Suppression, Freedom, and Apathy radiating off this person.

After a long while, the two of them released a shaky breath.

This level nine Star God...

They had no idea how powerful he actually was.

They only knew that he was incredibly powerful.

He was on their level, but they had no idea if they could win, even if they fought two-on-one.

"You might be the most powerful Star Gods residing in this Cosmos, except for my firstborn."

"However, are you the most powerful Star Gods that have ever existed?"

"I might not be able to copy your father, but I can reawaken a past version of him."

"He's your opponent."

In front of Gravis and Mortis stood the genius that had dominated everyone.

Orthar had created a copy of the Opposer when he had been a level nine Star God.

He would be their opponent.

Lightning Is the Only Way

Chapter 1195: Pressure and Brutality

Gravis and Mortis looked at the young version of the Opposer with solemn eyes.

They knew how powerful their father was, and they also knew that he had been a terrifying Cultivator, even when he had been younger.

Just his Will-Aura alone was terrifyingly powerful.

He had a Will-Aura equivalent to a Divine God as a level nine Star God.

This told them two things.

First of all, the Opposer knew the Law of Freedom, and probably even the true version. The Major Law of Freedom only went up to the eighth level as long as it was included in another Law and then used as a Star. This meant that it could only support the freedom of a Cultivator up to the peak of the Ancestral God Realm.

The Major Law of Freedom wasn't enough to increase someone's capabilities to the Divine God Realm.

The second thing they noticed was that the Opposer had gone through an incredible number of battles.

His life had probably been far more dangerous than Gravis' or Mortis' lives.

On top of that, Gravis felt an unreal amount of pressure emanating from the younger version of the Opposer.

It was like he was the master over everything.

Everything was beneath him.

It was like Gravis had entered the domain of a demon king.

The pressure was icy, oppressive, overbearing, brutal, and absolute.

Not many people would be able to feel all the intricacies of this unreal pressure, but Gravis knew enough Laws to feel out everything.

This unique pressure came from the True Law of Suppression, the True Law of Control, the True Law of Apathy, the True Law of Rage, the True Law of Pride, and the Major Law of Death.

Together with the True Law of Freedom, the Opposer had to know due to his Will-Aura, Gravis realized that the young version of his father knew at least six level nine Laws.

Gravis himself only knew three.

In terms of high-ranking Laws, the Opposer was far above them.

In terms of Will-Aura, he was also above them.

However, there was one thing Gravis noticed in which they had the edge.

The Opposer didn't give off the feelings of the Life Law. Additionally, he lacked the Law of Perceived Reality, based on what Gravis was feeling.

This meant that the young Opposer couldn't possibly have a fused Major version of a Main Law.

At most, he could have the Law of the Dead World and the Law of Emotions. However, those two Laws couldn't be fused.

Gravis guessed that the Opposer was probably missing the Plant Laws in the Life Law category.

He also guessed that the Opposer probably didn't have the Law of Safety in the Perceived Reality Law category.

In short, the Opposer had specialized in one or two paths and pushed them to the peak while Gravis was improving himself all around.

Gravis knew that they had a chance, but their victory was not even close to secure.

After some seconds, Orthar moved to the side.

This signaled the start of the fight.

Gravis and Mortis took out their sabers.

Then, the young Opposer slowly took out his saber.

CRRRRR!

As soon as he retrieved his saber, the world started shaking.

Heavenly Fire was exploding out of the ground, and powerful magma flooded the entire area.

At this moment, Gravis and Mortis felt the most powerful pressure they had ever felt in their entire lives.

Their bodies even gave off some slight cracking noises under the pressure.

WHOOOM!

The two of them activated the Major Law of Freedom, which had been boosted to the power of a level eight Law.

It was enough to withstand the pressure of a Peak Ancestral God.

However, this pressure was even superior.

Gravis' own powerful Will-Aura canceled out the remainder easily, but this wasn't the end.

The world changed color to an oppressive grey as the True Law of Suppression and the True Law of Apathy were unleashed.

WHOOOM!

The grey color vanished as Gravis unleashed his True Law of Empathy. The True Law of Empathy was generally useless in battle, except for when the opponent unleashed the True Law of Apathy.

Empathy and apathy canceled each other out.

However, the True Law of Suppression still attacked them unhindered.

Gravis and Mortis tried everything, but it wasn't enough.

For the first time in a long while, the two of them were suppressed again by an enemy's pressure.

They gritted their teeth as their bodies felt like they had been encased by lead.

Their speed had been slowed by 50%!

The young Opposer's eyes narrowed further when he saw that Gravis and Mortis could still move.

The Opposer lifted his saber.

CRRRRR!

As the Opposer lifted his saber, the world shook even more.

The air around his saber transformed into a black and dark-red mix of colors, which morphed into tortured, smoky, ethereal faces.

Gravis could only feel one single thing.

Brutality.

Absolute, sheer brutality.

This strike represented the Opposer's mind, personality, life, and goals.

There was only destruction.

There was no greed, empathy, freedom, happiness, sadness, or anything in the strike.

It was like the entire goal of the Opposer was simply to destroy as much as possible.

He only wanted to destroy.

He didn't have any other goal.

Even more, the conviction in the Opposer's eyes was unequaled.

It was like he had been born to destroy.

It was his life's mission and his goal.

It was who he was.

Yet, his face only showed cold disregard.

The world and the atmosphere shook under the pressure as all the volcanoes around them broke apart and got flattened.

Gravis felt the incredible power behind the slash, even before it had been unleashed.

It was world-ending.

It was like the very antithesis to existence had arrived to eradicate existence itself.

However, the most shocking of all was that Gravis didn't know what this slash even was.

It obviously wasn't a Law, but it also didn't feel like a Form Law.

It was like... something completely new.

Even more, the absolute power of this slash felt even more powerful than a level nine Law.

In this absolute domain of suppression, apathy, and control, Gravis knew that it was impossible for him to block or evade the attack.

This attack would kill him.

After an instant, the Opposer lowered his saber to strike.

Yet, he attacked in a seemingly random direction.

BOOOOOOOOOM!

Nothingness.

Everything for hundreds of thousands of kilometers in a line had disintegrated and vanished.

There was no more Energy in that direction.

After the Opposer had unleashed his strike, his brows furrowed.

SHING!

Mortis suddenly appeared beside the Opposer with a loaded Lightning Crescent.

The Opposer had just unleashed his slash towards Mortis.

He hadn't been able to see or hear Mortis since he had gone intangible, but his instincts had told him that he had to strike towards that direction.

The Opposer's instincts were terrifying.

Mortis had been just about to become tangible and attack the Opposer, but just when he had planned to attack him, the Opposer had attacked him.

If Gravis hadn't used the True Law of Time to pause time for a tiny instant, Mortis would have died.

If Mortis had been alone, he would have already lost the fight.

The Opposer would have killed someone that could become intangible with a mere thought.

Lightning Is the Only Way

Chapter 1196: No Choice

Mortis unleashed his Lightning Crescent from directly beside the Opposer.

The Opposer's eyes shone with a cold light.

BOOOOOOM!

The Lightning Crescent exploded, but instead of its normal round shape, a quarter of the explosion was missing.

The Opposer's saber unleashed grinding noises as it broke the explosion apart, which resulted in everything around them being destroyed, except for him.

Brutality emanated from the Opposer again as his saber moved against the explosion, continuing to strike the center of it.

CRACK!

Mortis' saber inside the explosion was destroyed as the Opposer's saber went through it.

SHING!

As the swing of the Opposer's saber ended, the explosion and everything else around him vanished.

Mortis had barely managed to become intangible, but a deep cut went along his abdomen.

Even more, this cut had been infused with the Major Law of Death.

Mortis couldn't easily recover from this cut. He would need to transform into lightning and back.

Then, the Opposer's saber violently swung around.

BANG!

It barely blocked the Form Law Gravis had unleashed, and the Opposer was slightly pushed back.

Gravis quickly extended one of his free hands to freeze the Opposer in time.

SHING!

Mortis appeared beside the Opposer and unleashed his Form Law with a new saber.

BANG!

The surrounding reality seemingly exploded as the Opposer moved his saber to block Mortis' attack.

BANG!

Mortis' attack landed, and the Opposer was shot towards the ground.

Meanwhile, Gravis was in shock.

The Opposer obviously didn't know the True Law of Time, but he had still managed to break through the restriction.

Was it the True Law of Freedom?

Gravis wasn't completely sure.

If it were the True Law of Freedom, the Opposer would have been completely immune, but that hadn't been the case. He had been halted for an instant.

But then, how did he break out of the time freeze?

Gravis only remembered that an overpowering force had eaten up his attack.

Gravis knew this force, but he hadn't expected that it also had such an effect.

It was the Major Law of Death.

However, Gravis was sure that he couldn't accomplish something like this with his Major Law of Death.

It was like the Opposer's Major Law of Death was even more powerful.

'Did he use the Major Law of Death as his Star?' Gravis thought.

These thoughts only took Gravis an instant to create, and he had already unleashed his Form Law again.

BANG!

Gravis' attack exploded on the ground, but the Opposer had already vanished.

Gravis knew that the Opposer had used his Elemental Synchronicity to fuse with the Heavenly Fire to block his attack.

BOOOOOM!

Suddenly, the world seemingly exploded again as all the Heavenly Fire violently shot upward.

Mortis went intangible, but Gravis had to confront the attack.

Gravis' will canceled out the will of the Opposer, which made it impossible for the Opposer to control the Heavenly Fire.

However, that still didn't stop the attack. This move only stopped future attacks.

SHING!

Gravis unleashed his Form Law towards the ground, barely managing to create a small opening in the avalanche of Heavenly Fire.

Then, Gravis summoned two shields, which he used as a plow to redirect the force.

Gravis' two shields burned violently, and they began melting.

However, Gravis kept supplying them with the Zero Element, which kept them stable.

Yet, the explosion just didn't end.

The Opposer couldn't easily control the Heavenly Fire, but he could agitate its destructive powers.

In short, he was making the Heavenly Fire explode.

BANG!

Suddenly, an earthquake shook everything below Gravis, and the explosion stopped.

BANG! BANG!

Another two earthquakes happened, and Gravis immediately charged towards the ground.

Gravis unleashed his Form Law again and attacked the ground.

BANG!

A giant crevice appeared in the ground, but at the end of it, Gravis could see the Opposer in a blocking position.

A large cut went along the Opposer's torso, and it was giving off a lot of Death.

Mortis had been the one that had stopped the Opposer's attack earlier, and he had managed to land a blow.

However, he hadn't gotten off uninjured.

Mortis' body was nearly cut in two.

Even worse, this gigantic cut also gave off a lot of Death.

Usually, a Cultivator wouldn't die from such an injury, but it was different if it involved the Major Law of Death.

Mortis would continue losing Life Energy until he eventually ran out.

This had been the Opposer's plan.

He had exchanged a minor injury for a killing blow.

The Opposer's eyes showed an emotionless and icy calm.

He was in total control.

Everything had to bow to him or vanish.

BANG!

Suddenly, everything around the Opposer exploded with endless destruction. His body shot forward with incredible speed as the near-dead Mortis was thrown to the distance.

WHOOOOM!

Everything around Gravis became black and red as the Opposer appeared before him.

For an instant, it felt like existence had been frozen in place as Gravis entered hell.

Brutality replaced reality as the end of existence closed in on Gravis.

The Opposer had readied the same attack he had wanted to unleash at the beginning of the battle, and this time, he would unleash it.

Mortis was charging over with all of his speed, but the Opposer's pressure slowed him down significantly.

Mortis couldn't stop the attack this time.

Gravis' Form Law wouldn't be powerful enough to block the attack.

Gravis' Lightning Crescent wouldn't be powerful enough to block the attack.

Mortality would take too long.

Gravis could try to exchange injuries, but he knew his father, even if this was a younger version.

He would go through with the exchange, and Gravis would die.

There was only a single thing Gravis could do.

CRK!

Time froze around the Opposer for an instant, but the force of Death rapidly consumed Gravis' time freeze.

The Opposer was mid-strike, and the accumulated power would still be able to break through all of Gravis' attacks.

Gravis could only unleash one attack, and it had to be one that would save his life.

It was a gamble, but it was the only thing Gravis could do.

SHING!

Gravis unleashed his attack.

Reality warped.

Time froze.

"I don't want to give him away!"

The Opposer suddenly heard the voice of an unknown woman, and he looked around in confusion.

However, he quickly realized that he had been the one that had shouted this sentence.

"He's my baby, and I won't allow you to take him away!"

"We can't support another child, Martha. We've talked about this!" a rough man said coldly from beside the woman.

"I don't care! I won't give up [...]!"

The Opposer's eyes widened.

That was his name!

At the same time, Gravis wanted to release a sigh, but he couldn't since he had no control over his body right now.

The Opposer's true name had been replaced with silence for Gravis, which was a good thing.

If Gravis heard the Opposer's true name, Orthar might directly throw his plan overboard to kill Gravis.

Knowing the Opposer's name was a danger to Orthar's life, and he wouldn't gamble with his life.

However, Orthar had censored Samsara.

Samsara had been the only way out of this situation for Gravis.

'Sorry for the invasion of privacy, father, but I didn't have another choice.'

Lightning Is the Only Way

Chapter 1197: Hatred

The Opposer had been born into a poor farmer family with four other children.

The four children and the two parents worked on the farm, but they didn't have enough money to give work to all of them.

In essence, the children weren't working much, but that wasn't a good thing.

The family had nearly no money, and they could barely live off their own food.

The farm was truly tiny.

When the mother had become pregnant with her fifth child, the two parents began to despair.

They couldn't just kill the child since it was their child. On top of that, they didn't even know how to do something like that without endangering the mother's life.

So, they had decided to give it away to the army of the nearest town. They always accepted young boys since they would be future soldiers.

Yet, when the new mother saw her newborn, she couldn't bring herself to give him away.

That was when the father stepped in.

He tried to get the newborn from his wife after a lot of arguing, but she wouldn't give him away. She even attacked her husband.

So, the husband knocked her out with a shovel and took the newborn away.

He couldn't risk the life of his other four kids for his fifth one.

He brought the newborn to the town guards, who accepted it without question.

They didn't care where the children came from.

When the father returned, he had noticed that his wife hadn't woken up.

Even more, a pool of blood had formed on the ground between her legs.

The head injury had killed her.

The father's world broke down.

He hadn't wanted to kill his wife!

Yet, reality couldn't be changed.

His wife was dead.

A couple months later, the guards noticed that the wife of the farmer was absent, and they investigated.

They eventually found her corpse and concluded that the father was the culprit.

The farmer was killed, and his four children were forced to join the guards of the town.

The newborn Opposer knew nothing of these things.

As far as he remembered, he had been born into these barracks.

Eventually, the Opposer grew older.

Yet, on his tenth birthday, a beautiful and noble girl in her late teens took a liking to him.

So, she bought him off the guards.

The guards couldn't refuse since the background of the girl was too powerful.

The young boy entered the powerful household of a nearby city lord.

The city lord was in the Energy Gathering Realm, and for the people living there, he might as well have been as powerful as a God.

Why had the girl taken a liking to the young boy?

Because he was fragile.

Her parents were forcing her to cultivate, and her masters were constantly abusing her. She was above them in status, but they still dared to hit her!

Of course, the masters weren't actually abusive.

They were just very strict.

They had been paid extra to be so strict towards the young girl.

Why?

So that she would want revenge and power.

Sadly, the rough treatment had the opposite effect.

She didn't want to become stronger but prove her superiority.

So, she bought weak little boys to abuse them.

They were her outlet.

The next four years were hell for the young boy.

He constantly got abused by all the servants and the girl, and if he dared to show weakness, they ridiculed him.

Eventually, when the young boy hit puberty, a deep hatred and resentment formed inside him.

However, he knew that he couldn't do anything against the servants or the young woman.

If he did, the punishment would be far worse than what he had done.

As the young boy's heart and mind hardened, the young woman became frustrated.

He didn't break anymore.

Now, he just took everything.

Even more, his eyes... his fucking eyes!

They were filled with hatred, disregard, and disdain.

It was like she was worthless in his eyes!

He was supposed to be the worthless one!

How dare he feel that she was worthless!

So, she decided to kill him, but it had to be done covertly.

Abusing servants was fine but killing them was akin to wasting money.

She ordered him into a forest in the night, and she followed.

She struck him from behind, but surprisingly, the young man didn't fall over.

Instead, all his bottled hatred exploded, and he punched the young woman in the face.

He had kept himself in check for long enough, but now, everything broke out of him.

His power and will were superior to the young woman's, and he vented all his rage.

He dominated, humiliated, and abused her in all forms one could imagine, and after he was done, he killed her.

Something inside of him was telling him that what he was doing was wrong, but that feeling was buried by unending hatred.

Then, he fled.

After finding his daughter, the city lord issued an arrest warrant, and he even searched for the young man himself.

That was when the Opposer's life truly began.

Wanted posters depicting him had been placed in all nearby settlements, and he couldn't come close to another human since everyone knew his face.

He even had to kill children that accidentally spotted him, all for his own survival.

One guard after the other went after him, and the young Opposer went through battle after battle.

Eventually, he managed to temper his body by only doing battle and healing himself after it.

That's when the father of the woman he had killed found him.

The fight was brutal, but the young boy barely won.

That was when he condensed his Will-Aura.

In his unending hatred, the Opposer went back to the city that had belonged to the dead city lord.

He killed every single living thing he could find.

Everything that had a breath died under his hand.

They all were his enemies!

They all watched as he had been abused!

They never did anything to help him!

He hated them!

Hated them!

He hated all of them!

The guards treated him like shit!

The nobles treated him like shit!

The servants treated him like shit!

The peasants treated him like shit!

Their children treated him like shit!

Their dogs barked at him!

Their cats sneered at him!

They all deserved to die!

When he was done with his massacre, he looked into the bloody and quiet streets of the city.

Something akin to guilt tried to enter his mind.

He thought of that feeling as weakness.

He hated himself for being weak!

Compassion was weakness!

He needed power!

He could kill his enemies with power!

He could do whatever he wanted with power!

No one would treat him like shit again with power!

He hated the world.

However, he also knew that he wasn't powerful enough to take his revenge on this world that treated him like shit.

So, he vanished from human society and lived in the wilderness.

He killed everything that he found to increase his power.

Everything had to die!

If it could fight back, good! That would only make him more powerful!

If it couldn't fight back, good! One less worthless piece of shit in the world!

Eventually, some disciples from some Sect found him, and they quickly deduced that he had been the culprit of the massacre of that one city.

He killed them.

That Sect had sent disciples to kill him, which meant that they were all his enemies!

However, he couldn't find out where that Sect was to take his revenge on them.

So, he lured out more disciples by massacring another city.

More Sect disciples appeared, and he fought a brutal battle again.

By now, the Opposer was in the Energy Gathering Realm, but he had no Elemental Powers, but that didn't matter to him.

Time passed, and eventually, he killed everyone in the Sect.

Another more powerful Sect targeted him, and he battled for his life again.

Eventually, he also killed that Sect.

He found a beast tribe, and he knew that he needed more power, so he killed that tribe to anger a superior tribe.

By now, mortals no longer interested him.

They couldn't give him more power, and most of his anger had vanished.

By now, he didn't hate absolutely everything anymore.

No, he only hated every person that wanted to protect the world for whatever reason.

This world filled with shit didn't deserve protection!

Time passed, and one Sect after the other vanished from the world.

Everyone knew who was responsible for this mindless slaughter, and they all tried their best to stop him.

Yet, however many they sent was however many died.

Then, everything became quiet.

The Sects searched for the Opposer, but they couldn't find him.

It was like he had vanished.

After that, a long period of peace arrived.

Everyone assumed that the Opposer had died.

A thousand years passed.

Two thousand years passed.

Five thousand years passed.

The Opposer was still nowhere to be seen.

By now, only the oldest members of the Sects in the surrounding areas still remembered him.

Seven thousand years passed.

Nine thousand years passed.

Yet, just before ten thousand years passed, the Opposer returned.

He had focused on comprehending Laws for the last nearly ten thousand years.

Now, he was the most powerful Law Comprehension Realm Cultivator, and he would take his revenge.

His old enemies had long since died, and the Sects had essentially undergone a complete change of members in these ten thousand years.

Yet, the Opposer didn't care.

He advanced to the Immortal Realm and killed every last living member of these Sects.

Then, he went to an area with more powerful Sects, leaving behind a land nearly devoid of powerful Cultivators.

Lightning Is the Only Way

Chapter 1198: Manifestation

The Opposer's rampage continued.

He didn't bother with Cultivators below the Immortal Realm anymore.

They couldn't increase his power.

Over time, his priorities had changed.

He didn't want to kill the entire world anymore since all that rage had already been vented.

Now, he only wanted to be the most powerful.

He wanted to be in control of everything.

He wanted to make the world into whatever he wanted.

He wanted to own this world!

Yet, there was still some buried rage and hatred deep inside of him.

However, the Opposer realized that being subject to one's emotions was also weakness.

He wanted to control everything, and how could he control everything if he couldn't even control himself?

Because of that, his rampage became very contained and deliberate.

He only eradicated Sects that could fight him or Sects that were subservient to a Sect that could pose a danger to him.

Eventually, while the Opposer was in the Immortal Emperor Realm, a Gate of Death appeared in front of him

He entered without hesitation.

He didn't even inspect it or take a look at what it was.

He only knew that something dared to appear in front of him while he was comprehending Laws.

A couple minutes later, the Opposer exited the gate.

However, he had changed.

There was no hatred inside him.

There was no rage inside him.

There was no happiness inside him.

There was nothing inside him.

There wasn't even a personality inside him.

He was only a vehicle.

He was a vehicle for Death.

The Opposer's mind was replaced with only a single goal.

Become powerful!

And then, destroy!

The Opposer had the Major Law of Death as his Avatar.

Yet, in reality, the Opposer was the Major Law of Death's Avatar.

Gravis had once become the Manifestation of Lightning, but his being had been altered by Orthar and his father.

However, the Opposer was not the Manifestation of Death.

He hadn't died physically but mentally.

The old Opposer didn't exist anymore.

From this day forth, the Opposer's manner changed.

He mainly looked at Laws, and only when someone attacked him would he fight back.

If no one attacked him, he would comprehend Laws until his tribulation arrived.

Most of the time, he was analyzing all manners of feelings out of interest.

In essence, the current Opposer was no longer a human.

He was something without emotions, and he wanted to comprehend emotions.

It wasn't necessary to feel emotions to comprehend the Emotional Laws. Feeling the emotions only made it easier to comprehend the Law of Emotions.

The Opposer's life was long.

Incredibly long.

When the Opposer became a level nine Star God, he had already gone through ten tribulations, which meant that he had been in the Star God Realm for ten million years!

Eventually, Samsara ended.

It had ended at a seemingly random position.

Initially, Gravis had been thoroughly shaken by what he had seen.

He had thought that his father was a human, but he actually wasn't.

He had once been a human, but he had transformed into a Manifestation of Death.

The only reason why he hadn't shot through the Realms, like the Manifestation of Lightning would have done, was because Death didn't exist in Orthar's Cosmos.

Additionally, the concept of a Sin Aura hadn't existed back then. Back then, Orthar had managed such problematic Cultivators with the reduction of Karmic Luck. If they could survive with zero Karmic Luck, it proved that they had immense potential for their future, and someone like that was worth keeping.

Just before Samsara ended, Gravis realized that he essentially wasn't fighting his father.

He was fighting a Manifestation of Death.

There were no emotions in him.

There was no personality in him.

He was just a force that wanted to end existence itself.

And to achieve that goal, he needed power.

'Yet, how did father become human again?' Gravis thought.

'If he has been like that in the past, how did he suddenly develop emotions?'

'What changed?'

Gravis thought about what he had seen.

The Opposer's life had truly been filled with only hatred, anger, greed for power, and battle.

Gravis had also been subject to the Opposer's undying enmity towards existence itself.

Gravis had learned a lot over the course of Samsara.

Luckily, it hadn't been overly long since the Opposer rarely existed in the perception of others. Other people rarely saw him, and when they did, their perception would very quickly end.

When Samsara ended, Gravis was calm.

Samsara had no effect on the young Opposer.

He didn't regret his choices.

He couldn't.

After all, he had no emotions.

The Opposer's attack didn't stop.

Samsara didn't delay it.

It was like nothing had changed.

Gravis only looked at the attack with an icy expression.

"Wake me after the fight," Gravis transmitted to Mortis.

At this moment, Mortis had no idea what Gravis meant.

After all, he hadn't been in Samsara with him.

At this moment, Gravis' mindset transformed into the mindset of the Opposer.

Gravis didn't care for existence.

He didn't care for emotions.

He cared for nothing.

At this moment, he only cared for power.

He looked at the approaching attack.

This attack didn't deserve to exist.

BOOOOOOOOM!

Two red and black cones ground against each other as all the Energy around them vanished.

The Opposer's attack had stopped.

The Opposer's eyes narrowed as he looked at Gravis.

A black aura came out of Gravis, and his saber changed colors to black. Black smoke enveloped Gravis' body, only letting the light of his cold eyes shine through.

The Opposer knew what had happened.

His opponent had managed to grasp his technique through his memories.

However, his opponent didn't have perfect control over this power since he was unfamiliar.

That was why black smoke came out of him.

Gravis wasn't able to completely concentrate and isolate the force of Death inside his body and weapon, making it spill out. In comparison, the Opposer had perfect control over everything.

For a second, the two of them only looked at each other.

Then, Gravis' icy eyes shone.

WHOOOM!

The world around Gravis received an additional grey tone as he activated the True Law of Apathy.

Yes, when Gravis had entered the mindset, he had become perfectly compatible with the Law of Apathy.

Gravis' True Law of Empathy destroyed the Opposer's True Law of Apathy, allowing Gravis' True Law of Apathy to show its full effect.

The Opposer's Will-Aura was consumed, and Gravis' speed increased as the pressure on him lessened.

Then, the two of them charged at each other.

BANG!

They clashed, and their surroundings vanished.

BANG!

BANG!

BANG!

Gravis lost a leg, and the Opposer received a minor cut.

The Opposer's control was superior.

In a direct clash, Gravis couldn't win.

However, the Opposer realized that Gravis wasn't his only enemy.

Because of that, he made the Heavenly Fire below him explode again.

A cone of red and black appeared around Gravis as his Death consumed the Energy.

BANG!

The Opposer clashed with Gravis again, and Gravis was pushed back.

However, his eyes only remained icy.

Mortis wasn't exactly sure what was going on, but he knew that he had to help.

Mortis transformed into Heavenly Lightning, became intangible, and closed in again.

Death was ravaging the surroundings, which made it basically impossible for Mortis to materialize himself.

For some reason, Gravis and the Opposer were immune to the Death in the surroundings. They could only be injured by attacks that directly hit them.

Yet, Mortis wasn't immune to that.

Mortis couldn't come out.

He couldn't interfere.

However, if he didn't interfere, Gravis would lose!

Mortis had already tried to use the unique power of the Star of Sentient Life, but that power was also based on Energy. The Death in the atmosphere destroyed that power.

But he had to do something!

Eventually, Mortis decided to bet everything on Gravis.

Mortis became tangible and entered Gravis' saber as Heavenly Lightning.

The force of Death in Gravis' saber was eating Mortis' existence.

It was a gamble.

Gravis unleashed another attack, and Mortis transformed himself into a Lightning Crescent that shot out of the saber.

Neither the Opposer nor Gravis had expected that change.

A black Lightning Crescent filled with Death shot out of Gravis' saber and charged at the Opposer.

The Opposer managed to barely block.

BOOOOOOOOOOM!

Mortis exploded into a Lightning Crescent, and a huge part of the Opposer's body was consumed.

A terrifying amount of Heavenly Lightning entered Gravis' body, which entered his Spirit.

Gravis' Spirit had been coated with Death, and the Heavenly Lightning managed to break through it.

Gravis' eyes widened as the smoke around him vanished, and clarity returned.

"No!" Gravis shouted.

Gravis stretched his hand forward.

CRK!

Time froze.

Then, Gravis' mind went wild with comprehension.

BOOOOM!

The True Law of Control appeared in Gravis' mind, and he used it with all of its power to control the explosion.

The exploding Lightning Crescent was suppressed and compressed.

Eventually, enough lightning gathered, and Mortis' personality reappeared.

He had been just about to die since his being had been spread too thin, but Gravis had forced him together again, allowing him to survive.

SHING!

The Opposer suddenly charged through the explosion with eyes filled with brutality.

Half his body was gone, and his attack didn't have much power in it.

Gravis' eyes focused on him, and he readied his saber for another attack.

Gravis unleashed his Form Law.

SHING!

However, the Opposer suddenly vanished before Gravis could hit him.

Gravis' eyes widened in surprise, but his eyes narrowed as he unleashed another attack.

The Opposer had reappeared somewhere else.

Gravis' slash hit the Opposer, but he only extended an arm to catch it.

"It's the real me," the actual Opposer said.

"I don't want to see you kill your own father, even if he isn't the real one."

"You already won, and I took care of him."

Lightning Is the Only Way

Chapter 1199: Brutality

For a second, Gravis' mind remained in a battle-ready state, but eventually, his father's words truly entered his mind.

The current Opposer and the past Opposer looked identical.

The only difference was their eyes.

One pair of eyes had been filled with brutality and a disdain for existence, but nothing had been behind that.

It was like that pair of eyes had only acted on instinct. It was like there had been no actual will or personality behind it.

In comparison, Gravis could see the complex thoughts and emotions in his father's eyes.

Gravis finally realized that the fight was over, and he relaxed.

"Argh!" Gravis suddenly groaned as he grabbed the side of his head with his right hand.

After he had relaxed, he noticed that there were holes inside his Will-Aura, his Spirit, and his Realm.

These things wouldn't endanger him, but he would have to equalize the broken parts with the healthy parts.

Gravis' being stretched over the holes and repaired them by becoming thinner. As a result, Gravis felt his Will-Aura, Realm, and Spirit weaken slightly.

BANG!

Gravis and Mortis fell to the eighth level of the Star God Realm.

Luckily, their Will-Aura had not fallen a level.

And that's when Gravis' Will-Aura increased.

Not only had Gravis gone through an extremely long Samsara, but he had also won a fight where he had nearly died, just like Mortis.

His Will-Aura shot through the roof, and Gravis felt that everything in his surroundings became weaker.

BANG!

Eventually, Gravis' Will-Aura stopped at the ninth level of the Ancestral God Realm.

"The pain you've just felt was the result of using Brutality," the Opposer explained.

"Brutality?" Gravis asked. "Is that what you called it?"

The Opposer nodded. "Death cancels out Energy, and Energy cancels out Death. Usually, no additional force would be generated by this cancelation, but if your mind is attuned towards Death, you can siphon a special force out of the cancelation."

"Energy cannot create this force since Energy can't demonstrate true destruction. True destruction can only occur when Energy completely vanishes, and Energy obviously can't accomplish that."

"However, Death can harness this peculiar force. You can liken it to two beings exploding and vying for the combined forces of the two of them. Yet, only one of the two beings knows how to shape this new form of Energy."

"In the end, that being will create an entirely new being with the same mindset of the previous being. You could also call it an aggressive fusion."

"The resulting force is very similar to Death, but it has a purer form of destruction. Death wants to destroy Energy, but this force, which I have decided to call Brutality, wants to destroy everything. Death is not an exception."

"You have transformed all of your Energy into Death, and to create Brutality, you ground your Death on your being. The two forces clash, and Brutality gets born. Then, you use that form of Brutality to attack your enemy. However, your being will inevitably receive some damage," the Opposer explained.

By now, Mortis had also arrived beside Gravis, and the two of them were listening to their father.

"So, that's the source of your power, right?" Gravis asked. "You grind Energy and Death together in your Cosmos, creating Brutality, which will then be used as your power."

The Opposer nodded again. "Sadly, Brutality is as volatile as it gets, which means that it can't be saved. The only thing I can do is keep a minimum amount of Brutality flowing as insurance for the case that the old bastard tries to pull a fast one on me. The remaining Energy and Death can only be stored separately for when I need it."

The Opposer's words reminded Gravis and Mortis that managing his Cosmos definitely wasn't easy. He truly had to walk the edge between life and death every single day.

However, that pain allowed the Opposer to become unfathomably powerful.

Orthar had already confirmed that if the Opposer were to escape his Cosmos, he would be the most powerful being he had ever seen. The only reason why Orthar could even resist the Opposer was that the Opposer was literally inside his domain.

The Opposer was like a mighty tiger in a cage, in the basement of a fortified castle with guards. The owner of the tiger was the world's strongest man, but he was only a man, while his enemy was a tiger.

The tiger would be able to tear the owner apart if it reached him, but all the other security measures kept it from the owner, and when they eventually met, the tiger would have already been injured to near-death.

If they met outside, the owner wouldn't even be able to resist the tiger.

One could also say that he was literally riding a tiger.

He wanted to get down, but if he got down, the tiger would tear him apart. However, it couldn't injure him while he was on its back. Because of that, he was forced to ride the tiger for eternity.

And the reason why the Opposer was such a fierce tiger?

Brutality.

"Is Brutality stronger than Death?" Gravis asked.

"In a one-to-one ratio, yes, but quality can also be overcome by quantity," the Opposer explained. "I can unleash quite some Brutality, but the old bastard has just far too much Energy. On top of that, he also has a rudimentary control over Death."

"You have seen the Sin Monster. It's a being made of Death. Back when I have still walked my path to power, Sin Monsters didn't exist. Why? Because the old bastard didn't know how to make them."

"That's also the reason why he was willing to watch me create my own Cosmos."

This was the first time Gravis and Mortis had heard of that.

"You want to talk about that day?" Orthar asked evenly as he arrived opposite the Opposer, Gravis and Mortis between them.

"Don't get excited over nothing," the Opposer said with a cold voice as he looked into Orthar's eyes. "I won't talk about the things you don't know."

Orthar's expression didn't change. "I would lose some respect for you if you did something so foolish."

The Opposer looked at Gravis. "You have seen my lives up to the point before I became an Ancestral God, correct?"

Mortis was confused that the Opposer had said lives and not life. Why plural?

However, Gravis quickly transmitted the relevant things from what he had seen in Samsara to Mortis, who promptly realized why the Opposer had framed it like that.

Meanwhile, Gravis nodded. "I know that you have once died. The person that has entered the Gate of Death has thoroughly died, and he has been replaced by a Manifestation of Death."

"Yet, how is it possible that you now have control over Energy again? How is it possible that you have emotions, goals, a will, and a personality?"

"Are you a human, father?" Gravis asked.

The Opposer looked at Gravis calmly.

"Have you already forgotten our conversation before you left for the middle world?" the Opposer asked.

"A body is not what makes you a human. Your Spirit, memories, mind, and personality are what make a human human."

Lightning Is the Only Way

Chapter 1200: Will of Death

When Gravis remembered his father's words, he could only smile.

"Seems like I've forgotten those words," Gravis said. "However, I would still like to know how you managed to become human again."

The Opposer looked at Orthar. "I can only tell you things vaguely, Gravis," he said while looking at Orthar. "I don't want to give the old bastard any more information than he already has. We are in his Cosmos, which means that I can't tell you anything without him hearing it."

"It's fine," Gravis said. "I only want to know how you became human again."

The Opposer looked at the fake sky in the Heaven's Trial as he remembered the things that had happened so long ago.

"As you know, I have been a pure Manifestation of Death. I had no personality, and I was no human. Just as you've said, the person that had entered the Gate of Death has already died."

"After I became an Ancestral God, things didn't change. I still comprehended Laws and found tempering in tribulations. It also didn't change in the Divine God Realm."

"It didn't even change when I became a Heaven's Magnate, and it also didn't change when I comprehended the Law of the Cosmos. Up until the very end, I was still a pure Manifestation of Death."

"Eventually, after I comprehended the Law of the Cosmos, I decided to create my own Cosmos. Back then, the old bastard didn't publicly execute the people with a kind of lightning tribulation, as he does now. Back then, he got rid of them silently. They all just silently vanished."

"I was pretty sure that he has taken note of me back then already, and to be honest, I can only say that I'm still in existence due to his undying curiosity."

"That's correct," Orthar said as he interjected. "I've noticed you as soon as the Gate of Death manifested. Back then, there were no other worlds, and I managed everything. Something like a Gate of Death wouldn't go unnoticed."

"When you came out of the Gate of Death, I immediately realized what you were. I debated killing you, but I decided against it. As long as I kept a close watch over you, nothing could go wrong. After all, my power was infinitely greater than yours."

"I wanted to know what would happen if someone tried to create a Cosmos with the Major Law of Death as a basis," Orthar added.

Obviously, Orthar was saying these things for Gravis and Mortis.

"As I created my Cosmos, I completely ignored Energy," the Opposer continued. "I filled everything with Death, and I even managed to create life with Death. Everything was created with Death, and I felt that I have become closer with the very concept of Death, even though I was already a Manifestation of it."

The Opposer looked deeply into Orthar's eyes.

"That's when he attacked," he said.

Orthar's expression didn't change. "I've seen what I have wanted to see, and I have decided to be careful. So, I decided to destroy his Cosmos along with him."

"However, you failed," the Opposer added.

"Yes, I failed," Orthar continued. "Just when I unleashed my lightning, the force of Death in the Primordial Chaos came out of its own volition and put itself between you and my attack, blocking it."

Gravis' and Mortis' eyes shone.

So that's what happened!

They had already thought how it had been possible that the Opposer could survive Orthar's attack. After all, their power levels had been too far apart back then.

"I noticed the attack, and even though Death has blocked it, my Cosmos still took quite some damage," the Opposer continued. "Luckily, after Death blocked the attack, it veiled my Cosmos from his senses."

Orthar nodded. "I was able to feel your Cosmos, but I couldn't pinpoint its location. Since you have been created in my Cosmos, your Cosmos is intrinsically connected with my Cosmos, and that can't be changed. Yet, I couldn't find your Cosmos. I only knew that it was still there."

"That was when I realized that I had committed a horrible mistake," Orthar said.

The Opposer didn't answer and only looked at Gravis and Mortis. "Everything from here on out is beyond the old bastard's perception. I've never told him what happened, and I won't go into detail. After all, I don't want to die to him."

Orthar didn't show it, but he was very interested in the Opposer's following words. Even if he wouldn't go into detail, the Opposer was still talking about things unknown to him.

"As I continued building my Cosmos," the Opposer continued, "I felt closer and closer to the force of Death, and eventually, I made contact with it."

"Making contact with such a force is something I have only experienced this once, and I know for a fact that the old bastard had never had such a contact with one of the Primordial Forces," he said, looking at Orthar.

Orthar kept his expression neutral, but he was intrigued.

One could have contact with the Forces?

Did that mean that since the Opposer could have contact with Death that one could also have contact with Energy?

What about the other forces that comprise the Primordial Chaos?

"Just like with the Gate of Death, I felt the force of Death envelop me," the Opposer explained. "It wanted to give itself completely to me. It didn't want me to be just its Avatar or Manifestation."

"No, it wanted me to become its will."

Orthar's eyes widened.

He knew exactly what that meant!

If the Opposer became the will of Death, it meant that he could control all the Death in the Primordial Chaos!

He wouldn't need to absorb Death or Energy at that point. After all, all the Death in existence would be him!

Such a power was infinitely above the Opposer's current power.

"Are you sure you want to speak of these things?" Gravis asked with worry as he glanced at Orthar. "I don't want you to leave an opening."

The Opposer looked at Gravis, and a slight smile graced his face.

It was rare, but occasionally, even the Opposer smiled.

"You don't have to worry about it," he said. "There is no danger for me by unveiling all of this."

"The reason is simple."

"No one present here will ever become the will of Death."

Gravis looked at his father. "How can you be so sure?" he asked.

"Because the price is too high," the Opposer answered. "Understanding the Minor Law of Death requires the destruction of everything but yourself. Understanding the Major Law of Death requires the destruction of yourself."

"The price for becoming the will of Death is even more terrifying."

"No one will ever be willing to pay that price."

Silence.

'I knew it wouldn't be so easy to achieve such power,' Orthar thought.

"What happened then?" Gravis asked.

The Opposer's mind went back to the events.

"With my past mindset, I had no issues in accepting that price. After all, I had nothing. I only wanted to destroy existence, and I didn't care about anything else."

"So, I accepted the price."

"Death enveloped me, and I was about to become the will of Death."

"And that's when things changed."