

Mech 4291

Chapter 4291 Frankenstein's Monster

As headquarters notified Venerable Joshua of two incoming threats that he should take note of, he did not exhibit any fear.

Two mid-tier expert mechs could definitely give him and the Everchanger a lot of difficulties. It might not be viable for him to defeat either of them, but he was confident in his ability to survive their assaults and distract them as long as possible if he focused on defense and evasion rather than attacking.

However, there was no need for him to play chicken this time.

The powerful presences that he had bonded himself to at this moment did not allow him to shirk this engagement!

"We're about to have a tough time, Everchanger." Venerable Joshua said with obvious strain in his voice as he tried to balance all of the voices in his head.

The Everchanger exuded a ripple that could be taken as a sign of apprehension, excitement or maybe both.

"THIS IS WHAT I WAS MADE FOR, PARTNER." The living mech audibly responded to Joshua. "THIS IS WHY WE WERE PUT TOGETHER. FOR THE FIRST TIME IN YEARS, WE ARE ABOUT TO DO BATTLE IN THE WAY THAT MY MAKER INTENDED US TO FIGHT."

"What about the battles we fought before?"

"BEFORE WE WERE NOT... COMPLETE." The living mech stated.

This was true. A large part of what defined the Everchanger in the first place was because it was always meant to equip different mounted wargear loadouts.

It might look like a hero mech on the surface, but in reality Ves envisioned it as a semi-modular mech platform just like the Bright Warrior but to a more extreme degree!

The only complications that bothered Venerable Joshua were that piloting a mech within another 'mech' was much more difficult and complicated than piloting the Everchanger in its base form.

"The amount of data I need to process is so much greater that it is no wonder that mounted wargear isn't all that common." Joshua whispered.

When it came to normal mechs, if any of them equipped mounted wargear of a comparable size and complexity as the Titan-5 Project, their mech pilots would have to possess at least A-grade genetic aptitude to maintain control over all of the important processes!

The Everchanger and the meat suit combined actually produced an even greater load, but fortunately Joshua was an expert pilot whose data processing capacity exceeded that of mortals.

Even so, this was the first time that Joshua truly felt that he had approached his elevated limits.

Compared to a relatively simple and one-dimensional mounted wargear loadout like the City Breaker, the Titan-5 Project was like a whole ecosystem in itself!

After several years of researching different alien tissue samples and coming up with increasingly more abstruse methods to combine them into an unholy amalgamation, the Titan-5 Project could very well be described as a chimera!

Though it looked like a thick and square-bodied humanoid, its gray flesh and other inhuman touches betrayed its patchwork nature.

Venerable Joshua didn't feel like he was piloting another mech at the moment.

Instead, he felt as if he had reluctantly borrowed the body of Frankenstein's monster!

"I guess Ves plays the role of Dr. Frankenstein in this story." Venerable Joshua joked.

Seriously speaking, the analogy was not entirely groundless. This was because Joshua did not have the impression that he assumed complete control over the meat suit.

Instead, it felt as if he was given 'permission' to drive the Titan-5 Project!

The bestial and aggressive personality of the meat suit was not as easy to befriend as the other entities that Joshua had met over the course of his career.

It didn't matter that the Titan-5 Project was not as aware or sentient as the Everchanger. The strength and spiritual magnitude of the meat suit was considerably stronger for some reason and made it a lot harder for other influences to restrain it and keep it under control.

In the past, when Joshua described how difficult it was for him to harness the meat suit during live practice sessions, the patriarch mentioned a brief story about one of his past experiences.

"Do you remember the time Tusa and I got trapped on the surface of Prosperous Hill VI during our visit to the Life Research Association?"

Joshua nodded. "That was a wild time, especially at the end."

Ves' eyes glazed over as if he was recalling a powerful memory. "It was at that time that I came face-to-face with arguably the most powerful biomech or biological construct that I have ever encountered. Not even the fish-whale kings have made me feel smaller and more insignificant than the Uranus."

The expert pilot looked surprised. "Are you saying that the Titan-5 Project can go out of control like the Uranus?"

"I don't know." Ves honestly replied. "The similarities are there, at least. I don't know enough about biotechnology and biomechs to speak with authority on this topic, but I possess enough of an understanding of the mysteries and wonders of life to judge that I may have inadvertently birthed a horrible form of life when we originally developed the meat suit. It is one thing to pilot a machine that happens to be made out of flesh. Controlling it is not that different from controlling the other mounted wargear loadouts such as the City Breaker. However, as soon as I imparted it with the spark of life, I have found that it has evolved into something greater and perhaps more terrible."

This was disturbing news to Joshua. He was familiar with many living mechs, but to hear that the Titan-5 Project was not as friendly as them was quite a difficult truth to accept.

"Is it wise to make use of the Titan-5 Project when it is so difficult to control?" The expert pilot cautiously asked.

Though he was not a coward, he did not dare to gamble on this matter. Just thinking about how the Uranus completely devastated entire city districts and destroyed a handful of expert mechs in an instant during its infamous rampage already made him concerned that the meat suit might follow suit one day!

Just the image of the meat suit going berserk in the middle of the expeditionary fleet and killing thousands of Larkinsons made Joshua a lot more conflicted about piloting such a biological monstrosity!

Ves did not provide his answer immediately. Instead, he lowered his head and rubbed his smooth-shaven chin for a time.

"If I want to develop my living mechs to the best of my ability, I can't be too timid or conservative." He eventually said. "Combining biotechnology with my unique specialty produces so many new and interesting results that I cannot afford to ignore the benefits. You should already know how powerful the Titan-5 Project is compared to more conventional mounted wargear loadouts. The research results I've gained from its development are highly rewarding and may help me in creating the next evolution to living mechs. The biggest problem is that living bioconstructs such as the meat suits may be a lot more violent and disobedient than the norm, but that is the price that we must bear in order to obtain great power."

After numerous practice sessions, Venerable Joshua had always kept those last words in mind.

The meat suit was more powerful than anything he had come in touch with before, but the burden was much greater as a response.

For example, now that he was able to sense two powerful threats charging straight at the enhanced Everchanger, the primal consciousness of the meat suit wanted to go forward and attack right away!

"Calm down, Titan!" Joshua pleaded as he leveraged his willpower to keep the meat suit's aggressive impulses from taking over control. "We'll fight those enemies, but we will do so on my terms, not yours, do you understand?"

The meat suit only became more impatient and rebellious as a response!

The pushback from the Titan-5 Project's primal consciousness was much greater than before! Joshua had never encountered so many difficulties during his practice sessions!

He already figured out why that was the case. He and his meat suit never encountered that much hostility when sparring against other Larkinson mech

pilots. No matter how hard they fought, they never took the bouts too seriously.

It was different this time. Venerable Joshua could already sense the naked hostility and hatred of the Fridayman expert pilots.

The enemies had come to destroy the meat suit, break apart the Everchanger and kill the expert pilot if possible!

It would be a surprise if the meat suit remained tolerant towards the incoming enemies!

Joshua began to sweat as his willpower was barely able to keep the meat suit contained. "Everchanger! Goldie! Titania! Phase King! Help me out, please."

It took the combined efforts of his expert mech as well as moderate contributions from the design spirits associated with the Everchanger and the Titan-5 Project to keep the damned beast in its cage!

The Everchanger had entered into state as a consequence. There had never been a case where so many living entities became involved in just a single combat platform at the same time!

If not for the special properties of Venerable Joshua and the Everchanger, such a combination would never be stable!

"Phase King." Joshua said. "You take the lead this time. Didn't you always want to roam outside Purgatory and make your mark in the endless cosmos? This is your opportunity."

Venerable Joshua found that in order to be able to cope with situations like these, it was not enough for him to take unilateral control anymore.

There were too many entities and Joshua needed to borrow the strength of at least some of them to make the best use of the meat suit. This forced him to sit down and negotiate deals with different stakeholders.

Right now, he and the Phase King had agreed to become the dominant parties for the current battle.

Joshua had made this choice because none of the other entities were as proficient and familiar with making use of the phasewater abilities of the meat suit.

The expert pilot formed a deeper and more special bond with the eager and willing design spirit.

A sense of age, power, understanding and pride overcome Joshua as he did everything in his power to grant more control to the Phase King.

Though this was a rather dangerous move as Joshua could not entirely control what the Phase King intended to do, it was better to hand over authority to an ancient and more rational design spirit than to trust the beast-like consciousness of the meat suit!

The spatial barrier surrounding the Titan-5 Project became brighter and stronger as the Phase King made the process more efficient.

As the enemy mid-tier expert mechs finally came close enough, Venerable Joshua confirmed that he was being confronted by an expert space knight and an expert lancer mech.

The former was not that big of a threat by itself, but the latter was a definite threat!

The two Fridayman expert mechs had already formed a tacit cooperation. The expert space knight fearlessly charged towards the oversized meat suit in order to lock it down while the expert lancer mech would circle around and impale the odd Larkinson biomachine from a difficult angle!

While it sounded simple, it was highly effective as long as the expert space knight could do its job.

Venerable Joshua narrowed his eyes. "Do you think I will let you have your way?"

Before the opposing expert space knight was able to come close, the meat suit accelerated in a different direction and easily outpaced the expert space knight!

All three expert mechs involved possessed warp travel capabilities, but it just so happened that the meat suit was able to amplify its speed to a greater degree than the Fridayman expert mechs with the help of the Phase King's incredible mastery over spatial manipulation!

In fact, Joshua already knew the Phase King could do more than speed up the meat suit.

The biomonstrosity raised its arm and pointed at the enemy expert mechs. More and more energy channeled through its integrated fish-whale matter, which allowed it to exert more control over space than before.

Soon enough, both enemy expert mechs abruptly slowed down as the Titan-5 Project forcefully popped their warp bubbles!

"What?! How can it do this?!"

"Damn! We're in trouble. We just lost our mobility advantage!"

Frankenstein's Monster might be dangerous in the stories, but no one could deny it was powerful!

Chapter 4292 Rekkar & Point Break

Venerable Joshua briefly recalled what he knew about his new challengers.

"The Rekkar and the Point Break. What an annoying combination."

The Rekkar was a solid medium space knight with a fairly balanced configuration. It was fast enough to keep up with its opponents in most duels

but it was also sturdy enough to absorb a lot of hits. Its transphasic axe was strong enough to overcome defenses through repeated attacks.

What was notable about the Rekkar was that it was primarily designed by Master Zenie Bonakane. The Bubble Man's involvement meant it was all but guaranteed that the expert space knight would feature an incredibly powerful HiCap energy shield on top of a resonance shield!

The Point Break was a medium lancer mech that was designed by Master Contaro Aaken. This was an unusual combination because this particular Master Mech Designer happened to excel at designing kinetic artillery mechs!

One of the consequences of putting an artillery specialist in charge of designing the expert lancer mech was that it came equipped with a pair of powerful shoulder-mounted transphasic gauss cannons, just like the Shockshell.

However, the scariest part about the Point Break was its transphasic custom-designed lance. By developing it in a similar way as Master Aaken's famous artillery projectiles, the lance incorporated all kinds of technologies that made it harder, sharper and significantly more dangerous than before.

As long as the Point Break was able to impale its lance against any solid target, it was practically guaranteed that it would be able to punch through any form of defense through overwhelming power!

"I can't let the Point Break poke my meat suit!" Venerable Joshua concluded.

His intuition already sensed a lot of threat from the Point Break's lance. Its danger level was incomparable to that of the Rekkar's axe.

In mech combat, lances had always been the best solution to take down stronger and larger targets!

The enemy commanders did not choose wrong when they dispatched the Point Break to deliver the fatal blow onto the meat suit.

When Joshua passed on his concerns about the enemy expert mechs to the Phase King, the two quickly agreed on a strategy.

Pulling the two expert mechs out of warp travel was just the first step.

The giant meat suit waved its arm towards the Point Break.

"Blade!"

A glowing space blade formed in front of the meat suit and rapidly soared towards the Point Break as if it had been launched out of a cannon!

The Rekkar repositioned itself so that it could rely on its transphasic shield to block the space blade, but just as it hovered in the way, the resonance-empowered attack abruptly turned and circled around the expert space knight before closing in on its actual target!

The Point Break was not defenseless, though. Its frame was quite sturdy by nature and was also clad with quasi-transphasic armor plating.

However, instead of choosing to take the blow on its armor, the Point Break raised its transphasic physical shield which integrated a higher proportion of phasewater to enhance its resistance against transphasic and spatial attacks.

Yet just as the extremely fast space blade was about to impact the shield, it circled around yet again and impacted the Point Break resonance shield from the rear!

"Damn!"

Though the successful attack only drained the Point Break's resonance shield to an extent, it showed that Venerable Joshua possessed a higher control over his attacks than expected.

The meat suit did not end there, though. It waved its massive arms again and channeled even more energy into its fish-whale tissue in order to form an array of five space blades!

Soon, those space blades launched forward at great speed and completely bypassed the Rekkar in order to drain the Point Break's defenses even further.

"Close the distance!" Venerable Ulrik Valke urged his comrade as his Point Break began to open fire with its shoulder-mounted gauss cannons. "Those weird attacks are not based on any weapons mounted on that flesh monster. It probably takes a lot of concentration to launch those space blades. You can stop them from forming if you are able to get close and distract the enemy pilot."

Venerable George Baldassare scowled as his Rekkar tried to reengage its warp travel function, only to fail as the surrounding space was too disordered to activate!

"I'm trying my best, but this giant meatball seems to have a spatial inhibition power. Without a warp bubble my Rekkar can't catch up to its speed!"

Warp travel had already changed the nature of mech combat in the new frontier, but it was anything but invincible.

As long as there was a powerful enough device that could either strengthen or mess up the fabric of space, it was difficult for combat drives or warp drives to take effect.

Though the Titan-5 Project did not incorporate such a device, its Phaser fish-whale flesh made any form of spatial manipulation possible.

It didn't need a specialized inhibition module as long as it had access to enough energy and expertise!

As the Phase King sunk deeper and deeper into the meat suit, the enhanced Everchanger seemed to bring the massive exobeast to life!

There was no way the Rekkar and the Point Break could take advantage of their warp travel capabilities as long as they were within a certain range of the meat suit!

The story might have been different if the two Fridayman expert mechs incorporated more phasewater, but as mid-tier expert mechs the Gauge Dynasty did not invest too much in their development.

In comparison to the Rekkar and the Point Break, the Titan-5 Project incorporated over 10 kilograms of phasewater, most of which was locked inside phasewater-saturated fish-whale flesh.

With so much phasewater at its disposal, the Titan-5 Project actually performed like a weaker incarnation of the Phase King at the moment!

"How the hell can we even get close?!" Venerable Baldassare complained as his expert space knight never seemed to catch up to the retreating meat suit.

The Titan-5 Project continually harassed the Point Break by generating repeated spatial storms, space blades, spatial tears and other tricks that the Phase King had mastered over a million standard years of slow and steady development.

Even if the Titan-5 Project was incredibly weak compared to the Phase King's body at its height, the design spirit still retained most of his immense knowledge and mastery of spatial manipulation.

It didn't matter whether the Rekkar and the Point Break might be faster due to their higher thrust-to-weight ratio.

The meat suit constantly maintained a warp bubble around itself that easily allowed it to traverse a lot more distance than its opponents.

Catching up was impossible!

The only flaw was that the meat suit was still relatively easy to hit with ranged attacks due to its considerable bulk and its inherent lack of agility, but these were minor problems.

Numerous enemy ranged mechs had not stopped firing their weapons at the Titan-5 Project, but all they did was drain its spatial barrier at a relatively slow rate.

The only weapons that inflicted a bit more hurt on the meat suit were the transphasic shoulder-mounted gauss cannons of the Point Break. The projectiles hit surprisingly hard despite the limited caliber of the guns and they also had a special cracking effect that was capable of destabilizing spatial barriers a lot more effectively than usual.

However, this kind of threat was far from enough to make Joshua and the Phase King worried!

"Keep attacking as long as our energy lasts!"

At no point did the meat suit take the initiative to charge at the enemy in order to utilize its massive physical strength to punch its targets into pieces.

This led to a weird and discordant sight.

When people looked at the Titan-5 Project in its full glory, they automatically assumed that it was a mech designed for punching and brawling.

After all, why else design a mech in such a strong and brutal form? If not for its alien and inhuman traits, it would have looked like a scaled-up version of a heavyweight boxer!

Yet instead of fighting like a ferocious barbarian that had just gone berserk, it instead chose to put up a wizard hat and cast all manner of spells to pelt its enemies while boosting its own speed!

"Is this how mechs are designed these days?"

"The biomatter of that oversized fleshy mech has to be derived from phase whales! There is no other explanation why it is able to fight like one of those powerful alien creatures!"

"Those two mid-tier expert mechs stand no chance against the giant biomech. The Fridaymen should have dispatched a high-tier expert mech."

The current situation dragged on for several minutes. Though the meat suit's spatial attacks were not particularly strong, they still managed to chip away at the defenses of the Point Break at an acceptable rate.

Venerable Baldassare and Venerable Valke were at their wits end. At this time, the Rekkar had moved right in front of the Point Break, but no matter what the expert space knight mech attempted to do, it could do little to block any of the incoming attacks!

It was extremely frustrating for the pilot of a space knight to fail in protecting his comrades.

Every spatial storm engulfed an entire chunk of space, affecting both expert mechs at once.

Every space blade or other projectile was under high control and could easily bypass any obstacle in order to hit their actual targets.

The situation became so dire that the Point Break was soon on the verge of losing its resonance shield!

"We can't go on like this, Baldarasse. My Point Break will get consumed over time if we don't change our approach."

"Then what do we do, Valke?!"

"Retreat."

"What?!"

"We can't allow ourselves to get kited to death by this monster. Just go back and call for backup. We need a more powerful mech like the Skorpion Kommando to stop these oversized biomechs in its tracks!"

This was actually not a bad idea. The Rekkar and the Point Break decisively turned around and attempted to run back towards friendly lines.

Venerable Joshua and the Phase King weren't having any of it, though. They smelled blood and did not want their prey to escape alive.

"Chase!"

The Titan-5 Project warped forward and utilized its vastly superior traversal capabilities to keep up while continually launching more spatial attacks on the Point Break.

Soon enough, the enemy expert mech's resonance shield broke after getting bombarded by seven space blades in quick succession!

The next volley of spatial attacks that the meat suit launched towards its target began to bite into the armor and the weak points of the expert lancer mech.

Though the Point Break was not a fragile doll that would collapse at the first blow, it did not have a good way to protect its vulnerable flight system.

"My mech won't last long enough at this rate!" Venerable Ulrik Valke realized as he could clearly sense the constant spatial attacks chipping away at the defenses of his Point Break. "If I can't run, then I need to stake it all in a single throw of the dice. I need to charge!"

As Venerable Valke became more desperate, his willpower condensed a bit more, which directly strengthened the true resonance affecting the Point Break!

"I WILL NOT BE BOUND!"

Somehow, an invisible shackle broke, causing the Point Break to regain its warp travel function!

Venerable Valke did not relax in the slightest, though. The reason why he was able to break the inhibition was because he had supercharged his willpower and exerted it to an unhealthy degree.

He couldn't maintain this overloaded state for long, so he quickly urged his Point Break to circle around and accelerate directly towards the meat suit.

Now that the Point Break was able to form a warp bubble again, it finally had a chance of catching up to the enemy flesh machine!

The lance of the Point Break already started to glow as Venerable Valke infused it with power.

The weapon seemed to pierce through an invisible wall in space as the Fridayman expert pilot imagined that it tore right through the enemy mech's attempts to hinder the Point Break's advance.

"I WILL NOT BE STOPPED!"

Chapter 4293 This Ls Peak Performance

Venerable Joshua knew it was too good to be true.

It would have been great if he could rely on the meat suit's spatial abilities to consume his opponents to death from a safe distance.

However, the expert pilot of the Point Break was not a fish on the chopping block. Any soldier that had grown to this extent was a powerful demigod that possessed the power to bend or break the rules of nature by relying on their extraordinary willpower.

Though Venerable Ulrik Valke most definitely expended his willpower at a rapid rate, all of it was worth it as long as he was able to land the killing blow!

Expert lancer mechs were one of the most horrifying opponents that other expert pilots could face.

As long as mechs such as the Point Break could go fast enough and accumulate enough momentum, they could break through nearly any form of defense!

What was even more frightening was that expert lancer mechs also solved or mitigated many of the obvious shortcomings of their mech type. The most important ones was that they could endure much stronger impacts without falling apart and they could change their course a lot easier.

As an expert pilot who dedicated himself to piloting this dangerous and extreme mech type, Venerable Valke had developed a powerful will that aspired to break and pierce through anything!

It was this extraordinary conviction that boosted the Point Break in many different ways. Many different performance parameters shot upwards as Venerable Valke literally rewrite reality in order to make his expert mech faster, stronger, tougher and more unstoppable than before!

Venerable Joshua could clearly sense the surging power from his main opponent. Neither he nor the Phase King could stop the Point Break when it was in its supercharged state.

What was worse was that Venerable George Baldassare had copied his colleague and burst out with his own willpower as well!

The meat suit's attempt to inhibit the Rekkar's warp travel capabilities failed, allowing the expert space knight to speed itself up again!

Despite facing two powerful expert mechs that had entered into a state of absolute peak performance, Venerable Joshua still didn't panic.

He tried to match and exceed the speed of his opponents as best as possible in order to buy more time to harass his opponents at range.

The meat suit kept fighting like a phasewater wizard and continually launched space blades, spatial tears, spatial walls and other miscellaneous attacks in the way of the Point Break.

The expert lancer mech may have lost its resonance shield, but it could still rely on its transphasic kite shield to resist at least some of the spatial attacks.

As for the ones that were fast and agile enough to circle around and hit the vulnerable rear of the Point Break, Venerable Valke could do little about that aside from making split-second evasive maneuvers.

Even though the Titan-5 Project focused as many attacks on the flight system of the Point Break as possible, how could such a crucial element be so easy to destroy?

Every expert mech's flight system was strengthened and reinforced to the utmost in order to resist as many attacks from enemy expert mechs as possible!

"You will not break me so easily, Larkinson!" Venerable Valke sneered.

The overstimulated true resonance strengthened the frame of the Point Break to such a degree that it was able to prevent its flight system from falling apart too quickly.

All of the damage dealt to it so far were merely inconsequential. It took repeated attacks on the same parts in order to lower the speed of the charging expert lancer mech.

It became increasingly clear to Venerable Joshua that his Titan-5 Project could not immobilize the Point Break fast enough.

In order to ensure that his lancer mech could get close enough to the meat suit to impale its lance into his target, Venerable Valke did not even fire his shoulder-mounted gauss cannons anymore.

He gathered all of his willpower and other thoughts in order to form an overwhelming need to charge forward!

"Just charge forward!"

The glowing expert lancer mech even began to glow brighter, which promptly caused it to look like a bright comet that was soaring through space!

As the distance between the two mechs closed more rapidly than Venerable Joshua wished, his mind as well as the minds of the other entities connected to the enhanced Everchanger worked hard to form the best possible response to this situation.

The Titan-5 Project did not possess any other ranged capabilities that were powerful enough to stop the Point Break in its current state.

Though Joshua had developed a lot of messy prime abilities with the Everchanger by deepening his cooperation with numerous design spirits, their strength left much to be desired.

Besides, most of them only worked when the Everchanger was in its base form. The meat suit was so bulky and added so much external interference that it was difficult to pull off tricks such as forming a clone with the help of Arnold's intrinsic power.

Other tricks might work against average opponents, but when his enemy was in such a focused and concentrated state, it was difficult to shake this kind of momentum!

Joshua's eyes hardened. "If I can't avoid a collision, then I'll have to minimize the damage!"

The meat suit had already begun to take action. One of the flaws of the Titan-5 Project was that it was not covered by an external exoskeleton.

There was a reason for this design choice. While the absence of organic armor plating meant that its exterior was not that hard, the advantage was that the meat suit could easily alter and modify its own shape!

A lot of flesh slowly began to pull away from the legs and the rear in order to reinforce the torso of the meat suit.

Just like how the Maiden of Adversity was able to reposition its modular armor plating to protect what was important, the Titan-5 Project was able to rearrange a part of its biomatter to achieve a similar result!

The shape of the humanoid meat suit became a lot more deformed. Its balance had been broken as its legs and other parts of its biological frame looked as if they had become atrophied.

All of this took place so that the meat suit was able to add a lot more buffer to its front torso!

Naturally, Venerable Valke saw what had happened, but what could he do? Even if his lancer mech was a bit more agile than ordinary lancer mechs, it was unrealistic for it to rapidly circle around and drive its lance through the meat suit's underprotected rear.

The Fridayman expert pilot chose to believe in his own strength and his Point Break's ability to pierce and shatter every obstacle.

The distance between the two machines shrunk quickly.

As the two machines were just seconds away, the meat suit crossed its arms in front of its torso while the Point Break shone dazzlingly bright!

"SLAY THE DRAGON!"

Though Venerable Joshua tried his best to move his meat suit aside in order to prevent the enemy from hitting anything critical, the enemy expert pilot was too skilled to allow this to happen.

The lance of the Point Break deftly slipped past the crossed arms and sunk almost straight into the center of the meat suit's chest!

A humongous explosion of energy erupted when the Point Break successfully unleashed all of the energy that it had built up throughout its charge!

The blast of energy was so blindingly violent that not even the Rekkar was able to proceed forward for a time!

Soon enough, the energy blast dispersed, allowing observers to detect exactly what had happened.

"The Point Break... succeeded!"

The Fridaymen paying attention to this battle erupted in cheers when they saw that their side attained at least one small win!

The state of the Point Break was not that good, to be honest. Venerable Valke exceeded a lot of safety parameters in order to ensure that his blow would be able to take down the large monstrosity in a single hit.

Due to losing its resonance shield, the Point Break suffered a fair amount of structural damage. Its armor plating was cracked, especially on the side closest to the arm that held the lance.

The weapon itself was not in the Point Break's grasp anymore. In order to relieve its weaponless condition, the Point Break reached out from behind and retrieved another lance that quickly extended itself to reach its full length.

The Point Break could still perform another charge, though not at the same level of power as before. Its frame was no longer in an optimal state and Venerable Valke had depleted a lot of willpower to enable his previous attack.

"Is it gone?"

When people looked at what had happened to the meat suit, they wondered whether it was truly down for the count.

The damage inflicted by the Point Break was absolutely devastating. The lance designed by Master Contaro Aaken was not as simple as an implement that was meant to poke a giant hole into a mech.

It was designed to function as a penetrating explosive shell that erupted with incredible power shortly after punching through as many defensive layers as possible!

This way, the Point Break was not only able to expand any faults created by the initial piercing thrust, but also generate a lot of follow-up damage that was usually enough to destroy the internals of a target mech!

Initially, it looked as if the meat suit was not able to escape this fate. Its spatial barrier and resilient astrobeast-derived flesh were not strong enough to prevent the Point Break's lance from punching through.

The charge attack did more than that, though. The lance still had so much energy left that it even impacted and drained a huge portion of the Everchanger's resonance shield.

What was even more devastating was that the lance's transphasic nature meant that it was partially able to bypass the Everchanger's resonance shield and drive its tip through the chest armor of the base mech underneath the meat suit!

After that, the lance instantly self-destructed, inflicting damage that was comparable in power to a transphasic grenade but much more concentrated in where it directed its explosive power!

The aftermath was an ugly sight to the Larkinsons. The entire front upper chest of the meat suit looked like a bomb had set off, causing thousands of chunks of shredded alien flesh to launch off into space.

The Everchanger itself also suffered a lot of damage. The Unending alloy armor plating had done its best to limit the damage as much as possible, but the Point Break's overwhelming strike was so powerful that entire fragments of Unending alloy had broken loose as well!

So much of the Everchanger's internals had become broken that it was practically certain that its performance had become crippled.

The only consolation was that the Everchanger's cockpit and other essential components such as the power reactor still remained functional even if they were a bit banged up from the strike.

"It's dead! At least the biomech stuff should be dead! The only thing we need to do is to land the finishing blow on the base mech underneath all of that biomatter."

Though Venerable Valke and the Point Break needed a lot of time to recuperate from the greatest charge that they had ever performed, Venerable Baldassere and the Rekkar were already advancing towards the half-broken Larkinson expert mech in order to finish the job.

Yet before the expert space knight could deliver the coup de grace, a bright and powerful green glow erupted from the center of the Everchanger!

The powerful resonance not only reached out from the base mech and encompassed the heavily-damaged meat suit itself!

Both Venerable Valke and Venerable Baldasserre became astonished as the Everchanger and its mounted wargear were quickly fixing themselves up. Broken components became whole again while missing materials went back into their place.

What was even more ridiculous was that the loose chunks of shredded flesh actually seemed to come alive at this time. As long as they still possessed enough living cells, they gained enough control to travel back to their origin and merge themselves back into the meat suit.

It only took a dozen or so seconds for the Everchanger and the Titan-5 Project to regenerate their damage!

Though the repairs hadn't fixed everything, the meat suit looked so pristine that it gave the impression that it completely invalidated the Point Break's strongest blow!

The hopeful Fridaymen quickly despaired at the sight!

"How can this be possible?!"

Chapter 4294 Flabby Flesh

The sight of the 'broken' meat suit and Everchanger reversing all of the damage inflicted by the Point Break shocked a huge amount of observers!

Though there were plenty of people who were accustomed to seeing expert mechs and expert pilots making a mockery out of the laws that governed reality, what they had just witnessed was something else!

"How can a huge mech like this just negate the damage inflicted by a massive charge from an expert lancer mech? The Point Break hit this souped-up Everchanger right in the chest!"

"Do the Larkinsons sell a regular version of this regenerating mech?"

"There has to be a limit to the amount of crap that the mechs of the Larkinson Clan can pull off! How can other mech designers possibly compete if the mechs from this group can easily put themselves back together?"

"Don't be a fool. This mech and additional equipment are anything but average. The cost to make this regenerating mech is absolutely high and the

resources it needs to pay in order to repair itself in the field in such a short span of time is bound to be great. It might look completely undamaged, but in my opinion it is already a spent force!"

As usual, the laymen only based their judgment on what they could observe with their naked eyes while the more knowledgeable mech insiders understood the deeper circumstances of what had happened.

What they guessed was not that far from the truth. Venerable Joshua had indeed exhausted a lot of willpower and mental energy in order to activate the Everchanger's intrinsic Regeneration resonance ability.

The key resonating exotic that enabled Joshua to pull off this feat was Fixer Iron. It was not that rare of an exotic and its price was also fairly reasonable.

The only issue was that few expert pilots possessed the qualities to make good use of it. Venerable Joshua was one of the rare expert pilots that was both highly compatible with it while also possessing the right domain to utilize it in the most effective manner.

However, not even Ves expected the Everchanger to be able to regenerate this much damage at once!

He was actually one of the people who were most shocked out of everyone!

"This is impossible! There is a limit to how much Fixer Iron can repair battle damage based on Joshua's current resonance strength!" Ves explained as he sat up straighter on his chair inside the bridge of his flagship. "There's no way that resonating with Fixer Iron can create so many missing materials out of energy. Besides, this resonating ability shouldn't have extended its effects to the meat suit!"

Ves arguably possessed the greatest understanding of the Everchanger's design and characteristics. He had performed a lot of tests over the years in order to quantify its more metaphysical performance parameters.

There had been a time where he had become obsessed with Fixer Iron and what Venerable Joshua could do once he resonated with this amazing material.

It was through repeated experiments where he deliberately damaged different parts of the Everchanger that Ves understood all of the strengths and limitations of the Everchanger's Regeneration resonance ability.

Unless Venerable Joshua progressed into a high-tier expert pilot and became a lot more capable of distorting reality, it should have been impossible for him to repair so many broken parts at once!

Ves leaned forward and narrowed his eyes in suspicion. What did Joshua do to enhance the effectiveness of this ability by at least several times?

After ruling out many possible options, Ves eventually narrowed his sights to prime abilities.

One of the most unique and defining traits of the Everchanger was its ability to switch from one design spirit to another. It neatly complemented Joshua's talent in getting along with many different entities.

"As far as design spirits go, there are several that could amplify the effect of Regeneration. There is the Superior Mother, but there is also Gaia..."

Ves widened his eyes in realization.

Gaia!

He immediately concluded that it was none other than Gaia herself that had lent a hand to Venerable Joshua in this critical moment!

Only a design spirit that had moved closer and closer to the power of a so-called True God could supercharge the Everchanger's Regeneration to this extent!

Ves did not anticipate that Venerable Joshua's relationship with Gaia had grown to this degree.

Despite being her progenitor, Gaia almost never listened to Ves. She even refused to function as the design spirit of a couple of mechs that Ves had come up with over the years.

Apparently, Gaia apparently had no need to gather low-level spiritual feedback from mechs.

Ves also had the feeling that she disdained the mechs that he had designed with her in mind. Perhaps only first-class mechs or high-level mechs could obtain her approval!

"If that is the case, then the Everchanger should definitely be the Larkinson mech that appeals to her the most."

As Ves thought about all of the implications of Gaia's willingness to lend a hand to Venerable Joshua and the Everchanger, the battle between the three powerful expert mechs picked up again.

At the moment, the Everchanger's combat readiness had dropped far below its peak.

Not only did Venerable Joshua exhaust himself to force his mech to repair itself, but the meat suit was also largely a spent force.

Everything had a price. The spatial manipulation abilities that the Titan-5 Project had performed on a continuous basis along with all of the damage its spatial barrier had mitigated had drained a lot of energy already. Recovering and regenerating its battle damage expended even more energy!

There wasn't much time left for Joshua to leverage the meat suit's enhanced strength and additional possibilities.

Once he lost the power of the meat suit, it would be difficult for the Everchanger to defeat the Rekkar and the Point Break by itself!

"I can still finish off at least one machine!" Venerable Joshua mustered up his battle intent again.

The sensors of his enhanced mechs focused on the Point Break that was already circling around in order to perform another charge.

Though Venerable Joshua and the meat suit were no longer in their best state, Venerable Ulrik Valke and the Point Break paid an even greater price to pull off its earlier attack!

Originally, Venerable Valke thought that his most powerful charge would have finished off his opponent.

The Point Break's overloaded charge attack should have at least crippled the Everchanger to the point where the Rekkar could easily finish off the damaged mech!

Now that the Everchanger had repaired itself in defiance of all expectations, Venerable Valke forced himself to ready his damaged Point Break for another charge.

"Why won't you stay down?!" Venerable Valke cursed as he hatefully stared at the meat suit. "George, do your best to hold this damn monster in place. As long as I drive my lance through its back, I don't believe it can pull off the same trick twice!"

Venerable George Baldassare made an acknowledging sound. "Don't push yourself too much, Ulrik."

"I'm not as fragile as you think. I've faced worse situations during the Komodo War."

Unlike the Point Break that looked as if it was nearing the end of a marathon run, the Rekkar was still in excellent condition.

The meat suit launched few if any attacks towards the expert space knight. The Rekkar also had no opportunity to attack the meat suit up to this point.

Now that the Titan-5 Project was under no condition to maintain a warp inhibition field or engage in warp travel itself, the Rekkar was finally able to catch up to its oversized target!

"Take this, you big bastard!"

The Rekkar's transphasic axe glowed as it was about to chop down at the meat suit!

Even though expert space knights did not excel at attacking, this strike should not be underestimated!

Venerable Joshua recognized the threat, but he did not want to fight against the Rekkar at the moment. Venerable Baldassare's expert mech was way too tough and needed to be grinded down slowly.

While Joshua was confident that his Everchanger could defeat the Rekkar even if it lost the meat suit, he did not want to do so with the Point Break hovering in the background!

The best course of action that he could take was to take the Point Break off the board first.

Unfortunately, Venerable Valke clearly knew this as well and kept his expert lancer mech at a safe distance until he was ready to commence his charge.

The Titan-5 Project attempted to summon a couple of weak space blades and launched it towards the Point Break, but none of these attacks had much effect anymore due to the depletion of the meat suit.

The wizard had exhausted his magic!

"If that's the case, then I'll fight you in a different way!" Joshua decided.

He first had to lure the Point Break closer, and to do that he needed to fight against the Rekkar first.

As the meat suit and the Rekkar brawled against each other, neither side held back their aggression!

The meat suit had returned to its original and more violent combat approach by relying on brute force to wear down its opponent.

The Titan-5 Project's large proportions made it easy for it to launch powerful punches and kicks against an expert mech that wasn't fast or agile enough to evade the incoming attacks.

Every strike from the meat dealt as much damage as a power blow from an ordinary expert mech!

The Rekkar's resonance shield depleted quite quickly as a result, but Venerable Baldassare showed no concern at all. His expert space knight's defensive layers were much stronger than that of an offensive expert mech.

He hadn't even activated the custom HiCap energy shield which could absorb a lot of damage once the Rekkar's resonance shield failed.

Meanwhile, the Rekkar's transphasic axe was dealing real damage to the meat suit now that the latter had lost its spatial barrier.

Despite the hardy and resilient flesh derived from the toughest parts of an ancient astral beast, the transphasic axe cut deeper and inflicted considerable damage with every chop or hack.

The only reason why the meat suit was able to hold out for the time being was because it was so large and thick!

Not only that, the meat suit also retained a limited ability to redirect healthy flesh to its damaged sections so that it could quickly plug its weak points.

The problem was that this accelerated the depletion of the meat suit's energy reserves.

"C'mon. Don't wait so long. Attack me, already." Venerable Joshua pleaded as he continually paid attention to the Point Break.

Venerable Valke finally had enough. His Point Break no longer built up any further momentum because the expert pilot intuitively judged his machine would break apart if it charged at greater speeds.

Now that he decided to commit to an attack, he resolutely turned his Point Break around and pointed its second lance straight towards its target!

"Make sure you keep its back pointed towards my weapon, George!"

"On it, Ulrik!"

This wasn't the first time the two expert pilots had worked together. Venerable George Baldassare possessed enough confidence to lock the orientation of his oversized opponent. He just had to launch an all-out assault!

"Take this!"

The Rekkar glowed brighter and its axe became infused with more true resonance than ever!

Each strike tore out a greater hole in the bloody chest of the meat suit than before!

Even if the meat suit turned around in the end, it would just allow the Rekkar to savage its back!

Though Venerable Joshua recognized that he had fallen into another difficult situation, his eyes shone as he felt more alive than ever.

"I hope you won't disappoint me this time, Titan!"

As the Point Break rapidly advanced forward to the point where it was almost ready to drive its lance through the back of its target, a mutation had suddenly occurred!

The meat suit seemed to part in half as if someone pulled down a zipper right through its front.

A fast and agile green-coated hero mech with white and gold accents deftly jumped out of its meat suit, leaving behind a hollow sack of biomatter.

The speed of the Everchanger's disengagement was so quick that the Point Break had no opportunity to aim its lance at the retreating expert hero mech.

Soon enough, its lance pierced through the hollow meat suit and almost threatened to slam against the Rekkar and explode with great fury if not for Venerable Valke's quick response!

"Damnit, the Larkinson pilot fooled us again!"

The Point Break continued to soar forward but with a large but flabby slab of flesh stuck to its lance.

Venerable Valke's expression turned ugly as his expert mech attempted to dislodge the empty meat suit from its weapon. He even thought about letting go of the Point Break's current weapon entirely before pulling out a third lance.

Yet before he could do so, he sensed a massive threat and a huge amount of malice from the Titan-5 Project!

The flesh that previously appeared flabby and inert suddenly shook and came to life!

Even though the Point Break quickly let go of its lance and attempted to retreat, it was far too slow!

The meat suit actually turned itself inside out and folded over to engulf the expert lancer mech in its macabre embrace!

"Ahhh!"

The monstrous meat suit completely wrapped around the Point Break and began to squeeze and attack its entire frame!

It was as if a biomonster had devoured an entire expert mech!

Chapter 4295 Ves The Meat Inspector

Venerable Joshua finally felt liberated now that his Everchanger had shed the meat suit.

Though he definitely enjoyed the power granted by the Titan-5 Project, its feral personality and many complications had put an enormous load on his mind and spirit.

The meat suit's bulk and mass also confined his Everchanger in a way that vastly reduced its combat options.

Joshua felt much better now that he was down to piloting his Everchanger in its purest form!

Though the state of his expert mech was not at its best due to regenerating so much battle damage earlier, it was still in a much better condition to finish the fight.

While the Everchanger had just gotten rid of a heavy burden, another expert mech happened to take it over!

The Point Break currently resembled one of the victims of a horror drama as its entire frame became engulfed by the meat suit!

Even though Venerable Joshua and the Everchanger had already broken off their connection to the Titan-5 Project, that did not automatically mean that it had become inert.

The meat suit was extremely dangerous by itself!

Ves and the Larkinson Biotech Institute had tried many possible ways to tame the meat suit, only to conclude that the beast that they had created in their labs was too unruly to be tamed.

Any solution that reduced the meat suit's volatility also weakened its combat power, which was an unacceptable result to Ves.

Since Venerable Joshua was reluctantly able to keep it under control during his practice sessions, Ves decided to preserve the ferocity of the meat suit in order to maximize its combat power.

What happened to the Point Break was one of the nightmare scenarios of the Larkinson Clan!

If Venerable Ulrik Valke was in a better condition and if the Point Break still retained its resonance shield, then it would never have been put in such a sorry state by a giant sack of alien flesh.

The Everchanger would have suffered in a similar way if Venerable Joshua ever lost control of the meat suit one day.

"What is this!? I can't shake it off! This biomonster is chewing through the nooks and crannies of my expert mech!"

The Titan-5 Project actually wasn't as scary as it looked. It was not able to deal a high amount of damage now that it had lost the support of the Everchanger.

Its energy reserves were also low, so it could do little but surround the Point Blank while grinding away the weak points of the enemy expert mech.

Exposed parts and areas such as sensor arrays and the fight system became especially vulnerable to the meat suit's invasive attacks!

The most difficult aspect about the meat suit's attack method was that a melee mech like the Point Break had few effective ways to damage the meat suit.

Its limbs were all enveloped with strong alien flesh, which not only prevented it from wielding any weapons such as a backup knife, but also inhibited the expert lancer mech's ability to do anything else!

An expert hybrid mech like the Shockshell could have at least fired its integrated weapons and clear a bit of space on its exterior!

If this continued, then the meat suit would inevitably break through the weakest layers of the Point Break and drill inside so that it could ravage the internals. That would most certainly doom the expert mech!

Only external assistance could help the Point Break dislodge the meat suit!

"I'm coming, Ulrik!" Venerable George Baldassare called. "Hold it together and wait for my assistance!"

The Rekkar no longer tried to pursue the Everchanger and quickly flew towards the trapped Point Break.

However, the Everchanger was faster! The Larkinson expert mech had already raced towards the Point Break with the intention of eliminating this threat without giving it any chance to make a comeback.

Once the Everchanger closed in on the rear of the trapped expert mech, it ruthlessly charged forward and stabbed its sharp and glowing Heartsword through the back of the expert lancer mech!

The meat suit that had gone out of control offered a bit of resistance, but not enough to prevent the Everchanger's blade from sinking through!

The Heartsword continued to sink through the rear armor of the Point Break and dealt considerable damage!

However, the Point Break still remained operational. It was a bit too much to hope that a single strike would be able to take out a formidable mid-tier expert mech.

Even if the Point Break concentrated most of its defenses at the front, its rear armor was not that weak!

Just before Venerable Joshua wanted his expert mech to launch another attack, he grew alarmed and quickly made his Everchanger evade brace for impact.

The Rekkar had finally come! The expert space knight charged with its shield in front and bashed it against the frame of the Everchanger!

While the Everchanger bounced away, the Rekkar turned around and used its axe to hack at the damaged flesh that covered the rear of the Point Break.

Now that the Titan-5 Project was in a more awful state than ever, it became easier than ever for Venerable Baldassare to open up a channel.

"It's clear!"

"Thank you, George!"

The Point Break's cockpit finally ejected from the rear of the Point Break and quickly raced back to the Kosaic Ring while a company of friendly mechs covered its retreat.

Venerable Valke felt no shame for abandoning his expert mech and retreating from the battlefield while the fight was not over.

As an expert lancer mech, he often challenged the most troublesome enemies on the battlefield and charged straight into danger in order to fulfill his role.

There were times during the Komodo War where he had expended his power and could no longer fight against the Hexer expert mechs.

Unlike expert swordsman mechs or other mech types, an expert lancer mech like the Point Break was hardly able to contribute if it was no longer able to make any further attack runs.

Venerable Valke had seen numerous fellow lancer mech specialists such as himself perish in battle because they stayed in the field too long.

"I might not win this battle, but I will certainly do better the next time!"

This was his personal mantra and one that had served him well over the course of his career.

As the Point Break lost its cockpit and its pilot, the meat suit had free reign over the machine. Its flesh eagerly poured into the cavity and proceeded to grind and wreck the insides of the abandoned expert lancer mech.

Meanwhile, the Everchanger was finally able to duel the Rekkar without too much interference from other enemies.

"It's just you and me now." Venerable Joshua declared as his Everchanger raised its Vitalus rifle and began to shoot light beams at the enemy expert space knight.

The Rekkar's resonance shield depleted quite quickly due to the Everchanger's attack. This prompted the Fridayman expert mech to advance and activate its warp travel function to close the distance as quickly as possible.

Venerable Baldassare still believed he could salvage a win from this confrontation! "I'm not scared of you anymore now that you no longer have your monster suit!"

However, just as the Rekkar rapidly caught up to the Everchanger, the latter mech activated its custom combat drive and moved away at an even faster pace!

The warp travel capabilities of the Everchanger was considerably more powerful than that of the Rekkar.

This was not a surprise as the custom combat drive that Ves had commissioned for the Everchanger was much more expensive and integrated a bit more phasewater.

The difference in mass was also a key factor that set their mobility apart. The Rekkar may be a medium mech, but its thicker armor added a lot more bulk to the mech.

Even if neither expert mechs possessed warp travel capabilities, the Everchanger still would have been able to outrun the Rekkar!

Though the Everchanger was not able to match the speeds of the Dark Zephyr, it was still able to ensure that the Rekkar could not catch up and use its axe to hack away at the Larkinson expert mech!

Venerable Joshua had no thoughts about fighting the Rekkar up close. Why would he make such an idiotic decision and give his opponent a chance to counterattack?

He already learned in previous battles that he should never underestimate his opponents. The Rekkar might not be as simple as it looked.

Though it took repeated ranged attacks to chip away at the defenses of the Rekkar, Joshua was willing to be patient.

"Damn you, coward!"

No matter what Venerable Baldassare tried to do, he could not urge his Rekkar to move any faster. He had also exploded his willpower once before and could not do so again.

Seeing that his expert mech was continually getting beaten up without gaining any chance to retaliate against the Everchanger, the Fridayman expert pilot figured out that there was no point in staying.

"Goodbye!" The expert pilot barked and promptly turned around to race back towards friendly lines.

The Everchanger did not possess the firepower to wear down the defenses of the expert space knight before it reached its buddies.

Though it did not stop firing at the retreating expert mech, that was merely to ensure that the Rekkar did not turn back and go on the attack again.

Venerable Joshua sighed. Though his Everchanger was still intact for the most part, he expended too many resources earlier. He did not think it was wise to intercept the Rekkar and lock it into place so that he could defeat it entirely.

"The Rekkar still has a powerful HiCap energy shield in reserve."

Joshua wasn't the only one who felt letdown by his performance.

Back on the bridge of the Spirit of Bentheim, Ves furrowed his brows as he analyzed the meat suit's performance.

On one hand, its power and capabilities were absolutely great. The Titan-5 Project effectively granted the Everchanger the combat effectiveness of a high-tier expert mech for a relatively short amount of time.

The problem was that its energy consumption was too high. The meat suit's powerful organic processes expended so much energy that the organic energy cells simply couldn't meet all of the demand.

"Energy supply should be a major focus in the next major revision of the Titan-5 Project." Ves told Director Ranya.

The projection of the leader of the LBI nodded in agreement. "We will do our best to address this shortcoming, but it is difficult to obtain energy cells that provide noticeably more power at our current budget. You will need to find a way to supply us with what we need one way or another."

"I will see what I can do, but we are already using top-tier energy cells that we can obtain from the industry."

They continued to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the Titan-5 Project. Ves felt it had been worth it to allocate so many resources to the meat suit, but Director Ranya still possessed a couple of doubts.

"Do you truly want to proceed with making the Titan-5 Project stronger?" Ranya carefully asked. "Look at what it is doing at the moment. It has gone completely berserk and is continuing to crush the Point Break despite the fact that there is no benefit in doing so. Its consciousness has completely degenerated."

Ves dismissively waved his arm. "I understand the risks, but what can the meat suit possibly do against our entire clan? Our containment processes are more than adequate enough to limit the dangers. By the way, make sure to retrieve it from the battlefield before any Fridayman mechs have the bright idea to shoot it to pieces."

His fears were unfounded. Though the Sundered Phalanx would have loved to destroy this dangerous bioconstruct under other circumstances, the Fridayman mech pilots did not have the luxury to do anything else!

This was because General Verle and Marshal Ariadne Wodin had decided that the time was right for them to employ one of their most powerful means.

Now that the Sundered Phalanx had suffered multiple setbacks to the point where their battle lines had become disordered, the Larkinsons and the Glory Seekers wanted to strike the decisive blows that might cause the enemy pilots to collapse entirely!

Large formations of Valkyrie mechs were already starting to take shape. An invisible cloud of death slowly started to engulf the battlefield!

Chapter 4296 Fork Of Death

General Alisky Victrix grinned when she saw that the Larkinsons and the Glory Seekers finally made the moves that the Hexers had been waiting for all this time.

She began to look forward to a good show as the timing of this major step couldn't have been better!

Though the Sundered Phalanx had succeeded in evacuating Saint Rebecca Andus from the battlefield, the Fridaymen mechs had lost a lot of cohesion as a result.

Even if the enemy mechs did their best to reform their battle lines and restore their formations, there were still tens of thousands of enemy machines that were awfully clumped together at the moment!

This was the best time to sweep large chunks of them with a couple of death waves!

General Alisky's only regret was that the power to wipe out entire Fridayman mech regiments at once was not in the grasp of the Hex Army.

The Larkinson Clan never agreed to extend this secret power to the Hexers. This was a serious mistake in her opinion.

Others had different opinions about the obvious moves that the Penitent Sisters and the Glory Seekers were making.

Many people working for the Sundered Phalanx had paid constant attention to the movements of the mechs that were known to be able to launch battle formation attacks.

Now that large amounts of Valkyrie Redeemer Mark II's and other variants of this model had taken action, the Gauge Dynasty entered into high alert!

No matter whether the Sundered Phalanx won or lost this battle, it could not afford to suffer a serious and humiliating blow like the last time it fought against the Larkinson Clan!

"Disperse! Disperse! Forget about reforming your formations again. Just split up and move as far away from everybody as possible!"

"Open fire on the designed Valkyrie mechs! We need to knock out as many of them as possible in order to weaken their super attacks. The more of them that we take down, the more friendly lives we'll save!"

The enemy's thorough planning and quick actions made people such as Ves speechless.

"These guys are truly traumatized."

Nevertheless, even if the death energy waves were unable to take out as many mech pilots as he wished, thousands of Fridaymen mechs were bound to lose their pilots at once, which would deal a heavy blow against the morale of the Sundered Phalanx.

Numerous enemy expert mechs such as the Star of Liberation and other intact machines were doing their best to inhibit the Penitent Sisters and Glory Seekers from proceeding with their actions.

However, there were other powerful expert mechs such as the Amaranto and the Promethea that suppressed the enemy champions.

"We can't stop them!" An officer of the Blackened Reapers exclaimed! "There are too many of them for us to stop!"

Other friendly Hexer and Golden Skuller mechs tried their best to escort the crucial mechs forward.

Under all of this protection, three separate battle formations were on the verge of savaging the Sundered Phalanx's lines from three different angles!

In order to maximize the damage spread and minimize overlap as much as possible, the Larkinsons and Glory Seekers agreed to split up and prevent a strong response from the Sundered Phalanx to ruin all three attack waves at once.

The Penitent Sisters took over the responsibility of attacking the center of the Fridayman mech lines.

The Everchanger had already caught up to the Penitent Sisters after concluding its fight against the Rekkar and the Point Break.

The expert hero mech's combat drive allowed it to reposition itself a lot faster than before. It quickly took up position at the center of the formation.

Though Venerable Joshua had already exhausted himself to an extent, he still possessed enough willpower left to help the Penitent Sisters focus and amplify their efforts.

The Everchanger looked awfully out of place among the Valkyrie Redeemer Mark II's, but it soon changed its design spirit to Helena, which instantly caused it to gain a more gloomy vibe!

"Helena." Joshua called. "Can you give us a hand?"

"Always." A black-robed figure partially materialized inside the cockpit of the Everchanger. "The Hexers hate the Fridaymen so much that I have always wanted to snuff their souls more directly. I will make sure to kill as many of them as possible."

Venerable Joshua didn't exactly feel good when he heard that, but he did his best to suppress any distracting emotions. The best way to prevent his fellow Larkinsons from dying any further was to win this battle as quickly as possible. If that meant harvesting as many enemy lives as possible, then so be it. The Larkinson Army already suffered serious losses already.

While Venerable Joshua and the Penitent Sisters all formed a deep and profound connection to Helena, the Glory Seekers also prepared their separate attacks.

The Glory Seekers happened to field more Valkyrie mechs than the Larkinson Clan, so they had enough machines to launch two battle formation attacks at the same time.

Both the left and right wings of the enemy battle lines came under considerable danger.

Even though the concentration of enemy mechs weren't as high at these places, the Glory Seekers sought to collapse the barriers the Fridaymen had put up and pave the way to roll up the center from two sides!

Two special expert mechs led each of the battle formations of Glory Seekers.

Each of them shared a large resemblance to the other Valkyrie mechs, but their designs were much more high-end and their auras were palpably strong.

If ordinary Valkyrie mechs were like stars, then these expert mechs were like moons!

Both of these expert marauder mechs were piloted by the Handmaidens of Death.

In the past, Venerable Olivia Remis and Venerable Eona Ballentine piloted different variants of the Valkyrie Redeemer.

In the present, they piloted their own expert mech variants of the mech model that they embraced the most.

When Ves and Gloriana designed the pair of expert mechs, they did not start from scratch but rather took the Valkyrie Brunhilds that the Handmaidens of Death had broken through with and upgraded them into expert mechs!

Though practically every part of the original Valkyrie Brunhilds had been swapped out for vastly superior components, their living characteristics still remained the same for the most part!

Each of the two Valkyrie Brunhilds had evolved into third order living mechs when their pilots experienced apotheosis, so Ves found it extremely important to retain this fantastic quality.

As such, both Handmaidens of Death were not only able to start off their careers as expert pilots on a stronger footing than usual, but also formed deeper bonds with them over the years.

At this time, the Valkyrie Handa and the Valkyrie Krista assumed similar roles as the Everchanger for their respective battle formations.

As the giant fork of death came closer and closer to poking the Fridayman mech lines, nothing else seemed to matter anymore as the dark cloud increasingly pressed upon everyone's souls.

No matter whether they were Larkinsons, Glory Seekers, Crossers, Hexers or Gaugers, everyone on the battlefield seemed to pay attention to the three battle formations regardless of what they were doing.

This was strange as the battle hadn't paused.

Ranged mechs were still firing their guns.

Melee mechs were still positioning themselves.

Support mechs were still facilitating other friendly machines.

At most, the mech pilots became more distracted and reined themselves in so that they did not expose their mechs as much anymore.

Helena's presence became increasingly more oppressive across the battlefield.

Over 3,000 Valkyrie mechs offered formed channels to the Daughter of Death at the same time. There had never been a situation where a design spirit was able to descend upon the material realm to such an extent.

Though some design spirits would have struggled to support three battle networks at once, Helena possessed more than enough power to do so. Billions of Hexers already deified her and she had also experienced a lot of growth while fighting in the Nyxian Gap.

As the Valkyrie mechs led by the Everchanger, the Valkyrie Handa and the Valkyrie Krista all assumed V-shaped formations, the specter of death had never loomed closer to thousands of Fridayman mech pilots!

Three manifestations of Helena appeared at the same time.

The sight of the three identical gray-haired maidens caused every Hexer to grow more reverent towards their death goddess.

"Helena."

"Helena."

"Helena."

With the earnest support and worship of so many Hexer mech pilots and crew members, the manifestations of Helena all seemed to grow a little more solid.

The Helenas smirked and plucked the flower planted on their heads at the same time.

The Death Lotuses switched from their Flower Mode to their Pistol Mode.

Death energy surged inside the weapons before the Helenas simultaneously pulled the trigger!

"They're coming!"

"Hold fast, men!"

"For the Gauge Dynasty!"

It didn't matter too much whether the manifestations of Helena released their death energy attacks by waving their arms or firing their weapons.

The gigantic discharges of death energy released by the Death Lotuses soon expanded into enormous waves that were bound to sweep over entire mech companies at once!

Though a lot of Fridaymen mechs had already moved far away enough to put them into the safe zone, there were still plenty of other machines that were at great risk!

Just as thousands of Fridayman mech pilots were about to kiss their spiritualities goodbye, three bright and powerful projectiles shot out from a half-broken orbital space fortress from the Kosic Ring and intercepted the three death energy waves!

Three different energy explosions quickly erupted from those sites, causing numerous unlucky mech pilots who had strayed a bit too close to lose their lives.

However, the expanding death energy blasts all lost cohesion to the point where they quickly dispersed, preventing them from harming any further lives.

The Sundered Phalanx succeeded in blocking not one, but three infamously powerful battle formation attacks at the same time!

"WHAT?!"

"Who?!"

"This is impossible!"

Ves was shocked most of all! As the inventor of the battle network, he possessed a deep familiarity with its power.

Each successful battle formation allowed a design spirit to exert a portion of their power on the battlefield.

Though Helena wasn't able to attack the Fridayman lines at full strength, even a fraction of her might could not be stopped by expert mechs.

"The only way the Gaugers could repel the battle formation attacks is to bring something stronger than an expert mech..."

An ace mech appeared on the battlefield.

It rose from the orbital space station where its initial strikes originated from and warp traveled to the center of the battlefield at a pace that could easily leave the Dark Zephyr in the dust!

At the same time the Fridayman ace mech advanced, the three dazzlingly silver mech swords that had just negated Helena's powerful energy releases spontaneously flew back and reunited with their wielder.

The silver swords went on to circle around the ace mech as if they were planets orbiting a star.

The Neo Amadeus had come.

As the Fridayman mech pilots all gazed at the ace mech with admiration and worship, they completely forgot about all of the difficulties and hardships they suffered up to this point.

Each of them believed so much in their ace pilot and ace mech that they became convinced that their Saint would lead them to victory!

"Gauge!"

"Gauge!"

"Gauge!"

The Sundered Phalanx mech pilots never felt prouder to be a part of their service. To be able to fight alongside their ace pilot was an honor that they would cherish for the rest of their lives!

As Saint Jeremiah Gauge continued to announce his entry onto the battlefield, the enemies of the Gauge Dynasty all felt oppressed by the powerful enemy's aura.

Yet just as Saint Jeremiah could continue to press down the mech pilots that had the temerity to attack Pima Prime, a powerful energy beam struck the Neo Amadeus' Saint Kingdom!

Though the attack weakened considerably as it passed through Saint Jeremiah's domain field, it still retained enough energy left to inflict a serious blow onto the ace mech's armor.

Of course, it took a lot more attacks than that to damage the surface of the Neo Amadeus, but the power shown by this energy attack already forced Saint Jeremiah to take it seriously!

From the midst of the Cross Clan's fleet, another ace mech emerged.

After so much waiting, the Mars finally debuted on the battlefield as well!

Patriarch Reginald Cross only had eyes for his sole worthy opponent. His battle fever rose by the second as he increasingly psyched himself up for a duel with his life on the line!

"I've been waiting for you, Jerry! It took you long enough to show yourself."

"A homeless glory hound like you is a disgrace to your status as an ace pilot." Saint Jeremiah Gauge contemptuously replied. "Instead of using your power to protect your own men, you willingly cast them into the meat grinder in order to obtain a chance to confront your peer. By helping the hateful Hexers

commit their atrocities upon the innocent, you have cast aside your honor and dignity. Let me be the arbiter that shall punish you for your misdeeds!"

"Hah! There are no rights and wrongs on the battlefield. There are only winners and losers. History only glorifies the winners. Let us decide which of us shall serve as the stepping stone of the other today!"

Chapter 4297 Culmination

Master Benedict Cortez grew more keen as his Mars finally made its first true appearance in public.

Decades of research and years of design work had finally come into fruition.

It was rare for Masters to be given the responsibility to design ace mechs. Only the most trusted and accomplished mech designers of a state had a chance of receiving an invitation to design the most powerful mechs of their lifetimes.

There were so few people who could pilot ace mechs in the first place that many Masters got passed over.

Objectively speaking, Master Benedict shouldn't have obtained his turn. He had advanced too soon and his design solutions weren't close to the level of a seasoned and experienced Master.

Though he managed to realize his design philosophy, the implementation of his new Magma Vein System and Endex System were still fairly rough as they were at the start of their respective development cycles.

It didn't matter much to him. Qualified or not, Master Benedict never intended to pass up the opportunity to design a genuine ace mech. He had learned so many lessons and became exposed to so many new aspects of high-level mech design that he expanded his horizons and gained many new research directions.

However, the Mars was currently his best and proudest work. Though it was not a solo project, it undoubtedly encapsulated his design philosophy and the ideals he pursued since he started on this career.

Naturally, Benedict possessed a lot of confidence in his magnum opus. It was supremely powerful and utilized some of the best tech available in the Krakatoa Middle Zone.

"It has finally happened." Ves spoke.

"Our living god will finally shine today." Gloriana smiled as she held a suited Andraste in her arms.

The Master Mech Designer had started a conference call with the two contributors that had contributed to the Mars by making it more unique by raising its upper boundaries in different ways.

Though Master Benedict always respected Ves for his unique work and his radical but successful design solutions, his wife could be just as brilliant in her own ways.

Master Benedict did not view radical and unorthodox mech designers with much respect in the past. He thought that they were incompetent fools and dreamers who vastly overreached in their attempts to produce major breakthroughs in a single leap.

The progression of science rarely moved forward without the support of enormous accumulation. A huge amount of research and experimentation formed the basis of most advancements in human civilization these days.

It wasn't until Benedict came in touch with the leading mech designers of the Larkinson Clan that he gained a new appreciation of their worth and contribution to the mech industry.

Frankly speaking, Benedict did not believe it was the best idea to rely on mechs that were solely based on Ves and Gloriana's radical design philosophies. The pair possessed highly distinct strengths but also fairly major deficiencies and blindspots. They were also Journeymen who still had a long way to go before they were able to develop more rounded and refined mechs.

Still, their shortcomings didn't matter as long as the pair worked in a collaborative context.

This was where Master Benedict truly appreciated the so-called Miracle Couple. Some of their most defining specialties could easily be plugged into any mech design and instantly elevate the work to a higher level.

This was exactly what happened to the Mars.

Master Benedict could have chosen to collaborate with other Seniors if he truly wanted to, but he had opted to join hands with a bunch of Journeymen instead. This was because only Ves and Gloriana allowed his Mars to grow after its completion.

Besides, Ves had played a key role in enabling the Mars to become a masterwork mech. This exceptional accomplishment instantly multiplied the value of their creation and set it apart from many other ace mechs!

The proportion of masterworks among ace mechs tended to be significantly higher than usual, though. They were developed by the best Master Mech Designers of a state and organization. Many of these prestigious figures possessed so much depth in mechs that their ability to successfully fabricate masterwork mechs was incredible!

Master Benedict had no illusions about being able to turn the initial version of the Mars into a masterwork mech right away, but everything changed once he got hit by Ves' strange hammer.

Though Benedict deeply wanted to grab that hammer and research it in order to figure out how it could have triggered such a massive epiphany in his mind, he was tactful enough not to say anything to the Larkinson Patriarch.

Everyone had their secrets. Even Benedict never shared too much about himself to the people around him. That did not affect his ability to collaborate with other mech designers. Each of them possessed a clear understanding of what they sought from each other.

This was also another reason why Benedict was satisfied with the Larkinson mech designers. They were all young and posed little threat to higher-ranking mech designers. They also retained much of their purity and enthusiasm in mech design.

Currently, Ves and Gloriana's anticipation for the Mars might be even greater than his own!

Their limited contributions already granted them a measure of ownership of the Mars.

After being paired with a powerful ace pilot, the Mars offered the greatest hope of maximizing the growth traits of the two Larkinson mech designers.

However, there was no guarantee that the Mars could defeat its formidable opponent. No matter what, the Neo Amadeus was developed with the support of an entire coalition partner!

Even Master Benedict did not possess a complete enough understanding of Venerable Jeremiah Gauge and his Neo Amadeus to judge whether they still possessed a powerful trump card that could turn the tide.

"What are your first impressions of the Neo Amadeus?" Benedict idly asked.

"I underestimated its ranged capabilities." Ves immediately spoke. "I did not think it could project so much power at a distance just by tossing its swords.

How is the Neo Amadeus able to maintain such strong control over them outside of its domain field?"

"I imagine that your favorite Fridayman mech designer plays a large role in this." Gloriana guessed. "Out of the Gauge Dynasty Master Mech Designers who are known to have worked on the Neo Amadeus, Master Huron possesses the right specialty and the strongest qualifications to increase the control mechanisms of the swords."

Master Benedict thoughtfully nodded. "Though we have only gained a glimpse so far, the interaction between the Neo Amadeus and its swords faintly reminds me of the relationship between the Charlemagne and the Scara."

Ves paid much closer attention to the three main swords of the Neo Amadeus. Now that Master Benedict mentioned it, the swords absolutely stood out. They did not move or behave like inert weapons. The way they orbited around the Neo Amadeus caused them to appear more lively than usual.

"Wait a second..."

The words of Benedict and his wife gave him a strange hunch. Ves leaned forward on his chair and focused specifically on the sword. He did not look at their material composition or their overall design but instead tried to look for a specific trait that he had often worked with in the past.

Though it was difficult to determine anything solid through a projected view as opposed to being able to see the Neo Amadeus with the naked eye, Ves still managed to pick up hints that looked disturbingly familiar to his eyes.

Gloriana paid close attention to her husband's projection. "Did you find out something important about the Neo Amadeus, Ves?"

"I think so. I'm not sure. I need to see the Neo Amadeus in action before I know for certain what is going on. If my suspicions are correct, the Neo Amadeus may be a scarier ace mech than I originally thought."

As the mech designers speculated on the properties of the Neo Amadeus, the two ace pilots had nothing much to say anything to each other anymore.

Both of them fought for different principles and ideals. It was impossible for strong-willed individuals such as Jeremiah and Reginald to sway their opponents to their viewpoints.

"Your complicity in the atrocities of the Hexers is undeniable." Jeremiah declared as his Neo Amadeus seemed to glow and burn with righteousness! "As long as you remain alive, you will continue to facilitate the Hexers in their pervasive attempts to expand their evil and cultish ways to the stars. My people have suffered enough at the hands of the Hexers. As their mercenary helper, I sentence you to DEATH!"

Patriarch Reginald scoffed at those words. "Don't pretend you are some sort of arbiter of justice. I've had enough of your sanctimonious attitude. You are part of the ruling class of the Gauge Dynasty. The only reason why you are able to maintain your justice is because it is backed up by the biggest fist of the Friday Coalition. Only with strength and power can you determine what is right and what is wrong! I will prove to you how little substance there is to your justice by vanquishing you myself!"

Without another word, both ace mechs began to ascend and fly above the plane where most of the mechs were locked in combat.

The power of ace mechs was unreasonably destructive and could produce an enormous amount of collateral damage!

Even a casual missed shot might be enough to wipe out hundreds of mechs or down an entire capital ship!

What was worse was that both mechs were fighting in orbit of a populated planet.

When both Jeremiah and Reginald advanced to ace pilot, they went on another pilgrimage to an MTA branch headquarters where they received a lot of revelations, guidance and instructions.

One of the most important lectures they received was what was permissible for them. The mechers greatly emphasized the need to minimize collateral damage as much as possible.

After all, if dueling ace mechs casually wiped out half a city that was inhabited by millions of people, the popularity and support for the mech industry in human space would definitely take a major hit!

Aside from abiding to the bare minimum of hard rules imposed by the MTA, Jeremiah and Reginald also tacitly agreed to abide by an additional set of unspoken rules.

There was no need to speak them out loud or sign a written contract. They might disagree with each other on many matters, but they could still trust each other's integrity as a Saint.

Once they flew far away enough from the main battlefield, the two ace mechs promptly began to fight!

The Mars opened fire first. As an ace hybrid mech that was loaded with ranged armaments, it would be a huge mistake if Reginald did not make use of his range advantage!

The Crosser ace mech already warmed up its powerful ARCEUS System and commanded it to launch a combination strike of 9 extremely powerful resonance-empowered laser beams at the Neo Amadeus!

The accuracy and precision of this strike left no room for the Neo Amadeus to evade the attack, but Jeremiah did not intend to do so in the first place.

The Gauger ace mech first relied on its powerful Saint Kingdom to weaken the laser beam attacks as they got closer to their target.

Once the powerful laser beams finally reached the Neo Amadeus, one of the swords of the target mech was already in place to intercept the attacks with its shining silver blade!

A muted energy explosion erupted from the point of impact. Jeremiah's Saint Kingdom easily suppressed the unleashed energies and ensured that the damage had been minimized as much as possible!

The two ace mechs paused for a moment while their pilots evaluated their own efforts.

"Not bad." Jeremiah eventually spoke.

"Thanks." Reginald replied. "I am far from done, though. I have more salvos in store for your ace mech."

"Not so fast. It's my turn now."

Before Reginald could respond, the Neo Amadeus grabbed one of its swords and launched it forward towards the Mars at an incredible speed!

Even though the tossing move looked a bit casual, the power behind the advancing sword should not be underestimated!

Chapter 4298 Anti-Resonance

Patriarch Reginald Cross had no idea how the Neo Amadeus was able to toss its swords with so much power while also retaining a strong degree of control over them. He truly had no clue how the designers of the Gauger ace mech made all of this possible.

It didn't matter, though. There was no need to think too deeply about the science and engineering behind the mech of his opponent. All Reginald needed to do was to beat his enemy's measures!

Both sides still maintained a fairly cautious and serious attitude towards each other. A battle between ace pilots and ace mechs was often equated to a long and difficult war campaign.

Even the smallest differences could magnify into major advantages or disadvantages, so the two ace pilots had to make sure to be as efficient and effective with how they spent their resources.

Previously, Patriarch Reginald gained a small advantage.

When the Penitent Sisters and the Glory Seekers sought to poke the mechs of the Sundered Phalanx with a giant death fork, Saint Jeremiah Gauge had no choice but to take action first.

Battle formation attacks were strong, but their power was incomparable to the strength of an ace mech in the field.

This was why Reginald never took them seriously. Tricks like these no longer worked in front of absolute strength!

Though Saint Jeremiah managed to block all three death wave attacks, it still took quite a bit of effort to disperse the battle formation attacks. This not only exposed a part of the capabilities of the Neo Amadeus, but also forced its ace pilot to expend a bit of resources before his fated duel.

These relatively minor differences might end up giving Reginald a huge advantage later on in the fight!

His confidence had grown as a result. Though Reginald did not despise his opponent's sword tossing moves, there was no particular reason why he should fear them either.

He had several different ways to repel the incoming sword.

Since he had chosen to deploy into battle while equipping his Mars with a pair of shoulder-mounted gauss cannons, Reginald chose to fire them at the incoming threat.

While these modular gauss cannons were merely secondary armaments to the Mars, their firepower was much greater than the shoulder-mounted weapons of expert mechs such as the Point Break and the Shockshell.

The twin impacts considerably weakened the advancing sword, but did not stop it in its tracks.

The weapon continued to advance towards the Mars and quickly crossed into its target's Saint Kingdom.

The strong suppression from Patriarch Reginald's domineering willpower heavily impacted the sword, but Jeremiah's willpower happened to be stronger and more condensed!

Ultimately, the Mars had to block the incoming sword with its transphasic axe.

Though Patriarch Reginald attempted to capture the weapon in order to deprive the Neo Amadeus of a powerful tool, the sword had already bounced away and somehow accelerated straight back towards its owner!

"Strange." Reginald frowned.

He did not expect to succeed as the Neo Amadeus would have never send out its valuable weapon on a one-way trip.

However, the way the sword resisted his domain field and defeated his attempts to capture it was odd. Reginald mentally raised the threat level of his opponent's sword.

The two ace mechs continued to probe each other with cautious attacks. Neither ace pilots showed much haste even though the main battle taking place below had picked up again.

The Mars lightly exercised its ARCEUS System as Patriarch Reginald used the energy beam attacks to understand his opponent's Saint Kingdom and gain a better understanding of the defensive measures of the opposing ace mech.

The Neo Amadeus tossed its three primary weapons in different combinations and patterns. Each of its swords possessed different properties and affected the Mars in different ways.

Reginald eventually confirmed that the Neo Amadeus indeed had a transphasic sword and a plasma sword at its disposal.

It was the third sword that initially gave Reginald an unexpected surprise.

Though the third sword did not possess the penetration power of the transphasic sword or the melting capacity of the plasma sword, it was still absurdly effective at resisting and cutting through the Mars' domain field!

Patriarch Reginald actually found the third sword to be the most uncomfortable to deal with. It felt as if the weapon was completely unassailable to his will.

He didn't like that. Everything and everyone should submit to him. He had come here to defeat the Neo Amadeus and force Jeremiah Gauge to his knees.

How could Reginald accomplish his goal when he couldn't show a single sword who was in charge?

"Benedict." The Cross Patriarch spoke up. "What is this sword and why is it so weird?"

"If I am not mistaken... it is likely to be a rare but powerful anti-resonance sword." The Master replied. "This means that the weapon is made out of extremely expensive alloys that inherently resists the effects of resonance."

"Something like that can exist?"

"The mech industry is far more diverse than you think. We haven't even scratched the surface of all of the technologies that have emerged throughout the generations."

"If this sword is able to resist every form of resonance, then why is Jerry able to maintain control over it?" Reginald puzzlingly asked.

"I have heard that there are special proprietary processes that can make a permanent exception to the sword's effect for a single powerful mech pilot. The anti-resonance sword is essentially keyed to Saint Jeremiah Gauge."

As Master Benedict revealed what he knew about anti-resonance weapons over the communication channel, Ves abruptly jerked in his seat!

"Meow?" Lucky shifted from his position on the armrest and curiously gazed upwards.

"Don't you think this anti-resonance alloy sounds familiar, Lucky?"

"Meow..."

"It's your favorite laxative! It's been years since you last used the kitty litter box. I've been meaning to feed you a chunk of B-stone, but I have so little of it left that I can't bear to lose any more of it. If this anti-resonance alloy works the way I think it does, I may have found a more readily available substitute to B-stone!"

"MEOW!"

In fact, the anti-resonance alloy employed by the Neo Amadeus was probably much superior in terms of hardness. The Gauger mech designers wouldn't have used it to make a sword if the material was not able to keep up in battles between ace mechs.

Though Ves already suspected that anti-resonance alloys were products of high technology and therefore incredibly expensive and difficult to get ahold of, he was willing to do almost anything to obtain this material!

This was because it could likely offer him superior protection against spiritual threats!

As Ves added anti-resonance alloy to his wishlist, the two ace pilots were finally done with probing each other.

The main reason why they started out slow was because neither of them were completely certain whether their opponent was within their ability to defeat.

There was a huge variety of ace mechs. The differences in power between the weakest and strongest ones was immense, so the pilots had to make sure they did not get into a fight where their chances of victory was virtually zero!

Fortunately, neither Reginald nor Jeremiah found that their opponents were unreasonable. Though there were definitely differences between the two, they were well within reasonable ranges.

Two of the swords of the Neo Amadeus automatically entered their holsters. The ace mech took hold of its transphasic sword and began to accumulate power.

The Mars on the other hand gripped its transphasic axe and shotgun tighter. The ace mech also shunted more energy towards the ARCEUS System in preparation to make heavier use of its integrated weapon systems.

"They're getting serious now." Master Benedict judged.

Eventually, the Neo Amadeus moved first! It exploded into action as its transphasic flight system accelerated it forward at a much more impressive pace than ace mechs of the previous generation!

The Mars also moved an instant later.

Naturally, it did not choose to meet up with the Neo Amadeus. The Crosser ace mech instead flew in the other direction as it sought to stay as far away from its opponent as possible!

Both ace mechs traversed so quickly in space that they resembled comets at this time!

Most ordinary sensor systems didn't even possess the capabilities to observe them effectively. Only higher-end sensors were able to provide solid views of the two ace mechs, much to the disappointment of many onlookers.

However, it didn't take premium military-grade sensors to figure out that the pursued was faster than the pursuer!

The Mars' Pulsvar V-1 transphasic flight system did not necessarily incorporate superior tech, but its material composition was definitely more luxurious!

It not only incorporated a bit more phasewater than the flight system of the opposing ace mech, but was also made out of other superior materials!

The cost of equipping the Mars with a more luxurious transphasic flight system was great, but the Cross Clan did not hesitate to invest this much in order to produce this kind of circumstance!

"As long as the Mars is able to outpace the Neo Amadeus, it can steadily wear down the ace swordsman mech's defenses!"

Patriarch Reginald did not hold back the incredible firepower of his ace mech anymore. The Magma Vein System augmented by the Endex System supplied an abundance of energy to the ARCEUS System, allowing the Mars to fire resonance-empowered laser beams with incredible power!

Each of the laser beams struck at the speed of light, making it extremely difficult for the swift and agile Neo Amadeus to evade the attacks.

Saint Jeremiah Gauge had little choice but to weaken the incoming laser beams by exerting his domain field to weaken them as they passed.

After that, the Neo Amadeus resolved the remaining power of the attacks by blocking them with the flat of its blade or the transphasic armor of his ace mech.

The flood of laser beam attacks did not deal any apparent damage to the Neo Amadeus, but it would be a horrible mistake to think that the Gauger ace mech could shrug off the blows without paying a price.

Under the current circumstances, each serious attack launched by the ARCEUS System was enough to punch through the titan shields of space stations and important city districts!

The firepower of the ARCEUS System could easily cripple dozens of combat carriers or partially hollow out a capital ship in a matter of minutes!

This was the reason why the mech community often repeated the phrase that the only way to defeat an ace mech was another ace mech.

As long as Jeremiah Gauge was able to maintain his Saint Kingdom, practically every attack launched by the Mars lost at least half of their effective firepower! It was a lot easier to block whatever was left at the end.

Though it looked as if the Mars was squandering a large amount of energy and other resources while getting little done in return, Patriarch Reginald knew better.

Energy management and energy supply were the greatest advantages of his Mars. His control over his living mech was so great that he could feel how much his exceptional machine sustain the current intensity of attacks.

Reginald was extremely confident that the Mars would definitely be able to outlast the Neo Amadeus!

Perhaps Saint Jeremiah made the same realization, because he no longer maintained the current status quo.

It was true that the Neo Amadeus was not as fast as the Mars due to possessing an inferior transphasic flight system, but fortunately the designers of the ace swordsman mech developed an extra solution to address scenarios like these.

The Neo Amadeus extended its transphasic sword forward. When Saint Jeremiah began to resonate with the weapon in a specific way, it began to glow and affect the surrounding space!

Many observers grew surprised as the activated transphasic sword seemed to cut through a part of the fabric of space, causing a brief warp tunnel to take shape behind the advancing weapon.

When the Neo Amadeus became enveloped by this strange warp tunnel, its speed abruptly increased by at least 20 percent, which was enough of a difference for the ace swordsman mech to catch up to its prey!

"How can this be possible?!" Ves reacted with shock. "Ace mechs are too ridiculous!"

Chapter 4299 Collision Of Design Solutions

Mobility was extremely important to ace mechs, particularly when they were primarily designed to fight up close.

It was impossible for the Master Mech Designers in charge of developing the Neo Amadeus to neglect this aspect!

The transphasic flight system of the Neo Amadeus might not be as good as that of the Mars, but the transphasic sword just happened to possess an extra function that more than made up for this difference!

Though Ves was incredibly surprised at how the Neo Amadeus was able to speed itself up, Master Benedict did not look too surprised.

"This is what ace mechs are capable of, Ves. Don't blindly apply the model of expert mechs to this classification of machines. Compared to your Everchanger, the Mars and the Neo Amadeus are much more versatile in how they manipulate their capabilities to achieve more diverse outcomes. The reason why there is such a major difference is because their ace pilots have matured their power expression to a much higher degree."

Ace pilots had taken a major step towards transitioning into energy-based lifeforms. The more they distanced themselves from their mortal limitations, the more they became proficient at harnessing the powers granted by their more developed domains!

To people like Ves, it was incredibly silly to think that allowing a sword to cut through space could increase the speed of a machine.

The Neo Amadeus had taught him a big lesson that he should never apply too much common sense towards any ace mech!

Right now, the Neo Amadeus was slowly gaining on the Mars due to the speed advantage it had bought. While Saint Jeremiah had to exert more willpower in order to do so, it was more than worth the effort as long as his ace mech succeeded in reaching his target!

Saint Jeremiah didn't find it worth it to harass the Mars by launching its other swords. It was better to focus entirely on maximizing the speed of his ace mech so that it could get close enough to swing its sword at the Mars.

Of course, Patriarch Reginald had no interest in letting his opponent have his way.

"Take this!"

The ARCEUS System fired concentrated laser and positron beams at the transphasic sword in the hopes of damaging it or at least interfering with its operation.

The Mars also fired its shoulder-mounted gauss cannons at the enemy ace mech's leading sword.

Unfortunately, no matter how much the Mars attempted to knock down the sword, it remained completely undamaged and continued to perform its function with not a single sign of stability.

Patriarch Reginald gained a much greater impression of the quality and power of the weapons of the Neo Amadeus.

The overall mech frame didn't appear to be extravagant, but the developers of the ace mech allocated a lot of funding, resources and attention to equip it with the best possible swords that the Gauge Dynasty could supply!

This was bad news to Reginald as the three swords enabled Jeremiah to express his power in many more powerful ways.

Their importance to the Neo Amadeus was just as great as the Decapitator to the First Sword!

Reginald recalled that Saint Jeremiah had once gone on an exchange to the Heavensword Association in his early career.

Though the Gauger ace pilot had never openly visited the Heavensword Association again, the man must have doubtlessly inherited a fair amount of traditions and methods of the sword fanatics.

"Those swords need to be taken care of." Reginald concluded. "I'll be in trouble as long as Jerry is able to make use of all of them. I need to find a way to knock them out of his grasp."

That was easier said than done. His powerful ARCEUS System that possessed the power to destroy entire city districts failed to inflict any meaningful damage to the enemy's transphasic sword!

The main reason why the Mars kept firing its integrated energy weapons over and over was because it took a lot of effort from Saint Jeremiah to mitigate the incoming damage.

The fight between the two ace mechs turned into an attrition battle for the following minutes. Though the actions of both ace mechs seemed repetitive, that was because the ace pilots knew that the real fight would only begin once the Neo Amadeus fully caught up to the Mars!

It was strange to see the two ace mechs fighting at a fairly low intensity when the battle much below had become a lot fiercer!

The Minerva and the Blade Chaser Mark II tried their best to fend off the aggressive assault from the Arma Tensar and the Fila Tensar.

Commander Casella Ingvar had turned herself into a major nuisance by commandeering a lot of Rifle Warriors that struck the mechs of the Sundered Phalanx with greater power and precision than normal.

The command-oriented expert pilot had little choice but to retract her presence from her fellow Larkinson mech pilots in order to empower her brother. It was only when the Blade Chaser Mark II received a large power-up that the Ingvar siblings reluctantly managed to hold their own against the Tensars.

Elsewhere, Venerable Jannzi entered into the most difficult fight of her career so far. Her difficulties began when the Skorpion Commando along with a bunch of other elite mech units had boarded several special combat carriers and warped behind the Larkinson fleet and launched a lightning attack!

"You have completely degenerated as a knight mech pilot!" Venerable Jannzi accused as her Shield of Samar struggled to block the Skorpion Kommando's venomous tail strike. "Whatever noble spirit you used to possess in your bones has completely rotted away."

"How naive! I like destroying you idealistic dimwits the most. Sacrificing your own life to save the lives of an ungrateful bunch of people is futile. We are demigods. We are better than the mortals that you profess to serve. Our value is infinitely greater than the plebeians that expect us to work ourselves to death so that they can live their petty little lives!"

The two expert space knights designed in completely opposite styles furiously collided against each other as their pilots attempted to win their ideological argument by force as well as persuasion!

As these intensive duels and battles continued to progress, the Neo Amadeus almost managed to catch up to the Mars by this time!

Saint Jeremiah Gauge grew more active and excited as his powerful machine was on the verge of reaching its most optimal range.

Their Saint Kingdoms touched each other first.

Two different bubbles filled with true resonance began to press against each other like a pair of balloons.

Neither ace pilot wanted their Saint Kingdoms to give way first. The two powerful men entered into another ego contest as they urgently channeled more power into their domain fields.

It became increasingly more difficult for the ace pilots to hold their ground as the Neo Amadeus kept pressing closer to the Mars.

Eventually, it was the red and aggressive Saint Kingdom of the Mars that gave way first!

As the Neo Amadeus continued to press closer, its domain field started to squeeze into the territory of its opponent.

Although Saint Jeremiah wasn't strong enough to completely negate his opponent's Saint Kingdom, he possessed just enough of an advantage to make Reginald cede a lot of territory!

While it became harder and harder for Jeremiah to snatch Reginald's territory as the Neo Amadeus got closer to the Mars, it became clear to both ace pilots who possessed an advantage in this aspect!

"Your will is not as strong as mine." Saint Jeremiah grinned.

"I broke through later than you. Besides, I'm four decades younger than you. Your talent isn't worth anything compared to mine!" Saint Reginald snapped back.

"Talent doesn't mean anything in this fight. It is the strength that we possess today that will determine who will win. My mind and will is greater than yours, and there is no possible way you can catch up to my level!"

Reginald scowled. As much as he wanted to deny it, his enemy was right. Jeremiah enjoyed too much of a head start.

Even so, the Cross Patriarch did not allow this disadvantage to affect his confidence!

"I don't need to beat your mental game." He responded. "My ace mech is better than yours. Just the fact that mine is a masterwork while yours is low-quality garbage is enough for me to win this battle!"

"I WILL NOT ALLOW YOU TO BELITTLE MY NEO AMADEUS!"

The two ace mechs stopped speeding across the battlefield!

Now that Reginald realized it was futile to run, he fully switched over to an offensive posture. The Magma Vein System no longer channeled as much energy to the flight system but instead directed them to the ARCEUS System so that it could launch stronger attacks.

The Mars promptly proceeded to fire powerful positron beams at the Neo Amadeus as fast as its integrated energy weapons could cycle.

At the same time, the Mars lifted its shotgun and fired a large and expensive transphasic pellet cartridge at its sole opponent.

Though the pellets did not possess a lot of penetrative power, they could still deplete the defenses of the Neo Amadeus.

However, before these pellets struck the ace swordsman mech, Saint Jeremiah no longer held back and quickly summoned all of the weapons his Neo Amadeus had at its disposal!

Every pellet bounced away as a large amount of blades had managed to intercept the ones that threatened to strike the Neo Amadeus!

Patriarch Reginald briefly became astonished now that he had finally been graced with the full form of the Neo Amadeus.

"The Multi-Armed Designer sure did a thorough job on this mech..." He trailed.

The Neo Amadeus resembled god rather than a mech at this moment.

A pair of physical arms had drawn out the transphasic sword and the anti-resonance sword.

Five more pairs of white, translucent arms had extended from the back of the Neo Amadeus and proceeded to grip a dagger each!

In other words, the Neo Amadeus had turned itself into a dodeca-armed mech!

The translucent arms were not material but instead consisted of condensed true resonance energy that the Neo Amadeus was able to summon and maintain more easily through special technology.

Now that the Neo Amadeus had drawn out all of its weapons aside from its plasma sword, the ace swordsman mech lunged forward and began to launch a flurry of attacks against the Mars!

"No matter how many blades you hold, none of them are worth a damn so long as they can't scratch my armor!"

Patriarch Reginald resonated with the powerful armor system of his Mars.

As the part of the ace mech that integrated the most phasewater in the design, the Abasis Armor finally showed its worth as a cutting-edge transphasic armor system as its iconic ring-patterned exterior resisted strike after strike!

Even though Saint Jeremiah resonated with all of the weapons held by the Neo Amadeus, none of the weapons were able to break the transphasic barrier generated by the Abasis Armor.

While Jeremiah did not hold high hopes for his daggers, he at least thought his swords should have done a better job.

Any strike that the Mars failed to block with its transphasic axe failed to deal any damage to the exterior of the ace hybrid mech.

No matter whether it was the transphasic sword designed to defeat transphasic defensive measures or the anti-resonance sword that was developed to negate resonance-based defenses, neither weapons were powerful enough to overcome the Abasis Armor!

The defensive power of the Mars was too ridiculous!

Of course, the ace hybrid mech did not remain idle while resisting strike after strike. Its ARCEUS System, its transphasic gauss cannons, its transphasic shotgun continually pummeled the Neo Amadeus, which finally showed signs of stress as it struggled to resist the concentrated attacks.

What was especially troublesome for Saint Jeremiah was that the Abasis Armor also generated a destabilizing spatial field that weakened the phasewater-based defenses of the Neo Amadeus!

In other words, the Mars effectively weakened the defenses of the Neo Amadeus just by staying close!

"Who is piloting the melee mech here?" Jeremiah wondered. "How can the Mars have more close combat solutions than my own ace mech?!"

Chapter 4300 Misused

Destructive power and dazzling energies exploded from the constant collisions between the two ace mechs.

Many casual viewers found it difficult to track the ace mechs despite the best efforts of distant observers to track the movements and resolve the visuals through all of the interference produced by excessive energy discharges.

An enormous number of people living in the Magair Middle Zone, Krakatoa Middle Zone and many other zones had tuned into the few broadcasts that were able to track the amazing duel without degenerating into continuous red and silver explosions.

The Mars held clear responsibility for blinding and damaging many sensors as its ARCEUS System constantly pumped out resonance-empowered beams like no tomorrow!

The integrated energy weapons embedded into its frame had been firing at their maximum possible rate of fire.

Other energy weapon systems would have melted, exploded or malfunctioned if they operated as intensely as the ARCEUS System, but the high-quality parts developed by Immace Energy Armaments remained true to their specs and continued to hold on even after enduring all of this abuse!

Another element of the Mars that experienced a huge amount of strain was its Abasis Armor.

The unique, cutting-edge experimental transphasic armor system was one of the top-end products of Truvek Defenses, another renowned tech development company backed by powerful forces.

The Mars did not just represent the face of the Cross Clan. Every contributor that had cooperated with the Crossers by contributing their expertise and their tech to the design felt a strong sense of ownership to the high-tier expert mech that quickly morphed into an ace mech.

It was not wrong to state that the Mars was a product of Davute!

Victory and defeat not only had profound implications for the parties directly involved in the Battle of Pima Prime, but would also generate a lot of ripple effects to other groups.

The power blocs that founded and ruled over Davute were especially concerned about the outcome of the duel.

As far as these people were concerned, they had no stake in the battle as a whole. The defeat and subsequent destruction of the Golden Skull Alliance had little bearing on the overall situation of a major economic engine like the Davute System.

The people in the region would just lament the loss or suspended development of several popular living mech models such as the Pacifier, the Ferocious Piranha, the Hymenoptera and so on. Their market penetration was a bit big and their owners would definitely be pissed if the LMC could no longer offer any continuation to its product lines.

In any case, it would be better if the Mars was able to win this stellar duel. A victory would not only grant more fame and renown to Davute, but also

provide solid proof that its local development companies were strong and capable of competing against its regional rivals!

Of course, Patriarch Reginald Cross did not allocate a single thought towards the demands and aspirations of other people.

He could not afford to get distracted by anything as he constantly struggled to keep up with the fast and powerful moves of his opponent!

That wasn't all. Aside from having to fight against the Neo Amadeus on a physical level, he also had to firm up his mind and will and make sure his Saint Kingdom didn't buckle against the one projected by his opponent!

Shaped by many decades of focused and disciplined swordsmanship training, Saint Jeremiah had condensed and sharpened his force of will into the most solid bladed weapon that he could forge under his circumstances.

When he broke through to ace pilot, his domain field largely inherited these characteristics!

The result of this was that Saint Jeremiah's Saint Kingdom became smaller but significantly more condensed.

It was like a ball of alloy that resisted a lot of pressure and could easily cause losses to weaker and less solid domain fields.

Unfortunately, Patriarch Reginald's Saint Kingdom happened to match this description!

Combat was never fair. Reginald was confident that his resonance strength and domain field would have been stronger and more developed if he broke through at the same time as Saint Jeremiah Gauge.

It was a pity that Reginald achieved his dream too late!

This led to the current circumstance where all of the attacks launched by his ace mech automatically weakened as soon as they got close to the Neo Amadeus!

By now, it had become abundantly clear that while the ace swordsman mech did indeed possess a few powerful and ingenious design solutions, its quality and specifications were not comparable to that of the Mars!

Yet because of Saint Jeremiah's powerful will, every positron beam launched by the ARCEUS and every round blasted by the transphasic shotgun underwent so much distortion that they became too weak to overcome the armor covering the Neo Amadeus.

Fortunately, Saint Jeremiah experienced even greater difficulties in his attempt to punch through the armor of the Mars!

Though Reginald's Saint Kingdom simply wasn't as developed, it was still capable of making certain that the ace pilot retained ownership of the immediate space around the Mars.

Every incoming sword and dagger strike that the Mars had no hope of blocking automatically lost a bit of power as Reginald tried his best to bleed off their damage potential.

By the time the Neo Amadeus was able to strike the Mars with all twelve weapons, the activated Abasis Armor completely resisted the remainder of the impacts without exceeding its limits!

The two ace mechs violently struck each other with an overwhelming volume of attacks until both ace pilots recognized that neither of them would be able to make significant progress if they maintained the current status quo.

Patriarch Reginald did not object too much to it, though. His Mars possessed a lot of staying power. He was confident he could slowly wear down the Neo Amadeus over time.

Saint Jeremiah Gauge recognized this as well. It would be stupid for him to stick to a strategy that only led to his ace mech's eventual exhaustion and defeat!

The two ace mechs broke away from each other. The powerful machines and their pilots had just experienced a lot of strain which worsened their conditions. They eagerly took advantage of the temporary lull to catch their breaths and ease the heavy load they put on themselves.

"That Mars of yours is truly a marvel of engineering." Jeremiah sincerely praised. "Your mech designers are truly something else and the parts your clan has managed to acquire for it are stronger than I expected."

"Thanks. Your Neo Amadeus isn't that bad either. Your swords are the most powerful mech weapons that I have ever had the privilege to fight against. I will put them in a place of honor on my flagship to commemorate my first victory as an ace pilot."

Jeremiah laughed. "Hahaha! You will never get the chance to claim my swords because I will be driving them through your fancy mech. Your Mars may be great, but battles between ace pilots like ourselves are never determined by whose pockets are deeper. If the pilot is weak, his mech is also weak! This truth is more valid than ever the higher up you go! If you think that you have seen everything that I could do, then think again! I have not even begun to display the power that I have gained after forging myself into a weapon for an entire century!"

The Neo Amadeus glowed bright and the Saint Kingdom around it became sharper and more filled with silver light!

It was as if Saint Jeremiah had turned himself into an incarnation of justice and swords!

The expression of his will and the power of his conviction materialized in a way that induced greater pressure on Patriarch Reginald!

Of course, Saint Jeremiah was burning through his willpower and mental capacity at a greater rate by creating such a dramatic lightshow.

Since his Neo Amadeus couldn't defeat the Mars by playing the long game, Jeremiah decisively changed tack and chose to employ his strongest techniques in order to overcome the hardy defenses of the Mars through overwhelming force!

The Neo Amadeus stretched out all twelve of its arms, which combined with its glowing form caused the ace mech to resemble a multi-armed divinity that was about to exact holy judgment on the wicked!

Its physical arms that held its precious swords along with the energy arms that held the less important but still deadly daggers began to shake and vibrate as they accumulated more power.

The different weapons themselves also grew hotter and more energetic as Saint Jeremiah resonated with them to the strongest degree!

Patriarch Reginald did not remain idle during this time. The Saint Kingdom around the Neo Amadeus had grown so strong that ordinary attacks from his ace mechs didn't cut it anymore.

The Mars began to accumulate energy as Reginald chose to employ a big move as well. He did not believe that he was too weak to overcome his opponent's powerful Saint Kingdom!

"Reginald." Ves' voice suddenly spoke up in the communication channel.

"Please respond. I've been trying to catch your attention for a while now. I have important information that you need to know."

Reginald briefly frowned. He vaguely recalled hearing additional voices in his ears, but he had completely disregarded them as he became too invested in the fight.

"What is it, kid?"

"Finally!" Ves let out a breath in exasperation. "I'll keep this short. You are not making the best use of the Mars."

"I am the pilot here. I know what I am doing." Reginald angrily rebuked. "I have trained for years with the Mars. It is an insult to suggest that I know nothing about how to utilize its power!"

"I'm not saying that, Reginald! I am sure you have mastered the basics to an incredible degree and gained a deep and intimate understanding of all of its tech and parts. However, I have noticed that you have never made serious use of the design solutions that I have imparted to the Mars."

"What am I missing according to you? I do not feel I am misusing the Mars."

"You are piloting the Mars in the same way you used to pilot the Bolvos Rage. You have subordinated the Mars into a tool. This is a massive waste of potential! The Mars is a third order living mech that can do much to help you fight against your opponent, but you have given it no room for independent thought and operation!"

Reginald remained unmoved by Ves' argument. "I will not tolerate any uncontrolled factors in my mech. I am in charge and my will is paramount. Whatever living component the Mars possesses is too worthless to help me in this fight. I am strong enough to defeat Jeremiah Gauge on my own, and I intend to vanquish him without relying on anyone else's help. Resorting to outside help is an admission of defeat!"

"YOU IDIOT!" Ves lost his patience! "I envisioned the Mars as your partner, not your slave! Its living properties are intrinsic to its design. Not only that,

you're also ignoring the design spirits that I have paired with the Mars. The Cross Warlord that sits at the center of your clan's spiritual network is ready to back you up. The Phase King can allow you to make significantly better use of the transphasic functions of your ace mech. I can guarantee you that you will be able to win your first ace mech duel by teaming up with your living mech as well as the design spirits that I have mentioned. The Mars is a living mech that is designed with synergy in mind!"

He may be right, but Reginald was not in a mind to embrace these words.

"I have my own pride, Ves." The Cross Patriarch spoke in an increasingly firmer tone. "I am not like your Larkinsons. I have my own pride. As a warrior, I must test myself and overcome my challenges by relying on my power. I am grateful for everything you have done to make the Mars more exceptional, but when I am in its cockpit, I am in charge. The only way I can honor my father and all of my deceased clansmen is to fight and win this duel in the way that I have been taught by those very same people! THIS IS MY VOW!"

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