

Paragon 1001

Chapter 1001: Nadia's Trump Cards

"What do you mean by you have an angel puppet?" Asha asked, looking at Nadia, checking whether she was messing with her or not.

Klaus, on the other hand, looked at the empty chamber that had the white light, and a smile appeared on his face. He can tell something big has happened, and he can't wait for Nadia to confirm it.

Nadia saw this smile, causing her own smile to widen.

"Oh, my dear sister Asha, you truly didn't think I would be more impressive than you." Nadia laughed and pointed at the white light chamber.

"It turns out that although my class is the Obsidian String Demon Puppeteer, I wasn't destined to only roam with demons. When I first arrived at the second level of the Demon Spirits Storage, I saw there were 130 tubes down here.

Naturally, I knew what they were holding.

So I went ahead and started putting them inside the puppets. However, as I drew closer to the number of Nether stage puppets I could have, I noticed a rather beautiful Soul Spirit that lacked the demonic aura.

Of course, I was attracted to it the moment I saw it. That was strange considering I have demonic energy deep in my soul. However, it called to me, and that was when my first Domain stage puppet came into existence."

"What?" Klaus and Asha looked at Nadia as if she were some demoness they hadn't seen before. Having 26 Nether stage demon puppets was already enough.

But now, it turns out she had even a domain stage puppet.

"I know the two of you are in shock. It is perfectly normal. However, the fact here is, I have an Angel, and she is awesome.

And, as I mentioned earlier, the note I found read, 'Defying the heavens to save life.' I did the impossible, and that is already more than you can compete against, Asha."

"Show us," Klaus said, and Nadia nodded.

She waved her hand, and they vanished, appearing in one section of the workstation where a lady with silver hair and angel wings sat, cultivating.

The moment Klaus saw her back, his heart shook. 'Heaven's Favourite.'

The feeling he had from Kate Duncan back then, which nearly drove him to kill her, was oozing from the angel lady, causing him to furrow his brow.

'This is interesting.' A smile appeared on his face as he continued to look at the back of the angel lady. After a few seconds, she turned and looked at Nadia, causing the Elven beauty to smile.

"Faye, I brought some people over," Nadia called out, and the angel lady stood up.

When she turned, her gaze met Klaus's, and for a moment, Klaus saw her body shudder. However, she recovered in an instant and walked toward them.

"Greetings, I am Faye, a River Angel and the guardian of the Obsidian Puppet Legion."

Klaus raised his brow, turning slightly to look at Nadia, who held a blush on her cheek, looking at Asha instead of him. She knew what Klaus was thinking, so she intentionally turned away from him.

Faye, who could talk simply because she had a soul spirit in her, looked at Klaus with the corner of her eye, making Klaus smile in his head.

He looked at Nadia and smiled.

‘She really has the means to defy the heavens.’ He couldn’t be any prouder of Nadia at this point. The fact that she had heaven’s favourite in her puppet legion was already enough for him.

Klaus knew that, in the future, she would be able to go against the heavens with him.

“Faye is a Domain stage warrior, one of two I have-ish. However, unlike the other one, Faye is calmer and delicate. I even have to say she is someone you will come to like and depend on, my love.”

“You don’t say.” Klaus walked around, studying the angel puppet.

‘According to what Kaden told me, whenever a heaven favourite turns to the dark side, which is my side, they gain a power called Karma against the heavens. This ability makes them a bane of the heavens.

However, to achieve this, I have to perform a ritual that I don’t know how to do. However, now that I have the Star Monarch bloodline, I don’t have to stress about that.’

Klaus flicked his hand, and a drop of his blood appeared, freezing it into solid ice. He extended it toward Faye.

“Consume this and cultivate the essence.”

Faye looked at Nadia, who held a smile on her face. It told her which side her master had taken. This was why, despite her nature feeling repulsive against the blood before her, she took it and swallowed it. The next second, she went back to cultivating the blood.

If she were to be on the outside, the heavens would have long descended with their fury. However, they couldn’t sense Faye from inside the Puppet workstation, meaning she had turned against them, and there was nothing they could do.

Maybe they will do, but since puppets don't go through heavenly tribulation, Nadia might just pay the price someday.

Klaus, who knew giving Faye the blood was a dangerous risk, was now smiling, knowing his theory was indeed true.

'They really don't have eyes inside our private spaces.'

With this, though, Klaus's determination to prepare even more was sparked. If he could become a Chaos stage warrior in the next 35 days, then Nadia and Asha would become terrors on the battlefield.

If only he knew the heavens had started planning for the upcoming awakening since his 7th incarnation, which was millions of years ago.

Naturally, all he could do was train, prepare, and hope for the best.

"Now to my second Domain stage puppet," Nadia waved her hand, and they appeared in a different space.

"I was greedy when I saw the demon spirits, so while I initially was planning to use the souls I captured to summon Void stage and Chaos stage demon spirits, my greed was so much that I used what could have been enough to summon 40 Chaos stage demon spirits to summon just one demon spirit.

It turns out, my greed was indeed a good thing."

Klaus narrowed his eyes when he saw a silhouette appear in the distance. Asha was the same. However, Nadia held a smile on her face.

Klaus narrowed his gaze even more, then he sighed, "He is standing behind me, isn't he?"

Someone slapped him on the shoulder, and they wrapped their arms around his neck as if they were old friends.

“Your senses are next level, baby brother. I am impressed.” Klaus turned and faced a handsome young man with golden skin and three eyes.

Two of his eyes were made of diamond, with the one on his forehead made of ruby, or at least that was how it looked.

He had dreadlocks on, and looking at the smile on his face, Klaus knew this bastard had no self-respect whatsoever.

“Vlad, this is my sister Asha and my husband Klaus.”

Vlad turned and looked at Klaus with a smile on his face, “Nice meeting you, junior young master. I am Vlad, a Golden Demon puppet.”

Klaus raised his brow and asked, “So you know you are a puppet.”

“Of course. I am a level 5 Domain stage warrior. I can see the strings connected to my beautiful master,” Vlad replied, winking at Nadia, who smiled.

Klaus squinted his eyes when he saw Vlad’s unruly behaviour. Of course, he knew he had nothing to worry about.

However, to make sure this three-eyed demon didn’t have any funny ideas, Klaus produced his blood and handed it to him, “Consume this and cultivate the essence. When you are done, we will talk.”

Vlad nodded and took the blood. “See you around, junior young master. I will be sure to test your Law of Gravity once I am done.”

Vlad winked at Klaus and vanished from sight.

Chapter 1002: What in the Actual Hell, Nadia

“What in the actual hell, Nadia?” Asha walked forward and looked Nadia in the eyes, unsure of what to think.

What she had just seen was more than enough to tell her that, when it comes to overall power, Nadia surpassed her in many aspects.

Of course, she was aiming for power, which led her to create the Death Agents, but even she didn't know if they would reach the Domain stage.

Even if they do, she wasn't sure they would surpass Faye or Vlad.

However, Nadia not only had 68 peak Ascension stage demon puppets, but also 26 peak Nether stage demon puppets, a level 3 Domain stage Angel puppet, and Vlad.

Just where did all this come from?

“That unruly bastard is dangerous, and now that I gave him my blood, who knows what kind of monster he will become?” Klaus muttered with a shocked expression, but a small smile was on his face.

Though he didn't know what was coming, having two Domain stage warriors on his side was already a good thing.

Nadia walked and held Klaus's hand. “I did all this for us. I want to ensure that the upcoming awakening doesn't overwhelm us.

Of course, Vlad wasn't initially part of the plan, but thanks to a certain Insect Queen bragging about her insect army, I got greedy and now, we have Vlad...Yay”

Asha just smirked, but she could tell Nadia was teasing her deeply. This caused her to turn around and correct things.

“First of all, I am not just an Insect Queen; I am also a Queen of the Hive, meaning my potential doesn’t end with ants and butterflies. One day, all insect-type beasts will respond to my call, and then we will see whether Vlad can save you.”

Nadia stuck out her tongue, teasing Asha. “Until then, guess who is the strongest?” Nadia pointed at herself. “This gal.”

Asha clenched her fist, stomping on the ground. “I want to be out of here.”

Klaus laughed, holding Asha and Nadia’s hands. “No need to look down on your achievement, Asha. I know you wanted to be the best, which you are. So instead of competing with her, find a way to surpass her before the awakening.”

Asha turned and looked at Klaus. “Can I even surpass her?” she asked, and Klaus nodded.

“Of course. I have a way for you to surpass her.”

Asha’s interest was piqued when she heard Klaus’s words. Nadia, on the other hand, raised her brow, still smiling and chose to pay attention to what Klaus was about to say.

Klaus waved his hand, and 12 black stones appeared in his hand.

“These are Underworld Stone Berries. They came from plants that grow only in the Underworld, meaning they contain the power of death.

I initially planned to use them to create Perfect Warriors; however, after sensing the aura coming from your 12 Death Agents, I realized they would be perfect for them.

However, there is a catch if you were to use these berries on them.”

“I don’t care about the catch. I just want to surpass this bitch and rub it in her face.”

Nadia just scoffed, looking at her overly competitive sister.

“The catch is, in the future, they will find it extremely hard to comprehend Life and break through to the Death stage. Also, if you want to upgrade them, you can only use death-related treasures like these berries.

However, you will have 12 powerful Death Agents on your hands if you choose to use these.”

“We will cross that bridge when we get there,” Asha said, taking the berries and glaring at Nadia.

Nadia just smirked and waved her hand, sending her away. Once Asha was gone, Klaus turned to his left and sighed. “You can come out.”

A veiled figure dressed in pure black with no visible skin stepped out of the darkness created by a boulder.

The aura coming from her was filled with the sinister energy of death. Hovering on her back was a zither oozing with death energy.

Nadia walked, held the veiled lady’s hand, and smiled. “This is Maud, my third Domain stage warrior puppet and the strongest of them all.”

Maud and Nadia walked closer and bowed before Klaus, causing Nadia to raise her brow, “Greetings, Death’s Chosen. I am but a humble servant of death and now at your service.”

Just as she finished introducing herself, Klaus felt his Unknown bloodline, which he initially thought was meant for illusions and poison, stir.

Only this time, instead of only his Unknown bloodline awakening, he felt a much darker bloodline stir within him, causing his eyes to turn dark instantly.

Nadia let go of Maud's hand and moved back. She could sense the aura coming from Klaus, and as someone who knew him well, she realized something was happening to Klaus, and staying close would be bad for her.

Maud, on the other hand, went down on her knees and bowed.

"All hail Death's Chosen."

"All hail the Son of Death."

She was chanting these words as Klaus slowly transformed.

When he first turned into his Death Chosen form, his hair turned violet, but now it was pure dark and much longer than before. Two long dark horns appeared on his forehead, matching his eyes and hair.

Then his body was slowly covered in a cotton-type cloak that fitted him perfectly. A thin dark cloak billowed behind him as a dark staff with an eye embedded at the head appeared in his firm grip.

Behind him, a dark and red 7-layered ring appeared, featuring nineteen orbs.

The second orb shone when Klaus raised his staff and pointed it at Maud. The eye at the head of the staff shone darkly, releasing a reddish-dark energy.

"I, Son of Death, hereby bestow on you the blessing of death. Rise, oh devoted servant of death, for he calls and you answered."

Nadia stood 40 meters away, watching as a dark-red diagram appeared on the ground. She saw a powerful death energy move from the staff and enter Maud's body.

A few seconds later, Nadia lost her connection to Maud, causing her eyes to narrow. Panic set in, knowing she had no control over the most powerful puppet in her legion of puppets. However, seeing her kneeling down, she said nothing.

If the worst were to happen, she knew Klaus would be able to subdue her.

But aside from that, she was a little shocked to see her puppet perfectly fine despite the string connecting them being severed. It was as if she had lost connection to her power source, yet Maud was still alive-ish.

After a few minutes, Klaus raised his staff, and the dark diagram disappeared. "Rise, Maud." The veiled lady stood up and looked at Klaus.

"Do you accept the calling of death, and willing to go on a pilgrimage of death for his blessing?"

Maud bowed slightly. "I accept."

"In that case, standing on the authority of death, I hereby bestow on you the title, 'Death's Heart.'"

Maud bowed even more gracefully. Klaus nodded and reverted to his human form. He turned and looked at Nadia, allowing a small smile to appear on his face.

"Sorry, my love, but I will be taking Maud off your hands."

Nadia sighed and walked closer to Maud, who looked at her through her veil and bowed slightly. Nadia sighed. "How am I supposed to compete with that annoying bitch now?"

Chapter 1003: Black Mission

[58 Days Before the Awakening]

What Asha didn't know was that Nadia actually had three Domain stage demon puppets. The Angel and Vlad are but the first two, with the third, Maud, being the strongest of them all.

Maud is a level 7 Domain stage Demon Puppet.

Klaus sensed her presence when Vlad appeared, but due to Asha's state of mind at that moment, he chose not to make things more heartbreaking for her.

So instead of allowing Nadia to mess with her some more, Klaus suggested to Nadia through telepathy that she should let Maud remain hidden.

She did, and that was when Klaus came up with the plan to help Asha.

The Underworld Stone Berries aren't something he can easily give out. If one of them were to appear in the universe, many would fight over it.

It is extremely valuable, which is why Klaus knew that using them alone as the main ingredient wasn't enough to create a perfect warrior. And since Klaus wasn't looking to create his own Death Agents, he chose to give the fruits to Asha.

The reason he chose to give it to Asha was that the 12 Death Agents would benefit more than he would if used in his own project. The Berries are better to upgrade than create.

So Asha was the best person to have them.

Also, Klaus has more than 12 Underworld Stone Berries, considering there is a whole tree of them inside his 6th core, where there is only darkness and death.

However, the moment Asha is gone, Maud appears.

However, never in Klaus's wildest expectations did he expect his death inheritance to resonate with Maud that fiercely.

Of course, when he sensed her, Klaus could sense the aura of death on her. However, he didn't expect his unawakened bloodline linked directly to death to resonate with her.

So in a way, Klaus wasn't planning on taking Maud from Nadia. However, he had to, considering that the moment the bond between her and Nadia had been severed, a new one had formed between him and Maud.

Naturally, she had now become Klaus's subordinate, which is sad when considering Nadia's current mood.

Although she wasn't in a fierce league with the overly competitive Asha, she enjoyed teasing her, and so she was planning on using Maud to tease her more when she was done upgrading her 12 Death Nights.

But now, it seems she wouldn't be able to do that.

Klaus smiled, looking at her beaten-down expression. "You don't have to look so sour, Nadia. I will be sure to make you a Nether stage expert, which I believe will open the third level of the Demon Spirit Storage if there is one.

When that happens, you will have more than two Domain stage puppets.

But before that, I will help you increase your current soul strength by at least five times, which will allow you to have more Puppet Demons under your control, even before you break through to the Nether stage."

Nadia nodded.

Klaus smiled and walked closer to her, placing his index finger on her forehead as he transmitted the technique to her.

"You can learn it in the few hours we have before we enter the dungeon. When you are done, I will give you enough Soul Cores to cultivate your soul."

Nadia nodded. "Thank you, love."

Klaus turned to Maud, and she also stared into his eyes. Klaus' eyes then landed on the Zither behind her and smiled.

"I will be giving you the first two forms of the Death Song. Learn it and integrate it into your domain within the next 50 days. It's been a long time since the universe last heard the Death Song."

"I will not disappoint your expectations, Lord Death."

Klaus nodded and transmitted the song to Maud. "You can stay here if you want, though I have a much better place for you to get much closer to the aura of death."

Naturally, Maud chose the second option, and Klaus sent her into his Sixth Core (Star), which has only darkness and death.

Nadia showed Klaus all the amazing changes that had happened to her Puppet Workstation before Klaus left. She would be staying to learn the soul cultivation technique Klaus gave her.

In a few hours, they would be entering the dungeon, so she knew she had to hurry.

After Klaus left, he chose to relax for the few hours remaining before they entered the dungeon.

[Planet Acra - Humming Noise Mercenary Guild Headquarters]

Planet Acra is a major mercenary-dominated planet in the Abyss Planetary System. It is very big and has billions of mercenaries coming and going every single day.

Although there are over a hundred mercenary guilds, it has only three powerful guilds that are recognised outside Planet Acra.

In a way, these three mercenary guilds are the face of Planet Acra to the rest of the universe.

The Humming Noise Mercenary Guild is the strongest of the top three guilds. It has powerful warriors and a high success rate among the top three.

Three days ago, a request from a mutual friend reached them, causing great chaos to descend on their headquarters.

In the universe, there are three recognised types of missions known to all warriors/mercenaries.

There are the White Missions, where the mission is mostly not that dangerous. Most of these missions involve retrieval, escort, and the like. They pay less but are much safer.

Then there is the Blue Missions.

The Blue Mission is, in a way, dangerous but also less deadly. Many prefer blue missions because, aside from the relatively high pay, the risk is small.

Then there are the Red Missions, where the risk is high but the reward is also high. Only powerful mercenaries take these missions, and in most cases, only a few return alive.

Naturally, there is another category, which is the Black Mission. But those ones are just too deadly, so nobody posts them, nor is anyone crazy enough to dare pick them. In a way, black missions are extremely rare and only the best of the best dare take them.

However, it is said that whenever a black mission appears, that is when you will see the best of the best come out.

Three days ago, a black mission emerged with a payout that shattered every warrior's greed, prompting thousands, if not millions, to start picking it.

The amount of Universe Coins promised to those who could complete the mission was already too enticing for people not to be drawn in.

Inside a large hall, a metal-faced man with skin so thick that no weapon could penetrate it sat in a futuristic throne. Around the throne, blood of different beasts could be seen in small glass chambers attached to the throne.

There were thin tubes connecting the blood inside the chamber to the man.

If one looked closely, one could sense a thin layer of domain covering his body. Though not visible, if one were perceptive, they would see horrors beyond one's understanding.

His eyes were closed.

However, his silence was shattered when a figure entered the room and knelt down.

"Slaughter King, a black mission has been posted at the Humming Noise Mercenary Guild. Thousands have signed up, including Mourning Sword, Void Spear, and your enemy, Blood River.

Nobody knows the content of the mission, but it is somewhere in the outer regions."

The man who spoke had his head down, not daring to look at the Slaughter King.

Slowly, Slaughter King opened his eyes and looked at the man kneeling.

"When is the deadline to accept?" he asked.

"50 days, Slaughter King."

"Then remind me again in 50 days. Also, keep an eye on how many old Monsters will be applying. However, the moment the Damned Demon Swordsman signs up, alert me."

"I will do as you say, Slaughter King." The man retreated, and the Slaughter King sighed in his chair.

"Black mission, huh. Who would be so unfortunate enough to incur the wrath of a black mission?" The Slaughter King closed his eyes and went back to his cultivation.

Chapter 1004: Dungeon Opening

[58 Days Before the Awakening]

Klaus woke up a few hours later feeling refreshed.

He only slept for a few hours, but the refreshing feeling filled him up.

Maybe it was from the fact that his wives had amassed powerful warriors for the upcoming awakening. Or maybe he was just happy he had finally found one of the Nineteen Hearts of Death needed to awaken his Death Heritage Bloodline.

Maybe it was something else altogether. However, whatever the case may be, Klaus was just happy, and that refreshing feeling was now oozing from his body as he sat in the head chair inside the meeting hall.

Inside the hall were all his wives, his friends, his doom guards, and a selected few from the Bast Race, Vampires, Humans, Moon Borns, and the Academy.

In all, there were over 70 people in the hall, excluding his nosy mom, who just wouldn't take the hint.

"It has only been a day, but since we all know what awaits us in 58 days, we can only be on our feet always to prepare," Klaus began to speak.

"The place we will be exploring is somewhere I have no idea about. However, I know with absolute certainty that great treasures await us there, so we should take this opportunity to grab some.

That said, don't grab more than you can carry." Everyone laughed, with Klaus's mom laughing louder than everyone.

Klaus turned and looked at her and smiled, "You are not going, Mom."

"You—" The woman pouted, looking at Klaus like she had been dealt an injustice.

Asha, who was practically Klaus's mother's best friend, scoffed at Klaus and took her mother-in-law's hand. "Don't mind him, Mother, I will take you with me."

"That is why you are my favourite," Klaus's mom laughed.

"Wait a minute. Why is she your favourite? Are we not your favourites too?" Lucy looked at the woman, who let out a small smile and responded, "You all are my favourites."

Naturally, none of them believed her, for they all knew Asha was indeed her favourite. Not that they would protest that.

Knowing the circumstances that led to Asha losing her parents, they wouldn't mind if their own mothers took her in as the daughter they never had.

Klaus turned away from his mom and focused on what he was saying.

"Depending on how much we find, a much larger team will be deployed after we come out, so do your best to cover more ground, and please, move in teams since we don't know what awaits us there."

They nodded.

"In that case, we leave in 10 minutes. Prepare."

Klaus left and went back to the last floor of the Tower of Defiance. A few seconds later, his mom arrived there with Pickle Berry.

"Big brother, I will soon be turning 16. Can I also come?" Pickle Berry asked, looking as pitiful as she could look. Klaus, who was planning on denying her entry into the dungeon, hesitated.

He looked at his mother, who held a smug smile, and Klaus sighed. 'This woman is teaching Pickle Berry all the bad things an adult shouldn't teach a kid.'

Klaus looked at Pickle Berry, who was even more pitiful now. He sighed again. "Fine. But stay close to me or your mom."

"Yay!"

Naturally, the pitiful look in her eyes vanished and was replaced with happiness. Klaus just smirked and glared at his mom, who gave him the 'what?' look.

"Mom, you shouldn't wander off when we enter the dungeon. It might be dangerous."

"Don't worry, I will be fine."

Though Klaus knew her confidence was coming from the fact that she would be moving with an Ascension Stage warrior and two Nether Stage warriors, he couldn't help but worry about his delicate yet fragile mother.

Ten minutes later, everyone was aboard one of the transport jets the Moon Borns used to transport their people to Earth. Of course, the engineers in the Bast Race had improved some aspects of it, making it much stronger and faster.

They left for the location of the dungeon.

Two hours later, they arrived at the location. The portal entrance was still there.

Klaus walked in front of them. When they were at the entrance, a blue light shone from the nearly invisible portal, which was acknowledged by all nine star tattoos on Klaus's back.

"Follow me," Klaus said before walking through the portal. The moment he walked through, he arrived in a clearing where only small, beautiful trees could be seen.

A second later, the people he came with all appeared there. All of them started looking around to see if they would find something else. However, aside from the trees, nothing else was around.

"This is the last floor of the dungeon. Naturally, the dungeon is but a decoy created by whatever this place is."

Everyone raised their brows, prompting Klaus to provide some context. "I believe this place is a pocket dimension. I have been here before, and back then, for some reason, I didn't appear inside the dungeon like everyone else. I instead entered a trial that sent me to a different world.

So I think this place is a dungeon of some kind to people it doesn't recognise and a whole different thing to people it recognises."

'Perhaps it was better to show them than to say it.' Klaus formed a hand seal and pointed his right index finger forward.

A golden light shot from his finger and landed on an invisible door.

A ripple spread out, and a portal appeared with a majestic golden frame. The aura coming from the door is foreign. It felt different, like it wasn't from this universe.

However, while it is different, that doesn't mean the aura is inviting or revolting. In a way, entering it will determine its true nature.

"I don't know whether we will be separated, so we all should be ready," Klaus said, eyeing Asha.

She understood the assignment, so she opened her insect domain, allowing Pickle Berry and Klaus's mom to enter.

"Let's go."

Klaus walked toward the door and slowly entered.

The others followed quickly behind.

The moment Klaus walked through the portal, the space around him changed. He appeared on a small island featuring small green stones, each as delicate as a flower.

Standing not far from him, facing him with their back, was someone Klaus hadn't met before, yet he felt comfortable when his eyes landed on them.

The person was, of course, a lady with pure golden hair. Every strand of her hair seemed to possess a life of its own, causing the very space around to wobble every now and then.

She held a fishing rod in her hand, and like a mundane person, she was fishing for something. Klaus walked closer and stopped when only five meters were between them.

"You are finally here," a sweet voice entered Klaus's ears, causing his world to spin slightly. However, he recovered the next second and replied.

"I don't suppose we have met before, so who is this senior?"

A chuckle came from the lady's mouth when Klaus spoke. "I guess reincarnating nine times has finally instilled some respect into you, Paragon." The lady turned, and when Klaus's eyes landed on her, his heart skipped a beat.

Chapter 1005: Gaining Ownership

[58 Days Before the Awakening]

Klaus didn't recognize the lady even after she turned and faced him. However, he could tell there was something special about her that made his heart beat excitedly.

It felt like he had missed her so much, yet he couldn't bring himself to give in to that feeling.

The woman was extremely beautiful. Same as her hair, her eyes were also golden. She had perfect bone structure, and while it wasn't exactly a competition, Klaus couldn't help comparing her to his wives.

In the end, he could only conclude that this woman was several times more beautiful than they were.

It wasn't just her beauty, there was something else about her that made Klaus feel like he could rely on her in these difficult times.

Perhaps it was her aura, but Klaus just couldn't bring himself to suspect that lady of any malicious intent toward him.

"Not bad, I can see you have already awakened quite a few of your bloodlines," the lady said, waving her hand. In an instant, Klaus and she were seated, still on the island but underneath a small structure.

"I have indeed awakened four bloodlines. Of course, not all four are a complete awakening."

The lady shook her head and smiled. "None of them is a complete awakening, Paragon. You have barely scratched the surface." Her eyes shine brighter as if she had realised something hidden.

"Or do you think a Paragon would have such a weak bloodline. The one running through is not even a quarter of what your bloodline can do."

Klaus didn't seem surprised to hear that. He already had his suspicions.

When Efad used the Star Monarch bloodline, it was a stark contrast to his previous use of it. This led him to conclude that he had barely scratched the surface of true bloodline awakening.

Klaus sighed and looked around. "I don't suppose this is the place my friends and I were supposed to appear at."

"Before we discuss that, you can call me Eleven. I can't tell you who I am because doing so will end badly for you.

As to your question, the answer is yes. This place is indeed not the final destination. Where we are now is a mere illusion world I created.

However, this whole place was once the cultivation cave of a half-step primordial.

I won't explain what a half-step primordial is, for you already have a vague idea. However, know that after this half-step primordial died, you, with my help, claimed this place and refined it." A smile appeared on the lady's face.

"This is one of the reasons why I like you, Paragon. Among the many people I met in this vast multiverse, you were the only one who piqued my interest." A pondering expression appeared on her face.

"Well, that Chaos Dragon has some allure to him, but he is crazy. So, you, Paragon, are the one I choose and would forever choose. However, you are still unworthy to meet the true me.

That said, there are many valuable things here that you need and will depend on for years to come, even after you have reached the Celestial stage.

So cherish it.

Know that following your command, which I hate you for, considering I am the big sister and the one to be issuing these commands, I followed it and divided this cultivation cave into nine levels like you wanted." The lady looked at Klaus, and the Paragon also stared at her.

"What is your obsession with the number nine anyway? I know you have nine of these stars and even nine soul bodies, but what is your deal? Shouldn't you have picked a beautiful number like six or even seven?"

Klaus smiled. "You wouldn't understand, Senior Eleven."

The lady just smirked and chose not to pursue the fact that Klaus was all about the number nine.

"Anyways, I have sealed eight levels, and now, you can only have access to the first level. Your friends and beautiful wives will be granted access after you gain ownership of the place.

But be warned, this place cannot be discovered by those idiots calling themselves Heaven's Guardians or whatever other names they call themselves.

When I met you, the two things that made me like you were your brain and your determination. You are brilliant, so I know you will find a way to hide this place.

The moment I give you ownership, I will be gone, but I'll still be around, so don't worry too much about them taking it from you.

What I am worried about here is more about them destroying your world, which they have already started planning for."

Klaus's eyes shone. "I will be sure to hide this place well."

"I know you will. After all, you are the Paragon of the Nine Stars. Though your obsession with the number nine is just too concerning, I know you will be fine. That said, you are merely here for these three."

The lady extended her slender hand, and a key appeared in it.

"This is the Inheritance Key. Go to the Demon Emperor's tomb and use it to unlock it. There are five inheritances there. Select five capable warriors whom you can absolutely trust. When I say trust, they should be willing to die for you, even if they don't have your blood in them.

Let them inherit the five inheritances.”

She extended her hand, and another key appeared. “This will take you to the tomb of the Dragon Emperor. Just like with the first, select three people who don’t have dragon bloodline in them and let them inherit them.”

The third key appeared. “This one is meant for the one who wields the Sword of Slaughter.”

Klaus received the third key and knew it was meant for Kilian. He was the one with the Sword of Slaughter.

“This last key is for you. But before I give it to you, I would like to hear your answer on something.”

Klaus nodded.

“How willing are you to defy the heavens?” The question was simply framed, but it contained so much meaning that if ordinary cultivators were to hear it, they would be hit by a karmic backlash.

However, Klaus sat there with a calm expression. Memories of all the times he lost friends and loved ones to the heavens appeared in his mind, causing his eyes to turn cold. In an instant, the space around him started freezing.

The lady smiled, nodding at the show of hatred. Klaus didn’t even have to speak for her to know what was running through his head.

“Very well, Paragon. I know you have already guessed why I asked this, but to lighten you up, the 4th unofficial key will lead you to something that will allow you to break through to the Chaos stage.

However, it will be a battle of defiance, one that will shake your very foundation, for the heavens wouldn’t easily let you become even stronger than you are when the awakening is just around the corner.

So as to whether you want to or not, that decision will be yours to make. That said, there is a lot here, and once you become an owner, you will know their uses.”

Klaus pondered on a couple of things and nodded. “I am ready to become the owner when you are.”

“Remember, the heavens don’t play fair, and considering this is against you, they will play the dirtiest game. So be prepared. Lastly, pay more attention to your wives, they hold the key to your success.”

She flicked her hand, and a star mark appeared, merging with Klaus’s forehead. The moment the star mark merged with him, Klaus felt a connection form between him and something incredibly powerful.

“Until the next one, Paragon. For now, good luck, and I look forward to seeing you in the universe soon.” The lady vanished, and Klaus also did. He appeared before a statue of a woman holding a bow and arrow.

Chapter 1006: Statues

The moment Klaus’s eye landed on the statue, he felt like he was staring at a real person. He could sense a thin and pointed intent, one that carried the will to kill coming from the entirety of the statue.

“This feeling,” Klaus muttered, willing himself to walk close to the statue despite his entire self screaming at him to run away.

Klaus disregarded those feelings and chose to approach the statue.

However, after taking three steps, he came to a halt, and then his eyes widened.

Right now, the Klaus standing was but a husk. His consciousness was elsewhere.

Where Klaus appeared, there was no calm to it. He appeared in a stormy zone with raging clouds, lightning, and thunder filling the entire space.

Klaus naturally felt his body frozen in place when somebody appeared behind him. When he turned, or more like he was turned, he met the gaze of the statue lady, only this time, she was a real person and much more alive and looking deadly.

The lady looked at him for a few minutes before she let go of his body. "You have the mark of my master, but you don't have his authority. That said, since you are akin to his successor, I am obligated to take you as my new master.

However, I can't take you in as my disciple for you don't qualify to become one."

The lady waved her hand, and five strands of energy appeared in the air and merged with Klaus's forehead.

"However, I can sense there is someone else here with a much greater potential to inherit my legacy as the Supreme Bow Angel, so I will only impart to you my Five Arrows of Condemnation technique.

Be grateful, and if one day you reach the level of my master, I will give you the last two arrows. You can go now, so I can meet my first and only disciple after waiting billions of years."

Klaus opened his eyes on the outside and let out a sigh. "What an uptight Angel. But if I didn't know better, I would say she is a god." Klaus shuddered at the thought that he had just met a supreme being and even inherited an incomplete technique from her.

"Suck it, heavens. Who said a Paragon is the most unlucky person in existence?"

Klaus exuded an aura of defiance that spread through the space, filling it with hundreds of hums. It was only at this moment that Klaus noticed, aside from the lady, thousands of statues of different Angels people around.

He spread his senses to count how many, but Klaus immediately withdrew them and coughed a mouthful of blood.

“Definitely not doing that ever again.” However, a smile was playing on Klaus’s face as he walked closer to a monument he discovered through his senses.

It was bland in all aspects, but there was writing on it.

“If you are reading this, it means you tried to scan the 4007 Primal Angels and that caused you to cough up a mouthful of blood. Don’t worry, it happens to the best of us.

However, every last statue is a powerhouse, and each offers two opportunities to those who are worthy. If you are unworthy, they might give you a technique or an incomplete one. But if worthy, they will take you in as their disciple.

That said, you are beyond them, Paragon, so don’t stoop so low or become greedy. Find the other six collections and let your subordinates try their luck. Maybe, and just maybe, a few of them will gain their inheritances.”

Klaus chuckled after reading the text. He didn’t know if this was what fortuitous encounters felt like, but at the moment, he could see a new dawn rising, and it looked darn promising.

Klaus walked away from the statues. “So there are six other places like this, huh. Just who was the original owner of this place?”

Klaus couldn’t help but wonder. Then he smiled, “If my people can gain even incomplete techniques from these angels, who is to say they wouldn’t become terrors in the universe?”

As someone who didn’t need to sit and learn a technique, Klaus could sense in his current state that he could only use the first ‘Arrow of Condemnation’, and even then, only 40% of its true power could be harnessed by him.

“I am cut off from the heavens in here, meaning whatever happens here will be outside their expectation. This is good.” Klaus made a grabbing gesture and looked at the horizon.

He moved several km away from the statues and snapped his finger. A portal appeared, and his ladies, along with his friends and all those who entered the dungeon with him, appeared.

“Klaus,” his ladies ran toward him.

“Are you alright?” Queenie asked, examining Klaus’s body to see if he was hurt in any way.

Klaus just smiled and responded, “I am fine.” However, he paused and took a step back, examining everyone standing before him. A few seconds later, Klaus raised his brow.

“What happened to you all? It feels like I am looking at immortals.”

Asha smirked and raised her chin, looking smugly at Klaus. “Big Sister Eleven said we shouldn’t say anything, so don’t expect us to say anything.”

“Oh, so you met her, huh. I figured.” Klaus was clearly taken aback, looking at everyone before him. A few minutes ago, they were powerful, but not with the soul strength they carried now.

After drinking the special tea from Eleven, the same woman who met Klaus, they were now exuding auras that made them look and feel different.

“Everyone, welcome to the Tomb of the Fallen Star Demon Primordial.”

They all began to look around.

“This place is, like I said before, a treasure trove waiting for you to claim what you can carry. Four kilometers away from me is a field featuring 4007 statues of angels.

There are two possibilities: either you become their disciples or you gain a powerful technique. Either way, there are thousands of them, and based on your weapon choice or whatever feeling you gain toward a statue, you can try your luck.

However, after you gain a technique from them or become their disciple, you wouldn't be able to resonate with the remaining statues.

But don't worry, if you are not meant to meet them, they won't call you. There are other places like this. I will send you the locations when I discover them."

They nod.

Klaus turned to Hanna and smiled. "There is an uptight bow, Angel lady waiting for you. She seems to have a liking for you, so better hurry before she unleashes her frustration on me.

And please, tell her if she can at least add the last two arrows to the ones she gave me since I happen to be your husband."

Klaus wasn't even done speaking when a powerful energy latched onto Hanna's body and pulled her away, causing her sisters to become startled.

"She will be fine."

They nodded and then turned toward the direction of the statues. "Asha, you can bring your warriors in batches to also try their luck. But try yours first, and when you are done, let me know."

Klaus then turned to Vida and the Zhou twins. "Do you ladies want to become dragons?"

The question sounded like a joke, but they all sensed Klaus was deadly serious.

Instinctively, they nodded. "Wonderful." Klaus was overjoyed the moment he saw the three ladies.

The second key that Lady Eleven gave him released three strands of energy, which merged with the three ladies the moment he summoned them over.

Right now, he needed strength, and having three more dragons on his side was good.

“Kilian, you also cannot try your luck there since there is an inheritance waiting for you.” Kilian nodded with a smile. He can already sense something tyrannical calling to him.

However, he wasn't the only one.

“I can feel that statue calling to me,” Danny said, pointing at a statue of a giant holding an axe on his shoulder.

Klaus looked at the statue and smiled. “Knock yourself out. And please don't use your senses to scan them. Trust me, you wouldn't want to find out.”

“That said, you all can go try your luck.” Klaus led Kilian, Vida, Ling, and Zing away.

Chapter 1007: The Three Arcane Dragon Sisters

Klaus led Vida, the Zhou twins, and Kilian away from the location of the Angel statues.

He couldn't help but let his mind wander to the fact that in his possession now are 4007 statues of ancient angels whose power may in a way even surpass that of the Supremes of the current era.

The uptight bow Angel he met was, in fact, a Supreme. This made him several times happier.

‘Even if ten of my people were able to become disciples of these angels, then their combat power wouldn't only be several times stronger, but they would also have life-saving treasures.’

Klaus's heartbeat slowed down, and then he became so excited.

‘I don't know how, but the statues are more than they appear. Maybe one of these days I will learn more about them, and perhaps that will be when I will know how they come about.’

'I wonder what kind of race the other six collections will be.'

Klaus smiled, leading the three ladies and Kilian in the opposite direction from the Angel statues.

'According to Lady Eleven, this is but the first level of the Cave. If it is already this powerful, who is to say the second up to the 9th level would be any different?'

Perhaps noting the mood Klaus was in, Vida held his hand and leaned in, "You seem happy," she whispered just enough for only Klaus to hear.

"Of course, I am happy. You may not realize it yet, but this place is something Celestials will kill to possess. Do you have any idea how valuable even one of these statues is?"

Vida couldn't help sucking in a cold breath.

"Now I can sense you are worried, love. Makes me wonder if you think the current strength we have isn't enough to face the heavens."

This time, even the Zhou twins and Kilian heard Vida's words, causing them to pay more attention to Klaus.

Klaus paused and turned around, facing his three friends, while Vida remained in his arms. "To tell you the truth, if we were only facing Planet Nebu, then although it would be chaotic, I believe we would have managed it somehow.

However, for reasons I can't disclose to you now, the heavens wouldn't make things easy for us. However, many years ago, I made a promise to myself that while I am still breathing, I wouldn't let the heavens touch anyone or anything I care about.

I care about you all, and I care about the Earth.

As to whether our current strength is enough to face the heavens or not, I don't think that is the correct question.

The most logical question should be how far the heavens would go and how dirty they are willing to play to ensure everything I love is ripped away."

Klaus's eyes turned cold, "I wouldn't allow them to do that, and you all are going to help me. So yes, we are not sufficient to face them, but we will be because I will make sure of that."

His cold look melted, and Klaus smiled, "So lighten up and be ready because by the time we are done, the heavens won't know what hit them."

[You can just tell them the truth, brat. I know worlds much bigger than yours, but in just 55 years, your world has already become so strong that annihilating those worlds in mere hours is possible. So perhaps tell them they are ready to face the awakening.]

Klaus smiled, hearing the senior's words enter his head.

'I know that would indeed make them happy. However, until the last minute, I want them to keep training, and that is the only way they will remain in their peak for what is coming.'

The senior didn't say anything for a couple of seconds. Eventually, a chuckle escaped his mouth...

[You know, I once found a cave that used to belong to a scholar who specialized in gathering knowledge about Paragons. It was through him that I discovered Paragons aren't actually bad.

However, I also found out from him that Paragons aren't like us. They are beings from outside this universe, as their abnormality is beyond this universe.

Now that I'm listening to you, I can see that his deduction was right.

A being of this universe will be celebrating by now. But here we are, already calculating what else can be done to make you and your legion even stronger.

If this scholar is right and you are not from this universe, why don't I share some words that are familiar to all beings in this Universe? Live a little, Klaus, the world is not coming to an end just yet.]

Klaus smiled even more.

In the distance, Klaus saw a large temple with three large statues of dragons coiling in front of it. The middle one was much larger than the two beside it.

It also had golden emeralds for eyes, and the two beside it had green and blue emerald eyes.

Even from many km away, Klaus could feel the pressure coming from these statues. He looked at Vida and the Zhou twins and saw a dragon symbol appear on their foreheads.

The symbol on Vida's forehead was golden, while the one on Ling's forehead was blue, and the green was shining on Zing's forehead.

A few minutes later, they approached the statues. Before Klaus could even do anything, the golden emerald eyes on the statue in the middle shone brightly, causing his consciousness to slip from his body.

Klaus appeared in a large field standing between three large mountains. They formed a triangle around him.

ROAR

The moment he appeared, a powerful dragon roar came from one of the mountains, and the sky suddenly turned dark.

"Holy moly," Klaus took a few steps back, but was forced to move forward again when something landed behind him.

Around him, three large dragons, unlike anything he had seen before, landed, creating a triangle in the same fashion as the mountains.

The monarchs he once had inside the Pentaface/Demon bead were mere chickens before these three dragons.

He realized by the color of their scales that the one in the middle and facing him directly was the strongest. It had golden eyes, and some parts of its scales had golden colors.

Klaus's eyes widened when he also noticed that aside from the golden parts of the scales, there were five transparent dragon scales, with the sixth almost transparent.

He sucked in a cold breath.

"What an interesting tiny human." The middle golden-scale dragon spoke, causing Klaus's very soul to shake.

On the outside, blood came from Klaus's nose and eyes, causing his friends to pale. They were all locked in place by an invisible aura preventing them from coming to Klaus's aid.

Klaus looked at the golden-scale dragon with a calm gaze despite the aura bearing down on him.

"I am still weak," Klaus muttered, causing the three dragons to tilt their heads sideways. They couldn't understand why Klaus would say something like that.

All three of them were Supremes or at least had been Supremes back in the day, so for a mere Void stage warrior to measure himself to them and deduce he still wasn't strong enough... they just couldn't wrap their minds around it.

Klaus raised his head and straightened his posture. "You can't force me to kneel. That wouldn't happen. Not even the heavens were able to accomplish that in nine lifetimes."

The three dragons narrowed their eyes at Klaus.

Chapter 1008: The Three Dragon Inheritance

The Ancient cultivators called it DAO HEART. However, the modern-day cultivators call it 'WILL'.

They said if one's will is weak or unstable, their foundations become shaken, which in a way makes them inadequate to face those slightly stronger than them.

In most cases, a Void stage expert with a weak Dao heart will fall against an Ascendant with a much firmer Dao heart.

However, if one's will is strong enough or firm, then when against even a mountain, they stand firm, and no matter what, they will never be shaken.

Klaus is a paragon, someone who doesn't even see the heavens as a worthy opponent. So in front of three mere dragons, Klaus stood his ground, and despite the pressure bearing down on him, his will was still strong, so he didn't give in to the pressure.

This shook the hearts of the three dragons, so in a quick pull, they took away their pressures.

In fact, if one were to look much closer, one would have seen a fearful look appear in the eyes of the three dragons.

Klaus saw this, but he wasn't about to brag.

He knew one punch from any of the three dragons and his body would be vaporized, so he stood there calmly for a few minutes before he spoke.

"I am Klaus Hanson, the new owner of this Cave. Nice meeting you three."

The three dragons didn't respond immediately. They first moved a few steps back and turned into their human forms.

Klaus was startled to see that two of the dragons were twins. The golden scale looked like them, but she was much more mature. But looking at the three beauties who had little to nothing covering their bodies, he knew, regardless of age, they each were a powerhouse.

The one with the golden hair and eyes looked at Klaus and smiled, "I am Salem, once known throughout the Universe as the Empress of Eternal Steel."

The dragon lady with the blue hair also introduced herself, "I am Myra, the Sky-Steel Warlord, or you can just call me The Azure Arcane Blade."

Klaus nodded slightly.

The last sister stepped forward, "I am Polly, Mistress of Living Metal."

"Together, we are the three Arcane Dragon Sisters."

Klaus raised his brow but didn't say anything funny. He studied the three dragon sisters, and for a moment, his mind wandered to his 4th incarnation, Fruity.

During one of his many adventures across the universe, he once came across a scroll that made mention of the three Arcane Dragon Sisters.

But it was just a mention of them. However, the scroll that bore their name was one of the Eleven Heavenly Scrolls of Death, as most called it back then.

It was said that the heavens have eleven scrolls with the names of the people who, in one way or another, went against. In other words, the records the names of those who defy them.

The scrolls are graded from Eleven to One, with the One being those that cannot be pardoned by the heavens.

But it was said that if one can wipe their name from these scrolls, all enmity between them and the heavens will be wiped away.

Naturally, Klaus's name is at the top of the first scroll.

But back then, he had the 5th scroll in his possession for ten seconds, and he could swear he saw the 'three Arcane Dragon Sisters' in that list.

"Earth to our new young master, you seem to be thinking too much when there are three drop-dead gorgeous dragons before you." Polly waved her slender, scaly hands before Klaus's eyes, snapping him out of his thoughts.

"Care to share what you were thinking with us?" Salem, the big sister of Polly and Myra, asked, looking at Klaus with a more scrutinizing gaze.

Klaus sighed, "It is nothing of importance. However, if you don't mind me asking, have you ever gone against the heavens when you were living?"

The three sisters smiled, hearing the question, "Of course. As loyal followers of the Star Primordial, going against the heavens was our daily gig. We can't go a day without tormenting them."

The pride in their tone even dumbfounded Klaus. He couldn't help but wonder just who this Star Primordial was and why his followers were this unruly, to the point their daily activity was going against the heavens.

"But why did you ask?" Myra, the blue-haired dragon sister, asked.

"I saw your name in a scroll that the heavens write the names of all those who go against them with a plan on punishing later when they had a chance."

The three sisters looked at Klaus for a few seconds before bursting into resounding laughter. Salem looked at her baby sisters and nodded with a pride oozing from her, "Ladies, it seems we've made it into the Scroll of Damnation."

"Indeed. I can finally take in a disciple and impart all I know unto them," Polly said, and her sisters nodded. They turned and looked at Klaus.

"Say, what was the number of the scroll our names appeared in?"

"The 5th."

"YES!!!"

All three sisters were so happy that they jumped at Klaus and hugged him. Their joy was overflowing. It took Klaus ten good minutes to get them to distance themselves.

"I said all I can say. Now, I brought the three ladies you've chosen."

"We didn't choose them, but if the tattoos appeared on their foreheads, then it seems they are destined to become our disciples. And since you've made us happy, we will do everything we can to teach them what we know.

That is a promise from the three Arcane Dragon Sisters."

"Thank you."

"Don't worry about it. Though you are too weak to be regarded as our master, you are qualified to be our young master. So we will fulfill our promise and teach them what we know."

Klaus nodded, then asked the question he had been meaning to ask, "By the way, are you dead or still alive?"

The three sisters laughed.

"Who said we are dead? Our master used a secret spell to turn us into Legacy Inheritances. So while we are merely statues on the outside, and this is indeed our consciousness, we aren't dead, and that is why we can have disciples.

You wouldn't understand, but as you grow, you will come to understand the mysteries of life and death."

A wind blew past Klaus, and three ladies appeared before him. The three ladies who appeared were, of course, Vida, Ling, and Zing.

"Ladies, these are the three Arcane Dragon Sisters, your new masters or soon-to-be masters. They will teach you everything they know, and you must do your best to learn."

Vida and the Zhou twins nodded and then turned to the three ladies and went down on their knees, kowtowing to them three times.

The three Arcane Dragon Sisters smiled and gestured, causing the three ladies to stand from the ground.

"Then I will be leaving," Klaus said, a small smile appearing on his face. He was happy.

"Before you leave, take this, young master." The three ladies waved their hands, and a runic mark came from them and merged with Klaus's forehead.

"Though you are not our disciple, you are our young master who is very weak. The three runic marks have their use, which will come into play when you need help the most."

Klaus thanked them and made sure they knew they had only 30 days max, since a mega competition was coming up and he wanted all his ladies to take part in.

The moment he left, the space transformed into a mini-world. The three dragon sisters looked at their new disciples.

"Before we begin, do you three ladies want to hear a tale on how we three sisters once attacked the heavens' farm and laid waste to their celestial fruits?"

Chapter 1009: Meeting An Old Friend

Klaus took in a deep breath and sighed, staring at the three dragon statues.

His body was healed before his consciousness returned to it.

"Are you alright?" Kilian asked. Klaus wipes the blood from his eyes and smiles before responding, "I am fine."

"Let's go," Klaus began, leading him away.

Their next destination is a place called the Blood Temple. It was the inheritance shrine of the Butcher King, someone Klaus knew all too well.

He might not recall yet, but during the Primordial Era, he and the Butcher King were rivals, at least for a while. After Klaus surpassed him, they became friends and started adventuring across the universe together.

It was through their many adventures that they came to meet the Blood Emperor. Naturally, the Blood Emperor was the strongest of them, so he became something akin to their big brother.

Of course, Klaus was much more powerful than he let on back then. However, to maintain their bond, he chose to remain the second strongest, sharp-minded Rune Master with a smile on his face always.

It was because of this relationship that when the Blood Emperor died, he made sure his sword didn't fall into the hands of just anyone.

Now, Kilian wields that sword, and he is friends with Klaus, who was once friends with the Butcher King, whose inheritance Kilian is on his way to inherit.

None of them is aware of this yet. However, as they draw closer to the red temple in the distance, Klaus starts to sense a growing familiarity with the red, imposing statue standing before the temple.

'This feeling,' Klaus extended his senses miles ahead, and when he saw the statue, he froze in his step.

"Is everything alright?" Kilian asked, looking at Klaus's back.

Klaus didn't immediately respond. He took a few breaths before turning to Kilian.

He looked at him calmly, yet one could see the hesitant look in his eyes. Kilian saw it, and he was about to ask a question, but Klaus raised his hand to stop him.

"Listen very carefully, Kilian, because this is the only chance I will get to say this." Kilian nodded and began paying attention to Klaus.

He doesn't know why, but seeing the look on Klaus's face made him sense that something wasn't right.

Klaus sighs, "The inheritance you are going after is dangerous. Very dangerous, in fact. However, it is something you need at the moment.

The sword you wield is a relic that once belonged to a very powerful and terrifying warrior. His legend was one that once shook this very universe.

When he fell, he left everything inside the sword. However, while that sword can cause galaxies to go to war against each other, the inheritance you are about to receive is one that will cause the universe to turn upside down.

Be ready, for even I don't know what will happen." Kilian broke into a cold sweat hearing these ominous words.

Klaus didn't know how, but somehow, he was getting memories of his first life, or at least, the parts that are related to the Butcher King and the Blood Emperor.

It was through this that he had just realised, among him, the Blood Emperor, and the Butcher King, the most dangerous wasn't exactly the Blood Emperor but actually the Butcher King.

His technique, the Nine Lives Nine Deaths Butcher Realm, was something that only showed its true form when he became a god.

'Among the three of us, Butcher was the most dangerous, for when he reached the god realm and achieved Nine Lives and Nine Deaths, his true power awakened, something Blood Emperor and I had to fight the universe against just for him to fully comprehend it.

After 20 years of battle, Blood Emperor fell, and I lost 99% of my life force, so I had to reincarnate.'

Klaus took a deep breath, analyzing the memories that had never been there, slowly filling his mind.

'However, if Butcher was that terrifying, then how come he is inside this cave like everyone else?'

Klaus took Kilian's hands, and they vanished, appearing 20 meters away from the statue. The moment they appeared, Klaus felt something move from the statue and enter his forehead, sending his consciousness away.

"Incoming."

Right when Klaus appeared on blood-soaked ground, a voice boomed behind him, causing him to jump away, just as a large saber landed where he had stood.

"The heck."

Klaus didn't even have time to see who attacked him when the next strike came. He felt a threatening slash coming for his neck, so he activated the third form of his Movement technique, Void Step, and vanished.

Only for the same threatening feeling to appear before him again. In fact, Klaus reappeared before a mountain of a bare-chested man whose aura radiated the metallic stench of blood. The body clearly wasn't human, not even in the slightest.

"Damn it."

Klaus backed away and used Illusion Me to make his body intangible, causing the attack to pass through him. Then a sword appeared in Klaus's hands, and his eyes turned red.

He sensed the saber coming again.

This time, the saber stopped in its tracks when it was caught by a flaming thread fashioned from Flame Law. The saber glowed red and moved, severing all the strings holding it in place.

However, Klaus didn't allow it to attack again. He waved his hand, and the void cracked. From within, a large hand came out, seized the saber, and pulled it in.

Klaus used the sword in his hand to draw some red runic symbols and sent them flying into the air.

"Merge."

Right when he said that, the void trembled and cracked. However, the red runes pulsed, and the void was pulled back together, sealing everything within a 200-meter radius.

"Stop playing around, Butcher," Klaus's voice boomed, filling the space he was in.

"Impressive, Paragon, you actually managed to defend against my sword four times. Impressive." Suddenly, space warped, and a man appeared, draped in a red cloak.

His red hair flowed down his back. His cloak looked neat and perfectly tailored, woven with ropes fashioned from the Law of Slaughter.

Klaus's eyes narrowed when he saw this handsome redhead.

"Why the sour look, Paragon. Are you not happy seeing an old friend?" the redhead said, causing the frown on Klaus's face to deepen.

"Since when did you start dressing like a normal person?" Klaus asked, his face brightening up a bit. The frown came from the fact that the Butcher he knew was always bare-chested and hair disheveled.

This Butcher was the opposite of the one he knew.

Butcher looked at Klaus for a few seconds before he vanished and reappeared before him. The two old friends smiled and hugged each other.

"It is good to see you again, Butcher..."

"Good to see you too, Paragon. If I didn't know better, I would even say I missed you."

The two friends laughed and sat down on two boulders.

"How...?" That was the first question Klaus asked. He just couldn't wrap his mind around the fact that an old friend he knew too well, once undisputed in the realm of gods, was here now.

It just doesn't make any sense.

Butcher smiled weakly, but Klaus could see the guilt in that smile.

"It is a long story," Butcher said, and Klaus furrowed his brow before responding.

"I want the short version."

Chapter 1010: What Happened To Butcher

Butcher took a deep breath before he began to speak.

"So you know how those Heavenly Court idiots tried to kill me when I was comprehending the Nine Lives Nine Deaths Butcher realm, and you and Blood had to step in to protect me."

Klaus nodded. He indeed recalled that part now.

Butcher gave a weak smile, "After Blood died and you left with the sword, I was ambushed by the Demon Court. Of course, it was a massacre that left millions dead, strengthening my domain.

I won and was happy. But who would have thought the heavens would be shameless enough to send down Heavenly Guardians?"

Klaus frowned slightly and asked, "How many did they send?"

"Seven."

"How many returned?" Klaus asked again.

"Two and a half."

"Interesting. I suppose I can relax now, then." Klaus laughed, and Butcher was the same, "You can continue by telling me why the heavens sent down their dogs."

Looking at the look of disdain on Klaus's face, Butcher couldn't help but smile. Their group of three was all haters of the heavens. However, both he and Blood Emperor pale in comparison to Klaus when it comes to hating the heavens.

"It turns out being friends with a paragon has its downsides. After you left, I managed to reach the Early God stage and even planned on going on a pilgrimage in a mortal world to reach the Real God stage. However, the heavens came when I was forming the Avatar.

They claimed the universe requires balance, and since you and Blood killed more gods back then, I was to pay your share of the karmic debt." Butcher laughed with a touch of hatred and disdain.

"I never expected them to send seven Outer Gods against me. It was a fierce battle, which we both know, despite my breakthrough, seven Outer Gods just isn't something I can handle.

In the end, I used the bell you gave me, which took out five of them and severely injured one, with only two returning alive.

I thought I had died. However, after an unknown number of years, I woke up here, saved by the one I came to know as the Star Primordial, a devoted hater of the heavens who was a step into the Realm Beyond."

"That's quite a tale, Butcher. But before everything, I must say I am sorry my karma was directed at you. That said, killing five heavenly dogs was impressive.

Blood Emperor would be proud."

Butcher smiled slightly and looked away from Klaus. His eyes landed on Kilian, who was standing blankly before the large statue on the outside.

"That handsome bastard, why does he have to do that?" Butcher bent his head down and sighed hard.

Klaus just shook his head, "You already know him. His only mission was to sever the head of the Demon God who killed his wife and only child. When he finally did, he had no reason for living again, so he ended the battle.

If you take a closer look at that kid standing on the outside, you will find something interesting. He has Blood's sword."

Butcher looked at Kilian again and smiled, "He does have the aura of a savage like that bastard. However, are you sure he can handle my teaching?"

Klaus laughed, "He was once a dangerous monster. So, I think the question should be whether he has what it takes to surpass you. Trust me, in this current life I am living, he will be among the top three I will pick to watch my back any day."

Butcher looked at Klaus for a few seconds and shook his head, "You are different now. The paragon I knew is calm, irritating, and ten steps ahead."

But looking at you now, all I can see is hatred. Makes me wonder if you have indeed accomplished one of your many missions.

Not that I care about that. However, you once told me the best way to get the job done is to do it with a smile on your face. Maybe you should take back your own advice."

Klaus just sighed and smiled, "I am working on it. However, for now, my focus is on you getting my friend ready for the awakening in 58 days."

Butcher scoffed, "Look at you commanding me. Don't you know I can crush you to pulp with just my pinky?"

Klaus stood up and brought out his saber, "Lower your cultivation to the Void stage and let's have a go and see who will be eating dust."

The smile on Klaus's face bloomed into laughter, "Just because you became a god and unlocked the secret of your Realm Technique doesn't mean I never achieved something too."

Butcher stood up, and his fine cloak burst from his body, revealing his fine physique. "Blood and Death Physique, huh?"

"That is right. Knowing you, underestimating you by using a clone will be bad for me, so I'd better use my real body." His saber also appeared in his hand, and he looked at Klaus.

"Here I come," Butcher moved, and soon, the echoes of attack filled the space.

On the outside, the large statue glowed red when Klaus and Butcher clashed. Kilian moved back a few steps, sat down, and closed his eyes.

Just now, he sensed a link forming between him and someone, prompting him to sit down and understand something.

A few seconds into the comprehension state, his body froze, and then he entered a trance-like state.

Three hours later, Klaus and Butcher stood 30 meters apart, panting for breath.

"Not bad for a mortal," Butcher said, acknowledging Klaus's feat in the three-hour duel that ended in a draw.

"Not bad yourself. Though if I had used ten times my strength, you would have wished you were dead," Klaus laughed, and so did Butcher

Butcher waved his hand, and they vanished. They appeared inside a serene garden and sat behind a jade table. Butcher poured himself tea and poured one for Klaus.

"So how does this work?" Klaus asked.

"Very simple, actually. Although I can be considered dead, I am not entirely dead. So I will fuse with your friend's soul and reside in his soul sea.

The heavens will have no knowledge of my existence in his life. So I will become his teacher and, to some extent, his soul guardian."

"And can you ever return to life and gain your human body again?"

"The Half-Step Primordial said if I can find some items, then of course I will return to life. But don't ask, for you are not at the moment qualified to look for these items."

Klaus smiled, "Knowing you can return to life is already good enough. When the time comes, I will help look for these items."

"I know you will. And don't worry, the first training session for your friend is just 20 days. I happen to have a time stone, so I can stall time for some time, just so he can get the best out of what I will teach him."

Klaus nodded, and after drinking some more tea, he left. After making sure Kilian was alright, he left and went back to the location of the angel statues.

After making sure everyone was alright, Klaus chose to go to the location reserved for him in the Primordial Cave.