

Paragon 1231

Chapter 1231: Mission Completed

CRACK! SHATTER!

Reality as Tharn, or the Shadow Butcher, knew it cracked and shattered like glass.

Blood poured from his chest, soaking the bed.

His eyes looked dull, and the look of disbelief painted his face as he stared weakly at Eliza.

"H-how?" he asked weakly, feeling his body dying slowly. His heart had slowed and was gradually shutting down.

Eliza sneered and answered him, "You shouldn't have smiled at me. It freaked me out, so I had to kill you. No hard feelings."

"H-how... did you... know... I was... t-the Shadow... Butcher?"

"Oh, that. I happened to have someone who can commune with the dead, so she helped me talk to the man you killed three days ago and found out your true identity," Eliza smiled.

"Also, you are an amateur, so finding you was rather simple. Blame it on your inexperience and sociopathic interview with the Dark Fantasies, I guess."

The Shadow Butcher tried to will the shadow link he planted in Eliza's shadow to steal her life force, but to his shock, it wasn't there. It was like the link he planted wasn't there.

Suddenly, a voice he recognized spoke from a chair not far from the bed. "So it turned out you are that scary after all."

Klaus stood up and walked toward the bed. He sat down and tapped Eliza on the shoulder. "Nicely done, Eliza."

The cute lady smiled and nodded before turning into mist.

The illusion was broken, and with it, the Shadow Butcher breathed his last breath, the face of the love coach he met being the last thing he saw. The moment he died, his true appearance was revealed.

Klaus looked at him for a few minutes before shaking his head. "It was fun while it lasted, I guess." He took an image of the Shadow Butcher, then used the ring he received from the mission hall to collect his remains.

Then he opened his profile and added a few details before clicking on the 'Done' button.

Klaus looked at the blood-soaked bed and sighed. With a flick of his finger, everything was wiped clean, leaving not even a single trace behind.

He teleported using the void and appeared somewhere in the city. He then made his way toward the ship.

Meanwhile, back at the bar, the live band people were still entertaining the guests.

The lead singer who killed the Shadow Butcher wasn't even aware she had done something like that. In truth, no one in the hall saw what happened.

The entire process began two hours ago when Klaus arrived in the hall. Initially, he was planning on using the void to trap the Shadow Butcher and then kill him inside the void.

However, Icon informed him that there were no immortals around. This gave him the confidence to use his illusion abilities.

The two-hour dance happened. People enjoyed it, and he may even have become popular, thanks to videos of him on the internet, recorded by people.

However, it wasn't as simple as people saw it. The two hours Klaus spent dancing were spent creating an illusion that affected everyone's minds.

He designed an illusion that tapped into what was happening in reality and turned it into an illusion. It was a rather complete weave; however, with 200 minds working in sync, Klaus pulled it off.

Once he completed that, Klaus's next move was to manifest the illusion in the real world. That also took some time, but slowly, he was able to turn reality into illusion.

Nobody recognized that.

In fact, even if there were Real Immortals around, they wouldn't have realized what was happening. Using 200 brain power is more than enough to trick even Real Immortals and some True Immortals, even.

The second stage was the most difficult. So when he completed that, he only had to focus on the shadow butcher.

From the moment he smiled at Eliza to when she came to him and asked to go inside was all an illusion made real. Klaus had that ability. He could turn illusions into tangible things that could be interacted with.

So while the shadow Butcher was holding hands with Eliza as they moved to the hotel room, the real Eliza was still leading her band.

However, once they moved to the hotel room, the illusion was deactivated. But, because the illusion was the same thing as reality, nobody realized anything.

Everything to them was as it should be.

The rest was history. Klaus merely turned Eliza into a tangible killer who could morph her body into any weapon.

Many people think illusionists are weak, that when you have the strongest mental strength, defeating them is easy. However, with Klaus, he didn't need to send you into an illusory state.

He could easily manifest illusions and turn them into tangible forms. Then, with that, even if your mental strength was as strong as it could get, you would still have to fight against the tangible shadows.

That is how powerful his Unknown bloodline is.

He merely killed such a dangerous person using mind games.

Once he got to his ship, he flew away.

Two hours later, Maud and Klaus checked out of the hotel. He merely left a clone he created, thanks to one of his soul bodies now possessing the ability to create true clones.

Once they were outside, they teleported into the ship. Maud had recovered enough, so they left and started speeding toward the next mission.

Meanwhile, back at Mission Hall Headquarters on Planet Dravon, the nail lady looked at her screen, bewildered.

"Impossible..."

She was looking at the mission she had upgraded to an Epic mission, marked as completed. It was completed by the person she didn't even regard.

"How is this even possible?"

Something told her to examine the mission, but before she had the chance, a notice she could not ignore appeared on her computer screen.

[Mission Title 'Hunt the Shadow Butcher' has been approved by the Star Lord.]

She swallowed and closed the screen. She then opened Klaus's profile to see his details.

"His first mission, and he picked this mission three days ago. Just who is this renegade?" She didn't know what else to say, so she checked Klaus's next mission.

"The Whispering Beast... 72 hunters have failed this mission, with 12 of them even dying in the process. This Renegade Hunter is clearly not an easy person."

She thought for a while, then she clicked on Klaus's name and then clicked on add. A list of rankings appeared.

She looked through and selected one.

"Let's see what you can achieve on the Rising Star list, Renegade Hunter."

She closed the mission admin page and went back to watching nail design videos.

Meanwhile, back inside the spaceship, a series of messages appeared on Klaus's phone. He quickly accessed them to see.

[You have completed your first mission: 'Hunt the Shadow Butcher']

[Rewards have been transferred.]

[Because you completed an Epic-rank mission, you have received one mission priority pass. You can use it to reserve a mission that no other hunter can claim for a limited time.]

[Congratulations, you are now an E-ranked Hunter.]

[Congratulations, you are now a D-ranked Hunter.]

[Congratulations, you have been added to the 'Rising Star' list. Current rank: 1,004,600.]

[Because you have been added to the Rising Star list, you can access a mission from a mission board one rank above your current limit.]

Chapter 1232: First Epic Mission

With only 500 points needed to become an E-rank Hunter and 1000 to become a D-rank Hunter, the 1500 Hunter points Klaus had accumulated from his first mission pushed him through to the D rank.

Klaus retrieved his now-green badge, which shows he is a D-rank warrior, and smiled.

"Lucky me, I guess."

Completing an Epic grade mission as an F rank warrior sure gave him some confidence and morale to handle whatever mission comes next.

"With me also on the 'Rising Star' list, I can pick an Epic rank mission, and even with the mission pass, I can pick and reserve an Epic mission for the time being while I handle the Whispering Beast."

Now, he needs 2000 points to become a C rank and double that to become a B rank warrior. Obviously, that is a long way to go, but Klaus had already picked his second mission.

This new mission will take him to Planet Virel, a homeworld of humans who look almost like Elves, just that they have horns and blue skin.

The strongest in their world is an Emyrean.

The mission is to hunt and eliminate the Whispering Beast. It had created a vale that seemed to block all surveillance, so as to how the beast looked or whether the humans it had taken were dead or alive.

In the mission descriptions gathered by hunters who failed to complete the mission, they said the beast is colossal and has countless eyes.

They describe it as a terror of beasts, the kind that nobody should dare go against. In fact, some even suggested immortals should be sent there.

However, because the planet is rather small and not that wealthy, the mission was posted on the Rare mission board.

Hunter Zolomon wrote: [The beast is either an Emyrean stage beast or an Early Immortal. Either way, do not get near the vale. I only saw a colossal beast with countless eyes that seemed to look deep into one's soul and threaten to take control of one's body.

I don't know much, but I can say for a fact that its abilities are either soul- or mind-type. I escaped thanks to my guardian beast. So even if you take this mission, be confident you can protect your mind or soul before going near the vale.]

Hunter Mat wrote: [I witnessed three other hunters get taken into the vale. From what I saw, they merely walked into the vale of their own accord. The only thing I heard after that was whispers of someone calling my name.

I was tempted to walk into the veil, but thankfully, I managed to snap out of it.]

Klaus went ahead to review other messages left by the hunters that had failed the mission he was on his way to.

"Icon, how long would it take to reach Planet Virel?"

[Four days, Master.]

Klaus nodded. He would have more than enough time to research more on the Whispering Beast. Something tells Klaus it is more than it appears.

'The vale could very much be its domain that had manifested into a realm where one loses control over their mind. However, there is no telling just where it is hidden within.'

Maybe he is overthinking it. After all, there are many beasts that could come to mind from Klaus's past experiences with strange and bizarre beasts. He had handled many in his past life, so perhaps this one is not so strange either.

"Icon, do you know how I can rise through the ranks on the Rising Star chart?"

[The master can rise much faster if he completes missions that many had failed. Completing a mission is 1000 points. However, if ten people fail it before you complete it, you get 10,000 points, which boosts your ranking.

This point, of course, has no effect on your hunter ranking; however, the higher you rise through the Rising Star chart, the more rewards you will get.]

"Oh, is that so..."

[Yes, master. I have already reviewed all the Hunter ranking charts, and the Rising Star chart is among the top five weekly hot Hunter charts.

If the master can rise to the top 1000, perhaps gaining the reputation to travel between galaxies wouldn't be a problem.]

"I see. In that case, completing this mission is a must since 64 hunters had failed." Klaus seemed happy to see a clean path open for him.

"I just need to do more missions and become a B-rank Hunter so I can take on the high-profile missions. Making a name for myself is just around the corner."

He opened the mission board and quickly accessed the Epic Mission Board to see what missions were there.

"Oh, only 74,900 missions are available in this star system, huh?"

[Epic missions pay more, so the hunters don't joke around compared to the Common and Rare missions.]

"Looks like it." Klaus quickly went through the missions and seemed to have found one that suited his style within a few minutes.

It is a bandit extermination mission that 325 Hunters had failed. This means if he manages to complete it, not only would he rise swiftly through the 'Rising Star' chart, but he would also get close to meeting the requirements of a B-rank Hunter.

Klaus applied the mission pass and started reading the description. The mission would take him closer to the direction he wanted to go since his destination was the Beast Universe.

[Mission Name]: Crimson Star Raiders Extermination

[Mission Rank]: Epic

[Location]: Planet Korvel-3 (Outer Mining Belt)

[Target]: The Crimson Star Raiders — A notorious bandit syndicate led by Raukesh Vorn, a Real Immortal barbarian-type cultivator with enhanced physical strength and shadow infiltration abilities.

[Reward]: 4.1 billion Universe Coins + 1,200 Hunter Points

[Mission Requirements]: B-rank Hunters Only*

Mission Description:

Planet Korvel-3 is a remote industrial planet, home to mining colonies and orbital extraction stations. For the past four months, the outer belt has been terrorized by a brutal bandit syndicate known as the Crimson Star Raiders—a fleet of over 300 raiders specialized in hit-and-run assaults, refinery hijackings, and abductions.

Their leader, Raukesh Vorn, was recently identified as a Real Immortal fugitive from the Dervan Star System.

With his talent in body cultivation, his raw strength allows him to tear through starship hulls with his bare hands, while his shadow infiltration technique allows him to phase into cracks or vents undetected.

He is extremely dangerous and very evil.

They have seized three mining rings, taken over 12,000 workers hostage, and now threaten to activate a stolen Dark Matter Driller, capable of punching a hole through the planet's crust if the Planet Lord does not pay the 400 billion Universe Coins they demanded.

If activated, the entire planet could destabilize, ultimately leading to planet collapse and the death of billions.

The objective is simple but extremely dangerous:

1. Neutralize Raukesh Vorn and his 10 immediate enforcers with any means necessary.

2. Crush the Crimson Star Raiders (Every kill aside from their leader and the ten enforcers will add an additional 10 Hunter Points).

3. Secure the Dark Matter Driller.

[Additional Notes]:

Raukesh Vorn is believed to possess a semi-sentient Immortal-grade hammer known as Voidbreaker Maul.

His ten enforcers each carry stolen Mythic-grade weapons.

The Raiders' flagship, The Blood Horizon, is fitted with stolen military-grade cloaking tech.

Planet Korvel-3's atmosphere in the lower mining zones is unstable; oxygen tanks are required.

Hostage survival increases mission rewards by 10%.

Chapter 1233: Entering The Dark Space

The mission is a heavy one.

However, Klaus didn't hesitate and clicked Claim as soon as he finished reading it.

"One Real Immortal and Ten Early Immortals, huh. Sounds like it is going to be a fun ride." Klaus smiled as he read additional information that appeared after he claimed the mission.

"This is a good mission for sure. Although I shouldn't be messing around with immortals, now that I am an Empyrean, I want to see how powerful immortals truly are."

The reward for completing this mission is already enough to tell why 325 B-rank Hunters claimed it only to fail in completing it. That shows the kind of mission he had claimed.

He will have early 1,200 hunter points and an additional 10 points for every other bandit he kills.

Naturally, if he factors out their leader and his ten enforcers, that will leave him with 289 bandits that he can kill for additional marks.

Right now, he needs 2,000 hunter points to become a C-ranked hunter.

If he were to clear this mission and even succeed in killing more bandits aside from the initial 11, he would reach the C rank and even move closer to B rank.

But aside from that, there is also the issue of getting a 10% boost in the rewards for keeping the hostages alive.

Klaus knew if he managed to clear this mission, then, regardless of his rank as a Hunter, he would most certainly become a legend among the Mortal Hunters.

F rank to C rank are mostly mortals, so if Klaus was able to complete a mission that 325 immortals couldn't, his name will spread far and wide to other hunters.

The reputation he is seeking will finally be his.

"I need to handle the Whispering Beast fast so I can go on my first real mission." It will be challenging, but Klaus has the strength and the reason to go on this mission.

"It is all about planning."

He leaned back in his chair and started scrolling through the Uniweb. After a short while, Klaus stopped and retrieved an item from his space ring.

It is the Dark Space connector, a simple yet incredibly advanced and complex tool that connects one's consciousness to a virtual universe where anything and everything is possible.

It was something developed in this modern era where technology has made cultivation even more advanced and scary.

"What have you gathered on this thing, Icon?" Klaus first asked his assistant, who seemed to only want to make Klaus' life much easier and better now that she had become even stronger.

[Just like what Eri said, the Dark Space company is indeed a powerful and rather mysterious organization. From what I could find on the deep web (the deeper part of Uniweb, accessible only by a few), the creator of Dark Space is unknown.

However, the Dark Space company is led by ten Supreme Celestials. This shows just how powerful and extremely resourceful they are.

I even found out that, aside from the Heavens Court, which has 24 Supreme Celestials, when it comes to true power, the Dark Space company holds quite a huge power.

I even discovered an old yet credible source that cited that the Dark Space company and the Heavens Court aren't on good terms.

Some say it was because the Dark Space refused to yield to the Heavens Court.

But away from that, the connector in your hand, when activated, will materialize a digital copy of you with no defect inside the current star system you are in.

It will be a random planet. From there, depending on how you want to go, you can start building your life there, too.

No matter your wealth, your first will always be like a video game where you will respawn in the beginner village.

However, you can use your universe coin there, so you can quickly build a life for yourself there.

Many people spend their entire lives living in the virtual universe since it feels as real as reality. You can conduct business, buy and sell things, and even join organizations that feel just like reality.

I even went through to check what people mostly do there and found out that warriors mostly use the Dark Space to conduct duels since death is temporary there.

It is a good place, and I am sure you would love it there.]

"I guess there is no need to hesitate anymore then."

[The master has nothing to worry about. I will be there with you and help you get the best out of your time there, so just dive in and let's see what happens.]

Klaus nodded. He thought for a moment, then asked one last question.

"What is the feeling like when I first use it?" When he used Oracle back on Earth for the first time, he felt his consciousness taken out of his body and pulled through a quantum tunnel where he felt like he was traveling billions of light-years in mere seconds.

It was a strange feeling, and so he wanted to know if this was also the same.

Of course, he recognised the Dark Space as a superior version of Oracle.

[The master would feel like his consciousness is travelling through a quantum tunnel that is like an unknown yet familiar universe. The virtual universe is like a flip of the main universe, so the master will feel his consciousness travel between the two universes.]

"Quite reassuring, I see." He smiled and added, "In that case, I should be ready to handle what comes next since I feel like I have experienced it before."

He quickly fixed the item on the side of his head and turned to Maud...

She seemed to have also fallen in love with the Uniweb, so when she was not meditating, she was either watching videos about the various cultures she could find or gothic fashion shows.

Klaus didn't mind that. She was her own person, so having fun in her own way was encouraged.

"Handle things here. In case I don't wake up by the time we reach planet Virel, you can go explore the planet and leave me inside the ship."

Maud stared at him for a bit and nodded.

Klaus closed his eyes and positioned himself well to become more comfortable in his chair before pressing the button. The moment he did, his consciousness was pulled away.

Just like Icon described, he felt his consciousness travel through a tunnel. However, it happened almost instantaneously.

In no time, he arrived inside the Dark Space.

Klaus's sight turned dark for a few seconds, perhaps due to the pressure he passed through to get to the Dark Space.

"Incredible," Klaus said, staring at a vast green field. He tried to look at the end of this field, but no matter how hard he looked, he couldn't see an end.

He then turned around only to be greeted by the sight of a majestic mansion, one that he had never, in this life or the ones he had lived and remembered, seen before.

Klaus opened his mouth to speak; however, just as the words were about to come out, nine hooded figures clad in dark clothes appeared a meter from him and bowed toward him.

"Welcome back, Lord Paragon."

Chapter 1234: Return Of The King

Klaus obviously didn't expect to be addressed that way from the very moment he arrived in the Dark Space. It was rather shocking to be addressed as a Lord when he was expecting to pop up in a random place surrounded by millions of other beginners.

However, he was now standing before nine people, and he himself had no idea where they were from or even whether he could gauge their strength.

The only thing he knew, however, was that they respected him, and that could be seen from the way they were bowing.

"You have the wrong person."

However, the fact that Klaus couldn't get a read on their cultivation base told him he was in danger.

For him not to be able to sense their cultivation base was perhaps because they either were mortals that hadn't awakened yet, or they were powerful—too powerful for him to be able to sense their true nature.

That was a solid reason to become skeptical of who they were.

However, his plan didn't work...

"You are not in danger, Lord Paragon. The nine of us are your most loyal followers. We have no reason to hurt you or even have the capabilities to hurt you when this is merely a virtual world."

Hearing their response, Klaus seemed to have also realised that he was not in any danger. This was indeed a virtual world, and dying was just impossible for him or anyone.

If anything, he shouldn't even be afraid of the gods there. However, his dying would feel real. If a god were to suppress him now, he would feel the pain and despair.

So even if it was a virtual world, that didn't mean he could just become trusting or arrogant.

"If you are indeed my most trusted followers, then why are you hiding your faces? Also, when did you become my subordinate?"

The nine turned and looked at each other before they smiled. Then, slowly, they removed their hoods, revealing their faces.

Looking at their faces, Klaus didn't know what to say. He most certainly did not expect to meet these nine right when he started his journey.

Klaus's mind immediately went back to the lives that he had fully remembered, and behold, the nine beings standing before him—he had met them before.

The only problem was that the nine beings he remembered, every last one of them, were at the peak of the Celestial stage. However, back then, they were the last beings he saw before entering reincarnation.

In fact, these nine beings could be said to be the ones that ensured he successfully reincarnated every time. Whenever he entered reincarnation, the heavens tried to attack at that vulnerable stage, and it was they who always stepped in to defend him.

So he didn't know why they were here when, from what he could remember, they only appeared whenever he was about to reincarnate.

"What are you losers doing here?" Klaus asked with a small smile. The nine people also smiled, their gazes filled with affection, respect, and admiration.

"Master, it has been long. Don't you think calling us losers is a little on the nose?"

"Darius, if I don't call you losers, who else will do it? I mean, you losers ignored my suffering and only showed up when I was about to die," Klaus said to the handsome Elf, smiling.

Darius shook his head and turned to his brothers and sisters...

"I told you guys he would never change."

"I guess you were right, Darius. In any case, I don't mind being called a loser by Master."

Ronan, a supreme human, said while looking at Klaus, who was still puzzled that he had met these nine subordinates of his right when his journey began.

From what he remembered, these nine were known as the Star Guards. Their mission was to protect the nine Paragon Stars when Klaus entered reincarnation.

When he met them in his fourth incarnation, they claimed it was through them that Klaus gained the inspiration to create the Nine Paragon Guards.

Klaus looked at the nine most powerful people he had met, perhaps in all the nine lives he had lived, and all he could think about was why they were here now.

Most importantly, he wanted to know why he appeared in this place when he should have been somewhere akin to a newbie village, per what Icon said.

"Can we go inside and talk?" Klaus asked, and they nodded.

Soon, they entered the mansion. The exterior was amazing; however, the interior was out of this world. It was both elegant and breathtaking.

Klaus had to will himself to keep moving when they walked through the front door. Thankfully, having many minds did come in handy.

So he managed to walk calmly to a hall where a throne was waiting for him. It was breathtakingly beautiful, unlike anything he had ever seen before.

Klaus didn't know why there was a throne, but he didn't hesitate to sit on it. The feeling of a king looked good on him.

The moment he settled down, he observed the nine people he was both happy to see and a little nervous to learn why they were here.

Just like his soul bodies, each was from a different race; however, they were supportive and happy to see him again.

He quickly asked the questions that had been bothering him.

Ansel, a rather handsome Ice Demon, answered...

"First of all, we are here because the master wants us here. I think by now the master has already become aware of how his brain works and how intricate his planning and plotting were.

Initially, we only come to you when it is time for you to enter reincarnation; however, you asked us to come here for reasons we do not know.

Of course, we didn't object, since when it comes to you, every action has been thoroughly thought through before being implemented.

You never make a decision without having a reason. Whatever you do or instruct us to do has its reason, and I believe this moment, too, was part of your many future plans that will pan out just as you designed them.

Also, as to why you are here, even though you are a different yet same person, and also this happens to be your first time entering the Dark Space, the answer is, you designed it this way."

Klaus raised his brow, a little intrigued, a bit puzzled.

The way Ansel spoke made him sense that something significant was about to happen.

"I designed what?"

The Nine Star Guards smiled, and Scarlet, a beautiful Vampire, answered,

"It seems Master still hasn't recovered all of his memories as the Star Monarch. However, to answer the master's question, he must know that all this, whatever this place is, was created by him.

In simple terms, the Dark Space was the Master's creation, and we nine are the Supreme Leaders of the Dark Space Company."

Klaus's mind went blank, and in that moment, memories began to flood in.

Chapter 1235: Klaus's Final Moments as the Star Monarch

Scorched Earth...

Those are the right words to describe the current state of a planet that is several billion miles wide. Traveling from one end of this planet to another can take approximately 1000 years to reach.

Even the SSS-class spaceship will need at least 10 weeks to cross to the other side.

Yet this vast and all-encompassing world had now turned to rubble and ruins, and standing at its center is a handsome green-haired Elf whose handsomeness can cause any woman or man to drool.

He stood atop the hilt of a colossal sword, his clean clothes and elegant looks showing he didn't participate in this battle.

However, the dark circles around his eyes showed he was both sad and angry, probably from what had happened here.

"I was too late," he sighed, taking a deep breath. "Had it not been for those bastards, I would have been right on time to save her."

He wiped a tear mark from his eyes and then looked up...

"I am ready," he spoke, and just as he did, nine Supreme Celestial stage warriors appeared from thin air and bowed toward him.

"How has the master been?" one of them, a handsome redhead with dragon horns on his forehead, asked, looking around at the carnage that had happened.

Efad looked at him for a few seconds before answering...

"Aside from being late to save yet another Star Light and even losing millions of subordinates, friends, and loved ones... I have been well... Lux."

The redhead smiled guiltily and turned to his friends. Conversations aren't his strongest suit...

Solaria, an angel lady, smiled and decided to speak instead. "Sorry for the master's loss. However, since the master called us, it might mean he is ready to enter reincarnation."

Efad nodded. "That is indeed true, Sol. I thought with enough preparation, I would be able to save one of the Star Lights this time around. However, like always, the heavens have completely shattered my plans, bringing me back to ground zero.

However, I also have learned from this final defeat, and so I am ready to reincarnate. However, before I leave, I have something for you."

Efad retrieved a memory key and handed it to Sol. "Go to the Star Nebula. I have been working on something for the past 4000 years that I believe will change the universe as we know it.

It is a virtual universe of sorts that will enable people to live a freer and unmonitored life. The heavens will have no jurisdiction there, making it the perfect place for someone like us to meet and plot.

It is also the perfect tool to spy on the heavens." Efad took a deep sigh and continued.

"It was after this battle that I realized something about the heavens that, if I am right about, then defeating them will become much easier.

However, I cannot say for sure what this is, since I am not sure either. But I believe with this, we can spy on them.

After all, the Heavens Court would love to dominate this place too, and if my suspicion happens to be true, then this virtual universe I have built will become the best place for them to plot.

This means we can spy on them, and I will be counting on you nine losers to make sure by the time I awaken next time, the Dark Space Company will rival even the Heavens Court.

Something deeper is going on in their ranks, and I, for one, would love to find out what. So, become powerhouses in the spy game.

Lastly, since you can't yet fight in this universe because of your unique nature, the Dark Space should be fine. It will at least allow you to live a little."

Upon hearing his last words, the Nine Star Guards, beings created by the Paragon Stars, grew emotional. They, as Klaus said, are beings that cannot unleash their power in this known universe.

Doing so risks weakening the fabric of the universe, so they are grounded. However, it seems Efad had been thinking about their mental health, so he created a place where they could use their powers without any risk.

"Rest assured, master, we will make good use of this and wait for your return like always," Ansel, the ice demon, spoke, and Efad nodded.

"I know you will. That said, the next time you see me, be sure to welcome me like a king. Also, you must know that this will be my last reincarnation, so the next time we meet, I will be much weaker and perhaps even mortal.

However, under no circumstances should you tell me about any of my past lives. I have put measures in place to naturally remember those lives."

They nodded, and Efad smiled.

He looked around some more and then, with a sigh, he nodded for them to get started.

Klaus stared at the nine sitting before him and sighed...

"I remember now," Klaus said as he studied the room he and the nine Star Guards were in.

"Not bad. Looks like you really took my words seriously and welcomed me like a king," Klaus smiled.

"We take whatever the master says seriously."

Klaus nodded. They indeed went above and beyond to create something this magnificent just to welcome him. Now that he is back, they can only hope he has something super exciting for them.

Of course, Klaus had already left a very big manual on what to do when he returned. He knew the contents, and so did the Nine Star Guards, so he wasn't about to ask them if they had gathered any intel on the Heaven's Court.

He knew he was nowhere close to going against the heavens. This is why he must first handle things at his level and grow to the point where he and the heavens can clash without him losing.

This means that until he becomes a god, learning about what the Dark Space knows is useless to him. It might even prove fatal to his current fragile mind.

"Tell me more about the Mission Hall." Klaus, of course, wasn't about to do away with some valuable intel.

He created the Dark Space as a playground for the Nine Star Guards, but also as a spyware he intended to use to spy on the heavens.

Finding out his vision had been realised and that now, his company had become one of the best in the universe meant that, aside from sneaking up on Heaven's Court, he could also learn about others.

After all, Uniweb is a sister company of the Dark Space, and as such, Klaus knew the ones who created it would know more about its users.

It turned out his people didn't joke around when he was gone. They worked their asses off and created something even better.

What people wouldn't do inside the Dark Space, they might do on the Uniweb. So, in this instance, it meant they had control over both the known and the virtual universes.

That is some overpowered power he alone holds. Now, he wants to use it to learn more about this modern era he has found himself in.

Sol handed Klaus a glass phone. "The master can search for whatever he wants to know using this."

Chapter 1236: Concerning Discovery

With a backdoor into the most comprehensive and overpowered spyware now in his hands, Klaus was able to easily get access to whatever information he wanted on the Mission Hall.

He found quite a lot of info on them that many working for the Mission Hall at their higher offices would shit their pants if they knew about it.

However, since what Klaus is doing is essentially a privacy breach, he isn't about to share it with anyone.

Yet even so, he was appalled by how daunting the info was.

"Looks like the Mission Hall runs deeper than I thought. Not only do they have the power to rise against the Heavens Court, but they even have the deadliest warriors the universe has ever seen under their command." Klaus said, his expression surprisingly calm.

He moved his attention away from the tablet in his hands to the nine celestials inside the virtual mansion with him.

They nodded to his words, since they are already aware of how deep these top organizations go when it comes to secrets.

"The Blind Sage is part of their founders, huh?" Klaus smiled weakly, recalling the memory he had just received about how his life as the Star Monarch ended.

The Blind Sage was among the people who attacked him and stalled him so he couldn't get to the planet where the Starlight in that era was born.

Back then, Efad had to face off against 24 Celestials while he was only a demigod. That battle not only stalled him but also left him narrowly alive.

The Blind Sage had proven to be one of the deadliest and most annoying opponents Efad had ever met in that life.

Of course, he had it at the back of his mind to kill him, no matter what, when he reincarnates. Now, who would think Klaus would become an employee under the same person he planned on killing?

"Not only him, but even the Star Fire King and the Water Dominion Queen are also members. Makes me wonder if this Mission Hall was formed by bringing together enemies of the Paragon."

Klaus laughed, feeling amused.

Three out of the 14 leaders of the Mission Hall are enemies from his past lives that he can remember so far. The Blind Sage, one of the deadliest archers he had ever encountered, is from his life as the Star Monarch.

The Star King is from his 4th incarnation. That bastard actually came close to killing him twice, and that was when he was merely a god. Now, the bastard has become a Celestial, and he is even sitting at the peak.

As for the Water Dominion Queen, the last time they met, Magnus, Klaus's 7th incarnation, put an arrow through her chest and sent her falling into an Abyss Pit.

Magnus expected her to die, but since he received no kill notification back then, he knew she had survived. Now, it seems she has joined hands with others to form an organization that would gather the deadliest hunters the universe has ever seen.

"I have to give it to them; they have indeed built something comprehensive. Now, I will have to work hard to dismantle it bit by bit."

"The master can rest assured that we will do everything in our power to protect you."

Klaus smiled. "I know you will. After all, once all Nine Star Lights are found, you will be free to use your powers in this universe."

The Nine Star Guards nodded, each wearing a smile that said they couldn't wait long enough to be free.

"Talk about the Starlight, have you losers managed to locate any of them?"

"We did, Master. All nine of them have been born in this era, and it seems the Master has even bonded with one of them already."

"That I did. Her name is Hanna. The heavens took her from me during my 4th incarnation, but she reincarnated in this one. She is an amazing woman; you losers are going to love her."

They smiled, feeling happy.

"She is connected to the Sanguira Paragon Star. Since I am the guardian of the 4th star, I can feel her connection to me and the star. I can even start sending her freebies once she becomes an immortal," Scarlet, the vampire, said with a bright smile.

"Just don't spoil her too much. She has to grow on her own, too."

Scarlet nodded.

"How about the others?" Klaus asked. In this life, aside from awakening all nine bloodlines his past lives once had, finding all nine Star Lights and unlocking the nine Paragon Stars is a must.

He cannot afford to lose any of them this time around.

"We have located them. However, aside from the 3rd and the 8th, the rest will be extremely hard to get to."

"How difficult are we talking?"

"As difficult as walking to the headquarters of the Heavens Cult or the Demons Cult and asking them to form an alliance with you."

Klaus broke into a calm smile, hearing what Ronan, the human Star Guard, said.

"That difficult, huh?"

"They are devoted members of the Heavens and Demon Cult. Getting to them will be extremely hard. Also, aside from the 3rd and 8th Starlight, the rest are heavily protected."

"But you said the 3rd and 8th are fairly easy to get to."

"That is true. The 8th works for us, so getting to her will be very easy. And the 3rd is the assistant manager at the Operations Office of Logistics, who works directly under Lady Sybil."

"Gorr's daughter."

"Indeed."

Klaus took a deep sigh, letting the information he had just received sink into his head. The heavens may have just set an impossible task for him.

Getting to all nine Starlights is a must. He must get to them, bond with them, and unlock the Paragon Stars before reaching godhood.

But hearing how heavily protected they are, he can only sigh and put it on his long list of stuff he plans to do now that he is working his way up the ladder.

"Send whatever you have on all eight of them to me. Also, keep a close eye on them, and whenever a chance to easily reach out or get to them arises, be sure to alert me.

I, for one, will use the Mission Hall to make a name for myself. Then, once I am famous enough, we will start with the missions I showed you the last time.

For now, keep your distance. Also, inform my people that I asked not to be disturbed for now. If I need help, I will reach out on my own."

"Okay, Master."

Klaus spent some more time inside the Dark Space before leaving. Icon is now connected to the Dark Space, so he will stay informed on all happenings in the Dark virtual space.

By the time his nature as the Paragon is revealed, he will have long wormed his way into every potential powerhouse that will come against him and dismantle them from the outside.

Chapter 1237: Arriving On Planet Virel

Planet Virel awakened several centuries ago. However, because they are so resource-deprived, the strongest warriors there are only Emypreans.

In this vast universe, such a planet is weak enough for the strong to claim and devour it. That is what most mercenaries do... They attack weak planets and turn the inhabitants into their slaves that they can sell for profit.

Thankfully, the planet isn't that important and, in a way, extremely hidden, so they have been living in their peaceful abode for years now.

However, when the Whispering Beast began causing trouble here and there, they decided to call for outside help, even at the risk of drawing attention to their small, peaceful world.

They knew that once hunters started coming there, the gaze of countless powerhouses would turn to them. However, because the Whispering Beast was so daunting, they chose to post the mission.

Of course, with enough funds at their disposal, they will be able to hire a few warriors from the Warrior Tower to protect them.

Also, they can go into a contract with a powerful world, thereby becoming a vassal planet. There are downsides to this, but at least having the protection of a god seems better than becoming slaves to others.

Who would have thought that, even after sending over 60 hunters, none were able to complete the mission? Even worse, over a dozen hunters had died since they failed to return from the vale.

This had become a headache for the leaders of this planet.

Mission Hall is not some charitable organization that just sends its members to their death. With dozens already dead, they can either raise the rank of the mission, thereby asking for more money, or cancel it.

Of course, cancelling is the best thing they could do, given that their hunters are dying. However, the poor souls of Virel also knew that if the vile abomination was not dealt with soon, the entire planet would be swallowed, and every last soul would become food for the Whispering Beast.

Their only option now, since it had been 24 days since the mission was posted, yet it hadn't been cleared, was to seek asylum from a planet 15 light-years from them.

Today, of course, is the day the mission will be cancelled if not cleared. At the moment, only Klaus is on the mission since the others had cancelled.

This, of course, is a good thing for him. Granted, he managed to complete it, his fame will rise again.

When his spaceship entered Virel's atmosphere, the top-ranking members of the planet's military came to welcome him as they did for the other warriors who came before him.

Naturally, aside from coming to welcome him, they also came to tell him they will be cancelling the mission soon since they have no funds left to keep it active.

However, when Klaus stepped out of the spaceship, they changed their mind.

Obviously, Icon had already filled Klaus in on the current state of planet Virel and what they intend to do. They will be signing a 2000-year contract with planet Bimix, whose current powerhouse is an Immortal Emperor.

Naturally, that means they will be protected from the Whispering Beast. However, the Dark Space, now connected to Icon's vast sentient intelligence, was able to obtain hidden details of this contract, one that will leave planet Virel at their mercy for 2000 years.

Naturally, that is just too barbaric, so Klaus chose to pull some strings and managed to create the illusion that he is an immortal.

Of course, it took some failures to finally get it to work. This way, the moment he arrives, the people will see him as an immortal.

They will learn of his true cultivation base when he is done with the mission.

As expected, when he stepped out of his ship, the leaders of planet Virel wiped the idea of cancelling the mission from their minds.

"Welcome to Planet Virel, Immortal Hunter."

Klaus smiled, hearing how respectful the Empyrean stage warrior, who also happened to be the ruler of the entire planet, greeted him.

"No need for the politeness. I am merely here for the same mission many of my fellow hunters failed to complete. Rest assured, I will get it done before sunset."

Though he sounded arrogant, seeing that he was an immortal gave them hope, so they brushed aside his tone and focused on his words.

"It will be a delight if you can save us from this disaster."

"Don't worry, I will get it done." Klaus turned to his left, where he sensed a piercing gaze coming from an immortal on him.

Noticing his gaze, the people who came to welcome him promptly revealed everything.

"They are envoys from Planet Bimix that came to help us against the Whispering Beast." Klaus merely nodded. It seems they chose to hide the fact that they are also here to sign a contract with them.

Klaus, of course, did not mind since he knew once he was done with this mission, these people would become his enemies. He had already sent a message to the Star Guards, and they will send reps to take planet Virel under their protection.

Naturally, he will be the only one left to blame since he cleared the mission that the people of Bimix are using as leverage to force the Virelians into a binding contract.

"I see. Well, in that case, why don't you send me to the mission's location? The earlier I get this done, the better."

Klaus has already coordinated with his people and knows they will be arriving at any time, so he wants to hurry and get things done.

Soon, they left the docking bay in a fighter jet and headed east of the planet. In no time, they arrived in a valley where a brown mist covered almost all the mountains there.

With just a glance, Klaus knew the beast he was after was an illusion-type beast that liked to play with the minds of its prey.

Naturally, this made Klaus very happy.

He had yet to meet any being that excels at illusion-type skills more than him. So this mission had just become one he would use to test the limit of his illusion abilities.

'This is going to be fun.'

Chapter 1238 - The Vale Mist

Thousands of inhabitants were swallowed by the insidious mist of the whispering beasts. Over a dozen hunters had died taking on the mission to vanquish the vile abominable beast.

Every last Virelian is weary of the vale mist that seems to possess a life of its own.

Naturally, that was more than enough proof to show just how daunting the mission Klaus had picked was.

However, to Klaus, this mission had now become a training regimen, one that would allow him to test the limits of his illusion abilities.

Of course, he knew he was still on the clock, considering the people were this close to cancelling the mission to save the money they had invested in posting it in the first place.

If the 25 days are up and they can't pay the amount the mission hall is demanding, the mission will be canceled by them, which in that case will mean they won't get anything in return. So it was either that the mission was completed, or they canceled before the 25 days were up.

The 25-day period is due in four and a half hours.

However, Klaus wants to face this mission in a training mode. The dead hunters and those who cancelled will flip if they know of his plan.

Obviously, he wasn't about to let his employers know of his plan.

His only concern now is that they don't cancel the mission while he's inside the vale. That will be a bummer.

Naturally, he already has a way to fix that too...

Klaus tapped into his illusion abilities and made a copy of himself, "This is a clone I made. As long as I breathe, he will remain alive.

However, once I fall, the clone will cease to exist." The five Virelians who escorted him to the mission site already knew what he meant.

“Give me just four hours. If I am not back by then, you can go ahead and cancel the mission. Though I doubt it will take me more than an hour.”

After saying that, Klaus jumped down from the jet they had come in, landing calmly on soft ground.

Not too far from him, the brown mist stretched far into the distances.

Klaus, of course, is looking forward to what the whispering beast has in store for him.

He started walking toward the mist under the watchful gaze of the five Virelians inside the jet.

Also, far from them, three Early Immortals stood calm on a sword, gazing at the back of the hunter they, for some reason, are feeling uneasy about.

Naturally, they already saw what the mist had done to most of the hunters that came before Klaus. They even got to witness one of them drown in the mist’s influence and be carried away by it.

That was a clear sign the mission wasn’t one meant for mortals. However, for some reason, watching Klaus walk into the mist is making them feel uneasy.

Of course, they are wishing with every fibre of their being that he never returns. His returning and working to complete the mission will be bad for them.

Until the mission is canceled, they cannot sign the contract that will give them full control of the planet, whose inhabitants are among the top 30 most beautiful humans in the human universe.

In their eyes, that is a large pool of people they can send out to act as maids, escorts, and all kinds of human commodities that will fetch them a good profit.

Klaus may just be standing in the way of making a good profit, and as such, they want him dead. But for now, they can only wish the whispering beast would do the killing for them.

Klaus, of course, had no idea that these people were wishing his doom.

However, even if he knew, just the fact that he started hearing a being calling his name from deep within the mist is more than enough reason to take his mind off them and focus on the mission.

‘Looks like the hunters that survived this mission weren’t lying when they said they heard their name being called from within the mist.’

Klaus smiled and separated the voice calling him, and locked it away in one of his many minds.

‘Once again, having more than one mind is the best.’

With the voice locked away, Klaus was able to see the mist for what it truly is. Naturally, for someone who had lived many lives, it wasn’t too hard to notice the strangeness of the mist.

‘As I said, this is indeed an illusion. However, it seems the owner of the mist had infused it with their domain, allowing it to take a somewhat tangible form.’

Klaus smiled even more.

‘This means if I were to send a tangible version of myself into the mist, it will read me as a real human being, thereby devouring me. However, since I am not a real person, he wouldn’t gain anything, so it would be a waste of his energy. It will also be the best moment to enter with my real body.’

Klaus stopped just when he was three meters from the mist. That will be the distance from which the whispering beast will be able to sense him fully.

‘But what is the fun in sending just one when I can send thousands?’

And with that, Klaus snapped his finger, and thousands of him appeared and immediately ran into the mist.

Immediately they did, he sensed the mist stir almost as if it had awakened. This brought a pale smile to his face. He already had his suspicions, but now that he had confirmed it, it was his time to play with the whispering beast.

Klaus took one step, and he disappeared into the mist.

Atop the jet, the illusion copy Klaus left behind as a sign that he is still alive sat down and started humming a tune as if none of this concerned him.

As for the five Virelians, they were taken aback by how casually Klaus walked into the mist. However, with the still-alive clone he left behind, they can only wait to see the outcome.

As for the three immortals, they were also taken aback by how Klaus stepped into the mist. However, they have no way of knowing what the outcome will be.

Klaus stepped into the mist where thousands of his clones were already running amok, like it was their playground.

Of course, as if things aren't already chaotic, since he had walked into an illusion, Klaus got a rather evil idea.

'Why make them tangible when this is an illusion?'

With that, he started flooding the entire vale mist with thousands of clones of himself. Eventually, the one in charge of the illusion is going to run out of energy, and they will be forced to reveal themselves...

...that is, if Klaus did not find them before then.

Chapter 1239 - The Whispering Beast

Klaus only needed a moment to grasp the whispering beast's main intentions and how its domain works.

In the vast, ever-changing universe, there are many domains with specific requirements that must be met for them to grow and keep evolving until they become law.

Klaus had encountered many beings with such domains.

He himself had cultivated such a domain in his 7th incarnation, one that required him to always be on the battlefield.

So the moment he approached the vale mist, he knew the whispering beast was cultivating a domain that demands it devour beings with intelligence until it evolves.

This also made him realise just how dangerous this mission is. The beast, according to his calculation, is no doubt an Emphyrean stage beast; however, its domain is nearing the rank that the domain of an immortal should be.

Naturally, that is not something Emphyrean stage warriors without powerful mental strength can handle. He knew even if an Early Immortal came, the chances of them falling prey to the whispering beast's domain were high.

Of course, if that had happened, the vile abominable creature would have long reached the immortal stage, making it even more powerful.

In fact, half of the planet would long have been devoured by it already. Thankfully, the planet isn't that rich, so they could only afford F-rank to C-rank hunters.

They may not have realised it, but their lack of funds to post an Epic Rank Mission might have just saved them from disaster.

However, now that Klaus is here and has even figured out the insatiable nature of the vile domain, he knows the right medicine to feed it.

So as more clone versions of himself populated the domain, the whispering beast started to feel the strain.

The domain is the kind that devours anything that enters, so naturally, it was devouring the illusion clones of Klaus, and as such, it started using more energy and gaining none.

“Go ahead, devour as much as you can. I have more where they came from,” Klaus laughed, his voice echoing beyond the boundaries of the vile domain.

As the minutes passed, the vile mist started to thin. Of course, it isn't a sight to be happy about, since as it thins, it also spreads farther from where it was supposed to be.

However, while this was not something to celebrate, the constant quakes deep within the mist keep telling the Virelians that something is happening deep inside the vile domain.

This was the first time something like this had happened since they posted the mission, so they are happy and expectant to learn of the outcome.

The clone is not helping them satiate their curiosities since all it knew how to do was hum foreign songs that, while unfamiliar to them, sounded rather pleasant.

Deep inside the mist, as Klaus moved deeper, he finally picked up a trace of the whispering beast.

This made him happy and, in a way, made him quickly follow the tracks the whispering beast had left. It took some minutes, but soon, he arrived in a clearing where there was no brown mist.

That was where he set his sight on the whispering beast... or so he thought.

The whispering beast described by the hunters and a few Virelians said it is a colossal amalgamation of body parts and streaks of eyes that seem to stare deep into the soul.

However, the monstrosity Klaus is staring at is no colossus, it has no thousands of eyes, nor does it have severed and surgically attached limbs.

The beast standing 100 meters from him is a man with red eyes, brown skin, and a pair of grey horns on his forehead.

The bastard is a being from Planet Bimix, the same planet trying to sign the contract with the Virelians. Naturally, that calls for some much-needed intervention.

“So it turned out you were a pawn deployed by your people to sell the desperation of the Virelians, huh?” Looking at his pale face, Klaus could tell he had already done a number on him.

“Makes me wonder just what your people found on this planet that demanded these extreme measures just to push them to the corner.”

The whispering beast turned out to be a Bimixian known as Colt. He excels at illusion and mind control, two of the most dangerous combos even immortals fall prey to.

“Who are you, and how did you counter my domain?” Colt asked, his pale expression betraying the fury in his eyes.

The thousands of illusion clones Klaus has released are still eating away at his energy, and since he risks exposing himself and his people if he lowers his domain, he wants to engage in a conversation with Klaus.

It was also a way for him to activate his backup plan.

Naturally, Klaus had already seen through him from the moment Colt asked the question.

“No need to play mind games with me, Colt. I know your name, age, date of birth, and even your bank account number. Let’s not forget I know your mom’s and dad’s name and know they would be disappointed when they find out what their no-good son had done to the poor people of Planet Virel.”

Klaus walked forward, closing the distance between them to only 4 meters.

“And by the way, my name is Klaus, a D-rank hunter. And for your question about how I countered your illusion, I merely fed it poison.”

Klaus laughed, making Colt wince in pain as he felt his domain coming undone. He had reached his limit, and what could have been a win for him had now become his doom.

He sought to devour, yet his insatiable hunger had brought his doom.

“Though I have to ask, why go the extra mile just to enslave this planet in that gory contract?”

Colt had no plans to answer Klaus, since he knew that learning why his people sent him to Planet Virel would alert the people of Virel to never sign a contract with them.

“Loyal, I see.” Klaus laughed.

“Too bad I have more than enough mind to kill you while reading your memories.”

“Maud”

The gothic death lady appeared and clapped her hands together... “Death’s Denial”.

In an instant, the poison pill Colt bit and swallowed failed to kill him simply because at that moment, death had denied him. Even if he stabbed himself through the heart, he wouldn’t die.

However, the poison weakened him to the point that he couldn’t even raise his own finger or even blink.

“Well then... the devil’s work it is.”

With horror in his eyes, Colt could only watch as Klaus walked toward him and pressed his finger against his forehead.

Chapter 1240: Blinded By Love

Reading the mind of the dead is much easier than that of the living.

In the same way, reading the mind of the dead is less painful to the target compared to the living.

Naturally, everyone would want to have their mind read when they are dead. It is less painful after all. However, when it comes to Klaus, nothing is as simple as it appears.

First, even if you die, running from him is next to impossible.

He is the heir of death, someone who has already unlocked one of the 12 seals of death, slowly working his way to becoming the Lord of Death.

In fact, he is already the lord of death, considering he has entered the Realm of Death and explored a small part of it already.

This makes him someone death has to listen to. And so even in death, he can still get his hands on you. So imagine what he can do to you when alive.

Colt had tried to hide the secret behind the reason why the people of Bimix sent him to Planet Virel just to become something devastating enough to warrant the Virelians seeking help from them.

He accomplished his mission and was this close to completing it before Klaus showed up.

Klaus, of course, applauded their scheming, for it had indeed pushed the Virelians to the point they went to the Bimixians as they had anticipated.

Their plan was this close to working, until Klaus arrived.

Now, Colt tried to kill himself, hoping the secret would die with him.

However, with the Heir of Death and his Death's heart around, death is the last thing he should expect. Even if he severs his head from his body, with Maud using Death's denial ability, death will not claim him.

Klaus now has access to his completely dead yet alive body.

He merely pressed his index finger against Colt's forehead, and the next second, he was somewhere else...

"Colt, wake up." A redskin young man rushed into a room where Colt, the youngest and the first person in the history of his small village to ever be admitted into the Bimix Talent Academy, slept soundly.

This academy is the biggest and most advanced warrior academy on Planet Bimix. It is the place every young warrior wants to go. Every parent would also want their wards to have a chance to get warrior training there.

Colt, due to his talent as an illusionist and a mind cultivator, had gained the chance every young man his age desires.

He gained admission against all odds, or perhaps, there weren't any odds to begin with.

However, because of the intense work involved, he always uses the small moments he gets to rest. Too bad his roommate doesn't respect his privacy like he would have wanted.

He lazily opened his eyes and glared at his roommate...

"What is it this time, Merk?" Colt asked, yawning, showing he wasn't yet satisfied with his sleep. Being woken up by his roommate soured his mood.

"Don't look at me with those evil eyes, Colt. You were the one who told me to keep an eye out for the princess."

Hearing the mention of the princess, the sleep in his eyes cleared, and the frown on his face was replaced by a happy smile.

"Did you see her?" He asked, causing Merk to smirk...

"Look at you already drooling."

"Oh, tell me and stop wasting time." Colt seemed to want to tap into Merk's mind and retrieve the information he needed. However, he is not powerful enough to do that just yet.

"Relax, Colt. I wouldn't have woken you up if I had nothing to say. In fact, I have the biggest news." Merk smiled and then pointed at the door, "The princess is standing behind the door. She is here for you."

Colt jumped down from his bed and ran toward the door. Peeping through the peephole, he beheld the most beautiful lady he had ever set his eyes on.

His heart skipped a beat in that very moment, his mind going blank as he stared at the youngest daughter of the King of Bimix.

Before today, Colt had only seen her once, and like a magnet, he fell for her. The princess, of course, had no idea this idiot liked her.

She probably has more things to worry about than thinking of a country bumpkin who had fallen head over heels for her.

However, Colt had become so obsessed with her that he used all means necessary to become her number one fan and her online enforcer.

Shit, Colt even enters deathmatches just to tell everyone his stance when it comes to the princess. Of course, he knew all this might not go anywhere. However, he kept doing his best to make her notice him.

Now, it seemed she had noticed him, and she now stood before his door, looking to speak with him.

Colt bolted back to the room, immediately dressed, then rushed to the door. When he opened, what greeted him was the most beautiful smile he had ever seen.

His mind basically flipped in that very moment. He had lost all forms of reasoning. In fact, the rest of the day was a blur to him.

One point, he was a man who would kill and had killed to assert his status, the next second, the princess, who even princes from nearby planets failed to woo, had asked him out on a date, and one thing led to another, they started to date.

Months passed, and three years have gone by. However, Colt and the princess only seem to grow much closer.

Their bond deepened, and up to the point Colt received the assignment that changed his life, or promised to change his life forever, he had no idea that everything was one giant mind game.

Klaus pulls back his finger.

By then, Colt was already bleeding through his eyes, nose, mouth, ears, and every other hole. His brain had melted under the pressure Klaus exerted as he read his memories.

"Poor guy. In your pursuit of love, you ended up becoming a pawn in a much larger game." Klaus shook his head, a sigh escaping his lips.

He had seen what he wanted from Colt's memories; however, in the end, he could only pity the poor guy who, even at the moment of his death, still held on to the hope and delusion that a princess was home waiting for him.

"Just what kind of mind manipulation could make a mind cultivator become this delusional. It just doesn't make sense.

You spent three years dating someone, yet you never even kissed her, not even once. Shouldn't that be a clear sign she was using you?"

Klaus turns to Maud and asks:

"Was he an idiot, or was he just stupid?"

The Death Lady looks at him for a few seconds before deactivating the [Death's Denial] skill. She sighed and then asked Klaus a question.

"Would you jump into an active volcano if Lady Asura asked you to?"

"Of course," Klaus answered in a heartbeat.

Maud said nothing else and just vanished. Klaus, however, connected the dots and immediately understood what he was looking for.

This made him look at Colt, who had breathed his last breath. "Poor guy, he was blinded by love and died to a lie."

He sighs, "Don't worry, buddy, I will put an arrow through that bitch's heart for you."

The mist started to clear, a signal that he had completed the mission.