

Paragon 1291

Chapter 1291: See Ya

[Astryx Star System - Planet Lumin Star]

A True Immortal flew at great speed through the air, speeding toward a mansion standing atop a mountain. The sun in the sky shines with a silver glow, making the entire atmosphere look silvery.

The look in his eyes showed he was in a hurry, so without slowing down his speed, he landed on the mountain, causing it to shake.

"Who dares disturb my sleep?"

A terrifying voice came from the mansion, accompanied by an invisible force, forcing the True Immortal to go down on his knees. He couldn't resist.

"What do you want, Quill?" The voice spoke again from inside the mansion, lifting the pressure from the True Immortal.

"My lord, it is the young miss... She is in danger."

"WHAT?" A man with short silver hair appeared from thin air, his expression dark as he waved his hand, causing Quill to stand up.

"What happened?"

"I don't know. But I just received a message that a priority rescue mission had been posted in the Dervas Mission Hall. The SOS signal came from Young Miss Ophelia's life signal."

"Those bastards. Even after sending her away, they still managed to track her down." The man, whose name was Victor Astryx, the ruler of the Astryx Star System, muttered, tapping a few buttons on his communicator.

Soon, the face of a man who immediately became scared upon seeing Lord Victor's furious-looking face appeared in holographic form.

"If anything happens to my daughter, you and the Dervas Mission Hall will give me an explanation," Lord Victor said coldly before hanging up the line. He didn't even give the man a chance to explain himself.

Just after Lord Victor hung up the call, his communicator rang, and he answered it quickly. A hologram of a man with a long beard and a bald head appeared in the air, wearing a twisted smile.

When Lord Victor saw this, his frown deepened. "Ornyx, what do you want?"

"Oh, already to the point, I see," Ornyx smirked and waved his hand, manifesting an image of a map fragment. "It came to my attention that you, little flower, came into possession of a fragment of the Jade Ant Nest.

"My lastborn, of course, asked nicely, but even after killing five of her guards, she refused to hand it over. Something about it belonging to her daddy and the Stella humans. Could you believe the balls on her...

"I wouldn't want to bore you with the details. Just know that she tried calling for help, but as you already know, we, the Voidbound Corsairs, don't like to be messed with, so we jammed her signals.

"So why don't we come to an agreement? You will order her to hand the map over, or we will kill her and take it.

"My son is closing in on her as we speak. And oh, the Mission Hall wouldn't be able to get there fast enough, so make your decision. I can grant you a one-way connection to order her."

Lord Victor gritted his teeth, a crazy look appearing on his face.

He thought for a moment before a twisted smirk formed on his lips. "What is funny?" Ornyx asked in a somewhat startled tone.

"As to whether she gets to survive and bring the map will depend on her fate. If she dies, then that is her fate too. Just as today is the day fated for the Voidbound Corsairs to be wiped out."

Lord Victor turned to Quill and spoke in a serious tone. "Gather the Stella Wardogs. We will be wiping out the Voidbound Corsairs today."

Under Ornyx's surprised gaze, Lord Victor took off, his strength as an Immortal Lord pushing his speed to the max.

"Don't be crazy, Victor. We can talk about this. It is your daughter's life we are talking about here."

"Too late. You all will be going down today. I have had enough of your nonsense."

Ornyx cut the call in a panicked mode. They both were Immortal Lords, but he knew he was no match for Victor. He would wipe the floor with him.

Seeing his dangerous eyes, he panicked.

[Planet Nivel]

Ophelia held her bow in a firm grip, her gaze locked on Desmond.

The gap between them was vast, since Desmond was a High-level Real Immortal and Ophelia was only a Low-level Real Immortal.

However, she was a ranged fighter, and as such, she had some advantage as long as she maintained her distance. Currently, their only hope was that the SOS she sent would reach its intended target and that help would arrive on time.

Her four guards stood around her, their gazes locked on the others.

But considering they had been surrounded by seven warriors, two of whom were True Immortals, made their resistance seem already futile.

"So what do you say, Ophelia? Are you handing the map fragment over, or should I take it by force?"

Ophelia raised her bow and drew the bowstring, manifesting an arrow. "Over my dead body." She fired the arrow, and her four guards dashed forward to take on the others.

Two of them went against the two True Immortals, while the other two took on the five peak Real Immortals, leaving Desmond to Ophelia.

The arrow fired was blocked by Desmond, who merely slashed his spear, and the void took the arrow away.

"Futile," Desmond smiled and moved, his speed blinding. Before Ophelia could realise where he was, a spear stabbed toward her shoulder from behind.

She moved forward instead of evading to the side. This allowed the spear to touch her; however, due to the gap she created, Desmond was forced to stretch significantly, reducing the force behind the stab.

If she had pivoted to the left, considering the stab came for her right shoulder, Desmond would have used the momentum to attack with his leg or even a sword he had hidden inside the void.

Ophelia knew Desmond all too well, since they had been clashing with the Voidbound Corsairs, a mercenary family full of hardened criminals and rapists, for years already.

So, based on what she knew, she used it to save her skin in the first exchange. However, against someone like Desmond, who had been battling literal True Immortals long before he became an immortal, he didn't let the setback ruin his mood.

With a smile on his face, he raised his spear and tried to attack again.

But Ophelia anticipated that, so she made her move mid-strike. Her hair whipped through the air, and ten hidden weapons flashed out, catching Desmond by surprise.

He abandoned his strike and used his spear to defend. However, as fast as he was, he couldn't fully defend himself, allowing a needle to graze his cheek.

"Poison." Desmond's expression turned dark. He quickly pulled a pill from his space ring and took it. However, that delay gave Ophelia the chance to distance herself again and attack with another arrow.

"BITCH, YOU ARE DEAD!"

Desmond exploded with fury, cutting the arrow that was fired at him in half. But the shockwave pushed him back. This gave Ophelia another chance to lock an arrow.

However, before she could release it, the void cracked, and from within, a handsome white human jumped out, an A-class laser gun aimed at the forehead of a True Immortal.

"See ya," Klaus grinned and fired the laser beam.

Chapter 1292: Die With Me

Many say an A-class weapon can only severely injure a True Immortal when fired at close range and unexpectedly. However, from afar, they won't sustain much injury.

That, in a way, is true.

However, the question is, how can one get closer to a True Immortal and spend three seconds charging a laser gun to attack?

It is virtually impossible. To pull that off, one needs to be both strong and quick to make a decision, and to possess the ability to buy them enough time to charge the laser gun.

In most cases, a laser gun is used only when a team collaborates against the opponent. While some distract the True Immortals, the shooter prepares the gun.

However, Klaus merely jumped out of the void and pressed the trigger as if it were a toy gun. The moment the beam exploded, the redhead True Immortal saw death but couldn't do anything to escape its gaze.

The beam went through his forehead, killing both his body and his immortal soul in an instant. All the battles came to a sudden stop. Everyone quickly turned their focus to the new arrival.

It was all too sudden for them to register. However, they knew it happened. The shocking part was that Klaus was not even an immortal, yet he was able to single-handedly wield an A-class laser gun.

The redhead immortal fell from the air and slammed into the ground. Of course, all of them were redheads, similar to how Ophelia and her guards are silver-haired.

They turned to Klaus, who stored away the gun and pointed at the second True Immortal... "You are next."

Everything happened in an instant.

Klaus vanished and appeared 200 meters from the second True Immortal, who had already caused the young lady facing him to start bleeding all over her face.

Klaus raised his hand and activated his gravity law skill.

"Heavens Engine"

Above the True Immortal, a three-layered golden ring appeared, instantly forcing him to crash to the ground, raising dust. This ability came with his understanding of the Law of Gravity.

Back when he cultivated the Gravity Law on the Gravity Planet, he awakened it. However, he never got to use it well during the awakening.

Its strength stems from Klaus's understanding of the Gravity Law. The higher his understanding, the stronger the force behind it.

The moment Klaus unleashed it, all his comprehension of the Gravity Law was poured into it. This forced the True Immortal to his knees.

However, unfortunately for him, that wasn't the last of it. The Soul Fury Flame appeared and transformed into a white dragon.

If not for the fact that the dragon looked like flame, all who saw it would have thought of it as a real white dragon.

However, since Klaus's flame elements had reached the Absolute Flame stage, their appearance had significantly changed compared to before.

ROAR

A mighty roar escaped Fury's maw as he rose into the air and took a nosedive at the True Immortal.

"Soul Burning Descent." To Klaus's shock, Fury activated a skill as he descended like a storm of flame.

The True Immortal sensed the danger and tried to stand. However, when he did, Klaus formed a hand seal, and the three-layered discs shifted, increasing the pressure.

He was forced back to his knees, but Klaus also paid dearly for the Gravity Essence he expended on that attack. However, it was worth it, as the moment Fury descended on the True Immortal, the reaction he wanted to hear happened.

BOOM

The fury of the Soul Fury Forbidden Flame descended, and the pain that came with it overwhelmed him, raising clouds of flame into the air.

"AAAAAAAAAAAAARRRGH"

The True Immortal screamed like a child, his soul burning as fresh meatloaf dropped onto a hot pan.

ROAR

Fury rose from the flame and unleashed yet another dragon roar. Then he transformed into his cute teenage form, with wavy white hair, and hovered before Klaus.

"Daddy, did we get him?"

Klaus smiled and nodded. "We did. Now go back and let me handle the rest."

In fear that someone would see Fury with him, considering he had made his debut during his time in the Blood Tournament, it would be wise to send him away.

He had already accomplished what he was summoned to do.

Fury nodded and vanished, becoming a tattoo on Klaus's arm. Just when he did, the Grim Void Blade appeared.

"Void Piercer." Klaus wasted no time at all. His mind grabbed hold of the sword, and the instant he did, the void exploded open, and it vanished into it.

'Seya, aim for his soul,' Klaus sent Seraya a message before vanishing into the chaos of the Soul Fury Flame. Somewhere inside, the True Immortal was bleeding from both his eyes, mouth, nose, and ears.

The Soul Fury Flame had done a number on him. Outwardly, his skin was not even burnt. However, inwardly, his soul, if one were to see it from his soul sea, had fractured in more than five places.

Healing this wound would take him thousands of years and a whole lot of pain.

However, that was the least of his problems. Just when he was hoping to have a breather, Klaus appeared in the air, looking like a grim reaper.

To make matters worse, he summoned a red jagged scythe and placed it on his shoulder, smiling coldly at the True Immortal.

"Who would have thought killing a True Immortal would be this easy?" Klaus shamelessly grinned, the last ounce of his Gravity Essence drained.

However, he didn't seem fazed one bit. Icon had already given him a rundown of what had happened to the True Immortal's soul.

The heavens' engine vanished after he ran out of essence.

He lifted his head with great difficulty and looked at Klaus. "Who... are... you?"

Klaus grinned and pointed his scythe at the True Immortal. "You can call me the Renegade Hunter."

With that, Klaus lunged at him, scythe raised and poised for a deadly attack. However, a True Immortal who had formed an Immortal Ring was not a weakling at all.

Just when Klaus closed in, a beautiful purple ring with an intricate design appeared around him and exploded, filling him with immense power.

The flames cleared, and the battles happening outside were disrupted. The shockwave from the Immortal Ring explosion pushed all of them back.

However, Klaus remained unaffected by the sudden power surge. His scythe was already locked on target.

"DIE WITH ME!" the True Immortal screamed, his bloody eyes turning even more crimson. He brought his palms together, and a ball of purple energy slowly formed.

When Klaus saw this, he came to a halt and winked at the True Immortal before saying in a teasing tone, "Don't look at me; she is the one killing you today."

The True Immortal sensed danger behind him, but before he could move, the Grim Void Blade, controlled by Seraya, appeared from the void and stabbed through his forehead.

His body froze, and the purple energy he had gathered faded away. In an instant, a mighty True Immortal fell to the perfect scheme of a mortal and his deadly blade.

Klaus waved his hand, and the Immortal Core vanished into his space ring.

Then he turned toward Desmond, Ophelia, and everyone else, grinning. "I believe someone called for a priority rescue service."

Chapter 1293: Meticulous Planning

Everything and everyone came to a standstill. The only sound was the wind blowing.

Their complete focus had been shifted to Klaus, who stood calm, a small smile playing on his lips as he gazed back at all of them.

None of them saw him coming. However, when he did, they weren't prepared for what he brought. He came, and what followed was complete annihilation, leaving all of them stunned for a moment.

Klaus planned meticulously, and it paid off.

In less than a minute, he appeared and killed two True Immortals as if they were nothing in front of him.

Naturally, none of that should have been possible, and this time, even Klaus knew that. However, like he always says, with enough planning, even a god could be killed by a mere mortal.

That saying was put into practice during the Divine War between the immortals (mortals included) and the gods.

Immortals and Mortals worked together to kill gods, showing that nothing is impossible.

When Klaus arrived, Ophelia and the others had just commenced their battle. However, instead of jumping into it like an idiot, he entered the void and, using his Void Laws, moved closer, making sure he got a bigger picture of things.

Klaus knew if he were to face a True Immortal in combat, even with the void, he would struggle. So he waited, and what could have been mere seconds to anyone were long enough for Klaus to make the best plans and come up with the kill moves.

Perhaps nobody aside from Klaus could have pulled off such a feat. After all, the plans he came up with were foolproof. He made sure the moment he stepped out, one True Immortal, no matter what, would be killed.

They were the threat after all.

So, he selected his target and chose the optimal moment to fire the laser. If he had shot him in the chest, the True Immortal wouldn't have died.

He would have been severely injured, but as someone who had already formed an Immortal Ring, Klaus knew such an injury wouldn't have stopped him.

It would have even backfired on him.

So he went for the most difficult shot, and it paid off.

But the moment the first True Immortal went down, Klaus knew the second wouldn't fall to the same gun. It was just impossible.

He would have needed three seconds to charge the laser gun again, which would have been the three most dangerous seconds of Klaus's life.

So, he went with the best plan he had always had for True Immortals: his Gravity Law.

Although his mastery is only High, with the Heavens Engine harnessing that mastery, he calculated that it would at least force the True Immortal down, long enough to make just two moves.

The first was Fury.

His Soul Fury Forbidden Flame was the first kill move he had always had at the back of his mind when he left Planet Yahmir.

He knew that when it came to it, locking down a True Immortal for just two seconds would be enough to unleash that flame. Thankfully, his calculations were spot on.

So the moment Fury attacks, his second kill move, being the [Grim Void Blade], now possessing Seraya as its weapon spirit, would come in handy.

If Seraya wasn't the weapon spirit, Klaus would have been forced to drain two cores just to gather enough momentum to attack. However, that was why having weapon spirits is the best thing.

The moment Fury succeeded, it was only a matter of pulling his focus away from the [Grim Void Blade] long enough for Seraya to make her move.

What Klaus never expected was the True Immortal shattering his Immortal Ring for power. It was his last-minute, dangerous attempt to kill Klaus, so he went for it, and he may have had a chance.

Unfortunately for him, he failed to take into account how much planning Klaus had put into his executions. Not even a single second was wasted.

He came with a purpose, and he succeeded without any hiccups.

Now, Desmond and the five remaining Peak Real Immortals could only stare hatefully and shockingly at Klaus, who didn't seem to place them in his eyes.

It was like killing two True Immortals had inflated Klaus's ego, and as such, despite staring at five Peak Real Immortals, he didn't seem to care.

"Who the hell are you?" Desmond asked, his grip on his spear tightening.

Klaus grinned and replied, "You can call me the Renegade Hunter. I happened to be in the vicinity and, hearing a rescue service was needed on this planet, I was forced to come." He paused, then made a bold statement.

"Now, if you six don't want things to get harder than they already are, surrender and let me take you to the mission hall, or come at me and let's end this like men."

The scythe on Klaus's shoulder hummed, releasing a wave of chilling ice. This caused Desmond to take a step back; however, he didn't falter.

"You are dead meat."

BOOM

Desmond unleashed his aura, causing Ophelia to be blown back by a couple of meters. Her expression instantly turned pale. Luckily for her, she moved in Klaus's direction, so he caught her.

But catching her was what Desmond wanted; it was his first move against Klaus. Just when Klaus brought Ophelia to a halt, a spear arrived in front of his face, mere inches away.

Klaus, like always, had already anticipated this and prepared a counter.

Instead of blocking the spear, he tapped into a skill he only uses when he plans on giving a dangerous counterattack without any chance of the opponent dodging.

'Intangible Me'

The spear that could have killed even a Real Immortal passed through Klaus's head quietly, like it was made of air.

In fact, Desmond was pulled forward, the momentum causing him to lose his balance. The instant he moved through Klaus, the counterattack came.

Klaus swung his scythe with deadly force, aiming to leave a gory wound on Desmond's back.

However, while the counterattack wasn't one Desmond had planned for, considering he expected his spear to be either blocked by Klaus or pierce his face as intended, he isn't a Real Immortal for no reason.

He twisted his body and braced with his spear.

BANG

The impact was as expected. Desmond was hurled through the air and slammed hard into the ground, a large crater forming. The force behind Klaus's attack was just too much for him to handle.

Klaus turned to Ophelia... "Keep him company for a few seconds, would you?"

The moment he said that, he charged at one of the Peak Real Immortals, leaving the other four for Ophelia's guards.

Desmond had sustained a life-threatening injury, and since he doesn't have an Immortal Ring yet, Klaus knew Ophelia could contain him.

Also, he wanted her to get her revenge. She seemed to hate Desmond more than anything, so with him handicapped, Ophelia had the higher ground to kill her opponent.

"Stella Bow Art:..."

As expected, she wasn't about to waste the chance. She attacked, and this time, she was pouring all her energy into every single arrow fired.

The threat of the True Immortals is no more.

Chapter 1294: Saving Them

BOOM

One of the Peak Real Immortals slammed into the ground, his bones breaking under the weight of a boulder made of ice.

There was no way a Real immortal could carry a boulder as large as an apartment building in Chongqing, China. Even filled with so many ice Laws.

Klaus didn't hold back his attacks on these people, unlike during the Blood Tournament.

In his mind, when it comes to fighting Peak Real Immortals, no matter what, his life is in danger, so whatever he has to do to win, he must do it.

This was why, when he picked his target, he went all out.

He is a weapons overlord, so the moment he touched the scythe, using it was as simple as swinging it.

In a span of 45 seconds, Klaus had shattered the Real Immortal's defence entirely and was on the verge of killing him.

However, that didn't mean he hadn't paid for it. His core was rapidly draining more than he was recovering.

Klaus knew the only way to easily handle a Real Immortal without depending too much on his energy was also to become an Immortal.

But since he had nine cores, he didn't seem to care too much.

However, with four more Real Immortals in the fold, he knew he would have to spend more than he could recover and ensure the battles came to an end as fast as possible.

'Seraya, kill him.'

The Grim Void Blade appeared again, and before the Peak Real Immortal could push the ice boulder off his body, the sword arrived before him.

He tried to dodge; however, Seraya is no ordinary Real Immortal. Before she became a criminal, she was a promising assassin in training.

She had learned many things, and even long before she stepped into the rank of a Real Immortal, she succeeded in destroying the body of a True Immortal.

However, her skill had only grown even more dangerous when she turned to the dark side. So while the Peak Real Immortal tried to dodge, all Seraya saw was a cornered Immortal with nowhere to run.

She tapped into the void thanks to the sword she embodied and created three void portals.

Then she used yet another void skill called [Void Multiply]. She divided her body into three, allowing three swords to stab at the Peak Real Immortal at the same time.

Only one of her swords is the real deal, but because the Real Immortal was cornered, he had no time to discern which of the swords was the real deal; thus, he picked just any.

He couldn't defend against all three, which was what Seraya was counting on.

It was like the three-body problem, but in Russian Roulette.

The moment the Peak Real Immortal made his choice, Seraya had already won. She stabbed through his back, and when the pain stunned him, she went for the main kill.

His forehead was pierced through, instantly killing his Immortal soul.

Klaus was already on the second Real Immortal, trusting entirely in Seraya to kill the bastard.

In truth, the moment she became a weapon spirit, Klaus saw all her memories, and so even if he doesn't trust her, he knew she wouldn't fail.

'Enter the void and wait for the next opportunity,' Klaus transmitted to her, and she obeyed. She entered the void, waiting for her master to give her another opening.

Meanwhile, Ophelia had managed to keep Desmond back with her unlimited barrage of arrows. No matter how one sees it, Desmond was pressed.

However, Klaus knew better. He could see something no one else saw, and because of this, he decided to take Desmond as his second weapon spirit.

Despite being severely injured, Desmond was holding on. While hidden from everyone, Klaus saw he was planning a dangerous counter that, when used, would put Ophelia in danger, even killing her if she failed to react in time.

'This bastard has some potential.'

Many in his situation would have already made a desperate suicide move to take their opponent down with them; however, that wasn't Desmond.

He was betting against death, and as he looked at the complex hand seals hidden behind him, being formed using just a single hand, Klaus was impressed.

'Fury, do your thing,' Klaus activated the Soul Fury Forbidden Flame again. However, instead of manifesting as a large dragon or a handsome teenager, he appeared in the form of a rune that moved and merged with Desmond.

The moment Fury merged with Desmond, the poor bastard sensed it. He turned and looked at Klaus, who gave him a wink, the last thing he saw before a scorching hot flame spread through his soul.

"AAAAAAAAARRGH....BASTARD"

But inasmuch as one would love to be able to kill their opponent with their curse words, Desmond knew it was futile even to resist.

That was because the momentary distraction was all Ophelia needed to put an arrow through his chest.

With that arrow, he knew death was waiting for him. He was making headway, only for Klaus to ruin it.

'Surrender and let me help you live on in some other form. Resist, and I would still get what I wanted, but painfully.' Desmond heard Klaus's voice in his head, but he ignored it.

He instead gritted his teeth and tried to dispel the flame in his soul.

However, when dealing with a forbidden flame, just raising soul defences wouldn't be enough. But, to prove he isn't one to be cornered, he refused to take up the offer Klaus gave him.

Unfortunately for him, aside from Klaus, there was someone else after his life, and she wasn't relaxing one bit. Ophelia managed to drive another arrow through his chest, and a third one was aimed at his forehead.

'Well, looks like you have run out of time. Accept my offer and let me save you, or she will kill you.'

"GO TO HELL"

Ophelia unleashed her arrow after letting out a furious cry.

The arrow carved a silver light filled with killing intent through the air. Desmond tried to defend by raising five-layered defences; however, every last one was shattered, and the arrow embedded itself in his forehead.

Even so, he tried to fight it; however, all light was soon drained from his face. Being pierced through the head is akin to being pierced through the soul.

The arrow Ophelia used was her trump card, so resistance was futile.

Klaus smiled on the side just as he succeeded in giving Seraya another chance. She went for the kill without any delay.

When he turned and looked, the other three Peak Immortals had already been dealt with by Ophelia's four guards, proving they aren't greenhouse flowers.

Of course, the fact that just two of them were able to hold back all five Peak Real Immortals, even if for just a few seconds, proved they aren't weak at all.

So seeing them kill all three of them in a couple of minutes proved they are qualified to protect someone who was able to send a Priority request.

Klaus collected the bodies and waved his hand; his spaceship then appeared.

"I believe it would be wise to leave her, considering dangerous monsters are on their way here."

Ophelia and her guards hesitated, but Klaus flashed his hunter badge, putting them at ease. They entered the ship, and soon, they were several miles away from Planet Nivel.

Forty seconds after they left, three True Immortal-level monsters appeared on the scene. When they saw nobody alive, they started to fight among themselves

Chapter 1295: Klaus's Boss

They soon entered warp, since Icon had personally taken control of the ship and was piloting it. She knew what her master wanted, so she spared no time taking the ship to top speed.

Afterwards, she started to update Klaus.

[Master, it seems you have just saved the daughter of a Star-Lord.]

'Oh, is that so?'

[Yes. From what I could find on her, she is the youngest daughter of Victor Astryx, the Star Lord of the Astryx Star System. He is a Stalla Human, one of the strongest and genetically superior humans in the universe.

They are only a few genetic codes behind the High Humans and God Humans.

I have no idea what his daughter is doing there, but from what I've gathered about her attackers, it seems the Stalla Humans have been in constant conflict with a mercenary family called the Voidbound Corsairs.

The Desmond guy is the youngest son of their leader, a twisted psycho named Ornyx. If I were to guess, you may have just ruined something big for them.]

'Well, that is just great. So if it gets out that I saved the daughter of a Star-Lord by killing the son of a twisted, evil mercenary, I would both be famous and hunted down by a vengeful father and his goons.'

[Among other things, yes.]

'Well, what could be more fun than that?' Klaus grinned, causing Ophelia and her guards to tremble. The crazy look on Klaus's face gave them the creeps.

[The master needs to have his brain checked. From what I know, being hunted down by an Immortal Lord is a death sentence. Of course, the master would become popular, but the danger outweighs the good.]

'I know, Icon, but if you knew my history, you would know an Immortal Lord is but a small problem. I have survived the worst, so why not play around with an Immortal Lord for a while?

I mean, if the heat is too much, I can turn into a monk for a couple of years, right?'

With his Bloodlines awakened so far, he could either become an Elf (9th incarnation/Efad) or a monk (4th incarnation/Fruity).

But once that happened, he would have to keep a low profile for a while until he got his bearings back.

[I suppose the master does have a reason to be cocky. In any case, send the bodies of the mercenaries to the mission hall. I am sure some influential people are sweating, considering this girl's father and her siblings are known to be unreasonable most of the time.]

Klaus smiled and proceeded to do just that. To him, his reward was far more important than the lives of the five people currently speaking telepathically, as they planned what to do if he turned out to be untrustworthy.

Unaware that Klaus could hear every word they were saying, they continued to size him up.

Klaus just ignored them and focused on the important tasks first.

He didn't want to lose his rewards, so the moment Icon told him what he needed to know, he opened the mission interface and quickly transferred the bodies of Desmond and his team as instructed.

He then indicated his role, knowing there would be a follow-up. The people he saved would be interviewed, so he wasn't about to lie.

He killed two True Immortals and two Peak Real Immortals, a feat he knew would spark many conversations among the hunters and the general public.

There is no way in hell the Mission Hall wouldn't use this to sell their PR.

The moment he pressed the 'Rescued' button, a call prompt appeared. It was like the person had been waiting for the button to be pressed. Looking at the caller, he frowned.

'Icon, who is Darius Kinkad?'

[That is your boss. He is the leader of the Dervas Mission Hall.]

'Oh, so my big boss is calling, huh. I'd better not keep him waiting.' Klaus smiled and accepted the call. The moment he did, a hologram of a man who seemed to be in his late 40s appeared.

"Hey, Boss," Klaus said with a wide smile.

Darius furrowed his brow, hearing how he was referred to. However, his reason for calling was more important than a mere name.

"Hunter Renegade?"

"The one and only," Klaus replied, doing away with the smile since he could tell Darius meant business.

"Were you able to save the target?"

"That I did. All five of them are safe and sound, sir."

Darius sighed, visibly happy to hear that.

The past 30 minutes had been the most panicked moments of his life. When he learned the priority target was Star-Lord Victor's daughter, he knew that if she died, he would be in hot water.

Forget Star-Lord Victor; even his oldest daughter, another Immortal Lord, would have made him wish he had never been born.

So when he saw a hunter accept the mission, he became hopeful. However, when he saw that Klaus was a mere C-class hunter and only a level 7 Empyrean, his heart sank.

To make matters worse, Klaus had only recently become a hunter and had completed only three missions.

While they were flawless executions, he knew a priority rescue mission mostly involves True Immortals and above, so someone like Klaus was way out of his league.

However, after he began reviewing the threads related to the Renegade Hunter on the Uniweb, he saw that perhaps there was hope. Klaus had just completed a mission where he killed 11 Immortals, so maybe he could get the job done.

Now, hearing he had saved them, if he could, he would probably give Klaus a kiss. But then he would have died, since the paragon would kill him like he would kill any mortal enemy if he dared kiss him.

"Can I see proof of life?" Darius asked.

"Sure," Klaus turned the communicator toward Ophelia and her guards. "Guys, say hi to my boss."

Of course, they didn't say anything, but seeing them safe and sound made Darius happy.

"I have sent you coordinates to a planet. Transport them there. I will personally meet you there. And keep me updated regularly."

"Okay, sir."

"Good job, Hunter Renegade. You will be rewarded immensely when you deliver them safely." Darius was very grateful. After today, he would very much become Klaus's best friend.

Something Klaus would like very much. The closer he got to the management of the mission hall, the better for him.

"Rest assured, sir, I will safely transport them there."

Darius nodded and hung up the call to contact Ophelia's father. Ophelia and her guards had been cut off from all communication by Desmond and his team.

As mercenaries, they had ways to ensure their targets couldn't call for help. Until they got home and changed their devices, they wouldn't be able to make any calls.

The SOS came from a device that, against all odds, was able to send signals out.

After the call, Klaus settled down in his chair and gave the five passengers a curious look before he let a smile appear on his face.

"So have you guys made up your mind yet... You know, suppressing me and throwing me into rivers of the Dark Universe."

They all turned pale, hearing what they had talked about telepathically blurted out to them. In that instant, all five of them finally arrived at a sudden conclusion...

Their saviour is not simple at all.

Chapter 1296: Danger

[Planet Orit - Star-Lord Victor's POV]

"MONSTER"

Ornyx, the leader of the Voidbound Corsairs, spat red blood on the ground, his face and body littered with painful-looking injuries. Around him, thousands lay dead, some having silver hair, the majority having red hair.

The silver-haired warriors are, of course, the Stella Humans, whereas the red-haired ones are the Blood Humans. Of course, there are several others with different hair colours and body features, some even Beastkins.

But the noteworthy ones are the Blood Humans, the same race the Voidbound Corsairs came from, and of which most of their members are.

Now, they lay scared in the ground, some without heads. When Star Lord Victor said he was coming for blood, he meant every word.

Star-Lord Victor gave a cold smile, his sword buried deep in Ornyx's chest. "I have already warned you that if you dared lay hands on my daughter, I would kill you, but you didn't listen. Now, you have yourself to blame."

"Oh, cut your bullshit. You and I both know if the situation were to be reversed, you would have come after my son, too." Ornyx coughed blood, but grinned, showing his blood-soaked teeth.

"It is a fragment of the Jade Ant Queen's Nest that we are talking about here. Do you think the life of your daughter matters?"

Although there was a sword sticking in his chest, Ornyx didn't seem too bothered. He had sustained countless injuries in the short battle he fought with Star-Lord Victor, a clear sign he wasn't his opponent remotely.

However, he seemed perfectly fine, even running his mouth, further angering Victor.

"For touching my daughter, even if it were for the whole damn map of the Nest, I would still kill you today, just like I slaughtered everyone here."

"What are you waiting for, then? Or do you think I am afraid of you?" Ornyx smirked, then slowly raised his left hand and placed his index finger at the center of his forehead.

"A sword through here will kill me. So don't waste my time and just go on with it," he paused, and then the grin on his face widened. "At least you will be killing this body."

Victor furrowed his brow, taken off guard by what Ornyx said. Seeing his expression, the insidious bald man smiled, feeling a sense of accomplishment.

"Oh, you think I would be stupid enough to bring my real body here for you to kill. Well, joke's on you, Victor. I am not that gullible; however, it seems you are."

"What do you mean?"

"Nothing too serious. It is just that I can't help but wonder what you know about the Jade Ant Queen's Nest. Do you even know the value of those map fragments? What people would do to get their hands on them."

Victor's frown deepened. Where Ornyx was going didn't sit right with him. He could sense something bad coming, and as such, the thought to kill Ornyx passed through his mind.

However, in the end, he decided to listen.

"Hidden inside that Nest are five tokens to enter the Primordial Cave that would open 200 years from today. So you should understand why I had to send my people after your daughter.

She has a fragment that would have narrowed the path for us to obtain even just a single token.

However, since you killed my clone, thereby taking me to low-level Immortal Lord, and maybe even killing my son, I was also forced to activate all assassins in the Dervas Star System after her.

I even called the Blood Shadow Assassins. Soon, she will die, and there is nothing you can do about it."

"BASTARD," Victor screamed and stabbed his other sword through Ornyx's forehead, killing him instantly.

A panicked look appeared on his face, this time genuine, unlike before when he was merely pretending. Suddenly, a call prompt came, and he answered.

"Darius."

"Relax, Victor. Your daughter is safe. One of my hunters saved her and four of her guards, currently en route to Planet Teye."

"No. Reroute them to Planet Baski."

"Why?" Darius asked, surprised by what Victor said.

"Because the old bastard Ornyx placed a bounty on her head, and I think you and I both know there is no place in this universe that bastard can't get people to do his bidding.

So send them to Planet Baski. My oldest daughter is closer to that place. She can meet them. I am on my way there too."

Victor hung up and retrieved an SSS-class spaceship. Without any words, he jumped into it and was gone, leaving the warriors he brought stranded.

While it would take him two weeks to get where he was going, he wouldn't give up just yet.

[Inside Klaus's Spaceship]

"So let me get this straight," Klaus said, taking a deep breath before he continued. "You will be joining the Milky Way Warrior Academy 100 years from today. However, because your planet is under constant attack, your father sent you away to this star system to have a quiet life.

However, instead of doing that, you went about exploring tombs and making waves on the Uniweb, resulting in the same people who had been after you to find you here.

But to make matters worse, you had to show off your wealth by buying a treasure chest in an online auction that you knew would expose you, and even did an unboxing video and posted it online.

In the end, here you are, inside the spaceship of the most awesome and drop-dead gorgeous Hunter in the universe." Klaus flipped his hair back like the narcissist he is and added.

"I may not be the most knowledgeable person in the universe just yet, but I know I wouldn't be that dumb."

"Hey, watch your mouth."

"Do you know who you are talking to here?"

The two female guards, Zosma and Estelle, said, their expressions filled with anger.

"Of course I know. She is the precious daughter of a Star-Lord who thinks that just anywhere, she can flaunt her daddy's power. Now, here you are, cornered like canned beef."

"What is canned beef?" one of the male guards, Erasmus, asked, genuinely seeking an answer.

Klaus just smirked and said nothing to him. However, he truly could not believe the audacity of Ophelia and her guards.

She was supposed to be lying low, away from the eyes of the enemies who sought to get back at her father by killing her or worse, kidnapping her to be used against her father.

However, like any dumb bitch who likes to raise her shoulders and use her father's influence to get away with just anything, she couldn't lie low. In the end, she lost five guards, and she nearly lost her life if not for Klaus's timely intervention.

"This is just the dumbest shit I have ever heard in my entire life." Klaus wasn't angry, just shocked to see such a beautiful lady have little to no technical intelligence.

If she had followed her father's instructions and stayed low, none of this would have happened. She could have even used a fake identity to buy that Treasure chest.

But what did she do? She went and did the opposite.

"What was so damn important that you had to sacrifice five guards for anyway?" Klaus asked, but before he could get any answer from Ophelia, his communicator rang.

Chapter 1297: Blood Shadows

Klaus walks back and answers the call.

Like before, a hologram of Darius appeared, and yet again, his expression is sour.

"Everything alright, sir?" Klaus asked, sensing that something wasn't right. Darius should be happy, considering he managed to save Ophelia for him.

"Where are you currently, hunter renegade?"

[Just passing through the Yhunix Flower Field, about 8 Days out from the coordinate he gave us.] Icon spoke into Klaus's head.

"The Yhunix Flower Field, sir. About 8 days out from the coordinate you gave me."

"Turn around. I have sent the new coordinates to you. I have heard from a credible source that assassins have been sent after the package, and so you can't head for Planet Teye.

Your new destination is Planet Baski, about 6 days from your current location."

"Oh, so it seems they aren't done yet," Klaus said under his breath, taking a sidelong glance at Ophelia and her guards, who seemed panicked.

"As a matter of fact, yes. I cannot send hunters to you, as that would expose your location prematurely, and I cannot send them as a distraction, since the mission hall does not send its hunters to their deaths willingly.

"So you would have to handle this on your own. It is no longer a rescue mission; it is an Extraction. Do you think you can handle that?"

It is the same as saying there are terrifying Immortals coming your way, but since I am not being paid enough for this shit, I can only tell you they are coming.

Klaus isn't too bothered by that. As Darius said, if he were to send more hunters to their aid, it would be either that they would be walking into danger or bringing more danger to Klaus and his package.

The best course of action is to keep a low profile and hopefully arrive on the planet on time. If something were to happen, Klaus would have to handle it.

However, that also won't be simple, not in the slightest. With how advanced technology has become, finding them is only a matter of time.

So, regardless of how Klaus sees it, he would have to kill his way out of this.

Darius seems to think he can handle it. However, they both know it wouldn't be that easy.

"May I know the strength limit of the assassins coming and the name of at least one of them?" Klaus asked first, and depending on the answer, he would know which reply to give Darius.

He was about to raise his shoulders and think he could handle Immortal Lords.

"This is confidential, but the package is in possession of something that everybody wants. However, the item leads to a place that only True Immortals and below can go.

"So I have reasons to believe the enemies coming are within that range. However, be prepared for anything, as this is a world full of individuals who are not shy to be shameless.

"As for the assassins, I have again heard from a credible source that a group of assassins called Blood Shadows is coming."

[The Blood Shadows are an elite female-only assassin group led by a deranged Immortal Lord-level assassin called the Black Widow. They are recognized as deadly and extremely resourceful in completing some of the most difficult assassinations in this galaxy.

They answer only to the highest bidder, and they do not stop until they have completed their task. One last thing: they can find just anyone if they want to, so the master should be ready for anything.

Additionally, I will conduct some investigation on the dark Uniweb for information on this bounty. That would help us know which kind of killers we will be going against.]

'Do that, Icon.'

Klaus didn't want to jinx it, but he knew things were about to get more difficult. 'I would need Maud for this.'

Turning to the side, Klaus gave Ophelia and her guards a glance. Since they heard what Darius said, they all turned pale, fear gripping them.

They've heard of the Blood Shadows, and they know what they are capable of.

Ophelia even lost one of her brothers to their deadly daggers, so she knew all too well the kind of danger she was in. This made her start regretting her dumb life choices that had landed them in this situation.

If she weren't too much of a bitch, she wouldn't have exposed her location that stupidly, leading to Desmond and his men finding her.

Now, they have gone and done it, and the result is the Blood Shadows, along with many others following in on the bounty posted.

Darius looked at Klaus, unsure of what he would say. He himself knew asking a Level 7 Emphyrean to go against Immortals in space, all in the name of saving a dumb bitch, was too much of an ask.

However, right now, Klaus is his best bet. If Ophelia is saved, not only would his relationship with Star-Lord Victor strengthen, but he would gain more recognition in the Milky Way Mission Hall and even the entire Human Universe.

So this is a big deal for him.

"Looks like I have no choice but to show these Blood Shadows who is the boss." Klaus smiled and looked straight at Darius, saying, "Rest assured, sir, I will deliver the package to Planet Baski alive and untouched."

"Good. Do that, and your rewards will be great."

Klaus smiled and nodded. "I like rewards, so don't worry. Let me handle things here."

Darius nodded and hung up.

Klaus turns and looks at the faces staring at him and chuckles. "Why the foul looks? It isn't like you five are going to die or anything."

"You don't get it. There is no escaping from the Blood Shadows or even surviving them. Our best bet is if we manage to find somewhere and hide, and then call for help," Ophelia said, visibly shaking.

Klaus smirked. "Young lady, I may not have lived long enough like you, but trust me, I have lived longer. And in those years I've lived, I faced dangers more threatening than a bunch of assassins dressed in bunny costumes.

They will come, and I will be ready for them, so just sit there, keep quiet, and let me handle this on my own."

Ophelia and her guards turn quiet, their expressions turning even darker.

"Do you really think you can protect us?" Erasmus asked, trying to sound more confident.

"I don't think, I know, so relax and watch how it is done... son."

Under different circumstances, Erasmus would have been pissed if he were called son by a mortal. However, this mortal is their saviour, so he could only swallow his pride.

Klaus formed a hand seal and produced five red scrolls. He brought them to the five people.

"What is this?" Estelle asked, looking at the scrolls before her.

"These are Blood Bind contracts. To save your lives, I am going to do and show things I wouldn't want you five to air out. So sign it and be sure to abide by the content of the scroll, else your souls would be Blood Mammoths to claim."

Klaus chuckled. "You can read first and then sign with your blood afterwards."

Chapter 1298: Map Fragment

Klaus stood tall, his expression calm as he gazed at the five Stella humans holding the scrolls. On the scroll, it showed that the one who would enforce the contract was Mammoth, one of the Blood Deities.

There are three of them, but Blood Mammoth was the strongest and most evil.

To go against such a deity is to go against the heavens—at least that is what they mostly say. However, in reality, the Great Blood Mammoth, whom everyone feared, was actually a certain redhead vampire who created that persona to cause fear and panic.

There is no deity called Blood Mammoth. It was all the paragons doing.

However, the contracts are real.

If they violate it, Klaus would have the power to annihilate their souls. So, since he wants to be cautious, ensuring that they wouldn't reveal the things he would be doing to just anyone, signing the contract is the best bet.

If they somehow survive this ordeal, then aside from what he would tell them to say when asked questions, they wouldn't be able to say anything else.

Even if they were subjected to lie detection, they would pass because the contract would ensure that. Of course, Klaus isn't about to tell them he is the paragon.

But he would be using some forbidden weapons and techniques, so it was better to be safe than sorry.

After reading through, they turned toward Klaus as if to ask if he was serious, but looking at the expression on his face, they already knew his answer.

So they sighed, and under their watchful gaze, the scrolls turned to ash. The ash then transformed into two runes, one merging with Klaus's forehead and the other with their own.

"Good. Now, sit and relax. I will take things from here onwards."

Klaus walked back to his seat and began talking to Icon.

'What did you find, Icon?'

[There is indeed a bounty on her. However, it is more serious than we thought. Apparently, the chest Ophelia bought during the online auction contained a map fragment that led to a portion of the Jade Ant Queen's Nest.

Now, if you don't know about the Jade Ant Queen's Nest, it is one of the last remaining nests from the Star Monarch's Era.

I believe, as someone who lived during that Era, you know a thing or two about those nests.]

"That I do. But I have never heard of the Jade Ant Queen; however, I know the Nest is like a treasure chest waiting to be plundered."

[Indeed, and this lady has a map fragment of that Nest. So, you can only imagine the kind of heat it has created when the criminal underworld became aware.

Even worse, a bounty of five billion Heavens Crystals has been placed on her, and as you would expect, those criminals are coming like ants.

Aside from the Blood Shadows, some of the criminals from planet Yahmir are coming. And the Voidbound Corsairs are also coming.]

'Well, looks like things aren't going to be as simple as I thought.'

[Yes, Master. The destination given in the bounty is Planet Nivel, so it wouldn't be long before they catch up to us.]

'I'd better prepare. This is going to be a wild ride for the next few days.' Klaus chuckled inwardly and let his mind calm down. There was no need to panic when things hadn't even started yet.

They have 6 days of flight to get to Planet Baski. That is 6 days of nonstop battle...

'Go into combat mode and use your scanners to the max. I want to know whenever you pick up a threat. To win this, I have to be ahead of them every step of the way, so keep me updated.'

[Okay, Master.]

Suddenly, the lights in the ship turned red, indicating that they had entered combat mode. Klaus sat down and brought out the Blood Calamity Core.

Without wasting time, he activated the Nine Star Paragon Diagram and started absorbing the essence of the core under the watchful gaze of Ophelia and her guards.

They are Immortals, so they recognised the core Klaus was absorbing. However, inasmuch as they would love to get their hands on it for themselves, they aren't that stupid or greedy.

Klaus is their only hope, as ridiculous as that may sound.

So they could only sit there and watch him absorb it. If the situation wasn't that dire, they would have made a different choice, perhaps even killing Klaus for it.

But then again, regardless of how it may go, they know Klaus is not easily killed, so watching him is the best thing for them.

However, their minds were quickly pulled away from greed eating at their heart to the realization of how ridiculously fast Klaus was absorbing the core.

'Just how is this even possible? How is he absorbing the core that fast?' Ophelia asked her guards telepathically, and they nodded, their expressions filled with shock.

The core is reducing in size as the seconds pass, something that should have only been possible if he had been absorbing it continuously over days.

However, within seconds, Klaus had absorbed more than even a True Immortal would have managed.

'Is he one of those freaks Lady Rory has been talking about whenever she returns from the Academy?'

'I mean, look at him. It had only been a minute, but it looks like he is about to reach the Level 8 Emyrean stage. That is just not possible, unless he is one of them.'

'If he is one of them, then what is he doing being a Hunter?' Ophelia asked.

That question Ophelia asked left everyone unsure of what to think. Every galaxy has an Academy that accepts only the best of the best.

All disciples are cared for and provided with top-tier resources to foster their growth. So, if Klaus is one of the monsters in such academies, why is he also a hunter?

That just does not make sense.

No disciple would even consider becoming a hunter, regardless of how rewarding it may be.

'Then, if he isn't from the Academy, does that mean he is a rogue warrior?'

They quickly wiped that thought from their minds.

There was no way in hell a rogue warrior would be that awesome. Even if they didn't see how he killed the two True Immortals, just the fact that he was able to kill two more Peak Real Immortals told them all they had to know.

So, if such a person doesn't have a strong backer, then how is he this ridiculously strong? Just the thought of that made them all start to see Klaus in a new light... just like how he wanted them to.

However, he wasn't done. Within a span of three hours, Klaus moved from Level 7 Emphyrean to Level 9. However, before he could reach the peak, the essence in the core ran out.

But that didn't bother Klaus in the least. He actually wanted not to be at the peak, since he didn't want to break through accidentally.

But while the essence is drained, what he had been hoping for revealed itself the moment the last essence was drained from the core.

"An Immortal Ring," Ophelia and her guards muttered, looking hungrily at the red immortal ring hovering before Klaus.

Chapter 1299: Immortal Ring

The immortal ring hovering before Klaus used to belong to a Bloodfiend-type beast, so it is perfectly understandable that it is red and oozing with blood qi.

It is circular, with its surface etched with glowing blood-red runes and fractured Roman sigils. It has four circles, each housing a skull-like rune.

To immortals, such a ring would not only come with its own ability when absorbed, but the damage output of their skills would also become several times stronger than one might imagine.

Most say it increases the strength of an immortal by 10%. However, records show some people gain up to a 35% boost from just a single Immortal Ring.

If they have two and they have the body to harness the power of both, then even if five True Immortals face a single True Immortal with two immortal rings, the winner would undoubtedly be the one with double immortal rings.

Aside from that, it also makes it easy to ascend through the ranks of immortality; the more rings one has, the easier it is.

Forming it is hard and expensive. However, inheriting it from a Calamity-type beast is the easiest. They are hard to kill, especially if they have an immortal ring, but when one manages to get their hands on just a single calamity core, they will automatically have an immortal ring.

Even gods wouldn't dare underestimate Calamity Beasts. So for Klaus to have the core of one is already shocking.

"He isn't about to absorb it, is he?" Estelle asked, looking at Klaus and the immortal ring. The rest of the guards and Ophelia all kept wondering the same thing.

Klaus is no immortal, so he wouldn't dare absorb an Immortal Ring. If he dared attempt, his death would be excruciating.

Of course, he could store it for when he needed it, but that would be a waste since the longer an immortal ring remains unabsorbed, its power diminishes.

Giving it to one of them to absorb is the best move if Klaus wants to. They would have a good use for it.

However, the five Real Immortals have no idea they are about to witness yet another shocking sight.

'Icon, what do you think? Can I absorb an immortal ring?'

[I don't see a reason why the master can't. From what I have observed, the master has 9 cores that can be considered immortal cores, so absorbing the immortal ring is possible.

Even better, the immortal ring seems to resonate well with your 3rd and 7th cores. So, since you had awakened your bloodline for the seventh core, I believe you should go for it.]

'That is all I want to hear.' Klaus smiled and gave the five immortals a sidelong glance before gently reaching for the Immortal Ring.

"What is he doing?" Kaiz, the other male Real Immortal in Ophelia's guards, asked, watching as Klaus reached for the immortal ring.

"I think he is about to absorb it."

"But how? He is mortal."

"I know that."

Before any of them could process anything, Klaus touched the immortal ring, causing it to shine brighter like the blood red sun.

All five of them closed their eyes, Klaus included.

Klaus appeared inside the soul sea, standing in the river of space. It looked dazzling, almost like a multicolored cosmic sea.

"Damn, this place is now beautiful," Klaus muttered, feeling happy.

After reaching the Level 9 Empyrean stage, it seemed his soul sea had undergone some changes. Now, looking as far as his eyes could take him, all he could see was a vast, stretched, multicolored sea.

It isn't exactly a river, but also not a cloud. It looks cosmic and ancient yet beautiful. "I will call it Aurora," Klaus laughed, feeling accomplished as he gazed at the vast sea.

Inside Aurora are nine miniature stars or maybe planets, moons, or even suns. They don't quite resemble any of them, but they also bear a resemblance to all of them.

"I will just refer to them as stars."

Klaus appeared like a god, overlooking all nine stars. He holds the power over all nine stars. So as he looked at them shine bright in the Aurora sea, a feeling of power surged within him.

Suddenly, a red light shot into the Aurora sea, causing Klaus to will himself to appear inside that star. When he did, the most terrifying sight awaited him.

There, under the blood-red sky, hangs a blood-red scythe that Klaus knew all too well. Around it is a blood-red immortal ring oozing with power.

Inside the ring is a large eye, dripping with malice. Even Klaus, who isn't easily shaken, felt his back break into a cold sweat as he gazed at this sight.

Just looking at it was enough to scare Klaus, and it was real fear, but also buried emotions slowly being awakened within him.

Looking at that massive, elongated crescent blade with a brutal, predatory curve, a skull ornament partially embedded into the blade at the base, a long and twisted handle formed from dark, near-black metal shaped as interwoven veins, and thin spike-like thorns protruding at irregular intervals on the handle, Klaus felt like shedding tears.

Although nobody would remember this scythe in the modern era, considering all who had seen it had died, it was a weapon that had accompanied the paragon of war for ages during his seventh incarnation.

It had claimed the lives of many immortals, demigods, gods, and even a few supremes. Although he had longed to taste celestial blood, that chance never came.

However, the number of immortal and god blood it had consumed rivaled the [Blood Sanguine] sword used by the Asura god.

"Bloodwork," Klaus muttered, and the scythe trembled, releasing a massive amount of blood qi.

"I've missed you so much, buddy," Klaus said, extending his hand. Bloodwork trembled slightly, and then he flew and entered Klaus's firm grip.

A wave of energy burst out from his body...

On the outside, Klaus's eyes turned red as a wave of blood qi exploded out of his body. The five immortals instantly went pale the moment the energy washed over them.

Then, as if that wasn't enough, Klaus's clothes started changing into a living armor designed to fit someone who is about to commit an unholy massacre.

His body was wrapped in dark armor with patches of red. It is a long-sleeved garment that came about from a pair of arm guards that stuck to his arm like skin.

He had a pair of boots that ended in spikes.

On his chest is a red skull oozing with red energy.

Suddenly, Bloodwork materialized in Klaus's hand, causing the five immortals to tremble again, this time Estelle and Erasmus even passing out.

The sight of the scythe scared them to near death. But that wasn't even all. Just when the rest were about to ask what happened to him, a red immortal ring appeared around the scythe.

The energy that came out from the immortal ring scared them to the point that they all shut their mouths.

Klaus pretended he didn't see them. Instead, he took out his phone and took a selfie. He would show it to his wives later. His white hair is tied into a ponytail, a few strands falling on the side of his face.

Well, if having such a gothic look doesn't make him stand out, then his hair is merely a cosplay. He was supposed to have red hair, but since he had no plan on blowing his cover as a criminal, he maintained his white hair.

[Master, I have spotted a spaceship coming. ETA, 3 minutes.]

'Good. Drop out of warp and let me see what we are dealing with.'

Chapter 1300: Bloodwork

[The Skyfire Mercenaries]

Inside a fish-like spaceship, five individuals, each clad in red and black leather armour, sat in their respective chairs, watching a large screen displaying their position and the target they were pursuing.

They are the Skyfire mercenaries, a five-man group of four Real Immortals and a True Immortal. Just as many others accepted the bounty on Ophelia, they also chose to try their luck.

Luckily for them, they were much closer to Planet Nivel when the bounty was posted, so they rushed over first.

By the time they arrived, Klaus had already left. However, he left behind a trail, one that only a high-quality scanner could find.

Many spaceships leave behind a trail in the form of the energy they are running on. With a powerful enough scanner, one could read and track it,

So, the moment they pick a reading on that energy, all it took was following the trail, which was now leading them to their target.

If not for them possessing SS-class scanners, finding Klaus would have been impossible. Although not all SS-class scanners could do that, since there are many different energy sources out there, they were fortunate to have one that could track Klaus's.

"They have just dropped out of the dark universe layer," one of them said, watching as the colour of Klaus's spaceship, indicated on the screen, changed from black to silver.

"Looks like they know we are after them, so they are getting ready to attack us. Can you get a read on how many people are inside?"

"No, leader. They seem to be in an S-class spaceship. Our Heat Sensor scanner isn't strong enough for that."

"Then increase the speed and catch up to them. Getting a map fragment and an S-class spaceship as loot wouldn't be too bad." The leader of the Skyfire mercenaries laughed, and his team laughed with him.

Suddenly, the image of Klaus's spaceship appeared in the distance, allowing them all to see. Soon, they began to close the gap between them.

"It looks like they are slowing down."

"It seems so. Are they perhaps looking to surrender?"

"It is unlikely; however, I wouldn't rule out that option. Even so, keep alert and be ready for combat."

Suddenly, the details on the screen changed. "Huh."

"What is it?" the leader asked.

"Leader, it seems there are five Real Immortals and a Level 9 Empyrean on that ship." For some reason, they were now able to see the strength of the people inside the spaceship.

However, upon hearing the strength level of their opponents, they all became puzzled for a few seconds. They never expected their targets to be this weak.

Now that they knew, all that was left was killing them. "Increase speed."

Their pilot did as he was told. However, a few minutes later, another strange thing happened. Klaus's ship suddenly stopped.

This again took them by surprise. However, their leader reacted quickly.

"Prepare weapons, raise shields, and close the gap."

The leader gave the command, and they obeyed.

Meanwhile, inside Klaus's spaceship, Klaus stood, his scythe resting on his shoulder as he also watched the enemy close in rapidly.

'They took the bait.'

[Indeed. The only thing left is for them to get within a 20-mile range, and they would be toast. I even allowed them to see the strength level of the people inside the spaceship.]

Klaus smiled and turned to Ophelia and his guards. Estelle and Erasmus woke up after a few minutes.

"No matter what happens, none of you should come out unless I say so."

They nodded and remained seated. Klaus liked their attitude, so he didn't give them a hard time. Instead, he let go of the bloody scythe, allowing it to hover beside him.

The five immortals shuddered as they looked at this weapon. To them, it felt like just looking at it would claim their souls. They are that terrified.

Klaus didn't mind them, and he retrieved a laser gun from his space ring. It is one of the A-class Laser guns he got from the bandits.

'Icon, keep my heat signature alive inside the space ring,' Klaus said to Icon before vanishing into the void. Since they are now scanning them, if one of them were to disappear, they would know something is wrong.

Thankfully, Icon is helpful in this regard.

With the spaceship brought to a halt, the enemy quickly closed the gap.

"Be ready for anything, guys." The Skyfire mercenaries were also ready for Klaus.

Eventually, they were 25 miles away from Klaus's spaceship. However, before they could enter the 20-mile radius, the pilot brought the ship to a halt.

"Something isn't right," he said. However, before he could elaborate, the void opened, and Klaus stepped out, laser gun charged.

"Yippee-ki-yay, motherfuckers." Klaus grinned, and then he pressed the trigger.

"Reinforce shields." The leader of the Skyfire mercenaries shouted as he gripped his sword tightly.

A shield generated by him surrounded the ship, reinforcing the ship's own. However, it only appeared briefly before being shattered by the beam forged from the latter.

It shattered as if it were made of glass.

BANG

The beam then slammed into the spaceship's shield. However, the moment it did, it flickered and then dimmed.

"SCATTER—"

BOOM

The spaceship exploded, ejecting all five passengers. The screams of most of them could be heard as they were flung into space like flies. One of them even died after the laser blew away his head.

The others didn't fare any better, including their leader.

'Seraya, finish off the Real Immortals.' From the void, the curved blade appeared and flashed forward, aimed at one of the Real Immortals.

Meanwhile, Klaus entered the void again.

Thirty miles from the explosion, the leader of the Skyfire Mercenary team, who is mainly referred to as Skyfire, coughed up blood, half his body burned beyond recognition.

"Damn it," he coughed again and was about to wipe the blood when the void trembled.

Instinctively, he raised his sword just as a blood-red scythe appeared from the void and landed on his sword.

CRACK

The space under him cracked, and waves of energy poured out, causing Klaus to smile. The force behind the attack pushed Skyfire back, his sword cracking in more than one place.

"You are bleeding," Klaus said, as if concerned, when in fact, his expression was anything but concerned.

Skyfire staggered backwards through the air, boots scraping against fractured space as he struggled to regain balance. Blood drifted from his mouth in glowing droplets, moving toward the scythe Klaus held.

Every drop is absorbed by it, making Klaus' grin widen. The more blood consumed by Bloodwork, his scythe, the stronger it becomes.

Skyfire spat blood, but it flew toward the scythe, adding to Klaus's strength. Seeing this, his eyes burned with rage.

"You are dead." Skyfire unleashed his immortal ring, raising his strength by 15%. His sword trembled, and the sword aura burst out, creating a pillar of light. At once, a sharpness unlike anything filled the air.

Klaus merely smiled and muttered to Bloodwork, "Let's use the move and cut his head off once and for all."

The scythe trembled again, unleashing a terrifying blood aura that created a large scythe image in the air.

Klaus gripped the scythe with both hands and lifted it. The image in the air turned to mist and moved, entering the scythe as if it were feeding.

"BLOOD CUT"