

Paragon 1361

Chapter 1361: Claiming Rewards

After Klaus and Rory left, they went straight to the mission hall.

"How can I help you today, sir?" Maybe because part of his hair was covering half of his face, the lady who greeted him didn't recognise him. However, when Klaus flipped his hair, the lady's eyes widened.

"R-Renegade Hunter,"

Klaus smiled while Rory maintained her straight face. She was still thinking about Klaus accepting an Advanced Mission.

To her, that was worth thinking of than paying attention to what Klaus does with his hair.

"Kindly follow me, Renegade Hunter." Klaus and Rory were led inside, and then, under the stunned looks on everyone's faces, he stepped onto a levitating board with the lady and Rory and was led up.

They went straight to the last floor, where the moment Klaus stepped out, he felt like he had stepped into a special environment. The air in that place is clean and filled with energy.

It was as if someone went out of their way to purify the air there.

"You can relax here. I will handle everything." Klaus nodded and sat down. Rory followed. The lady poured them a glass of wine, which, with just a single sip, Klaus realised was no ordinary wine.

"Good wine," he muttered before taking another sip.

Seeing the stunned look appear on his face, the lady smiled and walked away.

The signing bonus he was given after the special deal with the Mission Hall is rather generous. But having a good wine while they redeem it for him is even better.

He would be taking home 4 billion Heaven's Crystals, an A-class flame-powered laser gun, an SS-class spaceship, access to S-tier mission information, and a Hunter Pass that he can use to shop at any mission hall treasury.

It can be used to purchase anything as long as the cost does not exceed 1 billion Heaven's Crystals, and it provides a 10% discount.

The offer was generous, so he understood why someone like Immortal Lord Ingix would oppose giving it to him.

To her, there are many SS-class and SSS-class hunters who have accomplished so much that making them Unique Hunters would be better.

But even if he deserves to be a Unique Hunter, the 4 billion Heaven's Crystal as the signing bonus given to him was just too much. Many hunters go their entire lives without seeing half of what Klaus had received.

Klaus is, of course, happy to receive this much reward from just his signing bonus. As for the stipends, he would receive 20% more from missions, and well, every 100 years, he would receive a bonus of 5 billion Heaven's Crystals.

Aside from that, he would be invited to all VIP auctions organised by the mission hall. He also has access to the Missions Archive in both the physical and virtual universe.

Basically, he can afford to use all ten of his bodies and even go further, making sure each has the best resources to grow stronger, thanks to the wealth the mission has for him.

He had no plans on wasting time now that he knew the universe was hanging by a thread.

"Holding the wine is different from drinking it, Rory," Klaus said, smiling at Rory, who merely had her glass of wine in her hands instead of taking sips and savouring the taste.

"I don't drink cheap wine," she said in a nonchalant tone. Klaus merely smirked and focused on drinking his wine.

Once everything is done here, he will head to the Warrior Tower, which is only two days away. From there, he would wait for his main body to handle his time on Earth before going to the academy.

Walking into the maw of Heaven's Court must be done with his main body. The moment his main body takes over, this body will go to Planet Nivel. Then, when he picks up the spaceship Sera had gotten him, he will resume his trip to the Beasts Universe.

He would find a way to ensure his paragon body has a smooth ride. Klaus already has an idea of how to make himself popular in that body.

After all, he wants to shake the universe this time around, and what better way to do that than by making himself popular.

For now, he had everything figured out.

"Are you really accepting that advanced mission?" Rory suddenly asked.

"Of course. It sounded like those long ears needed help, so I might as well offer my help," Klaus chuckled, then asked, "Are you worried about me?"

Rory smirked, but she seemed a bit concerned.

However, as someone who had already been cold toward Klaus for obvious reasons, she couldn't bring herself to say the words she would have said if she and Klaus were friends.

Seeing this, the shameless Klaus moved toward her and said in a rather serious tone, "Obviously, you look concerned for my safety. But while that is sweet and all, those people need help, and since I believe I can be that help, I would have to go.

But even if I don't care about the elves, just the idea of killing a bunch of demon scums is all the reason I need to go. Also, I like danger, so I might as well jump into one and make sure I enjoy every last moment of it."

Rory stared at him long and hard and said:

"You are weird."

"I get that a lot."

"For what it's worth, I think you are brave. However, know when to show restraint. I know these people have high expectations for you, and for that, you want to prove yourself, but know that in this life, there are many important things better than seeking validation."

"I will take that to heart, Grandma."

Rory frowned. "Who are you calling Grandma?"

"You, of course. You are over 10,000 years old, so it is normal to call you a grandma. I tried being your friend, but it seems I was merely an infant in your eyes."

"You..."

Klaus shifted away, making sure he added some distance between himself and the frustrated Rory. The fact that Klaus doesn't see her as an Immortal Lord seems okay to her.

However, just from the way he acts, it is clear he thinks they are friends or even age-mates.

That is a bit frustrating because to her, Klaus is merely an infant.

But what if she can give him the benefit of the doubt and become his friend? That would, in a way, make things a bit more normal between them.

Suddenly, the door opened, and Lord Darius, Lord Declain, and Lady Ingix walked into the room. With them joining, the room turned a bit lively.

A couple of minutes later, the lady came holding a customized space ring containing the spaceship and the other items.

The money was deposited into his bank account linked to his hunter profile.

After a few more talks with the three Immortal Lords, Klaus and Rory left and headed for their spaceship. Rory also has an SS-class spaceship, so they will be using hers for the trip.

Once they are back on Planet Baski and complete the mission Lord Victor had given him, he would start using his.

"See you around, Lord Darius," Klaus waved at his new best friend before they took off and vanished into the clouds. Soon, they entered the Dark Universe Channel and started travelling to Planet Fiapre.

That is the planet the Warrior Tower headquarters is on.

Chapter 1362: Mission Details

Just as they entered the dark universe channel, Klaus took out his phone to read the details of the mission he had received from Sir Lux.

It is confidential, so he sat at the back and decided to review it.

[Mission Name]: Operation Sylvaris Dawn

[Mission Rank]: Advanced

[Location]: Sylvaris Planetary System (Unregistered Planetary System)

[Target]: The Infernal Crown — a notorious demon syndicate of 85,000 capable demon warriors. They operate under the Ebon Sovereign, a space demon whose innate talent allows him to influence the space around him.

[Reward]: 10 billion Heaven's Crystal + 12,000 Hunter Points, other rewards.

[Mission Requirements]: Unique Mission

[Mission Description]:

→ The Ebon Sovereign is a unique demon bandit whose innate talent allows him to bend space to his will. He can render a space under his control, making him always aware of what is happening around him.

→ 3 years ago, he and his team of 85,000 demons, including the three Obsidian Warlords and three Infernal Triumvirate under the command of a demon god, attacked the Sylvaris planetary system.

→ Using an amplifier, the Ebon Sovereign was able to render twelve planets within the Sylvaris system inaccessible to anyone above the True Immortal stage.

"I knew it," Klaus muttered, causing Rory to turn and look at him. "Knew what?" she asked.

"Highly confidential documents here, my dear."

"Tsk, as if I wouldn't know something so basic." Rory turned from Klaus, but a small smile could be seen at the corner of her lips.

"Know what?" Klaus asked, his gaze narrowing.

"Confidential information, brat." And that is how Klaus's own words were used against him, only that it stung more than Rory felt it.

"Touché."

"What do you know?" Klaus asked, turning away from what he was reading. Rory looked at him for a few minutes before she spoke.

"All I know is that the Elves had created a planetary system using unregistered planets. They had been using them to build experimental weapons for reasons unknown.

I know there is more to it, but that is all my father told me. If you want to know more, you can ask him when we return.

However, 3 years ago, the demons used a long-distance teleporter to teleport a demon warlord and thousands of demons to one of the planets in the system.

There are many missing details that suggest a much deeper issue is at play behind the scenes. Of course, as to what that was, nobody can tell.

But a colleague of mine from the academy tried to enter one of the planets, only to find out that, aside from True Immortals and below, nobody higher than that can enter, not even a god.

And since it is an unregistered planetary system, the warrior temple and Heaven's court chose not to send anybody to their aid. The Elves tried many times, but after thousands had died, they stopped."

Rory paused for a few seconds...

"One thing I don't understand is, if the demons were able to render the entire planetary system restricted to the point only True Immortals and below can enter, how come they haven't yet taken the entire planetary system, but only six planets?"

Klaus scanned the mission details but found no answer.

This made him raise his brow. "Sir Lux said that in three years, the place will become too dangerous for anyone to be advised to enter there. This means whatever is preventing the demons will stop working after three years."

Rory nodded. "It seems so. However, there is one thing I don't understand. If this mission is restricted to True Immortals and below, then sending more True Immortals there would be a waste.

The Ebon Sovereign, from what I know, has already reached the High-Level Immortal Emperor stage with not less than three Immortal Rings.

However, what is more dangerous about him is his mastery of space law. He is very good, even better than me. He is one of those rare demons with innate talents geared toward a specific law.

So if that kind of person is the one involved, what can an Early Immortal do?"

"Ouch, that felt directed. However, I suppose you are right. I need more information on this Ebon Sovereign. He sounds like a danger."

"He is a danger."

"I know. But that doesn't change my standing, though. Aside from the thrill of killing such a person, there is also the issue of discovering what can prevent someone who has rendered an entire planetary system restricted from making a move on six planets, probably loaded with weapon secrets."

"So you want to use the mission to find out what the Elves were up to," Rory asked, a bit stunned.

"This is a dangerous universe, Rory. Making sure I have the means to protect myself and those I love is a must. I would not waste such a chance."

"Good luck, I suppose. Just know that at the end of the day, you must defeat that monster before you can leave. All who enter his restriction cannot leave until he allows you to, or he is dead, or you are dead."

Klaus turned back to the mission details, and from all he read, Rory seemed to have said everything already.

The mission, in the end, made him understand that aside from merely entering the planetary system, he also had to figure out what had happened that not even the Elves could make sense of.

"This mission is going to be fun for sure," Klaus smiled, then adjusted his chair to turn it into a recliner.

"So after the mission, where do you plan to go?" Klaus asked Rory.

"I don't have to go anywhere. I will stay and handle my cultivation. Unlike you, I have to form Immortal Rings like normal people."

Klaus chuckled. "I didn't ask the heavens to bless me with an Immortal Ring. They delivered it to me in the form of a calamity core, and so you can only blame those who had the balls to go against a calamity beast."

Rory turned away from him.

Klaus didn't even want to bother searching anywhere on the Uniweb, since even if the mission hall didn't know, there was a good chance he wouldn't find anything useful.

Regardless, Icon decided to conduct a thorough search while Klaus focused on reviewing the mission details again.

Meanwhile, back on the planet where Klaus had the main tribulation, the cocoon cracked and soon shattered.

He came out looking incredibly powerful.

Since he had the main tribulation there, he was able to push his cultivation to the Medium level, compared to his main body, which is only a Low-Level Early Immortal.

Shocking enough, that body has formed an Immortal Ring, something he could have inherited from the main body.

But now that he has an Immortal Ring, he can use that body to temporarily take two more Immortal Rings from his wives when he has to go out.

The idea is to make that body a threat. He wants to become the most wanted criminal in the universe. So showing three Immortal Rings as an Early Immortal would, without a doubt, make him a threat.

Then, when the Paragon appears, he would have five Immortal Rings, which he would also take from his wives. In the end, the main body would be the weaker but also the most dangerous, since he would have Space, Void, Gravity, and Time Laws at his disposal.

After he came out of the cocoon, he left for the next planet with Maud. It was time to advance the Heaven-Defying Body, which, surprisingly, all his bodies seemed to have.

This meant that if one body advanced, the others would experience the change as well.

"It is all coming together gradually."

Two days later, they arrived on Planet Fiapre.

Chapter 1363: Unwelcomed

The moment Klaus and Rory entered Planet Fiapre's atmosphere, they sensed 12 powerful auras lock onto their bodies.

It was as if they had been waiting for them, so the moment they entered the planet's atmosphere, they made their move.

A silver bow appeared in Rory's hand, her gaze turning cold. She is a warrior, so the moment she sensed danger, the first thing she did was pull out her weapon.

As for Klaus, he remained seated in his chair, a smug smile appearing on his face.

On the outside, twelve Immortal Lords stood in the air, staring daggers at the spaceship as it started to slow down. None of them moved toward the ship, but they showed no sign of taking their gaze off it.

"Relax, Rory. If they wanted to cause trouble, they would have already attacked. And even if they are here to cause trouble, only you aren't enough to handle them, so relax and let them make the first move."

Rory said nothing, but she lowered her bow.

"I can kill at least seven of them before they get to me," she suddenly said, making sure she was heard by the twelve Immortal Lords before summoning her bow back into her soul sea.

Klaus smiled but said nothing otherwise. He, on the other hand, was out of his league, so he knew not to make any move that would make things worse.

He had fought an Immortal Lord before, but these ones are way out of his league. Blood shadow is much weaker compared to this bunch.

Rory is an Immortal Lord with six Immortal Rings, so it was normal for her to make such bold claims.

The moment the spaceship docked, the twelve Immortal Lords appeared before the gate. It opened, and Klaus walked out first, a smile playing on his face.

"Hello, seniors. I don't suppose you know the direction to the Warrior Tower?" Klaus asked, turning to face the twelve Immortal Lords.

He may not have the means to face them in combat, but he is also not afraid of dying. He knows they wouldn't dare touch Rory, so he can be arrogant to some extent. Even if they were to kill him, he would just create a new body.

'They seem to have a calm expression, so at least that is a good sign.'

Klaus turned and looked at Rory, who stood behind him, her expression locked on the strongest of the twelve Immortal Lords.

He is a High Human with a razor-sharp aura that reveals he is a swordsman. He was the one Klaus paid the most attention to.

His aura shows he is even stronger than Rory.

"I am Night Blade, the head elder of the Warrior Tower on Planet Fiapre." The High Human introduced himself, then a frown appeared on his face. "You are the Renegade Hunter."

"That is me."

"What is your real name?" Night Blade asked, causing Klaus to narrow his eyes a bit. However, he smiled and answered.

"Klaus." He paused and stared at him for a few seconds. "Klaus Hanson."

"Tell me, Klaus Hanson. Why did you come here?" His question made Klaus frown. He knew they were already aware of his arrival, so why ask such a meaningless question?

"Uhm, Lord Flux came to me with the request to become a warrior under the Warrior Tower, so I guess that is why I am here."

"That won't be necessary. The Warrior Tower doesn't need a poster boy," Night Blade said, letting out a smirk.

Klaus hummed, then he turned to Rory. "You heard the man. I am not wanted here, so let's go."

Rory nodded and walked back to the ship. Meanwhile, Klaus turned back to Night Blade. "Tell Lord Flux I said hi."

With that, he walked back to the ship, and before long, they were gone. Everything happened so fast that none of them expected Klaus to act so simply. But they got what they wanted.

After they were gone, Night Blade looked at the others standing beside him and asked, "What now?"

"We report to the Warrior Tower that he came to reject the invite, thereby breaking the contract."

He nodded and retrieved a communicator to make a call. However, as if the person he was about to call knew he was about to call, his communicator rang...

This made him frown.

"What did you do?" Lord Flux's angry face appeared, causing Night Blade to take a few steps back. Their plan backfired, and that is plain from how angry Lord Flux looks.

"Lord Flux,"

"I ask, what did you do?"

Night Blade sucked in a deep breath and spoke, "I merely followed the Lord Supreme's instruction."

Lord Flux's gaze narrowed. "Is the Celestial Council aware?"

Night Blade did not respond.

However, one could tell Lord Flux was pissed beyond reason. The work he had done was dismantled because some people felt uneasy about granting Klaus the privileges the warrior Tower had promised him.

Lord Flux hung up the call and quickly dialed someone else's number. A second later, the person picked up. It was the face of a lady who seemed a bit bored to be talking this early morning.

"What now, Flux?"

"Supreme Lord Juo and his people drove the Renegade Hunter away."

"What?" The dullness on her face cleared in an instant. "When?"

"Just now. He came to the headquarters to register as I told him, but before he could even land, he was driven away. He called to inform me, and from the way he sounded, it seemed he wanted nothing to do with us anymore."

"Bastards." Lord Flux shuddered, looking at the furious expression that had appeared on the lady's face. She is a supreme, so despite appearing as a hologram, he felt threatened.

"Find a way to pacify him. I will handle the rest on my end. Even if you have to add more to what we already offered him, do it. Just make sure the bridge doesn't burn completely."

"I will do my best."

The call ended, and Lord Flux quickly dialed another number. A few seconds later, Lord Victor's projection appeared.

"Flux, what now?"

Lord Flux smiled faintly. "I need your help again, Victor."

From the moment Klaus sensed the gaze of the twelve Immortal Lords, he knew things wouldn't end peacefully, so he tasked Icon to record everything.

This way, when the time came, he would have video evidence to show everyone he wasn't at fault. Lord Victor had already told him he mustn't reject their offer.

However, he isn't the kind of person who will put up with just any nonsense.

Of course, his plan for the future depended on ensuring that, within the Warrior Temple, his name carried some respect and his achievements could not be denied.

So making sure he joined them was a must. But if they didn't want him, then he wouldn't sell himself so low to the point that he would appear desperate.

He had to have that respect and dignity. He had to have that aura that would make them want him. So if they wanted him gone, he wouldn't argue.

He left, and while he had nowhere else to go, he decided to never turn back to Planet Fiapre and, if possible, never step there ever again.

They didn't want him, so he didn't want them either.

Chapter 1364: New Deal

"So let me get this straight, you came begging me to help you get to the Renegade Hunter only for your people to send him packing when he hadn't even taken a step into your ranks," Lord Victor said, his eyes narrowed.

"I know it is bad, Victor. But..."

"There is no but here, Flux. You had a good chance to make a good impression on a young talent like him, and you blew it.

Now, when he hears about the Warrior Tower, all that comes to mind is how much they hate him. Being sent away by twelve Immortal Lords isn't exactly something he would love."

It can be said that the main reason Klaus chose to meet the representatives from the Warrior Tower and the academy was Lord Victor.

While Klaus already had plans to join them somehow, Lord Victor made it happen. So he knew just what the Warrior Tower had lost because of their arrogance.

"Victor, you should know that not all of us wanted him gone. The order came from one of the Twelve Supreme Elders. His people did all this, so if you can help talk to the Renegade Hunter not to burn all bridges with us, I will owe you one."

"You already owe me one, Flux. What makes you think I want to help you again when you haven't yet paid me back?"

"Please, Victor. My leader wants this deal with him to happen, and I cannot fail her."

Lord Victor stayed silent for a few minutes before he nodded. "I will see what I can do. But remember, whatever he says, you must remember that and honour it. He had already risked his life by coming all the way."

"Thank you, Victor. I will surely pay you back in full."

After that, he hung up. He had a lot riding on this deal with Klaus. While on the surface things seemed simple, underneath, there were many schemes that could not be ignored, even if he wanted to.

The truth is, they needed Klaus for his expertise and courage. They may be part of the Warrior Tower, but that doesn't mean they all believe in some of the decisions the Warrior Tower makes.

His side of the faction wanted Klaus, while the other side opposed it.

Lord Victor sighed. "What a bunch of idiots. If you knew who you were pushing away, I am sure you would be on your knees begging him right now."

From what his father told him, the Paragon is no enemy of the heavens. It is the Heavens Court that made him look like one, so he knew pushing Klaus away was the biggest mistake anyone could ever make.

If the heavens see him as a threat, then there is a chance he is bigger than the heavens. This means they are threatened by him...

He dialled Rory's number, and in no time, she answered. "Father, what is wrong?"

Rory asked, looking straight at her father.

"Put Klaus on. I need to talk to him."

Rory nodded and handed the communicator to Klaus, who looked relaxed in his chair, almost as if he hadn't just been sent away by twelve Immortal Lords.

"I heard what happened. Are you okay?"

"I am fine, Lord Victor. While unexpected, I don't really have any obligation to please any of them."

Lord Victor nodded. "Lord Flux called me. It seems the deal they signed with you wasn't approved by everyone. So he called and asked not to burn the bridges with him completely. Can you do that?"

Klaus thought for a moment, and instead of answering, he asked a question. "What do you think, Lord Victor? Just tell me what you think."

"Personally, I think the Warrior Temple is too chaotic for you to join. They are arrogant and dangerous. From what I learned, the order to send you packing came from a Supreme, so you can only imagine how much danger you were in.

However, when it comes to Flux personally, I have fought alongside him on multiple occasions, and I can boldly say he is a good person. He has had my back many times, so having a good relationship with him is beneficial.

So the question now is, do you still want to join them or burn the last bridge with them?"

Yet again, Klaus thought for a moment, millions of variations running through his mind as he analysed all he had heard from Lord Victor, and so he could come up with a good outcome.

The mere idea that a Supreme ordered him to be sent packing was all he needed to know about the kind of people he was dealing with.

But even if they aren't that dangerous, considering he has the Mission Hall backing him, just the idea that there are those who hate the idea of him joining the Warrior Tower is all the reason he needs to stop whatever relationship they can have.

But then again, there is Lord Flux, whom even Lord Victor speaks highly of. He is the outlier, the only person Klaus can trust. But his standing is a bit too low for Klaus to rely on him for his safety.

"You said the decision came from a Supreme, right? Does that mean there is a Supreme backing Lord Flux, too?"

"Yes. There are twelve Supreme Elders of the Warrior Tower. One of them wanted you to join, while the other wanted you gone."

"That is good to hear." Klaus paused for a moment, then added, "Kindly tell Lord Flux I want to have a face-to-face meeting with his boss. It can be in person or in the Dark Space.

Before I make any decision, I want to meet them first."

Lord Victor raised his brow for a few seconds before he nodded. "I will relay your message. Whatever decision they reach, I will let you know right away."

"Thank you."

The call ended, and Klaus handed the communicator to Rory. She put it away and turned back toward Klaus. She remained there for a few more seconds before she asked,

"What are you planning?"

"Nothing fancy, just making sure that in the future, instead of having issues with the Warrior Tower, they would cry and beg me to join them."

Rory furrowed her brow. "I honestly don't know what is going on in your head, but just be careful. The Warrior Tower, as my dad said, is terrifying. They have some of the most deadly warriors in the universe, so be careful when dealing with them."

"I will be careful. Plus, for what it is worth, they also have no idea the kind of danger they are playing with. So in the end, it will be whoever is the most dangerous who wears the crown."

Klaus smiled and closed his eyes to rest. Now that the deal with the Warrior Tower was null, he would have to sign a new deal.

But before that happened, he first had to meet the Supreme, who wanted him to join the Warrior Tower in the first place.

Until then, he would be heading back to Planet Baski and wait there for his main body to handle what he had left to do on Earth.

As for his request to meet with Lord Flux's boss, that would also take some time to process. After all, there was the issue of rejecting him in the first place to be addressed.

Chapter 1365: Barbecue Night

[Earth - After A week]

Klaus and his wives spent an entire week under the sea, exploring every part of it. Now that they are immortals, they have no fear whatsoever of going that deep.

The pressure below the sea wasn't enough to make them suffer or, worse, crush their bones to powder like it would have if they were still mortals.

So they had some fun finding all kinds of amazing stuff hidden below the sea.

But after a week, they returned to Dream City, where Klaus organized a barbecue night with his wives and a few invited guests.

The invitees, of course, were Lady Danika, Nadia's mom; Mio and Miko, Aoi's sisters; and Emily, Lily's sister.

Klaus had already informed his wives that he knew what they had done and that he would first have to speak with the women involved before making a decision.

They understood his reasoning and decided to let him handle things on his end.

After all, they knew Klaus was not someone who did things without a reason. He always has a reason, and that was proven this evening when, after having their fair share of barbecued meat, the ladies started leaving one after another until only the four invitees remained.

Klaus had already planned the night well, so when they left, he started with his first plan...

"The girls will be leaving Earth soon. How about you four join them?" Klaus said, sitting a few feet away from Lady Danika.

She turned, looked at him, and nodded. However, she gave him a meaningful reply. "Though you must know that I am not like any of them. I am no warrior."

"But you are excellent at making cupcakes. I say that is a superpower."

Lady Danika and the other ladies laughed. "People who mean to hurt my family are not going to die by knowing I make good cupcakes, Klaus. I am basically a burden, and deep down, you know that."

"Nope. I never even once considered that. When I met Nadia, she saw herself as nothing but a nobody, but she became somebody. I believe, with the right motivation, you would also awaken your true self."

"Klaus is right, Lady Danika, don't give up," Mio said, and her sister Miko nodded. Emily was the same.

"You see, we all want you to know you are somebody, and I will prove that to you."

The four ladies looked at Klaus, each wondering what he had planned next.

Klaus smiled and retrieved an item from his space ring. He actually brought it out from his soul sea, but it appeared as if it came from his space ring.

It is a weapon, or at least it is meant to be a weapon.

"What is that?" Emily asked, watching as Klaus placed the item on the ground. He said nothing; instead, he cut his finger and dripped the blood onto the item.

In an instant, it lit up pink and transformed into a rectangular board with runic inscriptions lining its surface.

"This is an affection board. I received it as a gift from a succubus who played a game of affection with me. She claimed she had what it takes to make me fall in love with her within 24 hours. When she failed, she gave me this as a gift."

"How does it work?" Mio asks, and Klaus smiles.

"All five of us are going to place our blood on the board. Then the game master, who in this case is me, would ask a question. If the answer is true, a part of your blood would transform into a rune and merge back with you.

If it is false, it will be absorbed by the board, and with it, a part of your talent will be taken away and given to the game master.

Of course, since I will be gaining regardless, I will make sure you all earn as well. So here is my condition: for every question you answer truthfully, I will owe you a favour that you can cash out anytime you want."

The four ladies thought for a moment, then they nodded. They proceeded to add their blood. The game sounded like a good thing since they had no plans to lie to him.

Seeing this, Klaus smiled and started the second phase of his plan.

What he isn't saying is that, aside from merely compelling the ladies to tell the truth, the board also measures how much feelings he has for them.

Klaus is not aware of how destiny works, but he knows he and destiny are pretty tight.

When he met Anna, he wasn't attracted to her right away. It was only after he met her sister and they fell in love that he realised he had feelings for her.

The same can be said for Amelia and Sofia. They met as enemies and later became lovers. They are now his wives. Even if he didn't know how to admit it, he knew destiny had a hand in the way his wives came to him.

So while he had no obvious reactions toward the four ladies, this affection board is a way for him to amplify his feelings and see if there is something there for them.

If he indeed has feelings for them, he can guarantee Lady Danika wouldn't forever be a talentless nobody. His wives were powerful warriors, so she too had to be one.

But even if she isn't like the others, he would not abandon her, not when she is good at making cupcakes.

Klaus is already aware that he wouldn't only have wives from his past lives. He is bound to have new ones too, so there is no need to worry her.

He cleared his throat and started with the most obvious question...

"Do you ladies think I am handsome?"

This question left them blushing instantly. They never expected such a question, not when they were trying hard to mask their feelings for him.

"I think you are handsome. The most handsome human I have ever met," Mio answered, showing she was much bolder than the rest.

"You are handsome for sure," Miko followed. Next was Emily, who kept a straight face. "You are handsome by male standards."

Since their blood didn't get absorbed, it meant they were telling the truth. Next, they all turned to Lady Danika.

"You are handsome for sure." She turned her head away, not wanting Klaus to see her red cheeks. That was a bit embarrassing for her, considering the three ladies were like daughters to her.

Playing such a game with him is embarrassing. However, that was exactly what Klaus was after.

"Second question, and this one is a technical one, so don't be too flustered," he grinned, then turned to the left and stared at Emily. "What do you like about me?"

The game isn't one that can be cheated. And unless the game master wills it, one cannot skip a question.

So Klaus started slowly, making sure he worked his way to a more shameless angle. This way, when he is done with them, the answers he seeks will be revealed.

He started by hearing their view on his appearance. It was without a doubt that he was good-looking. But saying and believing it makes all the difference.

Now, he would ensure what is deep within them is revealed, and that starts with Emily, whose feelings for Klaus are, without a doubt, deeper than she would love to admit.

Chapter 1366: The Affection Game

Emily remained quiet for a few moments before she started to speak...

"I personally like the way you smile. It is calming and pleasant to look at." Emily blushed in the end, but she said what she liked about Klaus.

Of course, when it comes to what she truly likes about him, it would be everything about him. Klaus had developed the habit of always smiling, regardless of how daunting something was.

He is always smiling, which lightens the mood.

Maybe it was something he got from his father.

The mad hunter, to the rest of the universe, was one of the most dangerous demigods to walk the face of the universe. Some say he is even more dangerous than most of the paragons when they were demigods.

However, Klaus saw him as a loving father and a best friend. They had so much fun when he was a kid, so maybe, subconsciously, he developed this habit of showing a happy expression when he talks.

That, in a way, became a part of him, and while the four ladies currently staring at him can say they like other things about him, they all love his smile, and so, aside from Emily, they all gave him the same answer.

He wasn't displeased with their answer. They said the truth, and so he was drawn much closer to them. But they have to do more than that if the Affection Board is to have an effect on him.

"I have to admit that was on me. I lowered the bar and let you take advantage of my question. But from here onwards, you must put on the big girl hat and answer the questions that follow."

They nodded, but he could see they were already flustered. It is a silly game, a bit wasteful. However, he needed to know them, so he chose this shortcut.

"Next question... If you had the chance to change something about yourself, what would it be..."

They all expected Klaus to go in-depth and ask shameless questions. However, the question he asked now had nothing to do with him.

If they were a bit flustered by what he asked the last time, they were now a bit taken aback by his question. It sounded like Klaus wanted to know more about them, and so he lowered their guard only for him to reveal his hand.

But they had to answer because it was within the parameters of the affection game. They also could not lie. But even if they wanted to lie, what would even be the point? They had already decided to become his wives, so revealing their regrets wasn't much of an ask.

Miko was the first to react.

She inhaled slowly, her fingers curling at her sides. "I would change my hesitation," she said after a moment. "I think too much before acting. Sometimes, by the time I decide, the moment has already passed."

I had the chance to make these corrections about myself many times in the past, but as I said, I always hesitate.

I know it can sometimes be good to hesitate. Making an impulsive decision isn't always the best thing to do. It is not always the right track to take.

But in a life-or-death situation, a slight moment of hesitation can cause so much damage that I know I cannot bear to carry.

So if I can correct that about me, I would be more than happy."

Klaus nodded thoughtfully and then turned to Mio. Seeing the look on her face, he knew the two sisters had perhaps talked about this in the past.

From what Aoi told him, his sisters had been together from the day they awakened as warriors. Mio waited a year to take the awakening serum because she wanted to wait for Miko to turn sixteen.

They awakened as warriors the same day and began walking the warrior's path. So perhaps her hesitation had put them in danger before, many times even.

The look on their faces said it all.

"It is indeed good to hesitate sometimes. Believe me, I had, in the past, made so many impulsive decisions that left me in dangers so harrowing that I nearly died quite a couple of times.

And as you said, it is also bad to hesitate because, in a situation where one is required to make the quickest and most logical decision, hesitating, even if for a fraction of a second, can cost you dearly.

However, can you really afford to hesitate? Can you even afford not to hesitate?

These two questions are just something that has no fix. If you stop hesitating, what then would happen to you? And if you hesitate a lot, too, what then would happen?"

Without Klaus knowing it, his thousands of years of experience took over, making him appear like a deity.

In that moment, Lady Danika, who could be said to have more experience than the three ladies, saw his maturity and, well, became attracted to him.

"A very long time ago, a kid who ran away because his life was in danger met two immortal beasts. He had no idea why they met or what they would do to him.

However, at that very moment, when he realised he was at a point where life and death depended on what he said or did, he chose not to hesitate.

He chose to embrace the will to live, and so he made a move that forever changed his life.

Was he afraid? Yes. He was damn scared. However, he knew hesitating was the last thing he could afford to do. Even if he hesitated for a fraction of a second, he would have died."

Klaus looked Miko in the eye and smiled. "What this revealed had nothing to do with us not hesitating. It teaches us that, in any situation we find ourselves in, prioritising our lives is paramount.

The will to live is what should drive our decision-making. If you have the will to live but still refuse to make a decision, if you hesitate, whatever happens to you will be your own fault.

Trust me, the need to live, the will to make a decision that trumps all in times of crisis, has nothing to do with hesitation.

If you were to ask me whether hesitation in times of crisis can also have its advantages, I would say you are wrong. In times of crisis, there is only one thing: the will to live.

So, you may ask, when does one have to hesitate? When is the right time to hesitate? The answer to that is to hesitate when you are in control. When you have control over who lives and who dies, that is when you can afford to hesitate.

When you are at the point where a single decision from you can decide the course of someone's or many lives, that is when you hesitate and make sure your decision is the right one.

Because believe me, making the wrong decision impulsively can cost you dearly. By the time you realise your mistake, everything would be too late. So, hesitate or not, it always has to do with whether your life is threatened or not."

"Wow, you are like an ancient monk right now," Mio said.

Klaus smiled as usual and replied. "Funny, you say that. I was actually a monk once. A very long time ago."

Chapter 1367 1367: Secret Revealed

Klaus had indeed become an ancient monk. But it wasn't for nothing.

The way he addressed Miko's limitation was just too brilliant. He took his time to say what he truly meant, and that is not something ordinary. He knew what he was saying.

Without him even knowing, the game had ended. That was because, after addressing Miko's limitation, the true nature of the affection game was revealed.

He received this weapon during the era of the renegade monk. He met a succubus queen who was obsessed with him; however, he wasn't interested.

So, to take advantage of him, she proposed a game. Fruity had one of the hardest nights of his life with her. However, after 24 hours, she finally realized that Fruity didn't like her the way she had hoped he would.

Knowing this, she gave him the affection game and a partial explanation of how it worked.

Fruity had never used it before, or, more like, he didn't need it, since he had Anna and Lucy back then. Perhaps if he had used it, he would have found its true function and how that would have helped him today.

It turned out the affection board doesn't just affect his feelings. It goes both ways and links them. First, it digs into one's heart to see whether they have feelings for someone.

That was easily addressed because the four ladies have feelings for Klaus. Klaus realised that subconsciously, after the first question. That only surfaced a bit after the second question.

However, while answering Miko's response to the third question, the true hidden nature of the affection game revealed itself.

The more Klaus spoke, the higher their feelings for him rose. But it was the same for Klaus, too. The more he spoke, the stronger his feelings for them grew; feelings that could have developed over time were forced out.

So, when he ended the answer and realised that, he knew the rest of the game wouldn't do much. He had already addressed his feelings for them, and the next thing would be to make them a promise that he would keep.

They wouldn't take the next step now. He wants them to adjust and make sense of the new path they would be taking. After all, the game had amplified their emotions.

It would take some time for them to come to terms with everything. For now, Klaus is not in a hurry, because they are, in a way, part of him now.

The game not only amplified their feelings but also bound them together in blood. Provided they both have feelings for each other, there is no need to go the extra mile, since the affection game has already taken a step for them.

But to ensure the game was fair and just for all, he allowed Mio to answer as well. Strengthening their bond is also nice.

He would want them to be comfortable around him and, in a way, allow him also to know some of their fears.

They have a hidden secret, so knowing about them would undoubtedly make the most difference.

Mio followed almost immediately, her voice quieter than usual. "I would change my fear of being left behind," she admitted. "I smile a lot and act confident, but I'm always scared that if I fall behind, I'll be forgotten.

I know many would say someone like me, who has already reached the rank of an Empyrean, has nothing to worry about. Immortality is just around the corner, they would say.

However, when I look at myself—when I stare deep within myself—I see no such person. I see myself as someone with severe limitations and fear that I would be left behind.

I am not as talented as Miko or Aoi. I am not even special like them. I am just here now because of your help. So I suppose I am scared that once the help given to me runs out, I will become stuck and cannot advance anymore."

Miko held her sister's hand and gave her a gentle squeeze.

Klaus smiled and shook his head. "You have nothing to be afraid of, Miko. In this life, there is just no way someone like you would be left behind. Trust me, you have plenty of talent that you probably don't realize you have.

It is true that Aoi has plenty of talent. However, that doesn't mean you aren't talented. There are those who shine from the start, mainly because their destiny is to be so.

So if that is the case for them, then why even bother competing with them? Your time would come, and that can be said for you all. I know you are plenty talented, so don't sell yourself so short."

Mio nodded, a bit relieved, and thanks to the affection board, she became a bit happier too.

It was Emily's turn.

"I would change my restraint," she said. "I hold myself back too much. I measure everything I say and do because I'm afraid of crossing lines that shouldn't be crossed." She paused, then added softly, "Sometimes, I wish I could just be honest without worrying about consequences."

"Worrying about the consequences is part of life, Emily. Take me, for example. Many years ago, I had the chance to end centuries of conflict, but because I was afraid of the ripple effect, I hesitated, and let's just say the outcome was devastating.

But then there was another time I acted without restraint, and as you can already imagine, it didn't end well for me.

So if you ask me, I will say showing restraint is a good thing. But showing too much restraint can be catastrophic. That is true for situations where you knew in your gut the decision had to be made.

You know it was the right thing to do, but fearing the consequences, you show restraint. That, if you ask me, I would tell you, would harm you in the long run.

So to learn how and when to show restraint, you must first develop the sixth sense to back every decision you make."

Emily nodded. She had once asked her father this question, and he gave her a similar answer—the ability to know when to show restraint and when to make a bold decision.

If she were to develop that, she might become someone to fear.

"I suggest you spend more time with Ohema. She has this calming effect that allows her to relax and analyse a situation before making a decision. She might just rub off on you."

"Thank you, Klaus. I will do as you say." Emily seemed happy to have finally aired her worry, not only to her father but also to the man she loves and three others. It made her gain the confidence to be free around Klaus and the others.

Klaus turned to Lady Danika. "What about you, my mother-in-law?"

She blushed but bit her lips and answered. "I would change my sense of worth," she said at last. "I've lived most of my life believing my value ends at what I can provide for others. A home. Warm meals. Comfort." She smiled faintly. "I want to believe that I can be more than that."

Chapter 1368 1368: Cosmic Weaver

Lady Danika's situation is a bit technical.

She was 7 years old when the apocalypse descended. She witnessed the horror and pain. She came close to dying herself.

However, in her difficult moment, the first few brave humans who stood and fought came to her rescue. She was rescued by Nari, of all people.

Since that day, she had always dreamed of becoming a warrior and saving everyone she could. It was her everyday dream.

However, reality is a bit disappointing when you least expect it. When she turned 16 and awakened, it became clear that she was no warrior.

Her talent and class were in embroidery. Basically, just like how her daughter also became a fashion designer, she was more into crochet, and that was just not how she saw her life.

So she was heartbroken for years. She tried many times to make sense of her life, but as the years passed, she realized she was worthless.

That only depended on whether Nadia also became useless after her awakening. She blamed it on herself, and for years, she believed she had ruined her daughter.

But that should all have changed when Nadia became someone. She should have stopped seeing herself as a worthless being now that Nadia alone commands thousands of powerful warriors.

However, years of looking down on herself had made it so that even after taking in Klaus's blood, she couldn't awaken a class that would suit her. If anything, she had become more rooted in the path of Embroidery.

Klaus thought of a way to address her situation, but he came up short. Her limitation had to do with years of mental programming and self-limitation. She had limited her self-image to the point that she saw herself as worthless when she looked in the mirror.

Changing that doesn't take a day or a few words of encouragement. It takes years of careful reasoning and dedication to pull her out of the pit she is in.

[Master, ask her about her job class]

Icon suddenly spoke to Klaus, making him smile and finally speak. "Mind telling me what job class you awakened?"

His question caused Lady Danika to furrow her brow. She wondered why Klaus asked that, but she didn't hesitate much and answered.

"Cosmic Weaver," she paused and added, "It basically allows me to weave using ropes. It is not exactly the kind of class you can use for battles."

Klaus chuckled. "Maybe. Maybe not."

He then asked Icon why she asked him to ask that question.

[The senior had been looking into her before he left. From the little he had found, I think he found the true meaning of her class and was getting close to a breakthrough.]

'Tell me what he found.'

[Okay, Master. Before that, I hope the Master is already aware that the danger to the universe today is the foreign race, right?]

'I know that, Icon. I have already become aware of that just recently.'

[Well, according to the senior, the foreign race is here because of her.]

Klaus's eyes widened, drawing the ladies' attention to him. "Is everything alright?" Lady Danika asked, a bit panicked.

"I will answer that in a few seconds, so hold on for now." She nodded.

'Tell me more, Icon.'

[The senior had long known of her class, and from what he had heard, it seemed the Cosmic Weaver was a cosmic class.]

'Are you saying Lady Danika is a cosmic being?'

[Yes and no. She is not a cosmic being in the sense that she is not a cosmic being. But she is a cosmic being because her class is cosmic.]

From what the senior has found, the foreign race believes that above the Celestial stage, there is one more stage a warrior can rise to. Some even say there is a whole different kind of realm above that.

But they believe there is a realm beyond Celestial, and well, they are not wrong. The Tower of Inheritance came from someone who claims he is a pseudo-primordial, so I am inclined to believe them.

The only question here is that the path of ascension that would take them to that realm had been closed. The senior believes the one who closed it is Lady Danika.

Now, I know it is a long story, but looking at her class and its nature, I think they are on to something.

Think about it. The realms of ascension we have now are all made from cosmic energy. Whenever you take a step to a higher realm, you pass through the cosmic stage to make such advances.

And well, her class is literally a Cosmic Weaver—someone who can weave cosmic energy in ways us mortals can't even begin to comprehend.

If that is to be trusted, then I think she had closed that gate because she believed it was not worth opening. But somehow, the foreign race tracked her to this universe with the aim of catching her and forcing her to reopen it.]

'That is a lot, Icon. I don't even know where to start.'

Klaus was indeed lost for words right now. He never expected the senior to suspect such a big conspiracy and say nothing to him.

[The Master can handle this however he wants, but I know and believe the senior wasn't mistaken. There is something cosmic about her. We just have to find how to awaken it.]

Klaus let a small smile appear on his face. He turned to Lady Danika and decided to lift her spirit a bit.

"The good news is that you are not worthless. In fact, you are far from being called worthless. If anything, you should be called the most important being in the universe.

However, because of how excellent you are, your worth is refusing to reveal itself in fear of what would happen when that happens."

Lady Danika looked at Klaus for a few seconds and smiled. "No need to make me feel good, Klaus. I know I can never become a warrior."

"Oh, but you are more than a warrior. You see, you, my dear, are someone who can be called a cosmic being. Basically, you live outside of this plane. You breathe different kinds of air and wield different kinds of energy.

So while in this plane of existence you are yet to reveal your brilliance, I believe soon you will become who you are meant to be."

"Don't mess with me, Klaus. Am I really something other than worthless..."

Klaus smiled and reached for her hand. "You are anything but worthless. You are cosmic, Lady Danika. You are higher than any of us, and I will prove that to you one day. For now, start believing in yourself.

See yourself as someone bigger than this universe. I know I do, and many others believe the same."

Tears began rolling down her face. Klaus, of course, pulled her in and gave her a shoulder to cry on. There is just nothing in this universe that would make her happier than hearing what Klaus had just said.

The night ended with her cuddled in Klaus's arms, her tears flowing freely.

Chapter 1369 1369: Three Weeks Later

The days that followed the eventful barbecue and game night were all fun. Klaus made sure to spend time with the four ladies, most often with Lady Danika.

Also, as the days passed, he and Icon started digging deeper into what the senior knew about Lady Danika and what they could find in the Uniweb.

Most of the stuff they found is more geared toward the conspiracy that there is a realm above the Celestial stage.

At first, they hit hard walls when they tried to dig deeper; however, when they started following the life of the man from whom Klaus had inherited the Inheritance Tower, they began to uncover hidden details and truths.

They had no way of knowing if Lady Danika was indeed a cosmic being. But they knew that if they managed to get the information they were after, they could, in a way, figure out whether she was indeed the key to ascension beyond the Celestial stage.

They discovered that the tower belonged to a mysterious warrior named Odin. From what little they could find about him, this Odin guy lived at the start of time.

He is among the first few born at the start of the universe. In the records, he appeared during the Primordial Era, Divine Era, Blood Era, Renegade Era, and Shadow Era.

He vanished before the Death Era, when the Paragon of Death reigned supreme. As they dug deeper into his life, they uncovered an ancient order known as the Jedi.

They are believed to be beings who touched the barrier beyond the Celestial stage, making them what many consider Pseudo Primordials.

There is no concrete evidence that suggests this order exists, but the fact that Klaus now has an inheritance tower from someone he was told was a Pseudo-Primordial makes all the difference.

Eventually, they made another discovery that ignited Klaus's desire to ensure his main body gained the trust of the Heavens Court. It is the key to everything.

An anonymous person claimed there is a book in the Heavens Archives that speaks of the Big Bang. They claim that the book contained the true secret of the universe.

Klaus needed that record because it would help him know what he is after.

After three weeks of searching, the only conclusion he could draw was that Lady Danika is indeed a cosmic being and the key to everything.

From the memories he had recovered, he knew he had a mission as a paragon, or more like he had a mission during the Primordial Era, but he fell short, so he had been working hard across eras and generations to get to this moment.

This last life is the one in which everything will finally make sense. So, given that the senior suspected Lady Danika was a cosmic being, and given Klaus's track record with women so far, there is some truth to it.

But learning this also carries some risk. He knew that if the Foreign race were aware of something like this, they would eventually notice her and come after her.

But even if they don't know that he knew, there is also an ancient order of powerful people who had already touched the barrier.

This means Lady Danika is not safe.

This then means he had to prepare in advance and be ready for anything. The heavens aren't his only enemy at the moment.

There is the Foreign race and probably the Jedi Order.

The second conclusion he reached was to learn more about this Odin guy. He died, and that was how Klaus obtained his inheritance: the Inheritance Tower.

But if he died, someone who is several times more powerful than a celestial died, then what killed him? What was so powerful that it managed to kill such a person?

Klaus is an overthinker, which is not his fault. He has 500 minds, each more powerful than the mind of a true Immortal, so there is just no way he wouldn't critically examine what he had discovered so far.

Something killed Odin, and that something is probably aware of something. They wouldn't just kill someone that powerful for nothing.

So if that something was made aware he had inherited the legacy of Odin, then there is a big chance they would come after him too.

Klaus had already created a scenario where that was a thing, and the only logical thing he could come up with was to learn all he could about Odin while keeping his life hidden from everyone.

In the end, sending his wives away from Earth seems like a logical decision. They all seem okay with the life they have now, but they must go out there and spread their wings.

They each have legacies they must fulfil, so he can only free them to experience the thrill of what the universe has to offer.

He, of course, will have measures in place to keep them safe. But even if they are threatened, he wants them to be able to wiggle their way out of that.

This means he would have to awaken the sleeping Paragon Legion he had been building since the beginning of time.

So after three weeks of spending time with his soon-to-be wives and having more sex with his wives, Klaus decided to get back to his training.

He had become an Immortal, meaning he could open the second floor of the Inheritance tower. However, before doing that, he had to address a couple of issues he had been holding back for a while now.

There is still no news from Lord Flux. So his other body had been resting on Planet Baski for a few days now after he was sent packing from Planet Fiapre.

His other body, which would be heading to Planet Nevil for a few days before heading back to the Blood Tournament, is also a few days out from the planet where he would be absorbing the Lightning Essence ore.

Basically, what he would have struggled to achieve in the past, simply because he was limited by the number of bodies he had, is now nothing to worry about.

The main body is handling something important. The criminal body that emerged from the tribulation with two immortal rings and had even reached the medium level is now on the path to reaching the early immortal stage.

As for the Paragon body currently on Planet Baski, he is spending his day learning more about the seal he had broken after he had sex with Maud.

The death law is the main law he would use. The paragon would be known for his connection to the law of death. So he started working to make sense of his death abilities and how best to use them.

Once he starts sending waves here and there, he would want the universe to know he is the heir of death.

Unlike how he gained recognition as the paragon of death during his 6th incarnation, this time, he will be the heir to death and soon become its king and lord.

"There is no better feeling than the feeling of knowing you have everything under control." Klaus entered the inheritance tower, then the pagoda, and appeared on the last floor.

He walked to a display case and retrieved a technique manual titled 'God of War Art.'

Chapter 1370 1370: God Of War Art

The God of War Art is a technique he found when he first opened the Tower of Inheritance. He didn't touch it back then, but he had it at the back of his mind that when he one day becomes an Immortal, he would learn it.

The main reason was that he had heard of the God of War before.

During the Primordial Era, there was a warrior who was proficient in all the arts of combat. They said he could wield any weapon and use any fighting style he deemed perfect for a specific battle.

Nobody knows when he vanished, but it was said that he left his battle art for a worthy warrior to inherit.

Klaus had searched for it during the Renegade Era and the Calamity Era. Both Fruity and Magnus searched for it for thousands of years, and he is sure his other incarnations searched for the same thing, too.

Now that he has gotten his hands on it, there is just no telling how happy he feels. He had already concluded that the idea of his Weapons Overlord class came from that battle art.

The ability to use any weapon is similar to the God of War Art, so he is both happy and thrilled to have finally received the main thing.

If he can learn this technique, there is a good chance he will be able to utilise his class more effectively. The stars know he would need his class fully utilised with the kind of life he is about to live.

He picked up the manual and walked to a cultivation mat and sat down. The moment he sat down, his mind cleared, allowing him to fully concentrate on the task at hand.

Klaus made the manual hover before him for a few minutes before concentrating his consciousness into it.

This isn't his first time interacting with technique manuals that send one's consciousness to a realm where one must interact with the technique's runes before grasping its content.

The moment his consciousness entered the realm, he blacked out. When he regained consciousness, he found himself in a mist of clouds, seated on one of them.

A couple of kilometres away, a towering statue with six pairs of hands stood imposing and extremely handsome. If not because Klaus had seen many giants in the many lives he had lived, he would have mistaken it for a giant.

Well, he wouldn't be blamed, considering it is a giant statue that looks almost real. He focused on the statue for a few minutes before he willed the cloud to move closer.

As he moved closer, he began to see more of the statue than he had initially thought. First, in one of the twelve arms, a great sword appeared.

As he moved closer, a spear appeared in another hand, followed by an axe, a mace, a scythe, and soon all kinds of weapons filled the twelve arms.

It was after the twelve hands were occupied with weapons that Klaus noticed a figure appear on the head of the statue. By then, he was twenty meters away from the statue.

Just when he saw the person, his body was lifted into the air, and before he knew it, he was standing on the head of the statue, facing a handsome man, more handsome than even him.

He is tall, fairly muscular, and oozing with rizz simply from how perfect his dark hair fell down his back.

"I am Ares. How may I address you?" he spoke, his voice much deeper than Klaus's.

"Klaus."

"So tell me, Klaus, where did you find my manual?" The question came out casual, but it carried some weight. Klaus knew this was where he would determine whether he was worthy of learning the God of War manual or not.

So giving him a precise answer is a must. Thankfully, the three weeks he spent researching the owner of the inheritance tower weren't for nothing.

"I received this manual after inheriting the tower from a legendary warrior named Odin."

Ares furrowed his brow, a bit intrigued, a bit apprehensive.

"There are many mysteries of the universe, Klaus," Ares said, taking a step forward. "One of those mysteries was the one called Odin. Some say he was born on the same day the universe was born.

Some say he came from beyond this universe.

Many said many things. But there is one thing I am certain of: the name Odin cannot be mentioned casually.

Zeus, Poseidon, Indra, Shiva, Tyr, and the like are names that have been wiped from the records mainly because of the power they carry.

Not just anyone can mention those names and stay alive for long. In fact, those names are banned from ever being uttered, not when the last child hasn't appeared yet.

So tell me, Klaus, why were you able to mention his name and stay alive?" Ares was standing before Klaus when he asked, his eyes looking directly at his face, reading everything about him.

He panicked but remained standing, showing no fear whatsoever. Ares looked imposing, but Klaus had already lived full lives and remembered them, so he tapped into that experience to keep his calm.

But when he tried to speak, his answer caught in his throat. Eventually, he spoke the words he wanted to say.

"I am a Forbidden Child."

Ares raised his brow...

"A paragon, huh. So you actually exist." A pale smile appeared on his face, then turned into laughter, one that came from deep within his soul. "Destiny is indeed a bitch."

Klaus allowed Ares to have his fair share of laughter. He seemed amused by something, so he let him have his laugh. After five minutes, he calmed down and turned to Klaus.

"You were a myth, kid. During my time, when everything went to shit, it was said you would come. The one destined to end it all, they said.

I died before it all happened, so I never met you. But I guess meeting you today is destiny. You and I share some form of destiny that I am sure had something to do with my battle art. Otherwise, someone like me, a being destined to kill the paragon, wouldn't be smiling with you right now."

Klaus took a few steps back, his expression turning dark.

"But then again, that bastard came and destroyed the timeline, so I suppose our meeting today is destiny's way of telling me I now have a new mission."

"Which is," Klaus asked, his expression still dark.

"Help you."

Klaus stopped frowning as his expression turned from dark to confused. Just now, Ares said he was meant to kill him. This meant he was meant to kill Klaus in his first incarnation.

That, in a way, made him a bit apprehensive. It is not every day one meets their enemy and smiles with them, so he was scared there for a second.

But hearing him say his job now was to aid him was a bit shocking, all things considered.

"Why?" He asked.

"Beat me, Klaus. All I can tell you is that the mysteries of the heavens go beyond what you know. There is more at play than you can start to imagine.

I was meant to kill you, not because you were a threat. You were someone outside the rules, and so the universe would love you eliminated.

However, if she had sent you here today, then it means something is terribly wrong. So wrong that the universe needed a paragon's help."

Ares smiled and then added with a grin, "Yes, Klaus, the heavens want you dead, but it also needs your help."