

Paragon 891

Chapter 891 - 891: Becoming The Zombie Queen (2)

[Day Of The Apocalypse - Miriam's POV]

As if she knew from the moment she took her sister's temperature, Miriam started to suspect something grim was about to happen. Of course, she was too naive and young to realise that things were much more serious than they seemed.

But she sat beside her sister, hoping she would be well the moment they got back home. However, the moment her sister halted her step, she knew her hidden fear had been realised.

She felt her sister's grip tighten on her.

Inwardly, she felt her cold grip, immediately realising that her sister was no longer human.

No human has that much coldness in them. But then again, the fear that seeped into her body prevented her from doing anything. It was like her mind gave out, allowing fear to take hold of her.

Then she stared her sister in the eye, and she knew she was right. She was no longer human.

However, when her sister moved, she turned her gaze to her, making her see in that instant that her sister may have changed, but she was still the same overprotective person she had always been.

The zombie guard came at her, but despite being under extreme hunger and no longer having hold of her sanity, she resolved to save her sister like she would have done if this were before she turned into a zombie.

It turned grimmer, but through it all, she stood there, afraid of what was coming.

And as expected, after watching her sister slaughter every last one of the guards, she turned her hungry eyes on her.

She had the urge to run.

But for some reason, she stood there, watching her get close, and then she felt the pain. However, just when she thought it would get worse, her sister backed away, looking back at her with a sad and guilty expression.

She didn't know what happened, but she felt and saw the sister she knew return to her. However, before she could become happy and rejoice, her father and the guards arrived.

In that instant, she knew what was coming. But due to the fearful state she was in, she couldn't do anything but watch her sister say her goodbyes as she jumped the gate and vanished.

[After Her Sister Left - Miriam's POV]

She watched as her sister jumped over the tall gate. A few seconds after she was gone, her father and the guards arrived.

The first thing they did was check if Miriam had turned into a zombie. After confirming she is still him, Miriam's father made a comment.

"She couldn't have gone far. Hunt her down and kill her before she brings shame to my family." The words were like a stabbing blade piercing her heart.

She hated it, so she made sure they knew that.

"You can't do that. Big sister is not a zombie."

Her father, of course, glared at her and responded, "Shut up. What do you know about what is happening?"

"I know big sister is not a zombie because she didn't kill me. And as to what is happening, from the way I see it, you are just hungry for power and fear someone like her would be a hindrance.

You saw her through the security cameras and knew she was unlike the others. So tell me, father, are you really looking to kill her, or did you see a way to make her one of your pawns?"

Her words were sharp and arrogant, but to Miriam, this was her fear speaking. She knew if it came down to choosing between death and bondage, she would happily kill her sister before letting her father get to her.

Of course, due to how sharp her words were, her father landed a slap, shouting, "You better watch that sharp mouth of yours, young lady. You may be a spawn of mine, but don't think I won't send you packing if you dare me."

"As if I want to be here. You can keep your family and everything you have in here. I will look for my big sister, who is actually family."

Those were the last words she said to her father before moving away.

She had once been naive, but as if she knew what kind of person her father was, she realised that staying there even for a few more minutes would be dangerous for her. So, she left, and all her father could do was watch her go.

The way she wanted things to go didn't quite work out as planned. But she managed to leave, and that was when the nightmares began.

[Three Days into the Apocalypse - Sunlight Dojo]

Miriam left home with the hope of finding her sister. However, a couple of miles from her house, she was attacked by a butterfly that had turned into a monster.

It was a grim moment for her, one that she knew would be her end. However, when things were about to go wrong, something changed within her.

It was subtle, but she felt like she could kill the butterfly... and she did. She had no weapon, nothing in her hand, but she managed to kill the butterfly monster and escape.

Her next destination was the Sunlight Dojo, where she planned to get a sword. However, when she got back to the city, it was hell on earth.

She knew she couldn't move into the city without getting attacked. So she started moving slowly, hiding in the shadows and slipping under bridges as she made her way to the dojo.

When she arrived, the Sensei, who recognised her from the sword competition, allowed her in. Finally, Miriam had a place to sleep after moving nonstop for three days.

Of course, that night, the nightmare she was afraid of came, but this time in a different tone. Instead of her sister leaving right when she bit her, she stayed, hoping her father would allow her to stay.

However, in her dream, she saw how they chained her sister and dragged her away. That sight broke her mind further, to the point that when she woke up, tears were flowing from her eyes.

For reasons she didn't know until now, the next day, after the Sensei made her drink some tea, she woke up a different person.

The fear, the pain, and everything were replaced by guilt. This time around, she remembered her sister dying as a human and how her family didn't allow her to attend the funeral.

Later, they kicked her out, and she left, hoping to make amends somehow. But in the end, she was merely living a lie, one she had created through lucid dreams... something she never expected, but which ultimately saved her and allowed her to grow.

[The Day Of The Apocalypse - Tifa's POV]

Tifa jumped over the gate, tears falling down her face as she ran away.

Just like Miriam, she knew that if her father were to catch her, her life would become a living hell. Nothing would end well for her if she were caught by her own father.

So, she had to run, and she did—running as far as her legs could take her. Her only concern was whether Miriam would be okay. Of course, she knew her sister wasn't a zombie, but she still worried about her.

If only she knew her sister had already left the family in search of her. But since she didn't know that, she ran until she reached a point where she couldn't see any humans or zombies in sight.

That was when she relaxed and examined her body. She felt strong—much stronger than before—and her speed had already reached a level where she could outrun the fastest athletes several times over in a 400-meter race.

However, that didn't stop her from thinking about her sister. And due to this realization, she made up her mind to grow stronger and faster, so she could one day find her way back to her sister somehow.

Of course, she still couldn't shake the fact that she had scared Miriam to the point that she couldn't even make a sound. That was just too horrific.

But first, she wanted to grow strong so that even if she couldn't face Miriam again, she would at least have the means to protect her from the shadows.

[5 Days into the Apocalypse - First Zombie Vampire]

The moment Miriam's blood entered Tifa's body, she became aware, and that was when she saw what had happened to her. She had become a zombie vampire, which meant she wouldn't have to eat humans or beasts to keep growing.

Her source of strength came from three angles.

The first source of her strength was through kills. She learned this after killing the guards. The second came from the core dropped by most monsters and humans.

Lastly, of course, was the blood of her kills. This made her significantly superior to humans, as, aside from killing or absorbing cores, she could grow stronger by drinking the blood of her kills.

The revelation made her decide. She decided to ignore the obvious and use her three power buffs to grow stronger...so strong that she can one day meet her sister again without anyone having a say in how she does it or who comes against her.

Tifa went all out, and within five days, she rose from the ranks of an Awakener to a Master, gaining more than she could ask for.

When she became a 'Master,' she acquired a passive skill called [Zombie Vampire Queen]. This skill allowed her to use her blood to transform zombies into a new breed known as Zombie Vampires.

Of course, she had no plan to go around turning zombies into a more vampiric form. So, she continued to grow stronger until one day, a few weeks into the apocalypse, she came across two zombies.

At first, when she saw them, she thought they were humans because they bore no resemblance to zombies. It wasn't until they attacked her that she realised not all that glitters is gold.

She fought with them fiercely, and in the end, she overpowered them. However, she couldn't bring herself to kill them.

So, she gave them her blood instead, hoping it would work...and it did. The zombies adapted to her blood, and just as Miriam's blood had done for her, they regained their sanity.

They chose to follow her, and Tifa didn't reject the offer. Having two remarkable warriors like the two siblings wasn't a bad thing.

If only she knew they would become her strongest warriors in the future, she wouldn't have beaten them so severely when they attacked her.

[4 Years into the Apocalypse]

Four years passed in the blink of an eye, and within these four years, Tifa reached the Sovereign stage and managed to expand her warriors from two siblings to eight powerful zombie vampires.

Two of them had been soldiers before the apocalypse, so combat-wise, they were a serious threat. One had been a CIA spy before everything went awry.

Her infiltration skills allowed Tifa to learn more about her sister, who, from what she gathered over the past four years, had disappeared, and no one knew her whereabouts.

However, that didn't discourage her; she continued to look. In fact, it was her search for her sister that led her to meet two more zombies, whom she converted to join her side.

Both worked in the construction industry, specifically in metalwork. Thanks to their experience with metals, they awakened the metal element, making them an invaluable asset. The moment these two were added to the original five, she was able to move much more freely.

Later, she met the last person who became one of her key subordinates, someone who walked through thick and thin with her.

They fought many battles and went on countless adventures. Thankfully, through it all, they had only one purpose: to locate Miriam, who, while her sister was looking for her, had chosen to enter a forbidden zone filled with overpowered monsters.

When Tifa finally found her sister, Miriam was fiercely locked in battle with dozens of monsters, realms above her. In fact, if not for Tifa finding her and secretly ensuring her safety, Miriam would have succumbed to the onslaught.

But she didn't, and Tifa, who had finally found her sister, was both happy and sad. She was happy to know her sister was well, but sad not knowing how to reveal herself to her.

How they had parted was just so grim that she didn't know how Miriam would react. So, she followed her, and for 12 years, she did her best to protect her from the shadows, until Miriam reached the stage where she no longer needed her help.

That was when Tifa left and started gathering strength for when her sister would need her help. Her motivation for establishing the vampire city was to gather strength for the moment when Miriam would face a challenge she couldn't face alone.

She built everything for her sister, and for 54 years, she held herself back from approaching her. However, she could no longer do it. She had to let her sister know she was alive and free her from whatever pain she had suffered all these years.

So, watching Miriam cry was both a heartbreaking moment and a hopeful one, as Tifa, the Zombie Queen, finally reunited with her sister, Miriam, who had believed her to be dead all these years.

Chapter 893 - 893: Reunited At Last

Klaus looked at Tifa, now known as the Vampire Queen, with both admiration and a frown.

First, it was admirable that she managed to turn her life around so she could ensure her sister was okay. She followed her around for 12 years, taking care of hidden threats without Miriam even being aware of them.

That was admirable, but he frowned because she let Miriam live a lie for fifty-four years. All this time, Miriam had been hating herself for failing to save her sister, when in reality, she had been living a lie.

In reality, Miriam had even helped her sister without realizing it. Her blood, which, from what it sounds, helped Tifa regain her sanity, and instead of becoming a zombie, she became a zombie vampire.

Miriam was the one responsible for that. So why let her live a lie when Tifa could have come to terms with what truly happened and how to move past it?

But then again, Tifa wasn't exactly sure if showing herself was the right thing for Miriam. She saw how much Miriam was thriving and moving on.

She was scared that revealing herself would break Miriam to the point where she wouldn't be able to easily recover, or if she recovered at all. All this added to the fact that, aside from just saving her, Tifa created opportunities for Miriam to grow.

In her own way, Tifa managed to help Miriam, even if she stayed in the shadows for as long as it was meant to be.

However, things were different now.

Not only had Tifa revealed herself to Miriam, but she had also freed her from the lie she was living. The lie she told herself was washed away, and the truth revealed itself.

As a result, something that had been blocking Miriam's growth subconsciously finally broke, allowing her to awaken something good.

While Miriam was crying in his arms, Klaus felt it. He felt the change and immediately realized what had happened.

'She has formed her soul body.'

Klaus held her tightly because the moment Miriam formed her soul body, he felt something tyrannical rise within her. It was a feeling that pulled on Klaus's heartstrings.

He had met Miriam's past self before, and she had scared the hell out of him, so for a moment, he thought that due to Miriam's mental state, she would be consumed by this new feeling. Thankfully, his fear didn't come to pass.

But Klaus knew one thing: Miriam was about to undergo some drastic changes, changes that would see her becoming who she was meant to be now that she had awakened her soul body.

Queenie also held Miriam's hand while Jaguar remained still, seated with his arms crossed over his chest. However, the hybrid Beast was locked in a calm yet serious gaze with one of the guards standing behind the Vampire Queen.

As for the Vampire Queen herself, she remained calm, but tears kept falling from her eyes. She still had her mask on and the hood covering her head.

Even now, she couldn't bring herself to reveal her true appearance.

The day Miriam saw her eyes, Tifa saw the fear appear on her face, so she was still skeptical about revealing her true appearance to her.

Thankfully, after a few minutes of sobbing, Miriam seemed to have calmed down. She raised her head and looked at her sister, who was looking back at her, her hands clenching the armrest.

There were no words exchanged for five minutes before Miriam chose to say something.

"How have you been, Big sister?" Her words were calm, filled with nothing but worry...

Tifa tried to answer, but her emotions welled up, and she had to wipe a few more tears from her eyes before she could muster the voice to respond.

It had been so long since she last heard Miriam call her 'Big Sister,' so hearing it again made her feel too emotional.

Eventually, she could speak...

"I have been well... but better now."

Miriam smiled, hearing her sister's response. "Good to hear you've been well."

Miriam then turned to Klaus. "It looks like my sister is alive after all." She smiled, but Klaus knew it was a forced smile. And thanks to the connection between them, Klaus knew exactly what she wanted.

"Go on, she is your sister, not mine." He wasn't even done speaking when Miriam lunged at her sister. However, instead of attacking, she spread her arms, and her sister reacted quickly, wrapping her arms around her.

Both shed tears uncontrollably.

Queenie, seated beside Klaus, even wiped a few tears from her eyes. Klaus saw this and smirked.

'Ladies are weird. I mean, why cry when you finally have what you wanted back...?'

His heart remained unmoved, almost as if emotions had no effect on him. However, he was happy for Miriam.

After a couple of minutes of hugging, they broke apart and faced each other. Miriam reached to take the hood off Tifa's head, but she blocked her hand.

Miriam smiled. "Big sister, in case you've forgotten, I am no longer 14 years old. I may have been scared back then, but not anymore, so don't worry."

Tifa looked at Miriam for a few seconds before letting go of her hand. Miriam smiled and slowly removed the red hood.

What greeted her were crimson eyes, ones that looked human yet inhuman. Miriam smiled when she saw that. She went even further and fully removed everything, revealing her short, red hair.

As expected, she had pale white skin. However, even without removing the mask, Klaus could see the uncanny resemblance between Tifa and Miriam.

And when the mask was removed, he could almost peg them as twins, for they truly shared some resemblance. The only thing that changed about Miriam was her eyes and hair.

While Miriam had silver hair and blue eyes, her sister had red hair and red eyes. But aside from that, they looked the same.

Of course, Miriam grew up with a bigger chest than her sister. But Tifa made up for that with her backside.

In all, the two sisters had reunited and were looking at each other with smiles on their faces. Klaus knew it would be a new start for them.

Chapter 894 - 894: Happy Endings...

It is always good when things come together in the end.

Fifty-four years ago, two sisters were separated due to the horror that befell mankind. It broke them, forcing them to walk a path they never knew was possible.

They went through thick and thin just to survive for this very day, when two sisters held each other in the air, smiling to their heart's content.

The happiness in the air was something the two sisters didn't know was possible, but as it stood, they were having so much of it that they couldn't think of anything except catching up.

"I miss you, big sister," Miriam said, holding her sister's hand.

"I miss you too, Miriam," Tifa said with a smile, looking even happier than her sister. A huge load had been lifted off her shoulders, one she never knew could make her feel this free.

But she was now free of her guilt.

Klaus watched, shaking his head. He had come there to get his vampire army, but it turned out that some things were much more important than his lofty ambitions.

Eventually, the two sisters managed to calm their happiness down, more like putting a pin in it for the time being.

When the Vampire Queen sat back down, she looked at Klaus, now with no half-mask covering her mouth or hood obscuring her face.

"Thank you," she said with a thankful gaze.

Klaus nodded. "Before we start anything, I would like to say I was the one who killed your Pops. So, if you have any qualms about that, we can settle it first."

Everyone turned to Klaus... Even Miriam looked at him with a raised brow. Naturally, what Klaus said was true; he had killed Nabil, the head of the Nabil Great Clan, Miriam's and Tifa's father.

Most would be upset about that, so Klaus just wanted to ensure the air was cleared before any negotiations took place. Of course, he also wanted to see if the queen hated her late dad like she had let on earlier.

To Klaus's shock, her answer was one he never saw coming: "You weren't the one who killed him. That bastard was killed by Lin here. The one you killed was just an animated copy of him."

Tifa said, pointing at the lady who had come to fetch them when they arrived. Klaus turned to her and raised a brow.

"I killed him 34 years ago and animated his body. The reason you didn't notice was that my ability to animate a corpse allows me to keep their heartbeat going for as long as I want—or until I am no longer alive."

"I see. In that case, we can continue since I wasn't the one who killed your dad," Klaus smiled, and Miriam just shook her head.

"I suppose we can start. First of all, I would like to say sorry for how our first meeting ended. Things could have ended on a more civil note, but I suppose since it's in the past, we can let it be."

"Now that we both know the reason for this meeting, let's get down to business."

"I suppose we should do that," Klaus agreed. "Let's start with the most obvious. The answer to your questions is yes. I have the means to make you all become vampires. All traces of zombiness will be wiped from your blood."

"Your race will change from zombie vampires to just vampires, according to what I know. However, there is a catch—one that I believe you will all have to discuss, or you can straight away reject if you want."

Tifa nodded, looking at Miriam for a few seconds before turning back to Klaus. "Go ahead."

"The moment you all become Vampires, you will be connected to me. Meaning I will have supreme authority over all of you. However, before you frown, know that I have no plans on controlling you using my authority.

If anything, you should be happy you are linked to me. Trust me, I am that awesome," Klaus laughed, and his two wives, Miriam and Queenie, couldn't hold back their smiles either. Even Jaguar shook his head.

It turns out his master is not only terrifyingly strong, but he is also shameless—very shameless, in fact.

Miriam gazed at her sister, who was also looking back at her.

In fact, one reason Tifa revealed her identity to Miriam was because of this moment. Jin, the sly assassin lady who killed Nabil, was the CIA operative she saved during the early years of the apocalypse.

She was also the one who managed to locate Miriam. She also let her know when Miriam found herself a boyfriend, who now seemed more like a husband.

So, she knew Miriam would make things easy for her. Just like how her blood managed to turn the zombies, she knew Klaus's blood might have a similar effect. However, she also had supreme authority over the zombies, so she suspected Klaus would have the same over them.

She is too brilliant to the point that, after witnessing the battle between Klaus's side and the savage zombies, she realised something about the humans didn't add up.

The reports she received on the humans described them as weak, but what she saw was anything but weak. If anything, what she saw terrified her. So hearing Klaus's words now made her realise something.

And now that Miriam nodded to her inner thoughts, she knew things were about to change.

However, she was prepared for it... They were all prepared for it. Every last Zombie vampire inside the city heard what Klaus said.

When their queen asked them whether they wanted what Klaus was offering, their answer was that they would support her unconditionally, whatever decision she made.

She had already done enough for them. They were meant to be dummies that the humans were to use to level up. However, instead of that, they had a place to stay and a sense of belonging.

That was more than they could ask for.

So if their queen finally found a way to have her happy ending, then they would want to be part of that too, simply by trusting her and following her every arrangement.

The queen was touched by their unanimous trust in her, so she gave her answer to Klaus.

Chapter 895 - 895: Vacation Plans (End of Volume IV)

In the end, the zombie vampires chose to take Klaus's blood.

Excluding their queen, there are 4,500 of them in total, and the weakest among them is at the Sovereign stage. Even so, they have 45 Void-stage experts, 955 Ascendents, 3,000 Transcendents, and 500 Sovereigns.

This means that the moment they take Klaus's blood, they will all become terrifying. Klaus gave his blood to his friends when he was a Great Sage, but they all advanced from the Sage stage to the Ascendent stage.

So, he had no doubt that even the Sovereigns would become Ascendents, since Klaus himself is now a Transcendent.

Then again, there are the Transcendents who can become Peak Ascendents or even Void-stage beings, and if that isn't enough, there are the 955 Ascendents on track to become Void-stage beings.

Naturally, the Vampire race will be made up of warriors so powerful that when they appear on the battlefield, all hell will break loose.

What worries Klaus are the 45 Void-stage beings and the queen, who has already reached the 3rd level Chaos stage. The Queen can either reach the peak of the Chaos stage, and even so, Klaus isn't sure about one thing.

From what he knew, or rather, what he and the senior had deduced, the awakening occurs when the world's strength reaches a certain level.

Now, he can say his beast army, currently undergoing their awakening, would birth some Chaos-stage beings if all things go right. Even Eren, who is already at the 6th stage of the Void stage, has the potential to reach the Chaos stage.

This means that if the 45 Vampire zombies were to take his blood, the likelihood of dozens of them reaching the Chaos stage would be high.

which would mean Earth's strength would rise to a stage the heavens would find threatening, considering a paragon is living dwelling within...

Klaus didn't know if his reasoning was sound, but he was certain that soon, things would turn upside down. This only made him feel giddy and eager to handle all threats on Earth.

Klaus transformed into his Elf form and retrieved 4,501 drops of his blood, freezing them for the zombies.

"This is the cure. Just hand one to everyone and have them consume it. It will take a month or two, but trust me, you all will come out as perfect versions of yourselves."

Tifa smiled, receiving the blood. She immediately gave the six elders and two guards equal portions to share with every last zombie.

"I don't know what will happen to you, considering your blood can already mutate zombies, but if you come across more in the future, you will have to try it on them before sending them my way."

That said, "Where is the lady you took from the Savage City yesterday?" Klaus asked with a smile, causing the Vampire Queen to look at him with a straight expression for a few seconds before snapping her fingers.

The moment she did, a young lady with delicate features appeared. She had short, dark hair and blue eyes. The moment Klaus's eyes landed on her, something within his soul stirred.

Klaus felt it inside his first core. It was a weapon, or at least it was hidden among his weapons. When he took it out, a disc with drawings of stars appeared in his hand.

"Star Map."

Before Klaus could say anything, the young lady, now named Jane, spoke, looking at the disc with interest.

"You know what this is?" Klaus asked, and Jane nodded.

"I have been dreaming of it for 14 years." She moved closer and looked at the disc before a smile appeared on her face. "This is a Star Map. On these discs are nine stars, each holding a secret hidden from everyone. I don't know what these secrets are, but I intend to find out. It is almost like I was born for this."

Klaus looked at Jane for a few moments and then smiled. "I am Klaus Hanson, the most handsome warrior you will ever meet. I have a feeling we were meant to meet." Klaus extended his hand, and Jane took it with a smile.

"I am Jane, no surname or middle name."

"You can adopt mine if you want. That said, you need this." Klaus handed the star map to her, then retrieved a drop of his blood and gave it to her.

"You will stay here for now. The moment you awaken your bloodline, I will come for you."

Jane nodded and then swallowed the ice cube containing Klaus's blood.

"I will do well to evolve faster and help you to the best of my abilities, Big Brother," Jane said with a smile before walking away to cultivate.

Be it Tifa, Queenie, Miriam, or Jaguar, they were all dumbfounded by what had just happened. In an instant, two strangers met, and in the next moment, one became the adopted sister of the other.

And to make matters worse, Jane went ahead and called Klaus "Big Brother." That just felt surreal, yet it happened before their eyes. There was no denying it. Not even in the slightest.

Klaus turned and looked at them, smiling. "Looks like I now have a sister who isn't planning to devour me."

For some reason, meeting Jane made Klaus feel like all his fears of what was to come were not a big deal. He felt powerful, and that was why he chose to take a break.

"Miriam, I know you don't plan on going back with us, so spend some time with your sister. However, please note that she will soon enter seclusion. So, don't stay for long.

We, on the other hand, will be taking a break to go on vacation. This means that for the next month, there will be no training, so please hurry and join us.

You wouldn't want to miss the skydiving and all the amazing things I have planned."

Miriam smiled and later kissed Klaus and Queenie goodbye. Finally, she had some alone time with her sister. They had some catching up to do.

[Planet Verius - Dream Boat Library]

Planet Verius is one of the smallest planets in the Human Universe.

Of course, it was supposed to be called the Human Galaxy, but since there are 77 galaxies and millions of habitable planets in these galaxies, they called it the Human Universe, just like the Dragon Universe, the Elven Universe, and the others.

Planet Verius is located in the Vitto Human Galaxy. Ranking the planet based on size, it is among the very smallest.

However, this small planet has 10 Early Immortals and a True Immortal guarding it simply because, in the Vitto Human Galaxy, it is the place where anything you are looking for can be found.

It wasn't known as a Library World for nothing.

In fact, ranking all library worlds in the human universe, Planet Verius would be ranked among the top ten.

Currently, inside the dream boat library, a young man with human features but a tribal tattoo mark on his left cheek was browsing through thousands of books.

Judging by the number of books he had gone through, it was safe to say he was really looking for something very important.

After a few hours of browsing, he stopped when his eyes landed on one worn-out book...

"Planet Damascus... The known world of the Paragon of War. Records of the Awakening and what was observed." He read the title and then quickly opened it and started reading.

After a few more paragraphs, a grim look appeared on his face. "Oh, master, I hope you are preparing. I really hope you are because if you aren't, everything will come to ruin this time...."

The young man continued to read, and the more he did, the grimmer his expression turned. It was plain as day that what this young man was reading wasn't something he was happy about.

If anything, he was scared for his master, the Paragon of War, who, unbeknownst to this young man, was about to take his wives and soon-to-be wives on vacation, where they planned to shop, dine at the best food joints and restaurants, try all kinds of games, and, of course, have the best sex of their lives.

Chapter 896 - 896: Going On Vacation

Klaus's vacation plan was simple.

He and his wives, including potential ones, would explore all 8 Unions. Klaus hadn't really been anywhere. So far, he had only been to a few cities when he attacked the Dark Order.

So this was his first experience, travelling the world.

He had no plans to have much fun back then when he was trying to rise to the top, but now he just wanted to explore and have fun nonstop for four weeks. The plan wasn't elaborate, but he intended to savour every second of it.

He still had things to do, and one of them was exploring the dungeon that was set to open in two months. For Klaus, these four weeks were a relief, allowing him to experience some normalcy.

Of course, nothing was normal around Klaus, but for now, he could only assume he would have some normalcy and spend time with his wives.

But he wasn't going on vacation while everything else was put aside...

His plan to ensure the most dangerous threats on Earth were handled before the awakening would be completed by his friends and those to whom he had given his blood.

Before leaving for the vacation, he set all of these things in motion.

First, he gave Eren his blood so that she could also undergo her own evolution. She was the only one among the Doom Guards who had yet to undergo her evolution.

She went to the moon to handle that.

Afterwards, Klaus's 603 human warriors, whom he intended to become his Paragon Force, were also given his blood.

They had been training while he was away on his missions, and now that he was back, he made sure they underwent their evolutions.

The plan was to make them much more powerful, so after giving them his blood, he took them to the Moon, where they would begin to comprehend the Status of Defiance.

This status was created during his tribulation. It was when the heavens used the cavalry he once led in his second incarnation to attack him.

At that moment, during the tribulation, Klaus gained clarity, so he sculpted that faithful march of the cavalry army back during their battle with the immortals.

At the front of the line was Knox, his second incarnation, the rebel who made the immortals bleed millions of years ago. Following him were thousands of cavalry, comprising humans, demi-humans, and Supreme Humans.

When Klaus sculpted that statue, something ignited within him, and for a moment, he saw the cavalry rising again. So, he changed his plan: instead of turning the 603 humans into the Paragon Force, he planned to make them the next cavalry.

The Paragon Force would comprise his friends, wives, and others he wanted to include. This meant that instead of having only the Paragon Force, there would be the cavalry he planned to establish on Earth and later take to the universe.

For now, he didn't know how things would turn out, but he planned to ensure that within the next three months, his team would become much more dependable and ready for a major battle, one where the stakes would be on an entirely different level.

They will start by cultivating the statue that he named the Statue of Defiance. This cavalry defied the immortals by going against them, so he wanted to see that happen again, only this time, he planned to go against the heavens directly.

After setting the 603 humans on the moon, he gave his friends a series of missions after Abyss managed to locate where all the powerful monsters and beasts were hidden on Earth.

It turned out there were many more dangers than the ones Klaus had already taken care of.

There were 34 Tier 9 forbidden zones yet to clear and 6 Badlands to handle. But aside from that, Abyss managed to locate 109 Void-stage creatures hidden on Earth. Forty-five were monsters, and the rest were beasts.

He also located 7 Chaos-stage beings, with one estimated to already be at the 8th Level or even at the peak.

Klaus felt something didn't add up after this was revealed. So, he immediately deployed his friends, Overlords, Grand Elders, and his uncles to head out and start handling this danger.

They started with the forbidden zones.

Thankfully, Klaus didn't have to be there to see the monsters or beasts that resonated with his blood. Since his blood had been added when creating Skar, that responsibility fell on Skar's shoulders.

He would be able to identify those that resonated with Klaus's Star Monarch blood. Of course, Klaus also gave him the dimension cube.

Since he was the owner, regardless of his location, he could enter and give his blood to the monsters and beasts that would be transported in.

Klaus had already made plans to handle all this while on vacation, so he set everyone up.

However, Klaus noticed something disturbing.

Unlike how his friends and wives underwent evolution and created a connection with him, Klaus didn't feel the same with his uncles.

They also didn't gain new forms like the others, meaning that, aside from a significant increase in their strength and cultivation base, they remained the same.

Klaus tried to probe for answers, but his uncles only smiled whenever he asked them about it. In the end, he was just happy they were now more monstrous than before.

He knew that with their joining the mission, Earth would soon be free from all forms of danger. Then again, one cannot know the future, one that even the heavens wouldn't see coming...

After everything was said and done, Klaus and his wives were ready to start their vacation.

"You all should ensure he doesn't touch a weapon or get closer to anything that's weapon-like. This is his time to rest and feel what it is like to have many wives," Klaus's mom said, straightening his shirt.

The ladies nodded, already prepared to make Klaus feel their love. Klaus watched them all and smiled.

"You all do know my brain is literally a weapon..."

"Then we will make sure your brain doesn't work," Queenie said with a smile that made Klaus's mom give her a thumbs up. Klaus just smirked and then turned to Pickle Berry...

"No need to cry, Pickle Berry. Even if you scream your heart out, I won't take you with me."

The little snake lady, who now had the appearance of a 15-year-old girl, pouted, but Klaus just shrugged.

"Don't worry, big sister Pickle Berry, Nirvana and I will play with you when Daddy is away."

Thankfully, Nirvana and Fury were there to cheer her up. The two flame spirit dragons were now Klaus's mom's favourites.

They were practically her everyday companions.

So with them and Pickle around, Klaus knew they would be fine. Asha even made it so Klaus's mom could enter the Insect domain, so he knew they would be okay.

"Then we are leaving," Klaus said before moving toward the jet. Soon, they were off...

The moment they were gone, Klaus's mom smiled and opened the insect domain. "Ladies, what do you say we have our own vacation here?" Through the doors, the four Ant Queens walked out.

Their smiles bloomed when Klaus's mom took out a wine and glasses.

Of course, she also took out a fruit juice for Pickle Berry, Nirvana, and Fury. Just like that, the mother of the most shameless warrior in the universe also had her plans, just like how her son had his priorities set.

Chapter 897 - 897: Vacation Line Up

Klaus left with Ohema, Lucy, Anna, Lily, Nia, Aoi, Lulu, Asha, Queenie, Nari, Lunara, Nuna, Luna, Aria, Nova, Stella, Vida, Nadia, Lumia, Amelia, Sofia, Kathy, and Hanna.

It was a long list of women, but the Paragon had no intention of wasting time during this vacation. The plan was to have fun, and having this many women in his life would do more than just that.

Of course, his harem was full of twelve beautiful women. However, the others weren't going anywhere, and while he would love to say he would take things slow, Klaus knew that soon, things would become so chaotic that having a peaceful life would be too hard.

So, he had 31 days to get to know every last one of them, and this also included his women. Miriam was still with her sister but would be joining them soon.

For now, inside the large family jet that Ohema had bought just for this vacation, were 23 beautiful women, each a force to reckon with.

Klaus sat, his arms wrapped around Lily and Asha, who rested their heads on his chest.

He scanned the faces of everyone, and while his wives were in their element, the same couldn't be said for the rest.

First were the triplets: Nova, Stella, and Aria. They never expected to be included in this vacation. To them, when Klaus added them to his fold, they expected to be used as weapons meant to handle the threats that plagued Earth.

Never in their wildest dreams did they expect to go on a vacation with the most powerful warrior on Earth.

So they were a little tense, just like Lumia, Pickle Berry's mother.

To her, she knew this was Klaus's mother's doing. Of course, the shameless woman saw this coming, so she made sure the poor snake lady didn't let this chance pass.

Naturally, she was also looking forward to spending time with the human her daughter was infatuated with.

All Pickle Berry could talk about whenever they spent time together was how amazing her big brother was. This caught her interest, so while she was tense, she was also looking forward to how this vacation would go.

Then there were the twins, Luna and Nuna.

They had already been staying with Klaus long before the other ladies arrived. So they were a little more relaxed, but they couldn't shake the feeling of standing out from the crowd.

However, their love coach had already prepared them on how to remain in their element and not let anything slip past them. Of course, as assassins, they preferred to be in the shadows, as that was how they had been raised.

But even so, this was a new experience for them.

Then there were Sofia and Amelia.

Amelia was there because of Pickle Berry. Klaus saw that while Pickle Berry was afraid of Lily, she seemed more attracted to Amelia. It felt strange, considering Lily, at first glance, was the sweetest of all his wives.

But Pickle Berry, to this day, was still not comfortable around Lily. But she treated Amelia like the best of friends and the big sister she never had.

So Klaus knew the Blue Flame Phoenix was connected to his 8th incarnation. That was the only explanation. Naturally, now that her bloodline had awakened, Klaus started to sense that connection, as if they were meant to be...

And Amelia was the same... She had been having some strange dreams after her awakening, dreams where she was a completely different person, yet she felt like that was the true her.

She wanted to find an answer, and this vacation was her chance.

As for Sofia, the only dragon on Earth aside from Klaus's flame spirits—Klaus saw a sisterly connection between her, Lulu, and Lunara.

Klaus knew and believed that whatever the pentagon-shaped gem inside his 7th core represented, the three ladies were connected to it. He knew deep down that the gem only resonated around them. This means they are connected to it.

Sofia was connected to him in a way, and while they never had a good start, considering they first met as enemies, Klaus felt something about her that made his heart ache.

Subconsciously, he wanted to understand the feeling and, if possible, know why he was feeling that way.

Then there was Vida's stronghold, the lady with a body to die for.

Klaus, every now and then, stole glances at her exposed thigh. She was clad in a gown with a side cut long enough to reveal her thighs, which had been refined to the point where beauty and muscle had merged.

She possessed a body that was both muscled and tempered. She was naturally beautiful, and her height literally made her stand out.

As a brute fighter, her body was built to pack a punch. But she also had an elegant shape that screamed her beauty.

In fact, aside from being a giant in armour, she was also a beauty in a dress.

Naturally, Nadia made sure Vida wore clothes that would show off her thighs, for she knew Klaus had a thing for women's thighs.

Now, watching the Paragon steal glances at Vida's thighs, Nadia knew she had yet again outdone herself.

Vida also saw Klaus stealing glances at her, and while she looked nervous on the outside, inwardly, she was blushing.

Then there were the two vixens who, from the moment they entered the jet, had been staring daggers at Klaus.

Kathy and Hanna had already made their feelings known through their actions over the past few days, so they were only biding their time before they lunged at him and devoured him.

Klaus was already looking forward to that. But for now, he was enjoying the company he had found himself in. It wasn't every day a Paragon found himself in the company of 23 beautiful women.

"So, where are we going?" Anna asked, holding an ice necklace she was playing with to pass the time.

"We're going to Hiroshi City. Our vacation starts there," Klaus smiled. "Of course, I planned to visit all my in-laws before this vacation ends, so we will visit Aoi's family first, then head to Ross City next."

Hearing he wanted to meet their families made the ladies happy. Naturally, meeting the families of his wives was something Old Lu had told him to do.

Per the Old Monk, it was the right thing to do... so Klaus wanted to meet them all.

A little under three hours later, the jet landed in Hiroshi City...

Chapter 898 - 898: Hiroshi Family

The moment Aoi learned they were going to her city, she contacted her family and informed them of the visit. By the time Klaus and his ladies landed, there was a fleet of cars ready to pick them up from the private strip where their jet had landed.

It was a quick drive to the Hiroshi mansion, where a lavish meal awaited them.

Naturally, Klaus welcomed the reception because when it came to food, he had no mercy. He liked food, so being welcomed with the finest dishes was a rather good way of greeting him.

His ladies were, of course, happy to indulge in the welcoming experience prepared by the Aoi family.

Aoi's two sisters, Mio and Miki, were as usual around and easygoing. Tano, on the other hand, was one of the 603 to whom Klaus gave his blood.

In fact, the only people there were Aoi's father, Ryo Hiroshi; her mother, Miko Hiroshi; and her uncle, Kenji Hiroshi, who immediately came over when he heard Klaus Hanson would be visiting.

Just like Ryo, Kenji was also a swordsman. Although he wasn't on the same level as his brother Ryo when it came to handling his sword, he could be counted among the top twenty in the world.

He was also a war god who had been stationed in Hipok City, one of the less populated cities in the Southern Union.

Of course, Aoi's other two brothers, aside from Tano, were now part of the soon-to-be Cavalry of Defiance. They passed Klaus's trial and joined the 606, which now had only 603 members.

They were among the few who managed to join, despite not being students at the Celestial Mountain Academy.

Tano, of course, now had a good handle on his sword after the humiliation he went through the last time Klaus was there. So, the only ones present at the gathering were the mother, uncle, and two sisters.

Watching Klaus eat made the two sisters, Miki and Mio, giggle. It was just like yesterday when Klaus came to their mansion during the regional trials of the Celestain Mountain Academy.

Back then, Klaus showed them that while he may be a genius with a stellar reputation, when it came to food, all dignity and reputation were set aside. He was there for the food, and that was why, when they saw him eating like he had been starved for years, they couldn't help but giggle.

"I have to ask my mother-in-law. Do you think I can get this recipe?" Klaus asked, taking a bite of his well-marinated meat.

It came from a mutated cow, one that had more than enough spiritual qi running through it.

Of course, everyone had tasted the finest dishes, but most ate them for the spiritual qi. However, what Klaus was tasting now was on an entirely different level.

Aoi's mother smiled upon hearing Klaus's request. Unlike how Klaus mostly jokes about many things, this request was genuine. He truly needs the recipe.

"I believe we can work something out. Of course, you can come around every now and then if you want to have more of it."

Klaus smiled. "I guess I will. But not to disturb you, before leaving, I would like to have another bite of this brisket. If possible, I would also take some away so as not to forget the flavour."

"I suppose I can arrange that." Aoi's mother laughed and gave her daughter a kick to the leg under the table when she saw Klaus's plate was almost empty.

Aoi blushed and refilled the plate, causing her sisters to giggle.

"Who would have thought our dear Aoi would go from being a fan to a fancy? I have to say, my dear sister, you sure know how to shoot your shot," Miki said, causing Aoi to plant her face down, not wanting anyone to see her flustered expression.

"See who's shy? I mean, for someone who has cut out chestless photos of Klaus in her room, being shy shouldn't be on your calendar." Mio, of course, had to make it worse.

Ryo Hiroshi, who knew they were just trying to disturb his baby girl, shook his head but was deep in thought. His focus wasn't really centred on the food in front of him.

Looking at the 23 ladies sitting beside Klaus, he could tell he stood no chance against any of them.

In fact, putting his own daughter, whom he had trained less than two years ago, on a scale, he knew deep down that lasting two minutes with her would be a great achievement.

This made him wonder just what had happened to his baby girl, who was now becoming much more powerful than he was. Of course, as a father, he was happy for her, but as a warrior striving to become stronger, this display scared him greatly.

But for now, he would be a father.

"Aoi, don't mind them. Since they choose not to go out there and find themselves a man, they can only tease you as a way of releasing stress."

Ryo laughed, and Aoi, who was pampered by her father, felt better. She looked at her sisters and smirked, causing them to burst out laughing.

"Don't listen to this old man, Aoi. We just happen to be Amazonians, so our life is dedicated to being warriors," Miki said, and Mio nodded.

"Whatever makes you happy, I guess." Aoi now felt fine and decided to eat, making sure her man was well-fed. After an hour, dinner was over, and Klaus could only smile and savour the dessert like a boss.

"I guess we will be staying here for a few days if that's fine with you... Father-in-law?" Klaus asked, looking at Ryo, who scoffed and turned to his wife.

Of course, it had to be the wife. He knew that after Klaus sweet-talked her on how good of a cook she was, if he were to say the wrong words, she would castrate him in his sleep.

So, it's best to leave the decision-making to the wife, who smiled and, as someone who had been charmed by Klaus's honesty, was more than happy to accommodate him and his women.

"We have an entire mansion prepared for you and your women; you can stay for as long as you want."

"You are the best mother-in-law."

Ryo scoffed again and then stood up. He walked to the door and turned toward Klaus. "Follow me."

Klaus smiled, knowing the old codger was still uptight about the fact that he had sunk his fangs into her daughter without his permission.

"I will be back soon, ladies." Klaus stood up and walked after Ryo. Kenji also shook his head and followed, knowing that if he wasn't present, perhaps it would be a blood bath.

Chapter 899 - 899: Father-In-Law

Klaus followed Ryo out of the mansion and up a certain peak.

The air wasn't too dense with tension, but Klaus could tell something was on Ryo Hiroshi's chest he most certainly would want to let out. Even so, he didn't say much and followed his father-in-law up the peak.

A kettle of hot tea was already waiting for them when they arrived.

"Sit down," Ryo said, and Klaus did as he was told.

A couple of seconds later, Kenji also arrived and sat down opposite Klaus. Under normal circumstances, this would have been the moment Klaus should have felt intimidated. However, it wasn't like any of them could kill him.

In fact, Klaus, being Klaus, had already calculated 12,009 ways he could take them out and make it look like an accident.

So being worried was the last thing on his mind.

Ryo looked at him for a few seconds, then a sigh escaped his lips.

"To think the boy who was here less than two years ago for the regional trial of the Celestial Mountain Academy has already become a key figure everyone looks up to.

Good job, kid."

Contrary to what Klaus expected, Ryo actually praised him, which didn't seem or sound like him at all. If anything, Klaus expected him to throw a tantrum and complain about how he didn't even bother to ask for his permission before taking his daughter's innocence.

However, this was a different time. This was the apocalypse, where the rules were different, so perhaps he had adapted as well.

"I guess time flies faster than we expected," Klaus answered, and Ryo nodded. Time does fly faster than one expects.

Even his baby girl had already become stronger than him. If that isn't an indication that time is moving faster than expected, then there is no other evidence to support it.

"I know you expected this conversation to be about Aoi; however, I know you both are adults and know what you want, so relax. I called you here for something else."

Klaus smiled upon hearing that.

Kenji, who was seated beside his brother, also smiled. He already knew his brother's temper, so just like Klaus might have thought, he also thought the same thing.

But now, it seemed he wouldn't have to worry, for the sword king had no issue with him. If anything, this meeting was something he never expected, for what came next was something he hadn't expected his brother to do.

Ryo took something out of his space ring and handed it to Klaus.

It was a tablet-like metal slab, about the size of an adult palm. It felt like metal, but upon touching it, Klaus knew it wasn't. If anything, it felt more like sand. However, it was much heavier than sand should be.

It had some writing on it, and the moment Klaus saw it, he knew it was a technique. However, it wasn't the traditional sword technique with many forms.

This one was just a single sword technique with no forms. It lacked the formality of other sword techniques. However, instead of limiting it, Klaus saw something in the text that made his brow rise.

"I guess you can read and are even able to see the true form of the technique," Ryo asked, and Klaus nodded.

"This is just too good to be true," Klaus thought, unable to believe his eyes. The technique in his hand was a sword technique tailored specifically for cultivating a particular aspect of swordsmanship, known as "Sword Aura."

In the path of swordsmanship, there are many aspects. Sword Aura is one of them, and perhaps, in the long run, it is the path most swordsmen struggle to comprehend.

Aside from sword intent, the sword aura is the true intent of every sword move. It is what gives every move its sharpness and Lethal edge.

Sword intent is basically the manifestation of the swordsmanship belief. However, the sword aura is their weapon. The sword they wield is but a slab of metal, but with a sword aura, it becomes a weapon capable of slaying gods. And in the right hands, it can cause great calamity.

What Ryo had just given Klaus was a cultivation path for sword aura called Furious Sword Aura.

"This is a sword aura technique passed down through generations of my family, the Hiroshi sword family. It is passed down from father to son, and the tradition continues every generation. I am the current holder of this legacy."

"Does this mean your family has been practising the sword since long before the apocalypse?" Klaus asked, and Ryo nodded.

"Indeed. My family has walked the path of the sword for thousands of years. Though not common to the outside world, Japanese culture is mostly centred around swordsmanship.

My family is one of the few that saw the secret behind the sword, and over thousands of years, they have developed countless sword moves and techniques. This is one of them, developed by one of my great-grandfathers."

Klaus was taken aback by learning such a bizarre thing. It wasn't that learning the sword before the apocalypse was nearly impossible; it was just not plausible.

Mastering the sword is possible, but using sword intent and aura just doesn't seem possible. However, it seems things aren't as simple as Klaus thought.

'This is an eye-opening experience. To think a family could have created this path long before the spiritual reached this world. They are geniuses.'

It is impossible...

However, the Hiroshi family had been doing so long before the air changed into spiritual qi, setting everyone on the path of evolution.

And if that wasn't already shocking enough, they had even developed a technique for cultivating sword aura. And it wasn't anything simple.

The technique was profound, one that would require thousands of years to fully comprehend.

Not even Klaus, who had 68 minds, was able to pierce into the deeper secrets of the sword technique he was holding.

That alone told him everything he needed to know. The technique was something he could not take for granted.

"Why give me something this priceless?" Klaus asked, and Ryo sighed.

"To tell you the truth, I've spent the past two years debating whether or not to give this to you. After all, it is my family's inheritance, something meant to remain within the family.

However, after a couple of back-and-forths, I knew keeping it would be selfish. I myself had only made small progress despite spending the last 45 years learning it, and Kenji here is also not having a good time.

So, then, why limit the technique when it can be given to those who have already proven to have a good grasp of things?

I saw you fight that spider demon, and while I could be cocky and say my understanding of the sword surpass yours. I think we both know it's a lie.

Take this technique and learn from it. When you're done, you can share it with all those you deem worthy of learning it, too. You and Aoi are already ahead, so this will be a good way to grow even more on the path of the sword."

Kenji nodded in agreement to his brother's words.

He had already planned to let his brother share the family technique with the younger generation. After all, everyone was after the same thing: the protection of Earth and everything it contained.

Chapter 900 - 900: Klaus's Plan for his In-Laws

Klaus never expected to be handed a powerful technique like the one his father-in-law had given him.

First of all, he never expected people of Earth to have such an advanced technique that, even in his many lives, he had yet to truly find a sword aura technique as impressive as this one.

Sword cultivation was something Klaus knew he had done in his third incarnation as the Asura god.

So, while he didn't know how that life went, he had a deep-seated feeling within him that this technique in his hand was the real deal.

He could already see the potential in the skill, and as someone who valued power, he was genuinely happy to have received it.

The only question on his mind now was how any of this was possible.

Walking the sword path for as long as he had known depended on many things.

There was the concept of understanding how to use the sword without cutting oneself. That part sounded easy, but it was the foundation of every swordsman.

It was the stage at which they started to build the foundation on which their future progress would depend. Even so, there was no denying that, aside from that, some aspects were also critical in understanding the sword path.

One of them was the sword aura.

This unique concept involved imbuing the sword with a potent energy that enhanced its strike. It was the one thing every swordsman would want to possess.

Klaus had already encountered many swordsmen who employed this concept. But it went beyond that.

It went beyond merely using it to lace the sword. If anything, it could be used for far more than that, depending on one's understanding of the sword.

But understanding something so dangerous came with some complications, and one of them was learning how to improve it.

Many swordsmen spend thousands of years training to master the Sword Aura, but only a few have succeeded.

Understanding is critical.

However, not only does a family that hadn't had a connection to spiritual qi until 54 years ago possess a sword aura technique, but this technique is one that every swordsman would kill to have.

He looked at the slab of stone metal in his hand, and a smile appeared on his face.

"Thank you, father-in-law. I will be sure to learn and show the brilliance of this technique. Your family's inheritance will become a beacon of hope one of these days."

Ryo and Kenji nodded.

Hearing Klaus's words was enough to let them know things would soon become what their great-grandfathers had envisioned for the 'Furious Sword Aura' technique.

Klaus stored away the technique and took out the cauldron, making it float in his hands. He had reduced the size to that of an adult head, so it wasn't too difficult to manage.

Klaus then took out two orbs of water and wrapped an ice shell around them.

"This is pure Lightning Essence water. Drinking it will, first of all, awaken a lightning element within you, and based on the potency of this liquid, it will strengthen it further.

Aside from that, it will purify your body by removing all impurities, which will set you up for what I have in mind next.

This is my gift to you two. I will be leaving in three days, so by then you should have absorbed it.

Then I will hand you the main gift, which, if you have paid attention to Aoi and the rest of my ladies, you would have sensed the strength emitting from them.

Please note that there are conditions, and if you are not comfortable with them, the main gift may not be suitable for you.

But for now, use this essence liquid, and when everything is set and done, we will continue with the rest."

Klaus gave them the frozen tribulation water.

His friends had already used it to strengthen themselves with a secret technique Klaus gave them. Instead of awakening the lightning element, they grew stronger, and their other elements were also enhanced.

However, his in-laws were much weaker than his friends, so giving them a lightning element was one way to kick-start their journey.

He planned to turn all his in-laws into powerful warriors by the time his vacation was over, so starting with his father-in-law from the Hiroshi Great Family was a good start.

As expected, the two men before him were pleased to receive something that could enhance their strength.

After a few more talks, and finally Ryo making Klaus aware that the only reason he hadn't already severed his head was because Aoi begged him, the meeting ended.

Klaus only laughed as he moved back to the mansion to spend time with his mother-in-law and sisters-in-law.

He knew Aoi had indeed gone to his father before dinner, but it wasn't to beg him not to cut off Klaus's head; it was to warn him that if he didn't want to die, he should be on good terms with Klaus.

Naturally, Aoi was scared her husband would kill her father, knowing full well what a jerk her father could be sometimes. In the end, however, that didn't happen, and the meeting was a resounding success.

Watching him leave, Ryo and Kenji stood in silence for a few more minutes before Kenji spoke. "Speaking to him felt like speaking to my ancestor. I don't know why I felt that way, but I have already made up my mind: whatever he is selling, I won't hesitate to buy."

Ryo smiled, knowing full well he wouldn't hesitate to accept whatever conditions Klaus's help demanded. Ultimately, becoming strong in this apocalyptic world was something they all desired.

"Aoi has really found herself a good husband. If only those two trouble-making sisters would also find someone even half-decent as Klaus," Ryo laughed, and his brother Kenji was the same.

"You heard them, they are Amazonians, so you will only be having one son-in-law, Ryo. But that's good, because, unlike you, I don't even have one daughter.

Of course, if I did, I would have long pushed her in Klaus's way. Already having 23 wives means more won't make a difference." His laughter echoed in the mountaintop.

Ryo looked at his brother and just shook his head. "That lady you've been messing around with back during your university days in America has a daughter.

Perhaps you should go see her soon," Ryo smirked and walked away, leaving Kenji to wonder if his brother was messing with him or not.