

Paragon 951

Chapter 951: The Five Overlords of The Sea

“Pardon my rudeness, seniors, but as you can see, I came here for a reason — and that reason concerns you all,” Klaus said after taking his fourth sip of tea.

The four new arrivals were all powerful beasts, each at the first level of the Ascension stage.

Klaus didn’t know how, but these four existed, yet none of the sea beasts he had killed or captured had ever mentioned them.

This could only mean one thing...

...the sea beasts were more than they appeared. And now, looking at these five beings, who could topple the surface world and lay waste to much of it, Klaus understood why.

“I suppose it is only befitting of the leader of the humans to be simple. However, being able to sense us while just at the Ascendent stage is quite impressive.

That said, I am Kaumo, the Overlord of the Pacific Ocean,” said the Abyssal Leviathan. Klaus nodded with a smile.

He had to admit — if this conversation ended well, then the heavens wouldn’t know what hit them.

He could already see and sense it.

The five overlords before him had all awakened their bloodlines, soul bodies, and innate domains. All three basic attributes of a warrior were awakened within them, making them five of the strongest existences on Earth.

If he were to give them his blood, the chances of them evolving even further would be high.

“I am Thalyra, the Overlord of the Atlantic Ocean.”

Klaus nodded.

The third overlord had a unique appearance.

She has golden-bronze skin, long, wavy, deep-blue hair streaked with green, eyes like emeralds, and a statuesque figure.

Klaus could already picture her drawing all the attention whenever she appeared in public.

“I am Orvyn, Overlord of the Southern Ocean.”

“And I am Neryssa, Overlord of the Arctic Ocean.”

Klaus smiled. “I am Klaus Hanson, Overlord of Earth.”

The five overlords raised their brows at his words. They could tell he meant every word, and that alone made them view him differently.

“Then I suppose you’ve come here to ask us to become your subordinates, considering you’ve already taken all the capable fighters away and even killed quite a few,” Kaumo, the Abyssal Leviathan, asked.

Klaus nodded.

“I would love nothing more than to let you all be, but that isn’t possible. I know it may be hard to believe, but soon enough, something major will happen to Earth — and if you aren’t on my side, the outcome will be disastrous.

So while becoming my subordinate may seem like a headache, know that in a way, it's good for you."

The five overlords didn't respond immediately; instead, they contemplated his words.

A few moments later, Neryssa, the Overlord of the Arctic Ocean — and the second siren Klaus had ever met on Earth — asked a question that made him raise a brow.

"Are you concerned about the Awakening?"

"You know about the Awakening?" Instead of answering, Klaus asked.

All five nodded.

"How?"

"We just knew the moment we reached the Ascension stage," Kaumo replied. "We don't know how, but it came to us — and as the days pass, we can feel it drawing closer.

Now, the seal is breaking, and while we're not sure if that's what keeps making us uneasy, we know soon enough the whole world will be in danger."

Klaus nodded. "The seal is merely a lock placed on a long-lost kingdom. I'm not sure of the specifics, but it turns out the seal is breaking — and in a week, a great battle will happen.

That is not the Awakening. The main event will come soon enough."

"In that case," Thalyra spoke, "we are ready to become your subordinates. But you must promise us: after the Awakening, if we still live, you will free us to return to the sea, where no human will disturb us."

“I can do that. Of course, if you wish, I will even take you to any world out there you fancy.” Klaus smiled and produced a couple of fruits.

Now that his soul sea had upgraded to a level he himself didn't yet fully understand, the plants growing on the island within it were surrounded by incredible energy — and they were maturing far faster than ordinary plants.

So he now has more powerful fruits inside his soul sea.

“Eat up,” he said. “These contain some of the energy your bodies need.”

They began eating while Klaus explained the arrangements to them, and after ironing out a few details, they all accepted.

“Since you're already at the Ascension stage, there's no need to hide anymore. However, since there's no time for you to take my blood, you will stay here for now. When the battle is about to begin, I will summon you.”

“How is that possible?” Orvyn asked. “We haven't formed any contract yet — so how can you summon us?”

Klaus smiled. “You've eaten my fruit, so summoning you won't be a problem.”

They could only stare at Klaus, who smiled knowingly. After a while, he turned and left.

The seal would break in a few days, and he planned to work on a few more things and also meet with the King and Queen of the Bast race, along with their elders, to discuss how the battle would proceed.

Naturally, Klaus was ready to fight at any time, but since the Bast Race had their own elite warriors, he wanted to understand them better before the main event.

After he left, the five overlords of the sea remained behind, each silently absorbing the weight of the conversation.

“Looks like this Klaus Hanson is much more interesting than he appears,” a new voice suddenly said, filling the room.

The five overlords immediately stood and bowed.

“Empress of the Sea,” they greeted as an ethereal beauty entered.

She wore a veil over her face, revealing only her piercing golden eyes — eyes just like Klaus’s — and her white hair, also like his.

The five overlords looked obedient; those still chewing quickly swallowed.

They seemed to respect her more than their own pride and dignity.

The lady stopped at the head of the table and sat on a throne that seemed to rise from the earth itself. She glanced at the five overlords and smiled softly.

“No need to be so polite, you five. I already told you — we’re a family here. Just sit down and pass me one of those fruits.”

One of them handed her a fruit, but she didn’t eat it. Instead, she took it and stored it in her space ring.

“How can we help you, Empress?” Malma, the sea dragon, asked.

“Very simple,” she replied. “I want you five to do everything in your power to protect him. The battle to come is not one he can win alone, and you five are a key part of securing victory. Play your roles well, and the reward will be greater than you could ever hope for.”

They all nodded solemnly.

“How about his blood? Should we take it?” Kaumo asked.

The lady’s lips curved into a knowing smile. “You will regret it for the rest of your life if you don’t accept his blood.”

With that, she rose and left, her presence fading like mist on the sea.

The five finally let out a collective sigh.

“Is that how powerful we’ll become once we reach the next stage?” Malma asked quietly.

The others could only smile faintly and shake their heads, unable to find the words to express their feelings.

Chapter 952: Meeting An Old Friend

Klaus stood atop his sky serpent, speeding back to the mainland.

The sky serpent came from his Tempest Forbidden Wind element, one of the powerful elements in his arsenal

Though not the strongest among the four wind elements, he had awakened. When it came to speed, the sky Serpent is one of his best.

Klaus used it for most of his movements during the hunt, and the result was one that impressed him.

The serpent, in essence, was deadly enough on its own, but when used to augment himself, Klaus became even more dangerous.

During his hunt, he managed to experiment with most of his elements, and the results alone brought a smile to his face.

Element-wise, he was okay. The only thing on his mind now was his soul bodies.

He had no idea what they were up to, but he had a feeling he would find out soon. Waiting, however, was already eating away at his patience.

“Huh.”

Klaus turned his head sharply, looking behind him. He studied the horizon for a few moments before a sigh escaped his lips.

“I thought I sensed someone watching me.” Klaus shook his head and wiped his eyes. “Maybe I’m just overthinking things.”

He sighed again and focused on getting the journey back to the mainland.

He could have used his teleportation skill to return, but Klaus just wanted to feel the air on his face as he sped back to the mainland.

An hour later, he arrived on dry land and quickly made his way to the vampire city, which had recently been made public.

Klaus expected many to fear them when they heard the news, but to his shock, as he drew closer, he could sense many people coming and going from the city.

In fact, if he had been paying attention to the news, he would have learned that the most trending topic was the sold-out red customs of the vampire race.

With Nadia’s fashion company acting as the official designer of the red leatherwear, their sales had skyrocketed, and that alone was enough to tell Klaus the vampires wouldn’t need to buy blood.

He stopped a couple of miles away, changed into casual wear, and slowly entered the city.

“Looks like Ohema has stepped in too and already started improving and expanding the city for them,” Klaus smiled. “I can already see her becoming a powerful business mogul once we hit the starry skies.”

“Isn’t that Brother Klaus?”

Suddenly, Klaus heard someone shout his name, catching him completely off guard.

Klaus turned, and his eyes met a young man. He was clearly not a warrior, but the moment Klaus saw him, he recognized him.

This made him smile and wave. The young man immediately ran toward him, pulling out his phone for a selfie the next second.

“Brother Klaus, do you remember me?” the young man asked, drawing even more attention to them.

Klaus just smiled. “Of course. How could I forget GoodBoyBen? I even followed you years back when I was modeling for Nucci.”

Klaus replied, bringing tears to the young man’s eyes.

Back when Klaus had started becoming popular—without even his consent—this young man was the one who told him the reason behind all the stares and the candid images people kept taking of him.

After helping him, Klaus took a selfie with the young man, and since then, the young man had been claiming that he and Klaus were best friends.

Of course, everyone knew he was exaggerating, but as the first person to share an original selfie with Klaus, the entire internet began paying more attention to him.

This gave him some confidence, so for years, he had been trying to meet Klaus again but couldn't—until today.

And to his shock, he became emotional because Klaus recognized him. Klaus merely smiled, looking at the emotion on GoodBoyBen's face.

Noticing more people gathering with cameras, Klaus simply smiled for a few more seconds so they could get their pictures, then took GoodBoyBen's hand, and they vanished.

The next second, they appeared in front of the mansion where the Vampire Queen lived.

"Lord Klaus, welcome back."

At the entrance, the two guards he had seen before greeted him, this time with smiles on their faces instead of their masks.

The strange part, however, wasn't how they addressed him, but the fact that both of them were now level 5 Chaos Stage vampire warriors.

That was just too much for him to comprehend.

'They were level 6 Void Stage beings back when I first came here. But to think they've already improved this much... I suppose my blood is rather amazing.'

'The next time they take another drop of my blood, they'll cross into the Ascension Stage. I suppose this means I should work on improving my cultivation even more quickly.'

"You two should just call me Klaus."

They nodded, and judging by the smiles on their faces, they were very happy.

Klaus and GoodBoyBen walked through the door and entered the mansion.

“Where are we going?” GoodBoyBen asked, glancing around, visibly uneasy.

Klaus just smiled. “We’re going to meet the Vampire Queen.”

“Err...” GoodBoyBen was clearly taken aback. “Are you sure? I mean, the Vampire Queen is someone everyone’s been trying to see but couldn’t.”

“Yeah, well, she’ll see me. And since you’re apparently my best friend, you’ll get to meet her too.”

“I... I’m your best friend?” GoodBoyBen was struck with another wave of shock. This time, Klaus was teasing him—but also serious to some degree.

“I mean, weren’t you the one who claimed we were best friends? So why don’t we actually be best friends?”

“But... I’m not a warrior like you. All your friends are powerful warriors,” GoodBoyBen said, doubting himself. He couldn’t see a reason why someone as powerful as Klaus would want to be friends with him.

“You don’t have to be a powerful warrior or even a warrior at all to be friends with me. I mean, my mother is practically useless on the battlefield, but I’d kill gods for her.

So don’t worry about your status. You have unique talents, and that’s something to be proud of.”

GoodBoyBen nodded slowly.

“That’s the spirit,” Klaus laughed.

Then he pulled out a card from his pocket and handed it to GoodBoyBen. “When you leave here today, call that number and tell the person I said you should.”

GoodBoyBen took the card and carefully stored it away.

Soon, they entered the main hall, where the Vampire Queen was holding a meeting with her elders and some humans—including Miriam and Asha.

“Don’t mind us, we’ll just sit here,” Klaus said, moving toward one side. He and GoodBoyBen took two empty chairs and began listening to the conversation.

GoodBoyBen was in awe, being in such close proximity to not only the infamous Vampire Queen but also to the War Goddess Miriam and the mysterious Insect Queen, whose legend was gaining popularity among the masses thanks to Princess Eshira.

Though Eshira hadn’t yet become best friends with Klaus’s wives, her gossipy nature never faded.

In her own way, she had begun sharing harmless information with the masses—tidbits about their strength and heroics—which, judging by the public’s response, made people feel safer and more secure knowing they were being protected by such powerful warriors.

Chapter 953: Star Manipulator & Vampire Army

Klaus observed everyone inside, and the result was nothing short of amazing.

Starting with his wives. Asha had reached level 8 Void stage, while Miriam had already reached level 5 Chaos stage.

That is a huge leap for both of them. They are now capable of doing more damage in battle and helping their man in ways they never could before.

Then there were the Vampire Elders. They had all entered the Chaos stage, with the strongest already at level 9.

The two guards standing before the Vampire Queen had also reached the peak of the Chaos stage, and from the look of their aura, breaking through to the Ascension stage is only a matter of when.

'I now see why the heavens hate me. Who wouldn't be mad knowing that a mere drop of my blood can have this much effect?'

The Vampire Queen had now become a level 2 Ascension stage warrior, and that is just mind-bustling.

Adding to the five Overlords of the Sea, Earth has already recorded six Ascension stage warriors, and that is just too unbelievable.

"At least with Veylor, Eren, Nyxthar, and Skar almost at the Ascension stage, things are bound to get messy soon enough."

He had yet to check on his beast army, nor all the amazing changes that had happened to the Multidimension Cube, but he could tell the awakening was almost at hand.

Eventually, the meeting came to an end.

The humans who came with Asha and Miriam left. They sought to expand their business to the Vampire City, so through Miriam and Asha, they managed to meet with the vampires.

"Everyone, this is Benjamin, a friend of mine," Klaus said with a smile, introducing the scared GoodBoyBen, who wasn't having an easy time being around the monstrous talents in the room.

When everyone turned toward him, his body visibly shuddered.

"Pleasure meeting you, Benjamin. I am Tifa, and these are my immediate subordinates," the Vampire Queen said, making GoodBoyBen nod.

Klaus knew he was under pressure, but he didn't help. Since he had already entered the den of the wolves, he must learn to adapt.

"Landy, take Benjamin and show him around," Tifa said, and the male guard standing behind her nodded.

"Have fun, GoodBoyBen." Klaus waved at him. With a smile on his face, he turned back to face the Vampire Queen.

"So, you have now become even more beautiful. Tell me, how does it feel to be an Ascension stage warrior and, most importantly, a complete Vampire?"

Tifa smiled, feeling her body heat up with energy. "It feels great. Every last bit feels great."

"Good to hear that." Klaus was happy for them.

Every last zombie vampire had now become a powerful Vampire, and the result of how much strength they've gathered was enough for now.

"So, are you prepared for the battle coming?" Klaus asked, and Tifa nodded.

"We now have over 50 Chaos stage vampires, over 900 Void stage vampires, and the rest are Ascendants. However, not all of them will be fighting.

Jane had already done her selection and deemed the rest not ready for combat. Of course, it wasn't because they are weak.

She just wasn't having the right formation for them, so she planned to restrict them this time but would prepare them for the main event, whatever that was.

Klaus smiled, hearing the report.

The main reason he came to Vampire City was to meet Jane, the trump card, or more like the Ace under his sleeve.

The mission he planned for Lucy from the start will now be given to Jane, for she is much better suited to control the battlefield.

"Where is she?"

"Still in her room. She is always working. Something about Big Brother needs me, and I can't fail him. You should probably go talk to her."

Klaus stood up, and before he could even ask to be pointed in the right direction, he found himself standing before a small apartment.

"Sorry, Big Brother, I have been waiting for you for a while now," Klaus heard Jane's voice enter his ear. Then the door opened.

He smiled and walked inside.

"What the hell?" Klaus found himself hovering in space the moment he stepped through the door.

"Welcome to the star domain, Big Brother," Jane, who was clad in all white, said, walking toward Klaus with a smile on her face.

In her hand was a cylindrical-shaped item Klaus immediately recognized. It was the star map he had given her back when Miriam reunited with her sister.

Jane looked at the confused look on Klaus's face and smiled.

Klaus noticed she was at the peak of the Void stage, and while she was not a warrior who wields weapons or kills, she was now radiating a powerful aura, one that wasn't something she should have.

"Where are we?"

"This is the star domain, Big Brother. I managed to unlock the first tier of the Star Map, which is what you are inside now."

Jane wanted to see if Klaus could connect the dots. However, for the first time, Klaus was at a loss.

"Let me explain. This compass is an artifact from another universe. I don't even know what words to describe it.

The first tier is called the Star Domain. It allows me to connect to the nearest celestial bodies and pinpoint distortions between them and within them.

Basically, I now have the means to connect spaces together and navigate them with a single step. I can get to Mar anytime I want with a mere step.

Now, before we proceed, let's start with the basics. With this new discovery, my innate talent ability that allows me to control battlefields has merged with it, so I now have the means to move anyone on the battlefield to place I want.

This means if there is sudden danger in one part of the battlefield, with just a movement of my hand, no matter the distance, I will be able to move someone to handle it.

Of course, I can also move the enemy to places I want them to be, though that is a little more difficult and more energy-consuming than moving a teammate.

However, I am a Void stage warrior; moving up to even Chaos stage warriors will be a walk in the park for me. Ascension stage warriors, however, are not something I can handle easily.

I can at most move ten enemies at the Ascension stage before I wouldn't be able to handle it again.

But that is only on the battlefield.

Away from the battlefield, I can also move through space like I said, with a mere step. Currently, thanks to my not-so-strong metal strength, I can only move to, let's say, Mars and the other surrounding planets.

But I can perhaps navigate an entire Star system or even a Galaxy one of these days.

Aside from that, I can also, to some extent, sense the energy surrounding the world and determine what lives in that world.

I was able to scan all the planets in the Earth solar system but found nothing threatening. However, there is something strange about Earth that keeps making my skin crawl." Jane looked at Klaus and asked...

"Big Brother, have you offended someone very powerful? Because I can sense an intent directed toward this world, and it is not friendly?"

Klaus could only stare at the jade beauty for ten full minutes, not saying even a single word. When he finally did, he spoke the words from deep within his soul.

"Who are you, Jane?"

Chapter 954: Jane's Powers

If there is one thing Klaus understood about battle, it is the importance of movement.

Movement is a key factor that, when executed correctly, can turn the tide of any battle, regardless of the odds.

He had lived for a very long time and had seen what needed to be seen. He fought many battles and witnessed how a slight change in a team's coordination can significantly alter the outcome of a battle.

So, for him to be hearing what Jane is now capable of, he couldn't help but stare at her with a dumbfounded look.

Klaus's mind flashed back to when he got the Star Map.

'If I remember correctly, the star map was traded to me by the drunken immortal in exchange for an immortal stone I found in the Song Emperor's tomb.

Back then, after the exchange, I realized that despite being fascinated by the star map, I couldn't use it aside from forming a contract with it.

Now, to think the same treasure has found the right person to bond with, and has finally started showing its power'

Jane could only smile as she watched Klaus move from one emotion to the next.

"Big brother should know that when it comes to controlling the battlefield, I was born with it. Even before the star map, I was able to move my teammates as I pleased.

However, now that I have the star map, I can manipulate the enemy's formation, change their coordination, and even ambush them, but surrounding them with odds far ahead of their own.

Of course, if they have someone like me on their side and they also have a star map like mine, then perhaps I wouldn't be able to mess with them."

Klaus nodded and said, "You have become very powerful, Jane."

"It is all thanks to big brother's help." She smiled cheerfully, feeling happy hearing Klaus praise her.

"I suppose you will showcase your powers in the upcoming battle," Klaus said, and Jane nodded.

"I am going to be needed because the danger coming is huge." She waved her hand, and the space around them changed. They appeared atop the formation, which was slowly deteriorating.

"The formation will break exactly two days from now. I can even tell you the exact moment it will become undone. However, that is not the reason why we are here." She waved her hand again, and this time, they appeared inside the formation.

Considering the complex nature of the formation, Klaus could only admire the expert who created it.

Jane pointed at one section of the formation that had a crack in it. "This formation has been tampered with many times already, and judging by the crack in it, I can say the beings from the other side have already entered this world.

However, judging by the energy they left behind, they didn't come using their physical bodies."

Klaus focused his attention on the crack, and he managed to see the energy. "That is soul energy residue."

"Yes. This can only mean the beings that came through have awakened their soul bodies. Which means one thing: there are chaos stage beings among them."

Klaus nodded.

"That is the only logical explanation. But if they were able to risk a chaos stage warrior just to tamper with the formation, then who is to say they don't have more and even stronger ones?"

Klaus thought of the same thing but could only sigh in his heart.

During his discussion with Queen Nayiri, he discovered that long ago, the Sea Race was a beautiful empire comprising various kingdoms.

King Atlan was the Ocean Master and the one who led the race to claim the Trident of Poseidon, a weapon said to grant the ability to command the sea.

With that weapon, the sea was peaceful and the lives of the people were good.

However, King Kordax, the brother of King Atlan, wanted the title of Ocean Master, so he rebelled. Thanks to the Trident of Darkness, whose origin nobody knew, his rebellion nearly succeeded.

There were some holes in the history Queen Nayiri told him, but the last part of the history saw the banishment of the Dark Sea Race to the Abyssal Trenches, where they were banned from ever returning.

Of course, Klaus knew there were discrepancies in the history he was told, but one key takeaway he took with him was the Trident of Darkness.

Apparently, that weapon has the power to command death, and knowing it is in the hands of the Dark Sea Race made him a little tense.

But now, seeing the crack in the formation, he realized something.

"The Dark Race had long evaded this world or had tried and failed. Either way, I think I know they managed to make contact somehow, and I think they even tried killing me once."

Klaus smiled, recalling when he was attacked by the Dark Order and nearly died.

Now, he seemed to understand where the mysterious person behind the strange, unexplained events, such as the sudden leap in cultivation of the Legacy family and Great Clans, and even the sudden disappearance of Hunter Duncan and his companions, was.

"I suppose this is also a good thing, and with you on the team, things will be okay." Klaus and Jane smiled.

"I am ready to show my powers."

Klaus nodded, and then they returned to space, where this time, Jane pulled the other planets in the Earth's solar system closer.

"Though there are no living beings on them, each of these planets has something to offer. The surface of each of these planets has some elemental mutation, one that, if you cultivate inside, will boost your elemental power."

"I see. Then I will go there when I am free. For now, the battle is of the essence, and while it is not a must, I want you to do your best to showcase your abilities to everyone before the main event."

Jane nodded.

"I will also give you a mind cultivation technique, where I am sure after cultivating it for a few weeks, you will be able to make progress when it comes to your mental strength."

Jane was more than happy to hear that, for this was all she ever wanted. She wanted to be useful, and while the Savage zombies gave her the chance to prove her worth, she knew from the start it was only a matter of time before it all came crashing down.

Now, however, she wanted to prove to everyone and Klaus that she is capable and can help.

"Keep learning more about the compass. I am sure one of these days you will make a breakthrough, and that will be a good thing for you."

After a few moments of talking, the space changed again, and they were returned to the room that Klaus was supposed to appear in when he entered it a couple of minutes ago.

"I am going to Zanbathu to meet with the king and queen of the Bast race. Do you want to come?" Klaus asked, and Jane nodded, eager to spend some time with the one person her powers don't work on, unless Klaus gives her his permission.

She had already concluded that she could move anyone around the battlefield, but the one person she couldn't casually move was Klaus.

She was intrigued, and so she wanted to see if she could understand the reason behind that.

After spending more time in Vampire City, Klaus and Jane left, meeting up with Princess Eshira, who would be taking them to her people.

Chapter 955: Meeting The Black Panther

Klaus, Jane, and Princess Eshira arrived in Zanbathu using a sleek jet that, according to Klaus's research, can even travel through space.

The only thing it was lacking was a Jump drive, one that would allow them to enter hyperspeed and, to some extent, even enter the dark universe.

However, Klaus was informed by Princess Eshira that she and her team are working on that.

It turns out that aside from gossip, she is actually a good engineer.

Klaus offered to look at her lab and meet her team to see if they could work something out. He wants to explore his Nerd side some more.

Princess Eshira, who knew all about Klaus's history, was puzzled when she heard that. But again, for someone who didn't go to school, he was a co-founder and co-creator of Oracle, so she allowed her thoughts to rest for now.

"This place is clean. It's like there is no pollution here," Jane said as they moved through the city.

At the moment, they were passing over a thick forest, and judging by the greenery, Jane couldn't let her astonishment and praise rest.

Princess Eshira smiled. "We have long achieved green energy in Zanbathu. We have successfully installed air filtration systems and mechanisms designed to reduce carbon emissions into the atmosphere. It took some time, but we managed to reduce the emissions by 97%."

"I suppose for a race this advanced, something like this is but a trivial matter to you," Jane added with a smile as they gradually neared the city.

"I don't see any guards," Klaus said, scanning the area.

"Indeed. We don't need guards anymore since the whole of this place is protected by a complex formation that can even kill a Chaos-stage warrior.

However, should a situation arise where the formation cannot handle the threat, then the Border Guards will intervene. We have four different divisions of the army in Zanbathu.

Although no longer needed due to the formation, the ones meant to protect the borders are the Border Guards. They are an elite unit of warriors from the Border Tribe.

Their panther form has red marks on their left eye.

The second is the Mountain Guards. They are our brute army. They do all the heavy lifting and make sure the enemy never has a moment's peace.

They have a green mark on their left eye.

I don't really interact with them since we don't see eye-to-eye on most things. Of course, you can already guess why."

Klaus just smiled. "Brutes hate assassins and vice versa. So it is only normal for you not to see eye to eye on things. But I suppose they have their qualities and you also have yours."

Princess Eshira nodded. "They are elites, no doubt about that, and you would love to be around them if you have a brute side."

Klaus just shook his head and smiled. He could already see Danny and the rest of his brute friends becoming friends with these Mountain Guards.

"As for the third, they are our elite unit made up of only females. Now, before I continue, you must listen to this one simple rule.

When you meet the Dora Minake unit, under no circumstances should you smile at them, look them in the eye for more than five seconds, or try to shake hands with them.

Trust me, if there is anyone you should fear in Zanbathu, it is the Dora Minake. They are dangerous and feared, a unit even the King has to respect.

Now, their leader is a little uptight, but she is a good friend of mine, so maybe you will have a chance to talk to her. But observe the rules when talking to her."

"Sounds like they aren't simple," Klaus muttered, and Princess Eshira nodded.

"They are indeed not simple. They are every young female warrior's dream. They all want to have a chance to join them, but it is not that simple.

As for the last army division, they are known as the Panther Cult, led by the Black Panther, Prince Challa.

He had recently become an Ascension-stage warrior and even awakened the sacred bloodline of the Panther God Bast," Princess Eshira smiled, looking proud.

"He is the strongest of all of us and the heart of Zanbathu. He is also an easy-going person, so I am sure you two will hit it off quite well."

Klaus smiled. "I suppose we will. In any case, I think your military structure is quite impressive. I am already looking forward to meeting them all."

Soon, the jet arrived at a landing pad that had been lowered from the ground. The moment they stepped down, Klaus sensed the presence of powerful people around.

The place they landed seemed to be a military base, so the warriors were already around.

"This is the Panther barracks; it is where the Panther Cult trains. We will be meeting my brother first before heading to the other side of the city," Klaus nodded.

A few seconds after they landed, Klaus saw seven people approaching them. One of them was General Sahran. The others were all Peak Chaos-stage warriors.

However, one of them looked completely different, and without any introduction, Klaus knew he was the Black Panther.

Their eyes met, and for a moment, they each seemed to sense something. 'This feeling,' Klaus muttered, feeling his Star Monarch bloodline stir.

The resonance he usually felt when someone had an affinity with his blood seemed to pulse even more now as he looked at the handsome brown-skinned prince walking toward them.

"Big brother, hope you are doing well," Princess Eshira said, beaming with happiness. It had been a while since she last saw her brother, and while she would have loved to jump into his arms and hug him, she first had to behave like a princess.

"I am well, Eshira," Prince Challa said, looking at his sister with a smile on his face. He had already been notified he would be having visitors, but he never pegged the visitor to be her sister. But just like the princess, he also had to be a prince.

Princess Eshira smiled at her brother's words and then turned to Klaus. "This is Klaus Hanson, and his sister, Jane. Klaus is the leader of the Earth Alliance."

The other generals raised their brows upon hearing Princess Eshira's words.

"Sahran, when you said he is terrifying, I was expecting him to be on the level of the Black Panther, but to think he is only at the Ascendant stage..."

It was plain to them that somehow, something wasn't adding up. Judging by Klaus's current stage and the idea of him being the leader of Earth, they wanted to claw their brains out.

However, upon seeing Klaus's calm expression and the Black Panther's silence, the six generals began to sense that perhaps something was amiss.

And they were right.

While they only saw cultivation base, the prince saw strength—one that rivaled his own and might even surpass his.

"Nice meeting you, Klaus Hanson. I suppose since you are here, we can get right to it."

"I think so too."

The words were spoken lightly, but the intent behind them was one that eluded everyone listening.

Chapter 956: Heavens Reject

If there are people Klaus likes more than beings from the Forbidden Universe, then it's Heaven's Rejects.

Just as there are Heaven's Favourites, there are also the Rejects—those the heavens hold no remorse for. Their day-to-day activities are up to them, and whether they reach the peak will depend on their own efforts.

They are not hated like the way the heavens hate Paragons; however, they are not liked either. Their tribulations aren't as difficult as the Paragons', but they also won't receive kindness like the heavens' favourites.

Their existence is one thing that Paragons like, and Klaus has now sensed one.

During his many lives, he crossed paths with countless Heaven's Favourites, most of whom he had killed. However, the number of Heaven Rejects he had met was few.

In his life as Fruity, he met a Heavenly Reject. Although they didn't become friends, he managed to see something in them. This feeling was now being stirred as he looked at the Black Panther.

To a Paragon, Heaven's Rejects are diamonds.

In a twisted kind of way, the Rejects by the heavens are the favourites of the Paragon, and Klaus can sense why.

Perhaps in his many lives, he failed to connect with Heaven's Rejects, but now, with his Star Monarch bloodline, he seems to know exactly what he has to do and what must be done.

The Black Panther is resonating more deeply with his Star Monarch bloodline than any other he had met or given his blood to.

Deep down, Klaus knew the Black Panther also sensed some form of connection with him.

It seemed strange and, in a way, very strange, but they both sensed it.

It was like they were meant to meet. So, as he toured the Panther Cult barracks and every other place Klaus and Jane were taken, he continued to analyze the Black Panther subtly.

'To think Earth even has a Heaven's Reject and he had even risen to the Ascension stage in under 60 years... This is good.'

Klaus was already impressed with what he saw, and now, he started planning how to make the heavens bleed even more.

"So this is everyone. There are 2,500 fighters and 500 healers in the Panther Cult. We have already planned everything for the upcoming battle, so the only thing left is for the battle to come."

"I see. This is a good lineup, and with you leading them, I know they will do more than they appear to be." Klaus was impressed with their strength.

There are over 300 Void-stage warriors, over a thousand Ascendants, though most had just reached the Ascendant stage, and the rest are Transcendents.

Their strongest healer is at the Chaos stage.

"I also believe with your force joining mine, we can indeed handle the upcoming battle without much stress," Prince Challa said with a smile.

"I think so, too."

After a few more exchanges, Klaus, Jane, and the Princess left and headed to the Border Tribe to meet the Border Guards.

When they were gone, the six generals under the Black Panther approached him...

"So what do you think, my Prince?" one of them asked.

He didn't immediately answer them. Instead, she turned and looked at them and then sighed.

"I don't know how deep his strength goes, but I have a feeling he is no less strong than me, maybe even stronger. But who knows? Though you six have to know, if he wants you dead, he can easily kill all six of you with a snap of his finger."

They were all left stunned.

Though their prince might have exaggerated a few details in their opinion, hearing him say all kinds of good things about Klaus was already enough to tell them how important he views him.

Klaus, Jane, and Princess Eshira spent a couple of minutes at the Border Tribe, and after seeing everything there was to see, they left for the Mountain Tribe, where the Mountain Bulldogs were waiting for them.

Klaus had to give it to them; each unit had something unique to offer.

He observed that the Panther Cult prioritized the preservation of warrior lives, making their healers their top priority.

Meanwhile, the Border Tribe and the Mountain Tribe placed more emphasis on the combat aspect, so they had more warriors than healers.

But he knew with over 500 healers in the Panther Cult, they wouldn't have to fear injuries.

"Looks like your Bast Race has interesting folks, especially the Mountain Tribe. They are easygoing and simple," Klaus said on their way from the Mountain Tribe to go see the last unit, the Dora Minake.

"I suppose you can say that. But you should also know the Border Tribe is also easygoing."

Klaus nodded, but his favorite so far was the Mountain Tribe. They each had muscular frames and wielded heavenly weapons.

Soon, they neared the base of the Dora Minake.

From before the jet even landed, Klaus could already sense a few powerful glares aimed in their direction.

This immediately prompted him to recall the rules.

'No staring at them in the eye for more than five seconds. No handshakes and probably no jokes too.'

When they alighted, Klaus scanned the area and could only count 500 ladies. The weakest among them was a level 7 Ascendant.

Naturally, he was taken aback when he saw they had all bald heads and wielded spears.

"This is their look. Every last one of them uses a spear, and as you can see, they don't have time to let their hair get in the way of business, so they shaved that too," Princess Eshira whispered.

"I suppose that is practical in a way." Klaus couldn't deny the logic behind that.

"General Okoye, pleasure to see you again. This is Klaus Hanson and his sister Jane. I know you probably know more about him than anyone, considering you were the only one who read my mission report, so why don't you two catch up? Jane and I will have a look around."

Just like that, the princess left Klaus with the emotionless bald-headed demon.

Klaus looked her in the eye, and even after five seconds, he didn't look away. Then a smile appeared on his lips, shattering all the rules the princess had told him.

"Though we don't know each other and haven't met before in this life, I have a feeling we will be best friends."

Klaus extended his hand for a handshake, which for a moment felt like a go-ahead for the Yama King to come from the underworld and claim his soul.

However, to his shock, and perhaps to the warriors around, the bald-headed general of the Dora Minake took Klaus's hand and shook it.

"I know I will be seeing you again, Master," General Okoye said with a slight smile.

Klaus's smile also bloomed. "I suppose you can say I was also looking forward to meeting you again, Kaida. Looks like you have become much more powerful and beautiful even without your true bloodline."

General Okoye smiled. "I think we all know that it is impossible to awaken by bloodline without the master's blood."

"I guess so. Though I have to give it to you, Kaida, you look good being bald."

The general blushed slightly, something that left all the warriors puzzled to the point that a few started wiping their eyes to see if their eyes were deceiving them.

Chapter 957: General Okoye

General Okoye, or as Klaus called her, Kaida, was one of the strongest beasts Efad, Klaus's ninth incarnation, had in his beast army many years ago.

The day they met, Efad had to fight a great battle, one that lasted for three good days.

The Phantom Cats, who became his first beast companions, advised him back then to go to the Land of Monsters if he wanted to have a chance at building an army worthy of exacting revenge.

Of course, back then, Efad wanted nothing more than to get revenge on the Council of Elves, so he took their advice and led his 48 Divine beasts and the Two Vampires to the Land of Monsters.

However, what the two unruly Cats didn't tell him was that the Land of Monsters is a place governed by seven powerful beasts.

Back then, when Efad and his beast army arrived, they were unfortunate to appear in a land ruled by the White Berserk Panther, a beast at the Life Realm who was almost done mastering the basic laws of life.

Her name was Bast.

However, while Efad's first encounter with her is to be told another day, today, the story is about the right-hand woman of the Panther Goddess.

Her name was Kaida, a powerful purple-furred panther beast, one who was at the Domain stage, and one whom Efad had fought a great battle with.

With his team surrounded on all sides, Efad was left to fend for himself. Of course, back then, he was at the Chaos stage while his opponent was at the Domain stage.

And as a formation master, Efad was essentially out of his element. However, thanks to that battle, he learned something very powerful about his Star Monarch Bloodline.

He learned he had the ability to take the form of any beast he had under his command.

So he adapted, switching from one beast to the next, and while the outcome was obvious, Efad was grateful that Kaida did not kill him.

Later, she joined him with her leader, who would go on to become a Goddess in the future, one who seemed to have done her task quite well, as evidenced by the appearance of a Bast Race on Earth years later.

Klaus looked at the blushing general, whom everyone thought was emotionless, and could only smile

"Let's find somewhere private to talk," Klaus suggested, and General Okoye led him toward a room. Soon, they disappeared into the room.

Words soon spread around the base of the general, laughing, and to a human male at that.

Meanwhile, on the inside, Klaus and Okoye settled down.

"So, how have you been, Kaida, or should I call you General Okoye?" Klaus asked with a slight grin. As expected, Okoye smiled too.

"The master can call me any name he likes. And to your question, I have been doing well."

"In that case, I will just call you by your current name." Okoye nodded.

"Since when have you started recalling your memories?"

"About two weeks ago. Of course, before then, I had been having these strange dreams about a life I had lived, and the strange part was that whenever I woke up from those dreams, I saw changes happen to me.

However, the memories actually started coming to me from two weeks ago, and since then, I have become much stronger."

Klaus nodded.

"I suppose you already have a fair idea of what had happened and what needed to be done."

"I know, master. Though I have to ask, aside from me, have any of the family reincarnated into this world?"

Klaus nodded. "Rita also reincarnated, but she is currently having a hard time adjusting due to past bad choices. However, she is quickly adapting and, in no time, she will be ready for combat."

"I suppose with Rita here, things aren't too bad."

Both Klaus and Okoye had yet to fully know what happened to them in their ninth incarnation, but from the memories they both have now, they knew to some extent that this had something to do with the Panther Goddess, Bast.

After all, the Bast race came from her, and from what Princess Eshira told him, the Bast race has some form of spiritual connection to the Panther Goddess, and that was a clear sign to him that she is still alive.

Now that he had met the right hand of the Panther Goddess, he was sure she was indeed still alive and would one day reconnect with him.

"After the battle, you can go meet Rita. I am sure she will also trigger her memories. Perhaps that will help her much quicker.

Also, after the battle, I will give you my blood to finally awaken your bloodline. Afterwards, the rest of the Bast race will get some too, though we first have to convince them that my blood is a good thing."

"I will work on that, Master," Okoye said.

"You can just call me Klaus." Okoye nodded.

"Why don't you show me your new team? The ones I met in the Land of Monsters were much more dangerous and well-coordinated. I want to see if you have managed to form something even remotely close." Both Klaus and Okoye laughed.

Their first meeting was indeed funny, now that they both started thinking about it.

"Also, look what I have here." Klaus waved his hand, revealing a sleek spear made of a much stronger metal than the vibranium her current weapon was made from.

"Is that..."

"Yes. Your weapons. Perks of being a paragon. I don't leave anything that one's belongings to me or those close to me to the heavens and their snotty favorite bastards."

Okoye beamed with happiness as she received the spear from Klaus. The moment she touched it, her body shuddered as an unknown energy washed through her.

"Thank you, master. I almost forgot how it feels."

Klaus just shrugged, and soon they were back outside where General Okoye took Klaus to every last corner of her base, showing her master what she had built.

"Impressive. Though not like your formal unit, these ladies aren't bad either, and soon, they will become more impressive when they take my blood."

Okoye was pleased to hear that Klaus was impressed with her team of 499 capable female warriors. The more they talked, the happier she got.

Thankfully, they weren't in sight of any of her soldiers to see her smiling and laughing every few seconds.

After spending a few more hours with her, Klaus, Jane, and Princess Eshira left. Their next stop was the king's palace, where they had a pleasant discussion about collaborating to protect the Earth.

The talk was long, but after eating dinner, they concluded on things that would benefit each other. Klaus also managed to score himself vibranium for his side projects.

The next day, Klaus visited Princess Eshira's lab, where, after several hours there, everyone she worked with, including herself, concluded that Klaus was a hidden geek.

They had fun and later managed to connect them to Anaki and Inaki, who would be thrilled to work with genius minds like the princess.

Klaus sure knew that with the minds behind his first spaceship, joining the brilliant minds of the Bast race, he would be able to travel the starry skies soon enough.

He also discovered that the nerds who created Oracle were already in contact with the nerds in the Bast Race, working on further improving Oracle.

After ironing out a few details, Klaus and Jane returned to Moonville.

The battle was only a few hours away, so he also had to prepare his beast army, which had already numbered over ten thousand.

Chapter 958: King Kordax

[Abyssal Trenches - Bone Palace - King Kordax's POV]

The Abyssal Trench is one of the most perilous parts of the sea.

Long before the apocalypse, scientists attempted to explore the sea; however, after numerous failed attempts and many deaths, they abandoned the idea.

Their reason was that some things are not meant to be explored.

And they were right—the sea is not a place that can be explored.

It houses some of the most dangerous beings in the world, and the Abyssal Trench is the most dangerous part of them all.

Currently, within the Abyssal Trench, terrifying sea monsters — beings humans had never laid eyes on before — line up in a chaotic display of strength and brutality.

Most are mutated forms of sea beasts that humans used to prey on before and during the apocalypse. Now, looking at them, one can only see the danger they pose.

There are thousands of them, their aura not paling in comparison to the humans.

In fact, as one heads toward the Bone Palace standing imposingly atop a small hill, the strength of the sea monsters only seems to rise.

This shows the hierarchy, and while every last one of them is a sea monster, they all seem to understand this hierarchy, so none is breaking it.

Most are complete monsters, while some are a combination of humanoids and monsters. Sharks have human-like bodies and shark-like heads. Crabs have twisted human-like bodies, crab legs, and even more horrific parts.

Inside the Bone Palace, a human — or almost human, if not for the horns on his forehead and the gills on his neck—sat on a dark throne made of bones.

In his hand was a dark trident, humming with the aura of death as his subjects knelt before him.

This is King Kordax, the brother of the mighty King Atlan, who betrayed his race by wielding the power of the Trident of Darkness many years ago.

To many, he had died after being banished to the Abyssal Trench, but in reality, he is very much alive and planning his return.

Standing on his left was a beautiful lady with short, green hair and cute little gills on her neck. On her back was a quiver housing powerful arrows, and in her right hand, a bow made from an unknown substance.

Then, to the right of the king was a young man, also handsome, but with much more sinister-looking features.

He had a pair of horns on the top of his forehead, just like the king, while the lady did not. He wielded a spear, and on his forehead, an eye tattoo that looked more natural than man-made could be seen.

"Stand up," King Kordax said, and the sixteen individuals kneeling stood up. They were the sixteen generals of Darkness and the backbone of King Kordax's success in the upcoming invasion of Earth.

"Has everything been prepared?" King Kordax asked, his tone cold as ice.

"Yes, my king. I have managed to raise 10,000 capable fighters for this invasion. Most are at the Tier 11 stage, with the strongest ones already at the peak of the Tier 12 stage," one of the generals reported.

"Same here, my king. I managed to raise 12,000 capable fighters, with even three already at the Tier 13 stage."

The other generals gave their reports, earning a nod from the King of Darkness, as they called him.

"I expect a successful invasion. Failure cannot be an excuse here."

"We will make sure everything is in order, my king."

"In that case, get ready. The formation is almost broken. It's just a matter of time now." The generals bowed and then left.

A few seconds later, a dark-cloaked figure appeared from the shadows, having next to no presence whatsoever.

The moment he appeared, the two standing on King Kordax's left and right narrowed their gazes, fear passing through them for a moment.

It was clear they were wary of the new arrival, and that made them feel some form of fear.

"Skroll, how was your trip?" King Kordax asked in a rather soft tone this time.

Skroll answered in a deep yet soft tone, one that sounded like a combination of two voices, "It was a success, my king. The seeds planted on Earth will sprout a few minutes after we launch our invasion.

I made sure of that before returning. Additionally, regarding the issue with Lord Trench, he stated that he will participate in the battle but will only intervene if we are losing.

I assured him that we wouldn't lose and that he should simply show his presence for a few minutes when the battle started; this way, the enemy would lose hope before the battle even began.

Aside from that, the one we were warned about long before he awakened has just reached the Ascendent stage, making him someone to be taken off the board early.

He may appear weak, but I saw firsthand what he can do, and I know he is a flight risk if left to roam the battlefield for long.

Aside from him, the guardians of the Formation have also revealed themselves, and I learned the Black Panther has recently reached the Tier 13 stage.

Though he still pales in comparison to our generals, he has the blood of the Panther Goddess flowing through him.

He must also be taken off the board much earlier."

"That is why you are the right man for the job, Skroll. That said, be ready. This time, I want the entire surface world to know the name of the master strategist who manages to bring the mighty King Atlan to his knees."

There was no happiness from Skroll despite being praised by the great King of Darkness. However, one could sense the rise in his aura when King Kordax spoke.

"You can leave now." Skroll nodded and dissolved into the shadows, disappearing.

The king sighed and then turned to the lady standing on his right.

"Nebula, your mission is to take care of the one called Klaus Hanson. He must be dead within the first ten minutes. Do I make myself clear?"

Nebula nodded, "Yes, my king."

King Kordax then turned to the young man. "Arwan, your job is to kill the Black Panther. I don't want him interfering with the major battle."

"I won't fail you, Father."

"I know you won't because failure is not an option. You can leave now and get ready for when the formation comes down."

Once they were gone, the king leaned back on his throne and sighed.

"I will accomplish what I set out to do years ago, and this time, I will not let anyone stand in my way... Not even you, brother."

"Hahahaha..." Suddenly, a voice came from the trident King Kordax was holding. "Still delusional, I see. You still think any planning will save you, that you will be able to become the ruler of Earth.

If you still have that lofty ambition, then you've already lost, Kordax. But even without that, failing to kill him when he was young was your only mistake this time.

Or what, you think I used my own soul to seal you away for all these years just because I had nothing better to do? I saw what you couldn't see, and just like you, I prepared for this very day.

But good luck. Who knows, you might just succeed in dying this time."

The mocking laughter coming from the trident left King Kordax with a frown on his face.

'We shall see about that.'

Chapter 959: The Paragon Beast Army

The first thing Klaus did when he returned to Moonville was to enter the Multidimensional Cube to see what had become of his 12,745 Beast companions.

The plan had always been for him to create an army of beasts that could rival even armies of the heavens, and so far, he was off to a great start.

"This is unexpected," Klaus said with a smile when he appeared in the Multidimensional Cube.

Initially, the cube had a plain green field, where he appeared by default whenever he entered it.

However, that wasn't the case today.

He knew some changes had happened to the cube, but he had no idea what these changes were until now.

Inside, or before him, was a large field now featuring things like mountains, oceans, and many more.

In fact, there were even spaces designed primarily for training, and to his surprise, his beast army was currently hard at work, training like their lives depended on it.

Klaus was taken aback, and that only deepened when more information about the cube began to appear in his mind.

Within five minutes, he knew all that had changed about the cube, and the shock that came with it was plain as day.

"So four more laws had been added to the cube, huh?"

Initially, it was only Chaos and Void laws that had been unlocked when he first received the cube. Then, Space and Time were added. Now, Metal, Dimension, Gravity, and Life Law have also been added.

"I suppose this is only normal considering I have already awakened the Law of Time, Gravity, and Metal." Klaus wasn't too shocked about that.

However, his shock came when he received the information on the current standing of his beast army.

"How the hell do I already have 74 Ascension stage Beast warriors?" Klaus was taken aback, and this time, his face even paled.

It wasn't that he was afraid of his own beast companions.

The main reason behind his shock was the fact that if he had even half of these 74 Ascension stage beasts awakened on Earth, the heavens would have long responded.

That is very dangerous, and Klaus could sense it.

Thankfully, he became an ascendant when he did, and thanks to that, the cube was able to upgrade before the beasts evolved to that stage, preventing them from spying on his secret strength.

Of course, it wasn't foolproof, because he could already sense it, and Jane, too, could sense that. Soon, the heavens would respond, and when that time comes, he will unleash his true strength in the form of 74 Ascension stage beings.

But until then, Klaus plans on hiding them. The cube will do just that, and if the heavens don't come early, then it will be their loss.

If there was no other choice, he would have unleashed them all in the upcoming battle, but with a chance to hide them from the heavens, Klaus's next plan was to reach the void stage and further improve them.

"There are even dozens more already at the peak of the Chaos stage, and judging by how long they are taking to evolve, I know it was only a matter of time before the number of Ascension stage beasts under my command moves past one hundred."

But while Klaus was expecting the weakest in his legion to be at the Ascendant stage (Tier 10), the weakest was a level 7 Void stage beast.

"This is crazy."

Klaus smiled and vanished, appearing on a scorched battlefield where Zeyra, the Phoenix who chose to surrender during the mission on the moon to clear the lunar beast, was locked in a fierce battle with a dragon called Tharnak.

They were both Level 4 Ascension stage beasts, two of the strongest among the 74 Ascension stage beasts.

The moment he appeared, they sensed him, so they each came to a halt and turned toward him.

"Looks like you two are hungry for battle," Klaus said, and they nodded.

"Too bad, you all are too powerful to be taken on a mission just yet. However, that doesn't mean you won't be fighting."

Klaus smiled and gestured for them to follow him.

So far, over 10,000 beasts have evolved, and a few thousand more are in the process of evolving, so Klaus plans on selecting a few to join him.

After a couple of minutes spent calling all his beast companions, Klaus started to address them.

"I know most of you want to thank me right now for finally unlocking a part of your true potential, thanks to my blood.

Don't bother, we are all a family now, so there shouldn't be that much formality between us. However, we also aren't done yet.

This initial awakening was just the first phase of your evolution. The second phase will start soon. But before then, some of you will be accompanying me in an upcoming battle.

Now, I know all of you want to join, but know that I will be taking only 100 of you, and no, I won't be taking more than an Ascension stage warrior beasts, so chill, y'all.

That said, I want 50 Chaos stage beasts and 49 Void stage beasts.

The rest of you can be summoned at any moment, so be ready, but should the need not call for that, then don't cry, a much bigger battle is on the way.

That said, how many of you want to join this battle?"

As expected, all of them raised their hands, but Klaus just smiled and selected the beasts that were prone to fighting in water.

"This is so heartbreaking. I was hoping to devour a few beasts, but at last, it is back to sparring with you, Zeyra," Tharnak, the dragon, said with a sigh.

His innate ability is Star Eater, one of the rare kinds of devourers.

So far, Klaus has only two of them; the other is Pickle Berry's mother.

Klaus smiled, hearing Tharnak's words.

He waved his hand, and eight portals opened in the air.

"These portals lead to dimensions governed by certain laws. I wanted to personally see what you both can do in combat before taking you there, but after a recent upgrade to this space, things are different now.

Now, if you have an affinity for any of the laws, you will be allowed to enter; otherwise, please refrain from forcing your way in.

Those of you who won't be able to enter any of the eight portals, don't cry, more will open soon enough."

They became a little happy hearing what Klaus said. The next few hours were spent examining all of the 100 beasts he selected, despite having details on every last one of them, thanks to the cube.

He picked a seahorse as the lone Ascension stage beast to accompany him.

"You all should be ready. I will summon you soon enough." They nodded and started getting ready. Klaus looked around for a few more minutes before going back to the real world.

While he wouldn't be using his Ascension stage beasts hidden from the heavens, he most certainly would be using the ones currently known by the heavens.

Nyxthar and the rest had become Ascension stage beasts, and knowing their number would only increase, he planned to keep things covered for now.

Seven hours later, the formation finally fell, and the gateway to the Abyssal Trench was opened.

A great battle was about to commence.

Chapter 960: Earth vs The Sea (1)

[An hour before the Formation Came Down]

Klaus and his teams, alongside the Bast Race's four Army Units, were ready for battle.

All over the Atlantic Ocean, thousands of battle-ready warriors were lined up, each a powerhouse in their own right.

The Border Guards, Mountain Guards, Panther Cult, and Dora Minake, led by their respective generals, were all leading their teams.

Every last one of them was ready to inflict damage on the enemy, and judging by the fierce look in their eyes, one could tell they had been waiting for this very moment for a while now.

But who could blame them?

Most of them had been training for decades in preparation for a battle that wasn't coming anytime soon.

So, for the battle to have finally arrived, they each wanted to show their strength as defenders of the Planet Earth.

The majority were at the Ascendent Stage and Void Stage.

However, the number of Chaos Stage warriors wasn't small either, though it paled in comparison to the number of Chaos Stage warriors on Klaus's side.

Even so, they had 14 Peak Chaos Stage warriors on their side and an Ascension Stage warrior, so that spoke volumes.

Meanwhile, on Klaus's side, there were five teams.

The first team was led by Lunara. She was leading the Lunar Warriors, who, thanks to Klaus, most had now become much stronger.

They also have many Void Stage warriors and a few Chaos Stage warriors, with Lunara even at the peak of the Chaos Stage. She and her Grand Elders, each at the Chaos Stage, were leading the Lunar Warriors.

The second team was led by Queenie and Ohema.

They would be leading the warriors of Earth. Though at the moment only the War Gods and Goddesses and a few others had received Klaus's blood, Queenie picked a few capable ones and added them to the team.

Klaus would give them his blood after the battle.

They were also backed by the Overlords, so there was some backbone to that Earth team.

The third team was the Vampire Army, led by the Vampire Queen and her sister Miriam. The two were a deadly combination.

The fourth team was the Paragon Force, led by Lucy and Anna. They numbered fewer than a thousand, but the weakest among them was at the Peak of the Void Stage.

They had spent the last month on the moon training and comprehending the Statue of Defiance. Safe to say they had benefited greatly from it, and the results showed in the aura emanating from them.

They were also being backed by Klaus's friends, their girlfriends, and his five unruly uncles, who are now at the Void stage.

Then there was the strongest team on the battlefield, the one led by Klaus.

His team had the smallest number but the most potential.

Aside from the 100 he brought from the Multidimensional Cube, the Doom Guards, and his initial beast army, all of which were at the Ascension Stage, is part of his team.

Abyss, Sir Totti, Wolfie, and Jaguar had all reached the Ascension Stage, and adding them to the three Doom Guards and the Seahorse made a total of eight Ascension Stage beasts on Klaus's side.

But they weren't the only ones on his side.

[The moment the Formation Fell]

Every last warrior was ready to jump into combat the moment the formation fell, so when it finally did, every warrior became alert.

Then, a powerful presence emerged from beneath the sea, pulling the water away and revealing dry land.

Deep within the sea, a suffocating force gushed out, shaking the hearts of the thousands of warriors waiting for the danger to come.

"This is," Uncle Totti muttered, feeling a much superior energy land on his heart.

"That is a peak Ascension Stage beast," Klaus smiled, then he spoke.

"Intimidation tactics won't work, Mr. Whoever You Are... So, better get your ass here or scram." Klaus snapped his fingers, and the fear that had entered the hearts of those he gave his blood to was washed away.

Of course, the Panther Race didn't have that privilege, but with someone like the Black Panther standing at the front of the line, they managed to recover.

Of course, it wasn't that they weren't afraid anymore; it was more like the source of the intimidation stopped the moment Klaus snapped his fingers.

Somewhere deep within the sea, a man seated calmly in a wooden chair raised his body sharply and gazed into the distance as if he were meeting the gaze of someone.

Naturally, on the surface, Klaus was also looking in that direction with a smug smile on his face.

Despite looking into the face of an ancient evil, one that not even King Atlan in his heyday dared challenge, Klaus merely held a smile on his face.

It lasted for a few seconds, but those few seconds were enough to convey all there was to say.

The man leaned back on his chair and closed his eyes, looking unbothered when, in fact, he was more than bothered but could not do anything about it.

Of course, the fact that he leaned back on his chair and closed his eyes doesn't mean the thousands of sea monsters under King Kordax's command would also relax.

"They are coming." The water covered the ground once more, and then the sea began to surge.

In the next few seconds, terrifying monsters emerged from that water, and the long-awaited battle started.

"KILL!"

The first team to advance was the Border Guards, who, naturally, are the first line of defense for the Bast Race. But even without that, they were close to the location from which the sea monsters emerged.

They braved the danger, and soon the Mountain Guards, or as they soon came to call themselves, the Mountain War Dogs, also joined the chaos.

Both the Lunar and Human armies went into battle at the same time, followed by the Paragon Force and the Vampire Army.

Soon, every last team had joined the chaos except Klaus's team.

They were just standing on the side, watching as the danger slowly emerged, revealing thousands of monsters that, a few months ago, would have terrified everyone.

Now, however, everyone was facing them in combat, and none looked scared.

"Abyss, your job is to make sure the enemy knows no peace on the battlefield." Klaus turned to Abyss, his machine beast, and said, "Make them hate you. Make them want to kill you, and most importantly, make them aware of the danger they have found themselves in."

Abyss was okay with his role, so he pointed his right hand at a horde of energy monsters, and in an instant, it turned into a large cannon.

"Incinerating Strike!"

A powerful blasting strike came from the cannon, reducing thousands of sea monsters to shreds.

Just like that, Abyss brought all the attention to himself.

"Happy hunting," Klaus smiled as the machine beasts dashed into the thousands of monsters coming his way.

He knew the ones going down were the monsters.

A machine beast is one that never grows tired in combat, and Abyss, who had been upgraded to a Divine Machine Beast, was more than enough to create the much-needed chaos for everyone.

"You all know the drill, so maximum effort."

Soon, only Klaus was left standing.

However, it didn't take long for him to sense something in the air.

"This feeling," Klaus turned sharply to his left, just as a powerful arrow arrived, aiming for his head.