

Seller 561

Chapter 561: Mark acquires a demon slave

'It looks like I struck gold.'

Mark controlled his happiness by clenching his fist and trying to be as calm as possible as he replied, "Bael once told me about the existence of a beast named Leviathan. I wish to form a contract with it. But, I don't know its location and I don't have enough time to explore this entire realm in search of the beast. If you kindly help me, it would help me a lot."

"Guardian Leviathan?" The demon's eyes widened in shock before a chuckle escaped from him, turning into a burst of laughter, "seriously? Hahaha... oh, great devil... I never thought I would hear such words from a mortal in my whole life. You looked like someone who is still in the Body forging stage (<demigod) and you want to form a contract with the Great Leviathan? Hahaha..."

"Guardian?" Mark was taken aback by the demon's address toward the beast. He felt like the beast he had to face was something that was more powerful than this Saint-realm demon lord. At once, he felt like he should use the amulet and escape this place.

But, remembering his promise, he calmed down his nerves with a deep breath and nodded firmly, exuding confidence outwardly, "I think I can do it, as long as I have help."

"Help? Bael is considered one of the top three fighters in this realm and not even he is a match for the guardian," replied the demon. After a brief pause, he turned serious and added, "Return to your world, mortal. You are lucky that you are in my region, or else, you would have long been shredded into pieces."

The demons don't like mortals and neither do they care about other demon kings in their territory."

'Stronger than Bael? Is it in True God realm (14-circle)?' Mark's facial expression turned ugly, 'In that case, I don't think it is possible for even Chang'e to save husband's soul. Hmm... wait a second. It could be possible with Unnamed. The box weighs over 1.32 billion kg. If I unleash Gravity Dome to the max, its weight will be increased to 264 billion kg.

Now, the target is a 14-circle realm beast. To injure it, I should at least need force equivalent to that realm.

Let's see... Song Missile with a warhead of 42KT yield releases around 174 Tera Joules, which is equivalent to an attack from an immortal (11.1 stats).

Then, The Mark-14 Nuclear bomb with a yield of 6.9 Megaton releases around 28.9 Peta joules; and that is equivalent to an attack from a Saint (12.1 stats).

So, that means the energy released from an attack of a Saint is roughly 165 times bigger than that of an immortal. I can't calculate it linearly but for a rough estimate, the bare minimum needed to hurt a 14-circle realm should be 1 Zeta joules. We might even be 10 times the value but let's assume this bare minimum value.

Let's say I throw it down from 1km of height. Throwing horizontally requires more work. Not to mention, there is always a risk of failure.

The gravity here in the netherworld is around 16.32 m/s^2 , according to Ark.

But, what if I apply density manipulation on the object? Its mass will be increased up to 200 times. So, its overall weight will be increased by 40,000 times. Ah, nope. Don't forget that base gravity is different here. it is 1.6 times higher.

So, the resulting weight will be 84.48 trillion kg."

"Ark, calculate it for me. Assume the required energy release is 15 zeta joule."

*Ding! That will be around Mach 126 approx, the required velocity needed to achieve the result."

"Eek. that is impossible."

"Ark, reduce it to 1.5 Zeta joule then."

*Ding! That will be around mach 40 approx, the required velocity needed to achieve the result."

"Oh, boy... Mach 40, huh? Hmm... I guess, that is also achievable." Mark nodded. Mach 40 sounds like a huge number but with the help of the divine throne, Mark felt like he could do it.

As the object was bound to his soul, he didn't feel its weight even under any gravitational force. Hence, he was confident in inflicting even greater damage as long as he could just throw it with everything he got, provided that it hit the target.

But the only problem is that this attack should be done discreetly. He needs someone to take away the attention from the target.

As Mark returned to his senses, he saw the demon had already returned to his practice, thrusting his demonic spear into the air.

Mark got an idea.

"Uhh... excuse me," Mark interrupted his practice once again. As the demon looked at him, this time with a slightly annoyed expression on his face, Mark said in a calm manner, "Earlier, you said that you wouldn't like to form a contract with humans for their selfish desires, but I also know that strength is everything in the demon world."

"Yes, so?" The demon furrowed his brows, not liking what this conversation was going to do.

Mark then summoned his divine throne and transformed it into a submachine gun with a thought in his mind, "I would like to challenge you for a duel with my soul as the stake. You win and you may claim my soul; I win and you form a contract with me. Do you dare to accept?" He purposely raised his voice in the end, trying to provoke the arrogance of the demon.

"So, this divine artifact is the reason for your arrogance?" The demon instantly responded with the bottom end of the spear slamming onto the ground, "A foolish mortal who doesn't like to appreciate my noble intentions deserves to die." His demeanor changed instantly. The demonic aura erupted from him, forming a layer over his skin.

Raising the spear and pointing it at Mark, the demon said, "I, Alloces, one of the Great Dukes of Ars Goetia, accept your challenge. If you could win against me, I will even be willing to be your slave, do your bidding for the next hundred years."

*Ding! Information about the target has been updated.

'Man, that was even better. I guess it was the luck points,' Mark nodded with a smile, pointing the gun at the target.

Just as the demon lord was about to make his move, Mark's eyes turned icy blue as he mumbled, "Freezing Gaze, Activate."

Alloces only moved one step and he was frozen on the spot, imprisoned in ice. Mark didn't wait for the enemy to get out; he put away the gun and charged forward while unleashing another skill, "Thunderblast."

Rumble

Dark clouds gathered in the sky within a second, followed by the rumbling of thunder, and the descent of yellow-colored lightning, striking the demon directly on his head.

A few seconds later, as the ice melted down, Alloces was found standing there on the spot, with his burnt hair and blackened face, and second-degree wounds on his body.

Thud

He fell to his back at once.

"Uhh..." Mark stood there in a daze, watching the mighty demon falling unconscious in an instant, 'that was an overkill? I thought he was a peak-stage Saint Realm demon.'

*Ding! Master, the target was frozen in ice, which slowed the movement of molecules in his cells. As a result, the cellular energy, which is the prime source of demonic energy couldn't properly defend the body. Meanwhile, the lightning strike as well as the Ice were both conjured by the master. Hence, they didn't go against each other.

However, when the lightning strike hit the target, the resulting energy and the target's fire attribute energy melted down the ice, which turned into water, further helping the remnant lightning energy to inflict more damage on the target.

'Oh, never knew that this combo could have such an effect,' Mark was pleasantly surprised by the result of the combo he merely created on a whim. He thought of freezing the target on the spot, which could give him the time to inflict damage with the Thunderblast that only has the power of an intermediate-stage Saint Realm expert.

If there wasn't the artificial intelligence that scanned the process and explained it to him, he wouldn't have known as everything happened in just a matter of few seconds.

"Well, let's wait then."

Chapter 562: Bael offers a deal to the Moon Goddess

Half an hour later;

"Ugh..."

Groaning in pain, Alloces slowly woke up and found himself on the ground. His physical injuries were all healed up, automatically by his demonic energy, but the mental injury that Mark placed on him caused him to shiver at the thought of it.

Just as he was praying that everything was just a dream, he heard the voice of Mark, from behind, "You finally woke up, Alloces."

Alloces involuntarily sprung upon his feet and turned around and saw the human, sitting on a glowing exquisite throne that befits a king. While he was at it, he saw the human was also drinking something from a large cup.

Taking a sip of coffee from the mug, Mark looked straight into the eyes of the demon standing before him, "So, what now, Alloces? You have lost. Now, will you honor the bet or will you go back on your words?"

Alloces clenched his fist and took a glance at the spear on the ground, not far away from him, and then at Mark for a few times, before he went down onto one of his knees and placed his fist on the ground, "Master."

'Hohoho... demons are sure easy to handle, compared to the humans.'

Mark maintained his calm demeanor on the surface but there was a tiny figurine size that resembled Mark dancing inside his head, shouting loudly, "Yay... yay... a 12-circle realm slave. I can control him means I can also get to control his army, la lallal la la..."

After a while;

*Ding! You formed a contract with Alloces

*Ding! Absorbing the scroll of Alloces.

5 minutes later;

*Ding! Scroll of Alloces has been transformed into skill.

*Ding! 'Summon Alloces' skill has been added to the skill list.

Summon Alloces (max): The user can summon the demon lord and the Great Duke of Ars Goetia, Alloces, from the netherworld with his full strength. Cost: 1 year of lifespan per hour. CD: None.

Note: No cost is required if the summoned location is in Netherworld. The cost will be reduced accordingly if the summoned location is in a place filled with demonic energy (i.e. a place inhabited by demons). The cost will multiply accordingly if the summoned location is in a place filled with divine energy (i.e. a place inhabited by divine beings).

"Ugh... I should have expected it, but that is alright." Mark wants to face-palm himself for rejoicing prematurely but eventually, he convinces himself that at least he can summon the demon with his full strength. Not to mention, his lifespan increases as he enters the demigod realm and this would become his greatest asset when he becomes an immortal.

*

Meanwhile, thousands of kilometers away, above the Endless sea of Lava;

Chang'e, the Moon Goddess, was seen battling a demonic beast that looked a bit like a giant centipede but could move freely in the endless lava sea.

She was hovering in the sky, breathing heavily while keeping an eye on the lava sea below her, "Damn this insect. It was too cunning. I don't know how long it takes to defeat it.

But, at the same time, I cannot leave its domain until I defeat it either." She was muttering under her breath as she was releasing cold gusts of wind through one of her palms continuously to cool down the temperature in her immediate surroundings. The heat emitted from the sea of lava was proven to be a difficult opponent for her.

The other palm was also constantly conjuring Ice spears, launching at the invisible barrier, a hundred meters above her head.

After concentrating on one spot, for a whole hour, while dealing with the beast's random attacks from time to time, she finally managed to see a crack on the barrier.

Chang'e couldn't help but rejoice, "Finally, I think I can escape this place, instead of wasting time on this insect."

She stopped cooling down the air around her and bore the intense heat, her concentration was no longer on the lava sea, and she went with a big attack for the first time in the past 45 minutes.

Almost half of her energy reserves were consumed as she blasted an Ice beam into the sky, aiming at the crack.

"Graa..."

Pyrochilus, the Infernal Arthropod Monarch, rose from the sea once again and opened its mouth, attempting to swallow the goddess.

Ting

A sound resounded in the surroundings as the Ice Beam destroyed the barrier, at the same time.

"Sh*t"

Chang'e face turned serious with a bit of panic with her body was struck with some kind of toxic gas; the centipede's mouth was almost about to swallow her. She concentrated on releasing her remaining reserves of energy in the form of an explosion to blast its head.

But, it was then three scarlet beams came from the sky and struck the beast simultaneously.

"Graaaaa..."

The Centipede let out a painful roar before retracting back into the sea.

Chang'e raised her head to stare at the sky; her eyes fell upon a demon floating in the sky; it had long spider legs but had three heads; one resembled a cat, one resembled a man, and the last resembled a toad. In terms of appearance, one can only term it as hideous.

"Why is he here?" Chang'e was taken aback by the figure appearing in her sight. At the same time, she couldn't help but frown upon sensing its strength, "I cannot see or sense Shang Zhen anywhere nearby. So, he came here alone. That doesn't sound like good news. He is in the same realm as me. But, I cannot display my full strength in this realm.

Without the Orb of time, I'm not a match for his strength. Must I use it here? Unless I'm sure I can kill him with this, I cannot take it out. This treasure might attract the other demon kings too. Calm down Chang'e; let's see how this plays out. He helped me earlier.

So, I can atleast give the benefit of the doubt."

The three-headed demon slowly descended as Chang'e slowly ascended. As they met face to face in the sky, the former opened his mouth, through the man's head, coming directly to the matter, "You are here at the same as Lu Zhen. I suppose both of you must have teleported to this realm, together?"

Chang'e calmly nodded as she dispelled the last bit of remaining toxic gas in her system, "Yes."

Demon King Bael continued to ask, "What was your purpose?"

Chang'e calmly answered, "I merely tagged along with the mortal."

"Lie," hissed the cat head; its eyes seemed glowing in yellow.

The man head then let out a smile, "It's pointless to lie against me, Deity of the Moon. You neither have the stronger cultivation like the other Deities nor have a heaven-defying existence like Lu Zhen." His smile was quite creepy, for his lusty gaze that was wandering her body from top to bottom made her uncomfortable.

Chang'e tried her best to calm her nerves as she answered truthfully this time, "My business is with Leviathan."

"Leviathan?" This time, it was Bael's turn to get surprised. "With your cultivation? You should bring the Jade Emperor to deal with the Guardian," He commented.

Chang'e let out a snort, "That is my headache to deal with it. This matter has no business with you. I'll repay your favor some other time but for now, it is best if you don't get in my way and better focus on your contracted mortal."

"Unfortunately, I'm sorry but I have to get in your way, for I have some business with you," replied the three-headed demon, before increasing his size to at least a hundred times.

As Chang'e was startled by his sudden move and moved back to maintain distance, Bael continued, "Let's make a deal, Deity of the moons. Hand me the divine essence of your soul and I will assure your protection in this realm. Reject it and I shall take it by force."

"My divine essence?"

Chapter 563: Marbas, the demon healer

The soul essence core is something one attains when they reach the Saint realm (12-circle).

While it says soul essence core, in fact, it is nothing more than something like a core that stores attributes' energy.

In general, attribute energy is always drawn out when applying skills. The skills are nothing more than the transformation of attribute energy.

Of course, there are certain skills that use nature's power, like Mark's thunderblast skill or Gravity Dome.

However, in general, when people use their special skills, they always bring out their attribute energy from their cells.

But, every now and then, there will be a genius who manages to bring out their attribute energy from their cells, without expending their ether energy. For example: Song Yue's great grandfather-Song Tai, and her best friend, Lin Xue.

What if one isn't such once in a once-in-a-century genius then?

Then, they have to wait until they become a Saint Realm Spirit warrior (12-circle) and form the soul essence. Then, all they need is to store it in their soul essence core, which is formed inside their soul, and use it whenever they want. The more one has attributes, the more they have essence cores.

Chang'e is a moon goddess, blessed with divinity. Hence, apart from the ice essence core, she also had a divine essence core. That's where her divine energy attacks come from.

What the demon was asked is her essence core itself.

Giving it away will not make her cripple or something. However, it will take time to rebuild the essence core; possibly ten years or even hundreds of years.

Obviously, she was reluctant to make such a deal. "Why do you need it?" She had to respond with a question, for his deal followed up with a threat.

But, will one of the demon kings of Ars Goetia reveal his true intentions and give her the answer she wants to know?

Nope.

Bael shook his human head as he replied, "I'm afraid I cannot say it. Will you agree to the deal or battle me?" he stressed her to give a proper reply.

Chang'e stared at the giant demonic creature in silence for a few seconds and broke the silence with a counter deal, "I don't need protection from other demon kings. It is not worth it. If you want to showcase your sincerity, then, help me with my mission and I will give you the divine essence you desire."

"If you want me to help you defeat the Guardian Leviathan, I'm afraid that's out of my capability," Bael replied firmly, stressing the last set of words as if he wanted her to say that she should forget it.

However, Chang'e surprised him by revealing the truth, "My husband's soul is in the hands of Leviathan. Help me free his soul. If using force is meaningless, then, use words. I don't care as long as you can free him."

"Divine Archer Houyi's soul, huh?" Bael thought for a bit and retracted his giant form, back to his usual size, followed by transforming into his humanoid form, which reduced his strength even more, in order to display his trust.

He then gave a nod, "If it is just that, I agree with your terms."

Chang'e responded with a frown, "I hope you fulfill your word. I don't know what you want to do with my divine essence but if you try to kill me, then, I will destroy it myself before it falls in your hands."

"Nothing to worry, miss deity," Bael smiled, straightened his back, and bowed like a gentleman with one of his hands on his stomach, "we demons always honor our deals."

Chang'e shivered involuntarily, feeling disturbed by the sudden change in the demon's behavior. "Ah, yes. So, where to find that serpent?"

"Before that, we need to meet a certain demon"

"Hmm?"

Back to Mark and Duke Alloces, both of them were flying across the valleys and mountains, nonstop for two hours at hypersonic speeds, finally reaching plain grasslands that looked out of the place in a demonic world.

It was the closest that resembled a human world. Greenery could be seen everywhere here. Even more strange is that the demons here, instead of fighting each other, were all seen plucking flowers or planting trees.

"What kind of being was Marbas?" Mark couldn't help but ask Alloces as they flew across the grassland, watching down below. He was surprised that demons could be like this too.

But, Alloces had different opinions from him. "This guy is a fool, the scourge of demonkin. The demonic world respects strength and loves war but this fool prefers peace and loves to heal the injured. There are so many beasts in this realm that we can hunt down and eat them to gain strength but this fool loves to eat those things called rice and wheat that only fill the stomach and nothing else.

If not for the fact that this guy is protected by Leviathan, he would have been killed by now. But, no one wants to incite the hatred of the Guardian."

"Interesting." Mark got more curious about the demon that loves peace. "How did he win the favor of Leviathan?" He asked.

Duke Alloces explained, "We are not sure what happened but some time ago, Leviathan returned to this realm being heavily injured. Several demon kings are ready to slay it, but Marbas sacrifices his demonic essence to heal some injuries of the guardian. It averted those power-hungry lords' plans. Marbas didn't finish there.

He continued to stay beside the guardian and slowly healed him for a long time, bringing it to its peak once again.

While Leviathan's existence is always a threat to the nine demon kings, it is also the thing that protects our realm from any kind of invasion from the Heavenly Palace. We are talking about the being that could fight head-on against even the Jade Emperor even with its lower cultivation. And you want to form a contract with it. I seriously don't understand what's going on in your head."

Mark attentively listened to the entire story and he had suspicions about that event. If Leviathan is so strong, how come it was injured by Houyi, who is nothing more than a mortal? Chang'e said that Houyi was also its contractor.

Perhaps, its strength was restricted when it battled Houyi?

When he summoned Bael, the latter's cultivation was also restricted to 2 realms above him. So, that is the case, then?

At the same time, Houyi was said to be the divine archer, blessed by the Jade Emperor. But, he had a contract with such a powerful demon? Could it be possible?

Mark's situation is different. He merely had the mark of a deity planted upon him. He doesn't have any blessing of a Deity.

Maybe, someone manipulated the story to hide something?

Something is missing in this puzzle. But, what is it? Mark wondered.

On the way to the secluded on the hill, Mark also learned many things about Marbas to understand his strength as well as his personality. He formulated a plan by the time he reached the destination. He was also confident that he might be able to cut a deal with Marbas, who seems to have an obsession with herbs, fruits, and plants.

Imagine his surprise when he saw a powerful barrier erected around the hut and Alloces cried out, "Oh no, Bael's infernal domain. Is he going to kill Marbas?"

"Eh? What?"

Chapter 564: Reuniting with Bael and Chang'e

"Infernal domain is the highest kind of domain in this realm, which is exclusive to the nine demon kings. As it is formed by their life force, it is impossible to break this domain from inside, unless its caster willingly dismisses it or the caster gets killed.

What's more terrifying is that the trapped individuals will have their cultivation bases suppressed by a whole realm. Even from the outside, it is durable enough to block Leviathan's attack to a certain extent. Hence, this can also be used as a defensive barrier. The problem is that Bael is known to have only used this barrier when there is an enemy he must absolutely kill."

Mark patiently listened to Duke Alloces' explanation, leaving Ark to scan the barrier, in order to find out any weak spots.

Within ten seconds, the results came in.

*Ding! The barrier is weak against Divine energy.

"Of course, demonic energy is hostile to divine energy and vice versa," Mark summoned his divine throne in the form of the submachine gun once again.

"What are you doi..."

Duke Alloces furrowed his brows when he saw the weird-looking thing in his master's hand, which gave him a bad smell.

But then again, Mark merely used it as a decoy to launch other skills in their battle. Hence, he was also curious about its abilities.

As Alloces stepped backward, Mark poured his ether energy into the gun and clicked on the trigger.

zzzzzz

A kind of buzzing sound escaped the weapon as a super thin beam of golden energy launched through its barrel.

It attacked the barrier nonstop for five seconds, but couldn't put a dent in the end.

Alloces: "..."

"Well, it's worth a try," Mark shrugged his shoulders and put away the weapon, feeling embarrassed inside while trying to do his best to be calm on the outside.

He sat down on the grass for the next minute to recover his ether energy. It only takes 70 seconds to fill his reserves. So, he wasn't worried about it much and focused on formulating another plan.

*Ding! Master could use Absolute Authority on the contracted demon to remove the barrier.

"Can't you say it sooner?"

He was racking his brains and the sudden notification almost made him lose his cool. Suddenly, he felt like a fool; well, it was not a new feeling. He had such experiences in the past.

"Ark, change the title to Absolute Authority."

*Ding! The title has been changed.

Mark got up and suddenly shouted at the top of his lungs, "Bael, come out."

"Ah!" Alloces was startled.

Meanwhile, inside the hut;

Bael, in his humanoid form, had his hand tightly grabbing over the throat of a messy blonde-haired demon who wore round glasses and colorful clothes, "With this barrier, you won't be able to contact Leviathan for help too. If you can't help us, then there is no use in you keeping alive. Now, I'm asking you for the last time. Will you cooperate or not?" He almost growled as his eyes were glowing.

The demon was trembling in fear. "I... I... I..."

"Ugh..."

Suddenly, Bael let out a painful groan, freeing Marbas and grabbing his head, "Damn this mortal. One of these days, I will skin him alive."

"Bael, come out, right now."

The sentence echoed in his head as something invisible trying to take away his consciousness. He resisted it somehow and hurried out of the hut, before losing his mind.

As he got out, he saw a familiar figure standing with his contractor. He immediately dismissed his domain and shouted at Mark, "Now, dismiss that mind-controlling power that you have, Lu Shen."

Alloces: "Mind controlling power?"

"Change the title back to Master of Holy Beasts, Ark."

*Ding! The title is changed.

Mark smiled, "Sorry about that. I don't have any other way to remove this barrier you kept, and Duke Alloces here told me that you are killing Marbas. He cannot be killed? Chang'e?" His smile was replaced by a shock. "What are you doing here?" *Ahem* "I mean how did her grace end up with Bael, here?" he corrected his tone in the end, trying to show calmness on his face.

The Moon Goddess that came out of the hut was also as surprised as Mark. Before Bael replied to him, she directly explained, "Due to some circumstances, I encountered Demon King Bael and he told me that this demon Marbas could help us in bringing to Leviathan."

"That's what Duke Alloces told me to," Mark pointed his finger at the demon lord standing behind him in silence.

"Hmm?" "Hmm?"

Chang'e and Bael momentarily shifted their attention to the Saint-realm demon. While Chang'e didn't react and returned her gaze back to Mark, Bael narrowed his eyes and fixed his gaze on the demon lord, "I didn't expect a noble demon who hates forming contracts with humans to try to compete with me. Hmm?"

"Uhh..." Alloces averted his gaze with an awkward smile, "It was never my intention, but it is just that..."

"Just what?" Bael pressed him further as Alloces paused.

Mark took this opportunity to brag, "I challenged him. He said that he will be my slave for the next hundred years if he loses. He lost the duel."

"Huh? Seriously?" Bael was taken aback this time. He couldn't help but burst into laughter as he patted Alloces nonstop, "Oh my Great Devil, you have made a great mistake this time, Duke Alloces. Don't you know that their Earth years are different from our demon years? This is why you should frequently visit mortal worlds."

"EH? How much?" Mark questioned curiously.

"You mortals calculate the years according to the time that takes your planet to revolve around its sun, but a year here is calculated by the return of Great Abyss Tower. In your earth years, on average, it returns for every 245-260 years."

Mark's eyes widened in realization, "That means..."

Bael grinned mischievously, "On average, 25000 years of servitude."

"Ah!" Alloces' face went pale all of a sudden and Bael's laughter intensified even more. "hahahahahaha, you are doomed. Your master's personality is just as bad as the Great Devil. His greed knows no bounds and his

cunningness to take advantage of the situation is second to Mephisto. You are done for, Alloces...
ahahahaha"

Mark: "..."

Chang'e: "..."

Roughly 36 hours later;

Three demons, one goddess, and one mortal were seen flying above the endless sea of lava; Alloces looked all depressed even after 36 hours, Chang'e was uncomfortable with the environment, Mark was working with his artificial intelligence to scan everything in 100 km range and mapping out the netherworld, Marbas was leading the group but still couldn't control his shivering, and Bael was constantly exuding his aura to keep away all those pesky beasts down below at bay.

Eventually, everyone's own thing came to a stop as Marbas descended onto one of the islets of an island group scattered in all directions.

As they landed down, Bael enhanced his senses to scan the area, even to the depths of the sea, "I don't sense the presence of Leviathan here, Marbas." He furrowed his brows in displeasure.

Marbas bitterly smiled, "if it was that easy to sense it, you wouldn't need my assistance, King Bael." He followed it up by taking out a conch from his storage ring.

"This is the Guardian's treasure." He showed it to Bael.

Mark instantly activated his Eyes of God skill to check it out.

Leviathan's Conch (real name not known)

|le|mp|yr

Status: bound

Type: Artifact

Equivalent Grade: Diamond

Uses: Likely used to summon the beast associated with the Conch, likely the Leviathan.

*

Mark pointed his finger at the conch and asked, "I think you can summon the Leviathan anywhere. Why did you bring all of us here?"

Marbas flinched at Mark's question, but before he answered it, Chang'e opened her mouth instead, "I bet it is because this place is too far from the other regions. So, no other demon king will be alerted by Leviathan's presence."

"Yes, I cannot take the risk of causing unnecessary casualties, but that's not the whole truth," replied Marbas in a timid manner while glancing at Bael, checking his reaction.

He was about to state the true reason but Bael then said as if he was impatient, "Okay, blow it and call the guardian."

Marbas didn't waste any time in bringing it to his mouth.

paaaaamm

A mighty sound traveled across the sea and as soon as it died out in around 8 seconds, a portal opened not far away from them, and a half-naked male with vertical slits in his eyes and bluish scales all over his body.

"Why did you summon me, Marbas... Hmm?" His tone was filled with annoyance as he spoke to Marbas, but then as his eyes spotted the others, his facial expression suddenly changed, taking everyone by surprise. His powerful scarlet aura released from his body, forming a layer over his skin.

"Hou Yi... you dared to show your face in front of me again?" his voice filled with anger, stupefying everyone for a second.

"Huh?"

Chapter 565: Battle against Leviathan (part-1)

Leviathan

Status: Humanoid form

Current Rank: peak-13-circle

Est. Rank in its true form: peak-14-circle

Age: ~7000 approx

Grade: Primordial

Attributes: Water

Description: One of the primordial beasts emerged during the creation of the universe. As the one without true death, Leviathan is reborn every time it dies, losing its memories and cultivation it held in a previous life. As the one with the power of water creation, it can endlessly create water, out of nothing.

*

The humanoid form of Leviathan was glaring specifically at Mark, mistaking him for the divine archer of the past, "Back then, you might have bested me with your cheap tricks but this time, it is going to be different." He roared. The anger was evident on his face.

While the demons confused his words and even Bael couldn't help but cast a sidelong glance at Mark, Chang'e hurriedly defended him before the situation went out of control, "He is not the one who you think he is, Hou Yang."

Her words instantly attracted Leviathan's attention, especially that name. "It's you Chang'e, the betrayer's shameless wife who stole my prize to become immortal." His gaze of hatred lessened a bit, but it was still there as he looked at the Moon Goddess.

"Mind your words, Hou Yang," Chang'e frowned, offended by his words, "The Elixir of Immortality isn't something the likes of a demon can get its hands on. Moreover, you never truly fulfilled your promise of solving the crisis. My husband is the one who destroyed the nine suns. What did you do other than merely holding back the Sun God for a few minutes?"

Adding on top of that, you purposely killed hundreds of thousands of mortals during your fight with my husband. You certainly don't deserve such a treasure."

"Preposterous..." He roared, releasing a sonic wave and pushing away everyone.

Mark and Marbas blasted away the farthest while Bael was unaffected in the least. Chang'e, on the other hand, pushed back a few meters but that's it. Meanwhile, Alloces flew back in the direction of the wave to catch Mark in mid-air, hundreds of meters away.

"Ugh... this is why I was against meeting the guardian. Why do you have to insist, Master Lu? You are seriously tired of living and now you will drag me to the death with you," Duke Alloces scolded Mark without holding back.

Mark spat out a mouthful of blood and wiped his mouth, "He is too strong."

Chang'e flew into the sky and took out the Orb of time, getting ready to battle. Bael witnessed it and his eyes widened in realization, "That's a cosmic orb that reeks of time. No wonder she decided to give me her divine essence. What a cunning goddess."

Meanwhile, Leviathan glared at Chang'e, "So, you have come prepared, Chang'e. But, this won't be enough to take me down."

Chang'e replied, "I'm not here to take you down. I want my husband's soul back. Release him and I will go in peace."

"Huh? Houyi's soul?" This time, it was Leviathan's turn to be taken aback by her words. He took a glance at Mark and then at her, letting out a grin, "If you can defeat me, I'll give you the answer. But, you must have something to lose, right?"

Leviathan's hand was stretched to the side. A powerful suction force erupted from his palm, traveling in a narrow straight path and striking Mark. The latter opened his inventory and was about to take out the divine throne to raise his cultivation temporarily but found himself flying toward the enemy, unwillingly without being able to put up resistance.

Just two seconds passed away and Mark's neck was in the hands of Leviathan, taking everyone by surprise. "I won't even transform into my true form. If you can't defeat me despite it, then this mortal will be killed under my hands."

Leviathan then freed Mark from his grip but poured demonic energy around him, imprisoning him in a floating barrier.

Cough Cough*

"This damn snake..." Mark was angered. He swiftly took out the divine throne that was in the form of a machine gun from his inventory and roared in his head, "Ark, Open Skill list."

Chang'e gritted her teeth, "you evil fiend..." She poured her divine energy into the orb, almost consuming a quarter of her reserves, and unleashed the ability of the orb, "Freeze."

The entire world was frozen in time; Leviathan, Bael, Marbas, Mark, and Alloces, every single one of them just frozen in their places as the orb glowed in bright green.

Chang'e, the only one who could move in this situation, took this opportunity to rush forward and conjured a sword made of pure divine energy, using another quarter of her reserves in the process to cleave off the barrier into two, thereby freeing Mark, and grabbing him in the end.

A moment later, the Time was unfrozen. Mark found himself in the embrace of the Goddess while she created distance between them and the enemy.

"Ahhh..." Mark screamed in surprise as he suddenly saw the Goddess' face up close. She freed him and he floated in the air. "Are you alright?" She asked, letting out a heavy breath.

Mark looked at her and then the Leviathan, who didn't have much reaction except for a deep frown on his face. "You used the orb to free me?" He asked.

Letting out another deep breath, Chang'e nodded, "Yeah, although using this is too energy-consuming. My reserves were already cut to half."

"You..." Mark was stunned for a moment.

"No need to thank me. I got you here. Keeping you safe is my responsibility," Chang'e let out a pleasant smile.

However, in the next second, the smile wiped off her face as Mark suddenly shouted as if he was frustrated, "You idiot Goddess. You wasted half of your reserves for a stupid thing? You lost your golden opportunity to win this fight. Now, he will be prepared against the Orb of Time."

"Idiot?" Chang'e's forehead veins popped up, and his sudden change of attitude triggered her, "How dare you call me that, you ungrateful mortal? I saved your life and you pay me back with an insult?"

Mark argued back, raising his tone even further while pointing his finger at Bael who stood there on the islet like a statue, "I had a contract with that guy. He won't let me die anyway. Even if he doesn't help, I have certain trump cards to escape with my life. Why else would I come here? Do you think I put my life in your hands?"

Moreover, if you had the power to cut off that prison barrier, you should have simply aimed at Leviathan's neck instead, when he least expected. This battle would have ended by now."

"That much power won't be enough, you foolish mortal," Chang'e shouted back like a triggered woman, without caring about her identity as a graceful goddess.

Mark counter-argued, "Then, you should have used more reserves, go all out. Or should have stabbed his eyes to make him blind? You lived for thousands of years and a Deity, for god's sake. Don't you at least have that much battle awareness?"

Everyone felt strange about Mark's sudden change of attitude. Sure, he could be frustrated that the Moon Goddess might have missed a good opportunity because she put her priorities on saving him, but isn't he going too far?

With no surprise, his words only increased Chang'e's anger even more.

"Argh... you are so annoying..."

In a fit of anger, she made a fist and gave a punch to his abdomen, blasting him dozens of meters away.

Fortunately, as Mark's cultivation has temporarily improved to the immortal realm, he didn't feel much pain but surely calmed down a lot. Of course, that doesn't mean he agrees with her. Instead, his impression of the goddess only fell down. Gazing at her from far away, he shouted at the top of his lungs, "This is your true face, Chang'e.

I think that Houyi guy gave you the immortal elixir and sent you away to the moon to escape your violence." Now that he was far away, he even trolled her.

"You..." Chang'e's face turned beet red in anger. Suddenly, she felt regret for making a deal with this fellow. Someone who had contracts with demons might have a shitty personality. She concluded it that way.

Leviathan: "..."

Alloces: "..."

Marbas: "..."

"Now, if you two stop your quarrel; let's get back to the matter, shall we?" Bael took charge, feeling annoyed by his teammates' actions in front of a formidable enemy.

He slowly flew in the air and went near Leviathan, "Your Grace, there is no need for violence when it can be solved through words. Can't you just release Houyi's soul?"

Chapter 566: Battle against Leviathan (part-2)

As one of the nine demon kings of the realm, Bael's words had a certain weight; even the mighty Leviathan could not ignore them.

Leviathan had to respond to his proposal, but he didn't have any intention to reel their conversation in a positive direction. As a result, he responded by intensifying his demonic aura, "I don't care what kind of relation you have with Chang'e and Houyi's reincarnate, but my hatred with them runs deeper than the depth of Infernal Abyss.

So, if you value your life, then, take Marbas and the other demon with you. Or else, all of you will die here," Leviathan was speaking in a demonic language, instead of Orlon, a universal language that Deities brought to almost every significant civilization since the beginning.

Mark and Chang'e had no idea what Leviathan said but he saw Bael transformed into his true form and Marbas started shaking in fear. Alloces also became serious and he started flying toward him.

He could ask this demon lord but it doesn't matter anymore as Bael had already made his move.

The three-headed demon separated into four demons, the human one retained his humanoid appearance, and the remaining turned into a cat, toad, and a spider, all of them in the mid-13-circle realm.

As the four demons swiftly took their positions, surrounding Leviathan in four directions, Leviathan frowned, "Since you paid no heed to my warning, then, you might as well die with the rest."

Bael's humanoid form stretched his hand above his head, shooting a beam of demonic energy into the sky. As the rest of them followed the suit, he conversed in the demonic language, "I may not be a match for your strength but I'm sure enough to not leave you unscathed. My siblings will seek vengeance for my death later on. So, I shall ask you for the last time.

Guardian Leviathan, I request you to fulfill Miss Chang'e's wishes and release her husband's soul. There's no need for this fight. Once I get what I want from that Moon Deity, you can have her and the mortal."

Leviathan responded by conjuring a sword made of demonic energy, "Even if you children of the Great Devil all come together at me, you are not a match. So, weigh your options carefully before unleashing that skill. The moment it descends, you will be my enemy."

Bael stared at it and growled, "So be it."

"Descent of Velkazar." Bael's voice hollered across several kilometers, unleashing one of his greatest techniques.

A magenta-colored giant dragon vertically descended from the clouds; it neither has limbs nor wings. All it has are horns and whiskers.

Regardless, its appearance doesn't matter as even Chang'e flew away at least a couple of hundred meters from Leviathan, in fear of being impacted by the collision. The attack has even surpassed the God realm. It was in the true god realm (14-circle).

However, Leviathan was calm and collected. "You have made your decision." Brandishing his sword, he zoomed into the sky at blurring speeds.

The Dragon and Leviathan's demonic-energy-sword collided in the sky, generating powerful waves of energy that pushed away everyone; the sea of lava was also affected, sending huge waves in all directions. Some of it was splashed onto Mark's skin as he blasted away further.

"Ugh..." Mark received mild pain and some first-degree burns but he didn't care about it, for his attention was on Leviathan, who remained unharmed and floating in the sky. With his hair gone loose, with the sword in his hand, he looked like some kind of bloodthirsty butcher.

"F**k. There is no way to beat this enemy. We can only focus on survival," He understood it at one glance.

Mark couldn't help but speak to the artificial intelligence, "You have already mentioned it but let me ask you once again. Ark, do all kinds of teleportation work?"

*Ding! Yes, unless the target locks down the area with Domain, Master can return home with Return skill; Master can return to the Greenhill (Marbas' home) through teleportation or long teleportation skill, or escape to a random location by using teleportation skill but without the assistance of the system.

"Even if he unleashes a Domain, it is still made of matter. That means I can still make an opening to escape as long as I unleash antimatter to that barrier wall," muttered Mark under his breath, as an afterthought.

*Ding! I cannot give an opinion without analyzing the domain in question but judging by other domains Master has faced so far, the domain unleashed by the Leviathan is likely to be durable enough to withstand at least 50 zeta joules of energy. On the safe side, Master should produce at least 50,000 kilograms of anti-matter to crack a hole in such domain.

"Sh*t, I forgot about the durability of the barrier," Mark was aware that he cannot produce such a huge amount of anti-matter. "Well, I guess my only choice would be throwing unnamed at the barrier from far away. But, I would have to leave it down here if I escaped. Why go through all that trouble? Let's get back to the Moon Palace and escape with my sister, leaving her here.

But, she helped Xiao Jiao and me. All she wants is to release her husband's soul so that he reincarnates and probably reunites with her later on. Returning betrayal for a favor is against my ethics... What to do... Hmm?" An idea suddenly popped up in his head, but when he spotted Chang'e join the battle and saw the result, he shook his head, "Nope. Divine energy doesn't seem to hurt it much.

I guess it is because it is not exactly a demon but a Primordial with demonic nature. This doesn't... Hmm?" he raised his head to look at the sky.

A few seconds ago, Bael was planning on creating another attack. He saw Chang'e suddenly appear before Leviathan, out of nowhere, with a thick layer of divine energy around her fist as she punched the enemy.

His cheek was bruised but Leviathan didn't move an inch, only his face was turned away by the force.

"Weak."

Turning his face back to Chang'e, whose face went pale with the failure of her ambush, Leviathan clenched his fist tightly and punched her in the abdomen.

Puchi

She spat a mouthful of blood as she blasted away. However, her facial expression changed, all of a sudden, she was earlier in a panicked state but while blasting away, she was smiling for some reason. The most possible reason could be the talisman with a mysterious design in her hand that disintegrated completely.

Bael's human form rushed back and caught her, landing on a nearby islet.

"This is why I was against a battle with the guardian," Bael commented. Looking at her face, He further said, "If you want to live, then, leave this place. We have to lure it into the mortal plane to defeat it."

Bael's plan is to suppress Leviathan's realm before taking any action. The best place would be the mortal plane of existence. However, it is a challenging task too.

But Chang'e shook her head, rejecting the plan right away. "No, that won't be needed. The help has already arrived."

"Hmm?"

Taking heavy breaths, Chang'e slowly pointed her finger at Leviathan. As Bael turned his head, he saw a tiny portal appeared in the sky.

Leviathan also seemed to be ignoring and them paying attention to the sky.

Soon, a dazzling figure, enveloped by the golden divine energy, slowly flew out of the portal and stopped, staring down below. "Leviathan," the figure spoke; its voice filled all over the surroundings.

Leviathan frowned, "Yuanlong."

"Yuanlong, the first Primordial and the guardian of the heavens is here," Chang'e spoke to Bael. She added, "I didn't use Orb of time to just freeze the time, you know."

Chapter 567: Yuanlong, the guardian of the heavens

For a while, the battle came to a standstill as the mysterious figure slowly descended to the altitude where Leviathan was floating.

For Mark, who stood hundreds of meters away, even with his enhanced vision, it just looked like a ball of light.

But for the nearby ones, it appeared as a beautiful woman, wearing white clothes and a golden tiara on her head. Just like Leviathan, her eyes also have vertical slits.

The figure who was known as Yuanlong took a glance at Bael and Chang'e who stood together side by side, "Chang'e, I gave you the life-saving scroll to summon me when the outside forces invade your home and steal away the elixir of immortality, not in a demonic world."

Chang'e was surprised and had her head hung down by the scolding.

Yuanlong didn't finish there. She continued to scold her, "And what are you doing with these evil fiends?" This time, her glare was aimed at Bael, who flinched involuntarily, feeling fear in his heart.

She then glanced in the direction where Mark was floating beside Alloces and once again scolded Chang'e, "And how dare you drag the human here without bringing him to me? You should be ashamed of your actions." In the previous scolding, it appeared like a pass-off comment. This time, the displeasure was evident in her tone.

Chang'e knelt on the spot and cupped her fists, "Forgive me, Your Grace. The human is linked to the demon king on my left. He is the only way for me to get back my husband's soul from that Evil Leviathan."

Yuanlong didn't react to her statement and shifted her attention to Leviathan, "This is your territory. I won't interfere in your business. Let bygones be bygones. I will take the human child and Chang'e back with me."

"Heh?" Leviathan smirked at her words. He folded his hands to his chest and tilted slightly as he replied, "If you were here with your true body, I might have listened to your request. But, you are nothing more than an astral projection. Do you think you have the ability to bend down my will?"

Leviathan followed it up by transforming into a gargantuan serpent, shaking the hearts of the spectators; its scales shimmered with deep blues and greens, massive fins protruded along its spine, and as it roared, several lines of its razor-sharp teeth were spotted by Mark, even from far away.

His heart beat rose to the peak and his legs stiffened, giving him an indication to run away as fast as possible.
"Ark, let's..."

At that moment, he didn't care whether Chang'e died or lived. He just wanted to escape.

But, in the next moment, the dazzling figure was also expanded to hundreds of times, blocking the sight of Leviathan with even bigger size.

However, unlike Leviathan, Yuanlong's entire body is coiled in several loops; its body is adorned with pure golden scales and the aura emitted by the serpent brings a sense of peace to Mark and Chang'e.

However, for demons like Bael, Alloces, and Marbas, it was a poison. Bael managed to bear it, bringing up his remaining forms and transforming back into his original three-headed demon; Alloces didn't even hesitate to abandon Mark and grabbed a fainted Marbas, flying away from there with his peak speed.

Mark didn't follow them and instead watched the back of the golden serpent in a daze until the unaffected artificial intelligence took the opportunity to display its stats on a holographic screen.

Status: Astral Projection

Age: N/A

Rank: peak-14-circle

Grade: Primordial

Attribute: Divine

*

"So, I guess we were saved?"

Next second;

"Nope, we are going to die." "Blizzard Wings"

Mark's facial expression changed, watching both serpents literally clash their heads against each other, creating a tremendous amount of waves of energy on all sides.

Bael and Chang'e blasted away hundreds of meters, and so did Mark even after conjuring icy wings and covering himself like a shield.

"Bael, both of you, come here. I have a plan." Mark passed a telepathic message to the demon king, as he flew back at least a couple of kilometers to create enough distance to be safe from the battle.

As the gargantuan beasts grew pairs of hands from their bodies at the same time and wrestled, Bael and Chang'e flew toward Mark at their top speed, reaching him in no time.

"Ha" "Ha" "Ha" "Didn't expect Leviathan to be so strong," Chang'e commented, taking heavy breaths. After her divine energy reserves became empty, the environment of the demon world and the lava sea below her became even more troublesome for her.

Adding on top of that, the stamina consumption of using the cosmic orb twice is huge, as she wasn't bonded with it and its true owner, Shang Jiao was too far away from the orb.

Looking at her miserable state, Mark couldn't help but comment, "In our mortal terms, we call your situation as: you shot yourself in the foot."

"Sh*t up, I don't want to hear insults from you anymore," Chang'e snapped at him.

Mark blinked his eyes in surprise, "don't tell me you still haven't figured out that I was faking it earlier?"

"Hmm?" As Chang'e looked at him, Bael smirked, "Obviously, your acting wasn't that great, Lu Zhen. You purposely fought with her to remove yourself from Leviathan's view as a possible hostage. Anyone can easily see through it."

"Well, Leviathan was certainly fooled," Mark shrugged his shoulders.

"Huh? Is that the case?" Chang'e wondered out loud, making Bael and Mark abruptly turn their heads to look at her.

Chang'e blushed in embarrassment and averted her gaze, "Alright, fine. I thought you were genuinely looking down on me because my powers seemed useless here and I overestimated myself. Moreover, your words were too sharp."

Mark let out a sigh and replied, "Your Grace, you have wasted half of your divine energy just to free me. Surely, if I stay there, your focus will be diverted entirely to protecting me. Since Bael is also contracted to me, Leviathan will take full advantage of it and use it against both of you." After a brief pause, he added, "But, I didn't expect you to have such a trump card with you."

"I never planned on using it but Leviathan's strength is greater than I expected and I thought we won't get away from here with our lives. So, I had to do it," replied Chang'e, letting out a deep sigh of helplessness.

She then gazed at the wrestling giant beasts that were just pulling and pushing against each other, "Anyway, Demon King Bael told me that you have a plan that will work. What is it?" She asked.

Mark closed his eyes, transforming the submachine gun into an exquisite sword with a thought, before tossing it to Chang'e.

Chapter 568: Unexpected ambush

As he caught its handle reflexively, a trace of surprise appeared on her face, "This... I can sense pure divine essence inside, one that is void of the soul but its purity could be compared to the Xuanyuan sword, the greatest sword under the heavens. Just by grabbing it, my divine energy's recovery has sped up multiple times and that pressure from this realm has completely disappeared from my body.

I can even fight with my full strength now. What weapon is this? It could even change its appearance." Her face was filled with disbelief.

Mark didn't tell her anything about it and simply said, "Just lending it to you for now. I need you to fly back to both of them while cutting down those remnant energies on the way, and." He then glanced at the demon king who made a disgusting face in its presence and stepped away, "I need both of you to reach around 1 kilometer high, above those beasts."

"Okay, but what's your plan?" Bael frowned. If Yuanlong wasn't there, Bael wouldn't have to worry. But, its presence is putting enormous pressure on his soul. The fact that Yuanlong hates demons doesn't help it either. Going near them at the moment means a significant risk of death for him.

To which, Mark simply smiled, "Just trust me and go. With the majestic helper keeping him at bay, we cannot miss this chance."

"Alright" "Fine"

Both, Chang'e and Bael, despite being oblivious to his plan, trusted his intelligence and charged into the sky.

As they neared, Yuanlong shouted, "Don't come near and stay away." They didn't heed her warning and just flew toward them.

Leviathan put more strength in his hands and pushed away Yuanlong a bit before aiming at them with his mouth, "Die."

A blast of energy flew toward Chang'e and Bael. The demon king responded by shooting three beams from its three heads, striking the energy blast at the same time.

Chang'e then swung the sword by pouring her mana into it (what other people call the ether energy outside the mortal plane of existence due to the lack of ether crystal concept).

The sword turned her mana into divine energy, cutting down the remnant energy blast.

Almost reaching their destination, roughly 800 meters away in the sky, from the beasts, which towered hundreds of meters, Bael sent back the reply to Mark.

Mark, who was observing the two moving dots everything from far away, nodded with a smile, "Alright, let's do this."

His eyes shifted to the holographic screen, displaying the elemental skills, which he never bothered to use to their full potential as no situation ever arose. He clicked on a certain skill in the Space section.

"Location Swap, Bael." he disappeared.

Suddenly, Bael appeared where Mark was floating earlier and Mark appeared beside Chang'e, startling her. "Kyaaa..."

Location Swap: Swap the locations with the target as long as the target isn't two realms above the user. If contracted beast or demon: No such requirement is needed. Cost: None. CD: 60 seconds

"You scared me." She playfully punched his chest, "Couldn't you have warned me beforehand?"

"Haha, sorry..." Mark grinned like a fool, rubbing the back of his head. As he stopped, he saw her face. His eyes wandered on their own.

For the first time, Mark felt like this Moon Goddess' actions were a bit cute. His eyes suddenly fell upon her lips, "I want to bite them... Hmm? Snap out of it idiot..." He quickly shook away his thoughts and took out a metallic brocade box from his inventory.

"What is it?" Chang'e couldn't help but ask.

Mark replied with a question, "How much of your divine energy has been replenished?"

"Hmm? Not much, around 10%?"

"Can you bless this box with it?" He requested her.

Chang'e didn't know what he was planning with his ordinary-looking box but she poured her divine energy into the box, bestowing it with the property of divinity temporarily. Mark heard from Yujiang, the guardian of the mortal plane, that every Deity had such ability. Mark knew she too had it.

Grabbing the glowing box, Mark scrolled down the list and clicked on another skill.

Density Manipulation: manipulate the density of a target, from 0.2 to 200 times. Cost: None EP. CD: None

"Density Manipulation, 200 times"

"Gravity Dome, 200 times."

Gravity Dome put enormous pressure on the surroundings, instantly attracting the attention of both Yuanlong and Leviathan for a moment. However, their bodies don't feel the pressure that Chang'e was feeling. Fortunately, the return of her full strength enabled her to resist it too.

A faint glow of black appeared on the box, over the golden aura, increasing its weight by 200 times, before it was thrown down with everything Mark had got; he used all of his energy reserves to increase his throwing speed.

Despite the fact that the sword was in Chang'e's control, as it is near to Mark, its passive effects applied to Mark as usual, raising his cultivation by 2 realms, temporarily.

With 11.9 points of strength, Mark's full-powered throwing speed had long crossed the required mach 40. It touched as high as mach 70 as it descended like lightning, striking Leviathan's back before it even got to react to the unknown object it sensed a fraction of a second ago.

All it took was 0.26 seconds to strike the target, before releasing three times his expected energy release, enveloping not only Leviathan but also Yuanlong that was in the radius.

Kinetic energy, Heat energy, Sound Energy, and even Electromagnetic energy; several types of energies were released, pushing away Mark and Chang'e to even higher altitudes, Yulong to slide several hundred meters away, and Leviathan to be submerged under the sea of lava while being crushed under the weight of the box. Gravity Dome was also nullified at the same time.

Mark, who helplessly flew away without feeling much strength in his right arm, was eventually grabbed by Chang'e and slowly flew down toward the islet near Yuanlong, who transformed back into a humanoid dazzling female, enveloped by a thick golden aura.

"You did it, Shang Zhen," Chang'e rejoiced on the way, as the beast didn't resurface, although still in the sea.

Mark, with his arm over her neck, weakly responded with a smile, "I told you, didn't I?"

It was at this moment that Yuanlong's voice echoed in their ears, "Careful..."

"Huh?" Before Chang'e reacted to it, claws were seen pierced into Mark's back and came out of his body from the front.

"Ugh..."

Mark spat out blood.

Chang'e facial expression was frozen in shock as Mark flew away. As she turned her head, she saw Leviathan in a humanoid form with Mark hanging in between its claws motionlessly.

*Ding! Your heart is damaged. Attempting to control the blood circulation

*Ding! Your lungs are damaged. Attempting to circulate the airflow.

*Ding! Energy is insufficient. System is going to shut down in ten seconds.

Mark stopped breathing.

Screech

Chapter 569: Reincarnation of Houyi?

"haha hahaha... Do you think you are the only one who can do astral projection, Yuanlong?" Leviathan bursts into laughter as he retracts his claws. The large body beneath the sea of lava disappeared and transformed into energy, flowing back to a humanoid-looking Leviathan.

"No..." Chang'e shouted in despair and charged forward with the sword.

Leviathan's other arm was stretched toward her. Yuanlong appeared in between and punched it away.

Meanwhile, Mark's lifeless body reached Leviathan and he grabbed his delicate-looking face, "Poor Houyi... thought he could defeat me with his weird tricks but only get himself by me once again... hahaha... well, satisfying."

"Wha... What do you mean?" Chang'e asked with her gaze on Mark, her voice shaking as her senses no longer being able to sense life in the mortal.

"I never had your husband's soul, Chang'e," Leviathan looked very happy, watching Chang'e fall into despair and Yuanlong frowning too deeply. He rejoiced in their sadness, speaking, "I attempted to imprison his body and soul, but his bow got in the way and let its master's soul escape, replacing him as the prisoner."

Following up his words, he summoned a dazzling bow, burning in eternal flames, Leviathan continued, "I must say it really loves its master. Look at how it was enraged that its master died again. hahaha..." He tightly grabbed the bow as its flames glowed even brighter. "I bet Yuanlong must have also realized it. Is this why he is so interested in taking that mortal away? I wonder..."

Chang'e turned her head in a stiffened manner to look at the divine serpent, the latter responded seriously, "I had suspicions of it from the moment he stepped in my abode. He reeked of Houyi's aura and even Yan Di's aura. That is why I ordered you to test him so that I could confirm that he is the reincarnation of Shengong (The Divine Bow of Houyi, which was also once held by Yan Di).

Unfortunately, I couldn't confirm it before as he never displayed his truest abilities.

But, earlier, after sensing the presence of Shengong inside Leviathan, I realized that he was not Shengong. The only way this could make sense is that he is Houyi's as well as Yan Di's reincarnation. More precisely, their souls were merged for some reason."

"Merged souls?" Chang'e looked at Yuanlong in wonder.

The divine serpent nodded, "Since the dawn of creation, many souls have been merged and many souls have been split into several parts. It is not an uncommon situation." After a brief pause, she added, "Good thing is that his soul is still inside the body. We can resurrect him if we take him to the Altar of Life."

Yuanlong's words returned hope to Chang'e's face. She couldn't help but gaze at Mark's lifeless body once again in worry.

"Hello... did you forget my existence or something? You have been talking with each other for so long," Leviathan cleaned his ear with his little finger. After gaining their attention, he swung his arm away, "Good luck with saving his corpse then."

Mark's corpse flew down to the Sea of Lava at hypersonic speeds.

"No..." Chang'e's panic returned once again.

Yuanlong placed her hand on top of Chang'e. Divine energy flew into the body, recovering her reserves in an instant, "Go and get his body, Chang'e. If his corpse melted completely, there is no way to resurrect him again."

Chang'e dived down while attempting to unleash her ice techniques, but just before she touched the surface of the lava, a barrier materialized all of a sudden, halting her movements.

"Infernal Domain"

A sphere-shaped barrier trapped Chang'e, along with a three-headed demon, which somehow made its appearance there out of nowhere without alerting anyone.

"Ho, you are now helping me, Bael?" Leviathan glanced to the down. Bael, in his three-headed form, appeared below, standing in front of Chang'e.

Bael replied, "Of course, with the death of that human, my contract with him became null. I want a human who is a troublemaker but not the one who constantly brings trouble to me. Moreover, I don't think they are a match for you and neither I'm a Deity to take their side if I was given a choice. Just make sure Yuanlong doesn't break my domain and I will end this little Moon Deity for you."

"Haha, Good... very good..." Leviathan rejoiced even more as he threw his fist at Yuanlong at a sudden increase in speed. "I don't like domains but I'll help you."

As Yuanlong was pushed away, blocking the punch with her arms crossed at her chest, Leviathan's eyes glowed in sapphire blue, unleashing another domain, locking down 100 kilometers on every side while just excluding Bael's domain so that Yuanlong wouldn't interfere.

Yuanlong's divine glow disappeared and so was Leviathan's energy. He then said, "The rule of this domain is simple, Yuanlong. No mana. No elemental control. No true forms too."

"You despicable..." Yuanlong clenched her fist. Her face is filled with anger.

Meanwhile, Chang'e charged at Bael. "Die, you ingrate." Her voice was filled with hatred.

Until a while ago, they were teammates. Now, they suddenly became enemies. After getting to know the truth from Yuanlong and Leviathan, she was even more impatience.

And her impatience increased her rage even more as she was constantly evaded by Bael.

With her cultivation reduced by a whole realm by the Domain, she was indeed not a match for Bael. However, the divine blade in her hands could injure him.

As his intention was just to stall the time, he focused on dodging it, and her attack speed wasn't enough to hit him.

The time passed slowly. She was getting tired but her movements remained sharp and killing intent was so high that it would actually make normal mortals pass out.

Evading another set of ice spears she launched at him with his spider legs moving swiftly through the air, he finally spoke, "I think our battle has almost come to an end, Miss Chang'e."

"No... I won't let that happen..." Chang'e halted her movements at once and slowly rose to the middle of the barrier. She resolutely announced, "In that case, I will have to burn my soul essence to temporarily force a breakthrough and destroy this barrier and you altogether."

All of her divine energy running through the body went back to its essence. She put her palms together. "No one can stop me from saving him."

She was about to follow her words, but it was then, Bael hurriedly spoke, "No, wait. If you burn your essence, I won't be able to acquire it. How about I change the terms of our earlier contract? I let you go and save Lu Zhen and you will give me the divine essence soul as promised? Think about it. Even if you cause a sacrifice, you might be able to destroy the domain but you won't be able to kill me.

Not to mention, I could still..."

"I agree." Chang'e didn't even let him finish his words, agreeing with the proposal. Bael closed his eyes and stretched her palm toward her. Visible blood-colored chains appeared on both of their heads. Demonic aura seeped into them and they disappeared.

In the next moment, he snapped his fingers and the Domain disappeared. Chang'e dives into the sea of lava without wasting any time.

Meanwhile, at the bed of the sea of lava, Mark was seen lying motionless. However, inside his mindscape, Mark's spirit was seen walking in the direction screeching of a beast was heard by.

He reached the destination in the end, stopping at an altar-like thing with a bird in flames being imprisoned by chains made of ice.

As he raised his head and looked at the bird, the latter looked back at him and screeched again.

Mark's soul neither questioned it nor backed away. He simply flew higher in a daze, as if he was still in sleep.

Gazing straight into the eyes of the beast without an ounce of emotion, Mark's spirit raised its hand and touched its beak.

The ice chains slowly melted down.

The beast, free from its chains, let out a powerful screech one-time last time and transformed into scarlet energy, merging with Mark's spirit.

A few seconds later, Mark opened his eyes abruptly.

*Ding! Phoenix Bloodline has been unlocked. Bloodline related skills are added to the character

*Ding! You broke through to Rank-10

*Ding!

Chapter 570: Demigod realm, Primeval Bloodline, and the End of Leviathan.

*Ding! Phoenix Bloodline has been unlocked

*Ding! Instant Resurrection, Celestial Flare, Flame Burst, and Eternal Flames Bloodline skills are added to the character.

*Ding! Fire attribute is added to the character, but no skills are added.

*Ding! You broke through to Rank-10

*Ding! Your life span has been extended by 1500 years.

*Ding! You received a new function, Domain.

*Ding! Phoenix Bloodline's skills are upgraded to level 10.

*Ding! Phoenix Bloodline's ultimate skill, Transformation has been unlocked

**Phoenix Transformation: Transform into an immortal Phoenix with stats+1 to your maximum stat, for 100 seconds. Note: The user is immortal in this form and has almost instant recovery rate. Cost: 9,000,000,000 EP. CD: 72 hours.

*Ding! Blizzard Pegasus Bloodline's skills are upgraded to level 10.

*Ding! Blizzard Pegasus Bloodline's ultimate skill, Transformation has been unlocked.

Blizzard Pegasus Transformation: Transform into Blizzard Pegasus with stats+1 to your maximum stat, for 100 seconds. Note: The user has access to absolute zero ability. Cost: 9,000,000,000 EP. CD: 72 hours.

*Ding! All system skills and elemental skills are upgraded to the next level.

*Ding! Elemental skill (Gravity attribute), Multiple Black Holes has been added to the skill list

Multiple Blackholes: Create multiple black holes with each one not greater than 10km in diameter. Note: The user isn't immune to the gravitational pull of the created black hole. Cost: 10% Ether energy per black hole. CD: 72 hours.

*Ding! Elemental skill (Space attribute): "Void Rift" has been added to the skill list.

Void Rift: Tear the space and open a temporary rift, throwing the enemies into it. The enemies that were sent away through the skill will be randomly teleported into space, a maximum of up to 1 light-year distance away. Cost: 100% Ether energy. CD: 24 hours.

*Ding! Elemental skill (Oil): "Abyssal Oil" has been added to the skill list.

Abyssal Oil: Create a pitch-black primordial oil to attack the enemies. Whatever this corrosive oil touches, it will melt it down to nothing. Note: It only works on items below Celestial grade. For people, it will work on targets that are not 2 realms more than the user. Cost: Varies. CD: Varies.

*Ding! Elemental skill (Antimatter): "Anti-matter Dimension" has been added to the skill list.

Anti-matter Dimension: Create a dimension where you can store antimatter energy or antimatter bodies for 7 days. Note: After expiry, the dimension placed at the location will release all the stored antimatter energy inside, causing annihilation. Note 2: No one but the user can enter this dimension but it could be destroyed from outside through various means. Cost: 100% Ether energy. CD: 15 days.

*Ding! Lightning is a basic attribute. No additional summons are provided.

*Ding! Rank-10, Frost Titan (Ice) has been added to the summons.

*Ding! Rank-10, Venomous Basilisk (Poison) has been added to the summons.

*Ding! You have completed the tutorial. System no longer provides any additional skills or summons for breakthroughs in the future.

*Ding! You have completed one of the five remaining Quests, Breakthrough to Rank-10. You received a Mythril-grade weapon (Helicarrier) and unlocked Primeval Bloodline as a reward.

Primeval Bloodline: A growth-type primordial beast that has the ability to copy other beasts' abilities even by ingesting a drop of their blood. Current ability: 100

*Ding! Your ether quality is upgraded to the purest form.

*Ding! Detected weaker quality bloodlines than the Primeval Bloodline. Automatically merging with Primeval Bloodline.

*Ding! All Bloodline skills are added under Primeval Bloodline. Their abilities are retained.

While more than a dozen notifications continuously rang inside his head, Mark opened his eyes widely; he was about 3400 meters deep inside the endless sea of lava and the temperature was about 1500 degrees Celsius and yet, he didn't feel a thing.

It merely felt like he was sleeping at the bottom of a swimming pool. It actually kinda felt more soothing.

"Well, that's enough sleep I guess. It's time for a payback."

Meanwhile, outside of the sea, Leviathan was in the midst of an intense physical battle with Yuanlong.

He saw everything that transpired a few moments ago but he didn't want to lose this opportunity to defeat Yuanlong's astral projection, now that it seemed to be at a disadvantage with its divine power got cut off by Leviathan's domain.

Bael, on the other hand, had his attention on the sea of lava. He was grinning like a fool, mumbling, "Foolish Goddess, she fell into my trap once again. Lu Zhen never died. He was perfectly fine since the beginning. The lava beneath only helped him to absorb intense heat to make the breakthrough. Now that the breakthrough happened, I get to have her divine essence.

I shall use it to change my body constitution and make the breakthrough as a half-demon/half-divine being, following Brother Lucifer's footsteps."

Suddenly, he sensed something deep inside the sea moving upwards at terrifying speeds.

Bael moved back as Mark flew out while grabbing a heavily injured Chang'e by her waist, and stopped in the mid-air.

He looked down at the demon king, "it looks like you are fine, Bael." His words echoed in Bael's ears, taking him by surprise. "There's something changed in him," the demon king couldn't help but wonder.

Bael swiftly put away his unnecessary thoughts and smiled, "welcome back, Lu Zhen."

Meanwhile, Chang'e, whose hands were wrapped around Mark's neck, stared at him in silence. Tears filled her eyes but she was trying her best not to cry or be emotional.

Mark then opened up the skill list and clicked on one.

"Summon, Thunder Dragon"

Roar

A blinding flash of light appeared in front of Mark, followed by a roar.

Once the light was dismissed, a giant thunder dragon of the 9-circle realm materialized. Mark jumped high and placed the Moon Goddess on its head, as 100 million ether points were being consumed every second, although most of it was being recovered by his high-speed Ether recovery skill.

Since it was only at 9-circle, despite its significant size, it didn't attract much attention from Leviathan, as much as Mark did. But, it couldn't move and was trapped by its own domain.

"Houyi..."

His hatred ingrained deep in his bones forced him to ignore his formidable opponent who was on the brink of defeat and released the Domain as Mark flew toward him.

Leviathan disappeared and instantly appeared in front of Mark, trying to grab his throat.

However, just as it was about to succeed, Mark's eyes glowed as he unleashed the Bloodline skill.

"Absolute Freeze"

*Ding! 1,000,000,000 EP was deducted.

As if he completely mastered the skill, he merely froze Leviathan instead of the whole surrounding.

But, he wasn't done yet as he knew that it wouldn't be enough to suppress the beast.

He followed it up with a couple of skills while taking out Unnamed from his inventory, which he collected while he was swimming up earlier.

"Activate, Gravity Dome, 1000g"

"Activate, Density manipulation, 1000g"

The brocade box received an enormous boost of mass from the density manipulation, followed by the change in gravitational force in the surroundings.

"1 million times increase of weight and maintain atleast mach 80 swinging speed. Here we go..."

Due to the fact that they were contracted, Bael isn't affected by the Gravity Dome while Chang'e was lying on top of a Mark's summon and didn't get affected by it either.

However, Yuanlong and Leviathan felt the effect of gravity, increased by 1000 times. Regardless, it wasn't much of a pressure for them. So, Leviathan didn't pay much attention to it. Instead, his eyes were on the box that Mark motioned it backward.

It might have been his astral projection with the lower cultivation realm that was slammed by the box, but both of them shared the same memories. His intuition told him that the force behind the box, this time, would be far greater.

Leviathan wanted to escape this freezing. But, it was too late.

The last thing Leviathan witnessed was the black box in Mark's hand, motioning down at his chest at a blurring speed.

Bam

A powerful sound echoed in the surroundings; Mark was smeared with lots of blood, and blasted away hundreds of meters, as the entire upper body of Leviathan ended up gone, just like that.

Meanwhile, Mark faced a recoil from the collision; his bones are shattered, his skin peeled off, and his organs received enormous damage. But, he was prepared beforehand for this scenario too.

"Ark, Use, Scroll of Thousand Blossoms"

As Bael caught a bloodied figure in hurry, a one-time use item activated by the artificial intelligence, countless petals showered on Mark and Bael, healing his injuries instantly. He looked as good as new. However, Leviathan's blood smeared on him still stuck like glue, as they weren't considered an injury by the healing petals.

"You are too reckless, you know that?" Bael couldn't help but scold him, while inwardly screaming in surprise, 'this brat is not afraid of death anymore after resurrected once, because of Phoenix Bloodline. I like it...' he grinned in the end.

Yuanlong silently floated in the same spot, watching in a daze. "I finally get it now. That box is made of void stones. But, how did he acquire it? Which prisoner escaped the Void Dimension?"

Meanwhile, all the blood from leviathan on him slowly seeped into his skin, absorbing its blood cells from it. His bloodline, Primeval beast's spirit, automatically started replicating the blood cells at a rapid rate, extracting its bloodline faster than one would take a deep and release it.

As the rest of leviathan's body slowly disintegrated into specks of light, a holographic screen appeared before Mark's eyes, giving him the results from the ingested blood sample.

*Ding! Leviathan's Bloodline has been added under the Primeval tab.

*Ding! Abyssal Resilience, Maelstorm, Tsunami Charge, Ocean Sovereign, and Transform Bloodline skills are added to the character.

*Ding! Water attribute is added to the character, but no skills are added.

Meanwhile, on the other side of the netherworld, deep beneath the surface, a large egg was seen burning in flames for a while before it died down eventually. The egg then heavily vibrated for a couple of seconds more and became still.

At the same time, far away in the universe, a gigantic beast, dark in color, resembling a sauropod dinosaur but bigger than even planets, was seen moving across space in a leisure manner.

It abruptly stopped its path and turned its head to stare in a certain direction, "My twin has died once again. I wonder who killed him this time." It stared into the distance for a couple of seconds and started flying in that direction, changing its intended path, "Oh well, at this rate, he will never reach his peak stage.

I guess I have to go and pick him up and resume my journey." As it passes through a star that's millions of times bigger than its humongous size, the entire blue star gets enveloped by mysterious black energy, turning it into even hotter.