

Solar Ascension

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After the headmistress's words, every student's watch let out a ding, as their assigned teams were uploaded to them.

Nox checked at his watch, which told him the names of his other teammates and he realized he recognized none of them.

There was also a sector of the room they had agreed upon to meet, so he turned to Devon, Cass and Linda and said,

"Alright, I'll see you guys later."

With their response, he turned away and headed towards the designated meeting spot.

Groups were already forming across the room. Some students shouted names, some compared watches while others already looked disappointed at whoever they'd been assigned to.

The section Nox's watch indicated was toward the left corner of the massive hall which was quiet, and a bit less crowded.

He made his way through clusters of students until he finally reached the designated meeting point.

Three figures, who he assumed were his teammates, were already there.

And they all turned to him the moment her approached.

"You must be Nox," a boy in dark blue jacket, which indicated he was from the engineering division, spoke up when he was close enough, "I'm Elias Ardent."

The boy extended his hand for a shake and Nox looked at it for a second before taking it, "...Nox." well, Elias already knew that.

"Aren't you professor Illyra's favorite student?" Elias suddenly asked as he finally realized where he had seen Nox before.

Nox did not know how to answer that, he wouldn't exactly say he was her favorite student, just the student she like asking strange questions in relation to solar tech.

Seeing his hesitation, Elias just waved his hand and said, "you don't have to answer that."

"Let me introduce you to the rest," he then turned to the remaining two, "the one in white is Loreenne, she's from the scholar division."

The girl wave to him with a smile on her face as she was introduced, "and the one in midnight purple is Levi, he doesn't talk much so don't mind his silence."

Elias had a head full of blue hair which matched his eyes, while Loreenne had black hair, with eyes of two different colors, light blue and green showing that she had heterochromia.

Levi's appearance, on the other hand, seemed to match his demeanor, as he had a head full of black hair and black eyes with bags underneath.

Nox was a bit curious on how the stealth division conducted their test after the incident that caused it to be cancelled.

Did they just choose a selected few during the combat test or was there a way to apply to the division if you looked broody enough.

But right now wasn't time to think about it, after all, they were about to head into a rift.

Elias suddenly clapped his hands together, there was a small smile on his face as he spoke, "alright, since introductions are out of the way, it's time for our team to choose its leader."

"I'm willing to take up this position," he added before looking at each of them, "that is, if you don't mind."

Loreenne shrugged at his words before saying, "I don't."

Levi....well, from the way he looked alone didn't seem the least bit interested in doing anything, much less lead this team.

So Elias turned to the only person remaining, Nox.

"What about you?" his asked, his expression earnest. "If you're okay with it, I'll coordinate our strategy once we know what each of our strengths are."

Nox looked at him with a bit of surprise.

He didn't really care who led the team, he also wasn't the type to volunteer to lead, especially not when he barely knew any of them.

Plus, leading was a lot of work, which he had no interest in.

"Yeah," he said simply with a nod. "You can lead."

Elias let out a relieved breath, clearly pleased that no one objected.

"Great," he said, "now then, let's go over what each of us can do."

"I'll go first," Elias continued before pulling some items out of his inventory, "as an engineer, I specialize in creating solar tech like drones, weapons or even healing tech."

He paused for a while before adding, "though, that doesn't mean I'm useless in battle, since I can also efficiently use my created solar tech and I know a thing or two about fighting."

The group nodded as he concluded before turning to Lorene who took out what looked like a massive book.

"I won't be too useful in battle," She started, "but I can identify any type of Eclipsed and its weakness, I can also identify edible plants in the Eclipsed realm, though, I'm not sure that'll come in handy since we'll only be spending a short time in the rift, but I'm basically a walking database."

Scholars were usually never required to enter a rift or even face Eclipsed directly, they were databases of knowledge.

But in order to study something they had to understand it first and what better way to understand something than to personally experience it, hence the reason they were added to this assessment.

Though they were not sent in the rifts without any form of aid, they had multiple solar techs, that ranged from barriers to healing tech, Incase something ever went wrong.

Elias nodded approvingly at her words, "that's actually perfect. Knowing what we're fighting is half the battle."

They then turned to Levi—

"Umm, where's Levi?" Lorene asked as they looked at where he previously stood.

Nox's eyes narrowed as he looked at the spot, he was sure the brooding boy had been there a second ago, so how?

Curious, he let his SE flow to his eyes and they started glowing. That's when he noticed that Levi hadn't actually moved, he was still standing there, just completely invisible.

Nox could only see him because he could pick up on his SE and even then, it was just an outline.

Levi just reappeared and looked at Elias without saying anything, as if his demonstration was explanation enough.

"Right," Elias nodded before turning to Nox, "and you?"

Nox thought about it for a moment before saying, "I can use various Solar Techs?"

"I see," Elias nodded, "what about engineering."

"Well, I know a bit or two about fixing Solar tech," Nox answered.

There was a small frown on Elias's face before it was quickly replaced by a small smile, "very well then."

"Nox will be our frontliner, I'll handle support and Levi will handle scouting or sneakily taking down the Eclipsed."

As if on cue, the moment his words finished, their watched let out a ding as their assigned rifts were uploaded to it.

"Let's see what type of rift we got, shall we?"