

Supreme Lord 671

Chapter 671 Patience Wins

It was only a matter of time before the eastern part of the Savannah Region transformed into a huge battlefield. The Lords bordering the land that had once been ruled by the Trilance desired to occupy the abandoned settlements and expand their influence. Unfortunately, other Lords had a similar opinion. They desired the Trilance's land as well. It occupied a quarter of the Savannah Region, after all.

The eastern part of the Savannah Region had once been ruled by the Kitsun Lord. His death allowed the Laprix Lord, the Zynur Lord, and the Valyr Lordess to expand, at last. They gained tremendous power within months, resulting in their ability to defend against the Council of Xylon for such a long time.

The Lords bordering the Trilance's land were aware of that and wanted to use the same tactic to grow stronger as quickly as possible. If they succeeded in elevating their strength to an entirely new level, they would have no problems clashing with the remaining Lords of the Savannah Region.

Nobody expected it to be easy, but many Lords were scared. Not of each other, but of Michael. Everyone heard the news about the Lord of the Untamed Jungle and how easily he obliterated 11 Lords. Some Awakened survived the invasion of the Untamed Awakened and reported to other Lords in exchange for safety and resources. They reported that Michael managed to kill Higher Lifeforms without sustaining any injuries.

Their reports sounded exaggerated at first, but the number of reports increased steadily, turning what ought to be exaggerated into the bitter truth.

Afraid of turning into Michael's next target, the Lords sought ways to grow stronger quickly. They used hundreds of thousands of Ordinary Summoning Scrolls to strengthen their Soultraits by amassing more Soul Power while also requesting more reinforcement from their higher-ups.

Their territories were too small to contain more than 500,000 citizens, but many Lords ignored that. They sought the abandoned settlements in the center and the eastern part of the Savannah Region to reconstruct them and settle the surplus of Summons over there.

That was what Michael had been hoping for. Or to be precise, it was one of the things he hoped to happen.

The seeds of fear and uncertainty had been planted followed by everyone's attention were pulled to Michael. However, due to their fear and ignorance, they forgot that neither the center of the Savannah Region nor the eastern part had enough settlements for the remaining 95 Lords.

Skirmishes to determine the rightful owner of the abandoned settlements and claims for the Savannah Region's land erupted. They didn't occur often at first, but some Lords grew restless. Their numbers expanded as the second batch of reinforcements from the government arrived.

Confidence and restlessness had never been a great combination. The combi was known to lead to foolish mistakes. To their misery, big mistakes were committed.

The small skirmishes transformed into full-scale battles between the Lords.

The Lords forgot about Michael after a few days. Their attention was drawn to their other enemies. After all, Michael didn't reappear in the Savannah Region for an entire week. It was almost as if the death of the Lords in the center of the Savannah Region had been an illusion.

Of course, that was not the case.

Michael did kill the Lords in the Savannah center, and he was not done hunting the Council of Xylon yet. It was just that he waited patiently until the distraught of the council worsened.

'Why bother allying if you don't trust each other? Forming the council just to backstab one another is such a waste of time.'

Michael chuckled lightly as he read the last reports provided by the scouts in the Savannah region. None of the remaining 95 Lords trusted each other. Even those who formed smaller alliances to rally against the other forces didn't seem to trust each other fully. It was fun to imagine them scheming against everyone else in the hope of becoming the supreme ruler of the Savannah Region.

Unfortunately, the fact that they had to scheme for years to slowly approach the final destination of the Savannah Region was enough to determine that none of them would become the supreme ruler. They

were too weak to overwhelm their foes in an open fight. It would be impossible for them to deal with enemy kingdoms and empires if their biggest strength was their scheming.

One thing was for sure; The Lords in the Savannah Region were certainly not great combatants. None of them managed to scratch Michael until now. If anything, Michael was certain that the Valyr Lordess was the most competent and powerful among the Lords in the Savannah Region. That was not a good quote.

The Valyr Lordess and her subordinates had regained their full strength a while ago, but they hadn't left Arx yet. Instead, they stayed with Michael to join his conquest against the Council. The Valyrs didn't have anyone else to trust, at this point, and they didn't want to abandon the Savannah Region after spending so much time, effort, and resources into it.

Michael was their only option to reclaim what had been taken from them. Fortunately, the Lord of the Untamed Jungle was open for negotiations. He had already sealed some deals with the Valyrs about the future of the Savannah Region once the Council of Xylon was no more, but there was a need for changes in some clauses. After all, the Valyrs decided to stay in Arx longer than they were supposed to stay.

They received a lot of support from Michael, who was certain that he and his people could conquer the Savannah Region without their help. He and his people had to gain more if the Valyr wanted to get carried through the Regional War by the Lord of the Untamed Jungle.

The changes in the contracts were completed swiftly. The negotiation didn't even take two hours. Michael was satisfied, whereas the Valyr Lordess and her people were rather dissatisfied. Unfortunately, they didn't really have a choice. Either they accepted his demands, or they had to leave and watch Michael conquer the Savannah Region on his own.

That was what he demonstrated two weeks later as he deployed the majority of the Untamed Army to join a large-

scale battle between ten Lords.

The eastern part of the Savannah Region bordered the Untamed Jungle, granting various opportunities and openings to initiate a surprise attack. Michael's army of 40,000 members remained unnoticed until they charged out of the Untamed Jungle.

The armies of the 10 Lords dwindled to a tiny portion of their former might, whereas the Untamed Army was at its prime.

Siegfried Dragoon charged ahead with his well-trained soldiers following close behind. Tiara combined her forces with Legion, who'd decided to join the fight as well. He had to grow stronger and chose to grasp the opportunity to acquire Jungle Points to support his Princess in her sacred mission to rebuild the Silverfang Tigerfolk Clan.

40,000 Untamed Army members, each at the 1st Tier or stronger, charged at the exhausted armies of the 10 Lords. The Lords issued the command to retreat as quickly as possible, but they realized in terror that a single individual was eagerly waiting for them.

Michael had teleported to their back, his Cursed Seals unleashed to their fullest.

"To lose patience is to lose the battle," He mumbled, glad that he waited for the perfect opportunity to strike hard.

"And I win!"

Chapter 672 Superior Prowess

Many combatants in Arx had been itching for a fierce battle for a while. The Untamed Army trained tirelessly for weeks without taking any big breaks to rest. They did the bare minimum to allow their mind and body to recuperate just enough to generate the most benefits from training. Other than that, they trained tirelessly since they'd been summoned a few weeks ago.

The Combat Summons desired to leave the training ground and show everyone how much stronger they had become in the last few weeks. They wanted to show Michael that they were strong enough to face their opponents head-on and that it was time for them to gather more real experience on the battlefield.

Michael didn't like that, at first, but he sensed the perfect opportunity to give the Combat Summons what they wanted.

In the first place, most new Combat Summons were Berserkers and Warlock Centaurs. Of course, they desired to jump straight onto the battlefield.

Michael granted their wish and allowed them to charge out of the Untamed Jungle to charge at the tired forces of the 10 rivaling Lords.

He used Cosmic Stride to teleport behind the Lords' forces and waited patiently for their response. Thereafter, he observed the Valyr Lordess and her subordinates as they appeared a few hundred meters to the armies' left, while Hiraku alongside the Berserker and Warlock Centaur Awakened popped out to the armies' right.

The paths of escape had been sealed. All the Lords could do was stop fighting against each other to face the incoming danger together. Unfortunately, the call for a truce came too late. No one was willing to fight side-by-side with the enemy who slaughtered their comrades just a moment ago.

There was no trust between the Lords. They had to pay attention to their backs to avoid getting stabbed in the back while facing the force of the Untamed Army head-on.

The Valyrs charged ahead, their bodies shrouded in fierce flames. The Warlock Centaurs spread out and charged ahead, followed by the Berserkers whose towering figures inflicted fear in the hearts of the defenders. Hiraku's body expanded to close to eight meters all of a sudden, taking the defenders by surprise. He accelerated and conjured a few throwing spears in his hands. He threw them one after another, impaling some Combat Summons before they could react.

The spears whizzed through the air with terrifying velocity. Not even the exhausted Peak Tier-3 Summons managed to move fast enough to evade them. Hiraku defeated a few powerful enemies even before he entered melee range. His kill count increased exponentially as he reached melee range. Maces manifested in his hands and steel shrouded his boots. Large spikes resembling claws protruded from his boots, increasing the deadly force of his kicks drastically.

Hiraku's Soultraits combined with his Inheritance Technique of Creation and the Soul Technique created by Michael were more than enough to transform him into the incarnation of the God of Slaughter. His maces squashed the enemies near him all while his spiked boots pierced his enemies, killing them by breaking their rib cages and piercing their hearts and internal organs.

Sometimes, Hiraku ignored his enemies and stomped them to death. He didn't even acknowledge their attempts to face him head-on and proceeded to slaughter a path to the strongest forces of the 10 Lords.

The other members of the Untamed Awakened acted similarly. They used their newly acquired and upgraded Soultraits to unleash their strongest powers, just to squash their exhausted enemies. It was simple. Too simple. And way too easy.

It was almost like their enemies weren't even trying to resist.

That wasn't the case. It was just that the Untamed Awakened were growing stronger much faster than their enemies. They procured powers that were impossible to attain by others, yet they didn't stop training tirelessly to gain some mastery of their powers. Their desire to grow stronger had been heard.

The Untamed Awakened weren't satisfied by the fight. They overwhelmed the exhausted enemies way too easily. Therefore, they charged deeper into the enemy rows to face several Awakened simultaneously.

All of this was seen by the Untamed Army and the Valyrs. The Untamed Army's morale skyrocketed as they watched the deadly slaughter that unfolded in front of them. They pushed forward and put more pressure on their enemies, forcing them to take a step back. Meanwhile, the Valyrs were shocked to the core.

It was known that Michael was powerful. They also knew that the Untamed Awakened were decently powerful. However, they never expected that the Untamed Awakened would grow so much stronger in the short period that passed since the Untamed Awakened had been deployed to aid the Trilance.

Was it that easy to grow stronger? It wasn't.

If it was easy to grow stronger, the Council of Xylon would have more than 200 Higher Lifeforms. However, many Lords of the council didn't have a single Higher Lifeform in their territory. They worked hard for years, some even decades, yet not a single Higher Lifeform appeared in their territory.

Despite the difficulty of growing stronger, Michael had several Subordinates at the Peak of Tier-3, who possessed enough power to hold themselves against Higher Lifeforms.

"What the hell is this guy feeding his people in the Untamed Jungle?" One of the Valyr's Higher Lifeforms asked, only for Zira to blurt out her thoughts aloud.

"Whatever it is...I want it too..."

The Valyr Lordess eyed her daughter for a moment. A profound sigh escaped her lips. She didn't wish to grow much stronger anymore, but her daughter was not the same. Her daughter was ambitious and desired to attain enough power to hold herself against powerful enemies. Unfortunately, her Soultrait held her back.

Her Soultrait was part of the reason why Zira hadn't been given the Valyr Lordess' territory until now. She was not strong enough.

"Is it just me, or is everyone using two—... No. Three Soultraits? All of them are using three or more Soultraits!" Another High Valyr pointed out. The Valyr Lordess observed the Untamed Awakened while charging into the first defense line of the weakened enemies.

"And there is not a single weak Soultrait..." She mumbled, "What is going on here?"

Michael popped out a few hundred meters before the Valyrs. He levitated above a Lord and a dozen Awakened. His expression was neutral, but the corners of his lips twitched, curling upward slowly.

Qi Extraction Swords conjured from True Extraction manifested around him. They plunged down instantly, killing the Awakened protecting their master, leaving the Lord alone and helpless.

The Elemental Empress coated his body, acting as a second layer of his armor and an augmentation to his Elemental powers. Azure fireballs were conjured in the air. There were dozens of them, but none of them looked the same. They transformed and changed their colors as elemental-attributed energy fused into them. Some transformed into black fireballs, others were coated in ice, whereas the shape of others was altered by the addition of the wind element.

The fireballs transformed into swords, spears, and wind blades, coated in mythical flames.

The Lord stared at the scenery overhead in horror. He raised his weapon, circulated origin energy through his body, and executed his strongest Martial Arts technique. He took a profound breath, cursed his fate inwardly, and faced the multitude of elemental projectiles overhead even though he was not ready to face them. The terror of the mythical flames was simply too much for the Lord to handle after he witnessed his Awakened die in such a simple manner.

Michael wasn't even trying to make it look like he worked hard to kill the Tier-3 Awakened. He just did it.

The projectiles didn't care about the Lord's fears and descended, nonetheless.

However, just as the projectiles descended and the Lord was ready to fend for his life, Michael used Cosmic Stride to appear behind the Lord, piercing his chest with the Aethyr Blade. The attack was too unexpected for the Lord to react in time.

The mythical flames dispersed as the True Dome of Extraction erupted, absorbing the energy used to manifest the projectiles.

Michael broke into a bright smile, his head flicking to the Valyrs. He winked nonchalantly and stored the lifeless bodies in his War Rune storage.

The Valyrs stared back at Michael as he turned around.

They found the reason the Untamed Awakened were so powerful.

The culprit had been in front of them all along.

Chapter 673 Disgust

As Michael teleported to the Lords and the Awakened protecting them, Frederik and the Forest Elves focused on the strongest Summons. They slaughtered them with barrages of arrows and invisible wind blades, ending their lives before they could harm the Untamed Army.

The Forest Elves and Frederik paid the most attention to protecting the Untamed Army alongside Siegfried Dragoon. However, their protection wasn't required often. The Untamed Army, strengthened

through Elemental Might and granted benefits from Lokai's Burning Fury Soultrait was strong enough to deal with the remaining weakened Tier-1 Summons.

Even injured Tier-2 Summons were dealt with great care and overwhelming numbers. They were eliminated in no time.

The Berserker and Warlock Centaur Summons enjoyed their fights. Their excitement shot through the roof as they mowed through the rows of enemies.

The weakened armies of the 10 Lords were not in their prime anymore, nonetheless, they weren't pushovers either. At least, that was the case for most of the Combat Summons. It was just that they were exhausted. Their energy reserves and stamina had been depleted, leaving them with little to no power to defend against the massive army of the Untamed Army.

Michael faced no major issues in the battle against the Lords and their Awakened. He saw the Valyrs, Hiraku, and the Untamed Awakened circling the strongest forces of the enemy but didn't pay much attention to it. There was no need to worry about his Subordinates and the Valyrs since he could deal with the Higher Lifeforms in the Savannah Region.

A few hours passed in the blink of an eye. The Untamed Army retreated into the Untamed Jungle to take care of their wounded and rest. The Untamed Awakened, on the other hand, collected the bodies that littered the ground all over the battlefield.

Most bodies hadn't been slain by Michael or his subordinates, but that didn't matter. Michael could extract some loot from the deceased whether they had been killed by him, his subordinates, or the Savannah's Lords.

"This was a lot easier than I expected," Mika said while caressing the Wyvernwood Bow. That was one of the weird habits Mika had gotten used to since he procured the Wyvernwood Bow.

Lilica ignored Mika's habit of caressing the Wyvernwood Bow and stared intently at him.

"Sometimes, I wonder if you're intentionally ignorant, or if your parents gave up teaching you after they realized that you're slacking off," She mumbled.

Opars appeared next to Lilica and smiled lightly, "He's fooling around, Lilica. Don't take him seriously. Mika is happy that we managed to kill 10 Lords relatively easily compared to last time."

"Michael's tactic worked out fairly well," Lilica agreed, "Unfortunately, it won't work a second time. I'm pretty sure that the Council of Xylon will rally their forces to attack the Untamed Jungle soon. They would only continue fighting each other if they were stupid. Or...if they have some other issues to take care of before they can attack the Untamed Jungle."

Once all corpses were stored safely, Michael called the Untamed Awakened and Valyrs to gather.

"There are two smaller skirmishes nearby. I don't know if their Lord is among them, but two armies with more than 30,000 members are fighting less than 100 kilometers north. Both armies have only one Higher Lifeform. I can deal with them quickly before we bulldoze both armies," Michael reported, "Is everyone ready to go, or is someone too exhausted or injured to proceed fighting?"

Almost everyone sustained some injuries, but there was nothing that couldn't be tended to by Opars' Soothing Wave Soultrait, the Priests, or potions. No member of the Untamed Army sustained mortal wounds in the last fight.

"Since nobody is exhausted or too injured to continue fighting we should leave right away. We don't want anyone to take away our precious treasure troves, right?" The corners of Michael's lips tucked upward.

Zeroa mantled his body, initiating Taming's Fusion to enhance his understanding of the spatial affinity drastically. His mastery skyrocketed, unlocking Cosmic Stride's hidden potential.

Michael's spatial-attributed energy was consumed rapidly as he coated his Subordinates and the Valyrs in countless golden mots. The golden mots glowed brightly right before teleporting everyone several kilometers north. Michael's energy reserves were drained rapidly. The strain on his mind was also not to be underestimated. Therefore, he didn't teleport everyone closer to the battlefield anymore.

Cosmic Stride wasn't made to teleport more than 100 Awakened tens of kilometers through space. It was extraordinary at teleporting the User through space with a single thought and a fraction of energy.

"Stinger, it's your turn," Michael mumbled.

The Golden Stinger Wasp released its golden stinger more than a hundred times to hit every member of the Untamed Awakened and the Valyrs. A moment later, Michael reached out for Stinger to jump through space with a single passenger.

Michael left his people alone for a full minute. Afterward, the Untamed Awakened were the first to be replaced by Stinger.

The Golden Stinger Wasp appeared, replacing half a dozen Berserkers, only to disappear once again. A single Berserker emerged where Stinger disappeared.

Stinger was on the verge of collapsing after everyone reached the proximity of the battlefield between two Lords, but Opars' Energy Imprint and Soothing Wave were enough to take care of the little monster's mental strain and dried energy reserves.

The battle between the Lords' forces was about to reach its climax when Michael and his people appeared. The strongest Summons and Awakened could have sensed the spatial fluctuations in the proximity, but they were too focused on bashing each other's heads to notice anything.

They only realized that something was wrong when thunderous cheers resounded throughout the entire battlefield. Some fights slowed down, the combatants' attention pulled to the side where the Untamed Awakened, Siegfried Dragoon, and the Valyrs could be seen charging at the armies. They engaged in battle right away and killed every enemy in their sight.

There was no delay or hesitation in their actions. In the Regional War of the Savannah Region, it was either kill or be killed, and neither Michael nor his people wanted to end up getting killed. They would much rather cleanly remove the obstacles obstructing their path.

Michael emerged next to the two Higher Lifeforms, who had been engaged in a fierce battle. Both Higher Lifeforms had sustained some injuries at this point, but they were still strong enough to block Michael's first attack. He raked the Aethyr Blade across their breastplates, damaging their armor severely.

However, it was not enough to kill them with a single strike. It was a good thing that Michael didn't intend to kill them with one attack, in the first place. He just wanted to see how strong he was without actively using his Soultraits.

The physical enhancement provided by Superior Constitution as well as the passive gains from 7-Star Extraction, and his other 6-Star Soultraits didn't disappear. It was not like he could switch off Spirit Eyes either.

Michael used Leviathan Diffusion to circulate origin energy through his body in a specific pattern. The pattern focused on amplifying all major points in his body, strengthening his physique temporarily. Simultaneously, he unleashed the Breathing Technique, Breath of the Underworld. His mastery of Breath of the Underworld was not that high yet, but Michael could use it without injuring himself.

He breathed out until his lungs were empty. Michael infused his lungs with origin energy when his lungs threatened to collapse. He took a deep breath of energy-infused air and pressed his lips together to keep the air inside him.

A burst of energy swept through his body as his lungs widened. Michael didn't hesitate to make his move thereafter. He accelerated suddenly, the Aethyr blade in his hand transformed into a saber. The silver blade glimmered as if countless stars had been infused into it as he shot forth. His lungs burned like crazy but the energy channeled into them protected them from any harm.

Michael reached top speed and accelerated further, crossing the threshold he had always assumed to be his physical limit. He had been certain that he would have to use his Soultraits to surpass his physical limit.

However, that was not the case. A short burst with Breath of the Underworld managed to do the same.

His sudden acceleration and the terrific speed he reached at the end were enough to take the Higher Lifeforms by surprise. He didn't manage to outright kill them, but the barrage of attacks he executed managed to injure the Higher Lifeforms.

A vibrant smile blossomed on his face.

'I can injure Higher Lifeforms without using any Soultraits!' Michael screamed inwardly, his excitement overflowing.

'But they're trashy. Calling them Higher Lifeforms is a disgrace to this title.' Another voice spoke in Michael's mind.

No. It was still his voice, but it was different. Michael was still the only one in his head, but he found himself filled with a new sensation. Disgust dwelled deep inside him as he stared coldly at the Higher Lifeforms.

It was true. Calling these foolish idiots Higher Lifeforms was a disgrace. No Higher Lifeform ought to be this fragile and easy to kill.

The disgust within him expanded. It seemed to occupy his entire being at some point, overwhelming Michael.

He activated the three Cursed Seals all of a sudden and unleashed several Qi Extraction Swords to impale the Higher Lifeforms without a warning. They were impaled, and their limbs severed with swift slashes right before Michael beheaded them.

'You're controlling me again!' Michael roared in his mind, using every bit of mental power and willpower within him to suppress the Cursed Seals. He shoved them back into the deepest parts of his being and regained his senses.

The disgust that overwhelmed him before was no more. It disappeared with the death of the two Higher Lifeforms.

'This Curse is a fucking menace!'

Chapter 674 Overwhelmed

Eliminating the two Higher Lifeforms on the battlefield created an opening for the Valyrs and Untamed Awakened. They didn't have to worry about getting overwhelmed and could dominate their enemies instead.

However, the battle was not over with the death of the Higher Lifeforms. It had just begun.

Even though the battle had just begun, Michael was quite satisfied. He and his people were at a great advantage against the Council of Xylon because there shouldn't be more than one or two Higher Lifeforms in every territory. Many Lords didn't have a single Higher Lifeform in their territory. The only reason those Lords survived so long in the Savannah Region were their extraordinary defenses and business-oriented alliances with the Lords living adjacent to their territories.

Some Lords, who had yet to ascend to a Higher Lifeform, managed to receive some reinforcement of Peak Tier-3 Awakened from the government. The reinforcement was not strong enough to deal with many Higher Lifeforms, but they were usually not as weak as ordinary Awakened.

The same applied to Michael's Untamed Awakened. They were stronger than ordinary Awakened – by far.

Michael observed the battlefield from the sky after he dealt with the Higher Lifeforms and some Awakened. He considered focusing on the remaining Awakened but couldn't be bothered to jump through space hundreds of times to kill the Awakened who could be defeated by the Untamed Awakened easily.

Michael was a bit reluctant about using the three Cursed Seals after the little incident with the Higher Lifeforms, but he activated them, nonetheless. The Cursed Seals would overwhelm him sooner or later if he allowed fear to take root in his heart. He couldn't afford to be afraid of the Cursed Seals.

He shoved his hesitation aside and activated the Cursed Seals. Thereafter, Michael fused the Extraction Aura with the Dome of Extraction, which he spread as far as possible.

All that was left for him to do was to stay patient and allow the True Extraction Domain to unleash its full potential.

Michael didn't even think about holding back. He focused on the True Extraction Domain and the thousands of Extraction tendrils that emerged from the golden-coated scenery. The Summons and Awakened tried to sever the Extraction tendrils or block them, but that was harder than expected. The minority managed to block the Extraction tendrils. They were impaled by wind lances or struck by a barrage of arrows. Thereafter, they either died on the spot or were invaded by a second Extraction tendril.

It was much harder to block the second Extraction tendril, especially after sustaining injuries. Their willpower deteriorated, creating several openings for the Extraction tendrils to break through.

Michael devoured their lifeforce and energy reserves. He used the energy reserves to expand the True Extraction Domain and to conjure a few fireballs using fire-attributed energy and Zeroa's mythical flames. The fireballs had enough destructive power to kill a Tier-3 Awakened or cripple them in case his attack missed the target by a hair's breadth. It was easy to control the fireballs with Zeroa's help, but Michael couldn't be bothered to pay much attention to it.

He was more focused on distributing the floods of origin energy and lifeforce that entered his body.

Lokai was a great target for his lifeforce. However, distributing the origin energy inside him wasn't as easy as it seemed. Expanding the True Extraction Domain would consume more energy, but the extended range of effect meant that the True Extraction Domain affected more targets. That meant Michael would have to distribute more energy, which was easier said than done after the Extraction tendrils drained the origin energy of more than 10,000 targets.

Fortunately, Michael had countless Soultraits, including Insert, which managed to drain his origin energy and insert it into others without delay.

Lokai, Thaor, and Mekhaz were given the most energy bursts. He inserted a tremendous amount of origin energy into them, granting the trio the means to bulldoze their enemies.

However, they weren't the only ones Michael inserted with origin energy. He had enough energy surplus to empower the Untamed Awakened with several layers of Enhancement and maintain the effect for a while.

Under the reinforcement of Enhancement, the Untamed Awakened's power skyrocketed. They didn't even slow down to slay Tier-3 Summons, who gave their utmost to pin the Awakened to the ground. The forces of the rivaling Lords tried to overwhelm the Untamed Awakened with their numbers, only to fail miserably and end up squashed mercilessly.

All they could do was divert their concentration to the Valyrs and attack them. There were a few Higher Lifeforms among the Valyrs, but the other Valyrs were weaker than the Untamed Awakened. They were easier targets because they didn't feel like invincible Warlords.

At least, the Valyrs' expressions distorted in pain when they sustained injuries. The Untamed Awakened smiled upon getting cut. It was a frightening sight and something the Lords' forces wanted to avoid.

Despite their utmost attempts to avoid the Untamed Awakened, it was impossible to escape the inevitable.

The forces were dominated and obliterated. The last Awakened survived longer than the rest. They acted like cockroaches as they survived countless attacks against the Berserkers and Warlock Centaurs, only for Hiraku to intercept them. His mace cleaved down on the last Awakened's heads, shattering their skulls into tiny fragments.

The battle against the Lords' forces ended, and they retreated to Arx.

Now that they showed that the Lord of the Untamed Jungle didn't disappear and that he was still a participant in the Regional War, Michael could relax with his people once again. He extracted Memory Orbs from the Higher Lifeforms to update his information once they'd returned to Arx.

Digesting the memories of the Higher Lifeforms was a little bit more intense than the memories of ordinary Awakened, but Michael was not in a rush. He absorbed the Memory Orbs and digested them slowly. Right after, Michael made a few mental notes to organize his thoughts and memories.

'Three Alliances are going to fight for the reign of the east of the Savannah. The battles will reach new heights, and they might affect the Untamed Jungle's border as well. Maybe, the alliances will alter their plan and transform their fight for the reign into a trap. They might invade the Untamed Jungle, or await our attack.'

'The central part of the Savannah will also transform into a large-scale battlefield. Everyone is growing restless. They want to end the Regional War and determine the rightful owner, even if that means that they have to attack their former allies.' Michael smiled lightly.

'I was worried that the cracks in the council's foundation weren't deep enough, but it looks like I was worried for no reason. They lost the battle of patience. The Council of Xylon will perish in the next few days, leaving a few large alliances behind.'

The memories were quite useful. It was fun to observe the aftermath of his actions. Michael enjoyed it quite a bit.

The only boring parties of the Regional War were the Savannah's west and northwest. They stayed back and remained neutral, for the time being, at least.

Michael was certain that the west and northwest were anticipating patiently to eliminate the triumphant parties of the central and eastern battles.

But that was a good thing.

Michael was anticipating for the same, after all!

Chapter 675 Savannah's Forces

In the following days, Michael received various reports of small-scale attacks with an unusually high number of casualties. Neither he nor his people joined the battles. All they did was train and prepare goods for the upcoming battles.

Some of the preparations included the integration of powerful Artifacts. Michael fused the Artifacts he procured with Extraction and combined them using Insert. The Artifacts were then distributed to the Untamed Awakened and the Valyrs for a fair price, of course.

The reports that reached Michael were more or less interesting. They showed that only a few Lords died in the following two weeks since Michael didn't move out to hunt them. However, that didn't mean Michael was idle. He traveled through the Savannah Region to invade the settlements of the Lords he'd killed to procure their Summoning Cores and other treasures.

It wasn't that difficult to invade the deceased Lords' main settlements. The citizens were in chaos after losing their Lord, whereas the Awakened began to plunder their late Lords' treasure troves. This included the devices that created and maintained the spatial lock dome.

Michael killed the Awakened who remained in the settlement, but there weren't many. Most Awakened fled the Origin Expanse or left their late Lord's territory to become Rogues. He was fortunate enough that the Awakened didn't think about looting their late Lords' Summoning Gates. Destroying the Summoning Gate' hatched and removing the Summoning Cores without damaging them wasn't easy. It was not something most Awakened could do, in the first place, as it required considerable control over their original energy. Even then it wasn't certain that the Summoning Cores could be removed without damaging them.

Even the faintest scratch to a Summoning Core can destroy it. That was also why Michael was glad that he had Extraction. He couldn't be bothered to be careful with the Summoning Cores. Instead, he used True Extraction and extracted them with brute force – basically.

Michael learned a lot about the Council of Xylon's future, how the council ended up perishing, and a few more interesting facts he hadn't been aware of.

'Why was I so certain that only 10 Lords died after my people returned to Arx?' Michael wondered.

The reports he received over the last few weeks mentioned the death of 10 Lords. However, Michael learned about the assassination of far more Lords. Two dozen Lords died at the hands of assassinations in the last three weeks, leaving less than half of the Lords, who once colluded against the Trilance.

Only 51 Lords of the council were still alive, and they were members of three large alliances that had formed before the council broke apart.

The Westerners Alliance was patient and remained passive for now, whereas the Centrals and Southerners were more active. At least, that was what it looked like on the outside. The Southerners

expanded east whereas the Centrals occupied the large pieces of land that had been abandoned after Michael killed 11 Lords in the Savannah's center.

It was quite interesting to observe the tactics of the respective alliances. The Westerners seemed boring on the outside, but Michael was fairly sure that they deployed the assassins to kill the two dozen Lords while everyone else was busy fighting their enemies head-on.

'The Westerners are problematic. If they continue scheming and playing dirty, I'll have to deal with them first. But moving to the west will be a bit difficult without anyone noticing.'

It was possible to travel to the center of the Savannah Region with the teleportation array, but it would be a little bit annoying to teleport throughout the western part of the Savannah. Michael could travel alone without many issues, but taking the Untamed Awakened and the Valyrs with him would transform any silent movement into a thunderous commotion. They would be exposed for sure.

Michael came up with some tactics to deal with the Westerners first, but the execution of his tactic was interrupted when the Centrals and Southerners decided to combine their forces. Several armies of the Westerners' Lords rallied the forces of the Centrals and Southerners with Soul Pacts, promising an entire week of peace.

That was what Michael learned from the memories of some idiots whose Memory Orbs he consumed on the D-Day of the final battle. That was what they called it. The final battle.

It was one huge battle that determined the fate of the Savannah Region. It was the grand finale.

Michael didn't expect that the Centrals and Southerners would be willing to put aside their quarrel and team up once again, but he was gravely mistaken about one thing.

The Lords of the Savannah Region feared him far more than they feared betrayal.

The Savannah's forces – Michael decided to call them that – gathered in the eastern parts of the Untamed Jungle. They kept enough distance from the Untamed Jungle to avoid any unwanted surprises, but they stayed close enough to the border to strike fast and heavy once everyone's forces were present.

Michael was in the Savannah Region, hovering in the air, when he saw the masses of Summons and Awakened gathering to invade the Untamed Jungle. He frowned deeply and retrieved the communication crystal to call Tiara and the others back in Arx.

"The Savannah's forces will assault soon. If I'm not mistaken, 42 Lords rallied most of their forces to deal with us once and for all. Each Lord brought an army of more than 80,000 Summons and Awakened to attack."

"WHAT?!" Frederik exclaimed through the communication crystal. His voice quivered, "What the hell are you talking about, Michael?!?"

Michael heard Tiara shove Frederik aside, "Are you sure that there are more than three million Soldiers on the way to the Untamed Jungle? Isn't that a little bit over the top?"

Michael chuckled, a trace of nervousity in his voice, "They're going all out."

He regained the confidence he'd missed for a moment and grinned lightly, "As far as we know the Lords of the Savannah Region have only 100,000 soldiers on average. Considering that every Lord lost thousands of combatants in the combats against the Trilance, against us, and their skirmishes against each other, their habitats must be defenseless."

"I can make use of that," Michael announced, "Stall them as long as you can. I'll take their Lord Powers while they're busy over here."

"Stalling three million soldiers? That...is not something we can do," Lilica joined the conversation, but Michael could only shrug.

"There shouldn't be more than 50 Higher Lifeforms. They might have many Tier-3 Summons, but you guys are stronger. You've got powerful Epic and Pseudo-Legendary Artifacts, and various Soultraits. The

Valyrs and the Elementals are also there. Furthermore, the forces of the Savannah Region cannot invade the Untamed Jungle at once. They'll have to split up or destroy the Untamed Jungle's plant life to barge through the Untamed Jungle without slowing down. Dwindle their numbers with long-range attacks once they reach your range, and focus on small-scale attacks to kill as many as possible once they enter the Untamed Jungle."

"Yes, Master!" Tiara shouted loud enough for everyone to hear.

Even if some of them didn't like Michael's plan it was not like they had a better plan.

"In the worst case, use some overcharged elemental crystals and Chaos Pills," Michael proposed.

"But I don't think that will be necessary. I will be back soon!"

Chapter 676 Grand Finale [1]

676 Grand Finale [1]

Michael jumped through space with Cosmic Stride like crazy, churning through his energy pool as if he had unlimited origin energy to use.

He unleashed the Cursed Seals and allowed the Extraction Aura to expand. Michael didn't even think about restraining the Extraction Aura. He unleashed its fury, allowing the Extraction Aura to consume whatever it wanted, ensuring that his energy reserves remained filled to the brim.

Using spatial-attributed origin energy to supply Cosmic Stride alongside ten layers of Enhancement, Michael managed to cross a distance of dozens of kilometers with every use of Cosmic Stride. He added one of the Soul Grimoire's Soul Tears to amplify Cosmic Stride's potency as he invaded the enemy's territory.

Michael didn't hesitate to slaughter everyone who obstructed his path, though that was hardly necessary. He leaped across the settlement walls and dashed to the settlement center where the Summoning Gate seemed to await Michael.

True Extraction Aura obliterated any potential threats in its range within seconds, granting Michael enough peace to approach the Summoning Gates calmly.

Once he reached the first main settlement's center, Michael focused the True Extraction Aura on the Summoning Gates to extract the Summoning Cores without wasting his precious time destroying the Summoning Gates.

The Summoning Gates resisted his attempts to extract the Summoning Cores at first, but 10 layers of Enhancement alongside a Soul Tear's amplification was enough to reinforce True Extraction.

True Extraction's tremendous power impacted, damaging the Summoning Gate barely enough to extract the Summoning Cores.

The corner of Michael's lips tucked upward once he held the Summoning Cores in his hands.

"Stupid fools," He murmured, turning around to set the wooden manor on fire.

Following the destruction of the wooden manor and the removal of the Summoning Cores, the Lord Power linked to the anchors dispersed. One of the Lords lost his power. That was apparent when Michael's eyes landed on the citizens, whose terror and confusion he could sense throughout the entire settlement.

"That's one," He mumbled, teleporting out of the settlement with a single stride.

Michael didn't waste any time looting the treasure trove of the Lord whose power he had just taken away. There was no time for that.

Instead, Michael accelerated. He moved faster and faster, unleashing the Heavenly Beast Physique alongside Cosmic Stride, hoping that he would move a little bit faster.

Michael accelerated a lot, but he somehow doubted that it was related to the Heavenly Beast Physique. It felt more like his body adapted to the changes made by the Berserkers and Warlock Centaurs'

Essences. He got used to them and sensed that they resonated with Superior Constitution and Spirit Eyes.

He could see much more about his surroundings, including the faintest details that had been hard to point out before. However, it was even more apparent with the origin energy that permeated the air. Michael felt like he could grasp the origin energy around him and that subtle changes in his stance could improve Cosmic Stride's efficiency. He kicked the ground where most origin energy congregated as he unleashed Cosmic Stride, propelling him more than 15 kilometers ahead.

'Interesting,' He mumbled in his mind as he reached the next territory and main settlement faster than expected.

He pushed ahead, leaped across the walls, and killed everyone in his path to reach the wooden manor and Summoning Gate. The wooden manor was set on fire without a second thought whereas the Summoning Gate became a victim of True Extraction.

Michael moved through the Savannah Region rapidly. He managed to take away the Powers of more than seven Lords in less than an hour and he was certain that he could deprive even more powers in the next hour.

However, there was something that forced Michael to halt in his tracks. He discovered a huge crowd of Summons and Awakened travel through the Savannah Region.

At first, Michael presumed that more Soldiers had been deployed to the eastern part of the Savannah, but he couldn't be more wrong. The forces he saw belonged to the nine Lords of the Westerner Alliance, who didn't join in the final battle. The nine Lords and their armies weren't headed to the eastern part of the Savannah Region. They headed straight to the main settlements of the territories adjacent to the Westerner Alliance.

'I thought that you guys had a truce. They signed a Soul Pact, or am I mistaken about something?' Michael nearly blurted aloud while hovering in the air far away from the nine armies. He tilted his head and realized not long after what was going on.

'Maybe not all Lords of the Westerner Alliance signed the Soul Pact.

They sacrificed some of their people to rally the forces of the Centrals and Southerners to backstab them when they're busy dealing with.....me...'

Michael chuckled lightly. The Savannah Region was filled with dirty, disgusting betrayals.

He scoffed, feeling the anger bubbling deep within him.

The Westerner's scheming worked out perfectly fine since they managed to convince the other Lords to attack the Untamed Jungle. They were the reason many soldiers of Arx would die in today's battle.

However, what enraged Michael the most was the fact that the

Westerners not only betrayed the Centrals and Southerners but also that they sacrificed their closest allies to backstab their contracted allies. It was messed up and fueled Michael with rage.

It was weird. He shouldn't be this angry, but it consumed him.

Yet, instead of shoving the anger aside by suppressing it with brute force, Michael decided to accept it. He allowed the boiling anger to sweep through his body, unleashing the true fury of the Cursed Seals. They expanded across his upper body palpating like crazy, amplifying the rage that filled his heart. The source of this content is N-ov3ln.e.x.t.

Dozens of chains, created by miniature Cursed Seals that were tightly interlocked, manifested all over his body. They creaked and trembled as the golden Cursed Seals expanded. The activated Cursed Seals raged wildly, but the links of miniature seals never broke.

Michael felt immense pain surge through his entire body, but he could tell that the pain caused by the Cursed Seals allowed him to tap into a bigger pool of power.

Dealing with the nine Lords and their armies wouldn't be that difficult, Michael could tell. They didn't expect a powerful enemy to appear before them, after all. No. Even if they expected him to attack, it wouldn't be an issue.

Maybe, it was arrogance, or just the unbending confidence in his Soultraits, but Michael was 100% sure that the Westerner Alliance wouldn't be an issue to deal with.

The entire Savannah Region wouldn't be an issue to deal with at this point. They were nothing but insignificant enemies. They were mere prey.

He was more than them. Better. Stronger.

As the thoughts ravaged through his mind, the Cursed Seals continued to expand. One of the seals crackled. Cobweb-like cracks spread across the Seal, unveiling what was hidden underneath.

The pain surging through him intensified.

At the same time, one strand of his black hair changed.

It turned silver, coated in star-like sparks.

Chapter 677 Grand Finale [II]

677 Grand Finale [II]

It was about time to beat the shit out of the Savannah's Lords.

Michael, overflowing with rage and disgust, jumped through space and appeared above the nine Lords and their armies. He unleashed the True Extraction Domain after strengthening the Extraction Symbol with a Soul Tear and ten uses of Enhancement. The Extraction Aura and the Dome of Extraction merged, and swept through the surroundings, devouring everything in their path. The Summons in his proximity stared into the sky where they found Michael hovering. They were about to attack Michael by throwing spears and firing arrows at him, but their weapons and armor sets were dismembered before they could do anything. As their weapons and armor sets were ripped apart by the tremendous power of True Extraction, their bodies suffered as well.

Their hair was extracted right before they were skinned alive.

The power of True Extraction infiltrated their bodies where they consumed their lifeforce and origin energy rapidly. Only Summons and Awakened at Tier-3 or above could repel the power of True Extraction temporarily. The remaining Summons and Awakened fell victim to the overwhelming power of 7-Star Extraction.

It was simply too powerful.

Michael accepted the origin energy and lifeforce that entered his body. He redirected the origin energy to expand the True

Extraction Domain while inserting the excessive origin energy into the stronger Summons and Awakened around him. One of the Lords shrouded his body in darkness, creating a darkness armor that blocked the majority of True Extraction's power. He attacked Michael by conjuring and throwing several darkness spears at him. |n|o|v|e|l|n|e|x|t|

The darkness spears threatened to impale and kill Michael, but his Spirit Eyes detected the projectiles' trajectory early enough to use Cosmic Stride. He changed his position and appeared behind the Darkness Lord, evading the darkness spears easily.

The Darkness Lord spun around, but Michael already touched him. A tremendous amount of lifeforce burst into the Darkness Lord's body. Michael didn't need that much lifeforce, but he allowed the True Extraction Domain to keep consuming lifeforce. The lifeforce consumed by True Extraction entered Michael's body, only to be redirected into the Darkness Lord.

At first, the amount of lifeforce was not much. However, as the True Extraction Domain consumed the lifeforce of more than 20,000 entities at the time, the lifeforce surging into Michael increased exponentially. The True Extraction Domain continued expanding and it was only a matter of time before the lifeforce of hundreds of thousands of entities entered his body at the time.

It may only be a fraction of their lifeforce at the time, but the quantity made the biggest difference.

Michael did not need that much lifeforce. He didn't have any use for the lifeforce as he didn't possess a Soultrait like Lokai's Life Conversion. However, that didn't mean the mountain of lifeforce was useless. He could always transfer it inside others, after all.

Lifeforce was never supposed to be deadly. Despite that, it was common knowledge that every vessel could only contain a certain amount of lifeforce before they would be overflowing with life. That was exactly what happened to the Darkness Lord.

Michael could have attacked the Darkness Lord with the Aethyr Blade after strengthening his body and weapons with the wide variety of Soultraits at his disposal. However, Michael had to get rid of the massive amount of lifeforce that threatened to break his body apart. He used Insert to flood the Darkness Lord with the warm energy that seemed to mend his wounds.

The Darkness Lord was ready to attack Michael, but his body froze for a moment as old, long-forgotten wounds seemed to heal on their own. He was shocked and confused, only to realize too late that his entire being was overflowing with energy.

The skin all over the Darkness Lord's body tore apart. Dark blood gushed forth like a fountain, yet the Darkness Lord didn't feel any pain. He barely sensed that the skin all over his body cracked and split open. The lifeforce flooding him was simply too nice. The Darkness Lord never felt so much pleasure before.

The darkness armor dispersed, revealing a bright smile as the Darkness Lord's body inflated. Michael's eyes widened in confusion and terror when he sensed what was about to happen. He stopped inserting lifeforce into the Darkness Lord and was about to kill him with the Aethyr Blade instead of stopping what was about to happen. Unfortunately, he was a second too late.

Michael barely managed to shroud his body in a thick hue of True Extraction when the Darkness Lord exploded. Shreds and pieces of the mighty Darkness Lord spurted in all directions, leaving the Darkness Lord's subordinates in shock.

Michael shuddered and told himself to never stay so close to someone overflowing with lifeforce.

Due to Spirit Eyes' perfect vision Michael had been forced to watch the faintest details of the Darkness Lord's death. It was not pleasant to look at. Even though Michael was overflowing with rage and disgust through the highly potent effect of the Cursed Seals, Michael couldn't believe that the Darkness Lord was smiling as he exploded.

It was terrifying, but Michael wasn't granted the luxury to take a break. He had to move on, otherwise, the other Lords and Higher Lifeforms would attack him.

Fortunately, there weren't many Higher Lifeforms. The army that had been deployed by the nine Lords had no more than 500,000 members. Merely 10% were Summons at the 3rd Tier. Most Tier-3 Summons and Awakened were at the Low or Mid rank as well. They didn't dare to face Michael head-on.

They couldn't approach him without getting dissected alive either. The True Extraction Domain was the strongest around Michael. Only Peak Tier-3 or Higher Lifeforms could touch him at this moment.

As for the rest, they were about to get sucked dry by the True Extraction Domain.

Everyone below Tier-3 died by being in the Domain's range of effect less than 30 seconds. That wouldn't be a major problem if the True Extraction Domain didn't expand rapidly.

Michael diverted his attention from inserting others with a massive amount of lifeforce to inserting his lifeforce into his origin energy. He fused lifeforce into his origin, altering its properties and strengthening it in some ways. The amount of lifeforce drained to alter origin energy was tremendous, but it was not like Michael lacked origin energy at this point.

He altered his origin energy and infused life into it before sweeping it through the Elemental Spheres. He created attributed Soul Energy and manifested hundreds of Icicle Bullets using the respective Soul Technique.

The Icicle Bullets were firmer than before. Their shape was a lot more stable and consistent. However, the most apparent effect of the life-infused origin energy was that the Icicle Bullets' freezing mist seemed more alive.

That was not something Michael expected, but it came in handy.

Some Icicle Bullets pierced through the necks and throats of a handful of Tier-3 Summons, killing them in an instant, while other Icicle shattered in the target's faces, chests, and backs, unleashing the compressed freezing mist within the Icicle Bullets in an instant. However, contrary to the norm, the freezing mist didn't spread in all directions to affect everything it touched. Instead, the freezing mist that

was released near the targets' faces sought paths to invade the targets through their noses, eyes, ears, and mouths. The freezing mist released upon the chests and backs of the targets didn't act like that either. Instead of targeting the vital points of the targets, they searched for the targets' weakest points to weaken them even further.

If their armor was highly resilient, they targeted the seams and froze them, breaking down their defense to create more openings for Michael to strike.

Michael was pleasantly surprised and decided to use his other elements to experiment with the life-infused origin energy. He knew that he wasn't going to use life-infused origin energy often, but it didn't hurt to know how to use it.

He created dozens of fireballs, wind blades, darkness spears, earth spikes, light bullets, water jets, and more using life-infused origin energy.

The elemental projectiles shot in all directions, killing hundreds of Tier-3 Summons and Awakened before they could react.

"That is boring! Michael noted, diverting his focus to the dozen Higher Lifeforms, who may actually pose a threat to him.

Or not.

Chapter 678 Grand Finale [III]

"There are too many enemies. We cannot stay here any longer!" Lilica's voice reverberated through the surroundings.

"Retreat into the jungle. Initiate Plan Zeldron!"

She stood on a thick branch of a towering tree that separated the Savannah from the Untamed Jungle. Her eyes traveled left and right, but all she could see were the masses of enemies. They filled her entire view, fueling Lilica with intense fear and uncertainty. There were too many enemies. Even if most of them weren't powerful combatants at the 3rd Tier, the numbers alone were enough to conquer the Untamed Jungle's outer ring and reach Arx in no time.

"We don't have to kill all of them. Just kill as many as you can!" Tiara screamed from the ground, charging into the Savannah, where she engaged in a fierce battle with dozens of Summons.

All enemies below Tier-3 were killed with a simple cut or thrust. Tiara didn't have to pay much attention to them because they didn't pose a threat to her. Her current combat prowess far surpassed the limits of a Tier-2 Awakened, after all.

In fact, Silvarean Tiger fully unleashed alongside Inner Force, and Spirit Whip was enough to surpass the limits most Superior Tier-2 Awakened could attain. Even Tier-3 Summons would have severe issues dealing with the Silverfang Princess.

However, Tiara had a new Soultrait, Thrust, as well. She used her four Soultraits to kill dozens of enemies without losing any momentum by perfectly utilizing Inner Force to change her trajectory.

However, she suffered from the masses of enemies that were charging at her as well. She had to retreat, which was easier said than done. Tiara couldn't turn around and dash away just like that. Her foes would use the opening she revealed by turning around to cut her down.

Therefore, Tiara and the other Untamed Awakened fought with the Golden Stinger Wasp.

Stinger teleported Tiara back to the Untamed Jungle once the situation got a little bit trickier. She was pushed back and would soon sustain injuries. Stinger's heightened perception deciphered that and changed places. Using his tiny size and ridiculous speed, Stinger escaped the incoming attacks easily and returned to the Untamed Jungle instantaneously.

However, there was no break for the Golden Stinger Wasp. Lokai, Thaor, and the remaining Berserker Awakened charged outside the Untamed Jungle near the northern border to the Savannah Region. They avoided frontal attacks and engaged the Awakened and Summons near the Savannah force's outer forces. There were still many powerful enemies, but the pressure was a little bit lower. It was easier to slay hundreds of enemies with brute force and strive forward until the enemies encircled them.

Stinger had to intervene in the Berserkers' fierce battle to rescue them. The Berserkers didn't like that, but they also understood that they shouldn't die before repaying their debts. They might have initiated the Rite of the War Goddess with Michael, but the Oath of Loyalty was not enough to repay their debts.

Their Essence screamed at them, forcing the Berserkers to put their natural instincts aside and survive rather than die in battle before all debts had been settled.

Stinger saved the Berserkers by pushing them back into the Untamed Jungle, where they retrieved a bunch of throwing spears. The Untamed Army was in the jungle's outer rings doing something similar.

The Archers bombarded the enemy forces with barrages of arrows, and the Lesser Elementals joined the forces and lobbed fireballs at them as well. However, the most important task of the Elementals was to alter the surroundings. They focused on terraforming rather than attacking. Only the Fire Elementals joined the Archers in killing the enemies by throwing one fireball after another at them.

The Earth, Wind, and Water Elementals loosened the ground in the Untamed Jungle's outer ring. They transformed the dry soil into muddy pits while simultaneously, releasing some of the flat-rooted trees to destroy some of nature's naturally created paths. The wildlife trails were blocked as the towering trees crashed heavily to the ground. The noises attracted the Savannah forces' attention, but only for a second. They had to pay attention to the incoming barrage of arrows and fireballs.

Blocking ordinary arrows and fireballs was not impossible. Even Tier-2 Summons could do that as long as they were given a metal shield and some training. However, not all arrows were the same.

Tatjana, the Tier-2 Sharpshooters, and the Forest Elven Archers came up with a simple solution to deal with the Soldier's defense. They split up into units that used different arrows to attack the incoming enemies. The Forest Elven Archers used heavy arrows with a hook attached to the soldier's shields, increasing their weight drastically.

The soldiers could still lift their shields, but it was more difficult and strained their muscles more than it used to be. The heavy arrows hooked to the shields forced the soldiers to lower their shields at some point. The moment the soldiers lowered their shields was the perfect opportunity for the Sharpshooters to jump into action.

They released their swift arrows to reap the defenseless soldiers' lives.

In the meantime, Tatjana and Lilica combined their power with the Noble Elementals and the Elemental Empress. They retrieved arrows with elemental crystals as the arrowhead and let the Elementals charge them until they were overflowing with Elemental Might.

There was no way that Michael and his people would fight the Savannah's forces head-on. There were more than three million enemies whereas their numbers didn't even reach 50,000. Even if the Untamed Awakened, the Valyrs, and Michael's army were stronger than their enemies, individual power was not everything. It meant a lot, but individual power was not always the solution.

Despite that sentiment, it was always a ginormous advantage if the fight prowess of the individuals on one side were stronger. That was also why Michael had been daring enough to leave the Untamed Jungle and his people behind to charge into the Savannah Region. He was certain that his people could stall the Savannah's forces even though everyone would have to fight more than 60 enemies simultaneously.

The overcharged elemental arrowheads weren't of the same quality as the overcharged crystals used to destroy the Heart of the Blazing Lion's military army. They were powerful, nonetheless.

Hundreds of Soldiers fell victim to the destructive power of the elemental arrowheads. They shattered upon impact, unleashing the elemental power that had been compressed within them in all directions.

Most targets in a range of five meters to the explosion died the second the elemental arrowheads shattered. Everyone else in a range of 20 meters suffered serious injuries if they were close to the explosion of elemental might, or were mildly wounded as the distance to the explosion widened.

Many died. However, compared to the massive number of enemies that were about to invade the Untamed Jungle, it was nothing.

Mika decided to use one more of his heirloom arrows. He retrieved the heirloom arrow coated in various miniature runes and began to channel energy into it. He nocked it on the Wyvernwood Bow's string, closed his eyes, and waited for Opars' Energy Imprint to reach him. He was overflowing with energy and used 5-Star Arrow Duplication over and over again.

Since the Wyvernwood Bow could hold out a lot more than his other bow, Mika didn't have to worry about breaking it. He called upon the Drake Soul within the Pseudo-Legendary Artifact as he continued to infuse his energy into the heirloom arrow.

Mika was not as weak as he used to be. His Soultraits were also stronger than ever. The same applied to Opars.

Opars continued to infuse Mika with energy using Energy Imprint until the last charge of Energy Imprint had been used up. Once all preparations had been concluded, Mika overcharged the heirloom arrow with Pierce's strongest form.

The heirloom arrow glowed brightly, the miniature runes twinkling like thousands of diamonds.

Mika pulled the bowstring back once he was ready, the corner of his lips curling upward. He aimed patiently into the sky, an image of Pheli and Liopham forming before him.

He released the heirloom arrow, the smile was wiped from his face.

"Die for me, you fucking bastards!"

Chapter 679: Grand Finale [IV]

Mika's heirloom arrow was stronger than ever. The Drake Soul infused into the Wyvernwood Bow, enhancing the heirloom arrow after Mika used 5-Star Arrow Duplication several times. The overcharged application of Pierce transformed the heirloom arrow in the strongest attack Mika had released since he became an Awakened.

The heirloom arrow propelled through the air in a beautiful arc. It emerged from the Untamed Jungle's outer ring, shrouded in bright light and twinkling stars.

Arrow Duplication jumped into effect as the twinkling miniature runes on the heirloom arrow were triggered. The arrows were duplicated multiple times in quick succession. It was only a matter of milliseconds before the heirloom arrow transformed into 131,072 arrows.

Each arrowhead was coated in Pierce's effect as they reached the climax, forming what looked like a dazzling cloud in the sky. In the next second, the duplicated heirloom arrows descended upon the massive crowd of enemies.

Time seemed to slow down as the duplicated arrows plunged from the sky. The deadly downpour attracted everyone's attention.

The Savannah's forces tried to erect shields in time by using some of their protection Artifacts and Soultraits, but there were only a few Awakened among the masses of three million Summons. Some managed to block a few attacks, however, their defense failed them after a dozen arrows amplified by Pierce.

The first arrows broke the defense down slowly, while the latter burst through cleanly before hitting their targets. The downpour of 131,072 arrows didn't last long. A few seconds and it was all over. More than 30,000 bodies sprawled all over the area of impact, the last bits of lifeforce leaving them.

The heirloom arrow had killed tens of thousands, and twice that sustained more or less severe injuries. The injured soldiers groaned in pain and screamed at the top of their lungs, but they weren't granted much mercy either. The Forest Elven Archers, Sharpshooters, and others targeted them, reaping their lives while they paid the most attention to their wounds.

Within a few minutes, 100,000 members of the Savannah forces died. Their corpses formed small piles in front of the Untamed Jungle. It almost looked like a warning. Enter the Untamed Jungle, and you will meet the same fate.

Mika's initial attack was extraordinary. Seeds of fear had been planted in the hearts of those who survived, forcing them to rethink their decision. They were afraid to move ahead and barge into the Untamed Jungle as it felt like a death sentence. That was not what Mika intended, but it was good enough to slow the advances of the Savannah forces.

A vibrant smile blossomed on Mika's lips as he flashed his white teeth. Unfortunately, he couldn't even enjoy the chaos he caused with a single attack. Mika broke into a cold sweat, his eyes rolled up until only the white was visible, and he fainted. Fortunately, Opars was there to catch Mika. Otherwise, the young Forest Elf would have fallen from the thick tree branch. That would have been far from great.

Mika strained his energy veins, overused his Soultraits, and used way too much energy in such a short time span. However, there was more. The flood of more than 30,000 energy influxes was the final trigger. He was exhausted and on the verge of collapsing, only for 30,000 energy influxes to bombard his War Rune.

A few hundred energy influxes would have been fine in Mika's condition, but 30,000 energy influxes simultaneously was too much for Mika to handle. Mika was also about to advance to Tier-3 soon. The energy influxes obtained from killing so many enemies was enough to crack the barrier obstructing his path to Tier-3.

He might wake up as a Tier3 Awakened if he was lucky. Zeroa, the Elemental Empress, observed Mika briefly and snapped her fingers, teleporting Mika away from the battlefield. He did more than enough and deserved to take a break. It was not like he could fight any longer, either way.

Distracted by the downpour of arrows from the front, many Summons didn't pay much attention to the sides. The Warlock Centaurs took advantage of that to face the enemy cavalry head-on.

The Warlock Centaurs were the best cavalry on the battlefield, and they exploited that fact as much as possible. The enemy cavalry was not as fast as them, so Mekhaz, Zeron Polik, and the other Warlock Centaurs used brute force and razor-sharp blades to smash into the mounts before striking the riders with fast and heavy attacks.

Tiara observed the Warlock Centaurs' attack with great interest, but her attention was pulled to the Savannah forces shortly after. Tiara noticed that thousands of Summons from the Savannah region turned their heads left and right in confusion. They began screaming at the top of their lungs, tears trickling down their cheeks. They clutched their chests and continued looking left and right as if they were confused.

They didn't know where they were or what had just happened. Suddenly, anger and fury filled their hearts as they saw who their 'allies' were. Some Summons couldn't hold back anymore. They readied their weapons and attacked their allies.

The corners of Tiara's lips tucked upward.

Michael's tactic was working. Some Lords lost their power, therefore terminating the Links of Loyalty with their Summons and the Awakened. Losing the Links of Loyalty with their Summons turned out to be disastrous. The Summons, who'd just regained their freedom, didn't hesitate to attack those who'd killed their friends and family several years ago. They slaughtered their allies, ignoring the consequences of their actions.

Now that they finally gained full control of their actions, nothing other than revenge mattered.

Not all of them attacked each other, but the number increased quickly. Many Lords lost their powers, releasing the leashes that restrained their subjects until now.

Unfortunately, the chaos created by friendly fire was not enough to block the Savannah forces entirely. The Untamed Army was forced to retreat inside the Untamed Jungle, where Hiraku awaited them.

Hiraku was nine meters tall after he transformed inside the Untamed Jungle. His entire body was covered in vines, branches, and roots. All kinds of plant life was growing on his body due to his connection to the Greater Nature Spirit. The connection with the Greater Nature Spirit granted Hiraku a Minor Nature Affinity. He could control the surrounding plant life to a certain extent.

Combining his control of the surrounding plant life with Zeroa's Nature Affinity, they transformed the surroundings into a death zone. After all, the Lesser Elementals had also been terraforming the surrounding area.

The Savannah forces could only rush into the Untamed Jungle's outer ring before they slowed down. They had to stay vigilant to avoid falling into a muddy pit or getting entangled in the veins and roots that lunged at them now and then.

As the Savannah Forces slowed down to enter the Untamed Jungle, they paid the most attention to the surroundings. Nonetheless, they didn't notice when the enemies attacked. The Untamed Army knew the Untamed Jungle better than everyone. They traveled swiftly through the thicket and released a barrage of arrows and elemental projectiles from the weirdest angles. The Savannah forces didn't expect to receive attacks from there and were forced to slow down further.

Of course, there were also Summons who didn't want to slow down anymore. They were too impatient and moved onward, only to find themselves struck by various projectiles and a blade slashing their throats.

Hiraku could have charged the Savannah forces since he was at a great advantage in the Untamed Jungle but was not in a rush. He focused on controlling the thicket, roots, and veins in his range to restrain as many enemies as possible.

Hiraku chose to act as a temporary Supporter. That produced more benefits than charging the Savannah forces while blocking his allies' view. They couldn't target their enemies with arrows and elemental projectiles if they couldn't see them.

Unfortunately, it was only a matter of time before the muddy pits and the advantage of the terrain deteriorated. The Untamed Jungle's effect on the Savannah forces decreased as they had the means to counter it. They had the means to destroy the obstacles in their paths and alter the surrounding terrain as well.

Some Higher Lifeforms used brute force and their Artifacts to destroy the towering trees that prevented the Savannah troops from maintaining their formation as they charged into the Untamed Jungle. In contrast, others had to use their Soultraits to terraform the ground. Two Awakened filled the ground with their Soultraits, whereas a third Awakened used his Soultrait to drain the moisture in the ground.

The percentage of Awakened among the three million soldiers was exceedingly low, but that didn't mean they were nonexistent or weak. It was just a matter of fact that most territories didn't have many Awakened.

Lilica and Opars tried to assassinate the Awakened of the Savannah forces. The duo managed to kill a few of them as they harnessed their Artifacts to barge through the undergrowth by destroying everything in their path.

Opars' Herculean Strength, alongside Lilica's means to hunt dozens of enemies without getting noticed, were extraordinarily useful. They managed to kill many enemies. However, they had to change their position way too often to avoid getting found out or overwhelmed by the number of enemies.

Slowly but steadily, they had to push back deeper and deeper into the Untamed Jungle. Not many members of the Untamed Army died at first, but that changed several hours into the battle. The Untamed Army was forced to alter its stance. They couldn't continue hunting down smaller batches of enemies while retreating all the time, otherwise, Arx and their beloved would be exposed to the Savannah forces.

Hiraku and the Untamed Awakened noticed the same. Lokai harnessed Burning Fury alongside her other Soultraits to join Hiraku in a fierce battle. Everyone charged forward to engage in melee combat with the Savannah forces now that they were deep inside the densely grown Untamed Jungle.

Their troops were split up due to the thicket and densely grown environment, granting the Untamed Awakened the biggest advantage. After all, their individual combat prowess far surpassed the individual power of the Savannah's forces.

Hiraku acted as the main attraction – the tank – of the group. He was ready to block most damage using the thick vines and roots that coiled around his entire body in a lively manner. He conjured large plates of highly resilient metal to cover his body. However, instead of forming a proper armor with the metal plates, Hiraku willed the roots and vines to integrate them into his body's plant life.

His defense increased drastically, but Hiraku was unsure if that was enough. Many Higher Lifeforms paid attention to him and attacked together.

Hiraku was not a fan of defending. He didn't like blocking all attacks or that he had to act as a supporter to allow the Untamed Army and other Awakened to assault their enemies. It was an ungrateful job and didn't have much impact on the result of the Regional War either. Nonetheless, Hiraku did it because he knew that his actions would help alter the course of the battle, even if it was merely a minor alteration.

But that was about to change. He could finally assault with full force. There was no need to hold back. If anything, Hiraku had to go all-out if he wanted to use Lokai's Burning Fury. The stronger their opponents and the more they struggled the more advantages they would gain from Burning Fury.

However, Hiraku didn't expect a sudden change in the Savannah forces' strategy. Less than five minutes passed after he barged into the masses of the Savannah forces, yet he found himself pinned down to the ground.

He slaughtered thousands of enemies before they pinned him down with their overwhelming numbers, but he ended up losing. It was only a matter of minutes before the Savannah troops would break through his defense and kill him.

Similar situations like this occurred in various places. The tides of the battle turned against the Untamed Army suddenly.

Suddenly, the atmosphere all over the Untamed Jungle's outer ring and the Savannah changed once again.

Everyone's hearts stirred like crazy as fear fuelled their entire being. Something big was about to happen.

Countless golden mots shrouded the border between the Untamed Jungle and the Savannah Region. Screams echoed through the surroundings, and thousands of Summons collapsed to the ground, their life force and origin energy sucked dry within seconds.

A individual appeared in the sky above the Savannah forces, his body covered in cuts and his face shrouded in wrath.

Michael had returned.

Chapter 680 Grand Finale [V]

The atmosphere changed drastically as Michael appeared in the sky above the Savannah forces. Everyone was filled with fear and a sudden sensation of death as the surroundings dyed golden.

Countless golden mots stretched far across the border to the Untamed Jungle. They shrouded everything and dissected the soil, plant life, and enemies while they were still alive.

The True Extraction Domain expanded rapidly. It spread over a kilometer in all directions, eliminating thousands of Summons instantaneously.

The pressure weighing on Hiraku and the other Untamed Awakened was lifted suddenly. Hundreds of Qi Extraction Swords pierced the Summons and Awakened, who had managed to overwhelm and pin them down to the ground.

The golden mots of True Extraction prickled on their skin as the True Extraction Domain washed over them, but they didn't feel like their insides were being removed. Their skin prickled, and some of their hair was extracted, but their skin and flesh remained where they were supposed to be.

Michael altered the True Extraction Domain temporarily, switching off friendly fire to rescue his subordinates instead of killing them by accident.

However, altering the True Extraction Domain while unleashing its full power was not easy. Michael bled from the nose and eyes as the Cursed Seals crackled violently. It was almost like the Cursed Seals demonstrated their dissatisfaction with Michael's attempts to alter their effects.

Michael tried to ignore the pain inflicted by the retaliating Cursed Seals. He grunted quietly and broke into a sweat, as he tried to control whatever the Cursed Seals were trying to achieve. But that wasn't easy.

Michael sensed that a fourth Cursed Seal was trying to break free from the shackles of countless miniature seals, but it didn't manage to do so. Something was missing.

All of a sudden, Michael heard an explosion sound from within him. He wasn't injured or under the effect of an enemy's Soultrait either. The explosion within him didn't hurt him physically. It felt as if something had been ripped out of his soul.

An Oath of Loyalty broke.

Zeron Polik died.

The feeling of loss swept through Michael. It wasn't a faint feeling like it was supposed to be with Links of Loyalty when they were cut. The sensation was on a completely different level.

The loss of Zeron Polik and the termination of his Oath of Loyalty suddenly impacted him heavily. It reached every corner of his body until the sensation of loss arrived at the Cursed Seals.

As if the Cursed Seals had been waiting for this moment, they erupted with tremendous power. True Extraction was further amplified, but Michael didn't pay any attention now. He was occupied with the maelstrom of emotions that flooded his entire being at this moment.

The Cursed Seals tremored violently, breaking down the locks that restrained the 4th Cursed Seal.

Michael lost control of his body for a moment. The sudden sensation of a significant loss affected him much more than he thought it would. The Cursed Seals exploited Michael's momentary weakness to take charge of his body.

His world was shrouded in darkness as the Cursed Seals took over. Michael could not find out what was happening or how much time had passed. The only thing he could do was to retaliate against the Cursed Seals' influence. He forced his mind and soul to overcome the loss of a trusted subordinate and an Oath of Loyalty and suppressed the Cursed Seals with all his might.

His willpower was not as weak as it used to be. Clashing with the Cursed Seals' tremendous influence dozens of times strengthened Michael's willpower. It was nothing like it used to be. After all, he had sworn that he wouldn't lose control over his body again – though he failed miserably.

Once light returned to Michael's world, he immediately noticed something significant had changed. He might have regained control of his body, but the emotions that ravaged his entire being were still apparent. They influenced Michael and put him into a state of fury and uncontrollable anger.

Michael attempted to suppress the influence of emotions, but he noticed that the Cursed Seals were more substantial than they used to be. There was one more active Cursed Seal after all.

Michael's eyes narrowed to a slit as he looked down at his body. The Extraction Aura had already dissected his shirt, revealing the multitude of chains. Countless miniature seals appeared before his eyes, but Michael paid the most attention to the 4th Cursed Seal that had been unleashed when his mind and soul were at its weakest.

Instead of looking like the other Cursed Seals, the irregularly manifested Cursed Seal was different. It was golden with crimson outlines and looked like it had been etched into Michael's body.

A vibrant red shimmer passed through Michael's eyes, dying his black pupils crimson. His skin ruptured around the 4th Cursed Seal, and crimson streaks that looked like glowing veins surfaced.

Michael's breath grew rougher, and the True Extraction Domain that dominated the surrounding area grew more potent.

An ear-deafening roar escaped from the depth of Michael's being, further intensifying his presence.

It was almost like Michael had transformed into a demon. No. It was nearly as if he was about to undergo a metamorphosis into a devil.

'I don't have full control of my body,' Michael noticed as the rage and anger consumed him. He grit his teeth, but not even his willpower was strong enough to completely control his body.

All he could do until he lost control of his body was to access the remaining Links of Loyalty to force the Untamed Awakened and the Untamed Army to retreat.

[Fall back!!!] He ordered, ignoring the frustration and retaliation of his subordinates. They wanted to stay by his side to fight the Savannah forces with him. All they desired became to be helpful and to obliterate their enemies alongside their Lord.

However, Michael's command was omnipotent. His subordinates fell back, but not without cursing Michael. The Berserkers and Warlock Centaurs were especially loud. However, Tiara and Frederik were even more deafening. They aimed to eliminate as many enemies as possible while protecting the Untamed Jungle from the invading forces, only to receive orders to retreat a few minutes after Michael returned from his trip into the Savannah Region.

Michael didn't care about their anger and disapproval. He allowed the four Cursed Seals to go all out and flood him with anger, disgust, and uncontrollable fury.

Every single Link of Loyalty that had been severed in today's battle, alongside the destruction of one Oath of Loyalty, impacted heavily on his mind. More than ten thousand members of the Untamed Army had died, and their numbers were about to reach 20,000. Almost half of the Untamed Army had been obliterated.

The Cursed Seals took count of that, and they flooded him with the rage and anger of the 18,536 Summons who'd fallen victim to the Savannah forces.

Michael didn't hesitate anymore. On the contrary, his focus returned to the battlefield where the True Extraction Domain wreaked havoc.

The life force and origin energy, which arrived him after True Extraction drained it from tens of thousands of enemies, were used to reinforce the True Extraction Domain. Simultaneously, Michael produced Icicle Bullets infused with a tremendous amount of life force. It became just enough to infuse into Tier-3 Awakened and kill them with an overdose of life force.

They didn't know what was happening to them before the Icicle Bullets impacted them, infusing the massive amount of compressed life force.

Michael didn't pay any attention to the enemies below Tier-3. They died like moths in a wildfire once the golden mists of the True Extraction Domain arrived them.

Michael's interest in the Tier-3 Summons decreased drastically after he summoned the Soul Grimoire to apply a few Soul Tears on True Extraction. True Extraction's power potency increased even further, only for the True Extraction Domain's efficiency to skyrocket as ten layers of Enhancement were added to the fray.

The stronger the Soultrait and the power used with the Soultrait, the higher the energy consumption of a single layer of Enhancement. The higher the energy consumption, the more Enhancement layers are applied to the same target. It increased exponentially, forcing Michael to use tremendous energy to apply ten layers of Extraction on his most potent attack. However, Michael used the origin energy nonetheless. He had more than enough to spare since his energy storages were always filled to the brim.

True Extraction's potency and efficiency arrived a new height now that ten layers of Enhancement and a Soul Tear alongside four Cursed Seals were unleashed.

The fourth Cursed Seal had the most significant impact. It allowed Michael to drain everyone's origin energy in the True Extraction Domain. Even Tier-3 and Higher Lifeforms couldn't block the True Extraction Domain's full effect.

They could decrease the amount of energy drained by the domain, but it became impossible to block the energy drain entirely – not without using specific Soultraits and techniques, at least.

The True Extraction Domain expanded rapidly. The farther it expanded, the more enemies and plant life were affected by its effect. Everything became drained of its lifeforce and origin energy, leaving Michael with an overflow of both.

The origin energy became consumed to expand the domain further, whereas the lifeforce killed thousands of Tier-3 Summons by forcing more lifeforce into them than they could handle.

Their bodies splattered in countless bits and pieces, leaving no big pieces behind.

Michael sensed great. His entire being became overflowing with satisfaction as hundreds of thousands of enemies fell victim to his overwhelming power.

A devilish smile plastered his face as the confident forces of the Savannah transformed into a flock of headless chickens.

Desperation filled their hearts, and Michael enjoyed it.

His power ruled supreme.

But it consumed him as well.