

Supreme Lord 721

Chapter 721 Blessed Child In The Jungle

Michael didn't have to think long to determine what to do with the remaining SoulStar Fragments. It was pretty simple.

He spend more than 82,000 SoulStar Fragments upgrading Cosmic Stride to 6-Star and 55,000 SoulStar Fragments upgrading Sphere of Elements to 5-Star.

The Soultraits didn't mutate or evolve, but their potency increased drastically. The Elemental Spheres inside Michael's energy pool expanded. They stored more energy, which increased the total amount of energy that could be stored inside Michael's body. As the Elemental Spheres absorbed energy from the energy pool, they infused an element into the neutral origin energy. But that was not all.

The Elemental Spheres purified the origin energy by infusing elemental properties into it. The purified elemental energy could be utilized to create stronger elemental attacks. Combined with other Soultraits like Cosmic Stride, Michael could unleash attacks several times more efficiently than before.

Fused with the Elemental Empress, Michael learned that he was capable of doing things he could have never fathomed. It was terrific and terrifying at the same time.

Cosmic Stride was terrific, as it used to be. At 6-Star, it releases even fewer spatial frequencies into the surroundings. Teleporting farther away was easier, and Michael could quickly bring dozens of people with him without attracting too much attention.

Upgrading several Soultraits to 6-Star affected him quite a bit. His body could endure the toll of so many powerful Soultraits, but it wasn't easy. Each 6-Star Soultrait enhanced his physique, mind, and soul to a certain extent. Some Soultraits, like Cosmic Stride and Taming , drastically enhanced Michael's mental power, while Insert empowered his Souls.

Several days had passed in the blink of an eye since he started upgrading his Soultraits. He decided to give his body a break and enough time to adjust to the changes he'd undergone. He had enough SoulStar Fragments left to upgrade Mind Reader to 6-Star, but Michael didn't want to upgrade the Soultrait. Putting aside some SoulStar Fragments to strengthen Danny's Living Soul was more important.

But then again, Michael thought about expanding the Soul Sphere. He felt like binding another Soultrait. Fortunately, he didn't do that. Instead, he left a few thousand SoulStar Fragments to strengthen Danny's Living Soul while investing the remaining Fragments into his Aethyr.

The Aethyr linked to his Soul Sphere had been upgraded to Tier-3. That was the limit of the Aethyr he had been given by the War Priestess and the Berserker Chieftain. However, it was not the limit of the Aethyr Michael wanted to use. Therefore, he did what he had planned to do a while ago.

"Extraction is enough reason for the vast majority of the Universe to be interested in me. They won't care if I have Aether or not. Extraction will be their main focus!" Michael concluded.

Unlimited Soultraits and Soultrait Upgrades were far more critical than an Aether weapon. Michael didn't have to hold back anymore.

The Aethyr inside him expanded as the Aether content increased. He gained access to more shapes and a wide variety of functions that could come in handy once he ascended to a Higher Lifeform.

Aethyr's limit increased. It could now easily reach the standards of a High Artifact. That was exactly what Michael needed--a weapon that wouldn't break once he ascended to a Higher Lifeform. Aethyr's forms gained more power now that more Aether had been mixed into the alloy. Michael could cut down Higher Lifeforms even easier now.

"I'm dead," Michael murmured. Even after he'd taken a few days of a break, Michael was exhausted.

[I would be exhausted after upgrading five Soultraits to 6-Star and a sixth Soultrait to 5-Star. You do realize that you have two 5-Star Soultraits, eight 6-Star Soultraits, and one 7-Star Soultrait now...right?]

Michael smiled, "Yup, I know."

[You can take a more extended break. Study your Soultraits more in-depth, create a bunch of customized Elite Class Soul Techniques for your Soultraits, and continue refining your War Rune, body, mind, and soul. Have some fun as well. Don't put too much pressure on yourself. Everything will be alright!]

At first, Michael felt he had much more to do, but he kept his mouth shut. Instead of saying that his brother spoke nonsense, he did precisely what Danny said.

He worked hard and enjoyed life simultaneously.

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Time passed much faster than expected. In the first few months, he looked for his mother quite often, but he couldn't find her. It was almost like Evalynn Fang left the Tritan Alliance once again. Daniel was a bit sad about that, but he overcame the sadness quickly. It was not like Danny expected to talk to their mother ever again after she left them once.

Michael didn't even have to console his brother. He fared much better than expected. Michael knew that he would never be able to act like his brother. Danny was more mature.

Michael spent some time with Alice. They got closer after going on multiple dates. After a while, the pair warmed up to each other, but they hesitated to jump into a connection right away. Both were busy with their territories and businesses and growing stronger. Nonetheless, after several months passed, they made the big jump and got together.

They shared their first kisses and had a happy time together – even if it was not much.

The first Holy Knights received a promotion to become Sacred Knights in Michael's territory, and the livelihood of all subjects improved. More offspring were born in his territory.

Immortal Knight, the Untamed Army, and all members of the Untamed Awakened continued to work hard. They grew stronger and attended the monthly championships that Rebecca Zauber had initiated after consolidating Michael thoroughly. The championship winners were given a large number of Jungle Points that could be used to purchase Spirit Armaments, Artifacts, Soultraits, and a wide variety of other stuff.

The championships existed in various sections. There was a combat section divided into Awakened Championships and Summon Championships. The further divisions were Higher Lifeform and Lesser

Lifeform to ensure that no Higher Lifeform would thrash the Lesser Lifeform's battle spirit and fiercely flickering spark to compete against each other.

However, there was also a non-combat section for Craftsmen and magicians focusing on research, etc. Rebecca was certain the championships would push the territory's power and progress to a new level. She wasn't wrong. The championships pushed everyone with enough competitive spirit to work even harder than before.

The championships were the most exciting thing to happen in Michael's region for a long time. The third settlement was constructed, and his territory's population again expanded drastically.

The trading enterprise with the other races expanded, and the Forest Elves and Valyr approached him with their well-

prepared offers. They wanted some changes to the drafted proposals Michael had prepared earlier, mainly because they hoped to be more involved with Michael.

Michael didn't have anything against that. If anything, their offers were more beneficial for him than his drafted proposal. Interestingly enough, the Valyr had been generous enough to 'gift' Michael many more criminals than he'd requested in his drafted proposal. That was unexpected and allowed Michael to strengthen the Soultrait Symbols of the Untamed Awakened a lot.

The Valyr also reasoned that Michael would have fewer issues once the Savannah was safe and sound. Therefore, it would be in his favor if they obtained Soultrait Symbols and Soultrait Upgrades. Following that reasoning, the Valyr promised to come to his aid if needed. That, followed by other offers – including more criminals – was enough to convince Michael that he should give them some Soultraits.

On the other hand, the Clan of the Forest Elves decided to support Michael differently. They allowed more Forest Elves to come to his territory. But there were not only ordinary Forest Elves among the batch of Rogues who'd decided to join Michael's territory. There was also a Blessed Child, who had lost his region a long time ago in a fierce battle against several High Lords.

He was a powerful Rogue known for supporting his kin at all times, but Lilica said that the Blessed Child only did that because he liked fighting a lot more than most Forest Elves.

He was known as the Blood Elf even though he looked nothing like Blood Elves.

Jason Kleora was his name. He was a Higher Lifeform who'd managed to enter the Untamed Jungle with the help of the Forest Elf Elders. They sacrificed a Platinum Teleportation Token to bring Jason Kleora to the Untamed Jungle. It was a sign of their goodwill.

However, Jason Kleora didn't plan to act like the Forest Elf Elders told him. Instead of keeping a low profile, Jason Kleora challenged the strongest Higher Lifeform in the territory.

"Are you the Lord of the Untamed Jungle?" He asked Hiraku the moment he found him.

"N-...."

"There is no need to be shy around me. Fight me with all you have!" Jason declared his challenge.

"I will beat you!"

Chapter 722 Dating Life

?The dating life of Michael and Alice wasn't as exhilarating as they'd expected. Both thought the period between getting to know each other romantically and starting to date would be different. Neither anticipated Alice would be pulled into a large-scale war in the Origin Expanse.

Alice was always prepared for war but didn't expect a war near her borders to break out so suddenly. She had been on her third date with Michael when she sensed something was wrong with her territory. Thousands of Links of Loyalty tensed up suddenly, informing Alice Zenovia that something was wrong.

Alice had to leave. She jumped from the chair and leaned forward to press her lips against his cheek before disappearing for a month. Michael was a bit stunned, but he didn't hold her accountable for disappearing all of a sudden. He would have done the same if his territory was in danger. As long as Alice was fine, Michael would be alright as well.

He chose to enter the Origin Expanse as well because he was also busy. His territory was not that easy to manage after all. He returned to check if his Mother or Alice had returned. Two months passed in the Origin Expanse—one month outside—before Alice returned.

She wasn't injured, but Michael could tell that Alice was exhausted. Alice Zenovia was dead tired after fighting almost every day for the two months she'd spent in the Origin Expanse.

The first thing Alice did was to drop Michael a message. Following that, she collapsed on her bed. Alice didn't wake up until two days later. She was still tired from using Frozen Kingdom way too often, to an extent her mind and soul could barely handle. However, that had been necessary to emerge victorious against her enemies.

Michael and Alice met not long after for their fourth date. Unfortunately, their situation changed a little bit. They were not yet together, but both showed romantic feelings toward each other. Nonetheless, spending two months in the Origin Expanse was a lot of time, and the time they didn't see each other affected their emotions.

It was not like they didn't like each other anymore, but the awkwardness from the first date had returned. It was almost like their dating progress reset straight to zero.

Fortunately, both knew that they liked each other romantically. That understanding made reaching the old level in the getting-to-know phase much more straightforward.

Meeting up with Michael after being tensed up and forced to fight dozens of bloody battles was relieving. Alice Zenovia didn't expect that she could relax this quickly after witnessing the death of millions, but meeting up with Michael once was enough to disperse the tension that had taken root inside her body.

On the second date after she returned from the Origin Expanse, Alice could talk to Michael openly about all kinds of things. Most of her stories were related to the large-scale war that had interrupted their date, but Alice Zenovia also talked about stuff she had never mentioned to others.

It wasn't as uncomfortable as she'd expected, either. Revealing her deepest secrets to Michael felt good. It was almost as if she was supposed to tell Michael everything that weighed hard on her heart and mind.

Michael was a good listener. He listened intently to everything Alice had to share before carefully considering her words. Only after Michael digested 100% of the things she'd mentioned would he

provide her with useful suggestions. That was also something Michael only did if he sensed that she needed advice or after making sure what she wanted.

Sometimes, it was difficult to tell what others wanted, but Michael was pretty good at picking up the clues. He was usually dense and rather oblivious to clues about women. However, that changed with Alice. She was nothing like the other women he'd gotten to know since he manifested his War Rune. She was special to him.

Alice liked Michael's suggestions. They were on point and helped her understand things that were unclear before. That was surprising.

Alice expected to be the more mature person in Michael's relationship. Although she was several years older than Michael, Alice couldn't help but feel that Michael was far more experienced than she was.

She was unsure where Michael learned so much in the short period he'd been a Lord, but it was amazing. Michael was amazing. How could a man appreciate Michael exist?

Alice didn't seem to realize that Michael possessed the experience of thousands of Awakened. Every Memory Orb he'd consumed provided him with their experiences and knowledge. Of course, the Memory Orbs provided mere snippets of the Awakened's lives, but Michael had consumed thousands of Memory Orbs so far. The Orbs from the Regional War were already enough to fill an entire room. Michael spent a long time consuming the thousands of Memory Orbs he'd procured from it.

Alice was also not aware that Michael had similar emotions toward her. She might not have realized it at first, but Alice Zenovia opened up to Michael after some time. She was no longer the Frozen Duchess in front of Michael. Instead, the Frozen Duchess transformed into Alice, a warm and kind person underneath a thick, icy surface.

The warmth hidden deep inside her began to shine brighter than ever after they went on several dates. Michael was genuinely happy observing the changes in Alice Zenovia's body language and how she acted differently in front of him than anyone else. It made him feel special. As if he meant the world to her.

The changes Michael witnessed hit him fiercely in the stomach. They made him feel things he didn't know he could feel. It was amazing.

Michael decided it was time to take the next step during one of their latest dates. His heart beat wildly as he approached Alice. At this point, Michael couldn't hear anything. His heart beat too loudly, and blood rushed into his ears.

He appeared before her, smiling vibrantly, and his right hands reached out. Michael pulled Alice closer to him at her waist with his left hand while cupping her head gently with his right. He pressed his lips gently against her lips before pulling back.

Alice tensed up for a moment, but a smile blossomed on her face. Her arms coiled around his neck, and she pulled him closer.

Their lips collided once again.

However, this time, they didn't share a short peck. Michael and Alice didn't separate for a while. Their brains shut off, and they allowed their instincts to take over.

It was not until more than ten seconds passed before their lips separated once again.

Michael stared at Alice, who chuckled through embarrassment, her ears burning fiercely.

Neither knew what to say at this moment. The pair could only stare at each other, embarrassment flushing through them.

However, it did not feel too bad. They were embarrassed together.

It felt good. Unique.

Chapter 723 Nature versus Nature.

Jason Kleora appraised Hiraku's towering figure on the other side of the arena and smiled lightly.

"My name is Jason Kleora and I'm one of the Forest Elves' Blessed Children. I lost my territory a few years ago and have been fighting for the Forest Elves as an independent Rogue since then," He

introduced himself curtly., "I hope you don't hold it against me, but I'm already at the Mid rank of Tier-4. My greatest achievement was defeating the Leruma Lord, a Tier-5 powerhouse."

Hiraku raised an eyebrow as he listened to Jason's lengthy introduction.

"I'm Hiraku. I ascended not too long ago. My greatest achievement...is...being part of this territory."

Hiraku could have said a lot more about his achievements, but he answered after genuinely thinking about them for a few seconds. Being part of the Untamed Awakened and a pillar of support for Michael was his most outstanding achievement so far.

Jason Kleora didn't respond. Instead, he made the first move. A golden dagger manifested in his hands, and boots with tiny wings appeared around his feet. Hiraku tensed up when he sensed the power residing within the two Artifacts. Both were High Artifacts with a high star rating.

Hiraku swallowed and conjured his Artifacts as well. A pair of bracelets manifested around his right arm, and a crimson necklace highlighted his neck. Hiraku's mental power skyrocketed. He unleashed Titan Spirit and transformed into a ten-meter-tall Nature Titan. Massive roots emerged from the ground. They moved uncontrollably around Hiraku, whose silver body was covered in vines, roots, flowers, and leaves in no time.

Jason stared at the towering Nature Titan and smiled.

"Not bad. Unfortunately, nature will be on my side today!"

Jason's veins bulged and pressed tightly against his skin. The grass blades, vines, and bushes around him fluttered wildly. It was almost like the nature around Jason grew fiercer by the second. His presence expanded rapidly until it encompassed the entire arena. Hiraku froze in his tracks and noticed quickly that he lost control of the roots around him. Only the roots within one meter of him remained in his control. Jason Kleora overshadowed his control of the surrounding nature. Something like that had never happened to Hiraku.

His eyes widened in surprise, but he didn't have the luxury to attempt to regain control.

A bunch of roots burst toward him. They coiled around his legs and kept him in place. Simultaneously, Jason Kleora appeared before Hiraku. Jason's body was shrouded in an armor of nature. That was the easiest way to explain his appearance. He was covered in interwoven vines that protected every part of his body. His eyes were bloodred, his Soultrait unleashing the hidden potential of the surrounding nature and his body simultaneously.

That was what Nature's Wrath did. Nature's Wrath, a 6-Star Soultrait, could be compared to a monster's Berserk modus. The boost in strength depended on the environment's lifeforce. The stronger the surrounding life is, the higher the potency of Nature's Wrath.

"Looks like you take good care of your territory," Jason Kleora noted as he realized that the additional perk of Nature's Wrath had not been triggered.

If the surrounding nature around him felt mistreated, Jason Kleora would grow even stronger. The worse the condition of the surrounding nature, the stronger the additional boost. The additional perk was what Jason Kleora had to utilize to kill the Tier-5 Lord a few months ago.

"But I don't need anymore power to defeat you. You are an easy target," Jason pointed out, slashing at Hiraku with terrifying speed.

Jason was much faster than an ordinary Higher Lifeform. Nature's Wrath increased his physical strength enough to push him to the Peak of Tier-4. He didn't even require the additional perk of his Soultrait to fight Hiraku.

However, Hiraku was not that weak either. He had ascended to a Higher Lifeform not too long ago but adapted to the vast changes he'd undergone after ascending quickly. Hiraku learned to control his Soultraits much better.

A large metal arm guard manifested around his arm, blocking Jason's golden dagger. The arm guard was cut through, but Hiraku wasn't injured. He dissolved the arm guard and conjured a Morningstar in his other hand. The Morningstar smashed down upon Jason Kleora, who kicked the ground lightly to dive to the side.

Jason tumbled over the ground and jumped up while controlling the nature around him to lung at Hiraku. Hiraku used his vast physical strength and heavy mass to tear the roots apart and charge at

Jason. A whirlwind of leaves burst past Jason, shrouding the Forest Elf. Jason disappeared from Hiraku's sight, forcing Hiraku to slow down. He focused on the sounds around him, but the rustling branches and bushes distracted him too much.

Jason emerged beside him a quarter of a second before Hiraku noticed him. Jason was slightly faster than Hiraku, who responded just a moment too late to block the full blow of the dagger.

The dagger cut through the vines and roots covering Hiraku's body and barely managed to scratch his skin. However, that was enough for Jason Kleora. He smiled lightly. It didn't take long before Hiraku observed what was going on.

Jason's Dagger Artifact had the power to slowly sap Hiraku's lifeforce. The blade barely scratched Hiraku, but that was enough to drain his lifeforce slowly.

Hiraku could tell that the effect wasn't that strong, probably because it was merely a scratch, but it was enough to know that Jason's High Artifact was either Epic or Legendary.

'I need to finish this soon!'

Hiraku charged at Jason and used Creation to conjure massive walls out of thin air. Their creations were not permanent, but they were just as durable as the original. Hiraku might not like his family much, but their Soultrait was powerful. All he had to do to replicate something perfectly was to know how it had been created.

Hiraku studied extensively all his life to exploit his Soultrait to the fullest, but only now did he tap into its true power—in the middle of a fierce battle.

Highly durable stone walls surrounded Jason Kleora. He panicked for a quarter of a second only to regain his calm a second later.

"You have two high-ranked Soultraits. That's interesting!" He said, charging ahead, only to see a humongous stone appear above him. The stone smashed down, forcing Jason to continue charging straight at Hiraku. " Unfortunately, you underestimate the value of my Artifacts."

His boots turn golden, and the miniature wings attached to them expanded. Jason accelerated and disappeared for a quarter of a second. He moved too fast for Hiraku to follow. A second later, he spun around only to see blood trickle down the golden dagger.

Hiraku looked down and noticed that he had been cut several times. The Legendary Dagger's effect came to display. Hiraku's lifeforce was drained rapidly.

Hiraku bellowed and was about to do something stupid when he suddenly stopped midway.

Michael emerged on the battlefield, his eyes focused on Hiraku.

"Why are you exuding killing intent?" He asked, his vibrant golden eyes staring coldly at Hiraku.

Hiraku's lips parted, but no word escaped from his mouth. There was no answer. He was about to go too far because he didn't want to lose.

But Michael's eyes didn't remain on Hiraku. His attention tugged to Jason.

"And why the hell are you using two Legendary Artifacts in a spar? You spar to train with others, not to show off that you are a spoiled child!"

Chapter 724 Disappointing Sight

"Who the fuck are you even? Why do you interfere in my battle with the Lord of the Untamed Jungle?!?" Jason growled fiercely.

Michael raised an eyebrow in amusement while Hiraku frowned deeply.

"I was just about to confirm whether your Lord is worthy of my loyalty or if I will leave this place once my duty has been completed."

Hiraku and Michael looked at each other, a light smile blossoming on their faces.

"Am I right to assume you think I'm the Lord of the Untamed Jungle?" Hiraku asked to confirm his suspicion. It had been a little bit iffy before, but now it was crystal clear that Jason Kleora had misunderstood the situation.

Jason squinted his eyes as if to say Duh, obviously?!?

However, Hiraku glanced at Michael. He didn't pay much attention to Jason. Jason noticed that and stared at Michael as well, his eyes filled with doubts.

"How about we fight a bit?" Michael asked lightly.

He couldn't hide that he was pissed at Jason. Michael never asked the Forest Elves to send Jason to his territory. They said that Jason was interested in the Untamed Jungle and that he would give his utmost to support him in every possible way.

They praised Jason Kleora to the moon and beyond, only for him to be a douchebag. Michael didn't need people like Jason if they behaved like this.

He was the last person to care about his background, the Soultrait he manifested, or how much the Forest Elves valued him. Michael could create his own Blessed Children with enough time. In fact, he didn't even need time. As long as he set his mind on it, Michael could turn Opars, Lilica, and Mika into Blessed Children in less than 24 hours.

"You can use your Legendary Artifacts as well. You will need them!" Michael snorted.

Jason glared at Michael. What the hell was this lowly 3rd Tier's problem?!

"What do you think a Lesser Lifeform do against me?! Even if you manage to surprise me, you wouldn't be a—..." Jason couldn't even finish his sentence when Michael appeared before him.

He teleported right before Jason using Cosmic Stride and stared coldly at Jason.

"I can tell," He ridiculed the young Forest Elf while utilizing his Soultraits.

Qi swords with several Enhancement layers, fireballs, ice shards, and countless other elemental projectiles manifested around Jason Kleora. The swords pressed against Jason's neck, cutting into his skin and drawing blood.

Jason got goosebumps. He responded way too late. His eyes widened in shock as Michael's presence erupted. A flood of energy surged out of him, revealing the massive amount of energy he could control.

"H-How?!"

How could a Lesser Lifeform possess so much energy? What kind of fiendish creature was he to attain such a terrifyingly high energy control?

Jason didn't have less energy than Michael, but his energy control was insignificant compared to Michael's. He was not even aware that it was possible to conceal one's energy level from someone stronger like that!

Michael didn't respond. He used Cosmic Stride to appear at the opposite end of the arena. A simple gesture to Hiraku was enough for the High Awakened to return to his original appearance and leave the arena.

Michael manifested the Legendary Ring Artifact alongside Aethyr. His Aethyr transformed into a simple one-handed longsword, and he changed into an offensive stance.

"Are you done with your bullshit?" Michael asked while removing the projectiles surrounding Jason.

Jason swallowed hard. He was bewildered by the Lesser Lifeform's combat prowess and Michael's Soultrait. However, that didn't stop him from standing opposite Michael in the arena, his expression now serious. Jason got his act together. He had not come to the Untamed Jungle to get into trouble. His main mission had been to become an invaluable asset to Michael—an asset that couldn't be replaced.

To his misfortune, it looked like he'd messed up big time before the Lord of the Untamed Jungle had accepted him in the first place.

[What a funny guy. That one fits perfectly into your territory!] Danny laughed into Michael's mind.

Michael rolled his eyes and ignored his brother. However, Danny was not wrong. Jason's weirdness would fit seamlessly into the territory.

'At least he is not obnoxious,' Michael thought, seeing that Jason now took him seriously.

"Let's start right away," Michael declared with a light smile on his face.

He exerted Heavenly Beast Physique and charged to the side instantaneously. It was merely a quarter of a second later when massive roots shot out of the ground with terrifying velocity. They reached high into the air until they lunged down toward Michael.

Jason's body was coated in the same vine armor as before. He'd already activated the Hermes Boots' Artifact, increasing his agility by more than 100% for three seconds.

Michael's Spirit Eyes detected when Jason activated the Hermes Boots. He utilized Cosmic Stride immediately and vanished into thin air as Jason crossed the distance between them instantly. Jason slashed at Michael's position just a moment ago but cut air instead.

Jason uttered a quiet curse and spun around. He'd expected Michael to appear behind him. But instead of meeting Michael's Aethyr Blade, Jason was greeted by a series of azure fireballs and balls made from compressed darkness. Upon exploding, they released darkness into the surroundings, shrouding the perimeter in darkness instantaneously.

The azure fireballs exploded, tearing the roots around Jason into shreds while the darkness shrouded his sight. The attacks weren't powerful enough to harm him seriously, but he was restricted. It was not possible to see beyond the darkness.

Jason was forced to use Nature's Wrath to control more roots coated in an emerald sheen. The roots tore through the darkness, unveiling what was hidden behind. But Michael was nowhere to be seen.

Jason looked in all directions, his head flicking left and right hurriedly, yet he couldn't find Michael until he thought about looking overhead. And there he was. Michael levitated in the air above Jason, staring down at the Forest Elf with a nonchalant expression.

"You should learn what true power actually means."

Michael determined to go all out to teach Jason Kleora a lesson. He unleashed the Cursed Seals alongside the Serpent Seals. Right after True Extraction was unlocked, Michael used ten Enhancement Layers with the highest priority configured to amplify Extraction's primary function – to extract.

Michael felt like unleashing the True Extraction Domain, but he altered his decision in the last second. He focused True Extraction on Jason instead of spreading its devastating power in all directions. True Extraction's potency was not spread evenly. It focused on one point and was amplified many times.

The full potential of True Extraction impacted before Jason could react. It wasn't a heavy impact, though. Jason didn't even sense anything at first. All he could notice was that Michael was doing something crazy with the massive pressure that radiated from him. He couldn't notice that Michael had already utilized a Soul Tear on Insert to unleash Insert with Extraction.

Jason was unable to even think about blocking Extraction's tremendous power. It had already taken root within him and drained his power rapidly when he realized something was wrong.

Jason leaped into the air to catch Michael, but a wind barrier manifested before the Forest Elf. A house-sized rock emerged above the wind barrier and dispersed right after Jason's momentum slowed down to break the barrier or make a detour around it.

Jason Kleora cut the rock in half, only to realize that most of his power had already been drained. Only then did he sense that Michael had emerged behind him with Aethyr gauntlets. Michael smiled lightly, using the energy he'd drained from Jason to enhance his speed and power with focused Enhancement uses on his body.

Jason controlled the surrounding nature, or so he thought, until the roots in his Soultrait's range began to resist. Jason's eyes widened in shock. Something like that had never happened before. What was going on?

Michael smiled lightly, the True Extraction Domain gushing explosively out of his body.

Jason's skin began itching when the surroundings were coated in a golden blanket.

His body was being dissected, and Jason couldn't do anything against it as the strongest form of Spiritual Domination impacted heavily on his weakened mind.

Jason's legs buckled, and one of them caved in. He fell to the ground only for Michael to emerge before him.

"I expected a lot more from a Blessed Child. You are a disappointing sight."

Chapter 725 Intermediate

725 Intermediate

The True Extraction Domain receded as the battle ended. Michael ignored the earlier comment he made and looked deep into the quivering eyes of the Blessed Child opposite him.

"I'm Michael Fang, Lord of the Untamed Jungle and the person you're supposed to work for," He introduced himself calmly, "But I think you gathered that by now!"

Jason got up from the ground. He was just about to say something when Michael added.

"I don't really like your attitude. The Forest Elves won't be given any Soultraits and Soultrait Upgrades for the next four weeks."

Jason's eyes widened, "You can't do that!"

"I can, and I did," Michael responded with a shrug.

"But-..."

"6 weeks no Soultraits."

Jason's lips parted, and Michael followed suit right after. However, before Jason said a word, he stared at Michael. He considered what to do momentarily and shut his mouth again.

"Good. You understand the basics of keeping your lips sealed when nobody asked for your opinion," Michael approved in a ridiculing tone. He teased Jason with a thumbs-up, "That means you also understand that I can do whatever I want and that you are the sole reason your people won't be given a Soultrait for the next six weeks."

Jason grit his teeth and clenched his fist in anger. His face turned beet-red, and it was obvious that Jason wanted to throw something at Michael.

"Keep this attitude, and you will have to leave the Untamed Jungle. If you act up again, I will expel you from my territory and have everyone hunt you down if you dare to come back again. Get on my nerves, and I will rip your Soultrait out of your soul while you're still alive. Your compatibility with your Soultrait seems pretty high. You will die an excruciating death."

Michael's vigorous golden eyes weren't ice-cold and ruthless as he spoke. There was no single emotion in his voice or eyes as he spread out the hard facts in front of Jason.

Jason's eyes widened, but he remained silent. He finally understood with what kind of person he was going to work.

Michael nodded slowly, "Good job."

His expression changed, and a smile blossomed on his face.

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"Now that the introduction has been concluded, we can move on," Michael said, acting like nothing had happened earlier.

"First, you should know some facts about the Untamed Jungle. I'm sure the Elders have already told you, but the territory is connected to the Savannah Region under the Valyr's control, and the Zentika Empire. The Valyr are our allies. Some consider them my workforce because they earn a fortune for our territory, but I don't like to call them like that. They deserve to be named properly and acknowledged as an independent territory."

[They're still your workers, though. You can tell them they're amazing powerhouses and other nonsense, but at the end of the day, they're your cushion, treasure trove, and reinforcements in case your territory faces destruction.] Danny pointed out.

'Zip it. The Valyr are the Valyr. We have several deals with them, ensuring that both sides gain something. Even if I gained a lot more than them, we were the ones who claimed the Savannah Region. They're paying the price of buying the Savannah Region from me!'

[Yes, yes. I never said that you're lying. But it is a fact that the Valyrs would do almost everything to please you. They act more like your servants than your allies. Isn't that fun?]

'Fun? If you think so?' Michael shrugged inwardly. He didn't think that it was fun.

"Either way, the Zentika Empire was - or is our enemy. They caused lots of trouble, but their existence and constant attacks are also how I managed to grow stronger quickly. Still, they're annoying. I want to deal with a few powerhouses of the Zentika Empire in the future, but the situation over there is very...difficult. The Zentika Empire is on the verge of breaking apart. In fact, it's possible that the

Zentika Empire has already collapsed - unofficially, that is. Officially, they're still holding their fort against dozens of Lords."

Jason was forced to listen intently to Michael, but he noticed something amiss.

"I read in the reports that you want to kill someone called Taros and his Red Dragon. Is he part of the Lords, who've been rebelling against the Zentika Empire?"

Michael didn't care much about Jason's interception. He had a good point by mentioning Taros. It was one of Michael's wound points, but the injury had already healed. Masked Saber might have died in the blazing flames of the Red Dragon's mother, but Danny was here with him.

"I will kill Taros, yes."

"What about the Red Dragon?" Jason asked, his curiosity picked.

He might not have recognized Michael as the Lord of the Untamed Jungle, but he'd heard various stories about him. Jason was still unsure why he hadn't been given a picture of Michael alongside the countless documents the Elders had thrown at him to read through carefully. Maybe the Elders had been hoping for this result...for him to be humiliated and fail miserably. 2

'Everyone is against me!' Jason growled in his mind. He clenched his fist again.

"If the Red Dragon can be subdued, I might subdue it. After all, I know that it's not at fault for Danny's death. Taros stole it when it was still an egg. How was it supposed to do anything against Taros' kidnapping?"

Michael knew that the chances were slim to tame it, but he figured that the Red Dragon would be a suitable companion. Of course, it was highly likely that it got attached to Taros and would want to kill Michael to get rid of Taros, but it was not impossible that the circumstances were different.

Some rumors stated that the Red Dragon rebelled against Taros and didn't listen to his commands. There was a decent chance that the Red Dragon had been forcefully submitted when it was still in its egg- or shortly after it hatched.

Michael wouldn't kill the Red Dragon before he knew more.

"Either way, let's get back to the main business," Michael said, pointing at the large Summoning Gate.

After a long time, Kraft Viton produced the essence needed to initiate the Summoning Gate's upgrade. The

Intermediate Summoning Gate didn't look much different than the Basic Summoning Gate except for the difference in size. The Intermediate Summoning Gate was three times larger than the Basic version. It could store up to 100 Summoning Cores as well.

That was the crucial part. Michael installed 12 Intermediate Summoning Cores and 29 Basic Summoning Cores in the Intermediate Summoning Gate, therefore summoning 53

Summons every single day.

Intermediate Summoning Cores would each summon two Summons every day. That was only twice as many as the Basic Summoning Core summoned, but it was important to know that the Summons from the Intermediate

Summoning Cores had much higher potential.

Their average star-rating was only slightly higher than the basic version, but their innate potential to grow was several times bigger.

That was all Michael needed. Summons with the potential to become powerhouses!

After all, he had the means to transform them.

Chapter 726 Gardener

The Intermediate Summoning Gate was nothing special for Jason, but the Greater Nature Spirit was.

At this point, the Greater Nature Spirit's main trunk surpassed thirty meters. The treetop reached far beyond the ordinary towering trees surrounding it. Yet, from a bird's point of view, it looked like the

treetop merged seamlessly with the surroundings, creating a beautiful scenery all over the Untamed Jungle.

The Untamed Jungle looked like a massive field of green. There were hardly any spots with little to no trees or areas that looked like they had been terraformed. Only the largest buildings, such as the Sacred Knight Temples, were exposed to the view of a bird from high above.

However, Jason and the others couldn't see any of it. The only things Jason saw were the massive trunk of the Greater Nature Spirit, the small puddle of liquefied Life Sap, and the creatures that had been pulled toward the Greater Nature Spirit.

"Your Nature Spirit has already created Dryads and Treants?" Jason asked in surprise.

"It has been a few months since the first Dryads emerged from the Nature Spirit's tree trunk, yep."

Michael responded nonchalantly, but Jason stared at him in shock. He gained a lot of respect for Michael after getting beaten to a pulp. Thus, it was a little bit hard to understand how Michael didn't know about this. Or was he acting ignorant?

"That might sound rude, but do you know what it means when a Greater Nature Spirit starts creating Dryads and Treants?"

Michael tilted his head. He heard from Lilica and the others that the Greater Nature Spirit was unique but they didn't share any details.

"I don't."

Jason groaned, "What are these idiots even doing here if they don't help you make the best out of such a great opportunity?!"

Michael frowned at Jason, who tried to ignore it with his best effort.

"A Greater Nature Spirit creating Dryads and Treants indicates that it wants to become the Essence of the forest—or jungle in this case. It means that the Greater Nature Spirit challenges the other spirits in the Untamed Jungle openly. Usually, a Greater Nature Spirit doesn't do something like that in an area that is evidently managed by another—even stronger—Nature Spirit, but your Nature Spirit seems very young."

Jason took a deep breath and thought about his following words for a moment before he proceeded.

"Your Nature Spirit grew rapidly. It's already on the verge of ascending to a Higher Lifeform. That is very rare to see in such a young territory. I also think that your Nature Spirit was influenced a lot more by your Link of Loyalty. It wants to help you and expand rapidly. Spreading throughout the Untamed Jungle and taking control of it is the best way the Greater Nature Spirit can help you. Of course, it will have to defeat the other Nature Spirits in the Untamed Jungle, which is the bigger problem."

Michael listened intently. His opinion of Jason was not too high at this point, but he was a Blessed Child. He was more knowledgeable than Lilica and the others, as he read more secret scriptures than the other Forest Elves.

"We had more problems with monsters recently, but my territory has a higher energy density and greater life force. That should be the reason all those monsters have been attacking," Michael mumbled.

"That's correct, but the Greater Nature Spirit is probably the reason your territory amasses and generates more energy than the surroundings. As for the life force, everything in your territory is overflowing with life. That is not only the Greater Nature Spirit's doing but also because you have been taking care very well of this land," Jason explained. "Looks like it was a good decision to give the Untamed Jungle all corpses as tribute," Michael said to himself in a whisper, but Jason heard him once again.

"Tribute?" Jason asked, his expression distorting lightly. "Wait... The Untamed Jungle consumes the dead and converts their bodies into nourishment for growth? Are you serious right now?!"

A hint of both fear and excitement flashed through Jason's eyes.

"That's about it. I know it's not normal, but I have been sensation closer to the Untamed Jungle as we take care of each other. It didn't seem like a problem when I fed it with those corpses."

"You feel close to it? Does that mean the Untamed Jungle doesn't view you and your territory – including the Greater Nature Spirit – not as parasites? That...doesn't make any sense."

Various thoughts flashed through Jason's mind, but he couldn't make sense of them. At some point, he noticed that Michael was waiting for him. Michael had many questions, but he could tell that Jason was deep in thought and that his world view was about to shatter. Bombarding the Blessed Child with questions wouldn't help.

Jason smiled wryly at Michael and decided to ask one of the most obvious questions.

"The Untamed Jungle seems to be governed by an incredibly strong Nature Spirit. It has already gained the Consumed trait, a special perk that can only be attained by the strongest Higher Lifeforms of a Sacred Nature Spirit or a Greater Nature Spirit as it ascends to a Divine Lifeform. It could also be a Primordial Nature Spirit, but I don't have any information on that. Only one of our greatest ancestors came to find a Primordial Nature Spirit and managed to return sane."

Michael had a few monsters that gained special traits as well. It made sense that a powerful Nature Spirit could end up earning a special trait as well.

Consume sounded powerful. It could consume everything and turn it into vigor and nutrition.

"That makes sense," Michael nodded. His tributes had been consumed to recuperate the damages he'd caused to the Untamed Jungle over and over again.

"But it doesn't make sense that such a powerful Nature Spirit admits any Lords in its range of control, let alone that it is willing to get attached to you while the Greater Nature Spirit issues an open challenge. Under normal circumstances, a Nature Spirit would eliminate all potential threats long before they're strong enough to become a problem."

"I don't understand why the Nature Spirit of the Untamed Jungle would desire to get closer to you rather than getting rid of you and the Greater Nature Spirit. As you expand your territory, you will destroy a big portion of the Untamed Jungle. Even the Forest Elves cannot expand their territory without causing minimalistic damage to the surrounding forests. Of course, we have our ways to pay retribution and aid the forest to grow stronger than before, but that is not something you can do."

Michael was not sure if Jason was being stupid or if he forgot what he'd said just now.

"You do realize that I can just pay tributes to the Nature Spirit whenever I harm the Untamed Jungle...right? And before that, I'm not harming the Untamed Jungle much. Most towering trees cannot grow any further because there are too many growing in close proximity. They harm each other, which hurts the Untamed Jungle more than I can harm it by leaving everything as it is."

"The Untamed Jungle admits me because I'm the cure to its curse," Michael simplified.

"I'm the Untamed Jungle's gardener."

Chapter 727 Sacred

Michael didn't think it was a problem to consider himself the gardener of the Untamed Jungle. At some point, the entire Untamed Jungle would be part of his territory. Taking care of it until then--and even after that--was part of his job as a good Lord.

He continued guiding Jason through Arx, but not long before he found Lilica and the other Forest Elven Adventurers. He told them to show Jason around and added a slight warning with Whispering Energy.

["Tell Jason that I will take his Soultrait and give it to one of you guys if he acts up."]

Michael winked at the Forest Elves, which was enough for Jason to shudder. He had a bad feeling and decided to stay low profile until he got a better view of the territory's overall situation.

The Forest Elves left Michael alone, giving him enough time to complete the other tasks that had to be completed before the Interdimensional Flag War started.

These 'tasks' included taking care of his Soul Sphere. After all, some things inside it had changed again.

At this point, Danny's Living Soul could barely fit into the Soul Grimoire. It was time to strengthen the Soul Grimoire and upgrade it to 7-Star. Unfortunately, he didn't have enough SoulStar Fragments to upgrade Soul Grimoire.

lightsnovel But that didn't stop him from upgrading Superior Constitution to 7-Star, and that was precisely what he did over the last ten days.

Michael used tens of thousands of SoulStar Fragments daily to slowly upgrade Superior Constituion. He remembered from upgrading Extraction that a significant difference existed between a 6-Star Soultrait and a 7-Star Soultrait. It would be not very smart to rush the upgrade, especially since he wasn't a Higher Lifeform yet. Maybe his body would break apart because it couldn't endure the toll of multiple 7-Star Soultraits alongside a bunch of 6-Star Soultraits.

He had too many Soultraits, and it was near-impossible to determine whether his vessel could overcome the increasing toll or if his body would be torn apart.

Michael was still at the mid-tier of the 3rd Tier, but he was close to advancing to the Late rank. His progress was as slow as a snail, even though he had more resources to use than 99% of Lords. However, that made sense. His Soultraits were powerful and increased the energy required to refine the War Rune.

Michael also chose to upgrade Superior Constitution because of his slowed progress. After all, Superior Constitution could regulate the speed at which his War Rune could be refined.

After investing a vast fortune in SoulStar Fragments for ten days, Michael spent 350,000 SoulStar Fragments to upgrade Superior Consitution. That was the entire fortune he'd acquired after draining all SoulStar Fragments and Soultraits from half a year's worth of criminals.

At first, Michael didn't sense any major differences, but he quickly realized that his nutrients and energy reserves were drained. To upgrade his physique, he had to retrieve thousands of Common Energy Stones and prepare a large medical bath filled with Nutrition Solutions, which were usually only used by Higher Lifeforms due to their high potency.

Now that Superior Constitution was about to reach 7-Star, Michael could use the High Nutrition Solutions as well. He absorbed the nutrients and purified origin energy from the surroundings at a rapid pace, accelerating his physique's evolution. Superior Constitution's Soultrait Symbol glowed brightly. It transformed, inserting a massive flood of information straight into Michael's mind.

'Sacred Constitution.'

Superior Constitution evolved into the Sacred Constitution as the seventh star formed on the Soultrait Symbol.

As the evolution was initiated, Michael felt like his body, mind, and soul were starving. His entire being lusted for origin energy and nutrients.

Following that uncontrollable desire, Michael ended up retrieving most of the Energy Stones and Nutrition Solutions stored inside his War Rune. More than ten thousand Common Energy Stones – each worth a hundred Inferior Energy Stones – emerged around Michael alongside enough High Nutrition Solutions to fill a large swimming pool.lightsnovel

Everything together was worth more than two months of the profits made by his business deals and his territory. It was a lot, but Michael felt that it was worth it.

His body devoured the energy that filled the perimeter. He consumed everything rapidly, stimulating the changes that happened to his body.

Time passed much faster than He had expected. At one point, his skin burst open and peeled like a snake. Badly reeking impurities—far more than Michael had ever seen when he extracted his impurities when he advanced to the next Tier— flushed out of his body. Every cell in his body was purified and refined. His physique improved drastically, his energy veins were cleansed and expanded, and his organs were reinforced.

His bones grew sturdier, and his skin became more flexible while also growing tougher.

But the most apparent changes were not visible. His senses enhanced by leaps and bounds and both his mental power and Soul expanded.

In no time, 30 days passed, and He was supposed to travel to meet the Chieftain and the War Priestess before entering the portal leading to the isolated dimension of the Interdimensional Flag War.

Michael's body creaked and groaned as if protesting against his movements as he got up from the ground. He smiled through the pain and punched lightly in the air. The wind around him howled loudly as his fist cut through it, releasing air pressure strong enough to carve deep marks into the bark of a towering tree.

Not only did he manage to improve his 6-Star Superior Constitution to 7-Star Sacred Constitution, but the great flood of energy he'd absorbed over the last 30 days had been enough to reach the Late rank of the 3rd Tier.

He was not that far from ascending to a Higher Lifeform at this point!

Michael sensed the energy in his surroundings and greedily absorbed it. Now that his Soultrait evolved, he could absorb a lot more energy at a time.

Even though Michael had many Soul features now, he was certain to reach Tier-4 in a year or two—if he didn't hunt monsters or greedy Lords for their energy influxes. All he needed was enough resources, which were bound to be expensive. Fortunately, Michael was wealthy enough to pay for the cost of ascending to a Higher Lifeform, which was one of his next goals.

Now that he had two 7-Star Soultraits, seven 6-Star Soultraits, and two 5-Star Soultraits, Michael's was on the verge of breaking apart. His body, the physical vessel of his being, was at its limit. Only his Soul and Mind had some space thanks to upgrading Superior Constitution and the Curse that had been constantly refining Michael's Soul...since the day he was born.

Upgrading Soul Grimoire to 7-Star should be possible without dying a gruesome death, but after that...Michael would have to ascend to a Higher Lifeform to improve his Soul features or fuse with more Soultraits.

Neither upgrading Soul Grimoire nor ascending to a Higher Lifeform should be a problem at this point.

Obtaining the Sacred Constitution accelerated his plans. He wouldn't have an issue ascending.

As for the Interdimensional Flag War against the Tekur, He wasn't scared. If anything, Michael was excited about the massive mountains of Soultrait Symbols and SoulStar Fragments that awaited him in the isolated dimension!

He was ready to end the Flag War once and for all!

Chapter 728 Physical Level

lightsNovel com The trip to the Chieftain and the War Priestess wasn't too tricky. Michael anchored his Runic Gate to the spaceship that brought him to his destination while he stayed inside the Origin Expanse to get used to Sacred Constitution's changes.

At this point, Michael wasn't sure how strong he was. His physical strength easily exceeded the limits of a Lesser Lifeform without using Heavenly Beast Physique. Michael was fairly sure that his physical strength was close to the Mid-rank of Tier-4.

'Once I ascend, my physical strength should be close to Tier-5. If I upgrade Heavenly Beast Physique to the Elite Class, it shouldn't be a problem to hold my forte against Oliver.'

Oliver Zeus was the only Tier-5 powerhouse he'd fought seriously until now. Of course, some desperate powerhouses'd attempted to attack him when Extraction had been revealed to the public, but his condition was different at that time. Furthermore, Alice was present long before he could go all-out.

'It's not like I would have been able to do anything against them at that time, either. I'm a lot stronger now, though.'

The Flag War and upgrading the Soul Grimoire to 7-Star were his last goals before he would put his mind and body into the ascension to a Higher Lifeform. The resources for his ascension were already prepared. It was only a matter of time before he could go all out.

Once Michael got used to Sacred Constitution's reinforcement, he left the Origin Expanse to spend some more time with Alice. Alice Zenovia had been announced as the official mediator between the Berserkers, Warlock Centaurs, and Humans. Michael was not sure how she managed to do that while being busy repairing the border cities in her territory after some of them had been crushed in the last Regional War, but she did it.

Alice's time management was impeccable. She planned her move perfectly and had more than enough time to take care of everything that came her way.

Alice and Michael's time together was cut short when they arrived near the humongous dimensional portal only a few hours after Michael returned from the Origin Expanse. They were forced to disembark the spaceship and meet with the War Priestess and the Chieftain. The leaders greeted Michael and Alice politely.

Something about their demeanor had changed. Michael noticed faint changes in their expressions as their eyes fell upon him. Their gazes weren't hostile. It was just that the two leaders of the Berserkers and Warlock Centaurs were shocked to perceive how strong Michael had grown.

It was hard for humans to appraise the physical level of other beings. They could sense the energy level of other beings relatively easily with their high energy control – as long as the target couldn't conceal their energy perfectly –, but the physical level of other beings was something humans could only gauge.

Berserkers and Warlock Centaurs were slightly more perceptive about the physical strength of other beings. They couldn't sense the energy level of other beings well, but it was easy for them to tell that Michael's physical strength exceeded the limits of a Lesser Lifeform.

"I'm not sure if you can still participate in the Interdimensional Flag War," The Chieftain murmured, surprising Alice.

"What are you talking about, Chieftain? We didn't bring anyone else. If you don't allow Michael to participate...how else will we end the Flag War before the Tekur transforms the dimensional portal into a permanent bridge?"

The War Priestess smiled lightly at Alice's question, "I don't think that's what Palika means. He's saying that the interdimensional portal might repulse him due to his extraordinary physical level."

Alice glanced at Michael, who smiled lightly.

"The dimensional portal cares only about the War Rune. I'm not a Higher Lifeform yet, so my physique won't cause any issues," He said nonchalantly, his words overflowing with confidence.

The War Priestess and the Chieftain glanced at him for a while.

"That's true. I was thinking that the dimensional portal might reject you because your physical strength isn't something a Lesser Lifeform should be able to attain. Even our Warlords and War Monarchs can barely attain the standards of the Lowest Tier-4 Awakened at the Late-rank or Peak of the 3rd Tier."

The leaders of the Tritan Alliance praised Michael slightly more with indirect comments. Alice was stupefied and stared at them for a while before she gestured to the vibrating purple portal that towered near the horizon.lightsnovel

"I think it's time to go. The portal is active," She commented before gently pushing Michael to the side, "What did you do?"

It felt like Alice was about to accuse him of something, but her lips were sealed tightly when she saw that her boyfriend smiled at her from one ear to another.

"How about you spent the rest of the day with Palika Mavenham and Silvana Zentur? You came here to converse to them about some business, didn't you? Finish that deal before I'm back, and I will tell you some of my secrets," Michael teased, only for Alice's frown to deepen.

"You still have secrets from me? I didn't think you could have anymore secrets. Just how many secrets did you have before?" Alice asked out of genuine curiosity.

"They're not really secrets. It's just that I didn't tell you everything about some things yet. I didn't plan to throw everything at you at once," Michael responded lightly.

"So it's about your family and the tattoo on your back?" She asked, only for Michael to act like he was shocked.

"How do you know what my back looks like? Did you watch me when—...." He acted bewildered and talked loud enough for Palika and Silvana to hear.

Heat rose up to Alice's cheeks. She pushed forward and covered his lips with her hands, only for Michael to wink at her.

Michael's attention pulled to the Chieftain and the War Priestess momentarily.

[I will leave now. Please don't mind the portal when it shatters later. Finish your business with the Frozen Duchess first.]

Michael said before he poked Alice into the sides one last time. Alice had to suppress a sequel and was about to take revenge when Michael disappeared. He used Cosmic Stride to appear before the massive dimensional portal that towered tens of meters before him.

The dimensional portal was a massive, purple Runic Gate. It was open and awaited the entrance of 1000 participants. However, this year, only one member would enter the Flag War from the Tritan Alliance's side. That was more than enough. It was all they needed.

A few powerhouses awaited Michael before the portal, but he ignored them. He teleported right before the portal and stepped inside.

'Let's see.'

Michael emerged somewhere inside the vast, isolated dimension like last year. However, this year, his life was not in danger. If anything, he was the biggest threat to all living in the Flag War. The Tekur didn't even know what awaited them.

Knowing he was likely the strongest being in the Flag War felt good. It was satisfying.

However, he secretly hoped that the 1,000 Tekur wouldn't go down so easily. It would be boring if he couldn't even go all-out against his enemies. Slaughtering them ruthlessly was fine for he had to destroy the Dimensional Pillars to prevent the Tekur's invasion, but he wanted a challenge as well.

"Don't die too rapidly on me!"

Chapter 729 Flag War 2.0

The vast expanse around him was barren, as it used to be. Nothing had changed over the last year, as expected.

Michael would have been worried sick if the barren lands of the isolated dimension had changed over the last year.

Strong gusts shrouded him right before he teleported high into the air.

The gusts kept Michael mid-air. He exposed his position while levitating high, but that didn't matter. Michael's head flicked left and right, and his Spirit Eyes activated with several Enhancement layers focused on enhancing his eyesight. At his position, he could see several dozen kilometers in all directions. It was no surprise when he discovered a small group of Tekur. They moved swiftly across the barren lands, their eyes moving in all directions to discover their prey before they could be discovered.

Unfortunately, Michael was the only possible prey...and certainly wasn't going to be preyed upon.

He unleashed Cosmic Stride a few times to shorten the distance before diving to the ground. He crashed heavily, and deep fissures spread through the hard soil, forming a small crater where he landed.

Michael wasn't hurt. He brushed the dirt from his clothes using the surrounding winds and kicked the ground hard to accelerate again. He didn't use any techniques. Michael just charged ahead, approaching the group of Tekur.

It wasn't long before the Tekur discovered him. They noticed that Michael was alone but didn't think much about it. He was fast and might be strong since he was confident enough to run around alone, but the small group members were all Elite Tekur. Each of them was stronger than several powerhouses of the Tritan Alliance ought to be.

At least, that was what they were still certain about. They had taken countermeasurements to ensure that they wouldn't lose as many Soldiers and Elite Soldiers as the year before. However, the Elite Tekur were still confident of their tremendous prowess. Their confidence surpassed their vigilance by leaps and bounds.

All Elite Tekur manifested their Artifacts and unleashed their Soultraits. However, none of them used their Soul Technique right away. Their Soul Power replenished rapidly but that didn't mean they could waste it needlessly. It was wasteful if everyone used their Elite Class Soul Technique against a single enemy.

Michael's eyes narrowed to a slit when he noticed that the Tekur weren't going all out.

[I would probably be like them in their situation...but they're stupid to think that you're going to die just like that. Underestimating your enemy is never a good move.]

lightsnovel Michael couldn't agree more, but he kept silent. He wasn't expecting much from the Tekur either. How could he blame them for thinking lowly about him when his thoughts about them were the same? He wasn't that much of a hypocrite...most of the time.

Michael used Cosmic Stride to teleport above them once the distance to the Tekur was short enough. He used Spiritual Domination on each Elite Tekur and manifested a few dozen Qi Bullets. Qi Bullets were one of the creations he created when he upgraded Kaleb's Ice Bullet Soul Technique. He wanted to adjust Ice Bullet to fit Kaleb's Frozen Nova better. After that, he customized Ice Bullet for Alice.

Researching Kaleb's Frozen Nova and Alice's Frozen Kingdom Soultrait took a while, but it was worth it. Michael learned about the similarities of the siblings' Soultraits and how different they were despite being so similar.

Michael used that knowledge, in addition to Danny's incredible compatibility with the Qi Soultrait, to unleash more of Qi's potential. One of the masterpieces Michael had managed to create was the Qi Bullet – a massive amount of Qi compressed until it formed into a small bullet.

He didn't bother applying Enhancement to the Qi Bullets. They were fast enough already. A burst of Qi unleashed their velocity near-instantly. The Qi Bullets whizzed through the air at top speed and cut through the chests of four Tekur before they realized that Michael was above them. They exploded right after the Qi Bullets cracked their thick carapace and invaded their insides.lightsnovel

The compressed Qi spread in all directions, ravaging their insides before cutting their energy veins, crippling them. Two Tekur were faster than the rest. They twisted their bodies and used their Soul Techniques instinctive, evading the worst fate. The Qi Bullets impacted heavily, hitting their shoulders

instead of their chests. The cracking sounds of their carapace and shoulders shattering rang through their ears, but they weren't crippled.

Michael knew that they wouldn't be crippled even before the two Elite Tekur made their move. Spirit Eyes' Prognosis was precise enough to show what would happen in the next moment. Therefore, Michael appeared before the first Tekur with an azure fireball flickering in his left palm. Michael released the fireball in the Elite Tekur's face, instantly bursting half of his face.

The Tekur screamed for a second before the sound was drowned in the fireball's explosion.

Meanwhile, Michael was already next to the other Tekur. He unleashed the five Cursed Seals and triggered True Extraction. Dozens of golden tendrils burst out of Michael. They coiled around the Tekur and invaded his body via Insert. Michael released a compressed ice shard, which he released into the Tekur's mouth as his mandibles parted for a scream. The ice shard shattered in the Tekur's mouth and released the freezing mist that had been compressed inside it.

The extraction tendrils entered the Tekur's body and rapidly sapped his lifeforce and origin energy reserves. Michael only stopped extracting more lifeforce when only little was left. After all, the Tekur had to be alive to extract as many SoulStar Fragments as possible. That was what Michael started with.

He drained the Tekur's SoulStar Fragments, ignoring the miserably Elite Solider's muffled screams until no more SoulStar Fragments could be extracted. Then, Michael extracted the Tekur's Soultrait, which killed the weakened Elite Soldier. Last but not least, Michael extracted the Tekur's Memories.

Even if Michael was certain that the Tekur weren't going to be a problem in the Interdimensional Flag War, he was not foolish enough to believe that everything would go according to his plan. He sapped the Tekur's Memory Orb and consumed it before turning to the others.

The other Elite Tekur stared at him, their eyes overflowing with fear and disbelief. The crippled Tekur tried to escape, but Michael appeared behind them before they could get out of his sight. He sapped their energy and lifeforce before tearing their SoulStar Fragments and Soultraits out of their bodies. Like before, he obtained their Memory Orbs as well.

Michael didn't pay much attention to the SoulStar Fragments and the Soultrait Symbols. He stored the Fragments in his War Rune while the Soultraits were stored in the sealed container. Only the Memory Orbs were devoured and digested right away.

He used Wisdom Breaker to break down the Memory Orbs faster. They were systemized rapidly in his mind thanks to Sacred Constitution, giving Michael a much better view on every memory fragment.

'900 Elite Tekur. Damn. They've gone all out, didn't they?' Michael chuckled, only for Danny to interfere.

[And 100 Supreme Soldiers. Even the Elite Tekur terror them. Maybe this Flag War will be a bit more fun than you expected!]

Michael tilted his head, the memories of the Supreme Soldiers of the Tekur race appearing in his mind.

"I'm not sure. Hiraku and Jason are probably stronger than them."

[There is only one way to find out!] Danny announced, causing a faint grin to blossom on Michael's face.

"You're right."

Chapter 730 Supreme Soldier I

The Elite Tekur couldn't be considered a problem. They were stronger than most of the Tritan Alliance's prodigies, but someone like Killian would have been able to compete head-on with one of them.

'No. Killian could have killed an Elite Tekur if he had an Elite Class Soul Technique.' Michael figured, his mind going astray as he moved through the barren lands.

lightsNovel com It didn't take long before he encountered another group of Tekur—more than a dozen—none of whom seemed overly powerful at first glance. Nonetheless, knowing there were Supreme Soldiers in the Flag War, Michael went all out.

He activated the Serpent Seals to increase his physical strength and activated Enhancement twice. The Enhancement layers were applied to his body, reinforcing his physical strength, agility, and resilience.

But there was more to it. Michael also unleashed Heavenly Beast Physique when he noticed that one of the Tekur was larger than the rest.

The Tekur's carapace was black and outlined golden, whereas its vast wings, which spanned more than five meters, were dark purple. Its eyes were crimson with a purple frame. They flicked to Michael when he was less than one kilometer away.

[There he is. Your first Supreme Tekur!]

The corner of Michael's lips curled upward.

He noticed that a mass of energy had congregated between the Supreme Soldier's mandibles and responded promptly. His body vanished into thin air right before the energy blast impacted. A devastating explosion resounded. The dry soil burst in all directions, leaving a large crater behind where Michael stood a moment earlier.

A scream rang out behind the Supreme Soldier, who spun around, ready to unleash another energy blast. However, before the Supreme Soldier could find the source of the screams, it noticed several bodies that were thrown at it. Three headless Elite Tekur had been hurled at the Supreme Soldier in the short moment between Michael's disappearance and the first scream. However, that was more than enough time for Michael to unleash his fury.

He beheaded three Elite Tekur with the Aethyr Blade coated in Qi. Then, he retracted the Aethyr Blade and used his remaining momentum to throw the dying bodies toward the Supreme Soldier.

Michael used Cosmic Stride to appear behind the Supreme Soldier as he faced the headless Elite Tekur flying his way. He then conjured several azure fireballs in his palms and lobbed them at the Supreme Soldier, who noticed Michael's presence behind him only a quarter of a second later.

The Supreme Soldier barely managed to cover his back with the carapace-covered wings. A thick sheen of compressed energy coated his wings, protecting them from the worst damage. It was a good thing Michael didn't release the fireballs with the intention of inflicting damage. The fireballs covered the Qi Extraction Needles he'd manifested alongside them.

Michael had shaped enough Qi to form a needle and channeled almost too much of Extraction's power inside it. He applied Insert and watched the Qi Extraction Needle disappear inside the Supreme Soldier.

Cosmic Stride teleported him near the remaining Elite Tekur. They'd retrieved their Artifacts and activated their Soultraits, alongside their custom Soul Techniques to increase their combat prowess as much as possible. Unfortunately, their enemy was none other than Michael. Elite Tekur weren't strong enough to inflict any serious harm to him anymore.

He appeared behind one Tekur, tightly grasped his left shoulder and left side of his head, and applied strength. It took only a quarter of a second, but the Tekur screamed at the top of his lungs as he realized instantaneously what was about to happen. Michael's horrifying strength pushed his left shoulder down while simultaneously tearing his head to the right.

It didn't seem like Michael was strong enough in the first moment, but the Tekur was mistaken gravely about that. The Tekur's eyes widened as Michael's monstrous physical power was applied immediately.

He tore the Elite Tekur's body apart with one pull.lightsnovel

The Elite Tekur's carapace cracked loudly as it was torn apart by brute force. Internal organs and gooey blood gushed out of the Tekur, whose scream died down as the eternal embrace of death engulfed his mind and soul.

[Damn. You're a brute!] Danny shouted in Michael's mind as he witnessed what his little brother did. [I like it!]

Michael didn't respond. Instead, he teleported behind another Tekur. However, instead of tearing him apart, Michael extended his fingers into a thin blade formed by Aethyr. Michael applied two Enhancement layers alongside Qi to enhance the Aethyr hand blade and thrust through the Elite Tekur's chest.

Cosmic Stride teleported him besides, before, and behind the other Elite Tekur, who unleashed their Soultraits upon Michael only to find their chests, throats, and heads pierced through.

Michael had to evade some simple attacks and withstand the massive impact of some Elite Class Soul Techniques, but it was not like the Elite Tekur could harm him easily at this point. Their claws couldn't penetrate his skin, and their Elite Class Soul Techniques could only unleash as much potential for low-star Soultraits as they possessed.

The Elite Class Soul Techniques were amazing. Michael was sure that any Descendant with enough Soul Power could harm him with them – to a certain extent. However, the Elite Tekur didn't possess the same Soultraits as Descendants. They were still not the same.

A massive golden hand crashed down upon Michael, but he didn't even think about evading the hand. It smashed on his back and would have broken several bones in Michael's body if his physique hadn't surpassed the standards of a Higher Lifeform's physique at this point.

He might not be a Higher Lifeform yet, but his physique was strong enough to make it seem like his existence suppressed the attack of all Lesser Lifeforms. It felt like the Tier suppression of a stronger existence utilized in the battle.

All Michael felt was an itch as the golden hand impacted. It left an imprint on his shoulder, but that was already the worst. Michael killed the Elite Tekur responsible for the attack with numerous Qi Extraction Swords. The golden hand disappeared just like that.

Right after the golden hand disappeared, an energy blast was about to hit Michael. He twisted his body and transformed the Aethyr hand blade into a large shield. Even though several layers of Enhancement were utilized to the shield, it broke apart and was forced to return to Michael's Soul Sphere.

The force blast lost some of its power, but it impacted heavily nonetheless. Michael was struck in the side and hurled through the air. He tried to sense the severity of his injury mid-air but found out that most of the attack had been devoured by the sudden burst of Extraction's power he'd released at the spot of impact.

The corner of his lips curled upward as he saw that the Supreme Soldier charged him. Michael blinked once, only for the Supreme Soldier to accelerate all of a sudden. The Supreme Soldier's muscles bulged and expanded oddly, and his top speed doubled. The Supreme Soldier caught up to Michael's speed.

Michael's sight narrowed, all while an excited voice resounded in his head.

[Yes! Maybe he beats some sense into your little head! Arrogant little brick!]

'Danny... You do remember that you're on my side, right?!?'

[Eh...Of course! Beat him up!]