

## The Witch 771

### Chapter 771: Hecate's Arrival

As Hecate rushed to Evernight Territory's Vladigold City, she couldn't help but imagine the worst outcome for Vaan and Pangea.

After all, a lot could happen in half an hour.

Given the strength of Abaddon and his remaining Vampire Lords, it would only take an instant to reduce entire human cities to rubble. There was too big a difference between the two sides.

As such, she didn't see how Vaan's side could resist Abaddon's invasion unless she arrived in time.

However, she was also aware that she would undoubtedly arrive late, given the enormous distance she had to travel to reach her destination and the short notice she received.

Gehenna was considered a single realm, but it comprised seven habitable planets and two dead planets, all interconnected by countless transference arrays—such that even the weakest of existences could freely travel between them.

Otherwise, crossing several hundred million kilometers wouldn't take a mere half an hour, especially for those who have not stepped into the Divine and comprehended the Law of Space.

Nevertheless, when Hecate arrived at the Evernight Territory's Vladigold City, she found the situation and scene quite different from her imagination.

She didn't expect several ten million vampires were still camping around the city. Given the passage of time, they should have already invaded Pangea.

However, Hecate soon noticed the enormous black pillar sealing Pangea's entrance.

Her eyes widened with surprise at its sheer size. She knew it wasn't there the last time she visited the place.

Furthermore, not just anyone could have moved such a massive object there, not even her, who was at the tenth stage of the Divine Dream Realm and comprehended seven different laws.

Only someone who has comprehended the Earth Law or Space Law to a high level could have done so. Moreover, their control over them had to be exceptional.

'This should be Sir Vaan's doing,' Hecate quickly concluded.

Given its powerful gravitational field, she had to admit it was a very effective move in halting the vampire race's advance. Unfortunately, it could only delay Abaddon and the Vampire Lords, not stop them.

Seeing the slight opening atop the slanted side of the black pillar, Hecate quickly realized they had already entered Pangea.

As such, she also increased her pace.

Hecate wrapped herself in multiple protective layers of law to negate the black pillar's pressure, then darted straight through the opening.

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On the other side, the Fifth Progenitor, the Eighth Progenitor, and the rest of the Vampire Lords immediately sensed Hecate's divine might descending on the world.

Their bodies subconsciously felt weak, especially after Hecate directed her sharp gaze at them.

Although Hecate found it strange that the Vampire Lords were idly camping near the black pillar instead of creating atrocities in the human city, she didn't lower her guard.

As such, the Vampire Lords almost pissed themselves out of fear after they bore the brunt of her divine pressure. Even the Fifth Progenitor and the Eighth Progenitor were not spared from her oppressive aura.

In particular, the Eighth Progenitor suffered the most due to his damaged divine soul. Hecate's pressure instantly shaved off several years of his dwindling lifespan.

"Your Ladyship, have mercy! I am on Lord Vaan's side!" the Eighth Progenitor squealed tragically.

Being on the same side didn't spare him from a close experience with the butcher's knife.

Hecate didn't withdraw her oppressive aura immediately after hearing the Eighth Progenitor's plea. On the contrary, she focused her oppressive aura on him, intensifying the pressure as she scrutinized him.

This caused the Eighth Progenitor to almost cough up blood in anger on the spot. That was another several years of his lifespan gone.

His damaged divine soul simply couldn't bear the pressure.

'What did I do?! What did I do!? Why are you singling me out like this?!' the Eighth Progenitor screamed in his mind.

He didn't dare to curse Hecate directly.

His mind quickly churned before he added, "I have sworn my loyalty and service to Lord Vaan, Your Ladyship! Please believe me on this! You only need to look at the situation here to confirm this!"

"None of the Vampire Lords are attacking humans because of my persuasion, under Lord Vaan's instruction!" the Eighth Progenitor desperately and shamelessly claimed.

The Fifth Progenitor looked at him speechlessly.

Although it was true that the Vampire Lords ultimately chose not to attack because of the Eighth Progenitor, he was the one who did most of the persuading.

Nevertheless, he chose not to refute the Eighth Progenitor's words out of consideration for his plight.

Meanwhile, Hecate finally withdrew her oppressive aura after confirming the situation. At the same time, she was greatly surprised by Vaan's ability to earn the allegiance of a Vampire Lord with a higher cultivation than him.

Just how did he do this?

After learning more about Vaan's feats, Hecate's interest in him only grew. He was the biggest abnormality she had ever encountered.

"This Soul Replenishing Essence will help you recoup your loss."

Hecate casually withdrew a vial of glowing grey liquid from her interspatial ring and tossed it to the Eighth Progenitor, treating it like something trivial.

However, everyone was immediately shocked by her words.

After all, anything that could improve or recover the soul was undoubtedly precious and priceless. However, Hecate couldn't care less about what they thought.

"Where is Abaddon and Sir Vaan?" Hecate immediately demanded with a strict tone.

"T-The Blood Ancestor and Lord Vaan are in the dark void beyond the sky, Your Ladyship. According to what I saw, it should be somewhere close to this world's moon," the Eighth Progenitor answered nervously with a mixture of joy and fear as he held onto the vial of Soul Replenishing Essence.

He had just gone through hell and back, yet he felt happy overall.

Did he enjoy the abuse?

"Near the moon, huh?" Hecate softly repeated before nodding with approval.

Vaan's choice was certainly well-thought and not randomly picked.

In such a location, she could draw out the best of her moon power, increasing their odds of defeating Abaddon. She only hoped she wasn't too late.

"You lot best behave while I'm gone!"

Hecate left the Vampire Lords with a warning before she immediately soared into the heavens.

After Hecate disappeared from sight, the Vampire Lords finally sighed with relief.

The oppressive pressure from a Great Devil was truly frightening. On this point, the Eighth Progenitor couldn't agree more.

They had never met Great Devil Hecate, but such astonishing pressure could only belong to her.

"Fuck me dead. That was so scary," the Eighth Progenitor cursed.

#### Chapter 772: Complete Metamorphosis

In the sea of stars, Vaan fled further and further away from Planet Pangea and the moon as Abaddon pursued him. Surprisingly, Vaan wasn't given a chance to turn around, not with Abaddon hot on his tail.

Abaddon had given up on his other laws and completely focused on using the Asura Law, knowing it was the most effective to deal with Vaan.

With each Asura-powered attack wildly launched at him, the space destabilized.

Space itself seemingly wanted to fracture like cracked glass, causing passage through it to become more difficult. In most cases, it shouldn't have been easily affected by such casual attacks unless it possessed the power of space.

However, they were in the sea of stars, which appeared split by the long, fragmented dimensional crack stretching into its boundless depths.

Space was already unstable in this dark region of the void.

As such, it was more easily affected by the power of Origin Laws, especially since the ancient wars of the distant past had already ruined it countless times.

It didn't take long before Vaan was chased to a small region of space debris he had once visited and fought his battle with the Earth Spirit Worm.

Unfortunately, this region of space debris wasn't particularly useful against Abaddon besides hindering his sight periodically. Even so, that was enough for Vaan to sneakily construct another hydrogen bomb and catch him off guard.

Abaddon figured he didn't need the Asura Domain's protection as long he pressured Vaan with his close pursuit and prevented him from freely constructing the hydrogen bomb.

However, that would be his undoing.

Vaan quickly weaved through the space debris, periodically disappearing out of Abaddon's sight before he further leaped through space, making it even more difficult for the latter to keep track of him.

In those instances, he constructed parts of his hydrogen bomb and hid them inside his Heaven-Swallowing Space.

He repeated the same steps until he gathered everything besides his hydrogen isotopes of deuterium and tritium, his fusion fuel, leaving them for last.

Meanwhile, Abaddon continued to chase him madly, smashing through every piece of space debris in his way.

After Vaan sneakily completed his hydrogen bomb, which had the power of one megaton of TNT, he hid it behind another space debris and disappeared through space.

Just as Abaddon smashed through it, Vaan gave him the surprise he deserved, detonating the hydrogen bomb lying in wait.

Ka-boom!!!

The entire region of space debris quickly lit up like a white sun, with specks of blue, green, and purple here and there as the intense heat from the explosion burned up the scarce air in the area.

At the same time, the space debris in the region shattered into bits, scattering off into the far reaches of the dark void by the powerful explosion.

Like before, Abaddon sensed the imminent danger from the hydrogen bomb's internal reactions.

However, he had little to prepare for such a close-contact explosion.

Although Abaddon covered himself in the power of the Asura Law to the best of his ability in such a short time, the hydrogen bomb still stripped away most of his defense and scorched him with the fiery might of the sun.

Even a highly-condensed Asura Domain would not fully protect him.

At the same time, the Earth Spirit Worm that faithfully tailed behind him also dived head-first into the radiant region of scorching air, obliterating into earthen dust.

Vaan watched the bright spectacle from over 200 kilometers away but still felt the effects of the hydrogen bomb explosion as debris fragments flew past him with incredible speed.

'He wouldn't survive a hydrogen bomb explosion in such close proximity, would he?' Vaan wondered.

Not even three minutes into the big blast, a second round of explosion suddenly erupted, blowing away everything from the affected region.

Vaan's gaze quickly sharpened.

After noticing a large mass of muscles and crystalized blood emerge from the explosion, his gaze became more serious.

Surprisingly, Abaddon had survived the explosion.

However, he no longer shared any resemblance to his former appearance. In fact, his appearance had undergone a complete metamorphosis during the explosion.

His body mass had increased over thirty times, and he had grown several more limbs and heads. At the same time, he didn't have a single layer of skin, just pure muscles and blood spores keeping his body together.

Furthermore, Asura Runes were seemingly fused into his ghastly body.

'Did the nuclear fusion power force the Asura Law to assimilate into his body and undergo a rapid mutation in his divine blood?' Vaan wondered with a serious look.

Abaddon had turned into an ugly, disgusting, bloody abomination of a being.

However, it was also this unsightly form that made him look like a real devil, one with the most devilish nature and capable of instilling infinite terror with its mere presence.

Despite being so far away, the Blood Devil Abaddon still managed to lock onto Vaan's location.

As the Earth Spirit Worm reformed nearby, Blood Devil Abaddon immediately grabbed it. Tendrils of dark blood quickly wrapped around the humongous Earth Spirit Worm and constricted, siphoning away its strength.

The Earth Spirit Worm issued a never-before-seen painful roar, creating various spacequakes in the region.

For the first time, the Earth Spirit Worm finally showed fear. It managed to break free from Blood Devil Abaddon's bloody tendrils by sacrificing a part of its true form.

Afterward, it fled the region, no longer daring to pursue him.

At the same time, Blood Devil Abaddon didn't pursue it; his gaze was still locked in Vaan's direction.



His scalps immediately tingled.

He burned Abaddon with the power of the sun, but instead of killing him, he created a more fearsome opponent.

Although there no longer seemed to be a shred of intelligence in the Blood Devil Abaddon's eyes, his power had undoubtedly increased, especially after assimilating a part of the Earth Spirit Worm's fourth-dimensional body.

Blood Devil Abaddon's mind seemed terribly twisted to the point that only malice and wrath remained.

This was a result outside of Vaan's calculations.

Several variables had coincided to produce such an unprecedented and unimaginable result.

Vaan knew his tribulation would come with surprises... But this? This was something else.

What was the main trigger?

Ding!

<You have detected a scarce amount of Fourth Dimensional Energy in the area>

<Your proficiency in perceiving the hidden information from the void has slightly increased>

"..."

Chapter 773: Fearsome Thought

The discovery of Fourth Dimensional Energy immediately startled Vaan.

Such energy should only be found in the fourth-dimensional world. Of course, fourth-dimensional beings could have also left it behind, which seemed more likely to be the case.

In that case, it further proved that fourth-dimensional beings had visited this space region before. The Earth Spirit Worm alone was already sufficient proof.

Nevertheless, Vaan couldn't help but recall Varuna's memories.

He remembered that the Outer Beings were constantly drawn to Chaos despite the vast sea of nothingness between them. Furthermore, they couldn't break the barrier protecting Chaos from it.

If the Lord of Chaos hadn't wiped out the subsequent waves of Outer Beings, they would have likely found their way to the vulnerable, youngest chaosverse – his universe.

However, according to Vanitas's memories, they quickly encountered the Outer Beings after entering the Divine Realm's Divine Abyss of Absolute Beginning.

How could there have been Outer Beings in the depths of the supermassive black hole known as the Divine Abyss of Absolute Beginning?

Nevertheless, the Divine Abyss of Absolute Beginning quickly got Vaan thinking.

What if the Divine Abyss of Absolute Beginning was, in truth, a special gateway leading not only outside the chaosverse but to the fabled fourth-dimensional world?

Perhaps it was hinting that the absolute beginning of the chaosverse could be sourced back to the fourth-dimensional world. In other words, the fourth-dimensional world was responsible for the birth of the chaosverse.

Just like how a two-dimensional shape drawn on paper wouldn't exist if the pen hadn't entered human hands first, the birth of chaosverses could be the result of some random act in the fourth-dimensional world.

If that were the truth, it would be quite terrifying.

After all, the birth of the chaosverse was considered a miracle. However, after it was observed to be recurring over a long period, it became accepted as normal as the world's natural laws.

If people found out this miraculous event was no more than a casual dump from a fourth-dimensional being, they wouldn't know what to think or believe.

Of course, the actual truth of the matter probably wouldn't be something that vulgar.

However, it was more likely to be something similar to a bodily function instead of an action dictated by choice.

After all, a farmer feeding their chickens every morning would also be considered an absolute law to the observing chickens—at least, until the farmer led them to the slaughterhouse.

In that sense, Vaan was more inclined to believe the chaosverse was something similar to a drop of blood born from the bone marrow of a much larger fourth-dimensional being; its entire cycle and purpose was to supply oxygen and energy to this complex fourth-dimensional body.

This thought was born from understanding the black holes' endless appetite for starlight.

The stars produced a seemingly limitless amount of energy, but everything eventually ended in the depths of black holes.

What would it be used for if all this energy flowed back to the fourth-dimensional world?

If Vaan had to venture a guess, it was the sustenance supporting the unimaginably big fourth-dimensional being.

But in that case, how would the said fourth-dimensional being view the growing Chaos in its body?

Chaos's existence itself defied the world's natural order; it took in every doomed chaosverses, originally bound to disappear at the end of their cycles.

On that point, Chaos would be no different from growing cancer in the eyes of that fourth-dimensional being.

And like all cancer, it had to be removed or destroyed.

Vaan wasn't sure how much time Chaos had before such a time came. However, he could only hope he was wrong about his whole speculation.

Nevertheless, although it seemed like Vaan had spent a lot of time dwelling on the matter, only a short instant had passed in reality after he discovered the presence of Fourth Dimensional Energy.

Roar!

The Blood Devil Abaddon howled, generating spacequakes throughout the surrounding space region and making it unstable.

He seemed to have gained one of the Earth Spirit Worm's abilities. Moreover, it was one that worked to Vaan's disadvantage.

Vaan couldn't help but wonder if his fourth-dimensional talent had caused the difficulty tribulation to upgrade in the fourth-dimensional aspect to match him.

If that was the case, the heavens should go and screw itself.

'Damn thing isn't making it easy for me,' Vaan narrowed his eyes, locking gaze with Blood Devil Abaddon.

Neither side seemed to move for a moment. But the moment Blood Devil Abaddon did, space itself seemed to have shattered behind him, creating dimensional cracks and rifts.

While some led to a part of Chaos, others also connected with the endless sea of nothingness.

The two were just like two sides of the same coin.

However, the two were also at odds, like water and fire, and the current chaosverse was the innocent passerby caught in the middle of their conflict.

Nevertheless, Vaan couldn't believe how fragile the universe was—seeing how easily the dimensional fractures formed in Blood Devil Abaddon's trail.

The poor universe had certainly been beaten black and blue by the Outer Beings. Calling it a complete mess was probably an understatement; it was most likely on its last legs.

The substantial damage to the chaosverse had greatly hastened its destruction.

Nevertheless, Vaan instantly reacted with his swiftest retreat, expecting a much tougher chase than before.

However, it appeared he had overthought the matter.

Blood Devil Abaddon had indeed grown stronger after his ghastly transformation. However, his increased size and strength also came at the cost of speed.

Including the crumbling space around him, Blood Devil Abaddon's speed was practically crippled compared to before.

Even without relying on the Spatial Law, Vaan had no difficulty evading the present Blood Devil Abaddon.

What seemed like a worse situation at a glance, in fact, turned out to be a blessing.

A smile suddenly crept on Vaan's face as he utilized the power of fire and wind to evade Blood Devil Abaddon's mindless pursuit for some time.

His backer had finally arrived!

In the far distance of dark space, Hecate swiftly shuttled over after following the traces of battle they left behind.

When Hecate came within sight, she locked her gaze with Vaan and nodded.

However, Blood Devil Abaddon's ghastly form quickly captured her attention the next instant.

"What the hell is that?" Hecate uttered with great surprise.

Chapter 774: Begone, Fiend!

"Abaddon."

"That's Abaddon?!"

Vaan's casual answer quickly shocked Hecate, causing her to study the monstrous abomination again. It didn't have a single part that resembled Abaddon.

"How in the world did you reduce him to such a state?" Hecate uttered but quickly shook her head the next moment. "Never mind. You can explain it to me later. Let us deal with this thing first, Sir Vaan."

Although Hecate wasn't too sure what Vaan did to Abaddon, she figured it might have something to do with the big explosion she felt while she was on her way over.

Nevertheless, she couldn't imagine how Vaan could create such a powerful explosion of energy with his given cultivation.

As such, she also figured that if she learned the truth of the matter right away, she would not be able to focus on the battle due to her sheer shock and astonishment.

"Be careful, Lady Hecate. This space region is very fragile. You wouldn't want to fall into the dimensional cracks. It's fine if it leads to Chaos. But if it doesn't, there's no saving you."

Vaan gave Hecate a warning amid Blood Devil Abaddon's pursuit.

At the same time, Hecate quickly discovered that the present state of Abaddon posed no threat to Vaan despite his increased power.

Thus, she wasn't too concerned with his safety.

"I am aware of that, Sir Vaan. However, I appreciate the concern," Hecate replied.

Afterward, she quickly took a moment to study the fragile space region in greater detail. Vaan also didn't say much after this.

Given Hecate's age, power, and wealth of knowledge, it was natural for her to know more things than him. Perhaps she had also discovered some things about the space region that he had not.

Hecate noticed that Blood Devil Abaddon's body had merged with Asura Runes and was constantly emitting the power of the Asura Law.

As such, each of his movements also carried its power.

The fragile space region couldn't withstand the Origin Law's overbearing power, which led to its fragmentation.

However, she quickly realized it wasn't the power of the Asura Law alone, but any power above a certain threshold could cause the spatial fracture.

The space region was simply too unstable and fragile due to a past ancient war of great magnitude – This was also the conclusion Vaan arrived at but with greater detail due to his familiarity with the fourth dimension and his universe.

However, for Hecate to grasp this much instantly was still impressive.

Hecate quickly understood that she had to consider how much power she should use before using it, lest she fell into a dimensional crack of her own making.

After she finished grasping the situation, she was ready for battle.

"Sir Vaan, you did well surviving against Abaddon for so long. Now, leave the rest to me," Hecate stated.

Shortly after, Hecate concentrated a large amount of moon power on the tip of her finger before firing a powerful moon beam straight through one of Blood Devil Abaddon's ugly heads.

Vaan was a little speechless, thinking Hecate would rein in her power a little, given the delicate environment. However, 'holding back' didn't seem to exist in her dictionary—at least, not in that move.

Nevertheless, Hecate's moon power was strong but also gentle. As such, it didn't fracture the space.

Seeing the lack of effect moon power had on the space region, Hecate immediately followed up with several more shots, targeting every part of Blood Devil Abaddon's vitals.

The past Abaddon wouldn't have dared to face Hecate's power with his bare body, but the Blood Devil Abaddon did; it didn't bother putting up any defense with its power of law.

As such, its heart and all of its heads were pierced with moon beams, and even Abaddon's divine soul was shattered.

Hecate deemed dealing such blows was sufficiently fatal. However, she greatly underestimated Blood Devil Abaddon's present abominable form. His life force was far more tenacious than she could ever imagine.

In the blink of an eye, Blood Devil Abaddon fully recovered from all of his seemingly fatal wounds.

Even his shattered divine soul was reformed – That was the greatest shock of all.

"Hm?" Hecate immediately frowned.

Not only did she fail to kill Abaddon, but she also attracted his malice. However, that wasn't important. What was important was the recovery of his shattered divine soul.

That wasn't something a Rank 7 Divine Being was capable of, let alone a Peak Rank 6 Divine Being.

Transcendent Divine Power – White Nova!

Hecate suddenly obliterated Blood Devil Abaddon with one of her strongest moves at the expense of shattering the surrounding space.



Most of Blood Devil Abaddon's body and divine soul melted away instantly. However, he recovered everything moments later.

His godly regeneration reminded Vaan of the Earth Spirit Worm.

"Impossible...!"

Hecate was in complete disbelief after what she saw. She couldn't believe that Abaddon could still recover after getting 90% of his body and soul wiped out.

This kind of regenerative ability had transcended her understanding.

After all, not even Rank 10 Divine Beings would have such a heaven-defying ability. In fact, even the so-called gods couldn't have recovered soul destruction so casually.

This was something beyond that.

In Hecate's mind, Blood Devil Abaddon's current existence was similar to that of an Eternal Being.

"Abaddon has fused with Asura Runes and Fourth Dimensional Energy and assimilated parts of a quasi-fourth-dimensional being. He has evolved beyond a normal third-dimensional being. Normal attacks won't work on him," Vaan stated with a sharp look.

"Fourth Dimensional Energy...?" Hecate gasped in surprise.

Nevertheless, she understood what to do.

After luring Blood Devil Abaddon to a dimensional crack leading to the endless sea of nothingness, she immediately blew him through it with a powerful blast of moon power.

"Begone, Fiend!" Hecate hollered.

"Wait—!!" Vaan suddenly cried after sensing her intention, but it was too late.

After Blood Devil Abaddon was banished into the endless sea of nothingness, the absolute power of nihilism eroded his undying body and soul.

"What's wrong, Sir Vaan?" Hecate asked with surprise.

Vaan sighed with regret.

Given Blood Devil Abaddon's state, he would have surely died if they worked together.

As such, there was no need to kill him so thoroughly, like banishing him into the sea of nothingness.

After all, his body was full of priceless treasures.

Chapter 775: Tenacious Until the End

Hecate took a moment before she understood the reason for Vaan's feeling of regret and loss. She couldn't help but feel amused by it.

She didn't expect Vaan to care about treasures when his life was on the line.

"Would this suffice? It has 10,000 drops of Abaddon's divine blood," Hecate retrieved Abaddon's left arm from her interspatial ring and offered it to Vaan.

Vaan was immediately surprised by the generous offer.

"You're willing to gift this to me?" Vaan asked.

"If you honor your end of the deal, this thing will be of little value compared to what I will gain in the future," Hecate calmly stated.

"Thank you, Lady Hecate," Vaan accepted the gift, seeing no reason to reject it.

After giving up Abaddon's left arm, Hecate nodded before glancing around at the ruined space region with steadily growing dimensional cracks.

"We should leave this space region, Sir Vaan. With this many fractures and cracks, it will become unpredictable and dangerous if we linger."

"Please wait, Lady Hecate."

Hecate's suggestion to leave was quickly met with objection.

Within moments, her gaze promptly turned sharp and serious when she followed Vaan's line of sight.

Inside the dimensional crack of endless nothingness, the banished Blood Devil Abaddon had been eroded down to a tenth of his divine soul. All of his flesh, blood, bones, and most of his soul have been washed away by the power of nihility.

However, this last fragment of his divine soul stubbornly persisted, refusing to disappear with the rest.

Not only did the nihilistic power of nothingness fail to erase it from existence, but it even seemed to be tempering Abaddon's divine soul fragment.

Seconds quickly passed, and Abaddon's divine soul fragment seemed to have grown a bit—or rather, it recovered a bit of divine soul.

"You're kidding me... This thing can even survive and thrive inside the endless sea of nothingness? It is truly tenacious," Hecate uttered with a solemn frown.

"It has already become a partial fourth-dimensional existence, and the nihilistic power in the endless sea of nothingness is too docile to harm it," Vaan mentioned.

The power of nihility was equally destructive in its nature to erase everyone and everything from existence. Absolutely no one would ever think the endless sea of nothingness could be docile.

Only people like Vaan could think that way.

"You seem to know quite a bit about fourth-dimensional beings and nihilism. I believe an exchange of knowledge with you will be quite a pleasant experience, Sir Vaan," Hecate smiled.

"I think so too, Lady Hecate," Vaan calmly smiled back.

Suddenly, Hecate chuckled self-deprecatingly, shaking her head, "I came expecting to fight a tough, dangerous battle with Abaddon. But unexpectedly, you have already resolved the biggest problem."

"Even without me, you would have eventually dealt with Abaddon, though I do not know how you pushed him to such a state. I seem to have gotten quite the big end of the stick."

"You wouldn't renege on our deal because of this, would you?" Hecate asked.

"Of course not, Lady Hecate," Vaan calmly smiled.

In truth, after everything he had done until now, he only had about a tenth of his soul force left.

Moving Black Mountain to block the crimson light domain alone consumed thirty percent of his soul force. It was actually such a gargantuan task to move an object of that size.

As such, even if he knew banishing Abaddon into the endless sea of nothingness could reduce him to a killable level, he wouldn't have enough soul force for the push. Even if he actually succeeded, he still wouldn't have enough soul force to deliver the final killing blow.

As such, Hecate's assistance was timely and definitely most welcomed in preserving his life. Otherwise, he would have fallen a tad short of surviving in the end.

Nevertheless, there was no need to mention any of this to Hecate and sell himself short.

"Since you mentioned docile nihilistic power, I suppose only violent power of nihilism will destroy Abaddon once and for all. I trust I can leave that to you, Sir Vaan?" Hecate expected.

Vaan nodded.

Although he would like Abaddon to recover his third-dimensional body before killing him, there had been too many surprises up until this point.

Ultimately, it was better to end Abaddon before the situation worsened in another unexpected way.

As Blood Devil Abaddon's divine soul fragment tried to return to their dimension for a full recovery, Vaan conjured divinity-burning grey flames—a fusion of the Fire Law and Nihilism Law.

After condensing the grey flaming spear, he immediately hurled it at Blood Devil Abaddon's remaining divine soul.

Naturally, Blood Devil Abaddon did not stand a chance in such a weakened state. The divinity-burning grey flames slowly obliterated him, erasing his remaining divine soul from existence.

Blood Devil Abaddon's remnant divine soul writhed in pain as it desperately clung to life.

However, it couldn't stop itself from gradually disintegrating into nothingness. Even so, it was tenacious until the end actually came.

Only after all traces of Abaddon's existence completely disappeared did Vaan finally confirm his death.

"It's finally over," Vaan softly uttered with 5% soul force remaining.

With this much soul force left, he could only maintain his basic life support in the cruel environment of the boundless void.

Although he seemed perfectly fine on the surface, he was undoubtedly in his weakest state yet.

Under this circumstance, if Hecate suddenly decided to stab him in the back, there was nothing Vaan could do to fight back. He could only helplessly accept the outcome.

Hecate glanced at Vaan's defenseless back and noticed its subtle feebleness.

"Kukuku, you must have exhausted everything to survive until now and deliver that final blow," Hecate suddenly chuckled and asked casually, "Aren't you afraid I would backstab you now, Sir Vaan? Can you really trust me, a Great Devil?"

Vaan slowly turned about with a calm smile and said, "If I couldn't trust you, I wouldn't have made a deal with you. And since I decided to trust you, I will trust you fully, Lady Hecate."

"My, you certainly have a way with words, Sir Vaan. You almost charmed me," Hecate said jokingly with a light giggle before suggesting, "Shall we head back now?"

Vaan glanced in the direction of the asteroid field region for a moment. Since he was already here, he might as well explore it after recovering some soul force.

"Can I trouble you to return and stabilize the situation back there first, Lady Hecate?" Vaan requested.

"That's fine with me," Hecate calmly nodded before glancing at him curiously. "But what will you do, Sir Vaan?"

#### Chapter 776: Hecate's Investment

"I wish to do some exploring after I recover some soul force, Lady Hecate. It's not often that I come out here," Vaan explained, seeing no reason to hide it.

"Oh? How about I accompany you, Sir Vaan? You wouldn't reject the company of a strong, beautiful dark fairy woman like me, would you?" Hecate suggested, adding, "As for the situation you are worried about, there is no need for any concern."

"Lady Ophelia and my nine Dreamcatchers are keeping me updated on the situation. Those Vampire Lords are as timid as meek kittens," Hecate stated.

"Nine Dreamcatchers?" Vaan uttered with doubt.

"Dreamcatcher is the title given to my divine guards. They represent the strongest powers under me and serve as the supporting pillars of my territory," Hecate patiently explained.

"I don't think I've ever heard of them before," Vaan expressed his astonishment.

Although he had already vaguely suspected the other Great Devils to have hidden groups of Divine Beings, he was still surprised to hear about the Dreamcatchers from Hecate.

"And that shouldn't be strange, Sir Vaan. Divine Beings represent the pinnacle of power in the Gehenna Realm. Every Great Devil would want to hide their military force as a form of deterrence to guard their territories," Hecate casually explained.

"After all, if a war broke out between territories, the Great Devils would be locked in a stalemate. As such, it's usually the strength of their divine guards that would determine victory in such territorial wars."

"However, there is an even more important reason for hiding the divine guards: to avoid catching the attention of the Skymagia Star Kingdom. Given Gehenna's past disastrous losses, we do not wish to be forcefully dragged into its Realm Wars and repeat history," Hecate stated.

Vaan furrowed his brows before asking, "Then, aren't you taking quite a big risk by exposing the Dreamcatchers now, Lady Hecate?"

When Hecate heard Vaan's question, she immediately chuckled lightly, replying, "What I just said is how the other Great Devils think, excluding Balmodan. That Man-wolf has no divine guards to hide, even if he wishes to."

"As for me, I have only hidden the Dreamcatchers to give the other Great Devils peace of mind. I don't particularly concern myself with what the Skymagia Star Kingdom might do," Hecate added.

"And why is that so, if I may ask?" Vaan politely inquired with interest.

Hecate smiled slyly and said, "If you visit my territory later, I'll think about answering that question then, Sir Vaan."

"Fair enough," Vaan calmly acknowledged, unsurprised by her response.

He figured Hecate's lack of concern most likely had something to do with her background. Perhaps she had some connection with the Skymagia Star Kingdom, or maybe even more than that.

"Going back to your earlier question, I naturally wouldn't refuse your company, Lady Hecate," Vaan calmly answered before adding, "However, I still hope you could at least help me check on the Earth Spirit Worm."

"It will be disastrous if that thing descends on..." Vaan slowly stopped speaking as Hecate pulled out a tiny Earth Spirit Worm and showed it on her palm.

"You mean this thing?" Hecate sought his confirmation.

"..."

Vaan stared at the tiny Earth Spirit Worm dumbfoundedly.

Compared to the Earth Spirit Worm's previous colossal figure, which could stretch for many kilometers, the tiny Earth Spirit Worm on Hecate's palm was far too small.

He would have thought it was a different Earth Spirit Worm if he had not confirmed its information with his Fourth Dimensional Sense.

"I found this thing while I was on my way here. It looked like an interesting existence worthy of study, so I picked it up," Hecate casually explained.

Vaan's lips twitched.

To think that such a menacingly large creature had been reduced to such a pitifully small state.

After its fourth-dimensional body was harmed, the tiny Earth Spirit Worm was like a deflated balloon; it hurled up like an injured animal and entered deep slumber on Hecate's palm.

Under this state, it didn't seem like it could harm anyone.

Although Vaan was also interested in studying it, he couldn't be greedy since it had fallen into Hecate's hands. After all, she had already generously gifted him Abaddon's left arm.



Furthermore, the lake-worth of Divine-rank Stalactite Milk he obtained from the Earth Spirit Worm exceeded its value.

"Since you have secured it, I have nothing to worry about then," Vaan said with a relaxed look.

"You don't want it?" Hecate asked curiously.

"I do, but I can do without it. It's not something I need, just something of interest to study like you. Since it fell into your hands, that is your fortune, Lady Hecate," Vaan smiled.

"I see. Then, I will keep it for studying," Hecate smiled before putting away the tiny Earth Spirit Worm.

Shortly after, Vaan focused on tranquil meditation to conserve his energy and recover his soul force.

However, not even two breaths into his meditation, he was interrupted by Hecate's sudden gift.

"Take this vial of Soul Rejuvenating Water. It will speed up the recovery of your soul force," Hecate offered a finger-size vial of grey, glowing liquid.

"This... shouldn't be cheap, right? You're just going to gift it to me like that?" Vaan didn't accept immediately, asking with doubt.

"It is precious to others, but not me; I have plenty of this stuff. So, you can take it with peace of mind, Sir Vaan. I won't ask for anything in return," Hecate generously said, adding, "Just think of it as part of my investment."

'Investment in what? A future husband?' Vaan silently thought, but he accepted Hecate's kind intention nonetheless.

"You were thinking of something inappropriate just now, weren't you?" Hecate queried with a sharpened look, hiding her coy mischief.

"It must be your imagination, Lady Hecate. My mind is as pure as clear water," Vaan calmly smiled.

Hecate returned his smile without pressing the matter. She found it quite enjoyable to engage in such foolish banter.

However, she wouldn't normally feel the same had another human been in Vaan's place with such profane thoughts. There was just something different about him that attracted her interest and curiosity.

What could it be?

Chapter 777: Unparalleled Control

After Vaan consumed the Soul Rejuvenating Water, he immediately felt its potent power coursing into his mind and soothing its exhausted state.

Within several breaths, he recovered 20% of his soul force, which he originally called mental energy.

Nevertheless, after recovering 20% of his soul force, the potency of the Soul Rejuvenating Water greatly reduced but did not cease; his soul force continued to recover at a 50% increase of his normal rate.

Although it didn't seem like much, a near-instant 20% soul force recovery was definitely a lifesaver.

Vaan suspected the Soul Rejuvenating Water would be valuable, but the effects were more miraculous than he anticipated, greatly increasing its value.

To think that Hecate still had many more of it...

Vaan couldn't help but feel even more curious about her background. If she wasn't some powerful Potioneer, her background must be truly impressive.

"Did you make this Soul Rejuvenating Water yourself, Lady Hecate?" Vaan inquired.

"You'll find out if you visit my territory, Sir Vaan," Hecate vaguely replied, reminding him to visit her Dreamdust Territory again.

Vaan could see that Hecate really wanted him to visit her territory. He helplessly shook his head, knowing he would only get all his answers once he went there.

"Where did you want to explore? That asteroid field?" Hecate guessed after a brief look around for points of interest.

Nevertheless, rather than calling the asteroid field a point of interest, it was THE only point of interest. Given their present location, there was nothing else out in the star system to explore besides that.

"That's right," Vaan nodded.

"That asteroid field looks quite far," Hecate knitted her brows, saying, "Although my stellar-traveling ability is quite fast, it should be inferior to your spatial-displacing ability in terms of distance covered over time."

"I'll have to trouble you to take me along with your spatial-displacing ability, Sir Vaan. In return, I'll protect you should we face any danger in that asteroid field," Hecate suggested.

Vaan found her suggestion very agreeable since her powerful strength was the reason he accepted her company in the first place.

"That's fine with me," Vaan nodded and said, "Well then, please excuse my discourtesy."

Shortly after, Vaan held Hecate's slim waist and shifted them through space together, covering a couple hundred thousand kilometers in an instant.

"T-This is..."

Hecate was immediately astounded by the rapid change in space as they covered huge distances.

She had already anticipated that Vaan would be proficient in the Spatial Law, but she still underestimated him. It's not that she underestimated his comprehension, but she greatly underestimated his control.

Although she had not comprehended the Spatial Law to an acceptable level, she still knew much about it.

As such, she quickly found out that the distance they covered in an instant had far exceeded the limit of Second-stage Divine-rank Spatial Law. In fact, this kind of huge leap was most likely on par with the spatial ability of a Rank 7 Divine Being.

After all, a spatial user couldn't leap into a space they couldn't have sensed beforehand. It had to be within the range of their spatial sense, something that grew along with their increase in comprehension of the Spatial Law.

Hecate couldn't understand how there could be such a huge disparity in distance covered.

Since she didn't understand it, she had to figure it out.

After Vaan shuttled them through space the same way another hundred times, Hecate finally understood what was going on with his absurd distance coverage.

Spatial user's spatial senses were normally like a spherical domain with themselves at its center. It was also inside this spherical domain that they could manipulate space according to their will.

However, Vaan could alter his spherical-shape sense into a more linear form, maximizing his distance coverage in a singular direction.

Although Hecate grasped the concept, she still found it unbelievable.

After all, the demand for control was so high that she didn't think it was possible—at least, that would have been the case had she not witnessed Vaan repeatedly pulling it off.

Even Soul Masters wouldn't necessarily have this kind of heaven-defying control ability.

After all, increasing the distance coverage by a couple of folds would have already been very impressive. However, Vaan was leaping at tenfold to twentyfold the normal distance for the spatial users of his comprehension level.

His level of control was simply in a realm of its own; it was unparalleled in the world.

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Back in the Great Ratholos Empire's imperial capital, the Vampire Lords were having second thoughts over time as they waited.

Although they had been greatly intimidated by Hecate's divine aura previously, most of them had never heard or seen her before.

When they learned that she had only assumed the position of Great Devil around 10,000 years ago and was only 20,000-odd years old, their faith in her quickly dropped. They didn't believe she was as experienced as their Blood Ancestor and wouldn't be his match.

This thought was further strengthened when they found out she specialized in illusions.

Nevertheless, their growing flame of rebellion was quickly and thoroughly extinguished when the three Vampire Lords and Nine Dreamcatchers arrived twenty minutes after Hecate's departure.

They were all shocked by the high cultivation of the Nine Dreamcatchers and found it hard to keep up with the present times.

The Dark Fairy Race wasn't so powerful 700,000 years ago.

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In the Red Dragon Clan's temporary camp, Ophelia suddenly stood with a smile and announced, "Everyone, Lady Hecate has successfully met up with Sir Vaan and slain the villainous Abaddon together. The sinister Great Devil is no more."

"Truly? That's great!" Henrietta quickly rejoiced along with everyone else presently gathered.

However, Victoria didn't miss the chance to tease her despite everyone else displaying similar joy.

"Hennie, do you know you look like an ecstatic wife after learning her dear husband will be returning home victoriously and safely?"

"W-W-What kind of nonsense are you spewing, Victoria?!" Henrietta shrieked like a cat that had gotten her tail stepped on before furiously responding with a flushed face, "I'm just overjoyed that we have won against a Great Devil! This is a joyous occasion!"

"Sheesh, if you know I'm spewing nonsense, then treat it as such. There's no need to overreact like that, right? Kekeke," Victoria chuckled and smiled like a sly fox.

Henrietta immediately felt like a fish bone got stuck in her throat; she was unable to retort.

At the same time, everyone gave weird looks, making her wish to disappear on the spot.

#### Chapter 778: The Truth

Over at Emperor Varan's camp, prolonged confusion hung on the faces of every commander and captain present in the abandoned building where their meeting was held.

The arrival of Hecate and her Dreamcatchers brought joy to the human side – This much was true.

However, it also brought greater confusion to Emperor Varan's side.

No one understood why Hecate was able to arrive with her reinforcement. After all, they had yet to locate Hecate's Devil's Contractor. Thus, communication and striking a deal with the Great Devil shouldn't have been possible.

In that case, why did Hecate and her Dreamcatchers appear?

For personal reasons?

Emperor Varan was under the impression that Hecate had come to settle her feud with Abaddon for the death of her followers. As such, he was concerned that they would still have to face a Great Devil no matter who came out on top.

When Emperor Varan sought out Kuvat for answers, he was only given one answer, "Wait for the Supreme Leader to return; only he has the answer."

As such, he had no choice but to wait with uncertainty.

Suddenly, a raucous laughter resounded through a large part of the imperial capital, surprising everyone. Its source seemed to have come from the eastern sea.

"Hahaha! Where is my emperor nephew? Your uncle has come to aid you! Where is the battle?! Point me in that direction!" the Sea Emperor's wild voice sounded, shocking many people.

Dragon Palace was quite far offshore from the imperial capital.

As such, no one expected any reinforcement from there—at least not within the next day or two.

It was quite surprising that the Sea Emperor arrived so fast.

However, Emperor Varan couldn't help but give a helpless and bitter smile after hearing his uncle's voice.

After all, the Sea Emperor wasn't around with his people when the battle was at its peak intensity. But now that they had arrived, the war was practically over. Even if it weren't, they wouldn't be able to do much in the face of the Rank 6 Divine Beings.

Nevertheless, Emperor Varan still had to receive his uncle regardless.

"Uncle, how did you arrive so fast? No, how did you even receive word of the situation here so quickly?" Emperor Varan inquired with surprise after meeting up with the Sea Emperor, who came with a force of 10,000 men.

However, these men were all battle-hardened warriors with only a step away from Transcendence.

On the other hand, the Sea Emperor was more impressive. Despite looking quite primitive in his crude sea armor, his aura has surpassed the Transcendent Rank.

"The Dragon-Serpent King notified me when the crimson light appeared. After that, the Sea Serpent Clan assisted us in reaching the mainland quickly," the Sea Emperor explained while wildly searching the area. So, where's the battle?"

"The battle has ended, for the time being, Uncle. You came sooner than expected but still late, nonetheless," Emperor Varan smiled wryly.

"Ended? How is that possible?" the Sea Emperor was dumbfounded.

"Haha..." Emperor Varan forced a laugh and said, "I'll explain to you on the way. Let me take you to introduce some people to you, Uncle."

"This... Alright," the Sea Emperor blankly agreed, still finding difficulty accepting the situation.

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Pangea Star System, Asteroid Field

After warping through space for roughly twenty minutes straight, Vaan and Hecate arrived at the outer rim of the asteroid field region.

"What happened here?" Hecate was astounded after she had a closer look at the place.

Originally, she thought the asteroid field was just a huge space region full of asteroids. However, it was actually the remnants of planetary structures and a lost civilization.



It was unknown how many planets had been destroyed to form the asteroid field, but it was a truly vast region of space debris—stretching over 200,000,000 kilometers in width and orbiting the sun.

"An ancient great battle between clashing civilizations, or perhaps a massacre caused by Outer Beings," Vaan casually replied while surveying the region for points of interest.

"Not much is known about Pangea's history, and what I have learned about it can't be trusted from the root sources. Perhaps the actual truth about the past can only be found here."

"Then, let us find it together; I am also curious about Pangea's history," Hecate expressed interest.

Vaan nodded.

According to what he knew, Golden Dragon Pangea was imprisoned on the toxic water planet by an unknown advanced civilization, and a clash between it and her dragon civilization resulted in the star system's present state.

However, the Blessed Golden Dragon Tribe believed that Golden Dragon Pangea willingly imprisoned herself on the planet to give the unknown advanced civilization a chance to deter her dragon civilization from acting against it.

Although Vaan didn't know how much of the reason behind it was true, he also believed Golden Dragon Pangea willingly stayed on the planet.

After all, having seen the Pangea planet from outer space, he had not discovered anything that could have been used to keep Golden Dragon Pangea imprisoned on it.

From this, he could derive that Golden Dragon Pangea had a good relationship with the unknown advanced civilization or, at the very least, shared their sentiments.

Although it should have been obvious what the unknown advanced civilization was, Vaan wanted to avoid jumping to conclusions before obtaining more concrete evidence.

However, now that he had found some clues in the asteroid field, he could no longer deny it.

The unknown advanced civilization indeed belonged to humans.

The truth became quite clear, from the ruined megastructures inside the moon's core to the fragments of spaceships and cold corpses floating throughout the asteroid field.

Golden Dragon Pangea wanted to protect the human civilization from her dragon civilization. Alas, she probably didn't expect that her action would be fruitless in stopping the clash between the two civilizations.

More importantly, no one also knew that Outer Beings would arrive and ruin them all.

As Vaan explored the asteroid field, he found remnants of both the dragon and human civilizations. There wasn't a single shred of life in the vast asteroid field region; it was a wasteland of the dead, one big graveyard.

Unfortunately, any remnant technology and artifacts had been ruined beyond usability.

Nevertheless, the one other thing Vaan came for was found in abundance—divine energy crystals. Any large piece of space debris would have at least a chunk of it, if not more.

#### Chapter 779: The Butcher of Chaos

Since the treasure was in front of him, Vaan didn't intend to leave it behind. He quickly pocketed every piece of space debris containing divine energy crystals he could find.

Within a few minutes, he had already hit multiple jackpots, collecting large divine energy crystal deposits.

Just a single divine energy crystal deposit was enough to make his past gains seem pitiful. There was no room for comparison—it was like comparing a beggar's wealth to a tycoon's.

Nevertheless, Hecate wandered over curiously after noticing Vaan's repetitious action.

"What do you plan to do with all of this, Sir Vaan?" Hecate casually picked up a chunk of divine energy crystal and studied it without any particular interest in the object.

"Energy cultivation, of course," Vaan honestly admitted before raising an eyebrow, asking, "You're not interested in this stuff, Lady Hecate?"

He might have been a little greedy for them if there weren't many divine energy crystals.

However, there were so many divine energy crystals lying around that he didn't mind splitting the gains with her.

Nevertheless, Hecate's following reply still surprised him.

"Not really, no," Hecate casually shook her head and said, "I do not practice energy cultivation, so I do not need this type of energy. Even if I did, I still wouldn't need to fight you over it, Sir Vaan."

Hecate chuckled and continued, "You should know that mana is the manifestation of existential power; it is the basis of everything in existence, and that includes this type of energy."

"As such, I only need to convert mana into divine energy if I happen to need it, and mana is something you can find everywhere in Chaos," Hecate calmly smiled.

After listening to Hecate's explanation, Vaan felt a little embarrassed. He felt like a poor beggar standing in front of a filthy rich madam, wary that she might compete with him over dropped coins on the ground.

However, why would she be interested in some dropped coins on the ground when she could create them herself?

"If everything can be created from mana and mana can be found everywhere in Chaos, why do people still fight over resources?" Vaan casually asked.

"Chaos provides everything a person needs to become great, but not everyone is born equal, Sir Vaan," Hecate answered.

"Talent is a frightening thing. With it, anyone could rise smoothly without any bottlenecks or setbacks, shooting to the peak of life in a short time. But without it, they will be damned to a life full of struggles and difficulties, taking many times longer to achieve the same feat as a talented person."

"The mana is there for all, but not everyone can refine it quickly. Even if they can, they don't necessarily know how to use it effectively. That's why untalented people will always seek other means to hasten their cultivation."

"It just so happens that anyone can gain insight into the Asura Law through conflict and bloodshed. Thus, you shouldn't try to reason with anyone trying to start a Realm War, Sir Vaan."

"If they can start one, they will. More often than not, a reason is not. That is how Chaos operates," Hecate stated.

Vaan calmly acknowledged her statement. He was beginning to have a good grasp of life in Chaos; it was one grand race.

Most, if not all, would try to climb to the peak of life and become an unparalleled existence that could look down on all like the Lord of Chaos. And should they fail, they simply restart a new life.

After all, in Chaos, death was not the end.

Suddenly, Vaan found something strange. Varuna, the Lord of the Boundless Sea and Sky, was an existence on the same level as the Lord of Chaos.

Although the Lord of Chaos was arguably stronger because he was the first to refine Chaos and make it part of his power, he was an Outerverse Originator like Varuna.

Vaan had not seen much of Chaos, but he had already heard the Lord of Chaos mentioned multiple times. On the other hand, he had not heard of anyone mentioning the Lord of the Boundless Seas and Skies.

"Have you heard anything about the Lord of the Boundless Seas and Skies, Lady Hecate?"

The moment Vaan raised this question, Hecate's body shook to a standstill, seemingly frightened and shocked at the same time.

"I don't know where you have learned that name, but you better not speak of it carelessly in Chaos, Sir Vaan. That name is a great taboo; just randomly speaking ill of it could bring damnation to one's entire realm," Hecate warned with a severe look.

"Why?" Vaan uttered with surprise.

Hecate looked at Vaan's genuinely curious look before she softly sighed.

She figured it was better to explain everything to him herself, lest he inadvertently bring disaster to himself and everyone surrounding him trying to find out by himself.

"The Lord of the Boundless Seas and Skies is the Lord of Chaos's most respected elder brother. He was an existence who could stand shoulder to shoulder with the Lord of Chaos."

"However, for reasons unknown to me, the Lord of the Boundless Seas and Skies left Chaos in search of opportunities outside and passed away three chaos cycles. Since then, the Lord of Chaos has been searching for his elder brother's soul, which went missing in the bitter cycle of reincarnation."

"For reasons unknown to me, the Lord of Chaos is unable to track his elder brother's soul directly. He can only track his feeble aura. But each time he finds the source, he is always a step too late."

"The Lord of the Boundless Seas and Skies's name is taboo because his every reincarnation and death would spread his unique aura to other lifeforms."

"When the denizens of Chaos found out the Lord of Chaos was searching for his elder brother, I heard countless fools lined up claiming to be the Lord of the Boundless Seas and Skies's reincarnation."

"This undoubtedly incited the Lord of Chaos's fury, and nothing good ever comes out of enraging the Lord of Chaos. Naturally, the Lord of Chaos wiped out each and every one of their lineage and realm. It happened so many times that the deaths and destroyed realms have reached a frightening number."

"Since then, no one has dared claim to be the reincarnation of the Lord of the Boundless Seas and Skies again. Even if more fools appeared, others would always act first, snuffing out the rumors before they reached the ears of the Lord of Chaos."

"No one wishes to anger the Butcher of Chaos, and this is why the Lord of the Boundless Seas and Skies's name has become taboo," Hecate solemnly explained.

#### Chapter 780: Great Wilderness

After listening to Hecate's brief explanation, Vaan found several questionable points that did not make sense to him.

"I wonder if Lady Hecate doesn't mind enlightening me on a few points I find trouble understanding?"

"What don't you understand, Sir Vaan?"

"If people only fear impersonators of the Lord of the Boundless Seas and Skies angering the Lord of Chaos, they should only hunt such impersonators. I fail to see how that makes even the mention of the Lord of the Boundless Seas and Skies a taboo," Vaan stated.

"That's because you don't understand just how many enemies the Lord of the Boundless Seas and Skies and the Lord of Chaos have, Sir Vaan," Hecate replied with a helpless look.

"Because the Lord of Chaos is the strongest, no one dares to challenge his authority. However, that doesn't change the fact he is a cruel butcher who wouldn't bat an eye after wiping out entire realms full of life over the slightest offense."

"To someone at his level, creating new realms and life would be just as easy as turning over his hand. Even the lives and realms he destroyed could be undone should he will it so. He does not view life the same way as everyone else."

"While many beings fear him, there is also no lack of petty beings who wouldn't mind killing even the real reincarnation of the Lord of the Boundless Seas and Skies to trouble the Lord of Chaos."

"Nevertheless, the enemies of the Lord of Chaos are of lesser concern. It's the enemies of the Lord of the Boundless Seas and Skies that make his name taboo," Hecate stated.

"Enemies of the Lord of the Boundless Seas and Skies?" Vaan repeated with surprise.

"I understand your surprise. Anyone with the least knowledge of the Lord of the Boundless Seas and Skies would know he was one of the most benevolent beings in Chaos, beloved by all," Hecate mentioned.

"He has created the most habitable realms and enlightened countless beings on the path of cultivation. Many peak existences respect him as their great teacher, and many more lifeforms adore him as the father of life. He is the complete opposite of the Lord of Chaos."

"As such, it must be a wonder how such a respected being in Chaos could have any enemies at all, right? However, the truth isn't hard to understand," Hecate said.

Having heard that much, Vaan could venture a guess. However, it was better to listen to the answer from Hecate herself.

"Every time the reincarnation of the Lord of the Boundless Seas and Skies died, the world of sentient beings he was born to would also be destroyed along with him by rampant beast tides," Hecate calmly stated.

"As such, whenever such a calamity strikes the sentient worlds, humans and all other sentient races would be forced to flee their realms, lest they get swept in the furious tempest of beast tides."

"Without sentient races thereafter, those abandoned realms became the holy land for savage beasts – A wild realm is what we call such realms without sentient civilizations. When these wild realms are numerous on the scale of an entire chaosverse, it becomes a wild chaosverse."

"Supposedly, there were only around forty wild chaosverses in the past. However, since the Lord of the Boundless Seas and Skies's vicious cycle of reincarnation started, that number has nearly doubled to seventy-six wild chaosverses. Collectively, this group of wild chaosverses is called the Great Wilderness."

"Can you understand how many beings from these thirty-six chaosverses have lost their homes and loved ones to the rampant beast tides in the past two chaos cycles, Sir Vaan? Now, do you understand why the name is taboo?" Hecate asked.

As Vaan thought, it was indeed because of the countless deaths of his reincarnations.

At the same time, he finally understood why the name was taboo. There were simply far too many sentient beings who had lost their homes and loved ones to the beast tides caused by the death of his reincarnations.

Their hatred towards him would be understandable.

Furthermore, this undesired hatred towards him was most likely exacerbated further by their sufferings and unfair treatment after they migrated to other chaosverses. After all, they wouldn't be treated equally if the natives regarded them as outsiders.

Although the Lord of the Boundless Seas and Skies was at fault for the destruction of their homes and the death of their loved ones, it was always easier to pin the blame on a single being than countless difficult-to-track, unknown culprits.

Nevertheless, Vaan quickly understood that it was unwise to expose his identity.

There were far too many victims of the rampant beast tides; anyone he encountered in Chaos could be his potential enemy due to this hatred.

Furthermore, their strength wouldn't be weak if they were part of the earliest groups of victims and lived to the present day. There was also the possibility that this hatred was passed on to subsequent generations of their descendants.

On another note, Vaan was greatly astonished to learn the Great Wilderness possessed seventy-six wild chaosverses.

After all, there should only be a hundred and twenty-seven chaosverses in Chaos, a hundred and twenty-eight if the present universe was added. In other words, there were more wild chaosverses than sentient-inhabited chaosverses.

"Has the peak existences of Chaos never attempted any reclamation expeditions on these wild chaosverses, Lady Hecate?" Vaan casually inquired with some suspicions.

"And why would they do that?" Hecate lightly snickered at the idea, shaking her head and saying, "To the peak existences of Chaos have been under the tutelage of the Lord of the Boundless Seas and Skies, the vagabonds from the wild chaosverses are all sinners who have killed their respected teacher and delayed his return."



"They have absolutely had no reason to help them reclaim their lost chaosverses, let alone the Lord of Chaos himself. It's already their greatest mercy to let these vagabonds live and atone for their sins."

"Furthermore, the rampant beast tides are mostly caused by the sky and sea beasts, the beloved creatures of the Lord of the Boundless Seas and Skies. Anyone with respect for him wouldn't wilfully slaughter his creations for the sinners' sake," Hecate stated.

Vaan furrowed his brows.