## A Ghost 141

Chapter 141

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Using the swarm of ghost snakes, I spied on Leon and Eric's team while they slew my clones easily. Leon's strength was formidable, his powerful ax easily destroyed my snakes, and they were left hopeless. Their poison, shadows, and other attacks barely affected them as he was being helped by Eric and the other priests with him, bringing healing, status effect recovery, and magic shields to the mercenaries and adventurers led by Leon.

Meanwhile, using a sneaky snake ghost, I was glaring down at Catarina and her two idiots. She was looking for me everywhere. The trio seemed to be able to float in midair like Vampires in fiction can. So I guess they can fly the same way I do as a ghost, naturally... huh, that's kind of unfair.

She was taking her sweet time, though. For some reason, she was trying not to get close to this group of mercenaries and priests. They were most likely told not to get involved with them and to only hunt me down if I escaped their grasp, which I did.

So the Vampires and the Aristocrats of the Kingdom seemed to have some kind of alliance, although their own pawns didn't even know about it yet and were unaware of the other... well, Catarina seemed clearly aware. Still, she wasn't given the order to interact with them or interrupt them, most likely.

So strong, yet she's still a lackey for the big bosses behind this entire thing... what a waste of potential.

"Damn it! Where did she go?!" Shouted Catarina.

She was a temperamental woman. Her entire flawless and beautiful face was raging in pure and utter anger. She was hopelessly furious as if she had done something so foolish. Despite her strength, she had very loose control over her own temperament. I can see why she just broke apart most of the landscape.

"Catarina-sama, I think she went inside the forest...!" Said one of her lackeys.

"Agh, but those idiots are there. We can't... get there. According to the boss," Sighed Catarina.

"Should we retreat before they see us then?" Asked the other.

"No! I am not going to retreat! Are you crazy?! What if she beats them down?! We have to catch her! Let's watch over and see if she dies or not... If she begins winning, we enter and quickly kill her for once... She's a tough nut to crack, though," Said Catarina.

The two Vampires nodded at her words as she flew into the ground and hid beneath the shadows of the trees outside the forest, looking down into the interior of the forest for anything suspicious.

"If she survives, we'll follow her to the end of the world, did you hear me?"

"Y-Yes!" The two lackeys nodded fearfully.

Her words were strong and firm. Despite that, she didn't realize one of my clones carrying all the people had already run away very far from here.

And... I could quite possibly do the same as well, but if she notices I ran away, she'll look for me everywhere... It would be better to just crush her here and now and get a ton of EXP out of it.

She's an A-Rank threat. After all, she'll surely give some tasty EXP... I am a B+ Rank threat myself in power... but I can clearly exceed that if I use all the powers within my disposition. I had already accumulated tons of magic crystals from monsters I had stolen from the duchy back then, so I can use them to enhance the Unit Cards of my allies within my Soul Grimoire and enhance their stats. Or even more, consume them to fuse with them temporarily and gain part of their power...

I am not in this without plans or ways of fighting... however, even with all of this taken into consideration, this woman is fearfully strong. I cannot fight her with distractions such as a bunch of other B+ Ranks annoying the hell out of me.

So I plan to deal with these idiots in the forest, at least the weaklings first, and probably lure the other idiots close to the Vampiress, provoke her, and "accidentally" make her... well, commit an oopsie against these guys.



Even the priest was immersed into this world with its RPG rules I guess, so even he wondered where the heck the EXP was at. Well, my clones don't give EXP because they're technically just a part of my body. Slaying it won't give EXP unless you actually defeat the real deal, me. And they had yet to even do that.

I sneaked around them and used Stealth-based abilities. My eyes suddenly glowed brightly as the snake-headed tips of my hair opened their eyes as well...

The weak adventurers and mercenaries of all appearances, sizes and classes suddenly felt a strange power bathing their bodies. Even the weaker Priests felt this power bathing them, and even their strong barriers were nothing against them.

The eyes of a Gorgon!		
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The weak adventurers and mercenaries of all appearances, sizes and classes suddenly felt a strange power bathing them. Even the weaker Priests felt this power bathing them, and even their strong barriers were nothing against them.		
The eyes of a Gorgon.		
[Gorgon's Five Cursed Eyes: Lv1]		

A deadly set of eyes, each eye has the power of inflicting a deadly curse. Each has the power of Hypnosis, Confusion, Paralysis, Lethal Poison, and Petrification. Overlapping these powers will ensure your opponents can't escape your phantasmal and deadly embrace.

The intensity of each Eye power is enhanced with each Level, and Resistance Skills against status effects can be slightly overpowered the higher the level of the Skill. Certain entities can resist this greater than others.

Hypnosis: Causes a target to temporarily feel hypnotised by your powers and beauty, being able to obey simple commands the more Mana and power you infuse into this eye.

Confusion: Can temporarily confuse a target's thoughts and throw their minds into complete chaos, disrupting their thought process and fighting capabilities.

Paralysis: Can Paralyze a target's body parts temporarily. Limbs of a target can be paralysed separately from one another and so on.

Lethal Poison: Inflicts a deadly lethal poison that temporarily eats away at the foe's HP.

Petrification: Unleashes a deadly light that forces the skin of a foe to petrify, slowing down their movements. At higher levels, more than just skin can be petrified...

...

After my recent evolution into a Gorgon Ghost, I gained various powers, and one of them was these powerful Five Cursed Eyes, which I can summon through the other eyes of my snake-headed hair.

Using their aid and my own two eyes, I unleashed a flashing ray of black and purple colours towards them. Leon and Eric were very strong. Their resistance to status effects was good enough that they realised my sneak attack and even targeted me where I was hiding.

However, their reaction time was slow anyways. The other guys were already being bathed by my strong status effects! Severe Poisons began to eat away at their HP as they struggled to breathe and felt intoxicated. Paralysis paralysed their bones and muscles and made them fall over the ground powerlessly. Hypnosis and Confusion combined together, attacking their sanity and minds, making them scream in agony. And lastly...

Petrification.

Petrification acted rather quickly, as their entire bodies were covered in stone, and more than half of them fell and became living statues. Some even broke apart into pieces when they fell over the floor.

Good.
"W-What?!"
"What's going on?!"
"Uuaggh!"
"Agghh! My head!"
"I-I am turning into stone?! W-What's going on?!"
"W-Who is doing this?!" Shouted Eric, as the other priests used Antidote Spells to heal some of the people who had yet to die, although many of them still ended up being half-petrified, barely moving properly.
One of the priests ended up being turned into stone right away, as he lost balance and fell over the floor, breaking apart into pieces and dying on the spot.
"D-Damn it! I can sense someone there!" Leon said as he suddenly charged his axe with an immense amount of Mana.
His muscles bulged and were enhanced several times as he utilised a powerful Skill against me and fired his axe towards my direction!
"Earth-Shattering Tomahawk!!!"
FLAAAAASSSHHHH!!!

## Fuck! I have to get out of here!

I quickly deactivated the eyes of the gorgon and dived deep underground. As the axe hit the place right where I was, breaking apart the earth and making a massive tremor, the entire place shook as if an immense earthquake consumed it all.

## TRUUUUMMMM!!!

The shockwaves it generated hit me from behind, quickly diminishing my HP at a fast pace and almost killing me several times if it wasn't for me spamming Undead Healing on myself countless times! I can already imagine that if that thing were to hit me, I would have just died! Right on the spot!

That was close, way too close!

The friends inside my shadows were eager to fight, as I had already cut down the small fry out of their group and only Leon, Eric, and three Priests were left. With the surviving Mercenaries and Adventurers being knocked out unconscious, it was the right time to attack and finally fucking smash them to the ground... or should I?

Why would I risk myself like this when there is Catarina looking at me fighting? I would rather not do that yet, and instead...

"That's a nice weapon you got there!" I said as I grabbed the axe that Leon threw at me.

The Axe suddenly opposed my power as I tried to wield it. It emanated a powerful golden glow from within, but I encompassed it with my shadows and devoured whatever will it had to oppose me.

The amazing weapon was indeed a Legendary item, most likely found in the depths of some sort of Dungeon that Leon had explored in the past. Well, now's mine. I had begun to think that Pickpocket might be helping me in stealing these weapons with "wills" of their own...

Anyways, Leon, Eric, and the other survivors looked at me with surprise. They didn't know who I was. After all, they came to slay goblins, not a ghost woman.

"Huh? W-Who are ya?! Give me back my axe!" Roared Leon.
"Oh? This thing? Well, it's gone." I said as the entire axe disappeared from my Inventory.
"W-What? My axe!!!" Roared Leon in anger.
"Leon, that's a ghost! Be careful! Let's slay it together!" Shouted Eric.
"GRAAAAAHHH!!!"
Leon roared. His aura suddenly was unleashed as a sea of powerful red energy surged from his body, flowing through the entire place and flooding everything with his raging fury.
BOOOMMM!!!
His aura emanated a strong pressure, enough to even intimidate me.
I quickly began to fall back as he began rushing at me while the priests followed him from behind.
Catarina and the other Vampires quickly noticed my presence once more, looking attentively as I slowly approached them.
"W-Wait, is she coming at us?!"
"Then we'll kill her!"
"No, Catarina-sama, you can't! Those mortals!"

"I don't give a fuck anymore! If they get in the way, they'll die too!"		
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I stole Leon's axe! Hahaha!		
And after stealing it, I showed to his face how I made it disappear into my Inventory, just to spite him! This only caused the old man to get even more furious, to the point he tried to kill me.		
They came to kill goblins, not a strange girl that could fly and was weirdly phantasmal, but Eric quickly told Leon that I was a ghost, so it was fair now. They were going to kill me without a doubt.		
"Give me back MY AXE!!!"		
Leon roared as if he became the incarnation of strength, rushing forward with all the power he had. He began to devastate the trees around me and rushed towards me. He didn't even need an axe; he was beating trees with his bare hands.		
What kind of monster was this man?!		
Certainly, a very resilient one because there is another gorilla I want to present to you! Just wait a little bit longer!		
I looked behind him as I evaded his attacks without any problem. Eric and his priests were rushing right behind Leon, charging some incantation. They probably wanted to exorcise me or something.		
Not happening, buddy, you can't even catch me, and you think you'll exorcise me?		



The two lackeys at her side tried to stop her, but it was too late! She rushed right towards me with the intention of crushing my little and tiny body.
"RRAAAA!"
The power of her magic aura encompassed her entire body as her muscles began to throb with powerful quantities of mana. The power of this mana was rushing through her veins and muscles at an incredible speed, boosting all her capabilities in the process.
She was using one of her Skills named "Blood Aura" for that, which enhanced all her physical abilities by infusing it into her body. She wasn't proficient in magic; she was really just a fist and kick fighter made into a Vampire with A-Rank threat truly a terrifying gorilla woman.
"YOUUUU!"
And right while this was happening, Leon reached me. As if that axe meant his entire life and was like his own father and mother combined at the same time, he reached up to me furious. His muscles had bulged so much he gained double his original size. This was thanks to his special Skill named [Berserk Mode], which temporarily made him lose his sanity in exchange for increasing his stats exponentially.
BOOOMMM!!!
His powerful fists hit the trees around, blowing them away.
Two giant gorillas flew towards me at the same time, while the Vampires were covering the other areas with their strange magic and powers. Meanwhile, Eric was right behind Leon.
So what do I do?!
I escape!
Retreat!

I unleashed all my stealth abilities, coated myself in shadows, and flew down into the underground at a fast speed. BOOOOOMMM!!! The impact of Catarina and Leon's blows hit the ground where I was, as the two impacts clashed against one another, and they looked at one another in confusion, but also while being consumed in anger. Meanwhile, I dug deep underground and continued to fly down as fast as possible while absorbing mana from all the wildlife underground around here. Mostly earthworms, which died the moment I drained all their life and mana, turned into dried sticks of worm meat. I glanced at the fight using the sneaky snake spies I had left around. "Who the heck are you?!" Roared Leon, looking at the vampiress. "You damn humans! You dare get in my way? I was told not to touch you, but you're incredibly annoying! I will slay you and drink your blood real quick, so sit down and die!" Roared Catarina. She was completely nuts. "B-But Catarina-sama, stop!!!" Cried one of the other Vampires. "We'll get punished if we kill the humans!" Shouted the other Vampire. "I am not in the mood to care about measly little humans now... This puny will man is no challenge for me-"

BOOOMMM!!

Leon, however, attacked, giving Catarina a good punch in the face. She was blown away into the distance at an incredible speed, flying into the air and then falling over the ground, clashing over the floor and breaking and cracking the stone, leaving several spiderweb-shaped cracks all around her.

"Unngh...! You dare punch me in the face?!" She angrily shouted.

"You're Vampires! To think that there would be such a pest around here! Priest Eric, we have to slay them quickly! Also, Vampires fetch an amazing prize if we bring their corpses to the Guild! I am going to become rich and buy a new axe instead!" Laughed Leon.

He was an opportunistic man.

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Eric was shocked. Well, the priest wasn't shocked because of the amazing power of his companion. He already seemed to know that this guy was a monster from the get-go. Even though I had never heard of him before, the other priests around him were also shocked, but not of the strength of Leon nor the catastrophe he left behind, even less because he was chasing me down while I swiftly evaded every attack he threw at me. He was amazed because of another obvious reason.

And this reason was the Vampires!

Eric... I don't know anything about him, but he seems to not have seen Vampires before. He felt fearful of their very presence, unlike the bold and strong Leon, who seemed fearless against death. He was more of a "normal" human, so he felt fear when he saw what he saw. Not going to lie. I would also shit myself if I saw three Vampires. But well, I am a ghost, so I didn't.

"V-Vampires! Here?! We already saw a ghost woman... is this entire forest cursed? Wait, is this village of goblins? There's nothing! Ah! Could it be? Were they eaten by the vampires?!" Shouted Eric in horror, looking at the blood-covered Vampires, whose blood was actually their own, which they used to attack.



He also ate these pills. I would guess they were an easier way to drink mana potions... let's call them mana pills.

The other three Vampires quickly gathered together once more. The lackeys of Catarina flew to help her out but only received her fists as they were thrown away helplessly. This gorilla woman didn't want any help from them. In fact, she was extremely battle junkie-like, something you'll never expect of a Vampire, who are supposed to be refined and all of that crap, right?

I guess because she's kind of an Elite, they let her be as crazy as she comes. And our plan? Well, our plan is simple. We are going to stay here and watch them kill each other, and after that, we'll pick up whoever survived in the end! That's my master plan, not doing anything!

It was very convenient that these two idiots confronted one another, so let's see how the battle turns out.

Leon was surprisingly strong even without his damn ax and punched Catarina into the distance with utmost ease. I believe there might be a chance for him to win. Maybe... if he combines the holy light of priest Eric with his powerful blows, there might be a chance.

But then again, Catarina quickly recovered the HP she lost. She was a monster amongst monsters and a Vampiress to boot. Her regeneration speed was outstanding, even cutting her in half might not kill her as she'll just grow a new pair of legs.

And this was exactly why the Vampires were tough to kill. I had slain two of them because they were actually weak ass idiots, but this woman is different. She had actually trained herself and had reached the limits of strength that Vampires are able to reach, completely surpassing human common sense.

Her strength is capable of shaping the whole continent. Come on. She's just insane.

But Leon is just as insane of a man...

Two monsters.

A tigress against a lion... who will win?

I was spectating this with a smile. Although the situation was dire as hell, I couldn't help but feel motivated while looking at this.

"You're dead...." Catarina said, flying towards Leon in an instant.

Her Blood Aura encompassed her entire body, shaped as a groaning and angered wolf rather than the tigress I see her as.

"ROOOOARRRR!!!"

The massive Wolf made out of her Blood Aura roared loudly as it encompassed her entire body. Her strength was evolving once more and upgrading itself through the roof. She reached Leon and began to throw fists into his face right away.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

"Unnggh...!"

Leon was overwhelmed from the get-go, as the fists that Catarina was able to unleash were powerful and incredibly fast. He was left to her mercy as his face was twisting around in pain with each of her fists.

Was this hopeless for him from the very beginning? Damn, psycho mercenary, I am cheering for you!

"RRAAA!"

However, Leon quickly unleashed his aura, which was golden, the same color as the aura his axe had. Combining his muscle strength and his mastery in combat and then unleashing the various techniques and skills he had, he began intercepting Catarina's blows. The entire sky and earth shattered before their might, their clashes cracking their surroundings.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

Meanwhile, the three Priests and the other two Vampires looked at the scene in shock. Come on, do something too, you lazy asses! Priests, kill the damn Vampires. They're right there!

Eric was more intelligent and quickly got it. He began to gather magic and the man within him alongside his two surviving Priests, as the trio unleashed a combined spell, abusing how the Vampires were just looking and doing nothing at all.
FLASH!
A massive beam of holy light reached one floating in the sky!
"Eh?!"
BOOOOM!!!
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Eric and his duo of priests were smart at the end. They gathered their magic and mana and unleashed a combined spell, a destructive beam of holy light that was very straightforward but amazingly strong.
By utilizing their power, they quickly unleashed this beam over one of the Vampires, who were lazing around floating in midair, completely in a daze as they admired the fight like they were watching some show on TV. Hey idiots, this is real life. Snap out of it!
Of course, in the end, one of them was hit by the beam. He screamed in agony as his entire body was burned to a crisp. They seemed to be protecting themselves from sunlight by using some sort of special accessory that conjured a layer of mana over their bodies that reflected the light from hitting their skin. However, this blast of holy light wasn't going to abide by their rules. It easily pierced their protecting accessory and impacted him directly.
"Eh?!"
BOOOOMMM!!!

The Vampire could only say "eh?" before it was blasted into oblivion. His roasted body fell to the ground motionlessly as the other Vampire went insane.

Catarina didn't seem to even pay attention to this, clearly showing how she didn't care about her comrades.

What a cliché evil girl, I like her already! She fills in all the checkmarks.

Leon seemed to tease her as the two exchanged fists, kicks, and headbutts.

"Gahahahah! One of you down! That's a lot of money right there for me!" Laughed Leon.

"Hmph, why would I care about some flies?" Said Catarina, clearly angered at his provocation but not caring about the lives of her strong subordinates at all.

Meanwhile, Eric sighed in relief with his priests. As they looked at the dead Vampire while sneaking around, they couldn't get closer because the vampire was left near the main fight.

"I-I think it's dead...." Muttered Eric.

"Phew... But we didn't get any EXP...."

"Yeah..."

The priests pointed out something very important. Indeed, they didn't get any EXP because the Vampire wasn't dead yet. It took the hit head-on but didn't die and was actually slowly regenerating back to full health. This is how Vampires were. They had insane regeneration.

In a few more seconds, he would stand up again and fly back to the priest and his friends. But that wasn't going to be the case because yours truly will come to the rescue!

I flew upwards while ignoring the massive catastrophe going on between Catarina and Leon and caught the Vampire while it was slowly regenerating, as if in a comatose.

I quickly used my Death Skills and my powerful Death and Darkness Aura, merging several powers within me and the ability to manipulate mana and magic, and generated a deadly phantasmal hand, grasping the weakened Vampire's soul and pushing it out of his body!

"...!"

It couldn't even scream in agony because its entire body was charred, but the soul seemed very pained. It was fighting back not to get dragged out of its body, which would essentially mean one thing.

DEATH!

However, I was more relentless and malicious than it could have ever imagined. I pushed down the damn soul and grabbed it with all my strength. Its body was already too weak to resist, and then...!

"AAGGH...!"

The soul cried in agony now, as it had been taken away from his body.

An influx of EXP reached me right after that. It worked excellently. I had killed him! Talk about stealing the kill... I am such a cheater!

"Aaggh...! Uuuaaggh...! It hurts! I am burning! Burning!" The man cried.

He seemed to have grown traumatized as he was burned alive by the holy light of the priests' attack.

Suddenly, as I decided to drag him down with me so he wouldn't interfere or something, I realized the core of his soul was blazing with bright red light... what was this?



He pierced the chest of the only priestess left as she vomited a mouthful of blood. Damn! He was merciless even against the damsels. That's not how vampires are wait, it is.
"N-No! Rosetta!"
"Rosetta!"
Eric and a guy, the two priests left, cried as they saw the girl die miserably.
"A-Aggh"
The girl's despairing eyes looked at her master and her friend as she closed her eyes and died in that instant.
Well, I killed her. I dragged her soul down before she were to close her eyes and got the EXP hehe.
"Y-You damn bastards! You dare kill my friend My brother! Silvio! SILVIOOOOO!!!"
Francesco rushed forward in pure rage. His entire body was suddenly covered in an aura made up of shadows in the shape of countless bats. His roar made the entire floor tremble. He moved at an incredible speed befitting of a B+ Rank threat!
Eric gritted his teeth alongside his last priest. The two were ready to fight back!
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"SILVIOOOOO!!!"

Francesco went into a blind rage as the Vampire seemed to be his best friend or something damn... I am sorry for your loss, bro, but you got a whole life to live for now. You shouldn't charge recklessly against the ones that one-shot your friend so easily!

"Y-You damn demon!!!" Roared Eric.

"We'll burn you to death in the name of our God!" Roared the other priest.

The two fueled their mana once more as they swallowed all the pills they had left. Their magic danced around their bodies as two powerful auras of bright holy light emerged around their bodies.

Several magic circles emerged right after that, as the mana flowed into these magic circles and began to make them spiral around. Several wonderfully beautiful runes danced around as Francesco reached up to them before their magic could be unleashed.

A blast of holy light was fired, but it only damaged his stomach and blasted away his left arm, but he gritted his sharp teeth and reached the weaker, younger priest.

Eric opened his eyes wide in shock as he saw his last disciple die horrendously as Francesco's aura emerged out of his body like thousands of bloodthirsty black bats, opening their sharp jaws and tearing his entire body to pieces!

"Gyyyyaaaaaagggh...! Lord Eric!!!"

"Gustaaaav!" Eric cried in agony and horror as he saw his last comrade bite the dust.

The Vampire was barely managing to keep up after the wound and was feasting on the young boy's corpse while sucking his blood for nourishment. Eric saw as his arm and part of his torso quickly began to grow back.

However, Eric used this little opportunity to fight back with everything he had and tried to slay this evil of the world. He began to pray to his god as a mark in the form of a cross emerged in the middle of his forehead, his entire body emanating a holy light aura!

"Oh god of light, bless me with your holy sanctification! DIVINE PUNISHMENT!"

"Nngh?!"

Francesco tried to run away, but he suddenly felt as if gravity turned several times heavier all around him. His body fell over the floor, and his bones quickly started to crack, but that wasn't all. This wasn't actually some kind of gravity spell; no, the gravity was formed for something I had never seen anyone conjure before.

A massive yellow-gold magic circle emerged above Francesco as what seemed to be the gigantic foot of a statue emerged, covered in golden paintings and accessories. It rushed forward and fell over the Vampire, crushing him like a bug!

TRUUUUMMMM!!!

"G-Guuuuaaaaaaaggggghh...!"

Francesco groaned in agony as he was being squashed by the force of... who the heck is this?! Wait, the god of light himself?! How talented is Eric? This guy can actually just summon a part of his god!

The massive foot that was at least over 60 meters big crushed the entirety of the Vampire, squashing him down like a cockroach. But the entire impact was so immense that everything within a 100-meter radius began to crack open and fall. Eric himself couldn't balance and also fell to the own demise his spell had caused. Everyone fell into the massive pit, the squashed body of Francesco included!

BOOOOOOMMM!!!

Meanwhile, the gigantic foot stopped and suddenly retreated into the magic circle, as I managed to stick a ghost snake into it and send it inside the magic circle, which closed itself.

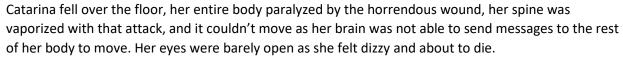
Welp, that's my recon.

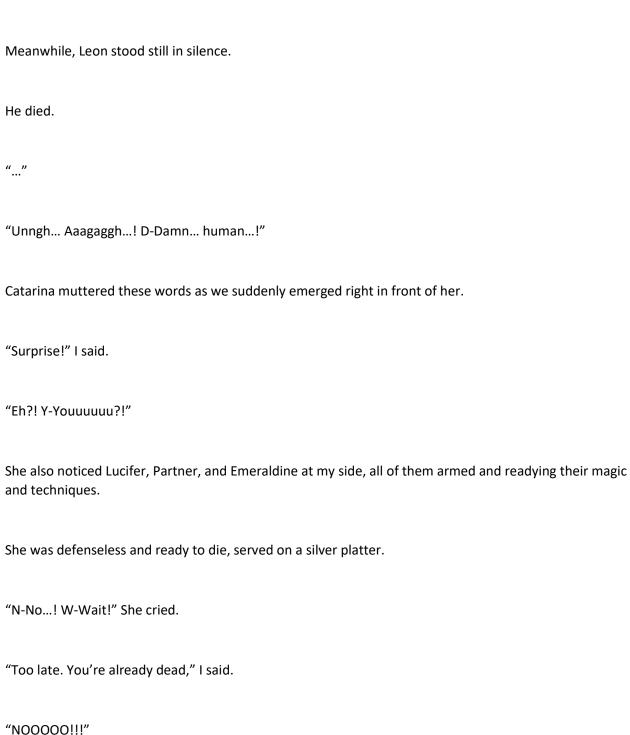
However, the ghost I sent there was suddenly greeted by a massive amount of light and died instantly. Alright then, no recon. I thought I could see the god of light, but I was wrong. I swiftly moved around the underground. I dragged down Francesco's soul and then Eric's soul, killing both right away using my powers. Companions? Who needs that? I can just kill guys with one shot now! Well, only if they're extremely weakened and near death... actually both survived in the end... well, not anymore. Meanwhile... Leon and Catarina continued to fight it off with all their might. Their blows shattered everything around as they saw that their companions had all died. "D-Damn it... the priests...!" Muttered Leon. "Hahaha! Your stupid little priests died in the end!" Laughed Catarina. "Nnggh...! They died honorably by taking down two of your pests from this world!!!" Roared Leon. Suddenly, all the golden power around his body was boosted through his Berserk Mode Skill to his very limits. He reached the apex of his strength, and in a single blow that Catarina had not expected, she received it out of nowhere. "W-What?!"

The massive fist reached her chest and pierced it in an instant. A massive amount of flesh and blood came out of the incredible explosion, as the golden aura of Leon glowed the brightest at that moment.

BOOOOOMMM!!!

## CLASH!





She screamed in agony as we all began to gang on her. Her entire body was torn apart as her head was sliced into pieces, burned by Lucifer's breath, punctured by Partner's spear, and grilled by Emeraldine's holy light!
"GRYYYYYYAAAAAAAAAAHHH!"
BOOOOMM!!!
Her entire head exploded into pieces, and so did all her body
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Ding!
[Calculating EXP gained]
[You gained 3600000 EXP]
[Your Level has increased from Level 1 to Level 2!]
[Your Level has increased from Level 2 to Level 3!]
[Your Level has increased from Level 3 to Level 4!]

[Your Level has increased from Level 4 to Level 5!]

[Your Level has increased from Level 5 to Level 6!]
[Your Level has increased from Level 6 to Level 7!]
[Your Level has increased from Level 7 to Level 8!]
[Your Level has increased from Level 8 to Level 9!]
[Your Level has increased from Level 26 to Level 27!]
[All your stats have increased!]
[You learned the [Merciless Assassin: Lv1] Title Skill!]
[You learned the [God of Light Nemesis: Lv1] Title Skill!]
[Several Skills have leveled up]
[Thanks to the effects of [Supreme Magic], some Magic-related Skills have awakened into superior versions!]
···
I gained two new Title Skills, and both of them sound super terrible! What's wrong with this System? Am I really such a Merciless person? And Huh? Am I the Nemesis of a God now? What's wrong with you,

god? You're picking on a little and humble ghost like me because I killed your devout? Seriously?

Asshole.

I also gained a whopping 27 levels, and this shows the insane amount of stats I gained in a single sitting. Well, that's good, and I am almost halfway through getting to max level and evolving again! Wow, talk about fast-paced progression... I am going to redefine the meta in this world.

But for now, let's check the new Title Skills.

...

[Merciless Assassin: Lv1]

A Title Skill bestowed upon a Merciless Assassin that has made a great amount of merciless killing, attacking people from behind by surprise, or killing them off when they're on the edge of death are good examples of what makes you a Merciless Assassin.

This Title enhances damage by +20% while doing Assassinations through sneaky ways with each level while also enhancing all your Stealth-based Skills.

...

Oho! This good is a godly one. I can already see that I am indeed a fucking bastard. How come I can do something so dishonorable as killing a person when they're at death's door? Well, you could say I am not merciless but in fact, incredibly benevolent! Indeed, what I am doing is the complete opposite of that. I am actually putting them out of their suffering.

...

[God of Light Nemesis: Lv1]

A Title Skill bestowed upon someone that has severely offended the God of Light. The God of Light has deemed your existence as his nemesis, and those that believe in him and worship him with their lives to his religion will persecute you as their ultimate enemy.

However, on the flip side, your damage dealt against all Holy and Light-type beings is enhanced by +100% with each level. This also includes all sorts of worshippers to the God of Light Religion.

Additionally, the more you slay, the stronger and more monstrous you will grow while attracting Gods opposing the God of Light...

...

What with this title, seriously?! This is creepy! I feel like the System is just being a creep right now. No, the God of Light! I mean, what's wrong with wanting to survive? I just killed the ones that came to kill my beloved goblin people... what's wrong with that?!

God of Light, you're telling me you expect those who are your worshipers' victims to simply sit down and let themselves get killed? Aren't you an incredibly biased little bastard?

Sheesh.

At the very least, with this, I can also deal even more damage to all of them, and it seems I will exponentially grow stronger the more holy people or creatures I kill. Sweet. Maybe I should just wipe out the entirety of the God of Light church, just like every typical cliché Isekai where the Church is actually the bad guys.

And lastly, this Title pretty much made me well known to all Gods. It seems that I will "bring attraction" to all Gods that oppose him, but I am sure that those that also ally with him will now look over my direction and say, "this bitch is insane" or something like that.

Okay, I should calm down and see the bright side of things. I've gotten stronger, and several Skills leveled up and evolved too! What's with that? Isn't that just amazing? Let's check my status.

...

[Name: [Maria Fuentes Belles]

[Race: [Gorgon]

[Job: [Dark Shadow Spectral Death Spirit Queen]

[Level: [01/60] - [27/60]

[EXP: 0/167000]

[Rank: [B+]

[Status: [Strengthened, Cursed]

[HP: [8500/8500] - [13900/13900]

[MP: [18500/18500] - [29300/29300]{+2720}

[Attack: [3200] - [4900]{+100}

[Defense: [3500] - [5100]

[Magic: [20000] - [30800]{+2617}

[Agility: [8500] – [13900]{+575}

Characteristic Skills:

[Unique Skill: Supreme Magic]

[Unique Skill: Mana Siphon]

[Unique Skill: System]
[Unique Skill: Goddess] (Sealed)
[Undead: Lv–]
[Dark Element: Lv–]
[Death Element: Lv–]
[Poison Element: Lv–]
[Elemental Spirit: Lv–]
[Fiend Language: Lv8]
[Shadow Sneak: Lv10] – [Shadow Transportation: Lv1]
[Abyssal Body: Lv7]
[Supernatural Senses: Lv5]
[Poison Body: Lv2]
Resistance Skills:
[Status Effect Immunity: Lv–]
[Magic Damage Resistance: Lv10] – [Greater Magic Damage Resistance: Lv1]

[Darkness Resistance: Lv8] [Fear Resistance: Lv8] [Elemental Resistance: Lv7] [Poison/Toxin/Venom Absorption: Lv-] Normal Skills: [Ghost Touch: Lv10] – [Phantasmal Grasp: Lv1] [Lesser Curse: Lv10] – [Greater Curse: Lv1] [Life Drain: Lv10] – [Life Absorption: Lv1] [Possession: Lv9] [Dark Sphere: Lv10] - [Dark Sun: Lv1] [Dark Gale: Lv10] - [Dark Storm: Lv1] [Shadow Spear Arrow: Lv8] [Materialized Shadow Barrier: Lv5]

[Shadow Manipulation: Lv9]

[Shadow Storage: Lv8]
[Undead Healing: Lv7]
[Fake Life: Lv9]
[Erase Presence: Lv6]
[Soul Eater: Lv6]
[Undead Detonation: Lv4]
[Stealth: Lv10] – [Masterful Stealth: Lv1]
[Summon: Lv6]
[Aura of Famine: Lv5]
[Disease and Poison Creation: Lv4]
[Pandora's Box: Lv4]
[Materialization: Lv7]
[Cooking: Lv3]
[Hunting: Lv3]
[Blade Slash: Lv4]

[Spirit Summon: Lv3]
[Shadow and Death Domain: Lv4]
[Gorgon's Five Cursed Eyes: Lv2]
[Gorgon's Transformation: Lv2]
[Split Thinking: Level 2]
Title Skills:
[The Dark Witch: Lv–]
[Dungeon Conqueror: Lv–]
[Big Game Slayer: Lv–]
[Taboo Mark: Lv–]
[Bringer of Misfortune: Lv8]
[Undead Queen: Lv7]
[Evil of the World: Lv5]
[Pickpocket: Lv5]

[Apprentice Swordsman: Lv5]
[Spirit Queen: Lv3]
[Spirit Mediator: Lv3]
[Poison Queen: Lv2]
[Merciless Assassin: Lv1]
[God of Light Nemesis: Lv1]
Divine Protections:
[Hel's Divine Protection]
Hmm, very good!
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I had glanced into my Status and found a lot of juicy stuff to enjoy from it. First of all, I ended up spending an awfully large amount of time doing absolutely nothing, which ended up making my party get exasperated.

"Maria, why are you standing there doing nothing?" Asked Lucifer.

"AH! I was checking out my Status" I said.
"But hurry up!" Said Lucifer.
"Don't hurry, Master!" Said Partner while furrowing her eyebrows back at Lucifer.
The Dragon sighed and simply ignored her.
"Ugh, do whatever you want then," He grumbled.
Anyways, ignoring the grumpy dragon, a large number of my Skills reached max level and evolved. Before this, my Dark Sphere had stayed at Lv10, but for some reason, it awakened now.
I've heard from somewhere that Skills need special conditions to awaken like undergoing special trials challenges, and more. Perhaps this entire thing was one? Or well, maybe the experience points pushed the Skills to awaken forcefully at the end.
I ended up laughing at the end, so it makes me the winner, despite having been a complete bastard and asshole throughout this fight.
Anyways, the Skills that awakened in the end were

The [Shadow Sneak: Lv10] Skill became the [Shadow Transportation: Lv1] Skill. This one skill was a direct upgrade to it. Shadow Sneak lets me become one with the shadows and travel through them as if I were swimming through them. I can transport through shadows even faster with this new upgrade, perhaps several times as fast. It seems that I can even do some short-range teleportation through shadows within my vicinity, but nothing too crazy like going to the other side of the world yet.

The [Magic Damage Resistance: Lv10] Skill became the [Greater Magic Damage Resistance: Lv1] Skill. This was a direct and flat increase, granting me even more resistance to magic damage, and I am a magic tank.

The [Ghost Touch: Lv10] Skill became the [Phantasmal Grasp: Lv1] Skill. Now, this was interesting. The Phantasmal Grasp was upgraded to allow me to grasp souls even more easily than Ghost Touch, which was usually a fear-inducing skill that doesn't do much unless you get creative with it. Oh yeah, Phantasmal Grasp is the ability I used to pull out souls from near-dying bodies.

The [Lesser Curse: Lv10] Skill became the [Greater Curse: Lv1] Skill. Now my curse had become more potent and cannot be easily resisted through Resistance Skills, although Immunities will always work against them. Also, spells that dispel curses become not so effective.

The [Life Drain: Lv10] Skill became the [Life Absorption: Lv1] Skill. A greater version of Life Drain that lets me directly absorb the life out of someone at a fast pace. It increases its speed when I touch them. If I could use it on someone not so strong, I could drain them out and leave them like dry mummies in an instant.

The [Dark Sphere: Lv10] Skill became the [Dark Sun: Lv1] Skill. Now this one was great, the Dark Sphere of the beginnings had now become a Dark Sun, and its size is around 3 to 10 meters. I can adjust it to my liking... and well, 3 meters is an immense attack if it's just a ball of darkness... But that's not exactly it. This thing is not just a ball of obscurity now, it is a Sun for something, and well, it is because it is now covered with Black Flames, which are like some kind of advanced form of Phantom Flame that can consume life, mana, and even souls rapidly, and is very hard to turn off unless light magic is used... so this attack had indeed become deadly beyond belief.

The [Dark Gale: Lv10] Skill became the [Dark Storm: Lv1] Skill. Instead of a gale of dark winds that can cut through stuff, I can generate a storm out of these dark winds and throw it at someone, slicing through their bodies with the power of darkness and even cursing them in the process. I have become a monster through and through.

The [Stealth: Lv10] Skill became the [Masterful Stealth: Lv1] Skill. Lastly, Masterful Stealth is just what you expected, a Masterful way of using Stealth... Yep, that's it.

What? It's just a better Stealth!

"And done... I got many Skills awakened, so I was taking a look at them," I said.

We were currently moving back to the caravan at a steady and slow pace. We had grabbed all the corpses and cleansed the scene of the crime by burning it all with fire courtesy of a new pair of friends, and then we moved forward.

I had plans with the corpse of Catarina and the Vampires, including the corpses of all the other guys. They were, of course, becoming my Undead servants, and I've even caught all their souls and have resisted the impulse of eating them up just because I am an amazingly benevolent woman.

Oh, and about the two new buddies we got... well, it could be said it is two rejected Vampires that were more like the victims in all of this. Their boss was really an asshole, to be honest...

"Maria, are you okay? Are your feet not sore? Let me carry you,"

"I can do it too, Silvio! Please, Maria..."

Two handsome-looking ghosts made entirely out of blazing red fire looked at me charmingly, and they wanted to carry me for some reason...

"Ugh, no guys, I am fine as I am," I said.

"And who do you think you are?! If there is someone that would carry her, it is of course me! Not some puny former vampires," Said Lucifer.

"What? That would be me, not you! I am Master's favorite!" Said Partner.

"F-Favorite?!" Exclaimed Emeraldine in shock.

"C-Calm down... Nobody is my favorite. I love you all equally," I said.

"W-What? Then you don't love me enough...?" Asked Partner.

"Eh? No, I mean!" I muttered.
"You three! Stop at once! Maria requires a bit of personal space," Said Silvio.
"Indeed!" Said Francesco.
"Who are you now?! her bodyguards?!" Shouted Partner while raising an eyebrow.
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Chapter 149
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Well, what happened with the former B Rank Vampires Silvio and Francesco, that formerly served Catarina and the Vampires behind the entire conspiracy of the Fragment of Evil? Well, they were turned into Fire Ghosts because they were burned alive by the powerful light of the God of Light from the priests!
Well, one of them, but the other was still crushed by his blazing fist of justice, so it counts.

When I caught the two souls as I killed them for the EXP, they were all freaking out, saying stuff like "It burns! It burns! Greeagaaaggaagg!" and stuff like that. It was very unsettling to see them, but I also found that within them the trauma of fire was intense...

I don't know if it was just because of their deaths, but the two were actually buddies from before and had trauma with flames. Apparently, after learning a bit from their memories that I checked out, the two had a very tragic past.

Indeed, before they were turned into Vampires by the Vampire Clan, they were normal human kids, two friends that lived in the slums, and they were orphans since they had memories of themselves.

Silvio and Francesco were used to surviving in the slums, horrendously scrapping for food every day, until they committed the mistake of trying to rob people. A grave mistake.

Horrendous people caught them, and they were punished not by having their hands cut off but by having the hands of their "thievery" burned by blazing swords.

What the heck is wrong with these people?

They were not released after that; they were sold as slaves "to make up for the money" they lost by having some apples being stolen. Clearly these fat asses were just psychos.

And they were sold as slaves into another psycho that forced them to work in large fields and crops with barely a bit of moldy bread and water a day, while they were being whipped each time they couldn't move.

It all ended when the entire manor suddenly was engulfed in flames when the owner fell asleep near a candle, which dropped to the floor and... well, it set everything ablaze.

All the slaves he had burned alive, but he managed to escape. And two of those kids were the two former vampires beside me.

But then someone showed up at the ruins and found out the kids were still somehow alive, barely hanging on.

He dropped some fresh blood from his finger into their mouths, made them gulp it, and the two kids quickly turned into Vampires. Being burned alive, they developed natural fire resistance. Something Vampires usually don't have.

This made them useful day agents.

Incidentally, Catarina was also the same and went through the same. She was part of the kids there, the third one that survived.

Because of their uniqueness of having high-leveled Fire Resistance, they were able to walk in the sun while barely suffering any burns on their skin and became day agents to solve problems at day where Vampires couldn't show up due to their natural weakness to the sunlight.

The artifacts they had still enhanced this resistance a bit, but I learned that they wouldn't work properly without the resistance, to begin with.

I suppose this is why Catarina was so twisted... the two remember that she was constantly abused by their owner, whipped out, and probably... violated several times.

I... I felt so sad for them that I couldn't really eat their souls, even if they had done bad things afterward, like assassinating innocents.

I instead decided to turn these two Vampires into Ghosts through the use of Fake Life into them. The two quickly turned into Flame Ghosts, D Ranked Undead. They were not as strong as before, but they might have potential.

After being converted, they were "guided" by my Undead Queen Skill Title, and this made them regain a part of their sanity, alongside acquiring a very strong devotion towards me...

And well, about Catarina... she's sleeping for now. Well, her soul is. Her body was torn to shreds, but unlike these guys, I plan to bring her back to her body after I heal it using Undead Healing because if she had such amazing physical strength, it most likely means she could become a very strong ally.

So I am going to stitch her back and then bring her as a Zombie or something. That'll do for her. She was very insane and rude to me, but I am willing to forgive her because I am just an amazing person, of course... I am a generous goddess!

Okay, enough egocentric thoughts for a little bit, time to cool down my head, and... ugh, deal with real life.

"Ahem, you guys should calm down a bit. You're also violating my personal space, Silvio, Francesco," I sighed.

The two former Vampires raised their eyebrows in surprise to this realization as they flew aside from me just around two meters.
"I apologize, lady Maria. I was a bit rude myself too," Sighed Silvio.
He was a softer man.
"Indeed. But we are aware that these three "friends" of you really want something else so we must also procure our lady's safety," Said Francesco.
"S-Something else?!" Exclaimed Emeraldine in shock once again.
"W-What if that's the case? It's nothing of your incumbency, vampires!" Shouted Partner.
"I think the same. You two are newbies in the party, so don't you dare order us around," Said Lucifer.
The three were fighting with the duo a lot. It was getting exasperating to the point of insanity.
"Okay, cut it out! Silvio, Francesco, you two erm, go to my shadows for now. Go sleep with Catarina," I said.
"V-Very well, if that's what you desire" Said Silvio.
"On it, my lady. But be careful of this trio. I sense some perverted emotions within their auras"  Muttered Francesco.
The two flew into my shadows as things finally calmed down.

"Ugh, I am not taking them out until we get to a new place, or we really need them," I sighed.

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After the entire ordeal that just happened, we moved back to the former village area to find it completely in ruins. However, I packed everything there was in there into my Inventory with ease. This inventory is really convenient. I can store even giant houses and whatnot without any issues.

The goblins and the rest of the people of the village had already been evacuated with the caravan clones, and Undead I left there on standby. Things seem to be peaceful there, but some people are still unconscious inside the shadow storage dimension.

"Catarina really left a massive change in the entire landscape... She was really crazy," Said Emeraldine.

"Indeed, her strength was... amazing," Said Lucifer.

"She shook the entire landscape and even changed its shape...." Sighed Partner.

"I wonder if she'll get all the strength back if you recover her body... It's not likely, as we tore it to shreds... But I think it would be better to just give her a new body, wouldn't it?" Suggested Emeraldine.

"Hmm... No, I want her to be a strong tank...." I said.

"What about the other guy's souls?" Asked Lucifer.

"Ah, they are not even budging to me. Even Catarina seemed tamed, but these guys are...." I sighed.

I looked into another side of my shadows and found a group of souls angrily looking at me.

"Free me at once, you abominable evil! I know you're against the God of Light. I can feel it in you!" Shouted Eric's soul.



"Eh?! No way! They're just monsters Right?"
"Apparently, they aren't now!"
"How come?"
"We had always been taught that Majin were just monsters with a bit of intelligence, which made them deadlier"
"So even society teaches every person that Majin are not people anymore? Well, that sucks I guess you guys don't have that much of a fault, but you still did terrible shit Hey, I just checked your mind What the heck is wrong with you? You violated like ten people! Ugh, what's wrong with this world and everyone being a rapist?" I sighed.
"Aghghhh!"
I grabbed his soul and crushed it into bits.
The rest of the souls looked with horror, screaming in fear over the thought of being punished for the sins that their very religions didn't even punish.
"Yeah bitch, you thought that doing such awful things to Majin wasn't going to bite you in the back one of these days? You're clearly a retard," I sighed once again.
"Y-You're a monster!"
"Monster!!!"
"H-How can she destroy souls?!"

"That's something only gods can do!"
"Well then, from now on, call me Goddess Maria! I am going to fucking wreck each one of you if I discover you did fucked up shit like this in your lives, so prepare your asses," I said.
And like this, as we moved back to the caravan, I checked each one's souls and crushed over half of them.
"So you actually burned alive a Succubus girl with her children in her arms? You're a real bastard,"
"I-I didn't know they were people! I-I needed the moneyyyyyyy!"
CRASH!
"Oh, so you broke all those eggs from Harpies after selling the mothers to slavers? Alright"
"H-Harpies are monsters! W-What are you talking about?!"
CRASH!
"You fucking trash, so you enjoy doing such horrendous things to children? You're dead."
"S-Stop! I-I was tempted! GRRYYYEEEEEGGH!"
CRASH!
"Oh, Eric! So you're a kiddy fiddler, huh? Fucking disgusting old man Elderlight was at least not so fucked up" I sighed.
"T-Those children tempted me! I-I didn't have anything do with thaaaaaaaaatttttt!"

## CRASH!

Piles after piles of crushed souls emerged one after another. I was getting more and more bitter as I learned how terrible these people were. The three Vampires had not even done 10% of the horrendous things these guys did. They had only just killed people they were paid to, and most of the time swiftly, but what did these fuckers do? Torture, slave selling, raping, killing babies, oh my god... by everything that is sacred in this world, what is wrong with these people?

I feel like every time I read their minds I get more and more insane. This by itself is torture to my mind.

Resentment is only growing bigger inside of my soul as I slay the worshippers of the God of Light and realize that the title is already getting in effect. I also suddenly noticed my powers skyrocketing, and even my soul was growing more solid, but also more monstrous.

When I finished, my entire soul was shaped like a massive sea of darkness with countless crimson-red eyes crying blood... there were tentacles everywhere and large jaws stretching wherever you could see.

I looked at this, but instead of feeling disgusting, I felt it was just what I was right now...

Ugh.

"M-Maria, are you feeling alright? Y-your aura..." Muttered Lucifer.

"Master?" Muttered Partner.

"Maria!" Exclaimed Emeraldine.

"I-I am fine... Nngh... I just have to suck it up like I always do... Haha..."

I reabsorbed all the monstrosity growing inside of me. And as it quickly went back inside of me, I sealed it tightly within layers of phantom, so it wouldn't get out so easily anymore.

"Phew! Sorry about that! Alright, we are just there! How about we have a nice dinner? I am starving!" I shouted.