

## A Ghost 31

### Chapter 31

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Allen looked at me while trembling in fear before answering me thoroughly.

"I don't know why you don't remember your past, but... You were known as the Dark Witch. Wherever you went, you spread misfortune everywhere... Although most of it ended being plots made by aristocrats and enemies of your family... I-I myself ended colluding with them, and with their help, we apprehended you and used your death as a way to take hold of the masses... I-I had no other option! If I didn't cooperate, they would have targeted my family and me!"

So it was like that! My death was orchestrated as a way to gain a grasp over the population of this rotten place?

"Are those aristocrats of this Duchy?"

"T-There are some...." Allen said.

"And who was the one that pulled the trigger for the guillotine?" I asked.

"T-That was a random soldier... He was paid to do it...."

Ugh, what a pain, now I have to look for this random guy...

Well, I'm fine with just killing those behind this.

"Who are all the aristocrats involved in this? Answer thoroughly, or you'll become the food for my cat!" I said as Kuro roared like a fierce panther.

"GROAR!"

“Gyeeeehh! O-Okay! I’ll tell you! Just don’t kill me!”

Allen was a very detailed and helpful man. He even wrote down an entire list of all those involved in it, where they lived, the name of their families, and even what they worked in! Such a nice man, honestly!

He gave me the papers, and I saved them in my Inventory. I also stole all the money he had, which were millions of gold coins, alongside his books and a lot of other things I took a liking to. The man was becoming more and more nervous as he saw how I was throwing everything inside my inventory.

“Y-You... Have you mastered spatial magic?!” Allen asked.

“Erm... Yeah!” I responded.

And after we were done...

“Now, you’ve been such a nice boy... I guess I should forgive your life,” I said.

“Hahh... T-Thank you...” Allen sighed in relief.

I had decided not to kill him, so we slowly walked away.

...

Joking!

“GYEEH?!”

We stopped moving as Lucifer moved at an incredible speed, grasping the man's neck. He had no way to counter such a powerful servant as Lucifer, and even as he tried to fight back by throwing a water bullet...

SPLASH!

But that only wet Lucifer's clothes.

I guess he wasn't good at magic.

Lucifer lifted him off the floor, glaring at him with eyes filled to the brim with scorn.

"I have a grudge with you humans, specifically you, the descendants of those that lived here... Your ancestors took our young and even the Demon King's daughter. You filthy and dishonorable race of monkeys! I have nothing but scorn against you humans..." He confessed.

"Geeggh...! W-What are you talking aboutttt?!" Allen cried out.

"Eh? What happened?" I asked to Lucifer, I wanted to know more.

"..."

However, Lucifer fell silent, as he didn't answer. I guess he doesn't want to tell me.

"Alright, kill him," I said.

He smiled maliciously before his face suddenly began to shapeshift into the monstrous jaws of a dragon.

Allen glanced at the abyssal maws of Lucifer filling his being with fear.

“W-Wait! WAAAAIIITTT!”

“I will feast on your flesh and blood!” Laughed Lucifer as he... ate the entire Duke in a single bite.

CRUNCH!

“GRYYEEREGGEGHHH...!”

His last agonizing cry was heard inside of Lucifer’s jaws as he used his sharp teeth to triturate his entire body while he was alive.

After a few bites, he crushed him into minced meat and swallowed it all... Afterward, he turned back to his humanoid form.

“Ugh, such a disgusting taste,” He muttered.

“Well, that was something! I was planning on killing him myself, but I guess you had more joy out of it,” I said.

“Indeed... It did feel good. Now, what shall we do? Do you want to go on a hunt?” asked Lucifer, cleaning the blood off his lips.

He looked sexy; I have to admit it.

I saw the Duke’s soul wandering in the room though, he seemed horrified and traumatized by his death.

However, he couldn’t speak as he seemed to have become something akin to a zombie.

“Here’s his soul. Want to eat it?” I asked.

“No, eating a soul is a taboo- EH?!”

I grabbed the Duke’s soul and slurped it like a noodle.

“GGYYAAAGH!”

And he was gone!

“Taboo?” I asked.

Ding!

[You have learned the [Soul Eater: Lv1] Skill]

[You have acquired the [Taboo Mark: Lv–] Title Skill]

“Never mind, I guess such beliefs don’t apply to monsters,” Lucifer said.

Ding!

[You’ve gained 1500 EXP!]

[EXP: [2656/2600]

[Your level has increased from level 17 to level 18!]

Eh? I even got EXP and two Skills from eating this bastard? Nice, a double prize!

And... ugh.

I think I got his memories.

So annoying...

I moved them away and archived them as folders into my mind, so they wouldn't influence me.

And... done!

He gave me an awful lot of EXP.

I think I got it from when Lucifer killed him, plus eating his soul, so I guess you can get double EXP if you destroy the soul of your enemy as well as his body... Interesting.

[Soul Eater] seems to be a spell of the Death Magic category.

It helps me eat souls and assimilate their components into my own, including powers or even memories.

Of course, he was so talentless that I didn't get many stats out of him, but the EXP was nice... I even leveled up, after all.

"Well, I am ready for it. The night is still quite young. Let's go in a hunt!" I shouted.

"Hmph, very well...."

"Hunt! Hunt!" Partner chanted.

"Mrao!"

After that, I decided to make some Spells that could help me carry them around with me aside from [Summon].

But I realized that my [Shadow Manipulation] could hold things inside, although it wasn't as organized and endless as my Inventory...

And then, with my cheat Supreme Magic...!

Ding!

[You've learned the [Shadow Storage: Lv1] Skill]

Hehehe...!

"Hop in!"

Everyone jumped into my shadow before I carried them around while I moved in the darkness of the night using [Shadow Sneak].

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Chapter 32

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I looked at the sunrise from the horizon.

It had been around five hours since we finished our work in town. We spent the five hours after killing Allen hunting down the three Aristocrats that conspired with him into this whole ordeal.

We found out a lot about the schemes they had with my family, and it seemed that they were the holders of a special treasure and tons of money, so they wanted to fuck them over and bring them to ruin, which started with taking my life.

Maria, well, my past self, which I don't remember, actually was a happy-go-lucky Adventure girl. She wasn't bad, nor was her reputation either. She was also heroic and charismatic, going around town to town after defeating monsters and diving into dungeons with other Adventurers.

She had even become a D-Rank Adventurer and was soon raised into a C-Rank Adventurer. But everything went downhill when one of her party members died in an accident, and another party member blamed Maria for her curse, something only a few knew about as she was born with it.

The guy that blamed her seemed to have been a close aristocrat kid of her childhood... To think that due to him, her death would be orchestrated till the very end. It just feels so bitter knowing I cannot even remember my past. Yet, I am also relieved I don't remember it, or... I wouldn't really be the same as I am now.

So many tragedies...

It's been years since I died, and my family was caught in the aristocrats' plans and walked right into their hands... My family was assimilated into them, and they got their hands on my family's enormous wealth and treasure which was said to be something left by the Dark God, a Fragment of Evil which was sealed long ago by Heroes.

Apparently, my family are descendants of heroes... Sheesh.

The last thing they knew about my parents is that both died in an "accident" while traveling to another duchy.

A group of bandits assaulted them and killed them. The corpse of my mother was found violated and disfigured with punches and kicks all over her body. My father had his limbs cut off and was burned alive.

...

Even though I don't remember them, I can't help but feel a wave of unquenchable wrath.

Rotten...

Lucifer was right!

All these bastards...

Humans are the worst!

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...No.

I can't generalize... There is always good and bad people in this world.

Well, there are other things I can think about to calm myself.

Such as... it seems that I have a young brother.

I don't know where he is.

The last thing they knew about him was that his aunt had taken him and moved to another duchy...

My brother's name was Arthur Belle.

I will find him.

I have to.

I feel responsible for the past Maria, so I have to do this for her.

I cannot let this boy die...

I hope he's okay...

Ugh.

Oh right, the Fragment of Evil was moved towards the capital of the Kingdom, so if I want to get back the treasure of my family that our ancestors left for us to guard, I will have to wage war against the whole nation.

Fine by me.

And... there was someone else.

A guy. The guy that cried for me when I was executed.

He wasn't my brother, by the way.

Apparently, he was my closest childhood friend, Jonathan Albraun, who was coincidentally the stepbrother of Allen.

His whereabouts are unknown, but it was said that he mourned my death every day and came to visit my grave regularly...

He used to be a bright man, but after my death, he changed.

He disappeared two years ago; some had said he went to find a way to revive me.

This whole scheme against my family was bigger than I thought.

It didn't simply involve a group of aristocrats. It even involved the King and the royal family.

All for this damn Fragment of Evil...

You damn bastards...

"I am going to burn this Kingdom to the ground," I muttered.

Lucifer looked at me expressionlessly.

"Hmph, so you've decided,"

"Indeed..."

"Burn! Let's burn it all!" Partner cries out.

Agh... Let's calm down for now.

We had already run away from the Duchy and were resting far away, in a very open forest, sitting on a log.

Lucifer, Partner, and Kuro were enjoying roasted Wild Boar, an E-Rank monster we hunted just now.

I gained EXP from slaughtering the other two Aristocrats and eating their souls as well.

I also killed their guards because, on one occasion, they spotted me. But with that and the boar, I had maxed out my level cap again.

Also, there were some confusing things about the System that I didn't know about. Apparently, you keep your level sometimes after evolving, if the evolution is not strong enough, and other times it goes back to 1.

Kuro's level went back to 1 after evolving, while Partner had kept her level 10. Now, she was also maxed too and she was about to evolve as well.

Ugh... I feel all bitter and gloomy now, fitting of a ghost...

"\*SIGH\* ..."

"You're still sad?" asked Lucifer.

"Don't be sad!" Partner said.

"I-I am fine... I just... Ugh, it is not nice to know so much horrible stuff right away," I muttered.

"Hm... I understand how you feel. I've lost everything as well... But now, this is a new beginning. We have to strive forward, survive, and avenge the fallen... I am sure that if their souls were intact, that they must have been cleansed of their memories and reincarnated through the wheel of reincarnation... Let us pray for their second lives to be better than their previous ones," Lucifer tried to comfort me.

"Pray?"

"We all follow a god or pray to them in this world. Praying to Hel, the Goddess of Death, is often a good way to ask for the souls of the fallen to have better reincarnations,"

“I see... I hope they can be okay... wherever they are....”

“I am... sure... they will!” Partner shouted before hugging me.

“Aww... Partner, you’re so sweet! Not like that grumpy dragon that doesn’t hug me!”

“W-Why would I hug you?!” Lucifer shouted.

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### Chapter 33

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Partner was rubbing on me cutely. Her lovely and cold embrace calmed my agitated non-existent heart.

“Phew... Thank you, sweetheart. I think I feel a bit better now.”

“Better? I’m glad!”

Partner suddenly rubbed her nose with my own.

“Fweh?”

This is so cute!

“Partner, you’re way too precious!”

I hugged her back as Lucifer looked at us with a tired expression.

“What’s wrong? Feel excluded? Fueheh...”

"I-I am fine by my own!" said Lucifer while crossing his arms.

"Come here, grumpy dragon!"

I rushed over to him and hugged him. He seemed angry as he pouted at me. But he was getting embarrassed and as red as a tomato, which was even funnier because of how pale his skin originally was.

"S-Stop! I don't require any affection! I am an Undead. WE are Undead! Don't you understand? W-We are beings born from death! We must embrace the darkness and- Uagh!"

I began to rub his beautiful black horns; they were very hard, and I could feel like they could make an excellent crafting material.

"S-Stop touching my horns!" He cried.

"I am your master, so I can do whatever I please!" I laughed.

"Ungh...!"

Lucifer's lips trembled cutely as he looked at the floor, embarrassed.

Partner got jealous, though...

"Ggrrrr..." She began to show off her sharp fangs at Lucifer.

"Stop looking at me like that! S-Seriously, what kind of fate worse than death is this? Ugh, I should have just asked you to kill me...." Lucifer sighed.

“Oh, these pointy ears are pretty cute too!”

I began to touch his cute elf-like pointy ears. They were soft and cold as ice.

“T-This is sexual harassment!” He cried out.

“Fuehehe... There’s no law for the dead!”

...

After teasing the prideful dragon for a bit, I decided to evolve. Well, Partner evolved first.

“Evolve!”

Partner raised her arms upwards, and as soon as she shouted, phantasmal energies gathered around her as her body was “upgraded”.

FLAAAASSSHHH!

Her skin turned less dry and gained a bit more youthfulness, her hair was also less dry, and her eyes shone with crimson-red light.

Her aura emanated something off, though, as if she was imbued with darkness and evilness.

Her skin was made pale white, and I could now see her eyes better beneath her messy black hair.

“I have evolved!” She cried out, with a more articulated way of speaking.

She had clearly grown stronger!

“T-This can’t be...! D-Rank already?! And is that... Ah! I’ve never seen one of them evolve naturally... And you said she used to be a skeleton? What are the odds?!” Lucifer pondered out loud due to his disbelief, though I didn’t know what he was even talking about.

I checked her status on my own.

...

[Name: [Partner]

[Race: [Dark Dhampir Knightess]

[Level: [1/30]

[Rank: [D+]

[Status: [Strengthened]

[HP: [530/530]

[MP: [230/230]

[Attack: [480]

[Defense: [350]

[Magic: [105]

[Agility: [280]

Characteristic Skills:

[Undead: Lv-]

[Dark Element: Lv-]

[Blood Element: Lv-]

[Dhampir: Lv-]

[Fiend Language: Lv4]

[Black Steel Bones: Lv6]

[Morphed Body: Lv4]

[Self-Regeneration: Lv4]

[Flesh Consumption: Lv4]

[Bloodsucking: Lv1]

Resistance Skills:

[Status Effect Immunity: Lv-]

[Physical Damage Resistance: Lv5]

[Magical Damage Resistance: Lv4]

Normal Skills:

[Life Drain: Lv5]

[Bone Claw: Lv6]

[Intimidation: Lv5]

[Spear Thrust: Lv5]

[Triple Thrust: Lv3]

[Dark Bullet: Lv2]

[Dark Spear Thrust: Lv3]

[Steady Fighter: Lv4]

[Spear Mastery: Lv1]

[Armor Mastery: Lv1]

[Acrobatics: Lv1]

[Phantasmal Hand: Lv1]

[Bloodwork: Lv1]

[Blood Arts: Lv1]

Title Skills:

[Servant of the Dark Witch: Lv-]

[Death Knight: Lv-]

[Blood Race: Lv-]

...

When I checked her stats, I was left a bit speechless.

I can see why Lucifer would grow scared; she had gotten stronger than him!

Well, after he leveled up, he got a ton of stats, so they are almost even, but she's still stronger.

Her stats had increased by quite a lot, and she got an enormous quantity of new Skills too! Her race also changed into a Dark Dhampir Knightess! What?!

"Blood... I crave blood!"

Partner moved towards me and bit me in the neck, but no blood came out.

"Partner, I don't have blood."

“Oohh... Sniff...”

Damn, she really wanted to drink my blood.

Anyways, it seems that she had stepped into a lower race of the evolution tree that god damn Vampires have, for some reason.

I don't know how she really did it, but she did it. Maybe being my subordinate really expanded her evolution options, and she chose the strongest, which was her current form.

I asked her about this too, as she was now able to talk more eloquently.

“When... I was a skeleton... I think there were more options... Like... Big skeleton... But I chose the other so I could have flesh... And this evolution... it was the strongest,” She explained to me.

So that's why! It seems that Dhampirs have their weaknesses as Vampires lessened because she clearly does not have such weaknesses. She can also control blood, and her Spear Technique had become quite powerful. And, of course, she got cuter.

So overall... 10/10.

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Chapter 34

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After Partner's evolution, I looked at my own stats before my own evolution...

...

[Name: [Maria Fuentes Belles]

[Race: [Abyssal Ghost Queen]

[Level: [12/20] – [20/20]

[EXP: [56/2800]

[Rank: [D]

[Status: [Strengthened, Cursed]

[HP: [160/160 – 380/380]

[MP: [860/860 – 1470/1470]{+520}

[Attack: [86 – 174]{+100}

[Defense: [82 – 157]

[Magic: [770 – 1370]{+317}

[Agility: [160 – 450]{+125}

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-]

[Fiend Language: Lv3]

[Shadow Sneak: Lv4]

[Abyssal Body: Lv1]

Resistance Skills:

[Status Effect Immunity: Lv-]

[Magic Damage Resistance: Lv4]

[Darkness Resistance: Lv3]

[Fear Resistance: Lv3]

Normal Skills:

[Ghost Touch: Lv5]

[Lesser Curse: Lv5]

[Life Drain: Lv5]

[Possession: Lv4]

[Dark Sphere: Lv6]

[Dark Gale: Lv5]

[Shadow Spear Arrow: Lv1]

[Shadow Manipulation: Lv1]

[Shadow Storage: Lv1]

[Undead Healing: Lv1]

[Fake Life: Lv4]

[Erase Presence: Lv1]

[Soul Eater: Lv1]

[Stealth: Lv5]

[Summon: Lv1]

Title Skills:

[The Dark Witch: Lv-]

[Dungeon Conqueror: Lv-]

[Big Game Slayer: Lv-]

[Bringer of Misfortune: Lv3]

[Undead Queen: Lv 1]

[Taboo Mark: Lv-]

Divine Protections:

[Hel's Divine Protection]

...

Hmm, I look pretty fine as I am now.

Let's see how more amazing I can get by evolving now!

[Evolution Options]

[Abyssal Shadow Ghost Queen]

[Abyssal Phantom Ghost Queen]

[Pandora]

...

Hm? There are two clear upgrades to my current evolution, and then... Just Pandora.

Alright...

What the hell is Pandora, and why is the name so simple compared to the other two?

...

[Pandora]

A never seen before Astral-type Undead monster that is only spoken in ancient myths and legends of the Majin Race.

It is said that these phantasmal creatures bring calamity, famine, and death wherever they go, and their existences are like Pandora's box that unleashes all evil into the world.

Only on incredibly rare occasions, an Abyssal Ghost Queen will be able to undergo evolution into this race. And whoever it is, it will most likely change the world as it is...

...

Wow. Reading the other evolutionary descriptions, I realized they don't sound as awesome. Alright! I have decided.

Ding!

[You've selected the [Pandora] Evolution Option!]

FLAAAAASH!

An explosion of phantasmal power crawled up my body, consuming me and engulfing me in complete darkness. My entire body exuded this darkness as more of it came out endlessly.

\*Creeaak...!\*

Suddenly, I heard as if a very creaky door opened inside of my soul, and a large amount of black clouds filled with poison were released from me, fusing back into my soul and upgrading it even more...

"What the heck is going on now?!"

Lucifer was so scared he moved away a bit.

"Master! Big! Big!"

Partner began to raise her arms while looking at me.

POOF!

The evolution ended with a loud explosion of black smoke releasing everywhere. This smoke was poisonous and killed all the plants and tiny creatures that lived in the vicinity.

"Oh boy! I evolved already...."

Ding!

[You've evolved into [Pandora]!]

[All your stats have increased!]

[You learned the [Aura of Famine: Lv1], [Disease and Poison Creation: Lv1], [Pandora's Box: Lv1], [Materialization: Lv1] and [Elemental Resistance: Lv1] Skills!]

[You acquired the [Evil of the World: Lv1] Title Skill!]

"Evil of the World?! Seriously? I am that unique? I was just reborn as a ghost like half a week ago...."

"W-What have you become?" asked Lucifer.

"Pandora," I said.

"Pandora? ...I-Impossible! THAT Pandora?! From the Majin's tales?! It was real?" Lucifer shouted, shocked by my single word.

"I am real, so yeah," I said.

"Incredible..."

"Fueheh, you're finally admiring my greatness?" I asked.

"W-Well... Maybe..."

"Don't worry. I am a very humble Pandora! Ah?"

I suddenly realized that I got a lot of new Skills... Let's see them in my status first!

...

[Name: [Maria Fuentes Belles]

[Race: [Pandora]

[Level: [0/40]

[EXP: [0/4000]

[Rank: [C+]

[Status: [Strengthened, Cursed]

[HP: [380/380 – 420/420]

[MP: [1470/1470 – 3200/3200]{+520}

[Attack: [174 – 200]{+100}

[Defense: [157 – 180]

[Magic: [1370 – 2800]{+317}

[Agility: [450 – 650]{+125}

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-]

[Fiend Language: Lv5]

[Shadow Sneak: Lv6]

[Abyssal Body: Lv3]

Resistance Skills:

[Status Effect Immunity: Lv-]

[Magic Damage Resistance: Lv6]

[Darkness Resistance: Lv5]

[Fear Resistance: Lv4]

[Elemental Resistance: Lv1]

Normal Skills:

[Ghost Touch: Lv6]

[Lesser Curse: Lv6]

[Life Drain: Lv6]

[Possession: Lv5]

[Dark Sphere: Lv7]

[Dark Gale: Lv6]

[Shadow Spear Arrow: Lv2]

[Shadow Manipulation: Lv2]

[Shadow Storage: Lv2]

[Undead Healing: Lv2]

[Fake Life: Lv5]

[Erase Presence: Lv2]

[Soul Eater: Lv2]

[Stealth: Lv6]

[Summon: Lv2]

[Aura of Famine: Lv1]

[Disease and Poison Creation: Lv1]

[Pandora's Box: Lv1]

[Materialization: Lv1]

Title Skills:

[The Dark Witch: Lv-]

[Dungeon Conqueror: Lv-]

[Big Game Slayer: Lv-]

[Taboo Mark: Lv-]

[Bringer of Misfortune: Lv4]

[Undead Queen: Lv3]

[Evil of the World: Lv1]

Divine Protections:

[Hel's Divine Protection]

...

Ooh! I am even more incredible now... A-And even more of a glass cannon... Well, my strength increased a tiny bit alongside my defense and HP, yaay!

The real monster is here.

And the reason why I am C+ Rank is most likely my Mana and Magic stats. They're completely through the roof, all thanks to Supreme Magic! But I should have asked for a Supreme All Rounder instead. I am beginning to regret not having asked for more. And then there's also the Goddess Unique Skill which I have no clue when it will be unlocked...

Anyways, the new Skills were interesting.

[Aura of Famine: Lv1]

Generate an Aura of Famine that automatically drains Life out of any being around you. Can be fused with [Life Drain] for a greater and wider range of effect. Power depends on skill level and Magic Stat.

...

[Disease and Poison Creation: Lv1]

Grants the ability to create poison and diseases using your power over Death. The power is dependent on skill level, Magic Stat, and the resistances of the targets.

...

#### [Pandora's Box: Lv1]

Open the Box of Pandora and unleash complete and utter chaos through an explosion of poison, darkness, chaos, and abyssal shadows. A powerful Area of Effect Magic Attack that generates an Aura of Evil around you, provoking madness and confusion to those around you.

...

#### [Materialization: Lv1]

Materialize your own phantasmal body into a physical one through the constant expenditure of Mana. Depending on the Magic stat and the skill level, the realism of your materialized body increases.

...

#### [Elemental Resistance: Lv1]

Grants resistance to all elemental damage, enhancing your defense with elemental attacks by 10% with each level.

...

#### [Evil of the World: Lv1]

You are the incarnation of all evil in this world. You're naturally talented in bringing disasters wherever you travel to, and your development is significantly enhanced with each level.

...

I see... So I can materialize! Ah, and I guess I will bring disasters... Not like I care anymore, hahaha! I am a ghost now, so why would I care?

Now... [Materialization]!

FLASH!

My phantasmal body suddenly got even more “real” than my previous way of materializing.

Legs finally came out as my pale-white skin surged amidst my abyssal soul. My eyes were crimson red, and my hair was long and silvery-white... Damn, I am quite pretty compared to my previous life...

“Y-You materialized?” Lucifer stuttered.

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Chapter 35

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“Fufu, bear witness to my beauty, dragon!”

I materialized in front of my companions as Lucifer exclaimed in surprise.

“Such a realistic materialization, your phantom has truly become like flesh... with your appearance, you resemble an albino woman, or perhaps a Vampire?!”

“Oh? Is that so? How about my beauty? Do you feel like you want to fall to your knees and praise my beauty?” I teased him.

“Will you stop already?” He sighed while facepalming.

Partner, on the other hand, had her eyes shining brightly.

“Wow! Master, so pretty!”

“Mrao!”

She and Kuro recognized my beauty, of course! Not like that tsundere dragon.

Okay, maybe it wouldn't be good to be so arrogant...u

But I definitely look like a beauty! Compared to my previous life, which looked like an ugly and nerdy girl...

I really do look super-hot now... Can't a girl be happy and prideful of her dazzling beauty?

Well, more like abyssal beauty, though, darkness continues to overflow from my body even as I materialized. Being a Pandora really gives you a different vibe.

My body naturally wraps a black and red dress around my body. It is also the materialization of my own Phantom.

It seems that I can produce basic clothes with it and change them around whenever I want.

I ended up deciding on some sharp black heels to kick someone with one of these days. I also made them as hard as possible.

And... done! I look quite lovely. It feels as if I was creating an avatar for an online game, but this is real life, I guess. Once again, I am really quite pretty...

“Master, cute!”

Partner hugged me as she called me cute and rubbed her nose on mine. My materialization also helps me feel things more now as if I really had skin!

Her cold body really is quite soft after she evolved... EH?!

“Soft!”

Partner began to squeeze my materialized breasts, which I had made... quite big for some unknown reason.

“\*cough\* (Totally not because I was very flat in my previous life...) \*cough\*,” I muttered under my breath.

Suddenly she squeezed a bit harder, making me jump.

“P-Partner, don’t do that! It’s kind of weird....”

“Weird? You can also touch me!” Partner exclaimed.

Ooohh... This might prove to be an exciting experience...

I moved my hands to Partner’s breasts and gave them a little squeeze.

They are indeed quite soft!

“Will you two perverts get a room?!”

Lucifer spoils the fun as he calls us perverts.

“We are not perverts! We are just experimenting with our bodies. It is totally normal,” I refuted.

Partner nodded intently while crossing her arms.

“Normal!”

“Mraoo...”

Kuro seemed disappointed in us. Howugh...

“\*sigh\*... Anyways, now that we are done with this, we should really get going to the next place. We already killed three of your targets here, how many are left?” Lucifer asked.

My targets were all the aristocrats involved in my death and the death of my parents.

I had already killed three of them here, Duke Allen and two other fatties named Norman Allsand and Getto Allwater. Very wacky names, I know.

There are over ten other Aristocrats left for me to kill, and I will thoroughly go for them one by one.

They live in different duchies around the Kingdom, but we can go on a zigzag road up until we reach the capital. If they are in their duchies, it shouldn't be hard to kill them.

Royalty and aristocrats are often spoiled and rich, so they don't go to kill monsters, nor develop their abilities or level up like Humans do, who even have a Job System instead of an Evolution System, which is pretty different from monsters.

Humans can get pretty strong, pretty fast with this Job power they have, but these aristocrats just waste their bloodline's potential by being lazy and doing absolutely nothing.

Although I am sure that it should be fairly different for their kids.

Perhaps their kids had grown stronger, or there might be other royalty members specializing in training and battling, but aristocrats are often weak pigs. And this was proven further when I killed three in the span of a single night.

Nonetheless, aside from the Duchy of Affnaria, there are several other Duchies in the Kingdom of Albraun.

We will get through four more Duchies before arriving in the Capital, where the King and his children are, grasping the treasure of my family in their sweaty palms.

Anyways, I am so thankful that I wrote down everybody I needed to kill.

Take a look:

...

Duke Allen Albraun (DEAD), Norman Allsand (DEAD), Getto Allwater (DEAD)

Duke Roberto Albraun, Edward Allfire, Ernesto Watertide

Duke Hansel Albraun, Ellon Asshat, Edgard Tactile

Duke Gastron Albraun, Alberto Nosotros, Tear Rubiera

Duke Netheron Albraun, Hamill Firehand, Camillo Desperados

...

Every Duchy has one of the sons or grandsons of the King. Usually, they're closer to princes, so I actually just ate the soul of the prince of Albraun on Allen. Oops?

Anyways, alongside the Dukes, there are usually two big shots who are the owners of Guilds, such as the Adventurer Guild or the Merchant Guild.

The two pigs I killed were the owners of such places.

The rest of their families were not to blame, so I hope they can handle things by themselves.

Oh right, and to make it clear that they died, we left some of their bones, which Lucifer vomited after eating them, and their clothes. That should be enough evidence, so they don't go looking for them.

Yeah, it's disgusting, but it works, and it's effective.

Maybe I should just eat their souls next time and not let Lucifer eat them. He did say they were disgusting and tasted terrible. I don't want to let my dragon get sick by eating shit...

Anyways, according to the maps we got now, our next Duchy is the Duchy of Benettina, crossing to the south.

All the other duchies are to their side in a zigzag road where trading merchants travel through with their caravans.

There are some random villages around these places, alongside dungeons and particular areas filled with monsters named Haunts which means we can grind EXP on our journey.

"Onward to Benettina then!"

"You didn't answer my question...."

“Oh...”

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## Chapter 36

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After explaining to Lucifer and everyone about my plan, they all seemed to agree with it.

“To Benettina we go then. And sure, it would be better if you just ate their souls so the dead body can be found more easily. I also would prefer to eat a more delicious human next time, perhaps something like a strong warrior.” Said Lucifer.

“I don’t like your tendencies of eating humans; did you eat humans when you were alive?” I sighed.

“Well, I am technically a zombie now, so eating flesh from humans is a necessity, but I can also eat monster flesh as well. And well, it is more like a grudge. I feel this indescribable hatred against humans, which is very hard to contain. When I see one, I just want to tear them apart and devour them, hearing their screams of agony as my fangs tear their bodies into shreds while being alive,”

“Oof. Okay, you do you, as long as it is not innocent people that literally did nothing wrong, I am fine with that,”

“Hmph, alright... you’re my master, so I cannot defy you as much as I want to. Nonetheless, it is more pleasurable to torture those that had done evil deeds. After all, the corrupt aristocrats of this Kingdom and the alliance of Kingdoms of Humans were the ones that took our children as prisoners, forced us to surrender, and then slaughtered them in front of our very faces,” Lucifer said.

“...I see,” I responded.

“Hahh... Never mind me,” Lucifer sighed.

He seemed pretty troubled. And I kind of wanted him to open up to me but forcing the situation would be bad for his mental stability, so I will let him slowly open up to me naturally rather than just forcing him by giving him a command.

"I hope that we can find somewhere to be happy one day," I muttered.

"...You're oddly optimistic for someone that died so terribly. I suppose missing your memories perhaps has made you this way...." Lucifer sighed once again.

"True... I won't force you to tell me anything. You will decide when you want to share more of your past,"

"R-Right... Sorry, perhaps I went too far there... And thank you for being understanding. Despite being an oddball, you're also quite a decent former human," Lucifer complimented me.

"Aw, really?"

"Yes..."

"Master's pretty nice...." Partner said beside me.

"So you, what's your story?" Lucifer asked, talking to Partner.

"Story? I am master's servant," Partner replied as if it was the most obvious answer in the world.

"...You don't remember your previous life?"

"Previous life?" Partner asked, confused.

"Well, you see, Partner is my skeleton. I made her into an Undead and her soul was created through the over-accumulation of phantasmal energy, and therefore it is a new soul and not one that belonged to someone before," I explained.

"Oh, so she was such a being... Wait, your skeleton?!" Lucifer asked in disbelief.

"Yeah! I didn't want to leave it abandoned. It was the only thing I had left, you know? So I just made it into a 'Partner'!"

"You're really unbelievable sometimes,"

"It was thanks to her that I was able to survive. Even now, I am still a glass cannon, and she unexpectedly ended up as my Tank, so we pair up pretty well. She takes hits and charges in front while I fire from afar!" I said as Partner nodded in agreement.

"I-I see... What's glass cannon?" Lucifer asked.

"A term you use for someone that exceeds offensively but is as frail as glass,"

"Oh... I see. I guess she's very devoted and childish because she still has the mind of a young spirit... Interesting. Her existence is similar to a Wisp then, a being without a soul formed from phantasmal energy. However, unlike them, she wasn't made out of grudges and negative energy,"

"Indeed, and she's a cutie! Wait, I think she looked like my body when I was alive now that I think about it...."

Partner looked at me upfront as I realized that she indeed looked exactly like the head I saw rolling when I reincarnated as a soul.

"Interesting, through her evolutions, it is as if you had been revived, but it is not really your soul... This could cause some troubles if we come across someone that might know your face, so make sure to cover her with a hood, at least," Lucifer recommended.

“And what about you? You look like a Majin with those looks,”

“Hold on... Look,”

Lucifer suddenly changed appearance, his horns disappeared, and his eyes looked less dead, while his skin seemingly filled with the vitality of youth.

“Wow...”

“This is the power of Morph!” Lucifer laughed.

“Eeehh... I guess you’re a shapeshifter... Oh, can you take the form of a little dragon companion so I can summon you for battle like my monster pet?” I asked.

“No... I wouldn’t want that. And no, I cannot take such a small form.”

“Ugh... I guess my dream of having a Charmander is gone,”

“Hah... you always talk so much nonsense. I suppose this trip won’t be as boring as I initially thought,” Lucifer muttered.

“Hey, finally getting softer with me?” I asked.

“Never mind...”

I guess he doesn’t respond well to teasing...

...

The area that covers the entire Duchy of Affnaria is an enormous forest named the Dark Forest.

Lesser Haunt's and other monsters often inhabit it, but they're mostly weak; Usually around G-Rank or F-Rank at most.

Due to this, Adventurers in Affnaria go to train and level up their first Jobs in these outskirts of the Duchy, collecting the monster's corpses, the Mana Stones inside, and other things to sell in the Adventurer Guild.

This forest took around three days to get out of, despite us going at fast speed on Kuro's back...

When we reached the outskirts of the forest, we were greeted by a beautiful and near-endless sea of grass, named the Vast Grasslands, which extends across hundreds of kilometers.

All the Duchies we are visiting are located past this point.

From what I read, tribes of beast-kin and even demons live around these grasslands, often as nomads.

Also, we had gone through the forest side because if we went through the road, we would risk getting caught by some passerby.

The sun was shining brightly atop the sky, and we were being bathed in it, but none of us was affected.

It seems that the sunlight is no problem!

"We can't hide so well in such a place...." Lucifer muttered.

"We'll go through the road then! The place looks nice. We can have a picnic from time to time too!" I tried to bring up the bright side.

"Picnic? In the middle of the road?"

We walked through the road at a fast pace as Kuro was pretty nimble, and as an Undead, he was also tireless.

Bathing in the warmth of the sun, a cold breeze brushed against my face.

Aahh... this feels nice.

It makes you just want to forget about everything and just have an adventure...

Well, we are technically having one.

“What’s that?”

Lucifer suddenly points at a group of people in front of the road who were next to three large caravans being attacked by little green guys.

Hoh, is this the typical Isekai scenario?

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Chapter 37

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A typical Isekai scenario! You know, when Goblins try to take down a caravan with a merchant, and the heroic main character takes them down and becomes friends with a merchant by saving him, opening up the possibility of connections with aristocrats!?

It is always so overused... But will I get my chance now?

I actually have no interest in making friends with a greedy merchant, but we might as well play along.

“At full speed, my steed!”

“GROAR!”

Kuro releases a loud roar as he begins to rush down the road in the middle of the grasslands, the caravan right in front of us!

“Oi, are you kidding me? You’re going to help humans? Just let them die. I bet those Goblins are just hungry,” Lucifer said.

“I won’t listen to your seductive words, handsome dragon! I will go valiantly save these people and make connections with them!” I said as I bravely leaped off of Kuro after we reached the area where shit was going down.

“Seriously...” Lucifer sighed.

Partner followed right behind me, raising her spear.

“Fight!” She shouted.

As soon as we reached the caravan, we found a group of seven goblins, armed with rusty armor, some leather clothes (not loincloths, by the way), and using some weapons and shields, but...

Eh? They seemed to be struggling.

I looked over at the humans and noticed there were five super buff guys. I checked their status, and they were all E-Rank adventurers, who are considerably above the average. Their equipment looked fresh as well, and they seemed to be overwhelming the weak goblins.

They were also smiling!

“Haha! So they came for us! Come, we’ll carve out your mana cores and sell them!”

“The equipment they’re using could also fetch some coins, boss!”

“J-Just kill them already!”

An old man that looked clearly like the merchant was trembling inside the caravan, and he was surrounded by... cages?

Inside the cages, there were many green-skinned people, and even some people with furry ears.

Wait. Hold on. What’s going on in here?

“G-Give me back, my daughter!” Cried a goblin, raising his blade against one of the humans.

He clearly spoke the common tongue.

CLASH!

“A measly G-Rank monster like you can’t even kill a rat, and you think you stand a chance against us just because you got some equipment?” Laughed one of the men before easily evading the goblin’s attack, kicking him in the stomach and throwing him away.

“Uggh...!”

“Papaaa!”

One of the tiny, green-skinned people caged inside cried for her father, the goblin that had just been beaten down into the ground.

“W-We won’t give up until you give us back our families! Where’s my wife?!” Another goblin valiantly rushed forward, as he used his blade to release a technique, but the human in front raised his shield, blocked him, and hit his face with the shield, sending him flying into the distance...

No way, this is not a normal Isekai, huh?

Goblins that can talk and are enslaved... they’re not trash mobs then? They’re more like... a demi-human tribe then.

“This... They’re enslaving goblins?! T-Those damn humans!”

Lucifer, however, suddenly gets angry and jumps into action before me.

BOOM!

He transforms into a giant five-meter tall, black-scaled dragon, and the humans and goblins alike are paralyzed in fear; his aura emanates a deadly presence that seems to be devouring their very souls...

“Enslaving a hardworking and peaceful tribe... I couldn’t expect less from you filthy humans!”

It seems that Goblins are a tribe of Majin and are seen as hardworking and peaceful. Oh wow.

“A D-DRAGOOONN?!”

All the humans were terrified, and the goblins suddenly dropped their weapons out of terror. Some even began falling unconscious.

“Alright! Let me aid you then. I don’t like slavery anyways,” I joined in with a very simple reason other than because I found the goblin girls very cute.

And well, maybe I am a goodhearted person deep down within all the hatred and vengeance-driven emotions I possess that makes me a ghost.

“R-Run away!”

None of the humans tried to fight us back, so it was very easy to pick them up and kill them.

Partner caught up to one of the men that was trying to protect himself with his shield, but Partner’s spear went straight through the shield with ease and impaled the man’s head, killing him instantly.

“Hm? Weak...” She sighed.

I rushed forward and used my shadows to grasp the big guy commanding the others. My shadows were used as tentacles as I violated his orifices mercilessly, mouth, eyes, nose, ears, and butt. He cried so agonizingly that I couldn’t help but laugh manically over the pleasure that his suffering inflicted on me.

Holy shit... I am nuts.

...After that, I jumped over another as if I were a ninja and used [Possession] to possess his body, crushing his heart and lungs and killing him instantly.

Wow, this is easy.

“Guuaaggh...!”

In the other case, Lucifer used his jaws to just eat the other three and crunch them while still alive.

Oh man, hearing them scream in agony really hits the spot.

Maybe because I am such a malicious race of ghosts, hearing the screams of agony of the damned really makes me happy. It is almost instinctual!

“Gyeeegh! P-Please don’t kill us!” The merchant cried in horror as he saw how we slaughtered his men.

The only one left was this guy who was inside the caravan. Some of the goblins who remained awake looked at the scene with disbelief. I looked at one of them and gave him my hand, which he grasped and stood up.

He looked like a typical goblin, long nose, bald, long ears, but instead of horrid goat-like eyes, they had human-like eyes, which clearly gave away their consciousness and self-awareness as people and not just a vicious race of monsters.

“We are here to help!” I shouted with a smile.

“T-Thank you...” He replied while looking at my own aura of darkness.

He must be quite terrified even now.

“You damn pig! I am going to feast on you!”

Lucifer grabbed the merchant and was about to eat him.

“W-Wait, stop!” Cried the goblin.

“Eh? Why?” Asked Lucifer.

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## Chapter 38

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The goblin guy stopped Lucifer.

But, Lucifer didn't hear him, so I had to speak for him.

"Hey, wait, there must be a reason why he doesn't want this bastard killed! Let's listen to him!"

Lucifer sighed in unison with the merchant, who sighed in relief.

"What?" Lucifer asked.

"I am sorry, sir Dragon... It's just that the merchant is the one who has made the contracts with our families. If we kill him, all those slaves that belong to him will also die due to the contract imbued into their collars! T-These bastards manipulated us like this before...." The Goblin explained.

"Hmm... Cunning bastard," Said Lucifer, squinting his eyes at the trembling fat merchant.

He placed him on the ground as the merchant nodded.

"T-That's right, you filthy beasts! I-If you kill me, all your families will die with me! Hahaha! S-So you better not kill me!" He shouted.

"How can we cancel the contract?" I asked.

"There must be some papers inside his caravan. The contracts are written on a seal paper... If we destroy them, we can free our people...." The Goblin replied.

What an intricate system. I guess Lucifer would have ended killing everyone inside by accident... oops.

I intimidated the pig into looking for the papers, but he didn't want unless we promised to not kill him afterward.

What a pain.

“[Possession],”

I used my vast mana pool and possessed him.

Right away, I got access to all of his mind through his brain and learned where his contracts were.

Using his own body, I broke each paper until the very last one.

When the contracts were broken, the collars deactivated and fell onto the ground.

The monsters inside the cages were freed by the goblins right afterward.

“Papa!”

“Gobina!”

“Dear, I was so scared....”

“Everything is going to be okay now....”

“T-Thank you so much! How can we ever repay you for this?” Asked one of the Goblins, who explained that he was the chief of the tribe.

“Hmm, how about you invite us to your tribe?”

“O-Oh! For sure! B-But can... Sir Lucifer go back to his humanoid form?” The goblin asked, shaking timidly.

Ah yes, if he goes like that, he'll surely make a fuss.

"Oh, sometimes I forget to change back,"

Lucifer changed back and was now ready to walk like a person and not a giant winged lizard.

And about the merchant? I decided to keep him alive. I was going to use him as a puppet of sorts to infiltrate into society and get info I cannot easily access... Mostly out of just fun, though.

I brainwashed him while possessing him, and he became my mindless servant.

Of course, with a single order, he'll go back to "normal".

But even then...

"Are you guys okay with her keeping him alive?" Asked Lucifer.

"Ah, well, it is fine. He has already paid. His eyes look like those of a dead fish," Said the chief.

"I brainwashed him after possessing him, so don't worry, he'll be a submissive and good merchant from now on." I explained.

I had already saved the caravan and everything inside of it in my Inventory.

As we made our way down the road, we arrived near a large lake to the east. It was surrounded by a small forest where the Goblins had made their home.

The tribe was very tribalistic. They had tents instead of proper houses and lived very simple lives of hunting and gathering to survive.

They mostly got their food from the fish in the lake, but sometimes they told me they went to hunt Horned Rabbits or Big Boars, although it took many of them to beat a single boar.

Also, every time they did it, they gained EXP, and sometimes they even leveled up. The Chief was the highest level at level 11, but that was it. Even a Level 11 G-Rank monster is still very weak...

I left the merchant inside of my [Shadow Storage] with some food and water and decided to forget about him for the moment.

The beautiful goblin village was very simplistic, but there was undoubtedly a charm around this place. The people were very nice and welcoming with us too. The chief made a big feast in honor of the people they rescued. As the food was being cooked, he and his daughter began to explain to us what had happened with them.

"It happened around a week ago... these groups of men raided our village suddenly, and using their strength, they beat us and killed five of our men. Afterward, they took away our women to sell as sex slaves... This wasn't the first time that humans have tried to raid us, although the previous times we managed to change our village's position and fool them, but this time they were too fast and strong... Since then, we had been following them until we finally managed to catch them off guard, but even then, they were too strong," The chief sighed.

"Oh damn... you would have ended up dead if we hadn't arrived then... I am glad we were able to help you out. Also, killing humans felt pretty good for some reason," I said.

Damn, I've become an edge lord.

"I see... Damn humans, why do they love to pick on the weak so much? Your tribe is just living peacefully here with nature? Humans' greedy nature simply sickens me to no end... If our Demon lord was here, he would have taught them a lesson!" Lucifer shouted in anger.

"Demon Lord... It has been a long time since I heard that name..."

Suddenly, an old goblin walked near us and sat down at my side.

“Oho, such a pretty lady....” He said, rubbing his beard and looking at my figure.

“Elder! What are you doing awake? Go back to your bed. You’re still sick....” The chief said.

“Geez, I do whatever I want!” Roared the old man, using his staff to hit the head of the chief.

It was a bit comical.

“You’ve heard about the Demon Lord?” Lucifer asked.

“Why yes, my grandfather used to be part of his army, though, I don’t know how many years ago... He used to tell me tales about his bravery and how he fought back against humanity’s tyranny,” The Goblin Elder began to explain.

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## Chapter 39

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So after killing some assholes along the way, we rescued some Goblins and Beast-kin mixed into a carriage that were being carried away as slaves, and we ended up being invited into the comfortable Goblin Village.

I am a ghost, so I don’t really feel uncomfortable anywhere.

Maybe I should if I were being bathed in sunlight while being a weak ghost, but as a Pandora, there’s no such weakness. Due to that, I could stay anywhere, so I didn’t particularly care about sitting on a log.

I might even float if I wanted, but Partner didn’t let me get away from her as she was very clingy.

Lucifer had said something about his precious Demon Lord, and the Elder of the Goblin Village joined our conversation. After that, the Goblin Chief and his daughter were also present.

After he glanced over my body with a perverted gaze, the old, green-skinned man pretended to ignore the death gaze that Partner was giving him...

"You've heard about the Demon Lord?" Lucifer asked.

"Why yes, my grandfather used to be part of his army, though, I don't know how many years ago... He used to tell me tales about his bravery and how he fought back against humanity's tyranny," The Goblin Elder began to explain.

His grandfather? Wasn't this Demon Lord pretty old? From what I read, he existed a few hundred years ago.

"How old is your damn grandfather?!" I asked.

"Well, he had evolved into a Hobgoblin Warrior back then. Due to this, his lifespan was increased, and he lived up to almost 300 years. He was not the strongest or something, but he was very skilled at teaching, commanding, and coordinating his troops. He was also good at all kinds of weapon techniques and was a formidable fighter, even against those stronger than him," Said the Elder.

"The Elder's Grandfather is our Hero, Hobuta," Said the Chief.

"We pray to Hobuta, our hero, and as one of our ancestors, we often ask for him to bless his descendants, us!" Shouted the daughter of the Chief.

She was a Goblin yet wasn't as ugly as the males. Her beauty was rather refined, and she looked like a little cutie baby girl that you just want to pet and hug.

She had an adorable face, big yellowish-gold eyes, long and pointy ears, and long silvery-white hair.

She wore a simple leather dress and sandals and was also around half a meter tall, while her father was a meter and a few centimeters.

Goblins didn't grow taller than that, but it was said that if they evolve into Hobgoblins, they become as tall as humans.

"I see. You're such a diligent little girl, aren't you, Gofumin?" I asked as I petted her.

Her hair was soft and silky, and she blushed a bit after receiving my affection.

"Of course, my daughter is the smartest girl in the village. She'll become our priest in the future," The chief explained.

"I don't want to be a priest. I wanna be adventurer, papa!" Gofumin refuted while pouting.

"Adventurer?! You can't! That's way too dangerous for a little girl. Also, humans don't look good on demi-human adventurers...."

"But..."

Aww... Poor little thing...

"A-Anyways, my grandfather once said that before the Demon Lord perished, we Goblins could live in the larger Majin societies to the far south, but that was before humans destroyed them all and threw us, the survivors, into the wild...." Said the Elder.

"So that's what happened in the end... The Majin Kingdoms... they were all... destroyed? Is there nothing left?" Lucifer asked as despair took hold of his eyes.

"No... Not that I know of. He did say that the survivors of other tribes ran into the wilderness too... But as of now, humans had overtaken the entirety of the large continent, we can't do much than live as foragers, hunters, and gatherers." The Elder sighed.

"I-I see..." Lucifer sighed.

So there's no hope for rebuilding the Kingdom of Majin...

Wait, why not?

After I am done with my revenge, I could pick them up and build a nice and cozy place for myself, right? Who cares about humans? If they come at us, I am going to kill them and turn them into Undead.

Yeah, sounds like a plan!

"I don't like to promise anything because I could quite literally die in this journey, but let me tell you something... If I can fulfill my current wishes... Let me aid you later on. After doing what I want to do, I want to build up my own kingdom. A ghost can't really live in human societies, you know? So, if that were to happen in the far future, do you want to join my kingdom?"

"Ah... Lady Maria... Is this true?" Asked the chief.

"A ghost commanding a Kingdom... interesting. You're very bold to even say such a thing with such confidence... Fine, I see some confidence in you... And you're a pretty lady too, so okay! Fuehehe!" Laughed the Elder, glaring at my body again.

"Maria... you're so strong. I am sure that you could build something if you wanted... We'll wait until then," Said the Chief.

"I want to go with Maria on a journey!" Shouted Gofumin.

"No, you can't! You're still too young," The Chief refuted once again.

"Muhh..." Sighed Gofumin.

“Maria... Do you truly want to do something like this?” Lucifer asked.

“Yep! Wanna join?”

“It’s not like I have another option... Hahh, you’re the only one childish enough even to say such a thing... seriously,” Sighed Lucifer.

“Oi! How dare you treat your Necromancer like that?!”

Lucifer smiled.

“I don’t know why but perhaps you’ve begun to affect my mind or something, and I want to trust you... I just... perhaps... by holding onto this Hope for a better future for the Majin, I might find some consolidation that could appease this wrath in my heart,” Lucifer muttered.

“Lucifer...”

Aw, you poor little dragon, come here!

I hugged Lucifer tightly as he rested on my chest.

“E-Eh?”

He got all red! So cute!

“There, there~ We’ll do it together, don’t worry!”

Petting his silky hair felt nice...

“Y-You perverted woman!” Cried Lucifer, getting embarrassed and jumping away from my grasp.

“Lady Maria, can I get a tender hug within your chest too?!” Asked the Goblin Elder.

BONK!

“Guegh...”

Partner hit him in the head.

“E-ELDER, STAY WITH US!”

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Chapter 40

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Before going away, we decided to stay for a week here, and there were several reasons for that!

One of them was... monster hunting! We wanted to hunt monsters around this place, so the goblins could be at ease with not as many threats roaming around.

Another thing was... bandit extermination! We wanted to kill all the groups of bandits around here that usually tried to capture the wild demi-humans around.

And the last reason was... fluffy and cute Gufumin! She was too cute, so I wanted to spend some time with this adorable little girl.

It was already the morning of the next day, and the Chief had invited us to stay inside his tent. It was small, but he and his daughter fit quite well, and we did too, all snuggling together.

With Lucifer behind me, and Partner in front of me, they made me a sandwich! It felt nice to sleep like this as well.

Although I was sure that there was something hard poking me from behind my butt...

Hehe... So, you've finally shown your true colors, Casanova!

I woke up and looked over at Lucifer, only to find him sleeping to the other side. His tail was poking into my butt.

Ah...

I guess I shouldn't have made weird ideas. He's really a pure-hearted devilish fallen dragon, after all.

He looked so cute sleeping that I could help but pet his hair and touch his ears.

What a handsome young man! I can't believe I have him in my party. It is almost like I am dreaming...

And to the other side, the adorable Partner looking at me angrily!

"Eh?"

"Muuhh..."

"W-What's wrong?"

"Muuhhh..."

I think she didn't like how I was petting Lucifer while he slept.

“Okay, okay, I get it, here....”

I approached my hands towards her head and began to caress her little pointy ears, then, I caressed her long hair, and her happiness increased.

“Hehe...” She chuckled cutely, snuggling onto me.

“Good morning, sleepyhead,” I said.

“Good morning, master... Sleeping feels weird.” She said.

“Is it? I guess we don’t really need to sleep as Undead, but we still can do it. I like it though. Maybe because I am actually very lazy,” I admitted.

The cute Gufumin woke up before her father as she smiled cutely and jumped over our leather bed.

“Maria! Maria! Tell me more about the outside world!” She demanded.

“Little Gufumin, you’re so cute... P-Please have some mercy....”

She had jumped over me and was asking me cutely.

Her cute face was very close, and I felt the instinctual motherly sense of hugging this beautiful little green sprout!

“Ueh?”

I hugged her tightly before I sat her over my lap.

“Very well, I’ll tell you! The outside world is filled with terrifying monsters, giant boars, enormous hydras, dungeons where monsters appear, but treasures await, such as enormous human towns filled with EXP! And above all! ...There’s not enough delicious food,”

“Eh?”

Indeed! I want to eat something other than just grilled meat! I should have stolen some salt when I could- wait a second... the carriage had some! Oh nice, then we’ll make up something good!

“Did you explore a dungeon?” Gufumin asked while moving her tiny feet around.

“Indeed, it was horrifying, dark, deep, and filled with ooze... Ueugh, and giant bugs,” I sighed.

“Ooooh! I want to explore a dungeon one day too!” Gufumin said, her eyes shining brighter than ever.

She’s very pure... A total contrast from us monstrous vengeful undead...

Well, Partner is also pure-hearted, just jealous.

The chief suddenly woke up, discovering our secret conversation.

“Hm...? Ah! Gufumin, don’t annoy Lady Maria...” The chief said.

“Papa, Maria is telling me tales of the outside world!” Gufumin said.

“Again with that idea? \*Sigh\*... we just rescued you from being enslaved, and you still want to go to the outside world despite all the dangers?” The chief asked.

“Yeah! I want to meet mama! We’ll go on adventures together... And we’ll hunt monsters, and sell them... and have fun leveling up!” Gufumin said.

Right, where's her mother?

The chief gritted his teeth, looking at the ground painfully.

"Y-Your mother was... reckless, Gufumin, you can't be like her... I don't... want to lose you." The chief sighed as he grabbed her away.

"But I can come back and bring gifts! Like mommy that will one day come back! Right?"

"I-It's not the same, daughter..." Sighed the chief.

I guess he doesn't want to tell her that her mother most likely died...

Ugh... this is sad.

Little Gufumin, I will be your mama!

...No, I better not tell her this.

"Anyways! Let's all eat some breakfast! I got some nice ingredients from the store!" I said, calming the mood.

"Food!" Gufumin said, raising her little arms.

"Food!" Partner said, raising her arms as well.

"Food! Eh?"

Even Lucifer did it! Oh my god, he's already joining our stupid little things, huh? Look how far he has come in these short days!

"Mrao!"

Kuro came into the tent, licking my face.

"Did you sleep well?"

"Meow! Gakkh...!"

Suddenly, Kuro coughed a human finger.

Huh? I didn't give him the corpses of the guys we killed yesterday; I was gonna use them for Undead Guardians for the tribe...

"Chief! T-There are several corpses outside!"

Suddenly, a goblin came out.

We rushed outside and found around five corpses that Kuro brought from wherever he went last night.

"T-These are bandits!" The chief shouted.

"Kuro, did you just go and kill a group of passing bandits?!" I asked.

"Meow!"

"Good boy!"

I rewarded him by petting him.

Best cat ever.

“But this is also bad. It means that they’re coming closer....” Said the chief.

“Is that so? Hmm... Don’t worry about that. We’ll go kill them after breakfast,” I said.

“S-So confident...”

“Lady Maria! thank you!”

“We’ll be forever grateful!”

“She’s such a beauty too!”

“Fueheh! That’s right! Praise me more! I am the best!”

“Cut it out already....” Sighed Lucifer, pulling my hoodie over my face.

Anyways, I began to browse through the stuff I had in my Inventory... there was salt, cheese, and even salted meat, bread, potatoes. There was actually a lot that this fat pig had for himself!

“How about we make a stew for the whole village? You guys must be hungry, right?” I said while winking.

“S-Stew?!”

“We have only been eating seeds for weeks....”

“UUUUOOOOOHH!”

I guess they were happy to have decent food for once...

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