

## **A Ghost 781**

### **Chapter 781 Destroy That Crown!**

Maria quickly noticed the change in expression of the Frost Queen, as she quickly stood up from her throne... And then, pointed her small hand at Maria. It was as if hearing such words... broke something inside of her.

Whatever illusion she was living in, once Maria spoke the truth, the Frost Queen couldn't handle it anymore, and with her hands trembling and her eyes furious, she threatened Maria.

"Unhand my mother." She roared.

"Hoh, so you're finally fighting!" Laughed the voice of the Vampiress watching in the background.

However, right as this was happening, backup quickly came, in the form of Lucifer!

"This is for Gjoll and Leiptr!!!" Lucifer in the meantime, roared, standing back up and opening his jaws, unleashing a deadly Dragon Breath against Tear's mother!

FLAAAAAASSHH!

BOOOOOOMMMMMM!!!

The beam pierced through the body of Tear's mother, piercing through her chest, and throwing her down into the floor, a huge hole remained in her chest!

BAAAM...!

Everyone in the battle quickly realized as no blood was coming out of such a deadly wound. Beneath her skin, there was only ice, pure ice! This woman was nothing but a golem made of frost.

"Unnggh...!" Tear's mother stood back up again, touching her wound and gritting her teeth. Tears began flowing from her eyes. "I expected... something like this."

"M-Mother?! MOTHER!!!" Tear screamed in horror, as if she couldn't recognize her own creation.

Why couldn't she do so? It was as if her own mind convinced itself her mother was real, of flesh and blood. And not a golem she created to accompany her... looking like her mother, yet only being an animated being without a soul.

"W-Wait, this is...?!" Emeraldine asked. "Tear, your mother is a golem!"

"So this was the truth all along!" Partner said.

"How... sad..." Sighed Jonathan.

"T-Tear... I knew it... Your mother died long ago! Why did you made this golem in her shape and appearance?!" Veredorr asked. "And why... do you not recognize her as your creation? Did you convinced yourself you didn't know?!"

"T-Tch... S-Shut it... SHUT UP! SHUT UP!!!" Tear screamed. "Veredorr! You shouldn't even be here! I thought you were gone forever... WHY ARE YOU HERE?! WHY IS EVERYONE... GETTING IN MY WAY?! I JUST WANTED A WORLD WITH PEACE! LET ME DO IT!!! LET ME DO IT!!!"

TRUUUUUUUUUMMMMMMM...!

The Frost Queen suddenly went insane, her Divine Aura exuding a deadly power of frost, spreading everywhere, attempting to freeze it all like she once did!

However...

"We are not going to let you do that!" Partner roared.

"Frost Queen, you must come back to your senses!" Jonathan roared heroically.

"We are here not to harm you; we are here to help you!" Emeraldine said.

"Those two bastards only wanted the best for you, Tear, not to kill you!" Lucifer roared, looking at Gjoll and Leiptr's frozen bodies.

"That's right, Tear. You won't get away with this so easily! You won't simply freeze all your problems! Eventually, you have to learn that your actions have consequences!" Maria roared bravely, stepping forward.

FLAAAAAAASSSSHHH!!!

The combined Divine Auras of everyone gathered together into a gigantic shockwave of multiple colors, clashing against Tear!! I think you should take a look at

BAAAAAAMMMMM...!

However, that wasn't enough! Tear's power was tremendous, as if she was the very incarnation of Skadi. Whatever ingredients Skadi used in such a crown, they were in another level completely.

"SHUT UP! SHUT UP! SHUT UP!!!" Tear screamed. "You don't know anything! YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT WHAT I'VE GONE THROUGH!!!"

"WE KNOW!!!" Veredorr roared. "We won't let you get away with this! TEARRRR!!!"

FLAAAAASH!

Veredorr surged from within Maria's shadows, as he tried to add his own power, even if insignificant in comparison. With Maria there, his powers merged with hers, and so did Tyr.

And then, another player entered the game as well, as Arachne surged from within.

"Yawn... I guess it's time." She smiled.

"HUH?!" Tear, her mother, and even the Vampiress reacted in shock when they saw that little girl with silvery-white hair.

"BOOM!" Arachne said, pointing her tiny hand at Tear's aura, combining her powers with Maria and everyone else, together, their Divine Authorities finally managed to overpower Tear!

TRUUUUUUUUUMMMMMM...!

"AAAGGGHH...!" Tear cried, being overwhelmed by their powers. "M-Mother... MOTHER!!!"

"TEAR!" Her mother ran towards Tear, embracing her into a tight hug, and protecting her as she slowly began fading away.

"Don't leave me... mother! I don't want to be alone! Don't leave me... DON'T LEAVE ME!" Tear screamed, her crown glowing brightly as its divine powers activated once more, encompassing her mother and her own body.

"As long as you wish, I will always remain at your side, my dear Tear." Her mother smiled gently, embracing her.

FLAAAAAASH!

Their two bodies became one, as a huge shockwave of divine power broke through the divine auras of everyone else, their eyes squinted as they saw the huge shining bright light explosion that emerged from their fusion...

"I won't let you harm her... Never... Tear is my dear daughter... She's mine to protect and love..." Her mother's voice echoed across the freezing halls.

A titan made of pure divine ice emerged, covered on metallic, blue colored divine armor, possessing four arms, each one holding a Divine Relic from Skadi's treasury. Her appearance beautiful and feminine, yet it also carried the unforgiving might of Winter.

In the middle of her chest, Tear remained, resting, she seemed unconscious, as her crown itself created this giant to protect her. Possessive of her, without desiring to have her taken away from anybody.

"That voice is not her mother..." Veredorr furrowed his eyebrows. "Maria, that voice is the crown!"

"The crown?!" Maria asked. "I see... So her "mother" was the manifestation of the crown this entire damn time!"

"The Crown of Skadi has such a powerful will?!" Asked Partner. "But how?!"

"This is indeed bizarre... It is at the end just a Divine Relic..." Said Emeraldine.

"No matter what it is! We've gotta shatter that thing down!" Lucifer said. "Once it is over, Tear will surely go back to her former self!"

"I agree with Lucifer." Jonathan nodded. "This is... the only way!"

"I won't let you..." The crown spoke. "Tear is my dear... my most dearest... mine and mine alone!" The Titaness made of divine ice began crying tears made of ice. "I won't let you separate us!!!"

FLAAAAASH!

Chapter 782 Divinity Piercing Spear Of Absolute Death: Laevateinn

At the end, Tear's mother ended being the manifestation of the Crown of Skadi herself. Her protective nature, her relentless love for Tear, and how she was capable of giving it all for her, it was all because the Crown of Skadi desired Tear to continue staying at her side as well.

She created a manifestation of herself and used her powers to brainwash Tear's mind, making her think she was actually her mother. In that brief time, she learned about the love of a mother, and was loved. For being born as a Divine Relic, the Crown was much different than any other Relics.

Imbued not only with Skadi's Divinity, but also a part of her very soul, the Crown of Skadi was like her other half, designed to give one of her descendants the power to govern the Ice Giants... However, Skadi ended storing her away after learning that the Crown developed a mind and ego of her own, and that it could dangerously take over the wearer's minds.

Harboring resentment against Skadi, her creator, she desired revenge. And one day, when the Tower of Skadi surged from within the Dungeon, she was finally given such a chance, from a naïve ice giant girl that wanted revenge against all the bastards that took away everything she loved.

Someone that desired a better world for the ice giants, a world of peace. She enticed her, and finally, as she was worn by Tear, she was finally able to exert her powers. At first, she only wanted to use her for her own goals.

But slowly, she began to pity her, she saw a reflection of her own self through Tear and developed emotions and empathy. She didn't wanted to use her as a tool, Tear became... like her daughter. She wanted to protect her from the ugly world outside, she wanted to make her happy, and she wanted to take down anybody that dared to stay in her daughter's path.

"Don't worry Tear..." She muttered. "I will always protect you! I won't let them touch you... I will always be there for you, dear. No matter what!"

Encompassing Tear within her chest as she manifested all of her powers, while summoning the strongest Relics in Skadi's treasury, the Crown of Skadi decided to go all-out against Maria and her allies.

The Divine Glacial Armor of Ephemeral Frost, the Divine Axe of Farbauti, the Celestial Spear of Nifl, the Divine Sword of Snow Mountains Uller, and the Shield of Eternal Winter. These powerful Relics now were held by her, in her last, relentless attempt at protecting her bond with Tear from being torn apart by these outsiders.

Standing in front of her was not only Maria and her allies, but a powerful little Calamity, Arachne... In just a few seconds, the odds became much more against her. Yet she simply couldn't give up, for Tear... she couldn't!

"I won't let you..." The crown spoke. "Tear is my dear... my most dearest... mine and mine alone! We will build a world together, free of danger! And you... you're not needed in that world." The Titaness made of divine ice began crying tears made of ice. "I won't let you separate us!!!"

FLAAAAASH!

Her aura exuded with great prowess, made from a fragment of Skadi's Divinity, she was outstandingly powerful, even more when her divinity connected with all the Divine Relics she was wearing, intensifying her strength even further!

"This bond I have with Tear... Is unbreakable!!!" She roared with divine fury, stepping forwards and attacking!

Her four weapons shone with Divine Power, unleashing devastating blows that released destructive slashing shockwaves of divine energy and frost power, shattering everything in their path and making the entire Tower of Skadi tremble more and more!

SLAAASH! SLAAASH! SLAAASH! SLAAASH!

"RAAAHHHH!!!" Maria roared furiously with Lucifer, Partner, Emeraldine, Jonathan, and Arachne.

All five of them attacked her together, intercepting her deadly blows while at the same time evading the most lethal ones!

Maria swiftly materialized the same spear she had materialized before to fight Gjoll and Leiptr, the powerful Spear Laevateinn, which was then imbued with the might of Veredorr, both blood and frost magic energy began coursing through this powerful weapon!

FLAAAAASH!

Ding!

[The Power of your Divine Skills and Divinity has reacted with your Weapons, temporarily creating the Divine Relic: [Divinity Piercing Spear of Absolute Death: Laevateinn]!]

[Furthermore, the very might and soul of the [Frost Tundra Spectral Ghost: Veredorr (A Rank)] has merged completely with the Divine Relic: [Divinity Piercing Spear of Absolute Death: Laevateinn], transforming it into the [Divinity Piercing Vampiric Frost Spear of Absolute Death: Fimbulwinter Laevateinn]!]

[Duration: 5 Minutes.]

The jet-black spear gained a red and dark blue luster, as its sharp tip gained divine frost, at the same time, its aura expanded several times more. It was Veredorr himself who was fusing with the weapon, creating this brand-new effect!

"Maria! Please! Help me get Tear back! Even if I have to sacrifice my very soul... Even if I have to give it all! Please! Get Tear back!" Veredorr's phantasmal tears constantly flowed across the Divine Relic, as it exuded a tremendous prowess!

"I swear it on my name, Veredorr!!!" Maria roared, pushing forwards as she slashed and bombarded with both weapon and magic at the frost titaness in front of her, evading and intercepting blows, and even just directly taking them head on.

Her piercing blows constantly slashed and crushed through her frost-made body, as it constantly attempted to regenerate more and more, as her powerful divine armor and weapons constantly attempted to push Maria away from her.

"You will NEVER take her away from MEEEE!!!" The Crown of Skadi screamed, unleashing a barrage of attacks and magic everywhere!

BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM!



The entire Tower of Skadi started tearing apart, even large pieces crumbling down into the dungeon's floor, utter devastation spread everywhere, yet Maria and her family kept pushing forward!

"We won't give up, no matter what!" Maria roared, as Veredorr's soul and will remained within her weapon. "Is that right, Veredorr?!"

CLAAAAAASSSSH!!!

Chapter 783 Going All-Out!

There was only a single word that could describe what was happening right now...

Devastating!

The Crown of Skadi, on her utter fury, borrowed the might of several other abandoned Divine Relics, powering up to her limits to remain at the side of her beloved Tear.

However, Maria and her allies were not giving up. Their blows became more intense, their attacks fiercer, it was as if all of their combined might was equal to the crown... if not stronger!

The battle of absolutely epic proportions continued escalating as the Crown of Skadi unleashed the strongest Divine Winter Magic she held, summoning a catastrophic blizzard everywhere, coupled with her endless barrage of weapon attacks all at once, generated utter catastrophes everywhere!

RUMBLE!!! RUMBLE!!! RUMBLE!!!

The entire Tower of Skadi started gaining countless cracks, even when made by the Goddess of Ice herself, it simply couldn't hold any more damage. It was beginning to fall apart, piece by piece!

"You will NEVER take her away from MEEEE!!!" The Crown of Skadi screamed, unleashing a barrage of attacks and magic everywhere!

BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM!

The entire Tower of Skadi started tearing apart, even large pieces crumbling down into the dungeon's floor, utter devastation spread everywhere, yet Maria and her family kept pushing forward!

"We won't give up, no matter what!" Maria roared, as Veredorr's soul and will remained within her weapon. "Is that right, Veredorr?!"

CLAAAAAASSSSH!!!

Maria's attacks finally pierced across the Crown's Divine Barrier of Winter Blizzards, as it pierced right through her shoulder, tearing down the joints and making one of her big arms fall off, which also was holding a Divine Relic, and it was the Celestial Spear of Nifl!

"Partner!" Maria said, as she threw the weapon at their best spear user, Partner!

"GOTCHAAA!" Partner roared, grabbing the weapon and dual wielding it with her other blood spear, which was the combination of her two spears into one through the manifestation of her divine powers.

With both the might of these two weapons, Partner rushed forward, attacking the Crown of Skadi's frost body with countless, devastating blows!

"[Abyssal Divine Vampiric Spear Arts]: [Vampiric Pandemonium of Eternal Suffering]!!!"

Partner laughed manically, her divine powers surging completely as they all amassed and combined with her two weapons' divine auras, her presence and aura suddenly generating the illusion of an enormous, monstrous demon that constantly attacked the Crown of Skadi's body!

CRAAASH! CRAAASH! CRAAAASSSSH!!!

Explosions of blood and darkness flames spread everywhere, as Partner's demonic nature was channeled the most in this very instant. Each of her piercing blows generated devastating, huge explosions that torn down more and more pieces off the frost titan in front of them!

"AARRGGHH...! Y-YOU...! GIVE IT BACK! THAT'S MINEEEEE!!!" The Skadi's Crown roared furiously, her frost body suddenly shapeshifting!

Instead of an humanoid shape, it took a monstrous one. With a gigantic, dragon-like head and enormous arms and a tail, with enough force and speed to destroy a whole mountain, the Frost Beast charged straight to Partner.

"DIEEE!" Her many weapons swung several times, both horizontally and vertically, slashes of pure divine frost energy reached her in mere seconds!

"[Yggdrasil's Divine Barrier]!" However, Emeraldine's support came in clutch as she generated a barrier of divine wood, protecting Partner from the deadly attacks.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOOOMM!!!

The attacks so strong the barrier couldn't even resist more than ten seconds before being torn to shreds at the same time. However, it gave enough time for Partner to quickly escape the deadly blows!

"RAAAAHHH!!!" However, the Frost Beast didn't stop there, opening its massive jaws and firing several beams from them, blasting everything!

BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOOMMM!!!!I think you should take a look at

"CUT IT OUT!!!" Roared Lucifer, rushing through the blizzard and swinging his gigantic scythe, at the same time as bombarding her with countless explosions of darkness and chaos!

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CRAAAASSH!!!

The Frost Beast quickly began tearing down into pieces before his mighty draconic strength. However, Lucifer knew it would only continue regenerating if he was "gentle", instantly charging a deadly Dragon Breath attack and unleashing it without holding back!

"ROOOOAAARRRR!!!"

FLUOOOOOOOSSSSHHH!!!

Abyssal Phantasmal Death Flames consumed the Frost Beast's entire body, as she quickly attempted to drag herself away to regenerate once more, dropping a huge sword in her way.

CLANK!

"There, grab that, Lucifer!" Maria said, grabbing the weapon and giving it to Lucifer, all the same as they were battling countless icicle spears falling towards them, and the deadly blizzard.

"Alright... This isn't half-bad!" Lucifer smiled, rushing towards their foe.

"AAGGH... G-GET AWAY! I WON'T LET YOU... TAKE TEAR AWAY FROM ME!!!" The Crown of Skadi was constantly growing more and more insane, as she channeled even more of her divine powers, changing her form into a wolf-like shape, increasing her speed tremendously!

FLASH! FLASH! FLAAASH!

She flashed at super-fast speed, evading several blows from all the heavy-hitters, and quickly aiming at Emeraldine in the back!

"You're going down first! ANNOYING HEALER!!!" She roared, opening her jaws.

"[Yggdrasil's Divine Barrier]"

CRAAAAASSSH!!!

The wolf-like Frost Beast ended hitting a gigantic wall made out of Yggdrasil's roots, shattering a bit of its head in the moment. At the same time, a barrage of spiritual arrows fell from above, following the wolf whenever she went to, until they finally reached her, exploding on contact.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

The Spiritual Explosions didn't do as much damage, but they spread seeds that began to constantly grow over the wolf's body, spreading and tearing apart the entire body.

"Stop running around, coward!"

And at the same time, little Arachne finally caught up to her.

FLAAASH!

Descending from the skies as she leaped really high, giant spider-like legs emerged from her back, as her tiny body gained a powerful-looking, fierce metallic armor, made out of her own exoskeleton, with spider-like decorations.

"[Spider Queen Arts]: [Calamity's Embodiment]!"

BOOOOOOMMMMM!!!!

Arachne pierced through the entire body of the Frost Beast like a bullet, until she landed on the floor. The entire beast's body gained countless cracks, shattering once more into pieces!

Crack... crack... CRAAAASH!

Chapter 784 Now It's All Up To You!

RUMBLE!

As the entire Tower of Skadi was crumbling apart, the mysterious Vampiress flew across its crumbling hallways. Now that the entire fight was destroying the place, it was the ideal time to act.

"With the tower crumbling apart, it means the security functions it holds have been severely damaged... This is my opportunity to get what I truly came here for!" The Vampiress thought, smiling.

She quickly arrived in front of a door in the top of the tower, as she quickly kicked it. The security system did not activate, just as she thought, allowing her to easily get inside.

FLAAASH!

And there it was, a huge, beautiful blue jewel, glowing with powerful Divine Light and the Divinity of Skadi herself...

"The Divine Tower's Core... It is here!" She smiled maliciously. "Finally...! It is within my grasp!"

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Crack... crack... CRAAAASH!

The wolf-type Frost Beat shattered into pieces, as the Crown of Skadi hurriedly attempted to reform herself, taking now the form of a snake-like dragon that flew into the skies, it dropped yet another item, a big axe, which Maria grabbed quickly.

"You're dropping loot like crazy, are you that stupid?" Maria laughed, holding both a huge axe, the very axe of the Titan that granted her some new powers, and also the Laevateinn spear.

"S-SHUT UP!!! DIE!!!" The Crown of Skadi was desperate. Maria quickly noticed how her energy fluctuations were constantly lowering and becoming weaker and weaker.

She didn't had endless Divine Power, and most likely drained it or reabsorbed it from somewhere within this Tower.

"ROOOAARRRRR!!!"

She opened her jaws once more, made of ice, as she unleashed a devastating breath attack of pure frost everywhere, devastating her surroundings and everything else.

TRUUUUUUUUMMMM...!

Maria and company had to swiftly evade or risk themselves getting frozen into statues, much like it happened to Gjoll or Leiptr.

"Is she just endlessly going to fight?!" Jonathan wondered.

"No, I can feel it, we've got her cornered now!" Maria said. "She's not going to continue forever; her energy is already running low! We need to keep pushing a bit further! Everyone, I'm counting on your strength!"

"ALRIGHT!" Everyone cheered, as they began running in circles, escaping from the deadly breath attack that the Dragon-form Frost Beast was unleashing constantly, without stopping at all.

However, although dangerous, this was beneficial! The more she unleashed such a strong attack, the more her divine energy would be drained away.

TRUUUUUMMMM...!

The destructive beam continued shattering the entire tower, as Maria and everyone else noticed how suddenly, the gigantic frost-made dragon stopped unleashing its breath!

"Unghh...! M-My Divine Power is being exhausted... Already?!" The Crown of Skadi protested. "No, I need more... This tower has-"

"We won't let you get that far." Jonathan suddenly appeared right at her side, with a big leap, and the power of his supernatural body as a Human Hero, he reached her within the ceiling in an instant!

Imbuing Divine Power and Starlight Energy into his Divine Sword, the valiant Hero of Sunlight unleashed a barrage of devastating slashing blows, which resembled yellow and blue fireworks each time they impacted over her body!

"[Divine Starlight Blade Arts]: [Falling Star Rain]!"

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

Each attack connected together, as his blade attacks even got through the hard armor of the gigantic frost-made beast!

"[Divine Sunlight Blade Arts]: [Heaven's Fall]!!!"

FLAAAASSSSHH!!!

A ray of pure divine light emerged from Jonathan, as he spent every last bit of his Stamina and Mana at the same time, relentlessly unleashing his strongest attack!

CRAAAAASSSSHHH!!!

"GRYYYYAAAAAHHHH...!"



The agonizing scream of the Crown of Skadi echoed across the entire Tower, as her body fell into the floor with a loud bang!

BAAAAAMMM...!

"NOW!" Maria said, commanding everyone to gang on the Crown while she was weakened and on the floor, and with most of her Divine Power exhausted.

"U-Unnggh...! No... NO!!!"

The Crown of Skadi roared furiously, constantly shapeshifting into spears and monstrous dragon-like, wolf-like, and beast-like heads, attempting to bite and tear apart anything in front of her, as Maria and her allies made their way towards her!

"Cut it out already! That little girl will never belong to you!!!" Lucifer roared, slashing both of his powerful weapons, and cutting apart more and more ice. "She only belongs to herself! That girl is free!!!" Opening his jaws, an enormous Dragon Breath was unleashed.

BOOOOOOOMMMM...!

"I am getting bored of your shit! You're a damn crown!" Partner furiously said, gathering her last energies into her blows, as she launched both of her spears towards the center of the gigantic frost beast, the crown itself. "LEAVE HER GO!"

CRAAAAAASSSHHH!!!

"You've made that girl suffer so much already... Please stop it!" Emeraldine cried, summoning hundreds of spiritual arrows and Yggdrasil roots. "If you truly love her, leave her go!"

BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM!

"It's not fair to force her to be with you!" Arachne said angrily, enormous beams of darkness surged from her entire body, as her sharp spider-like legs continued piercing through the ice.

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CRAAASH!

"You heard them!" Maria roared.

With all the intensity and power she had, Maria went through all the ice, gathering the power within the spear Veredorr created by fusing himself with her own weapons, while also imbuing the strength of her Privileges into Farbauti Axe!

CRAAASH! CRAAASH! CRAAAASH!

"AARRGGH...! NO...! STOP! PLEASE, STOP!!!" The Crown of Skadi screamed, as Maria finally saw an opening. The divine frost was finally cleared, showing the head of Tear and the crown stuck on top!

"Now! VEREDORR!!!"

Maria launched the spear right towards the crown with incredible precision, even risking the danger of killing Tear on the moment, trusting it all to Veredorr, the young Dhampir that loved Tear more than anybody, and that was unjustly killed by her when she was possessed by the Crown!

"TEAAAARRRR!!! WAKE UP!!!"

Veredorr's very soul materializing within the spear, as it redirected its sharp end towards the crown, piercing through its blue jewel, and cracking it!

Crack... crack...!

CRAAASH!

Chapter 785 Veredorr's Unyielding Love

"TEAAAARRRR!!! WAKE UP!!!"

Veredorr's very soul materializing within the spear, as it redirected its sharp end towards the crown, piercing through its blue jewel, and cracking it!

Crack... crack...!

CRASH!

FLAAASH!

Suddenly, Veredorr's consciousness found himself within the depths of the Mindscape of the Crown itself. It was a desolate land of pure snow, and white skies.

In the middle of this land, Tear was there, looking alone...

"T-Tear!"

Veredorr ran towards her, only to find the entire landscape to change and shape, forming into a gigantic titan made of snow!

"I WON'T LET YOU TOUCH HER... SHE'S... MINE! MINE! MINE! MINEEEEE!!!"

The gigantic snow titan attacked Veredorr's very soul, attempting to tear it to shreds, and so, stop him from completely freeing Tear's subconscious from the crown's control!

As the fists reached Veredorr, his eyes began glowing bright red in anger...

"You know? My entire life... I lived secluded, fearful of everything..." Veredorr sighed. "Until I meet them, the Ice Giants, and Tear... Do you truly believe I'll give up?! Do you truly believe your mind attacks can pierce through this conviction?! Through my love for Tear?!"

FLUOOOOSH!

Veredorr was now a ghost, his soul was much stronger than the Crown of Skadi believed! He might have died, but it was thanks to Maria's help and support that he was able to get this far.

With the blazing power of his very soul as it burned down more and more, Veredorr fought back. His very being shaping into countless fists, clashing against the Will of the Crown of Skadi!

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLAAASH!

"Ungh?! H-How?! How are you this... strong?!" The Crown was shocked.

Each of Veredorr's blows pierced through her will, slowly shattering it apart!

CRASH!

"N-NO...!"

CRAASH!

"S-STOP!"

CRAAASH!

"PLEASE DON'T...!"

CRAAAASH!

"If you... do this...! I will be alone!!!"

Crack... crack... CRACK!

Her entire will continued shattering and shattering more... Veredorr pitied the Crown's Will, but her loneliness didn't justified the atrocities she forced Tear to commit.

He had no mercy!

"I'm sorry, but I won't let you control her anymore, no matter how sad your damn backstory is!!!"  
Veredorr's entire soul became a gigantic bat made of pure ice, flying across the titan made of snow, and completely destroying it!

"NOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO...!"

CRAAAAAAAASSSHHH!!!

As the entire Crown of Skadi's will shattered into pieces, Veredorr's soul flew down, grabbing Tear, as her lonely, dead-like yes slowly opened, as if she had been sleeping for a long time.

"V-Veredorr?!" Tear opened her eyes in surprise.

"Tear... I've finally found you." Veredorr smiled, transforming back into his human-like ghostly form, and flying into the skies of the mindscape.

"After I... did that to you... You came back for me?" Tear cried.

"I knew it wasn't you who killed me... It was the crown's will." Veredorr smiled sweetly.

"But I did so many horrible things... I even...!" Tear's eyes continued crying.

"Please, don't bother yourself with that..." Veredorr smiled. "I want you to be happy. I want you to smile like you once did... I've been fighting, fighting for you. Please..."

"Veredorr..." Tear cried. "Why? Why go... so far..."

"Because I... Tear... I've always loved you..." Veredorr sighed.

"E-Eh? V-Veredorr...!" Tear blushed, as tears constantly cascaded from her eyes. "I...!"

FLAAASH!

Both of their consciousness finally went back to their bodies, as Veredorr's spear-like form pierced right through the Crown of Skadi, completely shattering her into countless tiny pieces, and freeing Tear from her control...

Once and for all!

Crack... CRASH!

"U-Uggh... N-No... T-Tear..."

The Crown of Skadi groaned. Her bits and pieces still barely holding into something of a will, that slowly faded away.

"Please... don't... leave me..."

Before anybody could notice the crown, her consciousness fully faded away, leaving nothing behind...

"Veredorr!" Maria said, undoing her transformation and rushing to see him, happily finding out he was carrying little Tear on his phantasmal arms.

"She's safe... I've returned her consciousness to her body." Veredorr smiled, his body seemed very weakened...

In fact, it was slowly fading away, as if he had burned the very last spark of his soul's strength, and the only thing left now was his fading consciousness.

"V-Veredorr! Your body...!" Partner cried.

"N-No... Don't tell me!" Lucifer cried.

"What's happening?" Emeraldine asked.

"His body..." Jonathan sighed.

RUMBLE!

The tower kept falling apart, crumbling down piece by piece, as Veredorr smiled back at the sleeping Tear, and then at Maria and company.

"Please, make sure that she gets out of here safely. The villagers down in the other floors must have already been freed from the Frost Curse by now. Please find them as well." Veredorr said with a faint smile, giving Tear to Maria.

"Huh? Where are we- Ah, we were frozen!"

"Hey, we're back though!"

Gjoll and Leiptr were unfrozen after the crown was broken, showing that Veredorr was right, the other villagers down in the lower floors of the tower were most likely freed from the curse too.

However, Maria didn't just wanted to let go of Veredorr, she had already lost Lancelot... She didn't wanted to lose more loved ones.

"E-Eh? Wait a second, I can heal your soul! Stay still!" Maria cried. "This can't end like this- Eh? It doesn't work?!"

As much as Maria tried, she couldn't heal his soul. Even if she put her very Divine Power into it, and even her very soul... It wasn't working.

It was as if his soul wasn't even there anymore.

"Please... tell Tear that... I've always loved her." Veredorr's eyes began flowing with tears, as his consciousness, somehow, spread across the entire tower, holding it together.

It was his very last strength, all into it.

"Hurry! Run away while you can!" He cried.

"N-No... Veredorr..." Maria cried. "Wait, stop! We can't leave without you!!!"

"Maria!" Lucifer sighed.

"Master, we have to GO!" Partner cried.

"Don't... insult Veredorr's sacrifice." Emeraldine sighed, her eyes constantly crying.

Maria was dragged down by her family, as she saw Veredorr's last smile, before everything in front of her crumbled apart...



"Please... take care of her..."

"VEREDORR!!!"

As Maria disappeared from the scene with everybody else, Veredorr glanced at the torn apart crown of Skadi, sighing.

"I guess we will share... a similar fate." He sighed. "Don't worry, you won't be lonely anymore."

Veredorr caressed the crown, before everything crumbled down...

BOOOOOMMM...!

Chapter 786 The Aftermath After The Frost Queen's Defeat

Within a dark room, three Vampires greeted the mysterious Vampiress that had just arrived in front of them. Smiles surged in their lips as they gave her a glance.

"So? How did it go?" Asked the oldest of the Vampires in the room, his sharp eyes glancing at her.

"Fufu, how do you think it went?" She laughed, materializing a big blue jewel over her left hand, which emanated a powerful, divine energy from within...

"Y-You got it...?!" One of the Vampires asked. "How were you able to secure it?!"

"It was as easy as stealing the candy from a child." Giggled the Vampiress. "Once the tower crumbled apart and everyone was busy fighting that little girl, I just stepped into the room and took the core when nobody was watching! Easiest job of my life."

"Excellently done." Smiled the oldest of the three vampires sitting around the table. "With this, we have most of the pieces we need. And with that girl out of the equation, we can advance much faster..."

"Though, is that ghost still kicking?" Asked the other, burlier vampire.

"Sadly, yes. She was... unexpectedly powerful. Much more powerful than I imagined. "She's not someone we can easily mess with, not until that day."

"Well, we can leave her be for a bit. Our next target is not her after all." Smiled the oldest vampire. "But the Empire of Light."

"Are we finally doing it? Are we finally striking?!" Asked the burly vampire, getting pumped up.

"Not get, idiot, calm down." Sighed the slimmer vampire. "But very soon, I assume, Patriarch?"

"Yes, indeed, very soon." Giggled the old vampire man. "We will avenge our kin and the Demon King's death, and set an example to all other Kingdoms... We Vampires will be the new tribe that will dominate Midgard."

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"Tear, I've always loved you..."

"Ah!"

Tear's eyes opened in surprise, as she was gasping for air out of the shock her dream gave to her. However, once she realized she had finally woken up, she felt... surprised.

For how long has she been wearing that Crown? So many years she couldn't even count them now. It felt like such a long eternity... It was almost baffling.

It was as if she was always dreaming. She wasn't seeing through her eyes, but through the eyes of the crown. Without realizing it, her mind became twisted by it, as her emotions were heightened, making her become a complete nutjob.

"I-I'm... me?" Tear was surprised, glancing at her own hands, and caressing them.

She touched her own head, feeling her long, blue horns, but no crown at all. The feeling of not having that piece of metal over her head... made her feel unease.

Yet at the same time, she felt freed, relieved, even...

"W-Where am I?" Once she finally calmed down, she started looking around, feeling lost.

She found herself resting inside a large room, looking like something in an old and regal castle. As she walked to see through the windows, she noticed several people outside, walking around, talking, and smiling. I think you should take a look at

Tear quickly realized she was inside some sort of town, or city. And it had big walls, leading to an outside world covered on green grass, with piles of snow slowly melting.

The sky was clear, and the sun was shining brightly. It was still rather cold, but not as cold as it was before, where snow was falling from the skies every single day.

"Where is this place- Huh? Ice Giants..." Tear was surprised. "Those people... The villagers. But where is... where is Veredorr?"

Creaaak...

The door slowly opened, as Tear felt slightly afraid, someone entered the room without even knocking!

"Huh? Oh! You're awake!" It wasn't anybody intimidating though, but an adorable little half-dragon girl, with long silvery-white hair and black scales growing in her tiny hands and neck.

It was nobody else than little Nyx, of course.

"E-Eh?" Tear was confused, of course, she didn't knew her.

"I'll go tell mommy!" The little girl suddenly used her tiny wings, flying away at a rather fast speed.

Just seconds later, her mother, Maria, appeared.

"Tear... You're finally awake." She smiled gently. "How do you feel?"

"W-Who... who are you? Where am I? H-How do you know my name?!" Tear panicked a bit, feeling afraid of everything.

"Hahh... I guess it is natural that you would feel a bit surprised, or afraid... Since you put on that crown, it has felt like you've been in a long dream, isn't it?" Maria sighed. "Please calm down. You've been asleep for three days since we took away your crown. We are the people that helped you freed yourself from the crown. It is long gone, and we also brought along your tribe, which was frozen before."

"M-My tribe..." Sighed Tear. "I... Thank you for helping me..."

Maria smiled gently, sitting at her side. In all this time, Tear seemed to not have aged at all, still remaining in her young appearance. Nonetheless, she was still an Ice Giant, of almost three meters of height, so she was easily taller, despite her adorable appearance.

"Name's Maria, I am the one that... Well you could call me the village chief, yeah." Maria nodded. "I am not dreaming in making a huge country or anything like that right now, I just want a place where everyone can just live comfortably and happily. I hope you wouldn't mind staying with us, and your villagers. We've explained them what happened, and they don't blame you for the Frost Curse either. There are some aunts and uncles within them, you should go meet them later."

"I-I see..." Tear sighed, feeling down.

She couldn't help but recall the words of Veredorr, blushing a bit. She still felt confused and wanted a lot of time to process everything.

However, she couldn't help herself but ask for him. Tear wanted to see him more than anything now, to thank him for his bravery, and for everything... he has done for her.

And of course, to tell him that she share the same feelings for him.

"Where is Veredorr? Is he busy somewhere?" Tear wondered.

"..." Maria remained in silence, looking down with a sorrowful glance. "Veredorr... didn't made it."

"Eh?"

Chapter 787 Memories 1

"I'm sorry..." Maria sighed; she had already cried a lot for Veredorr before. "I wasn't able to do anything... He gave everything he had to save you from the crown's control. He loved you very much."

"N-No..." Tear muttered, her lips beginning to tremble. "B-But wasn't he like... a soul? Some type of ghost? I would love him even if he was...!"

"Yeah, I helped him become a ghost when I first met him." Maria smiled faintly. "He told me about you, about the Frost Queen and everything else... He was the one that convinced me you were actually innocent, and he was the one that convinced me to spare your life and give you another chance."

"V-Veredorr..." Tear suddenly started crying. "No... Veredorr... I'm sorry... It's all my fault..."

"I wish he could had been here with you; I wish..." Maria sighed. "I wish you two could had have... a happy ending together." She slowly recalled the many times she read stories.

Tragic endings was one of the things she hated the most. Yet eve now, she was incapable of changing such fate.

If it wasn't for Veredorr's sacrifice, Tear wouldn't had been able to become freed from the crown and might had her mind destroyed the moment the crown was destroyed as well.

"Hahh... Why..." Tear cried. "You dummy... You shouldn't had... sacrificed yourself for someone so horrible like me... Even after everything I did... Even after all I did you choose to believe me anyways, to love me... Why?!"

Tear continued crying, screaming even. She felt so much pain, like never before. A terrible pain in her heart, it felt as if her entire world was falling down into pieces.

Without her mother, nor her father, nor her big brother... and now, not even Veredorr.

She was completely alone.

"I think Veredorr choose to trust you because, as he told to me... He always loved you." Maria smiled faintly, giving the girl a hug. "He said that since the first moment he saw you, since the first day you meet, that he fell for you."

"No... NOOO!" Tear continued crying, as her hands began hitting Maria's back. "Why?! Why someone so nice and gentle... Why someone like him?! It should had been me... I SHOULD HAD DIED! I should had..."

"You have to live!" Maria cried, stopping Tear's tantrum. "Don't be childish, Tear! Are you going to insult Veredorr's last wishes now?!"

Maria confronted Tear, looking at her in the eyes.

"You have to live! For him... For everyone..." Maria sighed. "Live, live as much as you can, and be happy, instead of him... You have to at least do that!"

"M-Maria..." Tear cried. "... She slowly looked down, feeling down.

"A-Ah, I'm sorry..." Maria sighed. "I shouldn't had-"

"It's fine... You're right." Tear sighed. "You're... right... I will live for him. I will live for Veredorr... I will fulfill... the last selfish request of the only man that ever loved me..."

Maria quickly handed over a large blue jewel to Tear, it glowed with a mysterious, ghostly aura.

"W-What is this?" Tear wondered.

"It is Veredorr's Soul Core." Said Maria. "A Soul Core is something we ghosts create when we grow very strong. It is the crystallization... of our very souls."

"H-His soul?!" Tear asked in surprise. "Is he...?"

"I have... tried many times already." Maria sighed. "It is empty. There's... no soul inside, only the last power left behind by him. He gave it to me when he rescued you, and brought you to my arms while carrying you. I want you to keep this and hold it dearly."

"I-I will..." Tear sighed, looking at the blue jewel, which emanated a lightly cold aura.

This small jewel was the only thing left by him... A husk of the crystallization of his soul. Yet... somehow, it held a small hope.

A slight hope that one day, he might return, somehow. I think you should take a look at

Even if the chances were slim, and even when Maria tried many times to bring him back with her incredibly powerful Necromancy.

This small jewel signified hope for Tear.

"Can I... be alone for a bit?" Tear asked.

"Sure, dear. I will come back later, you have to eat something, okay?" Maria said.

"I will..." Tear looked at Veredorr's jewel, feeling more and more sad.

The more she looked at this jewel, the more she was reminded of his heroic sacrifice, and of all the memories they shared together.

Back then, when she wasn't the Frost Queen, but only Tear, the cheeky young lady of the Ice Giant Tribe, that with her big brother, always went out to hunt to feed their family.

She found him with her brother when they were walking down a river path. The young Veredorr was there, completely unbothered by the cold despite his small human-like complexion, and only gazing at the skies over the snow.

The two thought he was dead.



"Hello? Are you a corpse?" Wondered Tear back then, appearing right over his head.

"Ah!" Veredorr was scared at first, quickly walking away. Tear had to admit that he was quite handsome, despite how pale he looked like. "E-Eh? Ice Giants?!"

"Oh, you're alive! Hahaha, you were there, and I thought you had frozen or something." Tear giggled.  
"Are you okay? Are you not scared of us?"

"Tear, cut it out, he's not a human." Her big brother said. "Look at his eyes, and those ears. He's... Are you some sort of Elf?"

"No... I'm... well, I'm a Dhampir." Sighed Veredorr. "My father was a Vampire, and my mother was a human. I... I lost them."

"Eh?" Tear felt surprised. "So where do you live?"

"I... live in a small house my mother left for me... over there." Veredorr said shyly, blushing a bit. "I-I live alone..."

"Alone? In this frozen tundra?!" Tear's big brother was surprised. "And you look so pale and malnourished! Sigh... Come with us, you need to eat something."

"E-Eh? Wait, I didn't-"

Before Veredorr could reject their offer kindly, Tear dragged him with them.

"Come on! It's on the house!"

Tear's smile that time... captivated Veredorr's lonely heart, who had lost everything back then.

When he was the loneliest, and the most desolate.

And when he thought there would never ever be anybody that could understand him, or even talk to him because of his race...

She appeared.

It was like love at first sight.

Chapter 788 Memories 2

In that moment, Tear didn't really know what would happen. In those times, she was only worried about filling her belly with some tasty grilled meat and live her life carefreely.

She found Veredorr quite handsome, but never really paid attention to him, completely unaware of all the love he felt for her, which developed more and more.

Because of his nature and personality, as a shy person, Veredorr never really talked about how he felt. He always hid those feelings from her.

However, Tear could still remember, all those good times, all those good memories together...

Like that time he and her big brother went to the river to catch fish, and Veredorr ended tripping down the river, and because he was so light, he ended sliding through the water helplessly.

She ran to his rescue without thinking it, jumping in the middle of the river and catching him with her big arms, and lifting him up, carrying him princess-like.

"T-Thanks... Phew, I thought I would become fish food, hahah..."

"Geez, you're really quite the dummy!"

Or that other time they gathered together to eat some of the food his mother had taught him. How he prepared everything so carefully and with so much love.

Back then, she didn't realized that when he was smiling while cooking for her, he was putting his heart and love into every ingredient, every meal...

"So when did your mother... You know." Tear asked.

"My mother... she passed away around forty years ago." Veredorr sighed.

"W-Woah, you're old!" Tear said. "How old are you?"

"I'm roughly... like seventy." Said Veredorr. "I guess for you I would be a grandpa, though... it doesn't feel that way to me. Time when you can't die of old age... feels ephemeral. It is as if... it goes on so fast... I can't even realize it and a decade has gone by. Sometimes I slept for whole years."

"Woah... Sounds rather... sad." Tear sighed. "So... I am also ephemeral to you?"

Tear wondered without expecting anything complex of an answer. At most, she had expected Veredorr to laugh or something.

Yet... he looked her into the eyes and smiled gently.

"Of course not... You and your brother... everyone... You're the first people since my mother that had made me feel like... Time goes slowly." He smiled gently, such a beautiful smile even captivated Tear for a bit. "You're... really important to me..."

"I-I see... Hahaha, I guess that makes me happy!" Tear giggled. "So when is it done yet?"

"Almost... Now that the noodles are boiling, let's make a sauce." Veredorr smiled. "How old are you anyways, Tear?"

"Me? Well I'm actually over twenty..." Tear said. "But everyone in the village is like... over a hundred years, even my brother, I'm the youngest of the bunch so far! Though some women are finally pregnant after so long!"

"I see... I guess Ice Giants do live a long time too. I wonder how you perceive time." Said Veredorr.

"It sometimes is so painful slow I feel like I wanna die~" Tear sighed, looking bored.

"Hey, don't say that! Not even as a joke... Life is precious. Your life is... to me... A-And your brother and the village too." Veredorr said, blushing a bit.

"Eh? I was just joking, dummy." Tear giggled. "Oooh, that smells nice! What is that red stuff?" "I think you should take a look at

"Tomatoes I purchased from the human town nearby... My mother named this meal Pasta a la Bolognese..." Veredorr smiled. "It was her favorite meal, something her grandmother always made for her! And it is also... my favorite meal too. Sometimes, every few years, I prepare it, to taste the flavors, and remember my mother..."

"I see..." Tear smiled gently. "I also miss my mom... And my dad... They passed away due to a fight with the humans... My brother always says that we can't hate the humans, that not all of them are awful people but... I hate them."

"..." Veredorr sighed. "I am half human... Do you hate me?"

"E-Eh? O-Of course not! You're different!" Tear said.

"See? Just like I am different, there are also different humans. Not all of them are bad people." Veredorr smiled. "In this world there's all kinds of people, bad and good. The trick is to just try to find the good people. Or well, that's what my mother used to say to me."

"..." Tear remained in silence, gritting her teeth. "Maybe..." She looked elsewhere.

Veredorr giggled gently.

"The food's done, let's eat." He swiftly served her a plate, the two sitting around a small table inside of his little house.

"Hmm... How do I eat this- Oh? Ooooh! It is good! Wowowowow! Hot!" Tear ended eating a lot in a single bite, but the heat of the meal made her mouth burn a little bit.

"C-Careful there, Tear! Here, have some water." Sighed Veredorr. "Eat it slowly, with this fork, like this. See?"

"Ooh!" Tear nodded. "Alright!"

Perhaps due to their difference in age, and due to Veredorr's mentality of seeing life as "ephemeral" he never really wanted to admit his feelings for her.

Days like these continued across the years, of happiness, laughter, and sometimes, hardships that were overcome by their cooperation and bonds.

Yet everything ended tragically when she took the life of Veredorr with her own hands...

Tear glanced at her own hands, remembering Veredorr's face as he cried for her to stop, as he implored her to take out that crown...

"Please... Tear! You're not being you... Tear...!"

Those were his last words before his entire body was frozen, becoming a statue.

Yet unlike the rest, he was not inflicted with a curse, his body was merely frozen completely, and he died on the spot.

Tear glanced at her own hands, despite this being fault of the crown's manipulate, she couldn't help but feel guilty for this...

For the horrible things she did.

Deep down, she felt like taking her life, to end her suffering, to be punished for the wrongdoings she had committed.

Yet that was the complete opposite of what Veredorr wanted.

"What do I do now... Veredorr?" Her tears fell over Veredorr's Soul Crystal.

Chapter 789 Tear's New Resolve

Tear continued remembering those times. When Veredorr was at her side, those times she misses so much. Those time she never thought she would miss... Gritting her teeth, and hugging his Soul Crystal as she rested over the soft bed.

She couldn't help but remember those last words, that last conversation they had together, before she was to never see him again... When she was rescued from the crown's control, as he flew across the skies of the crown's mindscape, with big, frost-made bat wings.

"V-Veredorr?!"

"Tear... I've finally found you."

"After I... did that to you... You came back for me?"

"I knew it wasn't you who killed me... It was the crown's will."

"But I did so many horrible things... I even...!"

"Please, don't bother yourself with that... I want you to be happy. I want you to smile like you once did... I've been fighting, fighting for you, for that smile. Please..."

"Veredorr...Why? Why go... so far..."

"Because I... Tear... I've always loved you..."

"E-Eh? V-Veredorr...! I...!"

"I love you too..." Tear sighed, kissing the jewel in front of her. "I love you so much... I love you... That's what I wanted to say... Why didn't you even wait a little bit? Why... Why couldn't you let me say it? Maybe... you could have gone out more peacefully."

Tear continued lamenting, looking at the jewel.

"I wish we could have shared a life together... I wish... we could have... enjoyed so many things together... I wanted to be with you..." She continued crying. "I wanted to even be your wife... We could have had children, a big family... You could have taught me how to cook your favorite meals... Sniff... I could have... loved you back, and give you back all the love you deserved..."

Tear continued talking to the jewel constantly, almost endlessly.

Minutes passed, even an hour, two hours... three hours.

Despite knowing the jewel couldn't talk back, and maybe, there was nothing there but just a crystal.

She continued talking to him, to Veredorr.

"And that's why... We would have named our first child after my brother! Don't you think?" She smiled, glancing at the jewel.

And then, her face quickly grew more sad, depressed...

"R-Right...?"

She couldn't cry anymore.

Tear stood up from the bed, glancing into the mirror, the people outside were living their lives normally.

Some smiled, others laughed...

The world kept going, even when she had lost someone so important to him.

Veredorr wanted her to continue in this world that kept going, he wanted her to live in this world that kept giving.

He wanted her to enjoy the things he couldn't enjoy; he wanted her to explore the places she couldn't explore...

And she remembered his words once again.

"I want you to be happy. I want you to smile like you once did... I've been fighting, fighting for you, for that smile."

Tear smiled faintly, sincerely.



"I will smile for you, my love..." She sighed, caressing the jewel. "I will smile for all the times you made me happy, and for the many times you would had made me happy if you were here..."

Her broken heart slowly started to get itself together, even if wounded, it was still trying its best.

"And I will keep fighting for you... For my people here... I will protect them and amend for what I've done..." She gripped her fists.

The door behind her opened once more, as Maria entered the room with Nyx, Arachne, Partner, and Emeraldine. Everyone brought snacks and drinks to console the broken hearted girl.

"Hello there~ How are you doing?" Partner wondered.

"We brought you something to eat, you mustn't stay for so long without eating anything, Tear!" Emeraldine said.

"It's the missy that was evil before?" Arachne wondered.

"Yeah, she's good now." Nyx nodded.

"Oh, nice." Arachne smiled gently.

"How are you feeling?" Maria asked with a faint, gentle smile.

"I'm... not fine at all. In fact, I feel like dying. I feel terrible even... Yet for him..." Tear smiled. "I have to smile and keep moving forward."

Maria, who had also lost many loved ones, smiled back gently.

"Well said." Maria sighed. "Let's eat now. You can't go around with an empty stomach."

"Right... I would love to know more about... all of you, your names, and what you do and all... I don't know if I am even as strong as before but... I want to grow stronger. I want to help you all fight injustices and protect my tribe..." Tear sighed. "Is it okay? If I wanted to amend for what I've done?"

The girls were left surprised.

"W-Well, of course. If you really want to." Maria sighed. "I'll also make a necklace with that jewel, so you can always be together with him."

"Thank you..." Tear nodded. "Even if it is just an empty jewel, it is still... a part of him. As long as I have it with me, I think I can keep going... And maybe, sometimes smile."

FLAAASH!

The moment Tear said those words, for a faint moment, the jewel glowed brightly...

Everyone gasped in surprise.

Yet, it quickly stopped glowing right afterwards...

Silence took over the room.

"V-Veredorr? Is that you?" Tear cried, but there was no response. "Why did the jewel glowed out of nowhere? What is... happening?"

"...Maybe there could be a way." Maria said, suddenly getting serious, as she sensed something within the jewel.

It was Veredorr's Origin.

"A-A way?" Tear asked in surprise. "What is it?! C-Can I really bring him back?!"

"But for such a thing, we'll have to do the impossible, Tear..." Maria smiled. "Are you ready to walk a path that could even defy the gods? And the worst is... I can't even guarantee you that, at the end of the road, he could come back... I would say, fifty-fifty."

Tear smiled, her eyes glowing brightly, they glowed with the light of hope.

"I will! I don't care... For him... I would do anything!" Tear smiled. "Now... now it is my turn to help him, it is my turn... To repay him for everything he has done for me... I will even walk to the ends of the world; I would swim to the depths of the sea... I would even defy the gods if that's what you want. I don't care."

Maria smiled, nodding.

"I see, then you're one of us." Maria smiled. "Because my goal is the same as well. I will make a world where we no longer fear the gods, where there is no longer prejudice... And where the tragedies that led to the sacrifice of our beloved ones... Never happen again."

"I'm in! For sure!" Tear nodded. "I am sure that this is what Veredorr would had wanted... Right, Veredorr?" She smiled faintly, caressing the jewel.

Chapter 790 Time To Move Out

(Maria's POV)

It has been two weeks since the events that happened when we invaded the Frost Queen's dungeon and then Skadi's Tower. A lot has happened. First of all, my Level was now 90, so I only had ten levels before reaching max level. Tear was rescued alongside everyone in the village that got unfrozen, over a hundred Ice Giants joined our village now, so it was a lot of work to relocate them, and build them special homes that could fit their taller bodies.

Nonetheless, it wasn't actually that hard, with my Necromancy, I was able to shape the ground and dirt and combined it with my Alchemy, shaping wood became a breeze. And with everybody else's help, we managed to make tons of houses in just a single day, and constructed more for everyone to be able to live comfortably.

It wasn't easy for them to get used to live in here, and they're still adapting, but they're actually very polite and gentle people, and are slowly beginning to calm down and get used to having finally woken up from the long dream they have gone through when they were frozen by the crown's curse.

Tear was also rescued, and she slept for several days without waking up, but we constantly healed her wounds and oversaw her with Emeraldine. Eventually, she woke up, and we had a rather emotional conversation, where we addressed pretty much everything, including what happened with Veredorr.

It broke my heart to see her so terribly heartbroken. She cried for a whole day, and continued crying the next days... But slowly, she got better, and also apologized in public to all the ice giants, and also the people of my village.

She also went to the dwarf kingdom as we wanted to greet Brunhild and see how they were doing. She also gave a public apology, and although many people still hated her and blamed her, some began to understand what had truly happened. The sacrifice of Veredorr was now well known by everyone.

That one young man that lived his life inconspicuously, without wanting to bring any attention, literally became a hero to thousands of people. The Dwarf King decided to order a statue on his name, and it has already been constructed in just three days. Tear was rather shocked and moved by such a thing, which rested right in the middle of the dwarven country.

It was given the name of "Veredorr: the Hero that stopped the Eternal Winter". And we even got ourselves one of those in our village, alongside another statue for Lancelot. The dwarves were obsessed with the statue thing though, they wanted all of us to get some! But we declined, we didn't want to bring more attention to ourselves... Though Veredorr deserved that recognition.

I explained Tear about a way to bring back Veredorr. After all, although his entire soul was... destroyed, the core of it remained, even if hollow, it was still a crystalized form of a piece of his soul, which Tear now holds as a necklace. Sometimes, when she talks to this jewel a lot, the Soul Core would faintly glow, before falling into silence again.

There was... something on it, we knew. Veredorr might be gone, but perhaps there was the hope to bring him back. Our fight against that Vampire woman taught us the existence of "Origins" the innermost part of a person's existence, the deepest core of a soul.

And that Soul Core contained Veredorr's Origin, although it was badly damaged, it was still there, his very being contained within that small sphere of ethereal energy... If I can attain enough power to raise him back into a ghost, or even a living being, I might be able to revive him.

But I lack such power now... I need to get even stronger, and perhaps, to even gain the power of the Gods themselves, who have been plotting to destroy us for so long now... So I told Tear that the only way to bring him back would be by attaining a god-like power, and to grow so strong, we would need to continue walking a path that would oppose the gods themselves.

The girl, without even doubting me, accepted my proposal, and said she would become our ally. Since then, she has been training while we spent time preparing and doing many things. I made sure to get cozy with my beloved ones too.

Jonathan's family is still a concern, but from what I've heard of ghosts I sent to investigate there, his family's still safe, although it seems they've been told that he got killed. I guess if they know he's dead, they'll won't punish his family? Until they learn the truth, that's it...

Until then, I can hope that things will be safe...

Meanwhile, going back to the dwarven Kingdom, Brunhild has begun to be treated as a walking goddess there. She's praised by everyone, and no longer has to hide herself from the people. She walks proudly there, and is happy to visit her descendants, the children of her children with the ancient dwarf king.

Honestly, it was quite a shock, not even her brother knew of such a thing! She had it saved until the last moment, quite honestly... But it made us happy to know she had her children and a family now, even many years later. Because of her ever-growing love for them, she goes from there and here all the time, though she has begun to spend much more time there, she comes every week here and stays at least two days.

The dungeons over there are becoming fruitful, as we covered them on crops and the economy of the dwarf kingdom, even after the disaster that happened because of the Frost Generals invasion, was recovering very quickly. The greedy nobles also became much more humbled after learning of Brunhild's true identity and are cooperating with us more nicely.

Already starting our third week since then, we were all ready to begin our next journey.

We couldn't waste any more time, we'll make our last journey through this continent and do all the things we need to do.

Our first stop will be Emeraldine's village, and then, the Republic of Goldsand, where my little brother is hiding!