

A Ghost 961

Chapter 961 An Intense Clash!

In the very second the Black Knight targeted Celes and descended towards the boy while pointing his blazing sword downwards, a flash of bright light surged from behind him.

"[Divine Sacred Magic Bow Blast]!"

Emeraldine's newly enhanced bow absorbed her Light Elemental Mana, glowing brightly and then firing a gigantic blast of pure holy light, in the shape of a giant arrow!

BOOOOMMM!!

The attack hit the Black Knight even while falling, his entire body being blown away several meters away from Celes! Eustace groaned again, slowly standing back up as his entire body twisted, the sound of bones cracking echoing.

"RAAAAGGH... GRAAAH!"

With a ferocious roar, he zapped into action again, his army of crystal abominations keeping the majority busy. If they let even a single of these things slip off into the city nearby, there could be many casualties before the water goddess church paladins were to even move a finger to eliminate the threat.

"He's coming!" Jonathan roared, he tried to stop it but was kicked away by Eustace's tremendous power, rolling on the ground and quickly being swarmed by dozens of monsters. "Dammit!"

He stood back up and fought back to free himself from their grasp, while the black knight rushed directly towards the closest "weak" foe.

"DIE... DARK PEST! RAAARR!"

His giant sword descended rapidly towards Silva, who was right behind Catarina and Blackie, helping them grow stronger with her Miasmic Boost Ability.

SLAAAASSHH!!

A huge wave of cutting darkness was released from his sword slash, slashing through the air and spreading black flames everywhere.

"Bastard! Where do you think you're aiming to?!"

"Over here, fucker!"

Catarina and Partner joined together, both Vampires clashing against Eustace's sword and destroying his long-ranged attacks with the force of their powerful weapons.

CLAASH! CLAASH! CLAASH! CRAAASSHH!!

A barrage of consecutive piercing attacks from Partner's spear and powerful fists from Catarina pushed the black knight several steps back, his sword ended gaining several cracks as well as his armor!

"RAAAAH!"

With a ferocious roar, he overcharged his sword with his malicious dark powers and released a deadly slash with it, generating a shockwave of force that pushed his foes back.

TRUUUMMM!!

"Shit...!"

"Ugh!"

The two were pushed back, Eustace's Cursed Aura overflowing with an otherworldly power. Maria squinted her eyes as she analyzed his powers while summoning her Undead so they could take care of the endless army of crystal creatures.

"Aside from the curse powering him up as an Undead, his movements seem to be part of a certain type of swordsmanship technique." She analyzed. "But I've never seen one like that in all of my time in this world. I feel like Jonathan doesn't recognize it either."

Eustace moved through a specific set of footwork, moving from one place to another while exchanging his posture and stance. Each time he did, he would always be able to parry or block most blows.

The most interesting part of his technique was his ability to adapt to any situation, he was being overwhelmed by two S Class fighters, yet he was able to twist his whole body, swing his sword against them, and push them back with tremendous force.

"His swordsmanship feels almost otherworldly!" Maria smiled. "I wonder if he's like that Oasis Divine Spirit too? People from another world... I knew I wasn't the only one!"

As she thought that, she summoned a giant palm made of Moonlight, making it descend towards Eustace while he was being attacked by Partner, Catarina, and bombarded by Emeraldine's spirit arrows.

"[Selene's Palm of Judgement]"

The palm descended at lightning speed, Eustace was unable to react, quickly being crushed by the overwhelming force of the attack.

BAAAAMMM!!

"Uuugh...! UUURRGHH!"

However, Eustace was barely contained for a couple of seconds before the Selene's Palm was filled with countless cuts, exploding into pieces.

SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH!

BOOOMM!!

The explosion covered the sky with black and purple clouds, while he emerged amidst them, finally aiming for Maria after he saw her targeting him!

"RAAARRGH!"

"Good, come at me!"

Maria quickly activated the Abilities of her Equipment in conjunction with her Skills, as she was swiftly covered on a mighty armor of black lightning, Hecate's dress absorbing its properties and boosting them to another level.

"[Divine Lightning Death Maiden Armor]!"

FLAAASH!

A powerful shockwave of golden and black lightning surged from her body, quickly electrifying and burning through Eustace!

"GRAAAH!"

However, the black knight persevered with an endless tenacity, slicing through the electricity while flying in midair using his fantastic footwork.

"He's literally stepping on the sky itself!"

Maria could easily float due to her body composition and her magic, but Eustace was definitely a physical being, and he wasn't conjuring flying magic either.

He was using his own footwork to step on the air, something that Maria had only seen in those martial arts s about cultivators using a technique called "Cloud Step".

And this very thing aligning with the knowledge of a World named Murim from a crystal she got from those ruins where the crazed ghosts were found.

"So he's really using Abilities and Techniques from other worlds!"

While figuring it out, Maria's body shapeshifted, as hundreds of hands imbued with Moonlight and Lightning clashed against Eustace constantly.

"[Divine Spectral Asura's Endless Limbs]: [Death Lightning Fist Rain]"

By combining her Skills and Techniques together, Maria rained upon Eustace a barrage of explosive lightning strikes, piercing through his barriers made out of his aura, and barely pushing him down!

BAAM! BAAM! BAAM! BAAM! BAAM!

"DIE... DIEEEE!"

However, Eustace simply kicked the air again and then reached her in an instant, his sword overflowing with cursed black flames. He spun in midair, seemingly slashing the empty air into a half-moon shape, and releasing a powerful attack with it.

SLAAAASSHH!!

The powerful shockwave of darkness hit Maria instantly, an explosion of black flames engulfing her! However, she simply smiled, its power slowly turning into nourishment for her soul.

"I know you're strong, but attacks like those will have little effectiveness."

"GRRRHH... GRRRAARRR!"

He quickly approached Maria for close-ranged attacks using his sword, managing to leave several slashes on her dress, damaging her slightly.

SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH!

"His barrage of consecutive slashes is on par with Jonathan, if not even higher...!"

As Maria analyzed Eustace's prowess, she harnessed large quantities of lightning, void essence and moonlight energy into a single one of her fists.

"But this is as far as you go! [Silver Moon's Divine Lightning Fist]!"

CRAAAAASSHH!!!

Chapter 962 The Cursed Knight's Incredible Powers

Maria's countless arms and fists fused into a titanic fist she unleashed towards the black knight, shining with silver moonlight and hyper charged with lightning, it struck him at point-blank!

CRAAAAASSHH!!!

"G-Graaaggh...!"

Eustace's armor broke almost in half, revealing his skeleton beneath, covered by a thin layer of black and purple crystals.

His empty eyes shone with black light, flames pouring out of the eye sockets. His entire being was left shocked and shaken as one of his arms blew into pieces, half his armor was destroyed, and his word was cut down into two.

"Dark... Pest... Bastard... YOUU...!"

As Maria saw him fall torn to shreds, she suddenly noticed he had survived that hit, his malicious curse seeping deeper into his body and soul, letting out all the skills, abilities, and techniques this Knight had accumulated through his life as an Awakened.

"DARK PEST...! I'LL KILL... I'LL KILL YOUUUU!"

With a furious roar, the black knight fell into the ground and then started overflowing with darkness, which started to repair and regenerate his armor, now looking even larger, his whole size increased by five times, and his sword regrew anew, now full of crimson eyes.

"You survived that..." Maria said. "The curse set into your Origin... It is probably similar to the effects of a Demonite Crystal Heart that chimeras get implanted."

"DARK PEST! DIEEEE! RAAAAH!"

The Black Knight rushed towards Maria again, even stronger and bigger than before! She could easily notice his power level going from S Rank to S+++ Rank in a single second!

"It seems you see me as the Dark Pest guy, maybe because of my powers?" Maria wondered, as several of her allies leaped into action as the black knight rushed towards her.

Now that he had become S+++ Rank, they simply couldn't let Maria handle him alone! She was confident she could win after a long battle, but it was always better to receive the help of everyone.

"Oi." Lucifer appeared on his draconic form, his giant tail piercing several holes through Eustace's body before being parried away by his giant sword.

CLAASH! CLAASH! CLAASH! CLAASH!

"GRAAARRRGH!"

The berserk black knight howled like mad wolf, kicking the air and then slashing at Lucifer several times, before his Aura transformed into a giant dragon itself!

"DRAGON... RAGE... AURA!"

"ROOOAAARR!"

The Aura erupted from his body and clashed against the giant dragon king, pushing him down! Lucifer was shocked by the ability this knight possessed!

"What in the world is this guy!?"

BAAAAMM!!

His enormous body fell over the dunes, as his blazing claws quickly started slashing against the dragon made out of Eustace's Aura.

"Looks like he got a lot of tricks down his sleeves!" Partner said. "Let's see if you can take on this though! [Umbral Shadow Clones]!"

FLASH! FLASH! FLASH! FLASH! FLASH!

Using her Darkness Spear Ability, Partner divided herself into dozens of clones made of shadows, swarming Eustace from all sides, firing Dark Magic Spells towards him to distract him.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOOMM!!

"GRRRHHH! DIVINE... SWORD... INTENT!"

FLAAAASH!

Eustace groaned like a wolf, his powers gathering within his body and then releasing into countless blades made of darkness and black flames.

The swords that emerged out of his "intent" crushed all clones one after another, exploding and leaving behind black smoke.

This gave Partner an opening, charging her spears with as much power as she could and releasing it all out against the black knight's back!

"[Draconic Medusa's Fangs]!"

Her Spears combined their Auras, as a gigantic serpentine dragon formed out of their essence, hissing ferociously and biting through Eustace!

CRAAAASSHH!!

"GRRRAAGH!"

The Black Knight evaded a destructive attack and ended sacrificing a large part of his left shoulder, while swiftly harnessing black flames into his sword and unleashing a beam with it.

"BLADELESS... SWORD!"

FLUOOOSH!

The beam changed into the shape of a giant blade surging from his sword, clashing against Partner and piercing her armor, reaching her stomach.

SLAAAASSHH!!

"UGH...! Bastard!"

Her body was sliced into two halves, but she was totally fine with that, as a Vampire with tremendous regeneration, she welcomed the blood pouring out of her body.

"[Divine Blood Arts]: [Blood Familiar Summon]!"

The blood that splattered out of her body swiftly combined and swirled around, growing into the shapes of ferocious giant dogs, enormous bats, and furious snakes, attacking Eustace.

"RAAAAH!"

"SHAAAH!"

"ROOAAR!"

The Black Knight's empty eyes glowed with crimson light as he attacked the monsters and cut them down into pieces one after another, giving time for everyone else to attack again.

"[Spirit Magic Arrows]: [Divine Arrows Of Light]! [Fierce Arrows Of Fire]!"

Emeraldine activated the ability of her newly enhanced bow from a distance, firing dozens of light and fire arrows at the Black Knight.

They reached him as he was busy, bombarding his whole armor and slowly tearing through it, leaving many holes and cracks where Lucifer and Partner had helped breaking through.

BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM!

Above all, her arrows not only were explosively strong, but they also possessed the power of unleashing strong status effects! The fire and light arrows could inflict Spiritual Burn and Soul Blindness respectively, hindering Eustace temporarily!

"UAAAGGH!"

His soul was in agony as it was being burned, while his visual senses as an Undead, which came from the very soul, were completely blinded!

The Black Knight acted by hearing senses alone, cutting through the blood beasts and the thin air, in which Partner laughed once he was swarmed.

"Dumbass, you got yourself covered on a bunch of my blood!" Partner laughed evilly. "[Crimson Burst]!"

FLASH! FLASH! FLASH! FLASH!

Suddenly, all the blood covering Eustace glowed with crimson red energy, surprising the knight who just regained his senses, and so did the rest of the blood beasts, glowing as if about to detonate!

And they did.

"GRAAAAGGHH...!"

BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM!

The Black Knight was engulfed on countless explosions, large chunks of armor and bones flying everywhere, he attempted to regenerate, but was simply overwhelmed, falling from the skies.

"DARK... PEST... Y-YOU... BASTARD... BASTAAARRDDD!"

However, in the last moments when everyone thought it was finally over, his body didn't give up yet, the very last reserves of energy within his Origin erupted like an explosion of pure darkness.

TRUUUUUMMM...!!

Chapter 963 Shadow Soul Dragon Of Eternal Malice

Eustace's complete body exploded into black darkness, the cloud of shadow essence flowing into the skies and quickly taking a different shape, the shape of a ferocious and monstrous dragon. Maria and her friends couldn't help but feel shocked once they saw what was happening! The Black Knight had yet to unleash all of his powers.

"RAAAARRR!"

Ding!

[The [Corrupted Undead Black Knight: Eustace: Lv200+ (S+++ Rank)] has released all the Malice and Corruption from its soul! These malign powers have taken a new form, absorbing the Special Shadow Dragon Martial Arts learned in Murim, and activating their Hidden Ability, transforming him into the [Shadow Soul Dragon of Eternal Malice]!]

[All of his Stats have increased by +300%, his Darkness, Shadow, and Black Flames Attribute Magic Power has increased by an additional +500%!]

[However, his Soul is slowly being eaten away this transformation cannot last much longer.]

[Duration: 10 Minutes.]

Not only was Maria shocked over the boosts to his stats and power, but also that it explicitly said he learned these powers in Murim! It made sense why they seemed so different than Yggdrasil's own martial arts and techniques.

And it also seemed like Eustace was tricked by whoever taught him such techniques. As it carried a powerful drawback where they would accumulate Malice from the user's own unstable emotions, and then erupt into a monstrous transformation that would eat their souls away.

The power Eustace relied the most was now even aiming to destroy his very soul... Maria couldn't help but think that people from the Murim world were real assholes.

"So he'll still die in ten minutes..." Maria sighed. "What a reckless move, Eustace! We can't let you eat your own soul! We have so many questions to ask you!"

"ROOOAAARRR!"

Eustace had completely gone insane, roaring like a monstrous dragon and then rushing down towards everyone. His gigantic ethereal body being now over three hundred meters tall! His titanic dragon claws rushed down, about to slash through all his foes while leaving explosions of black flames.

"Alright, I guess there's no helping it."

Lucifer's size grew even larger, matching Eustace's draconic and ethereal form, and clashing against him with his own dragon claws and tail. Activating several skills at a time, their flames clashed against one another, blazing explosions decorating the sands surrounding them and above.

The crystal beasts evolved alongside their monstrous master as well, quickly continuing to grow out of every glass created out of the black flames burning the sand. Their smaller forms fused into even larger creatures, some already hitting S- Rank!

Fabian and his friends, alongside Takeshi, Laura, and Tear had their hands full dealing with them, while Catarina, Silva, and Nyx, Celes, and Nia also helped them, while trying to get to the giant dragon so they could also help on damaging its gigantic form.

"You're nothing but a terrible copy of a true and glorious dragon!"

BAAM! BAAM! BAAM! BAAM!

Lucifer was tanking countless hits, as he had his flesh gnashed and his scales torn apart. His claws and tail attacks pierced through the ethereal dragon's form, filling it with holes that quickly regenerated back to normal.

"Maria, did you say this monster only has ten minutes left?! Does that mean he's invincible in these ten minutes or something?!" Asked Lucifer in shock, seconds before the giant dragon were to push him down and beginning to bite his neck. "ARGH! Screw off!"

Lucifer harnessed all his powers into his legs, kicking the draconic ethereal mass into the skies with all the power his gigantic body could muster.

BAAAAMM!!

"RAAARR!"

The monstrous dragon was sent flying, only for Partner and Jonathan to appear at each side, pointing their weapons at him. They flew there at lightning speed, only resembling two blurs of red and golden yellow color.

"Alright, once more!" Partner roared. "I'm not letting you get away this time, black knight! [Chaotic Vampire Queen's Burst]!"

The Vampiress harnessed all the Blood Energy available on her reserves, leaving her with close to zero, fusing it with her immense quantities of Mana, and then imbuing it into her crimson-colored spear,

which immediately changed, growing ten times as large, as a spiraling storm of crimson lightning and ruby colored clouds materialized around the spear.

With all her strength, she pierced Eustace's draconian body, a huge explosion of blood and darkness engulfed more than half of the monster's entire body, making it quickly begin to disintegrate.

CRAAAASSHH!!

The crimson blood seemed to spiral around the weapon, engulfing the entire dragon into a vortex and then absorbing half of its mass, before exploding into ruby-colored lightning that opened the skies above, which had grown dark with black clouds, and destroying half of his entire body.

BOOOOMMMM!!!

"Woah..."

Jonathan was shocked as he saw the gigantic ethereal black dragon fall to the ground from the sky, it had attempted to resist first, but once half its entire body was blown up, it simply groaned in agony, bleeding off ethereal essence, part of its own bloated soul.

"GRUOOHHH!"

However, on a desperate attempt of survival, even as an Undead, the monstrosity's shape twisted, growing a gigantic head where half of its body was and firing a breath attack against Partner!

"[Heaven's Fall]!"

Jonathan didn't let that happen, harnessing almost all of his Mana and releasing it through his sword, activating his strongest technique, the skies opened as a ray of endless light descended together with his own divine sword, slashing through the dragon and then making most of it explode.

BOOOOOMMMM!!!

As if a second explosion couldn't be enough, the gigantic monster fell into the sands, the crystal monsters rushed towards it, fusing with its missing soul parts and beginning to turn it into a half-ethereal and half-crystal monstrosity.

"RAAAARRRGH!"

Materializing hundreds of crystal weapons around him, he swiftly fired them against everyone nearby, forcing them to defend or escape! What's worse, whenever the crystal projectiles hit something, they exploded into even more black crystals, which gave birth to even more monsters!

"You're getting ahead of yourself, Eustace."

Maria rushed down towards him, at the same time as a gigantic arrow overflowing with many elements was fired against the dragon from Emeraldine right behind her.

"Let's end this!"

Chapter 964 Eustace, The Ancient Knight

Seconds before, Emeraldine started to prepare, fusing all the elements she could conjure out of her magic arrows into a single one, and blessing this arrow with her Blessing of Yggdrasil and her Divine Spirit's powers together into a single, powerful Aura of many rainbow colors.

This was the special ability of her Bow, after having been enhanced by Maria's abilities, which was now overflowing with all her powers, and more.

"Now or never. [Divine Yggdrasil's Nine Worlds: Ragnarök]!"

FLAAASH!

A titanic arrow made of seven colors of light rushed through the skies, looming over the crystalline dragon that was once the love of the Divine Oasis Spirit, and piercing right through his head, exploding into wood and light everywhere.

BOOOOOMMM!!

"GRAAARRGH...!"

Eustace's entire body started to quickly fall apart at long last, beginning to turn into a pile of crystals and black flames, it tried to stand back up once more, firing beams of darkness everywhere. If it was going to be defeated, it would take everyone with him.

However, Maria was right there, and stopped him from doing any more harm and rampage, while little Celes, his three spirits, and his mother appeared within her shadows.

"I think I could try devouring his shadows, but Celes, I need your help in purifying him and healing him, the same way you did with Nyx! Can you do it?!" Asked Maria desperately.

"I can! L-Leave it to me!" The young boy said confidently, harnessing his divine spiritual soul and releasing it.

FLAAASH!

His Divine Spirit Soul Aura materialized outside of his body, as he was being piggybacked by his mother, wielding winds to defend against the shadows constantly approaching them. Maria stayed in the front, opening a black hole in her chest and beginning to devour the darkness so it wouldn't attack them.

"GRAAAARRR!"

Eustace kept roaring viciously, as the darkness kept emerging endlessly, Maria for the first time thought her stomach was going to get full due to how much darkness she had absorbed all at once! And it simply kept coming.

FLASH!

Celes' Aura kept surging from his body, until finally, combining with the three Divine Water Spirits he contracted with, formed a gigantic and beautiful mermaid woman, made of glistening ethereal azure water.

"Our Lady's power and will... It lives on within little Celes' soul!"

"She's here, with us... With him!"

"She'll be always protecting him, and us... No, the entire desert, the town she loved and cared for!"

The three Fairies cried tears of happiness, their powers unifying as one, as the monstrous black dragon faced the mermaid titaness, darkness against glistening azure water.

BAAAM!

The explosion of forces reverberated across the entire desert, azure water began to rain over the entire desert, even surprising the people of the town nearby. The Saintess of Fountains and Springs glanced in utter disbelief as it kept raining, the water she had taken away from these people coming back to them without end.

The azure spiritual water washed down through Eustace, the darkness was finally cleansed, his corpse disintegrated, and the only thing left behind was his wounded, bare soul. The soul of a young man that had lost everything, the darkness cursing his Origin now finally cleansed by the very light that saved him back then, when he was alive and lost.

"Is that you... Naiad?"

The beautiful mermaid embraced Eustace on a tight hug, kissing his forehead. She couldn't speak a word, but her water and her azure-colored aura made him feel embraced by her love... The love he had missed for thousands of years.

"Phew, we made it in time..." Maria sighed in relief. "Your soul's still reparable. You really went and did all of that stuff, huh? That Dark Pest guy must have put a terrible curse on you. Was he also from another world?"

"A-Ah..." Eustace was slightly shocked once he saw Maria, Celes, Nia, and everyone else behind them. The crystal beasts stopped spawning, the everything else was being cleansed by the spiritual water. "W-Who are you? What... what happened?"

FLUOSH!

Suddenly, the mermaid slowly faded away, returning to her original form, just spiritual essence, and fusing back into Celes' soul, the three spirits fused were also separated, startling Eustace's weak soul.

"A lot happened, to be honest." Maria sighed, as she noticed Eustace looking at Celes', his aura overflowing with the same presence as Naiad once did.

"Y-You... Naiad... You're not her." He sighed, clenching his fists. "She's dead, isn't she?"

"..." Celes sighed. "I'm sorry..."

"It's fine... You don't have any fault on this." He sighed, as Eustace gave a rather bitter smile, looking into the bright sky, the rain slowly stopped, revealing a beautiful rainbow amidst the clouds. "Ahhh... Even if I am dead, I feel so much at ease. This darkness dwelling within me, it has been there for thousands of years. Thank you for freeing my soul from its torment."

"Eustace! It's really you, aren't it?"

"You're back to normal!"

"We're happy to see you!"

The three spirits of water gathered around him; they knew Eustace. They have probably lived many years at his side, with their master. Eustace was shocked as he recognized their faces.

"I-It's you three! You're Naiad's Spirits..." He laughed. "I can't believe it, you're alive... I'm so glad!" His mood quickly changed and lightened.

The fairies danced around him, but quickly noticed that Eustace's soul was slowly beginning to fade away into particles of golden light. If they didn't do anything quickly, he would definitely disappear.

Like any other ghostly being, without any curse attaching their phantasmal beings to the living world, their souls would be dragged to either Helheim, or somewhere else.

"Naiad was her name?" Asked Maria. "She's long gone, but she apparently reincarnated into this child we've been taking care of, Celes. Eustace, you were an ancient and powerful knight, you loved Naiad, and fought for her, didn't you?"

"...I did." Eustace sighed. "She was everything for me. I died for her, and I might die again for her again."

"The Dark Pest is not dead." Maria said. "Naiad died while fighting him and sacrificed her life to seal him. But there's a group of Warlock Vampires trying to revive him. I know it might not be fair but... Will you join us?"

"..." Eustace sighed, looking into the skies.

Chapter 965 The Tower

"When I started climbing the tower, I felt lost. I wanted to find myself or die trying." Eustace started talking, as he admired the beauty of the sunlight with his soul eyes. "I always thought my life was useless, there was nothing for me anywhere, I was a good-for-nothing, and I even considered killing myself many times."

Eustace then caressed the little heads of the fairies around him, who were looking at his appearance with puppy eyes.

"But then I met my friends, we made a guild named the Crimson Tailed Foxes, we fought through trial after trial, and we explored the many worlds of the Tower." He spoke. "Until we reached Atlantis, a world of seas with islands. That's where we meet her, Naiad. She was back then merely a lost Mermaid, who had run away from her village because her people wanted to sacrifice her to some kind of Deep-Water God."

As she heard Eustace speak, Maria was left speechless. Eustace not only was an otherworldly like her, but also Naiad! Not only that, but they were not reincarnations like her, but people that just trespassed the boundaries of worlds, and walked through "the Tower" as they called it.

Her ghostly heart started beating faster as she felt the excitement of a world much larger than she could have ever hoped or imagined. Yggdrasil wasn't everything, there was a whole new horizon hidden from plain sight.

"It was love at first sight though..." Eustace laughed. "She quickly became a member of our guild. She helped us navigate across the seven dangerous seas of Atlantis, and we fought teeth and nail to survive, quest after quest, until we arrived at the Stairs leading further up. She had a wish when she started climbing the tower, to revive her beloved sister that died long ago, sacrificed to this Deep-Water God. It was one of the things that drove her to move forward. They promised us, the Administrators, that the Tower would grant us a wish when we reached the top. Although everyone had a wish, I already had my wish come true. I meet friends, and then, also fell in love with a wonderful woman. I honestly never wished for anything else in my pitiful life."

"Eustace..." Maria sighed.

"So there's something called... a Tower?" Nia didn't have any idea.

"The original inhabitants of the worlds we meet were also clueless, not all of them knew about the Tower. Usually this information was concealed from the normal public, only those that governed or became Players themselves knew." Said Eustace. "In between worlds, there are many floors that are trials where players have to compete to climb further and reach new worlds. Once we reach a new world, we must first complete quests, and later, the path to the Heavenly Stairs leading further up will be revealed to us."

"The Heavenly Stairs..." I said. "So does this mean that the otherworldly heroes, the people they summoned here, were these "Players", and they left descendants..."

"Maybe." Eustace sighed. "And well, with Naiad and my friends, we went through many adventures and hardships. Eventually, we grew weary of them, even as we grew stronger, the challenges only kept getting harder. When we eventually lost one of us, our trust was shattered, and my friends left me one after another, trying to seek a life of their own in a world we visited, or to climb the tower alone because they feared losing more of their loved ones. But Naiad, she stayed with me, no matter what."

"It was back then when I began to consider that she was following me almost blindly, because she loved me, and not because of the wish she once hoped to achieve." Eustace sighed. "I was forcing her to go through countless hardships for my own selfishness... And I couldn't bear it anymore. Once we reached Yggdrasil, I thought it was a large world, one which surely could have areas where we could live in peace, the two of us. She wanted to settle down since a while ago, but I was afraid of that."

"Eventually, we meet many people, completed quests, and saved civilians from monster floods even defeating Calamities ourselves." Eustace sighed. "Trying to find a place to belong to, a place we could call home. Eventually, we did, this place, Midgard, was all we needed. Yet... something happened. The strongest Players that dominated this world, who called themselves Aesir, decided to recruit us into their pantheon after watching our strength. We obeyed at first, thinking it was the right thing to do to secure our safety. But we were wrong... Odin was mad, and the goddess that took charge of my dear Naiad was a selfish bitch that only cared about herself. Naiad suffered below her commands. Eventually, we couldn't bear with it anymore, and escaped, desiring the freedom we once had."

"And that's when we landed here, in these deserts, isolated from the rest of the world. Naiad felt weak in these areas, but due to having evolved into a powerful Divine Mermaid Spirit, she created an Oasis where we could live... And this Oasis, it attracted many people, nomads that wandered these deserts." Eustace said with a slight smile. "Without realizing it, as many years went by, a whole town was formed around us, we had so much happiness, we had so many friends. I was finally able to live the life I always dreamed of, with my beautiful Naiad, even the desert looked like a wonderful place."

As Eustace narrated his story, more people came closer, staying in silence as they listened the old and weary soul speak, revealing to them both the truth about this world, the tower, and also his past and that of the Divine Oasis Spirit.

"But that's when he came... The Dark Pest as you call him, or as I've known him as, Yin Shang, a monstrous Demonic Sect Tyrant of the World of Murim, a Player, and the bastard that killed one of my friends." Eustace gritted his teeth, fury glowing from his eyes. "He came to hunt us down by the request of the Goddess of Water of this world, she had put a bounty on our heads."

Chapter 966 The Past Of The Cursed Knight

"Ying Shang, that bastard... He was a monster that killed my friend in one of the trials, despite that not being necessary for him to win. He was a well-known psychopath that enjoyed hunting Players. The Tower's rule incentivizes that too, as it rewards you with Experience, Special Titles, and even Skills." Eustace said. "I had thought we escaped from him forever, but he appeared again, taking on the bounty the Water Goddess left, and chasing us both."

"So this guy was a martial artist from this Chinese cultivation world?!" Maria asked in surprise. "Wait, so that's Murim?"

"Something like that..." Eustace sighed. "It isn't a bad place, although there are many evils, there are also righteous people that welcomed us when we visited it. It is the world right below Yggdrasil. Some of the people that live in Murim hate Yggdrasil because it holds a higher position than them, finding it unbelievable when they gauge the strength of the average person from here compared to their world... Nonetheless, he was a monster. We discovered that he had captured a Fragment of this World's Evil God, and assimilated it into his own Physique, evolving all his Martial Arts through this power."

"And that's when you fought him?" Celes asked shyly.

"Yes, that's when everything happened." Eustace nodded. "I fought him with everything I had, but I realized I had grown weak, my growth halted for too many years, and he had already fully surpassed me, and become someone overwhelming. He mocked my techniques, he mocked my guild, and then he killed me, cursing my Origin so I wouldn't even be able to rest in peace... Naiad managed to escape and then returned to my corpse, and building a temple for my corpse to rest in peace. She sealed me with spirit crystals, hoping that I could rest at ease, until she came back for me one day, to revive me... But I guess, she was never able to do so."

"T-This is so sad..." Nia, Celes' mother, continued sobbing as she heard the sorrowful story. "I'm so sorry for you, Eustace..."

"It's fine... I've been dead for a long while now." Eustace said. "But even now, what pains me the most is knowing my dear Naiad died by the hands of that monster. And because of that, I simply cannot pass away peacefully. If that monster is about to be revived, if Naiad's sacrifice was for nothing, then I must slay him myself, or at the very least, help you do so."

"Eustace!" Maria smiled, feeling relieved the soul was willing to fight, even after death.

"But... I've lost most of my powers after being purified." He felt sorry. "I don't know how much of a help I could be."

"Maybe we can do something about it." Maria smiled. "Celes, dear, come with me."

"Huh?" He was confused but followed her and reached Eustace. "What are we doing with mister Eustace?"

"We will make him a ghost, but a special one." Maria said. "One with a blessing and not a curse. He will become something close to a spirit. I will use my powers, and you will imbue him with yours. Alright?"

"Oooh! Okay!" Celes nodded happily.

"W-Wait a second! W-What do you mean by- Uwaah!" Eustace was confused, but they started right away. Maria grasped his soul tightly and imbued her powers into him.

For a second, he felt the darkness and coldness of death more strongly than ever before, almost as asphyxiating as his curse before. His soul started to transform, mutating and becoming phantasmal. However, that's where Celes entered.

Using the divine power of his soul, which had developed a lot after absorbing the three fragments of divinity left by Naiad in those spirit crystals, and with the aid of her three new Divine Spirits of Water, a miracle happened.

"[Divine Spirit Blessing of the Oasis]!"

FLUOSH!

The power washed over his soul, the darkness and coldness Eustace felt disappeared, as he felt the warmth and the love of Naiad, still present within the powers of Celes. The fear he felt faded away, as he smiled calmly, letting the two combined powers change him.

"T-This is... My body, it feels like I am becoming water itself." Eustace thought, looking at his own hands, legs, and torso. "I feel so free, so... happy. This presence, it is as Naiad... Lives within me as well. My dear Naiad..." He shed a tear, as he was reborn.

FLAAASH!

His body appearance changed, as he grew a long fish-like tail instead of his two legs, gills adorned his neck, and his arms, chest, and neck gained an armor of draconian azure scales, while armor further covered his body.

His blade came back to him out of his very soul, shaping out of the azure spiritual water, into a glorious azure sword, beautifully decorated with fish-like gills and a fish-like tail at the handle. His eyes shone with golden light, as his hair turned azure colored.

He was reborn anew, even after death.

"W-What is this form?" He wondered, looking at himself. "Is this truly me? I feel like... Naiad, she has blessed me with her powers. I've become like her own tribe."

"Woow..." Celes was amazed. "Y-You're a Water Ghost now, mister Eustace!"

"Incredible, it worked!" Maria smiled fascinatedly.

A thread of azure light connected Eustace with Celes, becoming his new familiar a powerful ghost that would protect him from all harm with his sword and his shield.

FLAAASH!

"I'll protect you, little Celes. I am sure that's what Naiad would have wanted me to do."

"A ghost no longer bound by a curse and hatred, but bound by love and bonds, and a blessing..." She quickly started to think about her own situation. "I wonder... if I could ever become like him one day? No longer bound by my endless hatred and guilt?"

Although everyone seemed happy and amazed, she looked slightly melancholic. Her curse only grew stronger the more she evolved... She wondered if she could truly become like Eustace, or if she simply had to continue walking down the path she had chosen once she died.

However, she felt the warm hand of Lucifer patting her shoulders, and then that of Emeraldine, Partner, and lastly, Jonathan. She smiled faintly, deciding to leave those thoughts for another time.

"That's right... I am not alone either."

Chapter 967 Maria Finally Gets Her Divine Spirit

After defeating Eustace and helping him recover his sanity, with the aid of Celes' powers, we managed to transform him into a Water Ghost, and not a normal one, but one that was also kind of like a Spirit, but not there yet. Instead of a Curse with Hatred, Frustration, or Sorrow infecting his soul, there was a Blessing with Love, Hope, and the desire for Justice to be enacted.

This was the first time such a creation was even made, I believe, a ghost that does not possess an accursed existence, but a blessed one. Isn't he more like a guardian spirit? Perhaps even closer to an angelic being than a ghost now... I don't really know, but it was great.

Naturally, I don't get to keep him because Eustace is attached to Naiad, that's the name of the Divine Oasis Spirit. She turned out to be an otherworld, not someone that the Water Goddess created herself or something. Turns out there's a lot more to this world than we've ever knew before, at the same time, it made this world feel... small in comparison to the rest of it, to the Tower.

Ding!

[You have raised [Eustace] into a [Spiritual Oasis Guardian Ghost (S Rank)]!]

[Due to having received a special Blessing, Eustace Stats have increased greatly, and he has acquired many new Skills.]

[Eustace] has created a contract with [Celes]!]

Nice, Celes needs more protection than just his mother after all. I really want to be happy, but I also feel slightly let down, I had originally come here to get myself a Spirit, but we all ended just helping little Celes get stronger, which I'm not really complaining about.

Never mind, I shouldn't be really jealous of a child, he had gone through many hardships and suffered too much for his age. It is good he can become stronger. He'll be the liberator of his people. I can already envision it being that way.

Now, I suppose we should get moving, these ruins are almost completely destroyed, and we don't want to make more of a fuss here- Oh?

However, as I looked where Eustace was originally, I found out a large chunk of magic crystals, the same crystals monsters have inside of them, and it was big enough and high quality enough to be worth at least three S Rank Magic Crystals!

"Hey, what the hell is this?!" I was shocked. "Eustace, did you shit this out?"

"What? I don't know... I think it might be what's left of when I was a monster." He laughed a bit. "It is a Magic Crystal, right? You can have it if you want."

"I'll sure be having it!" I happily stored it inside my inventory, feeling much more joyous.

With this, we got three more S Rank Crystals on the bag, a few more and everyone that needed them to evolve should be covered! However, before we left, Eustace told me something.

"Before you leave, can you accompany me? I think there's something left where I was once resting." He said. "Something was born from the spirit energy of Naiad and my own soul; I remember that little thing always being by my side."

"Oh?" I just let him guide me there, finding a large stone-made coffin, covered on purple and blue jewels, emanating auras of darkness. These were certainly not compatible with Celes. "What's this? More crystals to mine?"

"Over here... Ah, here it is." Eustace quickly rummaged around, finding something, there was a purple-colored and sticky cocoon-like mass of a weird slimy substance sitting inside the stone coffin.

"What's this?" I wondered.

"This is a cocoon, but I think it might be the one of a spirit!" Said Eustace. "A very peculiar one, born out of my soul curse and the spirit energy of Naiad."

"A spirit..." I said, slowly approaching my hand towards the cocoon, which reacted by beginning to twist.

Crack, crack... CRACK!

And from within, a beautiful pink and purple-colored moth, with very big purple eyes emerged out of the cocoon, glancing at me with adorably big eyes.

"Oh, another Spirit!" Celes tried to get closer, only for the moth to glare at him and hiss, showing a large jaw filled with sharp teeth.

"HISS!"

"Uwaah!"

The reckless boy, who was getting a bit too cocky, thinking he could tame just any spirit, was startled so much he stepped back and almost fell over the sand, if it wasn't for his mother that was right behind him.

"Celes, dear, you are not just compatible with any spirit. Do not be reckless! They're beings that must be respected." His mother reprimanded him.

"A-Ah, sorry..." Celes sighed, feeling slightly embarrassed. "Then what spirit is that?"

Emeraldine analyzed it from a distance. The spirit in the shape of a moth seemed hostile to everyone except me, hissing at them while glancing at me adorably whenever I put my eyes on it.

"It seems... This element has a strong stench, and it feels like it could sap away the life from beings and slowly corrode things... It is a Poison Spirit." Emeraldine said, fascinated. "Amazing! This is the first time I see a spirit of such a mysterious element."

"It must be for you then, Master!" Partner said very excitedly. "Take it!"

"I guess so?" I wondered, still being unable to believe it. "C-Can you stay with me? Will you not fear me like everyone else?"

I asked the little moth, as I offered him a poison spirit crystal with my hand. The little and curious ethereal moth quickly set its gaze into my hands, slowly crawling there and munching on the spirit crystal.

"Kyu!"

Once it ate it all, it gave the most adorable little sound I've ever heard, and a thread came out of its soul, connecting with me out of nowhere... A contract was formed in a flash, still leaving me almost completely speechless.

FLAAASH!

Ding!

[You've created a Spirit Contract with the [Poisonous Miasmic Moth Divine Spirit]!]

[As your first ever Divine Spirit contract, you've unlocked many new Spirit Magic Spells!]

[You acquired the [Divine Spirit Mage: Lv1] Title Skill!]

[All Spirit-related Skills have gained 1 Bonus Level!]

[Your Aether has increased by +100!]

My Aether increased by 100?!

Chapter 968 Poisonous Miasmic Moth Divine Spirit

When the contract between the Divine Spirit and my soul was made, it felt like something I've never felt before! It was completely different than my connection with the Undead I controlled, which was more like just an Authority, this was an intrinsic connection, a bond of soul and emotions.

I could feel the innocence of this spirit, and the little trust they put on me, so much it felt slightly embarrassing how naïve it was. I had to make sure to make this spirit happy and feed it well, or it might lose trust and leave me.

But for now, the power I felt was incredible, as long as this connection remained, my Soul itself grew at least a ten percent larger than before, which is an immense feat considering how big and strong it already was.

Ding!

[You've created a Spirit Contract with the [Poisonous Miasmic Moth Divine Spirit]!]

[As your first ever Divine Spirit contract, you've unlocked many new Spirit Magic Spells!]

[You acquired the [Divine Spirit Mage: Lv1] Title Skill!]

[All Spirit-related Skills have gained 1 Bonus Level!]

[Your Aether has increased by +100!]

Not only did I get an awesome new Title Skill, but also all of my Spirit-related Skills gained a bonus level, and I gained 100 Aether, the unique stat that showcases the growth of my Soul! I can't believe it. This is out of this world!

Ding!

[Do you wish to give a Name to the Divine Spirit you've contracted with? If they like the name, their affection towards you might increase.]

"A-A name? Sure... Okay, I got it. You'll be Amethysts." I smiled, patting its fluffy head, the little antennae it had gave an adorable little movement, as it climbed over me and then rested on my chest.

"Kyuuuh!" It nodded, rather happily.

Ding!

[You've named your Spirit as [Amethyst], your connection and bond has been strengthened.]

[Amethyst] says they're still very hungry.]

[Feed them!]

"O-Oh, alright." I laughed. "Do you eat miasma crystals too? Demonite? I got plenty."

"Kyuuh!" The little spirit happily started eating the Demonite shards one after another.

It was just a silly little spirit, but I was already seeing it like another adorable pet I could take care of, maybe one that I won't have to leave protecting our home as I usually do. Another new thing I also noticed in my status was this, a new tab for spirits.

[Contracted Spirits]: [Poisonous Miasmic Moth Divine Spirit: Amethyst (Affection: 50/100)]

It even showed their affection, and Amethyst was already halfway through! I only needed to feed him and pet him a bit more and he would become my loyal spirit! Now I feel like I want MORE, they give me Aether, which helps my soul slowly ascend into a higher state what I need to develop my Divine Ember so I can eventually become a Goddess.

"Wow, nice that you finally got a spirit, Maria!" Jonathan celebrated.

"Yeah, yeah, you finally did it." Catarina clapped at me.

"Good work mum!" Nyx agreed, cheering for me.

"Okay, I don't think it is enough to make a celebration about it..." I sighed. "But I'm grateful for the compliments, nonetheless. Let's head back home now, I don't think there's any other spirit left, sadly."

"I'm wondering how the town we built with Naiad looks now..." Said Eustace. His face filled with excitement slowly changed as we told him all the horrendous things that have happened in here.

"T-This is awful... Why would a Saintess do this? Ah, she's a Saintess of that rotten Water Goddess, huh?" Eustace wondered. "That woman was the daughter of a powerful Player like Odin, she was most likely born in luxuries and never struggled. I doubt she has ever traveled anywhere else than Yggdrasil. Ordering her Saintess to do these horrendous things does align with how I remember her to be."

"You meet her in person?" I wondered. "But how did you get to where the Gods are? Don't I need to ascend first?"

"I did undergo Ascension. You could say I was something like a Demigod before my death." Eustace said. "I am now back to S Rank. I would need to reach SSS Rank to finally become a Demigod again. And once you reach L Rank, your Divine Ember develops into a Divinity Core by fusing with your Origin. And then... I, huh, I don't remember well what happens next."

"Well, figures, you're a ghost. All ghosts have bad memories, I was surprised you remembered so much." I laughed a bit. "So I need to be SSS Rank to be a Demigoddess, huh? That sounds like a lot of annoying grinding."

"Well, not necessarily. Some Players could reach that stage much earlier. It depends on your talent, Traits, Skills, and other things. Oh right, the Divine Concept too... Some people are born with it naturally, very talented ones that are usually already a god's children. If you Cultivate through Murim's techniques coupled with leveling, your growth speed should be twice as fast if not more. I remember there was also something in this world they called Magic Circle Creation. Has anybody done that yet?" Eustace asked.

"Wait, the what?" I wondered, everyone was just as confused.

"You don't know what it is?!" He was shocked. "But that can't be... Unless the "Gods" of this world have been purposely making all of this information harder to find? But why do they want to weaken the inhabitants of this world so much?"

"Probably to have better control over the population." Lucifer said. "There are also level caps, most people can't reach a level higher than 50."

"What...? That wasn't as common as before..." Eustace muttered. "Odin, that monster is obsessed with having control over the people. Probably thinking that an inhabitant of Yggdrasil could become a Player themselves is what's making him so afraid... That someone would dare challenge their throne in this World, which they stole from the true ancient Gods, the Dragons and Titans. Who existed in this world even before it was aligned with the Tower, according to what I know."

"There's a lot of knowledge that is taboo to spread around, apparently..." I said. "Jonathan, do you know anything like this?"

"I do... I do remember a few things, taboo knowledge that the church killed people for just to keep it a secret. Things about a "Tower connecting Worlds" and such, which I never believed..." Jonathan was left speechless.

Chapter 969 The Crimson Moon Order

Within the depths of the underground pyramid below the city, Maleficus was constantly harnessing his Mana and Miasmic Powers, a bright crystal glowing within his chest, as he channeled all of his powers into the large statue in the form of a man resting in the middle of that circle.

Surrounding him there were a dozen more Vampires, all conjuring powerful dark spells, imbuing their mana and souls into the magic circle. Slowly, hour after hour, the statue-like thing started to gain a few more cracks, as if something inside of it was awakening.

The ritual had been ongoing for three days in a row now, and it might finally end in another couple more. Once that is done, the Warlocks shall rejoice, the awakening of their Lord will be finally upon them.

However, Maleficus could not concentrate fully, as someone dared to interrupt him.

"Lord Maleficus... I am sorry to interrupt the ritual, but there's something of incredible urgency!" A Vampire approached him, trembling as he noticed the vile warlock's dead stare.

"What?! It better worth the fucking time!" He hissed back at him. "Or else, you and your soul shall be sacrificed to our Lord!"

The Vampire nodded, kneeling before him. "Yes, our scouts have detected that the Hidden Dungeon where we've been cultivating our monsters for the Great Sacrifice... have been slain completely and disappeared."

"WHAT?!"

"N-Not only that... The Dungeon... it has been completely purified! There's no more Miasma inside of it, and what's worse, the Core we had saved in the ruins was also stolen, with all the other materials that once belonged to our Lord's treasury..."

"W-Who... Who could do such a thing?! How could anybody find that place and slay- Ah... It was THEM! Wasn't it?! It was! It was them, dammit! DAMMIT!"

Maleficus, despite looking old and decrepit, roared with utter fury and frustration, his arms suddenly extended out of his body, catching the Vampire besides him and crushing his head.

"Gryyaargh!"

SPLAT!

As the brains splattered everywhere, he dragged the body towards him and then threw it inside the circle, the statue overflowed with darkness, tentacles piercing the corpse and devouring it and the soul inside of it.

"Hahh... This can't be happening. We can't move on with our current plans without the damn monsters!" Maleficus thought. "And if our lord finds out his treasury has been stolen... He will surely not forgive us anymore. What do I do?! Wha do I... do...?"

However, a sudden malicious smile surged on the Vampire's old and dry lips. "Right, right... I had completely forgotten we could always just do that. Silly me. Always relying on just my own strength."

He glanced at a crimson medallion on his hands, showing a crimson moon and a bat in the middle, with its open jaws and sharp fangs coming from it.

"I did make a pact with them, our true ancestors. And I've supplied them good blood for centuries now." He giggled. "They do love the taste of the blood of the people here, so full of mana. Certainly, those that grow below the sunlight do taste fresher and sweeter than those in the Eternal Eclipse."

Maleficus imbued Mana into the medallion, smiling as he came out with a reckless plan, but he had no other option now. He was not affiliated with the other Vampires of this continent, so he simply had to rely... on outside forces of an even greater strength.

There were dangers, but if things went well, he would make both parties happy at the end, everyone wins. There are risks too but... He wasn't a coward to not take them when needed.

FLASH!

The medallion glowed with bright crimson light, as the voice of a playful woman echoed from within the medallion, overflowing with dominance.

"Oh? Isn't it our beloved blood seller from Yggdrasil, Maleficus! Do you have another batch you want to sell us? We do have plenty of materials to pay back this time too!"

"No, your excellency, there's another thing I have to offer you. The freshest blood you could ever imagine... Alive."

"Oh?" The voice giggled, interested. "Go on... Do tell me more. And it better be worth it, Maleficus."

"It shall definitely be worth your time, your excellency. I swear by the Crimson Moon Order."

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(Maria's POV)

After coming back to the city, we decided to rest for the rest of the day in a fancy inn, after making sure to mask our identities and appearances once more. Eustace remained within Celes' Soul, which seemed actually possible. It was also where the other three water spirits would rest.

Meanwhile, my little Amethyst rested over my head, but nobody else could truly see her, so we were safe. I noticed Nyx getting a bit jealous of the spirit getting more attention than her, so I decided to cook her something good for dinner.

I prepared delicious cheeseburgers, her favorite, using a combination of different monster meats, including that of the Drakes we found back in that one dungeon. I even added barbeque sauce to spoil her more and made a side of tasty fries and mozzarella sticks. All for my baby.

"Hmm, nom, nom! Thank you for making my favorite, mama!" She was wagging her tail adorably as she ate her burgers.

"It's nothing, dear. I noticed you were a bit grumpy, so I decided to give you some tasty treats." I caressed her hair. "I'll begin working on your new dress and axe soon."

"Oh, really?" She celebrated. "Finally! I can hack enemies apart with a big axe, like mama does!"

"I-Is that something you always wanted to do?" Lucifer muttered, feeling slightly worried. "Well, make sure to make the axe small enough for her."

"Yeah, don't worry." I nodded.

"No! I want big one!" Nyx pouted. "The biggest you can make mom!"

Is she trying to make up for her small size by wielding a titanic axe or something? That's cute though...

"Okay!" I nodded. "Anything for my little girl!"

Chapter 970 A New Witchy Hat

With no more dungeons or places to explore to get more EXP for everyone, or S Rank Monster Cores, we decided to settle down and just spend the next days working on our abilities, while silently spying the city.

I spent these days crafting and upgrading equipment without end. The dress, gloves, and heels went excellently with this beautiful hat I had finished a few days ago. As I had designed it, this hat was a perfect blend between a witch aesthetic and the aesthetic of a villainous noble lady. It was dark blue, with a black spiderweb-like decoration on top, and there was also a big eye made of black gold in front of the hat, imbued with an Illusion and Mind Spirit Crystal, which I made myself.

[Phantom Enchantress Witch Hat of Dreams And Illusions]

[Item Type]: [Head Armor] [Phantom Hat] [Living Armor]

[Item Grade]: [S+++]

[Item Level]: [1/100]

[Item Requirement]: [Can Only Be Equipped by Maria]

[Item Durability]: [1.000.000/1.000.000]

[Item Effects]: [Physical Defense]: [+800.000] [Magical Defense]: [+800.000] [HP]: [+300.000] [MP]: [+500.000] [Attack]: [+300.000] [Defense]: [+300.000] [Magic]: [+500.000] [Agility]: [+500.000] [Void Attribute Power]: [+300.000] [Darkness Attribute Power]: [+300.000] [Death Attribute Power]: [+300.000] [Moonlight Attribute Power]: [+300.000]

[Runic Engravings]: [Illusion and Mind Magic Power +100% (S)] [Illusion and Mind Magic Spells Resistance Ignore -50% (S)] [Thinking Speed and Processing Power +60% (S)] [HP & Defense +24% (S)] [Attack & Agility +23% (S)] [MP & Magic +32% (S)]

[Item Abilities]

[Mind Bending Eye of Illusions]: A Witch Hat imbued with a special jewel crafted specifically to unleash mind-bending abilities. Once you're glanced by this eye, you cannot keep yourself focused. When equipped, Increases Illusions, Dreams, and Mind Spells and Skills Powers and Effects by +150%, and decreases their MP Consumption by -30%. By imbuing Mana into this Eye, it is possible to directly attack a foe's Mind, depending in the Level of Mind they possess and their Defenses, various status effects can be conjured on them, from [Lost of Focus], [Confusion], [Mind Exhaustion], [Imagination Block], [Emotion Overdrive], or even [Madness].

[Witch Hat of Dreams and Illusions]: Once equipped and imbued with enough Mana, generates a powerful [Aura of Dreamy Illusions] around the user, which confuses the foe and makes them lose focus while fighting the user. Effects may vary depending on the foe's Mind Resistance and Mind Defenses. Additionally, this Aura Enhances the Power and Affinity of Dream, Illusions, and Mind Magic and Skills by +200% for as long as it lasts. This Aura can be further combined with other abilities to further attack a foe's mind.

[Description]

An incredible piece of equipment unique, never seen before made by Blacksmith and Sewing Master Maria.

It has been imbued with many souls, gaining unprecedented powers. This beautiful witch hat possesses an intricate decoration and magic circuit, enhancing the power of Illusion, Dreams, and Mind Magic and Powers once worn.

It possesses the infinite ability to evolve and improve itself and can self-repair itself through the wearer's Mana.

A once in an eon masterpiece that rivals the Divine Treasures of the Gods and might as well have the potential to surpass them.

Simple but amazing on its own way, and the bonus stats are welcome, especially with all the ridiculous foes we've been fighting lately. And now that I learned that there's a Tower and other Worlds, where the "Heroes from another World" tales most likely originated from, I never can't be strong enough to fight off against all sorts of monsters. I need to be prepared for anything.

These illusion abilities and powers will help me further enhance my abilities to another level, which is what I require right now as another trump card. If I can at least confuse or make a foe lose focus for a second or two, it'll be enough of an opening for me to blast them with a powerful spell using my glove's Spell Hand, or with a strong kick using my heels Kicking Power.

Anyways, after I finished making my beautiful witch hat, I went immediately on upgrading my two weapons, the sword and the axe to the next, completely new level. And after two and a half days of arduous working on taking the weapons part, fusing them back up, and doing the same over and over again until I found the correct fusion of runes, shadow sculpting, threads, metals, crystals, and monster materials, I was done with them.

I reforged, destroyed, and remade the sword at least ten times. I wanted to make sure I knew the blade with every inch of it, so I could procure the best Runes imbued into it for the best results. The sword and the axe weren't going to stop being my main weapons. They were literally all I used when fighting, aside from my fists and now my legs.

I wanted to fight with both physical and magical attacks, and although I am still a magic specialist, after evolving into the Titaness of Moonlight, my physical strength grew exponentially, enough for me to feel slightly confident I could fight with physical attacks much better than before.

And that's without even counting the transformations I possess, which further boost that by combining and amassing power over my body, temporarily awakening even more of my "Titan Soul" for a lack of a better term, because I certainly don't have "Titan Bloodline" without flesh for my blood to flow through.

And of course, I had moved right away on working for my daughter's dress and axe after I finished my weapons, so I was working on that as well. Almost about to finish it, actually. For my daughter's dress, I decided to use the same technique I used to create Hecate, pouring my soul and any material within my Soul Scape as I could. All while also making the mold and devising the metals for her axe. I wanted it as tough as mine, if not better. I dismantled my own axe a lot of times to see how it worked, making sure my daughter's own axe would eventually become just as tough, if not better...