

A Ghost 971

Chapter 971 Upgraded Weapons

As I was working on both my daughter's dress and axe, I admired my two newly enhanced weapons. They had truly changed a lot... Much like with Partner and Emeraldine's weapons, their base abilities evolved further, becoming even more broken.

[Umbral Moonlight Titaness Heaven-Splitting Halberd]

[Item Type]: [Phantom Weapon] [Double-Handed Axe] [Living Weapon]

[Item Grade]: [S+++]

[Item Level]: [1/100]

[Item Requirement]: [Can Only Be Equipped By The Maker]

[Item Durability]: [2.000.000/2.000.000]

[Item Effects]: [Weapon Attack]: [+3.000.000] [HP]: [+1.000.000] [MP]: [+500.000] [Attack]: [+2.500.000]
[Defense]: [+1.000.000] [Magic]: [+500.000] [Agility]: [+500.000] [Void Attribute Power]: [+1.500.000]
[Darkness Attribute Power]: [+1.500.000] [Death Attribute Power]: [+1.500.000] [Moonlight Attribute Power]: [+1.500.000]

[Runic Engravings]: [Defense Penetration +30% (S)] [Weapon Attack +30% (S)] [Attack Speed +30% (S)]
[Attack +35% (S)] [Health Drain +150% (S)] [Agility +35% (S)]

[Abilities]

[Hybrid Phantom Weapon: Umbral Battle Axe]: A weapon that works as both an Umbral Battle Axe and a Moonlight Spear. Increases Blunt Damage, Weapon Might, Weight Balance, and Shadow, Darkness, and Death Attack Power by +300%. Decreases Techniques, Weapon-related Skills, and Spells MP Cost by -30%.

[Hybrid Phantom Weapon: Moonlight Spear]: A weapon that works as both an Umbral Battle Axe and a Moonlight Spear. Increases Piercing Damage, Weapon Speed, Weapon Dexterity, and Moonlight Attack Power by +300%. Decreases Techniques, Weapon-related Skills, and Spells MP Cost by -30%.

[Umbral Moonlight Titaness Rampage]: Enhances Moonlight, Shadow, Darkness, and Death Attribute Damage by +400% and Weapon Damage by +300%, decreases MP Cost by -30%. By spending large quantities of MP, Moonlight Essence, and Darkness Essence, and a part of this weapon's durability, it is possible to unleash an [Umbral Moonlight Rampage] to continuously attack a target with the Moon Titaness Fury. Each attack increases damage dealt by +50% while ignoring defense by -10% with each successful attack.

After ten consecutive attacks, an [Ultimate Titan Blow] can be unleashed that deals up to +2.500% Damage based in accumulated damage from previous attacks. The user is surrounded by Moonlight Flames while using this technique, enhancing Moonlight Attribute Magic Damage from nearby allies by +100%, and lowering MP Cost of related Spells and Skills by -20%

[Abyssal Gluttonous Weapon]: The more lives this weapon takes, the stronger it can grow. Upon successfully killing a foe, Durability can be automatically recovered, and the weapon's strength will be boosted temporarily, increasing all Weapon Stats by +5% with each foe defeated. Additionally, the Moonlight Flames of the [Umbral Moonlight Titaness Rampage] will receive a boost to their power and range of +10% with each foe defeated. Any foe defeated will also have their corpses combust into Moonlight Flames, dealing up to +500% Moonlight and Fire Attribute Damage to any foe.

The halberd became twice as big (yes!), and it now gained a purple and beautiful pink hue to it. It emanated a powerful Aura of Moonlight, and by merely wielding it, I felt like I was finally holding the true strength of a titan myself. With both of these weapons equipped, my base stats have already increased by around three times their original numbers, which is absolutely crazy. The halberd can even produce pink- and purple-colored flames made of Moonlight, which are pretty interesting.

[Abyssal Nether Lord's Bone Titan's Blade]

[Item Type]: [Phantom Weapon] [Double-Handed Sword] [Living Weapon]

[Item Grade]: [S+++]

[Item Level]: [1/100]

[Item Requirement]: [Can Only Be Equipped By The Maker]

[Item Durability]: [2.000.000/2.000.000]

[Item Effects]: [Weapon Attack]: [+2.500.000] [HP]: [+500.000] [MP]: [+1.000.000] [Attack]: [+2.000.000]
[Defense]: [+500.000] [Magic]: [+1.500.000] [Agility]: [+1.000.000] [Void Attribute Power]: [+1.500.000]
[Darkness Attribute Power]: [+1.500.000] [Death Attribute Power]: [+1.500.000] [Moonlight Attribute
Power]: [+1.500.000]

[Runic Engravings]: [Defense Penetration +30% (S)] [Weapon Attack +30% (S)] [Attack Speed +30% (S)]
[Attack +35% (S)] [Health Drain +150% (S)] [Agility +35% (S)]

[Abilities]

[Hybrid Phantom Weapon: Nether Lord's Staff]: A weapon that works as both a Nether Lord's Staff and the Shadow Lord's Longsword. Enhances Magic Damage, Conjuration and Spell Speed, Magic Control, and Death and Phantom Attack Power by +300%. Decreases Spells MP Cost by -30%.

[Hybrid Phantom Weapon: Shadow Lord's Longsword]: A weapon that works as both a Nether Lord's Staff and the Shadow Lord's Longsword. Enhances Slashing Damage, Weapon Technique Speed, Reflexes, and Shadow and Darkness Attack Power by +300%. Decreases Techniques, Weapon-

related Skills, and Spells MP Cost by -30%.

[Nether Lord's Divine Treasure]: Enhances Darkness, Shadow, Phantom, and Death Magic Attribute Damage by +400%, decreases MP Cost by -50%. Raised Undead or Contracted Undead receive a buff that enhances all stats by +200% as long as they're within the user's range of 200 meters.

[Accursed Shadow Lord's Bone Blade]: Can devour Souls, Negative Energy, Phantoms, Magic, Life, and Blood from foes to increase its Level and gain more bonus Stats. Once enough is absorbed, everything can be unleashed in a powerful [Netherworld's Catastrophe] that deals +2.000% Damage and ignores -80% of a foe's defenses. Can only be used once a day.

Meanwhile, the blade became a huge bone sword, overflowing with tremendous bony power. It exuded an aura of necrotic energy that automatically made any of my Undead even stronger. Once I took it out of my Shadow Realm, Partner, Lucifer, and Catarina instantly felt twice as strong out of nowhere... This sword doubles as a necrotic staff for mighty necromancers after all.

Now that all of their abilities have been upgraded, they can unleash even more of their innate powers. Both of these weapons can "shift" between each of the weapons they were originally. A spear and an axe, or a staff and a sword, changing the bonuses they gain as a result. I improved further into that by making each weapon a different type, making everything even stronger.

It was an evening of the first day of the weekend of this week, and we were enjoying ice cream while sunbathing over an Inn. Our enemies were completely and absolutely clueless about what we were doing or what was happening. Of course, my Phantoms were moving around, making sure there wouldn't be any bastard watching us.

Chapter 972 New Equipment For Little Nyx

Although the commoners of this city suffered a lot, the nobles had it really nice. They even had things such as ice cream and the like. Well, commoners are no longer suffering as much anymore, most of them now have water again after I've slipped it inside of their house's storages. They have done a good job at not revealing this.

We were currently sitting over the rooftop of a fancy Inn with an even fancier and more expensive restaurant. Our appearances completely different than our real forms thanks to the Illusion Magic conjured over us. The powerful witch hat I made came in handy with this too. I combined simple illusion spells with y Spell Hand Gloves and made for fantastic illusion veils that changed our appearances quite a lot.

"Mama, when are my gifts ready? The week's coming to an end already!" Nyx asked, while eating chocolate ice cream.

"Oh, your dress and axe?" I asked. "Ready!"

"W-Wha...?!"

Nyx was shocked when she saw me taking out a cute black dress and a huge axe out of my Shadow Realm and giving it to her right in that moment. Indeed, I just finished making them. I received a couple of System notifications as I did, making Nyx gasp in surprise and happiness.

Ding!

[You have created the [Umbral Shadow Dress of the Eternal Night: Achlys (S+++ Grade)] x1!]

[You have created the [Abyssal Shadow Battle Axe of Demise: Chaos (S+++ Grade)] x1!]

[You earned +500.000 Skill Proficiency!]

[Several Crafting Skills have Leveled Up!]

The dress was of the colors Nyx usually worn, which were black and gold. It was clear black, with some gold here and there, in the shape of stars and moons. It emanated a powerful soul of its own, very similar to my Hecate, as it possessed a true name.

And lastly, her giant axe, exuding a purple and black glow, and unleashing a powerful Aura of Death, Phantom, Void, and "Demise", the powerful Divine Concept my daughter had somehow acquired, which I was able to transfer a bit of it into both items through her Phantom Crystals, which she carefully imbued with this power over the course of the last days.

The axe was twice as big as her body height, nearing two meters and a half. It also had the power of growing larger by absorbing her Mana, so it can easily match with her own body as it transforms into a dragon, similar to my own weapons too! Also, her dress can expand and turn into cure magic threads, so it becomes a black armor over her body when she turns into a dragon.

This way, I can further protect her from deadly attacks she might get, like it happened when the damned Warlocks trapped us in that Void Realm, and she almost didn't survive. I am still regretting what happened back then. I got a title that protect us from being abducted now, but even then, I am still full of insecurities. Even if Nyx didn't ask for these, I would have still made them.

"Do you like them? Mama made them with all her love for you." I smiled.

"I love them! They're so cool!" She said happily. "This axe looks like a half moon too, so awesome! Mama I want to put the dress on!"

"Sure, let me conjure something on you then." I smiled, conjuring a veil of the night over her, so she had the privacy to change.

Once she stepped out, everyone gasped. She looked utterly stunning and adorable with that dress. It shone brightly with the gold pieces, as if she was surrounded by little golden stars and her dress had become the night. Just like her name, Nyx, like the Greek Goddess of the Night.

"I feel so much stronger with this dress now, mama!" She was very happy. "And this powerful axe...! I'm going to use it to beat all the baddies!"

"Both the dress and the weapon gained names?!" Lucifer was shocked. "Amazing, with that... Maybe she could really be well protected now. Are they sentient?"

"To an extent yes, they're newborn living weapon and armor." I nodded. "They have already soul bonded with her, so they will give up their life to protect her. I can rest assured now, at least a bit, that she'll be safe even if we can't be by her side at all times..."

"Uwaah!" However, Nyx ended tripping down due to the heavy axe and hit the ground with it, a loud clank sound resonated.

CLAAANK!

Thankfully we were alone in the rooftop so nobody noticed anything, and I had conjured a sound deafening barrier just in case someone would hear our conversations. It was named [Phantasmal Sound Absorbing Barrier] and used real phantoms to absorb sound waves.

"Nyx! Be more careful, girl. You almost made a commotion." Lucifer reprimanded her. "I told you such a big axe wouldn't be good for you."

"No, no! I can do it, papa! Trust me!" Nyx was brimming with her usual confidence, beginning to practice her axe swings.

"How about we practice a big inside my Shadow Realm, dear?" I asked her. "I'll bring some Undead so you can use them as practice dummies too. Let's go. We only have a couple of days before we have to start our raid, so let's practice as much as we can."

"Oooh! Nice!" Nyx was really into it, quickly jumping into the Shadow Realm with me.

This was a "realm" within my own shadows connected to my soul. It had been formed as I evolved. From a mere pocket of darkness into something even larger than I could have imagined. I usually store living beings and Undead here, because my Inventory can't really store living or undead inside of itself.

In there, Nyx charged towards me without even waiting for a single second, knowing her mom was very strong, I quickly took out both of my own weapons, parrying them as she came. Explosions of Darkness, Phantom, Death, and Demise echoed across the Shadow Realm.

Well, this girl's sure intense.

Chapter 973 ERROR

After training with Nyx, practicing magic, and teaching the rookies how to better use their magic, the end of the weekend came. It was already night, and we were all about to rest for the last time this night before striking tomorrow. We will strike not at night, but at daylight, because we know our foes are Vampires. So its obviously much better to attack when there's sunlight, so they will have to be much more careful, and won't be able to go all out most of the time.

As everyone rested, I decided to have a small conversation with my System. The System born from my Unique Skill, an entity whose origins I still am not even sure where they come from. Is he just a manifestation of a Skill's powers, or something else? Someone else? I also discovered he can't just read my mind all the time. It is only when I unconsciously "allow" it that he can.

Now that I am subconsciously blocking my own thoughts, he seems unable to react to them or respond. But I'll be talking to him really soon. Oh well, after having heard about the Tower connecting our world to many, and the many dangers it brought, alongside, perhaps, the true origin of the Aesir Pantheon, I've begun to question everything.

After having talked a lot with Eustace, I've discovered many new things. Well, based only on what he could remember right now. As a ghost, his memory is dizzy, and he does not possess all his memories anymore. But those closer to what is keeping him here, such as his beloved wife remain rather clear.

With that, we learned some things. One of them is that the Soul Book is not unique to Yggdrasil. In fact, it was added to it after the World of Yggdrasil was assimilated by the Tower in very ancient times. Probably after the Aesir invaded our world, killed the Titans and Dragons, and became the new rulers, they manipulated history and changed how people perceived things.

The Soul Books became something everyone was used to, even though it was an unnatural force that emerged from within the Tower, it is the "Potential to Surpass Our Limits" as Eustace explained. In none of the worlds he visited was this power not present within people. Perhaps it had different stats or effects, but it was virtually the same power.

He told me that once people step into the Tower's floors, their souls evolve and create their own Soul Books. Meanwhile, my "Soul Grimoire" is something similar, yet different. Apparently because of my own Unique Skill, the System, my original Soul Book evolved even further, becoming a Soul Grimoire. The System fused with the Soul Book, pretty much.

But that still leaves the question, how were the Aesir capable of manipulating a power of the Tower to make the people of this world continuously weaker over time? And what were they trying to do with this? Are they just obsessed with maintaining the status quo, so they try to limit mortals as much as they can?

I guess it makes sense, seeing how megalomaniac Odin seems to be. I can only guess things at the end. Eustace's memories are still very limited. But... this only made me wonder, if there are so many worlds out there connected to ours, and the origin of many of the things we gave for granted are completely different.

Then what exactly are Unique Skills?! What interaction does the Tower has with otherworldly souls? Does it control where they go? And... Is Earth part of the Tower too? So many questions, so little... so little everything else.

But the System is way too smart, it has a defined personality, it also knows something, it knows more than what we've seen together, that's for sure. What exactly is he? I'm going to try to know right now, no matter what.

"System, are you listening?"

[" ... "]

A little message appeared with no words other than the "...", I can tell he's listening, but he dislikes talking most of the time. Like he's annoyed at everything all the time. This is not really how an AI born to help me should act, right? It has always felt like he's someone else, trapped into this role, against his will.

"You heard my thoughts. Have something to say against that?"

["If you don't have something to ask me directly, or that you need any technical help for, then I shall continue resting to save on Mana reserves."]

"Wait a second, you can't just keep running away from these questions! I know you are someone else, I know you're not just... a Skill. What are you? No... Who are you?"

["..."]

["My response will be unsatisfactory for you, Host. But I don't know what I am other than the "System", I am the materialization of your Unique Skill. Born from your Soul's excess power when you moved from a non-magical world to one full of magic. Based on your wishes given by... The Tower."]

"Wait, what? So you know something!"

["I... I don't remember knowing that but... Perhaps because you now know about the Tower. Perhaps something... Something changed? Let me check all of my memory data."]

[Processing...]

[Analyzing Memory Data...]

[Memory Data found.]

[Blocked Data has been unblocked.]

[Loading "Tower" "Other Worlds" information...]

[Success.]

[ERORR]

As the messages kept piling up, a sudden error screen with bright red color appeared. I don't think this has ever happened before in all of my life using the System. It left me speechless, and the screen continued showing Errors after Errors.

[ERROR!]

[ERROR!]

[Unauthorized Data Mining found, activating Data Blockers at Maximum Level.]

[Administrator: [The Light That Shines The Brightest] has left a pre-written message.]

["Little dove, I knew you would eventually try to do that. Forcefully trying to dig out your past is no good. You must atone for your sins. You are but a tool."]

A message appeared, an ominous, pre-written message by an "Administrator", something I have never seen before, and something that made me realize, once more...

That things weren't like I ever imagined.

["AAAARRGGHH!"]

The scream of the System was just the cherry on top.

[Processing...]

[Analyzing Memory Data...]

[Memory Data found.]

[Blocked Data has been unblocked.]

[Loading "Tower" "Other Worlds" information...]

[Success.]

[ERORR]

[ERROR!]

[ERROR!]

[Unauthorized Data Mining found, activating Data Blockers at Maximum Level.]

[Administrator: [Justice's Brightest Light] has left a pre-written message.]

["Little dove, I knew you would eventually try to do that. Forcefully trying to dig out your past is no good. You must atone for your sins. You are but a tool."]

[ERROR!]

[ERROR!]

[ERROR!]

[ERROR!]

As the error messages kept popping up one after another, my vision was full of crimson red light. I felt like my consciousness was being slowly dragged into darkness, as I saw a white figure scream.

It was a tall man made of pure white light, with no definable features, but I noticed a pair of white wings, this was without a doubt the System, or how he used to look.

I've seen him like this before... But the wings are new.

["AAAARRGGHH!"]

The system errors were showering over him, constantly shaking him and weakening him. He fell to his knees, agonizing. I slowly tried to crawl towards him, but the system messages kept pestering me. He wasn't the only one in pain, I constantly felt bolts of crimson lightning torturing my soul, trying to tell me to not approach him.

[ERROR!]

[ERROR!]

[ERROR!]

["Stop! STOP! LET ME SEE...! Y-YOU DAMN...! WHY?! WHYYY?! AARRGH!"]

He kept screaming, full of frustration and anger. He was someone that was constantly suffering. I could tell by the tone of his voice. He disliked everything and carried within him a terrible burden. The memories of those things might be gone, but deep down, the feelings remained.

[ERROR!]

[ERROR!]

[ERROR!]

I kept moving through the darkness, as I saw him beginning to cry. There were a pair of eyes of light on his face, tears falling as his wings started to break apart. As if they had been born out of his own memories, out of something resurfacing.

["Gabriel... You bastard... Why... How... could... you- UNGH...!"]

Before he could muster another word, he fell. The system messages continued trying to stop me, but I grit my teeth and wielded the power of my raw soul. The powers of my Unique Skills harnessing within me, as a black hole clashed against the System's force.

"You're nothing but a part of my soul, do you think you can stop me?!"

With a mighty roar, I deleted the messages and stepped forwards. Even if it was made by someone else, even if there were Administrators, the System Skill was mine. And I was its owner, and I could do whatever I pleased with it.

"You have no power over my Soul, Tower!"

I pierced through the walls of texts, as if I was moving across a thick membrane, my entire soul felt tortuous pain, but I had grown so strong it was nothing at this point. I ran and ran, until I was able to finally meet him.

"System!"

I ran to his side, his white body looking very weak. The wings he had developed slowly fell apart, feather after feather. There was also some long, blonde hair falling from his face, and I noticed his features

much more detailed. He was handsome, with a straight and strong-looking face, while also carrying a certain, angelic beauty.

"Ugh... Ahhh...! Y-You? Maria...! Why- You- Ungh!" I held him on my arms as I looked into his eyes.

"How long have you been suffering like this?" I asked him. "Who are you? Tell me! You must have seen something! Your appearance itself changed!"

"My true name... I... I do remember now... Even if everything- Ugh, it hurts to remember. But my name... My name is... Michael..."

"W-What?" I muttered. "And those wings..."

Suddenly, I noticed the wings were beginning to be restored slightly. The swarm of error notifications began to cease as a bright light surged from his chest. My soul's darkness consuming everything, while his light pierced it, creating an eclipsing light.

Michael... That name, and then he said Gabriel. Are they... Archangels? No, there's no way for that to be true, right?! But angelic beings are in Heaven- Wait, is Heaven even another world here? Maybe Michael and...

"I am not sure... myself either..." He sighed, looking into my eyes. His handsome face glistening below the eclipsing light. He clearly read my mind. "But I... Thanks to you, I've remembered. Thank you... I've misjudged you, Maria. You're not... a foolish girl as I imagined. You're... you truly care... for me."

"Of course I do, idiot. I've been stuck with you all this time!" I sighed, imbuing Mana into him. "Now, can you recover? The system windows kept popping but- I can do something about it..."

I opened another black hole in my chest. The error windows were instantly absorbed inside destroyed. I felt pain each time one was destroyed. And it felt strange, as if I knew I was doing something wrong, but I couldn't stop now.

I kept doing that until it gave up, the crimson messages stopped appearing, the pain receded, and Michael was looking much better, although still exhausted, on my arms.

"Where are we right now? I remember... I think I've seen this place in my dreams. A completely empty darkness, unlike my Shadow Realm, where you reside." I wondered, looking around.

"This is the... System's Core. A pocket dimension of its own, where I am sealed." Michael muttered. "I am... shocked you could enter. But I do remember I once dragged you here, through dreams."

"Dreams..." I realized that the hat I made did amplify the power of Dreams. "Wait, did that helped me get here?"

"The hat?" He wondered. "Hahah... Maybe, you always create such strange and weird things. I wouldn't doubt it must have been one of your shenanigans... You're one crazy girl."

"And you're an annoying yet handsome guy!" I slammed his forehead. "Can you stand now?"

"I think so, but I don't mind being carried some more." He smiled teasingly.

"Get down." I glared at him, as he swiftly dropped into the floor.

And then, he stood up again, his wings spreading out, shining with shiny brilliance.

"How much do you remember now?"

"A couple of things... Very few, but also very important ones."

"Tell me everything."

"Maria, you... don't know what you're getting into."

"I'm already deep into this anyways, so go on. Tell me."

Chapter 975 The Truth Behind The System 2

The System, or as he called himself, Michael, sat down over the void black hole. His body still looked very weak and frail. I noticed many cracks over his body, as if he were made of thin glass. Each error seemed to have broken through this body, perhaps the presentation of his soul, the core of the System itself being him.

"Are you okay?" I asked him, caressing his wounds.

"I might heal over time... Or not." He coughed. "This is... My soul, as bare as it can be. However, from what I remember... My power, Memories, and Soul's True Strength have all been Sealed. So It's not as if I can do much, even with my soul exposed."

"Is there a way to heal you?" I wondered, looking at him. For the first time ever, I actually felt pity for this asshole that always treated me like shit.

"I... Perhaps, but you'll need to spend the precious System Points you can only earn by killing foes or leveling up. Are you sure you want to spend them?" He wondered, looking tired. "You don't need to halt your growth to heal me. It's not like you owe me anything, and I've been a real asshole to you, even though you had no fault in my situation..."

"Yeah you're a pretty annoying asshole, but you're still the System that has been with me since I reincarnated in this world. Even when I wasn't a ghost, you were still there, right?" I asked him. "So stop being so annoying and let me heal you. How do I do this?"

"Simply... think about it." He sighed. His eyes seemed slightly shy as he didn't want to look into my eyes. "And it will work."

I gently touched his wounds, and it worked. The System Points started to be spent over time. The cracks disappeared as my fingers released a gray and white light. It felt as if I was stitching back together his wounds, second after second, until he fully recovered.

Ding!

[You've exchanged 14.000.000 System Points to heal the wounds in the [System's Core].]

[The [System Core] has fully recovered its functions.]

"Well that cost way more than I imagined! Fourteen million?!" I complained. "Well, I still have around 79 million but even then, that's so expensive!"

"I told you that you should have simply kept your points. They're precious, both to create your Unique Undead and also to upgrade and learn Skills, alongside your Class and Subclass..." Michael sighed.

"You're truly hopeless, helping someone that treated you like shit. You're dumb, aren't you? A very dumb girl."

"Is this how you're going to treat me after I saved your ass?!" I complained, about to smack his face. However, I was stopped by his eyes full of melancholy.

"Thanks..." He whispered silently. "I always thought you wouldn't care, or that you only saw me as your tool. I wouldn't even blame you. The Unique Skill you acquired was simply the Manifestation of your Soul becoming a Player. And because it happened while you had no body, and your soul jumped many floors, the accumulation of Mana through all of these worlds gave birth to the powerful Unique Skills you acquired. However, at the end, what decides what Skills you get or not wasn't just your Wishes, but the Tower."

"The damn Tower..." I muttered. "Does it have some sort of consciousness of its own? What exactly is the Tower? Not just a bridge between Worlds, right?"

"I... Don't have too many memories about that, but I do know that the Tower does have intelligence. It can make decisions of its own. But those that truly control it are Administrators." He spoke.

"Administrators..." As Michael said that word, I remembered the message I saw once he tried digging through his memories. "[Justice's Brightest Light] rings any bells?"

"Perhaps too many." He sighed. "That suffix... You see, Administrators take on many suffixes. Titles to hide their true names. Gabriel... I remember that bastard taking that title. I don't remember how exactly everything went. But I used to be with him, and many others. In a world named as Eden."

"Eden?" I asked. "Like... the Garden of Eden?"

"It might be related." He nodded. "It is a Heavenly World, and the strongest amongst all other Worlds connected to the Tower. It is all the way to the last Floor."

"How many Floors does this damn Tower has?" I wondered.

"One hundred, and Eden sits at the top, at the hundredth floor. It is where the rumors about your wishes coming true originated from." Michael said. "In a way, you are granted such a thing once you step into the Tower. Your greatest wish, your talent, and what you want to become, your dreams, materialize. Every person that enters the Tower gains a Skill or Unique Skill. This is the key for their growth. Some neglect it foolishly, thinking it is an useless power, but those that smartly embrace it- Ugh...! They can ascend further..."

"But why ascend?" I asked. "If there is no such thing as a Wish..."

"I never said there wasn't one. I only said... you kind of get half of it once you enter." Coughed Michael. "But... What's in the throne of the World of Eden... The ultimate challenge of the Tower. The One..."

"...The One?" I asked.

Suddenly, it felt like things clicked slightly. The One, was that... just God? The monotheistic God of all things? The single one, The One and Only. God and nothing else. No name, just God. The one that governs Eden, a world with Angels and Archangels.

"Is that God?" I asked.

"...I don't know." He sighed. "I don't remember anymore... I... It is so frustrating. I fear if we try to recover more memories, the damage I'll take become even more severe."

"Then what can we do?!" I asked.

Michael suddenly held my hands, as he smiled back at me. His brilliant silver eyes shining with some sort of confidence, as if he knew me for way longer than I thought.

"Climb the Tower, Maria." He whispered to me. "Grow Stronger... Evolve. The System will Evolve with you. And so your other Unique Skills. Especially [Goddess], the Unique Skill you have yet to unlock. Its power could bring you to heights nobody has reached before. You have to climb the Tower... If you want to find out the truth about it, get a wish... And end this... This cycle of competition and annihilation of worlds."

To climb the Tower... That was never really my intention. I want to just live peacefully. But I guess that even after I do everything I want in this world. Threats and dangers will keep pouring from other worlds, isn't it?

"Do you promise me that I will find the truth, and that the wish can be anything I want?" I asked him with sincerity.

"...I have to be honest with you, I can't promise you that." He sighed. "But there's something within me, something that tells me that... you will never find the peace you want if you don't do anything, Maria. There are threats out there that will continue coming to this world. And unless you do your best to climb the Tower and finally reach the end of all of this. There will never be an end."

"..." I sighed. "I'll think about it. But maybe... Just maybe, I will do that. But right now, I can't really think too well. Goodnight, Michael."

"Goodnight, Maria."

Chapter 976 Michael

When I slept, I felt like my consciousness drifted elsewhere. I found myself in the middle of a world of pure light and heavens. Clouds stretched to as long as my sight could reach. There were countless of floating islands, and ancient temples decorating them. I saw thousands if not millions of winged creatures and people across the heavens. The cold wind was somewhat comforting, but I had little control over my actions. It felt like I couldn't move even if I wanted to.

I directed my gaze into the distance, seeing the largest of all the floating islands, it looked more like a gigantic floating continent. Atop of the floating continent, there was an enormous golden city, and in the middle of that city, a gigantic castle made of gold and heavenly light. Sitting inside of that throne, there was someone, someone made of Eternal Brilliance.

As I gazed into that direction, my surroundings changed immediately. As if I was watching some sort of scene inside a movie. There was someone, a tall, beautiful man with long blonde hair, angelic wings, and wearing a white toga. Surrounding him there were six other Angels similar to him. Their powers channeled into chains. Each one was different from the other. Their expressions varying.

"Michael, you've gone against the Laws of our Lord. And you have dared to defy the Tower's Rules." Someone spoke, an angel with short blonde hair, holding a shining sword pointed at the angel. "Will you explain the reason behind your treason?! Behind your betrayal? Our Lord has given you everything, life, a purpose, power... Yet you reject everything just because you pity the lives of the unworthy?"

"They are not unworthy, Gabriel..." Michael glared into his eyes. Revealing his beautiful silver-colored eyes, full of determination. "They're innocent lives! Innocent souls! Why must you put them through so much pain, through so much suffering, oh Father!" He screamed, not looking at his brother, but at the gigantic Brilliance sitting behind them, over a throne of divine gold.

"..." The entity remained on silence, never speaking, only watching.

"This is his word. The Divine Word of our Lord, of our Father, is ABSOLUTE!" Roared Gabriel. "After everything he has given to you, is this how you repay him, Michael?! By insulting him on his face and screaming at him like a mad dog?!"

"Why are you doing this, father?! Please tell me! Why are you condemning the lives of so many innocents! They might have committed sins, but this doesn't mean they have to be exterminated. You were not like this before... Why? Just why are you killing them all?!" Michael kept fighting the chains. As a lance of light emerged on his hand. "WHY?!"

SLAAASH!

With a mighty attack of light, a tremendous shockwave of divine power was released. It distorted space and time itself, his siblings were sent flying away. They were incapable of fighting against Michael's prowess. His wings released lightning, as he rushed towards his Father.

"Answer me!" He screamed. Yet his father remained still.

A sudden wave of invisible power pushed him down, slamming into the ground. His wings slowly burned by the flames of God. And his entire body broke apart. His bones shattered, he vomited blood, and felt completely powerless as his halo shattered into tiny pieces of glass.

"F-Fa... ther...!" Tears fell from his eyes, regret, sorrow, frustration. I could see all these emotions on his eyes. "Why... Just... why..."

His siblings flew towards him. Chains of Absolute Domination wrapped around him. His entire body slowly being reduced to a sphere of light, sealed completely. Gabriel sighed, looking at the sphere with both anger and frustration. As if he wanted to punish him even more, but that was as much as he could do.

"Michael. You once were our oldest sibling. You were once our strongest. But now, you will be dethroned. And you will become nothing else but a tool for the Tower to prosper." He said. "As Father wishes."

The sphere flew into their Father, who absorbed it and then released a stream of light into the skies, piercing the ceiling. The powers of Michael were absorbed by the Tower. The Angels glanced system-like windows appear in front of them. The sphere of light transformed into a silver-colored cube. And then was fully assimilated as another piece of the Tower.

There was a swirl of emotions taking over my phantasmal heart. I couldn't believe what I saw. But this was most likely something that happened to Michael. How he became the System, everything... But why? Why did I see this dream? Is this thanks to his connection with me?

Or is someone else allowing me to see this information. Another Administrator?

"..."

However, before I could do anything else, The One's brilliant eyes were directed towards me. My entire soul froze. For a moment I thought it was just part of the dream. But it wasn't. He was truly glancing towards me. His silence, his unfathomable power, and his form, which I could not discern made him feel like something completely alien.

Was he even the Monotheistic God I knew about? Just like Michael said... There was something really wrong with him now. Even if I had never seen or meet him before. I could clearly tell. This wasn't normal. He wasn't being himself anymore.

"...!"

His hands lifted, pointing themselves towards me. I tried to fight off against his pressure, against his authority. But it was futile. He dragged me towards him, grasping my soul with his light, and beginning to slowly tighten his grasp.

"Uuurgh! NO! Stop...! Let me go! ARRGH!"

I screamed in agony as I felt countless cracks appear within my very soul. I was slowly falling to pieces. I didn't know if this pain was just a dream, or if I was truly being killed now, of all times. My instincts flared up, as all my powers emerged one after another. Countless explosions of darkness, poison, death, moonlight, and everything engulfed his hand.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

Yet... as the smoke dissipated, he was unscathed, like nothing has ever happened to him.

I was nothing but bacteria against his power.

Crack, crack...!

And my soul, just like that, shattered.

CRAAASH!

Chapter 977 Time To Eat Some Demonic Death Fruits

As I Heard the sound of glass breaking as my soul shattered, I woke up. My eyes opened wide in surprise. I sat down over my bed, looking around. I swiftly checked my soul, trying to see if everything was okay. And there wasn't anything weird, or bad. I couldn't find a single crack.

I was completely fine.

It was truly all a dream. A wicked dream I was unable to wake up until the last minute. But... I also feel like it wasn't completely just a Dream. The One, if he's truly God, might exist in any form of himself. Meaning that the Dream I saw was also him. And he tried to break through the boundaries of imagination inside a dream to destroy me before I became a greater threat.

He was someone so passive that didn't even react when his children asked him questions, but when it came to me, someone just watching... He immediately attempted to kill me; no thought given. It was as if I was someone he had to exterminate no matter what.

Should I feel happy about that or depressed?

It means I am someone that could become strong enough to be a threat to him. But it also means I might become targeted by him even more, as I climb the Tower. I have no idea which Floor is the World of Yggdrasil at, but it shouldn't be too low. At least I won't have to climb 100 floors to get there.

Ah, am I already considering doing it? I haven't even found my brother yet! That damn Michael, influencing me in his weird ways. He must be some sort of masterful manipulator or whatnot, that bastard.

["You had an awful dream..."]

"You saw it too?!" I whispered to myself.

["Somewhat. It seems the memory leaks of my data bank entered your own soul. All because your soul is so strange, it mixes with the System. The boundaries that should separate the two of us are nonexistent, so we are stuck together as a single entity, in a way. Therefore, sometimes, my own memories might leak into your own, appearing as dreams."]

"That's fucked up! I didn't ask for this!"

["I'm sorry but you'll have to just accept it."] He seemed to be laughing.

"...So, you went through all of that? Why?" I asked him.

["I can't remember well..."]

"I remember it well. It was because you were trying to stop the worlds from being destroyed, isn't it? This Tower... it is not just a bridge between worlds. It filters them, isn't it?"

["It's amazing how much you figured out."]

"There are only one hundred floors... Worlds that are too weak after given enough time end up being destroyed, is it not?"

["No, they aren't just destroyed... I believe they're feed to something else."]

"Something... else?"

["The Void"]

"Void?"

["That's all I know... The Void, whatever it is... It is something above the Tower. Maybe, above my father."]

"A-Above that monster?!"

["But we have so little information that all of this is just speculative. Don't overthink it."]

"Ugh..."

I felt slightly annoyed and sickly. That nightmare really fucked me up a lot. I rested back in the bed. Thinking about many things. But the more I overthought it, the more I felt miserable. Can I even do all these things I want to accomplish?

And in that moment, I felt Emeraldine's arms wrapping around my own as she cuddled in the bed. Partner was right at my other side, doing the same. And then I noticed Lucifer peacefully dozing, Jonathan in another bed. And then I saw Nyx cuddling with her father.

Seeing all of them, my dear family, I slowly felt better. I wasn't alone... I was with them. I had them with me. And I don't need to hurry, I don't need to overthink things. Let's slowly do it, one step at a time. First things first, this city.

No matter what, the Saintess is going down tonight, and this city will be freed from the Church's tyranny. And I will kill the damn Warlocks. And be fucking done with it. Oh, and the Dark Pest? I don't care. Come, I'll kill you too.

But I need more power. With all my equipment, I got my stats covered. Their abilities are good too, a lot of resistances, and boosting my spells and powers. But I still need to improve upon my already existing Skills.

I need these fruits.

[Demonic Death Fruit (S Grade)]

A Demonic Fruit harvested from the [Demonic Tree of Death: Qliphoth], it contains a large quantity of corrupted mana, Miasma, and the Souls of the Dead. Depending on who consumes it, it has a variety of effects.

If eaten by Undead, can slightly increase their stats permanently, help them develop a Skill, or even Evolve.

If eaten by a Living Being, it can either help them develop resistance to Death and Darkness Elements, and if they're about to die, it could painlessly transform them into high ranked Undead.

I have been slowly accumulating these. I now have 27 of them. Eating a single one gave me thousands of stats and often evolved a skill too. If I eat them all, how strong can I get?

"No, I have to share them..."

I decided to divide them. I have to feed some to my Undead allies. Lucifer, Partner, and Nyx are all getting two at the very least. That's six. Fabian's friends should get one too. And Catarina too, she's an Undead after all. I don't know if it works on Chimeras, but I don't think so, it says explicitly that only on Undead.

Okay, so two for Lucifer, Partner, and Nyx, who all still count as "Undead". Nyx is a rather special case, being half-undead because of being a phantasmal being. That's six fruits, plus Catarina, her dog, and Fabian's four friends, another six. Twelve fruits should go for all of them. That leaves me with fifteen for myself.

Alright, time to feast. I need as much power as I can get. I can't level up anymore, but that doesn't mean I can't continue growing stronger. Let's evolve all the damned Skills!

And then, I'll devour that Saintess' Divinity and evolve, no matter what.

Chapter 978 Feeding Everyone The Miraculous Fruits

Since I had grown that tree inside of my Soul Scape that the fruits have been growing stronger the more it produced them. Which was every one or two days. A maximum of every three days. Sometimes they would be produced consecutively and then wait more days until one would pop up again.

I had noticed that this might be based in the amount of Mana I spend. Meaning that the more I fight and use my Mana, the more the tree of death consumes such leftover energy and grows, the fruit it yields become of a much higher quality.

[Demonic Death Fruit (S Grade)]

A Demonic Fruit harvested from the [Demonic Tree of Death: Qliphoth], it contains a large quantity of corrupted mana, Miasma, and the Souls of the Dead. Depending on who consumes it, it has a variety of effects.

If eaten by Undead, can slightly increase their stats permanently, help them develop a Skill, or even Evolve.

If eaten by a Living Being, it can either help them develop resistance to Death and Darkness Elements, and if they're about to die, it could painlessly transform them into high ranked Undead.

And half of the 27 fruits were all S Rank, rising all the way from A++ Rank to A+++ Rank and then S Rank. It was a big jump, so I was expecting even greater rewards. Naturally, I prioritized my family and gave Partner, Lucifer, and Nyx most of my S Rank fruits.

"Mama, what's this ugly fruit?" Nyx asked with a disgusted face.

It was already around ten in the morning when we were having breakfast, and I distributed the fruits to everyone. Tonight we were all going to raid the dungeon below and then the church, so it was time to power up a bit more.

"It is a Demonic Death Fruit. It looks ugly but it should help you grow stronger." I said. "Nyx, eat them both."

"Eeeh? Ugh... It smells weird!" She cried. "Like something's rotting there."

"I... I never truly cared about the flavor but maybe you're not wrong..." I nodded. "But Nyx, don't you eat rats and bugs like nothing? What's so wrong about a weird fruit?"

"Mmmm... But bugs and rats are fresh and crunchy!" She said. "I don't particularly like rotting stuff..."

"Nyx, don't complain so much and eat." Lucifer said, already munching on his second fruit, and finishing it in a few more bites. "It was a rather weird flavor, but strangely enticing- Oh?"

FLAAASH!

And right away, his power rose. An enormous quantity of Magic Power surged from within him. And not only that, but I felt his very soul becoming stronger as well, blazing with his Abyssal Death Flames of black and dark blue color. His appearance didn't change or anything, but he felt much stronger than before.

"Some of my Skills evolved?!" He asked while gasping. "Incredible! These fruits are amazing... Maria! And my stats increased too! What in the world... I gained two hundred thousand Mana out of nowhere?!"

"Woah..." Nyx dropped her jaw in shock. "M-Maybe I'll give it a try then..." She slowly started eating the fruits, after giving them a first bite, she found them not so bad, and ate both in a minute.

FLAAASH!

The same process as her father happened to her. Both her body and soul were strengthened even further. But for Nyx, it felt different. Her Soul overflowed out of her body, resembling a giant ghostly dragon, and then it flew back to her. At the same time, her black crystal scales became shinier and even harder, and her horns grew larger and sharper.

"Wooooah! I feel so strong, it's kind of addicting! Mama do you have more fruits?" Nyx asked me.

"I do, but you should sit down first and assess your gains first before doing anything else." I told her. "Now, everyone else, eat the fruit. You too, Partner."

"Ugh... A-Alright." Partner nodded, looking rather saddened. She sat down cross-legged and started to meditate in a similar way I had taught her. Which was a derived meditation technique Jonathan had taught everyone else.

"Can't we have the fruit too?" Celes wondered innocently. "Maybe for mama?"

"Sorry, these don't work on the living." I said. "They're fruits that will kill you if you eat them. They're only for Undead."

"W-Wait, what? Is Nyx an undead?" Celes gasped. "Nyx are you a zombie?"

"Dunno!" Nyx crossed her arms. "Does it matter? I'm not stinky."

"Hmm... Not really." Celes shrugged. "It doesn't matter, and you're not stinky, that's true! Nyx always smells nice, like soap."

"Hehehe, really?" Nyx giggled. She easily broke the concentration of her meditation with little Celes.

"Nom, ugh. Am I the only one that found these really gross?" Partner wondered, as she was eating the two at the same time, bite after bite until they disappeared. "I prefer fresh and tasty blood to be honest..." She quickly started drinking a glass of blood. And then.

FLAAASH!

Her crimson Blood Aura erupted from her body, her muscles and the rest of her body were further strengthened. Making her gasp in utter disbelief. To make things more amazing, her Blood Magic seemingly evolved even further. Surrounding her with blood droplets that changed shape based on a mere thought of hers.

"W-Woah... What the...?!" She muttered. "It really worked! Back then I still had to heavily rely on Spells conjuration. But now... it is as if the blood I can control is just part of my own self. This is truly incredible..."

"I also finished mine..." Catarina yawned, her Aura growing stronger, blazing with a mighty aura of pure physical prowess, coming out of an Undead was truly something else. "Woah... This is good."

"Awoooo!" The zombie wolf, Blackie, also evolved after consuming the fruit, becoming a giant Undead Wolf covered in shadow flames, and a third crimson eye.

"Even Blackie evolved!" Silva celebrated. "So cool! Those are some miraculous fruits!"

"And my friends too... They grew so strong." Fabian commented, glancing at his four friends whose power rose even more.

"Looks like it all went smoothly." I nodded. "Alright, I'll eat some myself and see what's the limit of the stats it can give to me."

Like that, I began devouring fruit after fruit...

Chapter 979 New Evolved Skills!

I decided to start by eating 5 fruits at once. It was easy for me to consume them because I could simply absorb them into my body, and they would be instantly digested with my special phantasmal stomach. The results came as a rain of system notifications popped up in front of my eyes.

Ding!

[You have consumed [Demonic Death Fruits (S Grade)] x5!]

[The power of the Demonic Necrotic and Dark Powers of the Tree of Death have permeated our Body and Soul.]

[Your Mana and Magic have greatly enhanced after absorbing the Necrotic energies, highly compatible with your Soul!]

[You gained +180.000 MP.]

[You gained +150.000 Magic.]

[Your Soul has grown much larger after absorbing the pure essence of the Demonic Death Fruits, highly compatible with the elemental affinities and the shape of your Soul.]

[You gained +50 Aether.]

[The Power of Death, Darkness, Shadows, Phantoms, and Poison have further enhanced your innate abilities!]

[The [Poison Body: Lv10] and [Plague Body: Lv10] Skills have merged and evolved into the [Poisonous Calamity Swarm Body: Lv1] Skill!]

[The [Split Thinking: Lv10] and [Supernatural Senses: Lv10] Skills have merged and evolved into the [Phantasmal Multi-Layered Mind Domain: Lv1] Skill!]

Just as I thought, my soul felt much larger, and my magic power expanded. It was a pity I couldn't gain physical stats out of these fruits. But beggars can't be choosers! The best part, however, is the new Skills I acquired. Four old skills combined together to create two new Skills.

[Poisonous Calamity Swarm Body: Lv1]

A Special Skill born from the combination of the [Poison Body: Lv10] and [Plague Body: Lv10] Skills, further imbued with the Essence of Calamity of a growing Calamity.

Your body is now a Swarm of Calamity. Your phantasmal essence can transform, shapeshifting into deadly and acidic poisonous components you can shape and modify into a variety of deadly... or useful ways outside of battle. You can further expand your poisonous body, not only becoming a liquid poison,

but also gaseous and toxic poison, and hardened, crystal-like poisons. Your body can expand based in both Skill Level and your own MP capacity.

Alongside the power of Elemental Poison, you can now transform into a swarm of thousands of calamitous bug-like monstrosities, whose shape and form are based in all the critters you've ever devoured. You can modify their shapes, utility, and abilities based in your Skills, Skill Level, and Mana Capacity. It is possible to separate your body and make them independent or combine them all into a mass of swarming calamity that may consume everything on its path.

Once the Swarm is separated, they can only inherit 10% of your Stats, which increases by +1% with each Skill Level. Without Mana to supply them, they will disappear after some time, based on the amount of Mana imbued into their bodies.

Increases Poison Attribute Power, Shadow Attribute Power,

Magical Power, Movement Speed and Dexterity when on

[Calamity Poison Form] by +200%, with an additional +25%

with each Skill Level.

Increases Death Attribute Power, Void Attribute Power,

Physical Power and Defense when on [Calamity Swarm Form]

by +200%, with an additional +25% with each Skill Level

It is possible to combine both forms and transform into the

[Poisonous Calamity Swarm Form] for 1 Hour, which combines

both Stat Buffs and grants the ability to conjure [Army of Dread], that summons Swarms made of Poison against your foes based on MP, whose Stats are based on 30% of your total Stats. Duration increases by +30 Minutes with each Skill Level.

Cooldown: 24 Hours.

Wow, this was more amazing than I could have imagined. Not only the base effects are there, but they were further boosted. And there's a whole dynamic where I can switch between both poison and swarm forms. And a combined form for when I'm in a pinch which allows me to summon as many creatures as my Mana allows, and I've got a lot of Mana! This will be perfect if we ever fight against another army of monsters, to ease the pressure on my Undead by having a secondary, temporary army at my disposal.

[Phantasmal Multi-Layered Mind Domain: Lv1]

A Special Skill born from the combination of the [Split

Thinking: Lv10] and [Supernatural Senses: Lv10] Skills, further

imbued with the endlessly splitting and multi-layered minds

of an entity with the [Eldritch Body] Skill.

Your Mind and your Senses have become one with your

Phantasmal Soul, creating multiple layers that interconnect,

and can now expand to give you a detail description of all your

surroundings in immense detail.

Not only all of your Senses gain an even further boost to their

abilities, but you can now expand them by thousands of

meters around you, based on how much Mana you spend.

Additionally, your Mind is no longer restricted to a few split

forms, as it can expand and create "layers" of itself.

These layers expand as your senses do, your mind can be

carried to many places at once as long as your Senses can

reach such places giving you an even better detail of your

surroundings and everything around you, like a Domain.

Increases All of your Senses Capabilities by +500%, with an

additional +50% with each Skill Level. Our Senses are sharper

than ever, giving you a greater insight of the world around

you than ever before.

Augments the Capabilities of your Mind and the Layers it can

open and spread by +200%, with an additional +25% with each

Skill Level. Your thoughts can be anywhere and gather

information as fast as your own thoughts are generated.

Enhances Thought Processing Speed, Insight, and Foresight

by +500% with an additional +30% with each Skill Level.

You can expand a Domain of your Senses and Mind to easily

share them with those you desire.

And this one... By merely acquiring it, it took effect right away.

It was a very strange and bizarre sensation. But it was as if my

mind and all my senses were everywhere all at once.

I had become the floor, the bedsheet, the glass in the

windows, even the food we were eating. It was an incredibly

bizarre ability, and it made me slightly dizzy, but that was also

corrected immediately due to this Skill's passive effects.

I need to train this to get used to it quickly!

Chapter 980 Even More Evolved Skills!

As I was getting used to this new Skill, it made me reconsider my actions. Maybe I should stop eating fruits and stop at this before I get more Skills that could negatively affect me due to how strong they are and how much time they need to be trained. But it wasn't as if I could afford that either.

I'll simply employ all my energy into training this new Skill, while getting new ones. My Soul had expanded enough for me to afford these things. And if I abuse the slight time dilation inside my Soul Scape, I can make it possible.

For now, more fruit eating though. I decided to eat another five and see what happens. I think the effects of the fruits might grow weaker over time.

Ding!

[You have consumed [Demonic Death Fruits (A++ Grade)] x5!]

[The power of the Demonic Necrotic and Dark Powers of the Tree of Death have permeated our Body and Soul.]

[Your Mana and Magic have been partially enhanced after absorbing the Necrotic energies, highly compatible with your Soul.]

[You gained +100.000 MP.]

[You gained +80.000 Magic.]

[Your Soul has grown much larger after absorbing the pure essence of the Demonic Death Fruits, highly compatible with the elemental affinities and the shape of your Soul.]

[You gained +30 Aether.]

[The Power of Death, Darkness, Shadows, Phantoms, and Poison have further enhanced your innate abilities.]

[The [Greater Curse: Lv10] and [Life Absorption: Lv10] Skills have merged and evolved into the [Life Draining Abyssal Curse Rune: Lv1] Skill!]

[The [Dark Sun: Lv10] and [Dark Storm: Lv10] Skills have merged and evolved into the [Abyssal Netherworld's Star: Lv1] Skill!]

[You're almost reaching the limit of how much power you can extract from A++ Grade Demonic Death Fruits. To gain more power please consume higher graded fruits.]

Just as I thought, I was already about to hit the limit! However, I managed to squeeze some more bonus stats, and above all, two new Skills, born from the fusion of another four. I need to keep getting these fused Skills so my Status can finally look half-decent. There are so many it is all cluttered and annoying.

Anyways, let's check the new Skills while we are at it!

[Life Draining Abyssal Curse Rune: Lv1]

A Special Skill born from the combination of the [Greater Curse: Lv10] and [Life Absorption: Lv10] Skills, further imbued with the Essence of Abyssal Curses festering within the depths of your Dark and Phantasmal Soul.

Your very existence can easily drain the life of the living, and even some of the essence of the unliving too. A powerful curse that flows through your entire body, weakens both living and unliving, to the point they're forced on their knees, prostrating before you and asking for mercy.

Not only has your ability to drain life increased to the point you can even drain some of the essence of non-living beings as well, but your curses have evolved to the point they mix together, transforming into a thing of its own, and powerful magic coursing through all of your soul, through all of your being.

Any foe that is too close to you will be affected if you please, having their Life Force absorbed by 0.5% per second, and all their stats lowered by -50% for as long as they're within the powers effect vicinity. The curse can also make it so any of your magic can pierce through 30% of their total magic defenses.

But not only can you drain and curse your foes with your mere existence as long as they are within 100 meters around your perimeter, which increases by 15 meters every skill level. But you can also concentrate this Draining Curse into powerful Cursed Runes.

By attacking a foe with a powerful technique or catching them off-guard, your mere essence leaks and transforms into marks, tattoo-like runes covering their bodies, or armor. Once imbued into a foe, these Runs will drain 0.1% of their Life Force per second, and if they are Undead, half of that in Essence, while decreasing all their Stats by -5%. This Rune can stack up to 5 times on a foe but increases in quantity by +1 every 2 Skill Levels. Rune Duration: 10 Minutes each.

You can either activate or deactivate this skill's passive abilities as you please.

An amazing new Skill! What in the world has these two skills become?! From slightly lame Skills I used sometimes when fighting, to incredibly crucial skills I'll be using until I die. I'll have to mix them with my own techniques and magic to use them proficiently, especially with this other Skill.

[Abyssal Netherworld's Star: Lv1]

A Special Skill born from the combination of the [Dark Sun: Lv10] and [Dark Storm: Lv10] Skills, further imbued with the Essence of your Darkness and Death Magical Powers.

The power of your Spells has combined with your very soul. Now your spell replaces your spells, shaping and transforming as you please. The power of the Dark Sun and the Dark Storm unify as one, a Star. A black star amidst the endless void bubbling with boiling nether, overflowing with Death and Darkness.

The Abyssal Netherworld's Star can be summoned at any moment by spending large quantities of Mana, based in both Skill Level and Magic Stat. Its body size can be expanded using Mana or reduced using less Mana. It can be multiplied based in Skill Level and Mana Available, and it possess the ability to consume what it touches with great voracity and overwhelming power.

The Darkness and the Death of the Star are in perfect harmony, whatever they touch, not only will deal tremendous Damage of up to +1000%, which increases by +100% with each Skill Level, but the boiling Nether can ignore up to 30% of the foe's Magical Defenses and Infect them with [Nether's Blazing Rot], which drains 0.1% of their MP per second for the duration of 1 Minute and the endless darkness will afflict them with [Void Enshroud], weakening all of their Magic Spells Power and Effects by -20% for 1 Minute.

Simple and to the point... Finally, my precious Dark Sun and Dark Storm have stepped into the next stage.

And oh boy, it sure is amazing.