## A Glitched 1021

Chapter 1021 The Accursed Sunstone Treant
Ding!
[The resentful souls only desire retribution and death! They have used the Sunstone Tree as their vessel!]
[The [Accursed Sunstone Treant (Tier 8)] has emerged!]
[The Aura of the Accursed Sunstone Treant exudes a deadly flame!]
[Abyssal Soul Flames are beginning to spread rapidly, consuming all Mana and Energy!]
FLUOSH!
The moment the Treant emerged, it released a shockwave of black flames, which quickly set the entire cave ablaze.
"W-What is going on?!" Aquarina couldn't help but grow more surprised. "The Tree turned into a monster?!"
"I guess that's the case" I said, barely trying to believe what I was seeing. "I didn't expect the tree itself to become the vessel for all the souls though"
"You're really a handful! [Cursed Flame Absorption]!"
Ignatius roared furiously, stepping forwards as he began to absorb the Abyssal Soul Flames into his body, which made him feel slightly sick.

FLAAASH!
"RAAAAHHH!"
Ignatius and Curse clashed against the Treant while their fusion only had around less than a minute left. The flames they absorbed quickly turning into chains that wrapped around the Treant legs.
"GRAAARRR!"
The Treant grew furious, attacking the fusion of two spirits with its enormous claws, slowly covering them with large wounds.
SLASH! SLASH! SLASH!
"Now, while Ignatius is distracting it!" I called Aquarina and Nephilim.
"Got it!" Aquarina quickly released her powers at full, her two Spirits fusing their powers into her body.
"Very well!" Nephilim nodded, her two spears growing even larger than before.
All three of us leaped towards the giant Treant, which was constantly struggling against Ignatius. Tier 8 Monsters were ferocious and incredibly strong and tough foes, so we couldn't hold back!
I activated the effects of all my equipment, including my Holy Light Spirit Tiara, my Dragon Scale Armor, and my two rings, swiftly boosting my Fire, Darkness, and Light Attribute Power the most, while further enhancing my draconic abilities.
"[Holy Dragon Spear Tail]!"

Using Scarlet and activating her Skills in combination with my Yggdragon Aura and Alice's Divine Aura, I attacked the Treant.

A barrage of powerful piercing strikes was unleashed, as I rapidly pierced through the giant creature's body, leaving behind several holes.

My attacks resembled the sharp spear-tipped tails of dragons, imbued with holy light.

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

"SHYAAAGH!"

The Treant gave out an agonizing scream, quickly glaring at me and gathering energy into its branches, firing several Abyssal Sunlight Beams my way.

"[Shadow Dagger Arts]: [Umbral Knives]!"

Aquarina transformed only her arms through her Abyssal Embodiment ability, combining them with her two daggers as she fused them with her powers, multiplying them into dozens of Umbral Knives.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

The projectiles she conjured quickly intercepted the beams, blocking them and exploding on contact.

"You're getting better at controlling your powers!" I praised her.

"I'm still lacking, but yeah!" Aquarina smiled. "Now...! [Heavenly Ocean Ruler Arts]: [Abyssal Kraken's Tentacles]!"

She combined the power of her Abyssal Embodiment with her Heavenly Ocean Ruler Skill, unleashing a devastating manifestation of her combined magical powers.

Dozens of giant black tentacles surged, attacking the Treant, they attacked through the wounds I left behind, spreading more cracks across the beast.
CRASH! CRASH!
Crack, crack! CRACK!
"SHAAARRRGGHH!"
With a furious scream composed of dozens of agonizing souls, the Treant attacked Ignatius, opening its massive jaws and releasing a huge beam of abyssal sunlight.
TRUUUMM!!
"S-SHIT!"
Ignatius and Curse did their best to absorb the entire beam, their body quickly growing into an enormous dragon made of black flames, but it was beginning to disintegrate due to the instability of the Abyssal Soul Flames.
"Ignatius!"
I panicked, but he simply smiled!
"Heh, take this, bastard!"
With laughter, the brave red dragon released all the power he absorbed at once, a massive beam of black flames engulfed the creature.



"RAAAH!"
She descended with her angelic and her demonic wings, releasing two powerful attacks by launching both of her spears!
"GRUOOHH!"
The Treant, however, realized her attack, barely moving a few meters away for the spears to pierce its roots and the left side of its head.
CRASH! CRASH!
Crack, crack! CRACK!
RUMBLE!
Almost a third of its body collapsed into pieces due to the intense explosion of holy light and demonic energy, but it survived nonetheless, quickly attacking Nephilim!
"RUOOOHHH!"
Dozens of claws reached her through the Treant's branches, throwing her away and making her hit the walls behind the creature.
BAAAMM!
"Ugh!"

"Nephilim!" I cried, rushing towards the Treant with Aquarina. "You damn walking tree! Okay, sorry Lara, but I'm not going to have mercy anymore!"
"Well said! Screw this bastard!" Aquarina was just as pissed off, the two of us leaped into action.
"[Draconification]!"
We activated True Draconification almost at the same time, as we converged several of our abilities at once!
FLAAASH!
Aquarina combined her Spirits powers with her Draconification and her Abyssal Embodiment, turning her into an Abyssal Sea Half-Dragon, with black scales and purple hair, and crimson red eyes.
Meanwhile, I combined my Yggdragon Aura with Alice, Yggdra, and Naturia's powers into my Draconification, turning my eyes silver-colored, while my hair turned blonde, and I was covered on golden scales.
The two of us resembled two flashes of black and bright light, attacking the Treant with our weapons, explosions of darkness and light covering its body.
BOOOM! BOOOM!
Chapter 1022 Freeing The Tormented Souls
BOOM! BOOM!

The Sunstone Treant was overwhelmed by our constant attacks, quickly beginning to fall apart. However, I felt like there was something missing.
It kept regrowing limbs and branches and attacking us with them. It swung its claws, fired beams of abyssal sunlight, and even more of the Abyssal Soul Flames.
"Does this thing have endless regeneration or something?!"
Aquarina swiped her claws as she destroyed the blazing Sunstone spears that attempted to impale us, I was swinging my sword rapidly, cutting through the monster's branches.
CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!
However, as we desperately fought against the Treant, I realized that the solution was simpler than I had imagined.
"I got a plan! Nephilim, Aquarina, can you two distract the monster?" I asked the two.
Aquarina and Nephilim looked at one another, nodding without even doubting my words.
"Sure! Leave it to me."
"We shall do our best."
"Thank you!"
The two quickly confronted the Sunstone Treant, its claws, formed from the branches, kept regrowing and swinging against them.
Its crystals glowed sometimes, firing beams of Abyssal Sunlight, corrupted sunlight that became black light.

And as if things couldn't get worse, it could also summon spears made of Sunstone and release flames too. "You're not bad, but I'm tougher than I look!" Aquarina smiled like a battle junkie, punching the monster with her bare hands sometimes, slashing it apart with her claws, and other times manipulating her Daggers, turning them into deadly projectiles. BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! My girlfriend was a walking disaster. I had to admit it, she was way too awesome! If it wasn't because this situation was a bit dire, I would simply sit down and watch her being cool. "With Lady Sylphy's endless supply of Mana, I can keep fighting indefinitely!" Meanwhile, Nephilim did her best to assist Aquarina, protecting her blind spots with Barriers of Holy Light, while conjuring Holy Thunderbolts from her hands. At the same time, I flew around the Treant and found a blind spot. Gathering the power of Alice, Naturia, and Yggdra into my sword, which overflowed with bright, divine spiritual energy. "I'm sorry for not realizing you only wanted to pass away peacefully." I combined the Tier 5 Spell [Great Exorcism] that could exorcize most Undead Monsters that were weakened enough, with Scarlet's Skills. "[Exorcizing Heavenly Spirit Blade]"

SLAAASH!

A single, powerful slash was released, with all my strength. The attack seemed shallow, but it carried a deeper power within, quickly melding into the Treant's body and soul. Yes, its soul. Or well, the many souls that composed it. FLAAASH! The effect was almost instantaneous. Aquarina and Nephilim suddenly noticed the Treant stopped moving, collapsing on the ground and shattering into countless pieces of Sunstone. Every crack it had was overflowing with light, which purified its interior. The souls of those that had been sacrificed in the past were overflowing from within. The darkness taking over their souls, born from their hatred and frustration slowly dissipated, revealing their calm faces. "T-This is... Their souls?" Aquarina gasped, never having seen such a scene before. Well, if I didn't remember I was once reincarnated and was in front of the God of Reincarnation as a bare soul, I might had been surprised too. "It seems so..." Nephilim nodded. "Yeah, I knew that the Treant would continue attacking until we either destroyed the souls or... freed them, purifying them." I answered. "So I decided to just do that. I'm grateful my mother taught me all these Spells."

Aquarina walked to my side, holding my hand as she saw the heartfelt scene. The souls didn't say a word, but they seemed relaxed, in a bliss.

"You can rest now." I said. "I'll make sure to free the other souls left behind."

"..."

The souls glanced at me, as they slowly disappeared into particles of light. The miasma in the entire cave was cleansed as well, leaving the area pristine and pure.

"Thank you for doing this. I didn't know it was possible to begin with..." Aquarina smiled. "You're really a nice person!"

"Eh? Well, I just did what was needed..." I felt slightly embarrassed.

"It seems it has ended..." Nephilim smiled. "Pyuku? Are you okay?"

"I-I... I'm fine. Sorry for not being able to do anything..." Pyuku apologized.

"Were you always afraid of ghosts?" Asked Aquarina.

"It wasn't that... It's just that my senses are a bit different than yours." Pyuku tried to explain. "Those souls were in such a state of anguish and agony that the closer I got, the more such emotions tried to infect my mind..."

"So there's such a thing..." I said. "Oh well, we should work out on a solution to that, you have to either strengthen your senses or make them duller..."

"I guess so, it might be something I have to work on myself." Pyuku admitted. "Though, just what the hell happened?"

"I was about to say that!" Aquarina nodded. "Sylphy, do you have any idea?" "I would say it was as simple as it seemed. The souls of these people still existed, contained and trapped in the Sunstone. The miasma infected them and turned them into malicious spirits." I said. "My mother once told me that's how Undead are born in nature." "I guess that's what it was at the end..." Aquarina sighed. "I just hope... they can rest in peace now, wherever they are." "I hope so as well..." I agreed, as Aquarina rested her head in my shoulder. Ding! [You and your Party have defeated [Accursed Sunstone Treant (Tier 8)] x1 and [Accursed Sunstone Specters (Tier 7)] x21] [You earned 7.250.000 EXP] [You have found the last clue!] [Clues: 5/5] [You have completed the [Special Quest]: [Find Clues About What Happened to the Sunstone Ruins]!] [You've found five clues about what might have happened within the Sunstone Plateau Ruins. From the ancient sacrifices to the Sunstones origins, and even the fate of the agonizing souls that were tortured to create this precious material.] [Now, it is on your hands to decide what to do next. You can either leave this place and never return or

end the agony of those trapped within the ruins, once and for all.]

[Because you've freed the many souls of these victims benevolently, you've received bonus quest rewards.]

[Completion Rewards]: [10.000.000 EXP] [3.500.000 Shared EXP] [Yggdrasil's Heart Fragment 2/3 (A+ Grade)] x1 [Spiritual Sunstone Crown (A+ Grade)] x1 [Sunlight Soul Essence Elixir (S Grade)] x1]

Chapter 1023 Quest Complete

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I had completed the Quest and got both a lot of EXP and also some interesting rewards... Spiritual Sunstone Crown and Sunlight Soul Essence Elixir.

Huh, these were sure new items. And once I checked them, I realized both seemed like consumable items.

[The [Quest System] explains that they have decided to absorb the leftover energy from the Souls you helped to pass away and have converted them into special items.]
[By consuming them, your soul and your magic abilities might receive a boost, especially skills, as long as they're related to the element of sunlight.]
"Interesting" I nodded. "Thanks for the rewards, Quest System!"
[The [Quest System] blushes and hides.]
"Since when have you been this shy?" I laughed.
Ding!
[Aquarina] gained 4 Levels, she has reached Level 26/80!]
[Nephilim] [Naturia] and [Yggdra] have gained 3 Levels!]
[Undine] and [Leviathan] have gained 7 Levels!]
Not only I received some nice rewards, but all the EXP helped everyone level up. Nephilim was already at the whopping Level Number of 29!

Since I recruited her and gave her a System that she hasn't evolved, that's because she started off very

I think B Rank might be the limit in which a being can receive a System Seed, beings even stronger than that, that surpass B Rank and go to A Rank or above can't really get a System Seed, they're too strong.

strong at B- Rank. Her Stats have been increasing exponentially with each Level too.

That would explain why Pyuku couldn't take one, he's the fusion of many Slimes, and he has devoured a lot of monster's magic crystals, which have slowly given him an immense amount of Mana and Magic Power, he's already comparable to an A Rank being or above.

However, what with my little brother? Does Zephyrus have that much power sealed within him? Maybe he could have inherited some ancient elven lineage or something.

Some inspections of his soul with Alice did tell us his true powers were sealed, as if his own soul had sealed them, and as he grew stronger, such powers unsealed themselves over time.

This was the reason why his Physique was so unique, he had such amazing regeneration speed, the ability to wield a Unique Aura, and also quite a seamless amount of Mana. Though, he still gets tired quite quickly and is still frail.

Well, whatever's the case, we were done with things over here now.

"I guess it is done for now." Sighed Aquarina. "I grew a few levels, not bad... Though, I can't help but feel a bit sad still. Poor souls."

"I'm sure they're in a better place now." I said. "Well... I hope."

I'm not really sure anymore, seeing how there are apparently Gods of Reincarnation out there, these souls might have already been reincarnated into something else.

Though, it would be nice to think that they don't have a domain over all things, so... I hope there can be a resting place for them.

They deserve it.

"Pyuku, you good?" I asked him.

"Y-Yes, sorry... I'll fight next time." He sighed. "I have to work out on a way to lower my own senses..."

"So it was all because your senses are way too sensitive?" Wondered Aquarina. "Oh, I see! Like when dogs get scared due to fireworks!"

Sometimes, around the end of the year, there are magic fireworks at Agartha to celebrate a new year... Domesticated dogs usually get very scared.

This must be due to their sharper senses...

Though, we do have even sharper senses than animals now, we usually can expand them and turn them off because they're an extension of our magical auras.

However, this isn't the case with Pyuku. He has the same level of acuteness we possess at our ultimate level of focus, at all times, and as a natural part of his biology.

"I-I guess that's an accurate representation, maybe." Sighed Pyuku.

"If it is something biological, perhaps some sort of accessory could help you." I said. "What do you think, Nephi?"

"I've analyzed his biology while we were talking." She said, her eyes glowing brightly. "It does seem that it comes from his Core... So it is not something that can be easily changed.

"Bummer..." Pyuku sighed. "S-Sylphy, can you really make something for me?"

"I can try!" I said, giving him a wink. "For now, we got another problem to solve first though..."

We all glanced at the mess in front of us... The beautiful Sunstone Tree was torn to pieces. We can't see the Spirits of the Land, but I can tell they might be in great distress.

I can somewhat sense fluctuations of Mana and Spirit Energy in the environment thanks to my Lineage Ability [Spirit Sanctuary].

This is an ability with a similar description to Lara's powers, but because it is at such a low level, it can at most allow me to sense the fluctuations Spirits of the Land produce. "If we leave it like this, a lot of spirits might die." I sighed. "Then... Hmm, how about we repair it?" "Repair it? But isn't this a naturally growing piece of crystal?" Pyuku felt slightly confused. "Heh, don't you worry." I smiled. "I think I've got a nice plan in mind... And it involves Alchemy!" Chapter 1024 Familiar Connection By using the power of Fusion Alchemy, and Aquarina and Pyuku's assistance, we started repairing the Sunstone Tree right away. I realized this structure was "alive" in a way, and if we left it destroyed, it would die off and most of its rich energy would dissipate and be lost. Therefore, we had to repair the living formation for the innocent spirits to not lose their home. A way I discovered was to simply merge the pieces back together.

And with Aquarina helping me out with her own Alchemy Spells, and Pyuku with his sticky slime, we were able to stick together the tree after almost half an hour of arduous work.

With Fusion Alchemy, the evolution of Alchemy, my ability to combine components and materials

"And... there."

together became very fast and swift.

I gently placed the tree back up, as we used Pyuku's slime, which was imbued with rich Mana, to stick the roots underground again.
"It looks fine now, I think?" Aquarina wondered.
"I never thought my slime could be used to heal and repair things!" Pyuku was shocked.
"It seemed to have worked to an extent." Nephilim nodded. "Your slime possesses several properties, Pyuku. I've analyzed it in detail, and it has rejuvenating properties, healing properties, sticky properties, gum-like properties, and a large quantity of Mana. While being quite nutritious too."
"Woah, am I that awesome?" Pyuku was made up of all that slime.
"Yes" Nephilim seemed slightly sad. "I can tell why Slimes were persecuted; their components are very useful. And because you're a unique, evolved form of them, your slime might be an even more precious resource."
"Thanks to you, we were able to heal back this" I smiled. "Thank you, Pyuku. And sorry, we won't ask for your slime anymore if it might have been offensive."
"I-It wasn't at all!" He said happily. "I'm glad to help! I can give you guys some more later, to make potions and stuff!"
"Haha, no need." I giggled, resisting the temptation of saying yes. "Don't think of yourself as some sort of source of materials, you're our friend beforehand."
"Yep!" Aquarina nodded. "Don't sweat it."
"I-I Well, thanks" Pyuku felt more embarrassed, covering his face adorably.
"More importantly I think there's still something lacking."

I analyzed the Sunstone Tree. Although the fluctuations of Spirit Energy and Mana have become slightly more stable, there was still a lot lacking. "How about we imbue some Spirit Energy of our own then?" Alice asked me. "I think that could help the spirits get healed." "I can help I guess..." Ignatius said, emerging out of my Soul Scape and looking as fresh as a lettuce. "Weren't you tired and exhausted?" I asked him. "I'm fine!" He complained. "Anyways, if Yggdra, Naturia, Alice, and I help, it should be possible." "I can help, happily!" Yggdra's little fairy manifestation became larger. "Me too!" Naturia nodded, her adorable appearance brightened the entire atmosphere. "Okay!" I nodded. "Everyone! Let's do this! [Spiritual Sanctuary]!" I activated this ability again, as I channeled the power of my Spirits into my body and then imbued it into the Sunstone Tree. FLAAASH! The Spiritual Energy flowed rapidly and beautifully across the entire tree, the wounds it still had, were quickly regenerated, and I could feel the Spirits feeling much more comfortable. "I think it's working!" I said in surprise. "It seems so..." Alice nodded. "It feels like... It has finally woken up."

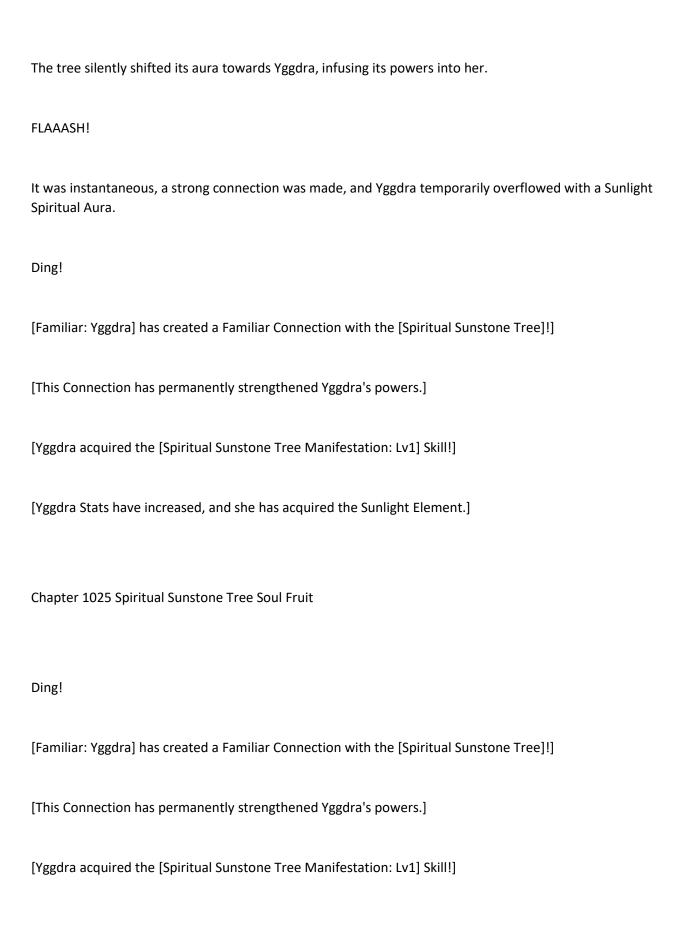
RUMBLE!
However, a sudden tremor shocked us, as we saw the Sunstone Tree beginning to grow larger and larger, its roots spread down rapidly, the branches grew upwards.
FLUOSH!
The Spiritual and Mana Aura of the Sunstone Tree continued to expand upwards and become stronger and bigger, resembling an endless sea of bright light.
"T-This is getting bigger than I imagined!" Ignatius said.
"Y-Yeah" I said.
We walked back as we saw the Sunstone Tree finish its transformation. The branches, which didn't had leaves before, now grew beautiful, yellow-colored leaves, made of crystals.
It had grown around twice as large as before, and the skeletons and bones inside had turned into dust and absorbed into the tree to boost its growth
Ding!
[You have evolved the [Sunstone Tree] into the [Spiritual Sunstone Tree]!]

[The [Spiritual Sunstone Tree] has developed a Spiritual Soul of its own.]

[If you create a connection, it might become your Familiar.]

[It is asking for a connection with you!]





[Yggdra Stats have increased, and she has acquired the Sunlight Element.]

I saw that her Stats increased quite a lot, her MP increased by around 100k, while her Magic by 10k, her Resistance by 5k, her Luck by like 10k and her Charm by over 20k...

She gained more power than I imagined. Her connection with the Spiritual Sunstone Tree became much stronger than just a simple familiar connection.

I think it has to do with both being pseudo spirits, so it created a much stronger bond, as if their bodies unified.

"It is done." Yggdra smiled. "Oh, it seems the old tree has another gift for you. It seems grateful you've repaired them and also purified the souls trapped inside of them."

## FLAAASH!

Suddenly, one of the tree branches concentrated their Mana and Spiritual Energy inside and produced three apples.

These apples were almost identical in size and appearance, and were made of red-, yellow-, and orange-colored crystals.

They overflowed with rich Spiritual Energy and Soul Energy, and slowly fell towards me.

I caught them with my Aura, as I shaped it into a huge dragon claw.

"Wow, these are for me? Thanks a lot!"

The Sunstone Tree gave a faint glow before slowly beginning to fall asleep, resting its energies and beginning to absorb the sunlight coming from the hole above the ceiling, connecting to the outside world.



"Aww, you're so thoughtful~" She giggled, kissing my lips a few times. "Mooch, mooch!"
"Heheh, of course!" I said. "Now that our business here is done, let's go back with everyone else, we've got a lot to discuss, and I think the sun is slowly setting."
As we moved outside of the caves, Yggdra gave a last glance at the Sunstone Tree, before joining back with us.
She had acquired a new Skill regarding this mysterious tree. I think it could help her channel the tree's magical powers to an extent.
It might come in quite useful in the future, she'll have more offensive and defensive abilities, as the Sunstones can naturally create Sunlight Barriers and unleash Sunlight Beams.
As we walked outside of the barrier, I could suddenly hear some sort of whisper.
"Buweeh"
"Puwah!"
"Bwah"
The sound of countless tiny spirits saying goodbye. I glanced back, only to only see faint little lights, not at all to the extreme that Lara could manifest them.
But still, my power changed
Ding!

[You have pleased many Spirits. Their energy and acceptance have allowed your Bloodline to become stronger.]
[The [Royal Elven Lineage: Lv4] Skill has Leveled Up!]
[The [Spiritual Heart] Ability has been unlocked.]
A new Ability unlocked as the Skill gained a bonus level! And what's [Spiritual Heart]?
Well, the Lineage had leveled up a lot while I wasn't watching though, there's a few other abilities I haven't checked on detail.
Level Bonus (5): Increases all of your Contracted Spirits Stats by +125%. Spirit Magic Power and Effects are enhanced by +125%.
Available Unlocked Abilities:
Level 1: [Mana Release] [Spirit Sanctuary]
Level 2: [Mana Resonance]
Level 3: [Runic Structure Comprehension]
Level 4: [Achilles Bow]
Level 5: [Spiritual Heart]

Huh, there's three over there I haven't tried that much... Alright, let's see. I tried them out as we walked back where everyone else had gathered, looks like nobody had gotten lost or something. Anyways... [Mana Resonance] seemed to allow my Mana Release Aura to be able to resonate with other living beings Mana, meaning I can detect when they'll begin conjuring magic and be able to dodge or retaliate beforehand. It also allows for my Mana to resonate with others, enhancing their magical power temporarily, quite interesting... [Runic Structure Comprehension] was quite a simple yet cheatlike ability, allowing me the full comprehension of any runic structure I read. Meaning I can memorize the runic structure of spells more easily now. [Achilles Bow] sounded rather cool, and it's kind of was! It allowed me to combine my [Mana Release] [Mana Resonance] and [Spiritual Sanctuary] auras into a bow made of magic. Through this, I could create all sorts of amazing magic arrows made up of spells I knew, it felt really cheat-like. Is this what Elves whose lineage is very strong possess? It is practically a magic weapon all for themselves!

And lastly... [Spiritual Heart]!

The moment I activated it, well, something really crazy happened.
FLUOSH!
Large quantities of Mana and Spiritual Energy that were already coursing through my body started to gather inside of my chest, beginning to crystalize!
"W-What?!"
I felt slightly shocked, as Aquarina, Nephilim, and Pyuku glanced in awe at what was happening.
"Sylphy?! What's going on?"
"I-I don't know?"
Ding!
[You have begun the creation of your own [Spiritual Heart]!]
[By fusing and crystalizing all the Spiritual Energy and Mana you can muster, a new organ that will allow you to cultivate Spiritual Energy will be created.]
Wait, seriously?!
Chapter 1026 A New Power

Once we gathered with everyone, we moved near the peak of the Plateau, right at the side of a large stone, where we built our camp right behind it.

We had brought a lot of tents and things inside of our inventory bags, I wasn't the only one with one, so we were able to easily set up a larger series of tents with the lack of interior space because there were no caves in this area.

As we worked together to set things up, I explained my friends and family what had just transpired in our little exploration. Everyone found one or two clues, my mother found many with her amazing detection and analysis abilities as a scholar.

However, we were the only ones that fought a monster of the caliber that I told them about, and we were also the only ones that got to interact with some of the souls of such people.

It was reported the rest had not found any souls or monsters either, although they did find faces imprinted into the crystals, and sometimes skeletons inside of them.

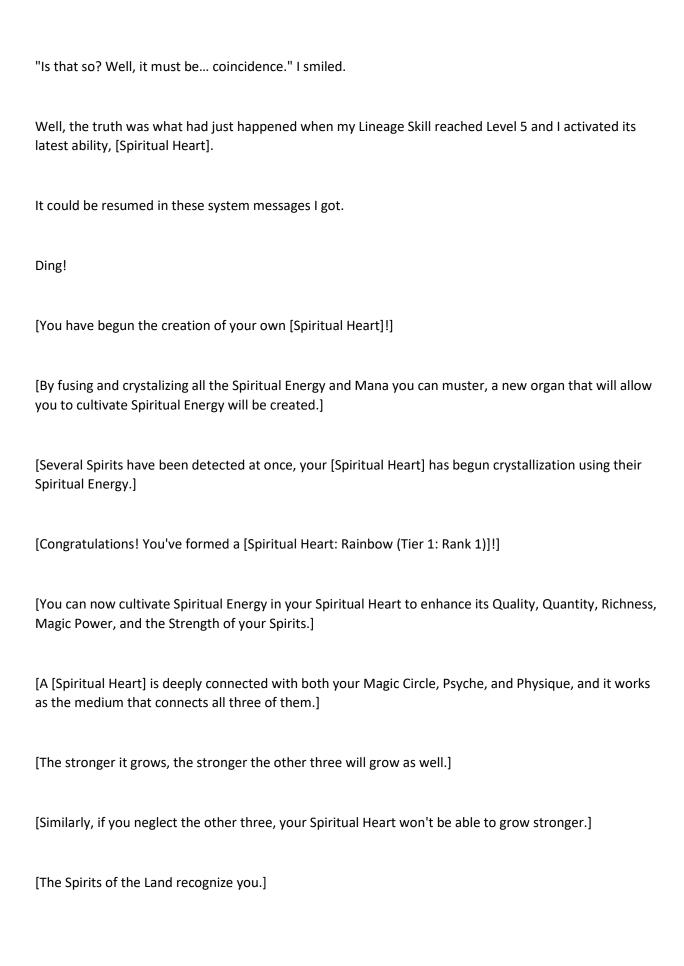
"I see, so that's what happened..." My mother nodded, as we were currently cooking our dinner.

This time we decided to use the leftover meat of the goat hunted yesterday, plus some other monster meat I had picked up from my dungeon, fresh veggies and fruits from there, and a lot of fish from the Sea-Level.

"That was quite the adventure..." My father recognized. "But I'm glad you were able to defeat that monster and even purify the souls! You're truly the daughter of the Saintess if you were able to do that, haha."

"Dear, this is more serious than just to laugh it off!" My mother said. "But... Yes, well done, Sylphy. You make me proud; I am glad you were able to learn my Spells well enough! It was a good thing I made sure to teach you a few a of such earlier at your life, when you were much more obedient."

"And you were able to heal the Sunstone Tree too!" Lara said happily. "Thank you for not abandoning the spirits, Sylphy! Is this why you feel so new? Like, your whole spiritual aura is stronger!"



[The Spirit King and the Spirit Queen recognize you.]

[You can now wield Spiritual Energy freely and conjure Spirit Magic without the necessity of a Spirit.]

Yeah, a lot of text... But in resume, I got a new "organ" that serves as a medium that connects Magic Circle, Physique, and Psyche!

And it needs its own, whole cultivation method! I had no idea Elves were this privileged! I guess only the ones with the purest of bloodlines though.

"I kind of got like a new organ or something? It is called Spiritual Heart." I explained to Lara. "Do you happen to have something similar yourself?"

"Huh? Spiritual Heart?" She wondered, tilting her head. "Nope..."

"Lara doesn't need one because her Magic Circle and her Physique are like two giant Spiritual Hearts, she's very unique." My mother explained. "But it is quite a surprise you got one, dear. Especially at such a young age... Also, because you were half-elf, I was expecting your bloodline powers to not be strong enough to give you one. But I guess I was wrong..."

"Do you know what they are?" I asked my mother.

"Of course, I have one in my chest, and Arafunn as well." My mother nodded. "They're special crystallization of our spiritual powers, which we grow and cultivate to further improve our magical affinities and our connections with the Spirits and the Spiritual Plane."

"Spiritual Plane...?" Lara wondered. "What's that, auntie?"

"I suppose that's not something you know either..." My mother sighed. "It is a special Plane or Dimension, where Spiritual Beings live the most. The reason why Spirits of the Land can't be seen is because they usually belong there. While the Spirits we see, travel to the Mortal Plane, where we all reside."

"That's some crazy information! Why did you never tell me about that, mom?!" I was shocked.
"Well, I never thought it would be important?" My mother giggled a bit. "It's not like it truly matters, much like the Divine Plane, it is not a place that we can step into."
"Hmm, but then why can I see them?" Lara wondered.
"Well, the reason is because the Saintess of Spirits was created with the purpose of becoming the bridge between the Mortal Plane and the Spiritual Plane." My mother smiled. "Meanwhile, the Saintess of Holy Light, me, is the bridge between the Divine Plane and the Mortal Plane, get it? Every Saintess is a bridge between Planes. The reason their powers are so unique is because they draw their strength from these places"
"Woah" I was surprised by such revelation. "To think there's a whole other plane of existence"
"Fufu, it is not as complicated as you're imagining it. All Planes exist within the same physical space, its just that our access to them is limited to our mortal vessels." My mother explained more in depth.
However, that only brought me more questions!
Chapter 1027 The Unique Power Of Spiritual Hearts
"The more Spirits we make contracts with, the stronger our connection with the Spiritual Plane is supposed to become" My mother said. "But not even we have been able to access it, and I have yet to find records of other mortals entering it either, so it is truly a mystery. Lara is the first ever Saintess of Spirits."
"Lara is one of a kind." Arafunn nodded at the distance, as he finished cutting down some onions and garlic, which he quickly started to fry with some olive oil. "I wonder how much she'll develop in the

future~"

"She's truly quite unique." Shade agreed, who was grilling burgers. "Back then, there had only been Saints of Holy Light before, Saints and Saintess, the role is not always for females either." "Heheh, you're making me blush." Lara giggled innocently. "Indeed." My mother nodded. "But there was never the instance for a Saintess of Spirits before." "I think this is because our Gods and the Spirits aren't related originally, no?" Nepheline asked. "After all, the Gods arrived from the stars, and once they did, this world already had life of its own. The spirits were one of them... That there is a Saintess of Spirits means the Gods have reached some sort of deal with the Spirit King and the Spirit Queen." Spirit King? Spirit Queen?" Asked Aquarina. "Who are those guys? Don't you have contracts with them?" "Oh no, our Kings or Queens are the rulers of their respective elements." Shade said. "And even now, it is dangerous to borrow their power regularly, we can't take it all." "Indeed." My father nodded. "Ifrit always almost kills me wherever I channel his power, hahahaha!" "It is not a laughing matter..." My mother facepalmed. "Well, to sum it up, the King and Queen we refer to are the supreme rulers of the Spiritual Plane, and the father and mother of all Spirits. They are the rulers of the Spiritual Source, a legendary place said to be an endless lake of rainbow liquified spiritual essence, which flows endlessly into our world. A pillar for all elements to be stable, and for nature to flourish." "Woah..."

"The King and Queen have names..." Uncle Arafunn said. "The King is usually referred as the Divine Spirit King of Plenty, Freyr. And the Queen is usually referred as the Divine Spirit Queen of Protection, Freyja."

We were left amazed by such vivid descriptions. Imagining such a mystical place was incredible, if we

could ever visit it, I don't know what we would even do there other than sightsee.

"Those are most likely the blessings you have." Nepheline told to Lara. "Don't you?"

"I-I think so..." Lara nodded.

Remembering her Status, she did have two blessings with those names... To be blessed by those truly magical beings is amazing.

They feel much more special than the Gods, which have been giving blessings for eons now...

Meanwhile, Freyr and Freyja were so picky they took thousands of years to finally find someone, Lara.

"I wish I could talk to them one day!" Lara said happily. "I wonder if they're nice!"

"Maybe." My mother said. "Nobody has ever spoken to them, but Spirits have revealed their names to us elves. They are usually one of the major Gods for Fairies, in my mother's nation, there are gigantic temples that are made as holy grounds for both Spirit Rulers... It is said that Fairies are the closest mortals to the Spiritual Plane. But to think the Saintess of Spirits would end up being an Anima, it is truly ironic. I bet they must be quite angry once the news got to them some time ago."

"I think that's because the Fairy Queendom has grown too selfish lately." Shade said. "Perhaps the Spirit Rulers disliked how they were trying to claim as the only ones capable of communicating with them... And also, if you think about it, Anima is much more connected with nature than Fairies. Their Mana and Ki are entwined together and connected to the Energy of the Land."

"The what?" Luck was confused. "We are?!"

"Indeed." My mother nodded. "Anima people are naturally connected with the Energy of the Land. I don't the exact reason though. But it is an inherit trait you possess. This is also the reason why they have such unique magic. We've meet Anima Tribes with special types of Magic and Powers, such as Totem Magic, and so on."

"In a way, the Skin Changer's unique magic might have derived from Ancient Anima Tribes." Said Ninhursag.

"Amazing..." Zack said. "I like how everything is always somewhat connected..."

"To think we have such an innate ability, I had no idea." Said Luck. "Maybe that's why you were chosen as a Saintess of Spirits then, Lara."

"Maybe?" Lara smiled; she was being swarmed by spirits at all times.

She left them walk over her all the time, and sometimes they would even stand over her food. They were not malicious or anything, but she really had a god-like patience with them.

The food was almost ready anyways, and after we had that big conversation about spirits and stuff, we went back to the ruins and what we found out.

While we were eating delicious fried fish, grilled fish, and fish croquets, we talked about our experiences today.

"Perhaps the reason why the ruins blew up is due to that experiment they were doing..." My father said. "Maybe because they were trying too hard to create Sunstone, and ended sacrificing so many souls, the result was too overwhelming in energy, and even those ruins ended exploding."

"Maybe..." Shade said. "But there's also another possibility, perhaps they finished their weapon, and... It turned against them. The Gods had to flee after that."

"A Weapon that made even the Gods escape?" My mother asked. "Wouldn't that be too much for us to handle then? Also if that was true, then maybe it could had done more damage, but I think it has been rather peaceful until recently."

"Gods tend to play with life and once their experiments fail, they simply move on and leave everything abandoned..." I sighed. "The same thing happened with the Fishman King Dungeon..."

"I suppose it is up to you go to help those poor souls then!" Aquarina said. "Right?"





"Sorry, I'm really sorry. I won't do it again." She nodded, saying calmly.
"Really?" I asked her.
"Really! I pink promise you." She said, extending her pinky to me.
"Fine" I said, giggling a bit. "You look all scared, calm down. I just do sketches when I want to design something new. Look."
I showed her my sketch book pages, and there were drawings of Zack and his armor too.
"Oooh, cool!" She said. "You're so talented at drawing Will you become an illustrator? Maybe you could become a painter!"
"Hahaha It is just a hobby; I don't think I would like to dedicate my whole life around it." I yawned a bit.
"Huh~ Well, you can do a lot of things." Aquarina said, as she checked the sketch book more in detail.
I remembered I had made a necklace for her, and wanted a special occasion to give it to her But seeing how there's little and that we'll be fighting more monsters soon, it would be better to give it to her right now instead of delaying it.
"Yep, there's one sketch over here." I showed it to her, it was of her wearing different necklaces.
"Ooh, its me again" She said. "So many beautiful jewelry~ Do you want me to wear stuff like this? Hahah."
"Well, I was just sketching some ideas." I said. "Close your eyes."
"Eh? Why?" She asked.



She quickly stood up and modeled her beautiful necklace, it shone brightly, making her rather joyous. And upon inspecting the item's stats and abilities, she was even more surprised.

[Rainbow Spirit Spring Tears]

[Item Type]: [Accessory] [Necklace]

[Item Grade]: [S-]

[Item Requirement]: [Strong Affinity With Water and Ice Attribute] [Two Water or Ice Spirits Contracted]

[Item Durability]: [10.000/10.000]

[Item Effects]: [HP]: [+2.000] [MP]: [+8.000] [STR]: [+1.000] [DEF]: [+2.000] [MAG]: [+5.000] [RES]: [+2.000] [AGI]: [+1.000] [LUC]: [+5.000] [CHM]: [+5.000]

[Bonus Effects]: [Spirit Magic Damage +20% (B)] [MP +20% (B)] [Water & Ice Magic Damage +10% (C)] [Spirit Magic Spells Mana Consumption -30% (A)]

[Item Abilities]

[Rainbow Spring Spirit Blessing]: A Blessing bestowed by the Materials used to create the necklace, facilitates the ability to wield Spirit Magic of higher Tiers, without Runic Requirements. Enhances Spirit Magic Power by +100% and reduces their MP Cost by -25%. When HP goes below 30%, a [Rainbow Spring Spirit Shield] will encompass the wearer's body, reducing All Damage Taken by -70% and turning the reduced damage into HP while increasing All Stats by +50% for 5 Minutes. Can only be used once per day.

[Rainbow Spirit Threads Of Connection]: A strong connection made of Rainbow Threads will be made once the wearer equips this Necklace with their spirits, increasing their Spirit's Stats by +30%, reducing their Magic MP Cost by -25%, and decreasing their damage taken by -20%. Whenever enough Spirit Magic is used, it is possible to unleash [Divine Spirit Connection], which grants the wearer 50% of all their Spirits Stats and the ability to use their Skills at 200% Power for 5 Minutes. Can only be used once per day.

[Item Description]

A beautiful necklace created using top-tier materials by Alchemist Sylphy, who loves her girlfriend so much she can't stop thinking about her safety. This necklace has been made exclusively for her to always be protected, and also to help her own Spirits grow stronger.

"It's just incredible! Especially those two abilities!" She said in surprise. "It feels like you crafted this thinking a lot about me and my safety... I am not that weak, you know?"

"But still, sometimes you're way too reckless! Also your Spirits will become stronger!" I smiled. "And you look so pretty with it!"

"Sylphy, you spoil me too much..." She sighed, shrugging. "I guess I can't help it, I'll have to repay you with a lot of love and kisses tonight~"

She gently pushed me down in the bed, as she started kissing me passionately.

03:09

"I'll reward you plenty~"

"F-Fine..."

## Chapter 1029 Getting Stronger

The next morning arrived, as I felt my body had grown slightly sore. I think Aquarina did a few too many things last night.

We did almost the same thing we did the other night, and it really felt good... but she's so intense sometimes, and quite rough.

Though, we have yet to touch each other's... most private part yet, I've told her to save that for later because I wanted to start things slowly.

But I really can't take a break with her! I can't imagine how more intense she'll get in the future.

And there she was, sleeping like a little bear...

"Guwah... Sylphy... Shylphy... sowy... don't get mad..."

She was probably dreaming of me reprimanding her or something. Am I that grumpy? I think I am much less grumpy than my mother!

Well, for now I better assess my gains. I've got a few things I want to consume to see how they work. I also have yet to put the fruits inside of my dungeon, so I gotta do that too.

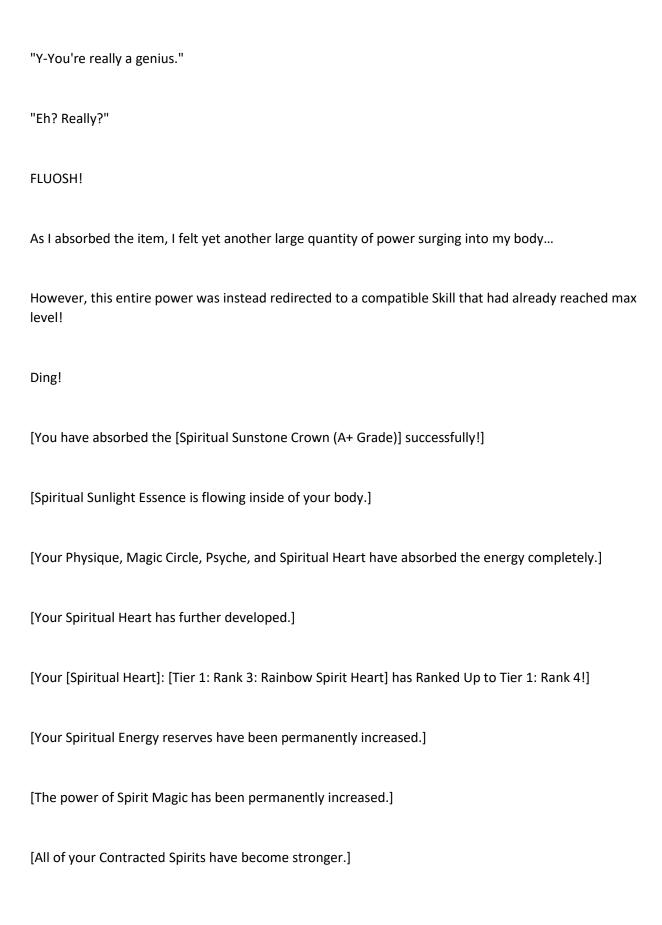
I opened my inventory and took out the items. The small crown-shaped Sunstone and the Elixir with golden and orange colored, bright liquid.

The items were the [Spiritual Sunstone Crown (A+ Grade)] and the [Sunlight Soul Essence Elixir (S Grade)]!

I first decided to consume the Elixir, which seemed to be the easiest of the two. The flavor was sweet and had some sort of carbonated texture.
"It is like orange soda from Earth, isn't it?" Alice giggled.
"Huh?" I didn't know what she was talking about, but I drank it all. "Phew! This was refreshing- Oh?"
FLAAASH!
However, the flavor wasn't the only reward, as I felt a large quantity of Soul Energy and Spiritual Energy rushing across my body at the same time.
"Ooh! This is so much Soul Energy!"
My soul absorbed the Soul Energy as if it had been starving for some, while my Spiritual Heart absorbed the Spiritual Energy.
Ding!
[You've consumed the [Sunlight Soul Essence Elixir (S Grade)], you have gained an immense quantity of Soul Energy, Spiritual Energy, and Sunlight Essence.]
[Your Soul has absorbed the large quantities of Soul Energy! Any wounds or exhaustion have been healed.]
[Your [Psyche]: [Tier 1: Rank 7: God Devouring Abyssal Soul Psyche] has Ranked Up to Tier 1: Rank 9!]
[Your Soul has become larger and much stronger. You can now better resist the pressure of unleashing more of your Mana.]



[You can now conjure [Sunlight Magic]!]
[Your [Physique]: [Tier 6: Rank 2: Divine Yggdragon Princess Physique] has Ranked Up to Tier 6: Rank 3!]
[Your Physical Fitness, Stamina, Endurance, Movement Speed, and Reaction Speed have permanently increased.]
[Your body can now more easily absorb Sunlight for the activation of [Sunshine] and [Blazing Sunshine Ward]!]
[The [Blazing Sunshine Ward: Lv6] [Advanced Fire Magic: Petit Meteor: Lv5] [Fire Magic: Phantom Flames: Lv4] and [Heavenly Sun: Lv7] Skills have Leveled Up!]
"Wow, alright, I got much more than I imagined." I said. "I suppose that leftover Essence from the purified souls was well spent! But we're not quite done yet"
I looked at the crown-shaped sunstone.
"So how am I supposed to absorb this? Do I munch it down?" I asked Alice.
"You're supposed to hold it on both of your hands and mediate. Imbue your Mana and Spirit Energy into it and then absorb the power the crystal holds-"
FLAAASH!
"Like this?"
Alice opened her eyes wide as she saw me absorb the entire crown in a single second. It wasn't as complicated as she said.



[Once you reach Tier 2, it will be possible to engrave inside of your Spiritual Heart with Unique Spiritual Techniques.]
[Spiritual Techniques] are a combination of both Spells and Techniques and can only be conjured using Spiritual Energy in large quantities.]
[However, their power and effects are guaranteed to be much stronger than any spell or technique.]
[Additionally, depending in the growth of your Spiritual Heart, these Spiritual Techniques will be able to further evolve and develop.]
[Based in how many contracted Spirits you had at the beginning of the creation of your Spiritual Heart, you'll get Spiritual Techniques for each one.]
"Amazing! Spiritual Techniques This is new!" I said. "Alice, do you know something about these?"
"Not much, that's the only basic information that could be dug." She apologized. "Sorry, maybe ask your mother later? For now, look."
She pointed at the system notification that showed up.
Ding!
[The [Fire Magic: Blazing Wall: Lv10] Skill has absorbed the energy within the [Spiritual Sunstone Crown (A+ Grade)] and is compatible for Advanced Skill Evolution.]
[Please choose between these Options for Advanced Skill Evolution]
Chapter 1030 Skill Evolution

Apparently, the Crown didnt just gave me a nice boost, it was made to evolve one skill!

It reminded me of the Divine Blazing Flame Essence I had absorbed some time ago, which helped me evolve the Ember Skill into my deadly Petit Meteor.

However, this time, it was giving me choices instead of just directly evolving it into whatever it could become...

Ding!

[The [Fire Magic: Blazing Wall: Lv10] Skill has absorbed the energy within the [Spiritual Sunstone Crown (A+ Grade)] and is compatible for Advanced Skill Evolution.]

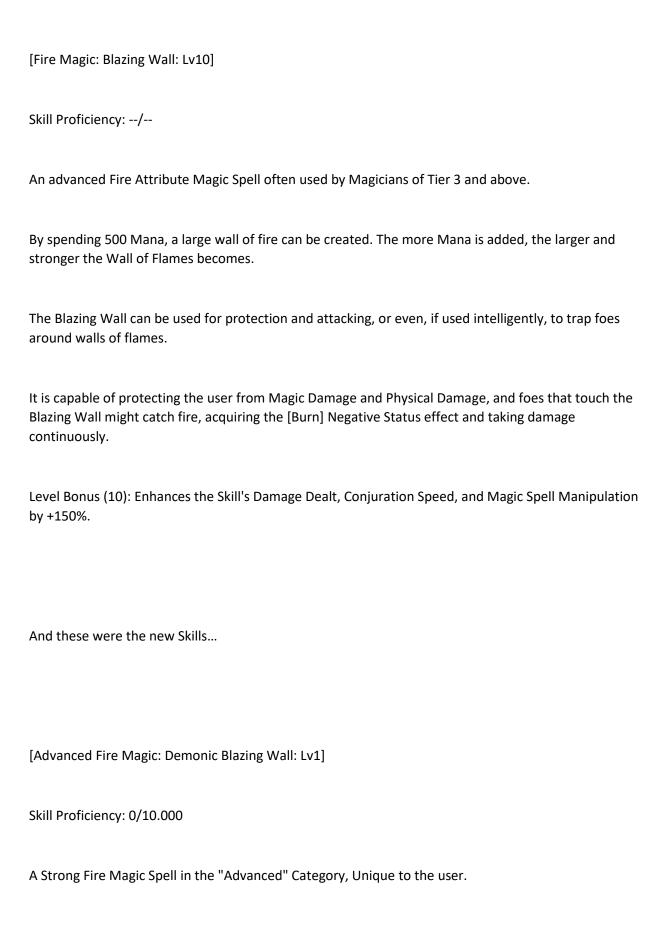
[Please choose between these Options for Advanced Skill Evolution]:

[Option 1]: [Advanced Fire Magic: Demonic Blazing Wall]

"It seems so, while one specializes on offense and dealing damage to foes, the other specializes on purification, healing and protection."

"Only Demonic or Heavenly?"

Alice gave me a swift answer, but I decided to check both Skills first, just to make sure... First of all, this was the Skill at Max Level:



By spending 250.000 Mana, a large wall of Demonic Flames can be created surrounding the user or within a range of 10 meters around the conjurer. The more Mana is added, the larger and stronger the Demonic Blazing Wall will become.

This evolution of the Blazing Wall Spell can conjure mighty and deadly Demonic Flames, capable of dealing powerful demonic-

type damage to any foe that touch them, while offering improved protection compared to the previous spell.

It is capable of protecting the user from Magic Damage and Physical Damage with a shield of up to 500.000 Durability. Additionally, foes that touch the Demonic Blazing Wall will suffer damaged based on the conjurer's Magic Stat +150%, which ignores 50% of their Magic Defenses and can inflict [Fear] [Paralysis] [Demonic Curse] [Demonic Poison] and [Madness].

If the foe is caught on flames, the [Demonic Burning Stigma] will be applied on them, constantly dealing 0.5% of their HP in damage every second, for 3 minutes, while decreasing all their stats by -5%. Can be stacked up to 5 times.

Additionally, it is possible for these flames to transform into Demonic Flame Weapons, which can deal up to +200% Damage and ignore a -25% of a foe's defenses.

Level Bonus (1): Enhances the Skill's Damage Dealt, Conjuration Speed, and Demonic Burning Stigma Effects by 175%.

This Demonic Blazing Wall spell seemed quite crazy, the damage it could deal was seriously bad for the foe, and the amount of status ailments and the Demonic Burning Stigma were very cruel, and kind of overkill.

But I like that a lot! However, I wonder if this would be even effective against foes that have gone through True Demonification?

Let's check the other one
[Advanced Fire Magic: Heavenly Blazing Wall: Lv1]
Skill Proficiency: 0/10.000
A Strong Fire Magic Spell in the "Advanced" Category, Unique to the user.
By spending 500.000 Mana, a large wall of Holy Flames can be created surrounding the user or within a range of 25 meters around the conjurer. The more Mana is added, the larger and stronger the Holy Blazing Wall will become.
This evolution of the Blazing Wall Spell can conjure strong and also healing and protective Holy Flames, capable of dealing moderate Holy-type damage to any foe that touch them, while offering improved an even more improved protection than the previous Spell and healing abilities.
It is capable of protecting the user or any allies surrounded by it from Magic Damage and Physical Damage with a shield of up to 700.000 Durability. Additionally, foes that touch the Holy Blazing Wall wil suffer damaged based on the conjurer's Magic Stat +30%, which ignores 15% of their Magic Defenses.

Damage Dealt is tripled against Demonic, Infernal, and other types weak to Holy type.

It is also possible to manipulate the Holy Flames to heal your wounds or those of allies, the rate of healing being of the conjurer's Magic Stat +50% every 5 Seconds as long as there's contact with them. These flames can purify infected wounds with demonic miasma, and also heal most status ailments with ease.

Additionally, these flames can be imbued into yourself or allies to generate Holy Flame Armor, that decreases Damage Taken by -50% as long as the armor lasts, while constantly healing the user.

Level Bonus (1): Enhances the Skill's Damage Dealt, Conjuration Speed, and Holy Light Flames Healing and Protective Effects by 175%.
Well, damn, both are amazing spells, but this one sound much more appealing, seeing how our foes are usually imbued with miasma or demonic power
It would have come incredibly handy against Lolth or Arachne, a pity I couldn't get it earlier, but for sure, this time, I'm getting it!
The Divine Yggdragon Aura is versatile and can also protect and heal, but its abilities in that regard are only very basic, and it depends on my own Aura too.
But this is a Spell I can spam more freely, although the cost is very high, I can afford it easily now that my soul has become strong enough! I think I could easily spam this spell at least ten times in a row without feeling any pressure.
"Alright! I've made up my mind"
Ding!
[You've selected the [Advanced Fire Magic: Heavenly Blazing Wall: Lv1] Skill!]