

A Glitched 281

Chapter 281 How To Stop This Endless Cycle

The Great Twelve Gods were gathering information using their network of subordinate gods spread across the world. Many of them had small shrines within villages and so on, so they were able to sneak into human's societies more easily and hear information through their prayers, while others were inhabiting the skies of the demon continent and were also learning more about Evil Gods. Theia, the Chief Goddess of Sight and Heavenly Light has been very worried since that happened.

Although it has been months since then, she still couldn't shake the frustration she felt, Sylph was her blessed hero candidate after all, in a way her connection to her had strengthened a lot and she saw her as a prized being. The Evil God that tried doing to take away her life was someone she wouldn't easily forgive... But the most surprising thing was that she somehow survived.

How?

Theia had been thinking about it for a while. She recalled that she indeed felt something weird going on with her soul. She had... "something else" inside of it which she had not seen in any other previous Hero candidate before her. This "something" made Sylph special. It granted her powers that seemingly defied magic and techniques themselves. And there was something within the nature of her soul that... seemingly gave her an incredible amount of mana- no, it was more like her mana never stopped regenerating.

It was the only thing she could ever compare to it, not even the gods could simply continue to generate energy... with no apparent end to it. But instead of inflating her like a balloon and making her explode, this mana she produced continued flowing through her body and soul endlessly, as if she had learned to somehow manipulate it without problems, and the strangest thing is that the residual endless mana she emanated was simply poured out into the world, nourishing vegetation, and other living beings. Unlike the corrupted miasma, her mana was pure and purified things, perhaps this was an effect of her blessing upon her, but this girl... was special.

"Infinite Mana? No... there's no way that's a thing." She once thought, quickly scratching that insane idea. Theia ultimately concluded in that Sylph merely had "Insane Mana Regeneration" and left it at that.

Implying that there could be a being with Infinite Mana meant... it had infinite power, and nothing could have infinite power in this world, or universe and beyond. Nonetheless, she continued with her investigation regarding the one that did this, and after the last meeting with the twelve, she learned that the one behind this was the Evil God of Dungeons. It was the only god they knew capable of creating pocket dimensions with such ease as he did back then.

Rhea, the Chief Goddess of Life and Motherhood and Themis, the Chief Goddess of Law and Order had come to pay her a visit after the meeting, these two goddesses were to closest to Theia, and were also worried about the heroines.

"Theia, how are you feeling lately?" Wondered Rhea, she had a gentle and motherly nature, always worried about her sisters and brothers equally.

"I've been thinking for a while, sister." Sighed Theia. "What do you think we should do now? The Evil God of Dungeons is... too far away from our grasp, and his power... has been massing over eons."

"He's not someone unstoppable either, sister." Said Themis, who was often stoic and strong-willed. "We can deal with him over time. It is not as if we have not defeated gods before by ourselves... The Evil God of Dungeons and the other Evil Gods... they're all traitorous parasites. By the order of the Four Gods, we should slay them at sight. We'll find ways eventually..."

"Themis, you're as optimistic as ever..." Sighed Theia. "Oh well... Sylph and Aquarina seem to be well protected by their parents, and the Evil God of Dungeons had to plan this attack by himself though, it seems he didn't felt confident about attacking the girls without a Demon General, so he might attempt to find some new allies in the mortal realm before striking again."

"But what's wrong with his fixation though? Have you girls noticed? He was always completely absent from the world's history, and out of nowhere he had appeared with the intent to kill two of our heroes..." Sighed Rhea, she seemed very worried. "I think there could be something happening... Has he seen something that disturbed him about them?"

"Indeed, that's strange. He had never been involved into this world. Perhaps he has the intention of change how things are, or maybe..." Themis said, as she began to think something while rubbing her sharp chin. "It is said that there is an Evil God of Prophecies, who evolved his divinity into the ability to see glimpses of the future... Maybe he's cooperating and seeing something in the future, what do you think?" Themis wondered. She always overthought everything, but this time, unknowingly, she was right.

"The Evil God of Prophecies... Has his existence been confirmed yet?" Wondered Theia.

"Demons of several tribes pray to him daily according to the prayers I've received from templars living in the camps of the demon continent, dear sister... He is a real threat." Said Rhea.

"Hm... Tell the humans to build more shrines for us and our subordinate gods, so our influence can be further expanded across the demon continent." Said Theia. "We cannot let these Evil Gods dominate this place any longer. Even the demons are foolishly believing their lies..."

"Some say that Evil Gods are not evil..." Said Themis. "They say that demons receive help from their blessings and more... But of course, those must be biased lies from the demons, while they slaughter our creations, humanity..."

"Evil Gods doing good deeds? That must not be right..." Sighed Rhea. "I mean, what's there good in the mind of someone as despicable as the Evil God of Dungeons?"

...

The Evil God of Dungeons looked into the Demon Continent and then the rest of the continents of the world of Terrarium, his influence through the dungeons grew stronger over time... Despite his evil means, was the world truly just black and white as these three goddesses believed?

"What could I do to stop this cycle?" He wondered. "This... cannot go on forever... I have not corrupted my soul and my heart for standing idly... I have to do something. If the gods are left to do as they please... this cycle of eternal suffering will never end... Isn't that right, World's Will?"

Chapter 282 The Truth About Mana

Since we left that Village where we found my Uncle Grandpa, one of the heroes that accompanied my parents into their journey to defeat the Demon King that he had decided to accompany us. It has been around a week ever since we left the village, and it has been a looooong trip towards the next village, the one right before reaching the coast. Uncle Arafunn is a very fun man, he's always singing around, composing new songs, and making up new songs based in what he learns from people's own lives.

He had been learning a lot about our journey and all the adventures we had together with Aquarina and Zack, so he had been composing a song named "the three little heroes" or something, and he said he'll get it ready in a month or so... I don't really know what to say regarding that, but I can't help but admit I am excited to listen to it.

We had been traveling at a rather quick pace through this week, but the distance was very big so it took us a week and 1 day, this day in the morning we finally could see a big village in the horizon. My parents said this village was named "The Dungeon Village of Eastgrain", and seems to be made near a medium-sized dungeon by a lord some years ago, abusing the products made out of the monsters and materials processed from the dungeon nearby.

This will be my first experience in visiting an actual real dungeon this time, as the other was more like an abandoned ruin with barely anything inside, not even monsters, just my demon friend we found there. Father said that he heard that the Eastgrain Village is suffering from some problems, apparently the monsters in the dungeon are growing abnormally strong and it might mean the birth of a "Miasmic Pupa"... I don't know what's that, and he didn't bother answering me, so I am in the blue.

Moving on, through the week I've been mostly practicing magic and swordsmanship in the back, while exercising my body and doing some mana manipulation as well. I have noticed that I am growing a tiny bit stronger, and also, my Mana is weird! My mother inspected it the other day and the two of us realized it was very strange.

"Your mana... I have never seen nor sensed such pure mana before."

That's what she said while being shocked. I am already used to shocking my parents, but that day she was really surprised. My mother explained to me various things about mana in that day.

"Mana is often not pure inside a person's soul or body. Mana over time gains impurities, which need to be expunged from the body periodically to maintain it healthy. Normal people don't know this and this is why they grow sickly or become unhealthy over time. Humans that practice magic can live longer than common people because they learn how to remove mana impurities from their bodies, reaching more years of age and even as old people, they're quite healthy."

Apparently, all people grow impurities in their mana, and these impurities accumulate inside their bodies over time. When someone that accumulated too many impurities dies, their bodies begin to

exude miasma, and their bodies might... become undead. Or even worse, in a large area with too many people like this, their miasma could even "distort space" or something, and create a mini dungeon, which is even worse because monsters might begin spawning inside.

This is why rituals to purify bodies of diseased people before burying them is rather common in most societies, some other societies or tribes of demi-humans burn the bodies and then spread the ashes in the ground or the rivers or oceans. This world is definitely more dangerous and people have to be careful of stuff like this.

In most magic academies they teach children to purify their impurities, Aquarina learned it from my mother already, and all our family know how to remove them and often do it automatically. I never had to learn it because my Mana simply... never grow any impurities.

"A-And your mana... it somehow always flows? Don't you feel tired? It is constantly flowing outside, but it so soothing and light, like air itself, so if I don't put attention to it, I often don't realize." She said as well. My mother was quite worried about me, but she quickly thought of this as more of a great talent than something to be worried about. I've been living 7 years by now and my mana is the same... so there's nothing wrong with me. She said that this might explain the high quality of my spells, and the purity of my body energy.

And might as well explain how I can work out so much without growing tired so easily, although that's more like Mana abuse using spells that refill stamina and remove exhaustion. She also discovered my body was "strange" because I never grew unhealthy nor even caught a cold in my life. Which is common even for people that has eaten dragons or bathed in their blood.

Maybe having this glitched HP does that to me? Well, whatever's the case, I am always on top condition, apparently! And anyways, I've spent this much time socializing with my family, my friends, and my spirits. I've been trying to convince Beelzebub with tasty food every day, and I am slowly managing to lower his guard, he's already dying to eat a cake I showed him yesterday, so he'll eventually eat what I show him in a few more days, sealing the deal.

Because he's a spirit and he's inside my soul, I can force a contract on him whenever he "agrees" to my terms, and eating my food is "agreeing" so he's resisting it because he knows it would be dangerous to accept it.

Fufu, but how long will he last? I am already teasing this big fly inside of my soul as of now, let's see what he'll do now.

Chapter 283 Trying To Negotiate With A Hungry Fly

I entered my Soul scape once more, finding Ignatius, Alice, Furoh, and Naturia conversing around. The moment they spotted me they all ran to me asking for food... Yeah, they have grown spoiled now and always expect me to bring them some meal at least three times a day. They had grown gluttonous, but it seems that eating makes them stronger and more energetic when I use magic, so its all good. Furoh has begun to let me connect more with his soul, and lately I've been slowly learning and comprehending the Darkness element which he wields naturally as a demon, meanwhile, my Light element is being strengthened thanks to Alice, and I can learn it better.

And with Ignatius for Fire and Naturia for Nature, I am getting pretty good at these four elements, although I can use spells from other elements, they're just Tier 1 basic "daily life" spells that don't do generally much. Ah, of course, it is important to note that Life and Earth Attribute are also getting pretty good, though I've been specializing more in Life Magic due to its usefulness. I want to enhance my healing magic enough so I can one day regenerate even if I am torn into pieces.

This is why while I make up my Magic Circle, I mostly create Nature Runes, as it boosts the power of Life, Earth, and Nature magic, pretty convenient! Although Nature Runes are harder to make than Life and Earth, but it encompasses three elements at the same time, so it's the most convenient. As for the other elements, Fire is a priority, so I am making mostly Fire Runes, they're easy to make too. I don't know if there are elements that have fire on them, but they seem more complicated to make than Nature Runes if I cannot easily create them by willing it. I should ask my mother about this, choosing which Elemental Runes I want to add to my Magic Circle over time is very important.

...Anyways, another friend that might help me boost my power with Dark Magic and perhaps even Poison element is Beelzebub, this annoying fly. So, as my familiars asked for snacks, I took them out and offered the food to them.

"You guys are growing a bit too gluttonous... Are you puppies now or something?" I sighed, giving everybody some sandwiches and cake slices.

"What are you talking about? Nom, nom... I-I am a powerful Dragon! I am no puppy..." Said Ignatius, stuffing himself with food, his eggshell had continued to slowly crack more. A baby dragon might soon be born.

"Food is so nice, Sylphy! I've never been so happy before; it really is relaxing to eat delicious things..." Sighed Alice. She was the happiest about eating food, and I was also happy she was having such a nice time honestly.

"Foood!" Naturia continued eating as usual. I've realized she prefers "nature-related" foods, such as vegetables and fruits, so I always bring her vegetable and fruit salad. Ignatius prefers meat, but he also eats anything anyways. And lastly, Furoh is... he's the one that eats anything too, his stomach is almost endless so he could continue eating more and more, he said he used to gorge on trash to fill his stomach in the past, I felt so bad when he said that that I've made of my goal in life to make him eat all the tasty food he can. My big wormy pal seemed very flattered when I told him that, and he's been enjoying himself, I often feel a soothing feeling in my heart when I see him happy, after all, he suffered a lot through his life.

Anyways, I quickly moved towards Beelzebub. I've realized he got a very big fixation with sweets, he's very weak to cakes, pancakes, fruits, and other things, just like flies (if we ignore the part where they like to eat poop). Beelzebub seems to be from a family of giant fly-like demons, as his subordinates were very similar to him, so they probably have more decency to not eat poop, and got a strong sweet tooth instead.

"Hey, Beelzebub, I got you more sweets!" I said, presenting him an assortment of sweet things.

His eyes were locked into the food, fixated in what I had brought for him, he was so fixated that it felt like he was about to lose his mind. He was constantly swallowing saliva while looking at the cakes.

"Y-You... You've brought something delicious once more! D-Do you think I will... so easily... fall for it?" He asked angrily, as he tried to ignore me.

"Come on, you know you want it, right?" I asked.

"Y-You think you can easily come with new tasty treats every day? I won't easily fall for your tricks, little child! I am already very well aware you're trying to force a contract into my soul to make me into your spirit slave like that foolish dragon, or the worm demon!" He said. "There is no way I am falling... Nom... No way! I will persevere... Nom...! I shall never fall to your food's charm, you little girl! I am... Nom... Ahh, so sweet... I love sweet things- NEVER!"

Beelzebub continued gorging on the food, he had begun eating midway through when I got the food closer to him, his limbs moved automatically and began carrying the food to his jaws. Yep, he finally fell for it. He continued eating, his big eyes started to cry out of happiness.

"I-I have never tasted something so deliciously and carefully made before... Ooh, I am so happy right now! T-This is... Hahh... It reminds me of the cake my dear mother used to cook for me." He cried.

"E-Eh? You had a mother?" I wondered.

"O-Of course I had a mother! Where did you think I came from? You believe that I popped out of nowhere or something like a dungeon monster?!" Beelzebub reprimanded me, as he continued eating. He was a temperamental fellow, more grumpy than even Ignatius.

Chapter 284 A New Familiar Contract

"I guess this means you accept the contract, right?" I asked. "We are official buddies!"

I looked at Beelzebub with a smile. Many people would probably feel disgusted to even talk with a giant fly like him, but I feel like he was pretty cute, he was grumpy like Ignatius and his big eyes are cute, I kind of want to touch them to see how they feel. Also his exoskeleton looks hard like an armor, isn't that kind of cool?

"Y-You're really... Sigh... Ugh, I guess!" He sighed. "I don't have any other option, I ate the food and now... the contract... I guess its gonna take effect?"

"Hehe, nope." I said.

"Eh?!"

"It is only if you agree, Belzeebub!"

"What? You were not forcing me to eat to become your slave?"

"Slave? I don't want you to become my slave..." I sighed. "What sort of idea do you have of me?"

"Y-You're... a hero's daughter! Heroes... they're monsters that come from the human continent to slaughter our people... I despise humans because of that! They're... evil!"

"Eh? Do you... see us in such a way?" I wondered.

"Humans... They're despicable..." Beelzebub was finally opening to me, and he could only speak badly of my race.

"Huh... Well, I am sure that my parents are good people, they raised me well and love me a lot... I am also part human, but also an elf." I said. "Maybe if I am half-human only, you can accept me as your friend?"

"Friend? Me?" Asked Beelzebub. "First of all... Why? Why would you want somebody like me as your friend? Aren't I ugly and despicable? I've killed countless humans and demons alike for my own selfish goals... I lost my way long ago, I grew... corrupt and broken. I call you monster but... who is the real monster here?"

"T-That's not right!"

"Eh? W-What sort of nonsense- d-don't touch me!"

I grabbed Beelzebub long insect legs tightly, as he looked at me terrified.

"W-Why do you touch me? All of you people... you saw my tribe as monsters... You heard our cries but you never did nothing... How come... you do not fear my appearance?" He asked.

"There's nothing to fear! You're just a big and grumpy fly." I said. "Flies are just animals, aren't humans kind of like monkeys too or something? We all descend from some sort of animal at the end, we are no different."

"A-Animals...? We demons were born to kill all humans, this is the task given to us, don't you know?" He asked. "We are natural enemies of humanity."

"I don't care!"

"Eh?"

"Just because you were made for that purpose you're just going to obey it?"

"T-That's..."

"Aren't you free to do whatever you want, Beelzebub?"

"Of course! ...I DO WHATEVER I DESIRE!"

Beelzebub stood up and raised his legs upwards. He seemed suddenly pumped up. I guess he had been overthinking many things before, many of such things that made him doubt about having a connection with me.

"Beelzebub, I am fully aware you came to kill my parents and me long time ago... Ignatius was kind of the same." I sighed. "You you're dead now, right?"

"I-I am... There's no other thing left of me than my soul." He said.

"Then it's not like you got any other option to go, right? Or are you telling me you actually want to die before having accomplished any of the things you wanted? I can help you out if you want, as long as you don't do anything evil." I said. "How's that?"

"T-That's... I... Didn't you heard all the things I just said some moments ago?! We demons are simply not compatible with you humans!" Beelzebub continued with his rant. "It just baffles me to see somebody so willing to befriend a demon such as myself... after I fell so low."

"Hey! I am a demon too! I might not look like a fancy fly like you, but I am sure as hell I am a demon!" Furoh flew to my side. Ignatius, Natoria, and even Alice followed him from behind.

"You... You're just a reject. You never fit in society so you found shelter in this little girl." Said Beelzebub. "Our entire lives are too different... You cannot really be even said to be a true demon, look how weak and pathetic you are."

"What did you said?!" Roared Furoh, as he flew towards Beelzebub. I quickly stopped him before he were to hurt the fly.

"Y-You bastard! Stop insulting Sylphy! She's... such a nice girl! She always does her best and helps me... She's literally just working hard to protect what she loves, and she always says that she cares for me and sees me as family! D-Don't you have a family as well? Can't you relate to her at the very least?! Or are you telling me that you were born without feelings now?!" Furoh continued to roar back at Beelzebub.

"T-That's... You don't know a single thing about my past! All the things... I had to endure... My entire tribe being slaughtered by the humans! Why do you think I even joined the Demon King when he finally was born? So we demons could even stand a chance against the despicable humans! Ruthless, cold-hearted monsters that just keep killing and killing... They couldn't even leave my small village in peace! We... we never did any wrong to anybody... Yet... My mother...!"

It felt as if Beelzebub was recalling his past as he spoke, he began to remember memories he had long forgotten when he ate those sweets, and he suddenly started to cry from his big eyes, which he covered with his various arms.

"Beelzebub..." I sighed, slowly moving to his side. He seemed to slowly grow smaller and smaller as he recalled his traumas, moving away from my grasp.

"D-Don't go away!"

"Leave me alone! I... I don't deserve such kindness... I am not a good person!"

"I know! And that's why... I want to help you out..."

"You're just... delusional."

Chapter 285 A Fly With Way Too Much Personality

Beelzebub seemed to be opening more to us, but we had to really confront him together to even get anything from him. He seemed very closed. Are all people that had strived from their path this way? People that always hold so many traumas deep down that they slowly broke them and made them... into what they became at the end. Beelzebub was by no means a good person; he was probably very bad from what my parents told me. He even said he had not only killed humans but also demons to get where he got in the Demon King's Army. He probably committed many terrible things to climb the ranks and gain power.

He even named his family, his tribe, and his mother... Has the sweets really awakened some sort of memory he had saved of her? But it seems that such a memory only hurt him, because as he continued opening up more and telling me why he felt the way he did, his big body... mysterious shrank. It was as if his soul shaped to how he felt with himself, from feeling big and powerful to small and insignificant. Beelzebub has many mood swings; it probably means that he's very mentally unstable. I want to... bring some stability to him. I believe that we can do something to help him out.

I am not a righteous person myself... maybe. I just don't like to believe that those that commit bad things are just going to burn in hell, especially Beelzebub, who seems so hurt deep down. Have all the bad things he done justify for me to treat him badly? I am... I have not been hurt directly by the things he did, so I probably cannot relate with those that would despise him, but that's also... a good thing. I want to use my unique perspective of demons and form a good relationship with them instead of hating them because of grudges I cannot forgive.

I am sure that humans had also done terrible things to demons too, perhaps many families of demons died because of my parents, perhaps how many demons are orphans now because of them? I... I don't like to overthink it but it always seem quite clear that my parents, as heroes that fought in a big war against demons, probably have kill counts in the thousands. But its not as if they don't feel bad over it. However, seeing how they reacted with Furoh back then, they probably got a big bias against demons in general as well, so its kind of hard to figure out what to do.

They seem to be regretting it, but their bias is still there. When they see a demon that "might" do something bad, they immediately think that they should end them... Which is not the right thing to do all the time! Even less if those demons had done nothing wrong to them. Well, Ignatius and Beelzebub was

justified, they were attempting to kill them and me... and also the Blue Demon at the Amazon Jungles, as he was trying to kill us. But not everybody, right? Not my Furoh!

And... thankfully, they had kind of learned a bit more. I will slowly try to bring Furoh out more, and make them get used to him, so they can slowly open their minds a bit more. But well, for now, I have to help Beelzebub a bit.

"I am not delusional, Beelzebub!" I said. "I am just trying to help you... I just want you to be my companion."

"So childish..." He sighed. "Do you think that becoming my friend is going to change anything? The world will continue moving forward without you, the wars will continue without end. As long as mankind and demonkind exist we'll continue slaughtering one another. The only way to end everything would be... by ending everything. The Demon King will continue being born, a child will be given the title and forced to fight against your heroes, and both will slaughter one another in a carnage. The demon king will eventually fall, the heroes will die one by one... that's how it is. That's how it has been for thousands of years."

"...I don't care."

"What?"

"I don't give a damn!"

"You're such a childish and stubborn little girl! ...Well, I guess it's fine because you're really just like... what? 7 years of age? How could I even befriend such a little girl in my life? I am a big and scary monster! Realize it! Fear me!" He cried.

"I won't! And I... I want to change the future, even if a little bit. I want this endless cycle to stop once and for all... I got the power; I got the potential. And... I will show to you that with the power I have, I will change things." I said. "I won't use it to torture demons, I won't... harm innocents, never! I want... I just want a safe place... to live with those I love..."

"..." Beelzebub's eyes widened at my words, it seemed as if he was reminiscing something within his mind.

"Sylphy you don't have to go so far for him..." Sighed Alice. "He's just someone that... has gone too far to think he can crawl back."

"No... I want to see him crawl back. I'll even extend a hand so he can crawl quicker." I said. "I don't care what he did before... I know he can do it, and I know he can help me out as well, even as a tiny soul."

"Why are you going to such extents for me?" Asked Beelzebub.

"Again with that question?" I sighed. "Because I want to! I want to befriend the demons, and know them better... I want to see their perspective too. You were just criticizing me for having only one perspective... So I want to know more about yours!"

"You're... your mentality is not really that of a child..." He said, realizing something. "You... who are you, really?"

"I am... just a half-elf that wants to live peacefully and make a stupid and grumpy fly my friend, what's so wrong about it?" I asked while furrowing my eyebrows.

"...Sigh, you're hopeless."

Chapter 286 The Memories Of A Demon Lord 1

Beelzebub sighed, as he seemed to slowly get better, his size slowly increased a bit more, but not as big as before. For some reason his eyes were clearer now, and I felt a strange connection... Ah, it was with his soul! Did he accepted? It seems I convinced him!

"Ahh! Beelzebub! You accepted!" I cried, running to his side and hugging his body.

"U-Uagh! W-Why are you hugging me? Aren't I disgusting?!" He cried. "You're a little girl, shouldn't you be disgusted by bugs?"

"What? We eat bugs in my home!" I said.

"Eeeeh?!"

"Father sometimes bring Giant Venom Tarantulas. If you boil their legs with some salt, the meat inside is very tasty! And also there are those Giant Brown Scarabs, they got some meaty legs, and their interior can become a nice soup... It tastes like crab!" I said.

"T-That's not as reassuring!" He cried. "B-But I guess you're a weird bug-eating girl... Just make sure to not eat me... And give me some personal space. I am not into... getting touchy with people." Beelzebub said, as he gently pushed me back.

"Okay, sorry..." I said. I petted his head and felt the smoothness of his exoskeleton. It was very nice, just as I imagined. And his big eyeballs were also strangely soft.

"H-Hey! I told you to not touch me so much! Uagh, it tickles, not my eyeballs! I keep them clean..." he sighed, using his leg's hairs to clean his eyes like normal flies do.

"Haha! Sorry..." I sighed. "But are you okay now?" I wondered.

"Yes. I... I just need time to think about this but... You should infuse Mana into my body so I can complete the contract..." He said.

"Okay." I said, quickly infusing Mana into Beelzebub's soul.

FLASH!

"Oooohh! I-I have never... felt such a pure mana before! This is... incredible!"

I saw as Beelzebub slowly began to shine with purple and black light, spiritual essence quickly began to emerge from his soul, mutating his soul and slowly transforming him from a soul into a spirit.

However, before I could see him change completely... My mind blacked out. That moment, a rush of information, images, and other things began to come one after the other into my mind. I was seeing things that I never experienced before, but that Beelzebub did.

The visions I saw were from even the beginnings of his life, memories which he had kept saved for long ago. I saw him being born, hatching from a big and soft egg as a small white worm. He slowly crawled out of his soft-shelled egg, eating away the shell as it was the first meal he ever tasted.

His bright eyes looked around him, as he found himself within a cold cave, there were many siblings like him from the eggs around him, all of them ate their eggs and then stopped, as a large fly emerged, walking slowly towards them... it opened its jaws and then... it grabbed Beelzebub.

But instead of eating him, it began grooming him, cleaning him with a long and slimy tongue, and washing away any nasty thing with the many hairs in her limbs.

"My child... So cute and precious..."

The big fly spoke with the sweet voice of a motherly woman, as she continued grooming Beelzebub. He felt warmth in her affection and fell asleep due to her embrace. The mother continued grooming all her other four children, until they were all well clean, and then she put them over a large cradle made of wood.

When Beelzebub opened his eyes once more, he found his mother there, bringing him small red and purple fruits, which he enjoyed eating. They were sweet and citric, a taste he never forgot, to him, this was the tastiest fruit he had ever eaten on his life.

"I'll name you Beelzebub, Beelzebub, and you... You're Beelzebub!"

His mother was rather cute, always cheerful and cleaning him. As the days passed, she brought him little socks for each of his tiny limbs and for all his siblings. And she often slept with all of her children cuddling with her. She protected them and loved them a lot... No matter how different a mother might

look, they always love their children without a doubt, and would protect and do anything for them... I see.

I guess humans missed this sort of perspective, such amount of warmth and dedication for her children... How could anyone ever think this woman was a monster? She was obviously a person.

The little Beelzebub slowly grew up, growing large limbs, as his skin solidified and he finally grew a big exoskeleton, turning deep black with a few hints of purple. He slowly grew his wings and began practicing flight with his siblings.

"Mommy, look! I can fly!"

The little Beelzebub stretched his wings, attempting to fly by jumping out of a small furniture.

"B-Beelzebub, watch out!"

"Gyaah!"

Beelzebub tried to jump and fly, but he was not ready yet, his mother caught him just in time before he were to fall into the floor, his exoskeleton was still soft, and if he hit his head, something bad could had happened.

"Are you okay, dear? Don't do that again, your wings are not developed yet!"

"S-Sorry..."

"Sigh... Okay, how about we eat some cake? Mama managed to get some ingredients!"

"Yaaay! Cake!"

"Mama's cake is the best!"

"Mommy, I'm hungry!"

"Brother Beelzebub is okay?"

"Yeah, I am okay! Let's eat!"

Beelzebub and his little siblings all walked behind their mother to eat her cake, she had a very small and rustic oven made out of mud, the cake she took out didn't look at all good. It was badly shaped and had some burnt pieces, but it also had tasty-looking cream and fruits on top, and she covered it in honey before serving it to her children.

"Yum, yum! So tasty!"

"Mama, I want more!"

"I want more too!"

"Come on... We only have so much, you have to eat slowly, okay?" She sighed.

It was such a heartwarming scene. I didn't want these memories to end. Because I knew, based on what he spoke about, how all of this would end...

Chapter 287 The Memories Of A Demon Lord 2

Beelzebub grew stronger and bigger, as he met the rest of his village. Their race was called Beelzeflies, and they were a race of Insectoid Demons who lived in isolation as a group within large caverns inside an old and cold area of the demon continent. They ate fruits and anything sweet they could find, but also often ate carrion, and sometimes hunted small critters to eat when there were no fruits for nutrition. Because they were big and flying took a lot of energy, eating sweet things was preferable for them, and they favored them above other meals.

They were a peaceful race of demons; however, it seems that Beelzebub's father had died before he was born, and his mother raised him and his siblings all by herself. The other families always had a father and a mother, so Beelzebub sometimes asked his mother where his father was.

"Your father is... He... Well, he went to hunt." She said. "One day, he'll come back..."

"Oh..." Beelzebub seemed to realize his father might never come back after a few years, but his mother somehow always lived with the hope that her husband would one day come back. Death was normal for them, as they lived in the wilderness, it was dangerous to go too deep into the forest surrounding the caverns where they all lived together.

Beelzeflies were gentle-natured and empathetic, always helping each other. Beelzebub's family was helped many times when they needed food, it seem they learned how to survive by sharing and caring for one another, like a big clan, or maybe a big family.

When Beelzebub grew into maturity, and became a young adult, he went off to hunt for his first time into the nearby meadows, grabbing one of his father's spears, he attempted to catch a horned rabbit to bring home so his mother and his siblings would eat something more filling than flowers or mushrooms.

However, when he came back home... As he got closer, he felt the scent of something burning, and saw clouds of black smoke rising into the skies.

Using his wings to fly as fast as possible, he reached his home at long last, finding flames engulfing the interior of the caves. Humans wearing armor and wielding weapons began to throw flammable torches covered in oil inside the caves, as the screams of many Beelzeflies resonated across the mountain.

"Gryyyyaaaaahhh!"

"It burns! Help! HEEELP!"

"Mama! Mamaaaaaa!"

"A-Ahh... Ah... Ahhh..." Beelzebub felt completely frozen in time as he watched the entire mountain burn. The humans below were talking about the people burning, and taking down anybody that crawled half-burned from inside with weapons, brutally crushing them into pieces.

"Burn them all!"

"Disgusting flies..."

"We've got enough of you stealing our food!"

"Don't listen to their human-like voice, they're just illusions! They're trying to trick you into thinking they're people... they're all monsters!"

"To think we would find such disgusting creatures... Well, this is the Demon Continent after all."

"P-Please, not my daughter! Please!!!" A male Beelzefly crawled outside of one of the caves, his wings completely burned, so he couldn't fly. He was holding a little worm on his arms, and trying to run away as fast as possible. But the humans caught him, piercing every limb with their spears as he implored them to not hurt his daughter, the little white worm he was carrying.

"No, please DON'T!!!"

However, the humans didn't listen, pointing their spear at the little girl, which they found disgusting, she was a baby so she didn't know what was happening confused, she began to bubble saliva from her little mouth. The humans felt so disgusted that they immediately pierced her body with countless spears. The little girl didn't even give a cry of agony, as Beelzeflies couldn't make sounds until they grew into adults.

CRASH!

Her entrails spread into the floor, as the father began to cry in agony and despair, cursing the humans furiously, as his dark magic suddenly exploded, attacking them.

"A-AHH... AAAAAHHHH! Y-YOU DAMN... YOU DAMN HUMANS!!!"

CRASH!

However, a spear hit him in the head, splattering over the floor... He died quickly before he were to even avenge his daughter, and the humans were barely hurt by his magic. Beelzeflies had the talent for dark magic, but many of them didn't developed it as they had lost the ways to use it long ago.

Beelzebub watched in despair, hiding behind a tree. If he got any closer... he would be mercilessly slaughtered like everybody he saw. But... what about his family? His mother and his siblings? He looked deep into the mountains, until he found them... his cave was not with fire but only leaking a lot of black smoke. And from inside, the humans were throwing out the charred corpses of several little Beelzeflies and a big one. Almost unrecognizable now... They were his family.

"A-Ahh... N-No... Why... WHY?!"

Beelzebub cried desperately, as he forced himself not to fly towards the humans. He was a weak juvenile; he would surely die by their attacks. The only advantage he had was flight, and the humans had good archers who easily caught anybody that tried to fly away with arrows covered in oil and set ablaze.

Beelzebub continued looking into the corpses, as his hatred grew larger than his sorrow, he continued breathing heavily, looking at the humans constantly with his big eyes... his heart grew darker, and his entire body exuded an aura of pure malice.

"Y-You damn humans... I will kill all of you... I will kill you all!!!"

Beelzebub gritted his jaws, flying away as fast as he could, leaving behind everything that was important to his life, and only carrying the desire for vengeance which he brought within his heart until his last moments against my parents.

When I was brought back to reality, I looked at Beelzebub, as he seemed to be rather surprised, it seems he also saw glimpses of my past, and of my previous life as well.

"Y-You're... a reincarnated person..." He said.

"Yeah... Anyone that makes a familiar contract with me gets to see it..." I sighed.

"I saw your past... I suppose... We are not so different." He admitted.

Chapter 288 A New Spirit!

I saw part of why Beelzebub had turned into such a person when he was alive. I felt... pretty bad. I didn't liked what I saw, and it just made me realize how horrendous this world is. Is this... is the world just darkness? Every time I see the past of those involved in wars and the only thing I see I just... sorrow and darkness. There's nothing redeemable about what they went through. It was just... I guess this is what happens in war.

I am not going to begin hating humans in general or something. I am not that kind of person. Nor I will hate demons because they hurt humans or something. But this just made me realize how terrible the current situation is. I doubt this has changed at all even after the death of the Demon King. Is it even possible for me to... do something?

As I saw Beelzebub's past, and saw the faces of these people... these humans who were too scared of the Beelzeflies to even consider them people, and immediately tried to kill them because they found some of them were stealing their provisions... I don't know what to think. In one place, the humans had some sort of justification to be angered, but it didn't really meant they had to kill them all... And so horribly at that.

I get it, they really look scary in a normal human's perspective, especially people raised with just more humans or at most elves and beast-kin people. It must be pretty hard to accept monster-looking demons as people, especially the Insectoid clade, who are all very big and... very bug-like.

Furoh himself seems to belong to a clade of Worm-like demons as well, and even between demons there is a strong discrimination. It seems that more stylized human-like demons discriminate the ones that look more like monsters or are more beastly-looking. Demons such as Beelzeflies, or the Shapeshifting Worm Demons that Furoh belongs to are seen as the bottom of the food chain and as monsters by a lot of the demons.

I guess it is way more complex, because even between demons there is not any unification. I suppose this is why the Demon King is born, to unify all these different-looking people together, while humans, elves, dwarves, and beast-kin look very similar with one another, so its easy to socialize and work together. It is often hard for me to imagine these things... But after I saw their perspective, I cannot possibly look at these people as monsters, even less insects now, I think if I ever find a friendly bug monster I might keep it and tame it as a friend.

Maybe in my previous life I would had given up into the whole thing about "changing the world" stuff, which honestly, seems very unrealistic coming out of a person so down to earth such as myself... but now that I have so much strength, I am sure that I can... at the very least, create some sort of change, even if small... I am a long-living race as well, I could slowly try to change things with my long lifespan, and my strength. It doesn't sound so unrealistic when I add all these types of abilities I have, which would be pure fantasy in my previous life.

Beelzebub had changed as well, he had become brighter, and his size... decreased? Wait a second! He became a super adorable caterpillar? No, well, a maggot, that's how fly's infant stages are called, right? Though I prefer to call him a caterpillar because it sounds cuter.

"W-Wha... Eh? I changed way too much though?!" He asked in surprise. "First of all, why am I a maggot again? I am pretty sure I am a full grown adult!" He said adorably, he was silky white like milk, with a few black and purple patterns around his body. He also had small hair around his face that looked like whiskers, and two big eyes staring at my soul.

Ah, so cute!

"You're so cute!" I cried, grabbing him and hugging him.

"C-Cute?! Me? I-I am a maggot! How come I am cute?!" He cried. "F-Fear me!"

"I won't! You're cute!" I said. "You've become a little infant spirit, I think the same happened to Ignatius. When souls convert into spirits, they have to start out as infant spirits... It could even be said that it is as if you were reborn again, so you have to start from your baby stage."

"Yeah, I am still a Walking Egg stage..." Sighed Ignatius. "I barely remember the time I was a walking egg. We dragons pop our legs and tails out of the egg while we develop, it is a way so we can ensure our

survival and begin moving and feeding ourselves seven while not being completely developed as infant dragons... After eating enough, we would develop and break the rest of the shell!" Ignatius said proud, I guess he really got into the conversation.

"S-So that's how it is... But this is... I can't even have my wings?!" Cried Beelzebub. "Aaagh, I am beginning to regret this!"

"Hahaha, don't be like that! You're a cute little caterpillar. You can sit over my head if you want to." I said, putting Beelzebub over the top of my head.

"E-Eh? Oh, I like this... I feel like I am in the highest position!" Said Beelzebub.

"Hahaha! Who's the worm now?" Asked Furoh, provoking Beelzebub.

"Y-You'll see! I will one day become a fly again and even stronger than ever before!" Beelzebub roared back at Furoh; it seems the two would become rather competitive companions in the future. I was... not really looking forward to this as much, but I was happy if they were happy, and that's all that matters.

As I finally made Beelzebub my fourth spirit, I felt a strong connection with his soul. The power of Darkness and Poison Attributes had become very strong within my soul now.

Chapter 289 They Grow Too Fast...

Over the week I've been practicing my endurance to level up my [Yggdrasil's Endurance] Skill, who went from Level 4 to Level 5 over the week, and it is getting closer to Level 6. I think that in a month or so, I could most likely reach level 10. After that... I have no idea what other Skill could show up but thinking about something strong excites me.

Since our talk with Aquarina, she had stopped helping me practice my endurance, and Zack also feels like it's weird, so I just go on my own and ask Furoh to help me instead. He does it very displeased, but still hits me hard with his body, and we both practice some sparring together.

The other spirits cannot materialize to the extent of being able to hit me with their bodies like Furoh can, so having a familiar like him is really useful... Ah, another thing that has been happening lately is that Alice managed to get out of the Soul Scape... Yep, it seems she's more of a Spirit than anything now. Although the system functions remain linked to her and I, still, it feels like she can do a lot more.

Perhaps I should show her and Beelzebub to my parents and everybody else so I don't create any confusions in the future when they show up in some dire situation. Introducing them as mere spirits that showed up when I was going around should work, right? After all I got Elf Bloodline, which is thick enough to allow me to have some sort of "charm" with spirits. My mother got a few of them herself, and she said most of them came to her while she was in certain places, so perhaps it is not so hard to believe that I suddenly got a Light and a Darkness Spirit? Although showing both of them at the same time is... Ugh, well, yeah, it is pretty suspicious.

Alice was quite fascinated with the outside world and wanted to explore more, but I had to quickly get her inside my Soul Scape because Aquarina and Zack are sticking to my side 90% of the time in the entire day, so its hard to get some alone time. They're my beloved friends but sometimes they should leave a bit of time for myself... But I think I am too nice to tell them that rashly, so I just let them do as they please. Ugh, I am really just spoiling them, aren't I?

Well, for now it should be a good time to wake up. I had saved the food for my spirits' breakfast last night, so when I woke up I had it at my side and quickly feed them with it. But it was still the morning and I was pretty hungry. Miraculously so, Aquarina wasn't in the bed, although she did slept in my bed last night as well, but it seem she woke up early to pee and then just ended going to have breakfast and never came back to cuddle some more.

Ah, I am getting used to have my cute Aquarina cuddling with me by now. I am a small body so I often get pretty cold, but she's always warm~ It must be due to her bloodline as an Amazon, their bodies produce a lot of heat naturally and they burn calories like crazy as well, this is why she eats a lot as well, I suppose. Anyways, I can't help it, so I jumped off the bed and the first thing I feel below my feet is something slimy and cold.

I looked down and found that I ended stepping over Pyuku, who was sleeping right below the bed over his little bed which Aquarina crafted with her parents out of wood, it had a small cushion on top.

"Pyuuuu..."

"A-Ah! Sorry!"

"Pyu..."

Pyuku slowly crawled away, as he stretched a little arm and touched my head, petting it.

"Good morning Pyuku! Is Aquarina outside?" I asked.

"Pyuuuu..."

Pyuku quickly led me outside, as we walked into the camp, there we found my parents and Aquarina with her parents eating breakfast, they were already midway through! Why did nobody come to tell me to eat with as well!?

"Hey! You didn't wake me up!" I complained, walking to my father's side.

"Hahaha, sorry, dear, but your mother said that its about time you wake up by yourself..." Said my father. "You have to learn discipline! Or something like that."

"I was busy training magic with my spirits and talking with them... I guess I overslept." I sighed.

"Eh?!" My mother asked in surprise. "Y-You train magic with your spirits while sleeping, Sylphy?"

"Yeah... Always? What's wrong with that?" I wondered, tilting my head.

"This girl..." Sighed my mother, readying herself to reprimand me for something I didn't even knew was wrong. "You shouldn't practice magic while sleeping! It is dangerous for the body and it won't let your body rest well, you'll wake up tired and exhausted, and it won't help you at all in the long run if you're always tired!"

"Eeh? That's... a thing?" I wondered. "I've never felt tired after sleeping, I've been doing this for years now..."

"Truly?" Asked Shade in surprise. "Faylen, your daughter is really something else..."

"Doesn't she has like some sort of tireless body? I guess it is normal for her to never feel tired!" Said Nepheline in between laughter. "Despite being an elf she could make a good warrior woman. Sylphy have you thought about learning how to use a hammer?"

"A-A hammer? I don't know if I have the build for that..." I said. I didn't really liked hammers as weapons, and I preferred the swiftness of knives and short swords better, I am a more light type of fighter. Hammers and axes are for heavy warriors like Zack.

"Hehe, there's no way Sylphy would use a hammer, mom!" Said Aquarina. "Come eat at my side, Sylphy!"

"Okay~!" I said, as my mother seemed to have dropped the subject already.

"Wait! S-Sylphy! How about you sit in your papa's lap instead? Like you used to do?" My father asked.

"No!" I said, walking to the side of Aquarina.

My father... seemed heartbroken after I saw that. Maybe I shouldn't had been so rough.

"Hahh... She grew way too fast..." He sighed, as my mother patted his shoulder.

Chapter 290 My Mother's New Facet

"I'm here! Phew... that was a good exercise. Look, Sylphy, I brought you a gift!"

While we were having breakfast, Zack and Ninhursag came back from... hunting, apparently. And Zack brought a big deer with horns that were made of red and blue crystals. Checking it with my eyes showed the creature was named "Crystal-horned Deer" and each horn as the properties of fire and ice respectively. Wow, that's a good catch, that monster is at least around Tier 2 in the level of a threat.

"A gift for me?" I wondered.

"Y-Yeah! Do you like it? The horns are pretty!" Said Zack happily. "The meat must be tasty too, and the hide!"

"Haha, you're pretty excited, did you had fun hunting?" I said. "I guess we had never gone hunting for real, always little monsters, but you hunted this big deer by yourself!"

"Yep, all me!" Said Zack, puffing his chest, he was shrouded with sweat and a few bruises. Ninhursag stood at his side quite proudly of her adoptive son, and seemed to nod to anything he said. Everybody else began to praise Zack, except Aquarina, who remained in silence for a bit.

"Amazing, well done, Zack! Good catch!" Said Nepheline.

"You're growing stronger every day." Said Shade.

"Oooh! Hm, that's a strong Crystal Horned Deer, it almost Tier 3 in magic levels of power. It is comparable to a Tier 3 Magician as those horns are infused with strong fire and ice magic, that monster can instantly conjure Fireballs and Icicle Spears, it is very dangerous for novice adventurers!" Said my father, he was like an encyclopedia for monsters. I don't know if there was even a monster he didn't knew about, he was really from a Hunter and Mercenaries family.

"Well done Zack." Said my mother. "We can sell the materials in the town so you can begin having your own savings."

"I-I kind of want to use the materials for another thing..." Said Zack. "Sylphy's birthday is getting closer and I want to give her a pretty gift."

"Ooh? Really? Fufu, are you trying to court her?" Asked my mother teasingly.

"C-Court her? T-There's no way!" Said Zack, moving away his face and growing red like a tomato. He looked rather cute when he got so embarrassed.

I felt a bit flattered that he was already preparing a gift for me. I should also think of a gift for his birthday, it is not so far away from mine either. Maybe hunting a monster and making something out of it could make him happy as well.

"Fufu, my little Zack has become a nice hunter, right?" Asked Ninhursag proudly. "He's been growing faster lately; I can't help but think how stronger he'll get in the future."

"S-Stop saying that... It is a bit embarrassing..." Said Zack, as Ninhursag happily gave him pats over his head.

"Well! I can also hunt my own if I try!" Said Aquarina. "I-I'll also bring you a nice gift, Sylphy!"

"Haha, you don't have to rush it, it is fine if you bring something else. Or nothing at all as well, it is already a gift to have all of you with me. I really don't need anything else in my life."

Unexpectedly, when I said that leisurely, everybody fell silent and then smiled, caressing my head, or patting my back... I guess I said something rather touching without realizing.

"Awww, you don't have to be so modest." Said Nepheline.

"You're a good girl, Sylph." Said Shade.

"My girl is so modest... I guess I've really taught her well!" My mother almost began to cry.

"S-Sylphy is really an angel..." My father said.

"Haha, she's like that, huh?" Giggled Ninhursag.

"But Sylphy, I put into the effort so I am still giving you a gift!" Said Zack.

"T-That was nice of you but yeah!" Said Aquarina. She and Zack began to look at one another with a hint of... rivalry? It was weird, they were competing for who could give me a nice gift? I guess it is a rather healthy competition in that regard then.

"I'm not gonna lose to Zack, I'll hunt down a strong monster from the Dungeon nearby!" Said Aquarina. "So wait for it, Sylphy!"

"O-Okay... Calm down a bit, Aquarina, you're too young to go around hunting big monsters inside dungeons... I've heard that monsters inside dungeons are way stronger than those in the outside, right, father?" I asked.

"Hm? Oh yeah, they are way stronger, perhaps two or three times stronger than those we found in the wild. That's because dungeons are filled with miasma, which naturally makes monsters stronger, and even enhances their natural regeneration. You gotta go immediately for a killing blow with these, accumulating damage on dungeon monsters might sometimes be futile without something to poison them or inflict another negative ailment on them, as they'll regenerate wounds quicker than you'll imagine." Said my father, very knowledgeable about the whole topic.

"I-I see. I guess we can't lower our guards then!" I said while nodding.

"Yeah, that's the spirit." Said my father. "We received a letter lately that this town needs some help, so we are going there and we'll use our authority to register you kids as Adventurers- Ninhursag too!"

"Eh? Adventurers?!" I asked. "But aren't we too young?! And why?"

"Of course you're too young, that's why your father said with our authority. All four of us are S-Rank Adventurers anyways." Said my mother. "We can bend the rules and register you kids and Ninhursag easily."

"And why? Well, being an Adventurer has a lot of perks! One of them is that you can pick requests from the Adventurer Guilds and also get rewards, sell materials for money, and get special benefits such as discounts and the like." My father said. "Being an adventurer is actually awesome."

"Oohhhh! I see! So it's all about the money!" I said while nodding happily.

"Fufu, yes! My daughter seems to have understood that well." My mother giggled. "It is important to realize the value of money and use money to your benefit! A lot of things can be bend with money, and you can even change an entire nation's future with money too... Everything is money."

My mother slowly began to show a facet I had no memories of seeing before.