

A Glitched 41

Chapter 41 Introduction To Magic

Dear mother... what the heck are you even talking about?

I thought all magicians and the like just used spells and that would be the end of it. I legitimately thought they would just have to constantly use their mana and their spells to become a better magician.

And now you're telling me we have to open up some magic circle thing?

Does that line up my original thought? Not even one bit. Please, just go back to simplicity!

On top of that, mother just casually said it to me as I was having breakfast this morning.

Naturia had matured a bit these past three years. Thanks to passage of time, she was no longer a little fist-sized seed, but had gained roots and leaves. Right now, she resembled a tiny fairy made of wood, with hair made of leaves. All in all, she was very cute.

Spirits that you make contracts with from a young age grow alongside you, so that meant Naturia was nowhere near her peak when she formed a contract with me. But as she grew alongside me as I grew older, she had gotten stronger. In turn, she gives me more power.

Oh right, I've been also trying to convince Ignatius for three years now. Unfortunately, that bastard still hasn't budged. I've begun to bite his tail, hit his head, pierce his eyes with my hands, everything I can do there really. I've even continuously kicked his balls, but he still won't submit.

He's certainly a powerful being, I have to admit. But I won't give up on him that easily. If else, his stubbornness is solidifying my stand to make him my Fire-type Familiar. I won't settle for anything less than a fire dragon, that's for sure.

Wait, where was I? Ah, right. My dear mother, who has been taking care of me for so long already, had never told me back then that there was some strange power system based on magic circles. And then, based on these magic circle ranks and tiers, spells are made.

Of course, it's also absolutely possible for someone talented to conjure things above their own magic circle, but it usually costs a ridiculous amount of mana. Well, I can do this because I apparently have endless mana from an unknown source... it's probably from that god that sent me here or something. After all, not even the System can properly explain it to me other than telling me that "it's an ability that formed out of a glitch."

Nevertheless, I believe I can "cheat" the magic system through my System. After all, even if it's flawed and has a ton of errors, it's already overpowered even with these tiny little skills. Take Ember for example. It lets me conjure Fire magic without even having to chant it. As long as I just use Ember continuously and fuse them into shapes, eventually they form stronger magic that my mother sees as spells.

Now that I think about it, the Agriculture skill coming from my Farmer class is not really Nature magic either... it probably works this well due to the endless mana.

I can't help but imagine how stupidly powerful I could become if the System actually worked well in the first place. Then again, I guess if it worked well, I wouldn't have endless mana or health to defy logic with.

I guess you sacrifice some things to obtain other things.

Moving that aside, I believe Aquarina is more talented than I am. In my case, I'm just cheating life by using the System. On the other hand, Aquarina really has talent for magic. She can already use spells of higher tiers than what would normally be for her level without any assistance through her sheer talent...

In these last three years, I've grown very close to her. You could say that we're best friends at this point, or even sisters with just different parents. I've grown very attached to her during this time, and I've got to say that she's honestly my little treasure.

In these last three years she had slowly grown less shy thanks to interacting a lot with me. We also went hunting from time to time as well, although we targeted nothing too out of the ordinary such as Horned Hares and the occasional wild leopard or lynx.

During this time, she had developed great talent with Water, Earth, and Shadow magic. Yes, all three of them! Nevertheless, she's still better at using Water magic more than anything else.

Now that I mentioned water, she actually obtained a Water Spirit named Undine one day when we went to swim near a river. It was very random, yes, but she got her own spirit from it, so her magic has soared leaps and bounds than before.

With every passing day I'm away from her, I hope I can meet her again so we can go play and have fun.

Speaking of which, during these last three years we haven't made any other friends, although there was this annoying 5-year-old kid named Zack in her tribe, which often followed us around and sometimes teased us or tried to bully us.

I think he likes Aquarina and he's trying to get her attention by being rude. You know, the typical childish behavior. Unfortunately, he's doing the opposite of what she likes and because of that, she hates him. I'm not childish enough to hate a kid, but I don't like his behavior. With that, I've more so often beat some sense on him.

Maybe if he acted gentler, he could get a chance to be with Aquarina. But even then, I'm not letting him get any closer to my little sister until she grows up!

Then again, it has been around a year and a half since this boy appeared, so we eventually have grown a bit fond of him. Of course, Aquarina still looks at him with a death stare from time to time.

But I should move that aside for now. I'm still talking to my beautiful elven mother here.

"Mom, I don't get it..." I replied, trying to tell my mother that I couldn't understand whatever she was telling me.

"Ah. Well, we should have told you beforehand really... seeing how you and Aquarina can conjure magic spells above your own tiers, I suppose you wouldn't guess that there was a tier-based system other than just saying how strong a spell was through tiers, right?" my mother said in response.

"Yeah... Daddy, do you know this?" Nodding, I asked father.

"Ah, yes. I'm actually an 8th Tier Magician," father replied, scratching his head in response as he awkwardly chuckled.

"Is that strong?" I wondered.

"Yeah, but your mother is better. Hahaha..." Father could not help but chuckle once more.

"I'm actually a 10th Tier Magician, the highest tier one can reach. Only those with S-Grade Talent can get this far, although I've only barely grasped the first Rank out of the ten Ranks there are for the tier," mother replied.

"Huh?"

Naturally, I still didn't get it.

Chapter 42 Magic Circles

"I don't get it..."

Honestly, I've never heard of such strange tier-based systems before.

"I know it's hard to understand, so come with us."

With that, my mother quickly carried me in her arms like a baby, even though I was already four years old, into another room in our house. In that room was a large board, where she began to draw several things on it.

She then drew a circle on the board with a few designs on it, resembling a magic circle. I've barely seen those things because all my "magic" came from the System. In other words, I have no use for magic circles in the first place.

However, I have seen them when Aquarina conjured more powerful spells than Aqua Bullet. The spells were in the form of beautiful magic circles that emerged out of thin air after making a small incantation. They would rotate around the user's hands and show runes of strange letters that I don't understand.

When the incantation was ready, the magic circle would then open up and transmute the mana into a specific element as the spell is made. Well, my parents are advanced magicians, so they rarely use incantations or magic circles.

I suppose when you get strong enough you don't need to do it anymore... I think? I'm not sure really. Maybe this is why they think I'm a genius, because I'm doing what they can do after having trained a lot... but even then, it still takes effort, and it's still not as strong as theirs.

"When a magician reaches the age of four, they can already begin to create what's called a Magic Circle inside their souls. This Magic Circle can be designed by someone of a higher tier, such as me or your daddy," mother started to explain.

I nodded.

"This Magic Circle is different from the ones you see in magic spells. Unlike those ones, this one is permanent and will become the core of your magic power, magic potency and magic talent," she continued.

I nodded once more.

"By creating a basic one inside your soul, concurrently forming its runes, you can see the entirety of your Magic Circle as a history of your magic. Every spell you'll be able to create will emerge from it, which will make it easier for you to conjure them in the long run..."

"I see..."

"As you can see, a Magic Circle has 10 Tiers, with each Tier having 10 Ranks within them. Each Rank consists of a massive group of runes that you must slowly build up through training, refinement, spell creation, and spell enhancement. There are several ways to improve your Magic Circle to grow more runes so you can break through the next Rank. In fact, some of those methods are the ones I just mentioned."

"Ohh..."

Mother then showed a small magic circle, which slowly formed more and more runes. To break through every Rank inside a Magic Circle Tier, one would need magic runes to form in the Magic Circle. In actuality, these runes naturally formed by refining the magic circle through meditation, but she told me this would take dozens of years. With that, she told me there were many ways to enhance the speed of this process, such as using the help of familiars, magic artifacts, potions, and more.

Plus, there was also another way, which was to learn and perfect spells within the magic tier. Through that, the Magic Circle would receive a quantity of runes based on the newly learned spell, giving it a greater chance of breaking through. But of course, creating and learning spells isn't an easy task so it would still take time.

After that, she mentioned another extreme method... which was to forcefully learn a higher-tier magic spell before infusing the runes acquired from mastering it into one's current magic circle tier, forcefully breaking through all the ranks and reaching the next tier... however, she warned me that doing so might risk destroying my magic circle and end up dying in the process, so it wasn't recommended.

I think I kind of get it now...

"Magic Circles, when created, are connected to your soul. If something ends up damaging it, you might risk damaging your soul in the process, which is a very bad thing, of course. It might even kill you if you

ignore it for too long... so be careful... Well, you won't find many capable of directly damaging the soul, and I also won't let anyone that can get closer to you either, but still," mother concluded.

"I think I get it... will you help me create one?" I wondered.

"Yes, the earlier it's made, the better for your magical growth. You're already very talented at magic, so making a magic circle shouldn't be hard... let's begin," mother said.

"I still think it's a bit too early... I made my own when I was twelve. What's the hurry?" father said in response, letting out a sigh.

"The earlier it's done, the more talent and magical power she'll be able to amass over time. This world is dangerous, Allan. Our girl requires strength above all else," mother replied, wanting to continue with the formation of my magic circle.

My father sighed once more after hearing that. He seemed against the idea for some reason.

"But she's so young to go through such a painful experience..."

Ah. So that's why.

"Painful?" I asked.

"W-Well... haah. Creating a Magic Circle inside your soul requires a lot of effort from your soul. In short, the soul itself is slightly torn apart to make space for the magic circle. Because of this... you'll experience a bit of pain," mother explained.

"I see. Well, that's fine," I replied nonchalantly.

"Eh?!" Of course, my nonchalance left my father shocked.

In any case, I've experienced all the soul pain I could take against Ignatius, so I don't think this will affect me.

"See? Our girl is braver than her own father!" my mother could not help but say in response to my words.

"A-Are you sure, Sylphy?!" my father asked once more, wanting to make sure.

"Yeah, I can handle it," I said with a nod.

"O-Oh..."

"Hehe! Very well then. Let's begin."

With that, my mother unleashed several incantations as magic circles continuously appeared around my body. These magic circles then converged together in what I would call a "magic circle formation." After she infused mana into them, all five of these circles then fired a ray of mana into my body.

It didn't really hit my body per se, but instead, it aimed directly for my soul.

FLASH!

Chapter 43 Amazingly Talented

To be honest, I really thought she would just stick her hand inside my soul and create a magic circle there or something, but apparently touching another person's soul might cause damage to it, so she used another method.

A strange magic I've never seen before was cast by my mother as several magic circles appeared around me, soon firing a ray of mana into my soul.

FLASH!

The rays quickly converged together in the middle of my soul as they meticulously began to tear apart a small crevice for the magic circle to fit. Surprisingly, this was where my father expected me to cry in pain, but I didn't feel anything much. After all, compared to the soul pain of fighting Ignatius, it wasn't much, honestly.

I guess the closest thing to it would be like getting scratched or something. The pain also had a burning sensation to it, but it's nothing a normal person can't handle.

In any case, I didn't falter at the pain as the magic circle formed beautifully inside my soul right after that.

Interestingly enough, Naturia and the System suddenly felt dragged to it as part of their essence ended mixing up with it. Surprisingly, the fiery essence of Ignatius was also included, even though he wasn't willing.

FLASH!

"Oh?!"

My mother's eyes suddenly widened in surprise as she saw my magic circle form into a whole, only for the essence of three elements to suddenly infuse into it.

"What's wrong?" I asked. I didn't know if this was a good thing or a bad thing. If it was bad, I would have to reprimand the System and Naturia for getting their hands into the formation of my magic circle a little bit...

However, contrary to what I expected...

"A-Amazing! I can't believe it...! Sylphy, can't you feel it? Your magic circle is very special! It's an Elemental Circle! And it has... three elements in it! Your talent grade is... Triple S!"

"Huh? What's Triple S-Grade Talent?"

I remember a while ago that mother said something about magic circle talents, which showed up when the magic circle of a magician was formed. People could advance through their magic circle based on this grade of talent.

According to her, the grade ranged from D to A. If I could remember correctly, those with A-Grade Talent could get up to the 8th Tier, but then there were those with S-Grade Talent that could reach the 9th Tier, and then SS-Grade Talent that could reach the highest 10th Tier... I don't know if she decided to be humble earlier, but yeah. Her talent grade is actually SS-Grade.

But my talent... did I really have Triple S-Grade Talent? How did I even get that? I'm pretty sure I sucked at magic. After all, everything I could do with magic was all thanks to the System.

Now that I think about it, what's an Elemental Circle?

"Wait, what?! Sylphy, you have Triple S-Grade Talent!?" my father asked in shock.

"What does that mean, Daddy?" I asked.

"W-Well... how do we explain this?" My mother scratched her head as she pondered over the best way to explain it.

"Let's do it the simple way, she's just 4 after all. Well, Sylphy, the thing is, Triple S-Grade Talent is an incredibly rare grade of magical talent. It has only happened two times in all history... i-it's big news, to say the least ..." father said.

"Is that so?" I questioned in response.

"This probably explains why she can conjure magic without chanting... and on top of that, she seems to never run out of mana! Perhaps her method of magic casting is so incredibly efficient that the mana required to conjure spells is at the bare minimum while achieving the best results!" my mother could not help but say in glee.

"Huh?"

"Sylphy... the only two that had Triple S-Grade Talent before you were... the first two heroes in history, and the ones that defeated the first Demon King. These Heroes were not normal humans, but High Humans shaped by the power of the Gods. These two were the original Hero and the original Saint!" father said.

"Wow... really?"

Are they joking with me or something? This must be a bad joke, right? There's no way I'm that talented! I thought the System was carrying me all along...

Wait, the System did get mixed into the Magic Circle... did my mother notice? She did say there were three elements in the Magic Circle. There was Fire, Nature, and then...

Now that I think about it... what element is the system?

I asked her this and she answered rather quickly with words I could barely understand.

"My creation is made out of billions of Divine Runes. The elements used for my creation are the main elements of the God that created me, which are Soul, Law, Fate, Light, and Life. There's also a different and artificial Element in the System, but I don't know which element ended up leaking. Then again, I did feel as if a piece of me ended up fusing with the circle. In any case, I'm now permanently bound to it," replied the System.

'Wait, wait, wait. That's way too many elements! Which one could it be...? Did all of them get added? Ugh, whatever. I better not mull over it for too long for now,' I thought.

After that, I moved my thoughts back to the outside world, where my parents were still celebrating.

"What's the third element you found, mom?" I asked my mother.

"The third element... well, there was Fire, Nature, and... hmm... I... huh?"

My mother inspected my soul with her eyes once more as they flashed with bright yellow-gold light. It was probably the power of some spell that let her see inside a soul.

However, as she inspected my magic circle and found out the third element, she had a puzzled expression on her face. In short, she didn't know what it was.

"I-I don't know what element it is... it seems to be a composite of many faint traces of other elements, but it's also a completely different thing altogether... I'm sorry, dear. I really can't tell... perhaps it's a completely new element... wait a second, this would also make history!" my mother said, only to return celebrating near the end once more.

"Our daughter is so talented!" my father could not help but say.

"Indeed! She is! She's the best daughter!" my mother said in agreement.

My parents then grabbed me and hugged me, rubbing their faces on my own in the meantime.

Well, I don't mind their love and cuddles, but I can't help but feel like this talent might only bring even more unwanted troubles than I would want in the first place.

"And what's an Elemental Circle?" I wondered, still being sandwiched in between their hugs.

"Elemental Circle is... is... wait, you have that?!" my father was about to explain what it was, only to be in shock once more.

"Indeed! The elements leaked into her magic circle and created an Elemental Circle at the 1st Tier...!" mother amused father, telling her what had happened while my Magic Circle was formed.

At this point, I was incredibly pissed. I love you two with my very heart, but stop celebrating and just tell me what it is already!

Chapter 44 Elemental Magic Circle

Can they stop celebrating already?! Just tell me what an Elemental Circle is already!

"Please just tell me... ugh..." I told them, letting out a sigh of annoyance.

"A-Ah, right... well, an Elemental Circle happens very rarely! It's usually something that happens when a person reaches the 5th Tier, the same tier where a magician is given the title of Elemental Magician. To make an Elemental Circle, the elements which the user has the greatest affinity with are infused into the Magic Circle, and this Magic Circle gains those properties!" mother explained.

"I see... So, what's the difference?" I asked after that.

"Well, when you make one, your elemental magic is greatly enhanced, even allowing you to conjure spells very easily as long as it's based on that element. However, it also makes it more difficult to learn spells from other elements as you've embraced your specialization." This time, father was the one to answer my question.

"Oh... is it possible to infuse more elements into it?" I wondered.

"Hmm... well, it could be possible. I believe anything could be possible for you, Sylphy! Your Triple S-Grade Talent is unique, after all. The original Hero and Saint had it and they were able to master all elements!" mother replied.

"All of the elements?!"

Mastering all elements in magic... I wonder how great that would be.

Imagining myself as an all-powerful witch controlling all the elements of the world is definitely an exciting thought.

Perhaps if I acquired this level of power, I would be able to protect everyone and have a relaxed and slow life... maybe like that one tale of a witch that had slain slimes for 300 years and became invincible. It's a tale I found in this world's fairytales... it's actually pretty funny.

Can I be like that glorious witch one day?! Maybe it's also a good goal to strive for, to become the strongest and learn all elements of magic... eventually, I'll make my Magic Circle have all the elements on it! Yes, a rainbow Magic Circle!

"So that's how it is... but I don't feel that special. Maybe it's actually wrong, and I don't have that talent, Mommy," I could not help but say.

"W-What are you even talking about, Sylphy?! You really do have the talent! Your mother's eyes can see through everything! They never deceive me," my mother replied while nodding confidently.

"Okay, fine... anyways, can I... continue eating breakfast now?" I asked.

"Oh!"

After that, my parents finally let go of me as I was able to resume my breakfast. For breakfast, there was delicious toast with butter and strawberry jam, as well as herbal tea with some fresh and creamy milk.

Slices of white and yellow cheese were also served on the table, alongside slices of ham, and cured salami. It was all bountiful and tasty... I fear that I might grow a bit fat from how much food I eat, but mother often told me I have a fast metabolism. Well, I guess so. Any food I consume is quickly absorbed by my body, after all.

Moving that aside, during these last three years, things have been going rather smoothly, but something appeared in my mind for some time now...

Something I wanted to do, and that was... to tame a monster!

Pretty much what I want is to have an army of beasts at my beck and call. But do I have the knack to tame creatures?

I've wondered that for a while. I should give it a try one of these days...

Another thing I want to do is to begin practicing the techniques and spells I learned from Teacher back when I trained in my previous life.

Sure, I may be pretty rusty at this point, but I think I could regain my fast movements, dagger techniques, and assassination techniques, as well as the ability to use magic that can open locks and other stuff.

Perhaps I could replicate these things now even better by using this world's magic. I used to be a proficient rogue and assassin, after all. Even before the bandits, I had slain a good dozen of evildoers that deserved to have their throats slit open.

I've heard from mother and father that Shade is an amazing assassin and rogue, so I really want to be taught by him! Perhaps he could be even better than Teacher back then, allowing me to grow and become an even more proficient assassin.

I also want father to teach me sword techniques and all the martial arts he knows of. After all, there's a profession called Martial Artist in this world, which is the polar opposite of Magicians.

Although my father is both a Martial Artist and a Magician, I want him to teach me all of it. We have the same element "affinity" so I really want to learn some more Fire-attribute skills and spells from him. Oh, I also want to learn how to fight with a blade from him.

At four years of age, it should be possible for me to begin fighting with weapons, right? Even if I might be a bit clumsy with it.

I want to prepare while I'm still a kid. I know my parents won't always be there to protect me. Plus, I also want to roam the world by myself and explore its wonders. Having my parents stick with me is not really

my style, so ultimately, I'll depart from them on a journey someday, but I might come back as well. It's not like I will be gone forever.

I haven't really considered myself a big explorer back in the day, but now that my life has been reset and I have the opportunity to start anew, I have formed a ton of new goals in my mind.

Nevertheless, I wish there was a bigger village here with people to see and meet. It's often quite boring in here compared to Aquarina's home.

Talking about other things, the System has been growing stronger through these last three years. Well, to be more exact, growing stronger in the means that it has been fixing a couple more errors by absorbing energy and souls from the things I've slain, or I've seen being slain from afar.

Although I still rarely kill beasts and monsters due to the restrictions of my parents, I could say that at least a few dozens of errors in the System have been fixed.

Now that I think about it... didn't my magic circle become bound to it?

I wonder if I can conjure "System Spells" now...

Nah, that would be way too weird and strange, right?

... right?

... Maybe I should give it a try someday.

Chapter 45 A Month Later: Aquarina's Letter

It has been around a month since I got my Magic Circle. So far, I've been practicing the engraving of runes into it through the technique named "Magic Rune Forging." Simply put, it's just me infusing mana into my Magic Circle so magic runes of my elements emerge.

As I accumulate magic runes in my Magic Circle, not only will my magic grow stronger, but each Elemental Rune will also increase the damage I deal through the element of that rune, as well as my resistance towards said element.

This process is supposedly easier for someone that has an Elemental Circle such as me! ... however, there is a big complication around the whole thing.

Due to my endless mana, as I call it, there's a big problem. Much like my own body, wherein if I add too much mana to it, it might burst open and explode. Apparently, the same applies to my Magic Circle.

I tried infusing a shit ton of mana before, but on that day, I almost made my Magic Circle shatter. I barely managed to stop before it was overfilled and exploded...

If a Magic Circle exploded inside of my soul, I'm definitely sure I'd die right then and there. My soul would be destroyed for sure at that point, and I wouldn't even have a third chance at life after that. If I did that, I'd literally die.

Due to that, I've been very fearful of overusing this massive stream of never-ending mana.

I never thought that having literally infinite energy could make it so hard to grow stronger. Of course, there are still pros to it, such as never running out of mana. I can conjure things very quickly and continuously nonstop, but even then, as I let this endless mana flow through my body as I cast spells, the burden gradually increases.

I have to train both my body and soul so I can "take" on this burden for longer periods of time. Making contracts with familiars is a good way to extend this burden as I can share it with them.

Anyways, moving all of that aside, I've been carefully using my mana to enhance the runes of my Magic Circle, spinning it around as I continue to enhance and generate more runes for it to grow stronger and wider. It's a time-consuming and meticulous process that even a four-year-old would never be able to do it and would run out of mana quickly after trying it once.

Despite getting tired after a while, I can certainly last longer than any kid my age could ever achieve thanks to this endless mana. With that said, I'm proactively "cultivating" my Magic Circle to achieve greater strength.

In just a month, I've already gathered a few dozen runes. To break through the 1st Rank of the 1st Tier, I require 100 runes of any element, so I'm already halfway through in that regard.

After that, I can push for the 2nd Rank of the 1st Tier. With that, my magic power should be enhanced a little bit because of it. It might take me another month, or perhaps just a couple more weeks if I keep working at my current pace. Oh, I also noticed that the more runes I make, the easier it becomes to form them through this continuous rotation and forging into my Magic Circle... which means that the more runes I have in my Magic Circle, the easier it will be in the long run to make even more.

Of course, I can already guess that higher Ranks and Tiers would continuously require more and more runes, so I suppose it's fair that I can get to do this easily as time goes by, making even more Runes in the process.

Phew... I am beat.

I sighed in relief as I finished my daily rune-creating meditation. After all, I was still a tiny little half-elf girl. There's a limit to what I can do.

Unfortunately, for this whole month we haven't gone back to Aquarina's place, the Amazon Tribe, due to the harsh weather.

To make up for that, we have some special accessories named Whisper Stones, which we can use to send messages to one another. It's very slow, and it takes like half a day to get a message from the other, but through this, we can send one or two daily messages to one another even if we're far apart.

I just read her message of the day actually. Naturally, she had been sending them daily.

"Sylphy... how are you doing? It's cold here... I miss you. I want to be with you... I just ate a yummy stew and I feel sleepy... I wish we could sleep together and cuddle in bed... I miss you... Sylphyyyy..."

And then after that, I think she fell asleep. I guess she sent it quite late...

We usually slept together in the same bed as sisters do whenever I got there. In fact, she really loves to hug me while she sleeps, so she has grown attached to the feeling. I guess there are also times where she cannot sleep well without someone hugging her. I suppose either her father or mother are with her to make up for that, perhaps both even.

She's seriously a little cutie and I can't wait to go meet my little sister again either. That being said, a month has been rather agonizing without meeting her even once. After all, she's like my best friend and my family as well. Without her, I can't have adventures or fun.

But of course, I still have the mind of someone way older than her, so I can wait patiently for our meeting once more. I guess I'm old enough to even consider her something like a daughter I take care of. I think I'm developing motherly instincts? I wasn't that old when I died though. I was around 18 or 19, I think... but at that age, there were already some girls in my previous life's village that had toddlers.

Indeed, in my previous life, girls had children at a very young age. I was one of the weirdos that just never got together with any guy... well, I think I liked someone within our party, but I never got to confess my love to him. Fortunately, he did survive. He was part of the group that managed to escape with the slaves we rescued. Sigh. I hope he's fine... and I hope my sacrifice was worth it. I really hope they're living well, wherever they are right now.

Chapter 46 Abducted!

"RROOOOOAAAAARRRRR!!!"

"BECOME... MY... FAMILIAR!!!"

"NEVEEEEEERRRR...!"

BOOOM! CLAAASH! RUMBLE!

Tonight, as usual, I had an intense clash of wills against Ignatius inside of what I call his "Soul Realm." Like any other battle before this, I was using all of my will to materialize my powers and attack him.

Actually, I've discovered in these past three years that you can apparently become whatever you want in your astral form and not stick with your current body. I suppose you can transform into what you see yourself become, but as someone that has lived two lives, it's not so hard to change how I see myself. Therefore, I can change the entirety of my astral body's appearance.

As of now, I had taken a form I felt more confident in using against him, which was my previous life's appearance! I covered myself in my black armor and held a large blade that my teacher once held, which was incredibly wide and thick, named the Dragon Slayer.

My teacher was a good rogue, but he was also an amazing swordsman on top of that. He used this blade to slay powerful bandits and barbarians, as well as mythological beasts that emerged from the crypts that appeared in my original world, which were similar to the dungeons in this one.

SLAAAASH!

I used the massive black blade to slash through Ignatius' wings. After that, I cut off his left and right arm, threw him into the ground before pointing the blade into his head.

"Give up," I told him.

"NO!"

He glared at me with great indignance as his throat gathered fire, starting to get swollen. Soon, he unleashed an explosive Fire Breath on me, blowing me away into ashes.

BOOOMMM!!!

Naturally, I reemerged right away as I was immune to Soul Pain at this point. Fighting against him in this Soul Realm has helped me forge my techniques quite a lot, and I've found a lot of utility from this, even

as a kid. I can train the blade in here... now that I think about it, I can train in any weapon I want as long as I can imagine it.

Moving that aside, I infused will into my blade once more as it began to pulsate with bright mana. In an instant, the power of my soul emerged within it as I leaped over his head.

"BECOME MY FAMILIAR!"

SLAAAAAASSSSHHH!

"G-GRAAAAGGH...!"

I slashed through Ignatius' entire body, cleanly cutting him down in half.

"I-Impossible...! Ungh...!"

BOOM!

His two halves then fell over the volcanic landscape as he died!

Only to revive right after that.

He always says "impossible" when he dies here, even though I've already killed him 385 times including this one. For some reason, he still can't believe it.

How prideful can a dragon get?! It's so goddamn hard to force him to obey me...

"That's 385 wins on my side!" I bellowed as Ignatius sat down in the Volcanic Lands, glaring at me with anger but also with a tinge of fatigue.

"I-I've killed you more than that! I..." he muttered.

"Not really. I finally killed you more than you killed me. After all, you've only killed me 384 times," I said in response, laughing.

"W-What?! Then die!"

With that, Ignatius' tail sneaked up behind me as he tried to flatten me into the floor. Unfortunately for him, I sensed his tail coming from a mile away as I raised my blade and unleashed a long-ranged slash attack. In less than a second, the power of my mana transformed into a blade, slicing through his thick tail as blood began gushing out of the large wound. From a certain angle, I could even see his bone protruding out of it.

SLAAASH!

"GRRYAAAUUUHH...!"

"What a pitiful scream for a prideful dragon!" I could not help but say.

"Y-You damn witch! I'm not going to... give up... Ungh..."

After that, Ignatius suddenly fell to the ground. His soul seemed to have finally grown tired.

I slowly walked near him sometime later.

"Come on. We've fought against each other for almost four years now. Become my familiar. I promise you that I will bring you back to your father so we can meet him together," I told him.

"Y-You just want to kill him, don't you?!" he asked with anger in his tone.

"Eh? No! I don't hold any grudges against dragons. I will only kill those that try to kill me!" I said in response.

"...Fair." He let out a long sigh after that.

"But just for you, even if a dragon comes to chomp me down, I will try to convince them to not be aggressive if they try to kill me... although, to be honest, I'm still too weak to even survive against a dragon's attacks, so I would most likely get chomped if my parents aren't there to help me. They would most likely kill the dragon for sure if they were to accompany me," I said to him.

"Y-You damn witch... a child between two accursed Heroes... you know that Heroes are the enemies of the world, right?! The heralds of the detestable Gods that the world despises!" Ignatius told me.

"But why does the world despise Gods and Heroes? And even humans? Didn't the world create humans?" I asked.

"What? The world never created humans... the world was... according to my father, a beautiful place of wilderness. We dragons were made by the world as their protectors and guardians, alongside the Titans and Beast Kings! The Gods soon emerged one day, and then created all of you pests, who began absorbing our world's energy for your nefarious purposes!" he replied.

"I see, I see... anything else you know?" I asked.

"...I don't know anything else. That's the tale they always tell dragons," Ignatius said, letting out a sigh soon after.

Well, that's a bummer. He really doesn't know more.

But apparently, Gods might be aliens or something. Because of that, the world is trying to get rid of them and their creations by using the power of the guardians it created, such as the Demons, Dragons, Titans, Beast Kings, and so on...

But even against Gods, the dragons were defeated, and the Dragon Kings were continuously slaughtered by past Heroes. The Demon King seems to fall under the same case.

There's also the Beast Kings and the Titan Kings, but I don't know anything about those two.

"Come on, Ignatius. Join me. We're like best friends at this point," I persuaded him one more time.

"I am... no friend of a witch..." he muttered.

"Sigh... fine, see you tomorrow. Make sure to rest well," I said as I left the bubble of volcanic lands.

But at the very instant I left, a bright light coming from the sky of my Soul Scape called upon me and teleported me away.

"W-What the hell?"

FLASH!

My sight suddenly changed at that moment. From my Soul Scape, I emerged in a wondrous palace, resembling a massive building made of pure gold resting over... fluffy white clouds?!

There were waterfalls coming out of each side of this massive palace, and... countless bright figures filling up my sight.

Where the hell am I?

Was I abducted?!

"Ah... but if it isn't the next Heroine in the making!"

The youthful voice of a young man greeted my sense of hearing, prompting me to look at a figure among the group of many bright figures.

This bright figure turned into that of a young human-looking guy around his twenties. He had short blonde hair and sharp emerald eyes.

He looked at me with great suave as he smiled, showing off his perfect white teeth.

To be honest, his smile is too off-putting...

Of course, I, as a little girl, looked at him from above.

"Huuuh... where am I, and... who are you?" I asked.

"Hm? Oh! My bad. I guess we have yet to introduce ourselves! Hahahaha!" the man said in response, laughing his lungs out.

The other figures whispered around me. They were all made of lights of different colors, and they didn't let me see their true appearances. Perhaps... this was their true appearances, and the human form of this guy was just an illusion?

"We... are Gods!" he told me all of a sudden.

"... You're kidding me, right?"

Chapter 47 A Meeting With Gods

I was just abducted by aliens all of a sudden, and then I'm thrown into this heaven-like landscape. In front of me are several figures made of pure light of different colors.

And then, there was this guy... a handsome man of sorts, who just told me he and everyone else here were gods.

On top of that, they're all creepily staring at me. I feel like running away from them right now.

"We... are Gods!" he told me.

"... You're kidding me, right?"

Everyone suddenly fell silent in response to my words.

"Huhh... no? We really are Gods. How hard is it to believe it, young hero?" he asked.

"First of all, I am not a hero. Secondly, call me by my name. It's Sylph," I said in response.

"Hey, this girl is pretty fierce."

"Woah there... calm down..."

"She just wants to be called by her name, seems normal to me."

"Ah, Aeolus is way too creepy. Let me handle it."

"No! Me!"

"I call dibs on her first!"

"Shut up! She clearly favors flames!"

"Her aura of Nature is strong, come with me..."

Suddenly, all these figures began to beg for me to pick one of them. It was as if they were battling for the last dish in a good restaurant.

I don't know what to say, honestly. Being scared shitless definitely doesn't sum up what I'm feeling right now.

"Enough! All of you! I spoke to her first and introduced us all, so back down! Do you want the Gods of the other eleven pantheons to come and annoy us as well?" the man they called Aeolus said to shut them up, letting out a sigh afterward.

"Ah, no..."

"Well, maybe we shouldn't cause such a ruckus."

"Look, you brutes! You already scared her!"

"I'm sorry little girl..."

"We're not that scary."

"I like being scary though."

"This is why the world wants to kill us..."

"Come on, cheer up!"

Another figure soon emerged near me. I can't really see what it is except that it's made of red light, with a fiery presence.

"C-Can I go back now? It's very weird to suddenly be contacted by Gods! Are you like... kidnapping me or something? Wait, are all of you actually pedophiles?" I asked.

"Eh?! No!"

"Wait, you're misunderstanding us!"

"W-We're none of that!"

"She's acting a bit too insolent..."

"Young Sylph, relax a little bit. Despite what you've heard about us, we're good beings that protect your race and all of humanity," said the female voice within the fiery red figure.

"Is that so...?" I wondered.

Then why the hell does the world want to kill them? And why do they need to bring me here among all other people?

The gods, however, wouldn't respond to reason. With that, the figure made of red light held my hand tenderly and led me around the heavens while Aeolus walked by her side.

I wanted to resist but there was something suppressing my will. It was scary, to be honest.

As I walked across this "heaven" place, this woman's hand never let go of me, as the other gods around us decided to continue doing whatever they were doing.

Many of them began to walk around, as if they were all busily doing something, never stopping at all.

Do they even rest?

Along the way, we crossed fields made of fluffy white clouds as we reached the large temple made of gold. I could see across the skies that there were many floating islands in the surroundings. I don't know how high up we were, or if we were still in the world itself...

And the worst part, I didn't come here with my true body. I've been using my bare soul here, or well, an astral projection of it.

"Um, what's your name?" I wondered.

"Oh! The name's Fiere. This awkward young man is Aeolus, the God of Sunshine. Meanwhile, I'm the Goddess of Burning Passion," she replied.

"B-Burning Passion? Is that a type of divinity?" I wondered.

"Pffft... hahaha! She doesn't recognize it as one." Aeolus could not help but chuckle.

"S-Shut up, you idiot! It is one, dear. A very important one at that. All humans possess a burning passion for something. A desire, a selfish desire for something they must fulfill. Not only in love, but also in something they want the most, a goal. All of such things are encompassed within my divinity... and well, also the element of Fire. Those that are the most passionate have the strongest Fire-type auras... You, for example, are a very fiery girl," Fiere explained soon after.

After that, her appearance suddenly changed out of nowhere. The red light she was made of dissipated as a beautiful and slender woman with tanned and glossy chocolate skin emerged, with long crimson-red hair that reached up to her hips, complemented by fiery orange and red eyes. She had a youthful appearance but also exuded a strong sense of maturity. Her body was wrapped in a tight red dress, walking barefoot.

"I see... how many gods are there? Ah, and why did you bring me here to begin with? Did all Heroes come here before? Also, why do you think I'm a hero?"

I began bombarding the gods with questions. I was very confused, and I finally managed to muster the resolve to ask some more.

"So many questions... I suppose it's normal for a young girl like you. We Gods are many, hundreds. We take care of humanity in the vast world of Terrarium. You've been called here not by us, but by the Chief God of our Sunshine Pantheon, who has decided to give you the title of Heroine right away due to the turbulent times we're facing," Aeolus replied.

"... Huh?"

"I suppose you went too far, Aeolus. She's just four years old, after all. You can't expect her to understand everything you just said... To be more specific, there are over 631 Gods living in this world. Us Gods are split between 12 Pantheons, with each one having a Chief God which we serve. And then, the 12 Pantheons serve the Four Original Gods," Fiere said soon after, explaining it to me in simpler terms.

"Wow, so there are a lot of Gods..."

"Indeed. Oh right, answering your other question, all Heroes have been called here eventually. This is the Pantheon of Sunlight, which encompasses mostly Light and Fire Gods, although there are Gods of all elements as we are not restrictive as to whether other Gods can join or not," she added.

"I-I see..."

"As to who called you here? Well, you're about to meet our Lady."

Chapter 48 The Chief Goddess

Fiere and Aeolus soon brought me to a large hall. There were many statues of what seemed to be Gods all surrounding a beautiful spring, where glistening aquamarine water flowed everywhere.

In this spring, there were three Goddesses which seemed to resemble... mermaids? They were all playfully swimming through it, jumping, and chasing each other like children.

They looked young as well...

All of a sudden, the three of them stopped playing around as they greeted me, eyeing me with their bright eyes.

"Ooh! Look!"

"That girl... isn't she Aquarina's friend?"

"She is! She is!"

Wait, what? Aquarina?

"You've met her?" I asked.

"Of course!"

"We have!"

"She's our bestie!"

"Aquinara... came here before me?! Oh god, I hope you didn't scare her!" I could not help but say.

"She was very scared..."

"She even cried a little bit..."

"But we apologized for scaring her, and she got through it."

The three mermaids always spoke continuously, as if their minds and thoughts were connected.

"Oh, these mermaids know your friend? Aquarina is a girl that came here just a few hours ago. She's also a Heroine... but she didn't join the Sunshine Pantheon, these three Goddesses are only visiting this place because they like our spring... they belong to the Ocean Pantheon," Fiere explained.

"Nice to meet you! We recognized you straight away! The name's Amatheia!"

"I'm Amphinome. It's a pleasure to see you."

"Aquarina is a cute girl~! Also, my name is Amphithoe!"

"These three girls are only three of the fifteen Nereid Goddesses. Think of them as Fairies of the Sea, although their actual names are Nymphs. They come in all sorts of forms, some attain divinity by being born as Spirits, while others are born from the love between various Gods... these three girls and their other twelve sisters are all children of Nereus, the Old Man of the Sea," Fiere told me.

"Oh... I almost get it, I think," I said in response.

"Fiere, you don't need to bore the girl with so much info!" Amphithoe could not help but tell her.

"Yeah, yeah, yeah. You're so boring..." Amphinome agreed with Amphithoe, letting out a sigh.

"W-What?! You mischievous girls, head back to your Pantheon already. Your older sisters will begin to worry about you three, you know?" Fiera could not help but let out a sigh after that.

"Indeed! Go, now!" Aeolus nodded in agreement.

"Ugh, they're right..."

"Okay, bye!"

"See you some other time, dearie~!"

The three mermaids then jumped into a portal made of water that emerged out of nowhere in the middle of the air. After passing through it, they were gone, just like that.

"Ahem. It seems that Aquarina is your friend, no? I suppose all children of the Heroes are being given the title now..." Aeolus could not help but mention.

"Indeed. It's quite sad to give them the titles at such a young age, but it is necessary. The titles of Heroes help a human grow strong fast and develop faster. Seeing how the remnants of the Demon King still remain and are multiplying through strange methods, while the new Demon King is already being created by the world... we must help them grow quickly," Fiere said.

"T-The Demon King is already being created?" I asked.

"I suppose your parents have already introduced you to that being..." Aeolus replied.

"It's not a matter that can be discussed lightly... for now, let's step in. We've made our Lady wait for too long," he added not long after.

The two gods looked at each other after that and nodded before pushing the golden door open. Soon, a large palace hall greeted our sight, a massive area filled with verdant green plants in golden pots. There were two rivers of sparkling spring water flowing from both sides of the center of this hall, where there was a large golden throne at the end of it.

A beautiful and... tall woman sat over a throne made of gold. Her figure was so bright that it was almost blinding to look at her. The sun shone over her body and created a halo of myriad colors.

Her appearance was quite captivating as well, with there being several other figures around her. I don't know if they were Gods or Spirits, actually. Nevertheless, they were serving her, bringing her fruits, water, and other things as she was sitting there gloriously.

"You're finally here, my dear Heroine," she said to me in a motherly voice.

Her slender body seemed that of a young woman. Her skin was a fair and healthy white, while her eyes were flashy and bright, like two suns. Her hair was long and golden, extending around the room as if it were a sea of liquid gold. Topping it all off, she wore a simple white dress, having many golden accessories all over her body.

Her smile seemed tranquil and serene, and she seemed to also be extremely sharp, as if she could look right through me and all my secrets in an instant. I felt a sudden fear, as if I was being overlooked by something I could barely understand.

Don't they think this is a bit too much for a young little girl such as me?!

"My name is Theia, the Chief Goddess of Sight and Heavenly Light," she proclaimed.

Sight... I see, is this why I felt like she was looking right through me?

"Nice... to meet you," I said in response.

"Sylph, this is our Chief Goddess. Her stature is taller than us because she's a Titaness," Fiere said.

"All 12 Chief Gods have been created by the Titan God, one of the Four Original Gods the Pantheons serve under. Don't worry, though. Our lady is benevolent and motherly with her children," Aeolus added.

"Geez, you two are already introducing me... Anyways, Sylph, let's not be so formal around friends. Come with me, dear. Sit on my lap."

After saying that, Theia suddenly waved her hands as the embrace of heavenly light carried my tiny body closer to her vast embrace.

"Uwah...!"

"Don't be scared. We're here for the ritual. My girl, I've called you here for the task of saving this world alongside other Heroes. You're the chosen one amongst another eleven more. Twelve Pantheons, twelve Heroes. Got it?" she asked.

"Y-Yeah...?" I muttered.

"Then...? How do you feel about being a Hero? The guardian of humanity against the threat of the Demon King and the other fiends of the world?" she asked.

"Honestly... I don't like it. Can't you choose someone else...? Pretty please?" I said in all honesty.

"..."

"..."

"..."

Chapter 49 I Don't Want To Be A Hero

I don't like it. I don't like it at all! I don't want to be a hero! That's not what I want! I don't want to be tasked with saving the world... Ugh! I know I want to grow stronger to protect those I love, but it's not to the extent of becoming a martyr for all of humanity!

"Also, I would... like to request if Aquarina could also be revoked of her title... pretty please?"

"..."

"..."

"..."

The three Gods, as well as the other minor Gods/Spirits present in the area looked at me with a dumbfounded expression.

Huh? What's wrong? Is it bad that I asked this question? I don't think I've offended them, though?

"In all the years I've blessed Heroes, this is the first time I've seen someone decline... the title of a Hero," Theia said.

"Wait, what? Seriously?" I asked.

"Indeed... Sylph. You must not reject your duty as a Hero... this world is dangerous. Humans are finally in an era of peace after the war against the Demon King. However, the world itself does not want our children to live peacefully. It wants to destroy them just because we take from nature, just because we try to survive... this haven of a world doesn't want us and see us as invaders... and you, Sylph... you're also seen as an invader, you know?" she told me.

"I... I know," I replied with a nod.

"Therefore, you're an enemy of the world the moment you were born... trying to stay out of the main conflict will only bring even more danger to you. You must use the talents you were born with and fill yourself with the resolve to fight against the ever-expanding darkness that desires to devour everything we hold dear. Sylph... don't you have people you love?" she continued.

"I do..."

"Then, you must think about them. Think about them as you train, as you fight, and as you brace yourself to protect humanity. I cannot revoke the title I shall bestow upon you as it is an order from the Original Gods, my creators. Nor can I do that to Aquarina either. She had already been baptized," she concluded.

"I see... so, there's no way out of this?" I asked, just to make sure.

"There's no way out," Theia replied, shaking her head while closing her eyes.

"I... I'm sorry about this, but there's no other way around it. Sylph, I'm entrusting with you a special duty, a very special one..." she said, forcing the conversation to continue.

Ugh... shitty ass goddess! You're not getting through me with your sweet words and your false compassion! I've already figured out this entire façade.

Basically, these group of divine assholes are tasking literal children with the quest to save humanity from the threat of monsters made by the world itself because they're too lazy or too cowardly to move their own asses and defend their own creations.

With that, the only thing they'll do is lazily bestow a few shitty blessings on us before leaving us out there to die in a hopeless war.

I've already heard from my parents that more than half of the original 12 Heroes died in the war... all these innocent people forced to fight to death just because these arrogant bastards couldn't even lift a finger!

I'm not a naïve little kid. I was already almost 19 in my previous life. Do you truly believe you can get through me by just sugarcoating your words?

Then again, what can I even do? What can I even do than sit here and accept it? She already said it's impossible to revoke it. I bet she can actually do it, but she just doesn't want to.

She's simply trying to manipulate me into thinking this is the duty I was born with.

I don't know why they're not entrusting this to the Heroes of the past generation. I guess they always want fresh generations to die. Then again, I don't blame them for doing it that way. Perhaps the Heroes of the past as of now are already rusty compared to when they were at their peak...

They have to change their tools when they get too rusty, right?

With that, I glared at the Goddess embracing me with a defying glare. I tried to insult her directly at her eyes without even saying a word by merely giving her a nasty look.

"Hm?"

She noticed the intent within my glare. Something was wrong.

"I accept... there's no other way, right?" I sighed as I asked.

"I-Indeed... I-let me give you the title," she replied, stuttering for some reason.

Perhaps she's thinking to herself, 'It must have been my imagination.'

Unfortunately, the literal and only thing I can do against this bitch is give her a nasty look.

Moving that aside, she suddenly kissed my forehead as a power encompassed my body with a bright light before disappearing quickly after.

At that moment, I felt as if my soul was given "something." It felt incredibly weird.

"The Hero Seed has been planted. Now, my child. Go back to your body, being here for too long might affect you negatively, after all," Theia said, smiling sweetly at me.

"T-Thanks..." I nodded, sighing inwardly.

Fiere and Aeolus nodded at each other after that as they suddenly touched my shoulders. Surprisingly, they imparted me with a bit of their power as well.

"Take this as a parting gift."

"A bit more of our power. Just a little push."

It seems that these two have "chosen me" aside from the Chief Goddess. I guess it's the same with all Gods? A Chief God bestows them the title and then other "lesser gods" give them a blessing?

Well, they don't seem to know the greater scheme, and it might be likely that they're just believing anything the Chief Gods and the Original Gods say... so I'll just give them the benefit of the doubt.

In any case, I already don't like this Theia woman...

"May fate bless your path, dear," Fiera told me.

"Where there is sunlight, there will be a path for you to walk... go now," Aeolus said soon after.

"Take care..." Theia was the last one to talk.

FLASH!

Not long after that, I felt as if my entire soul was stretched back to my body. For a split second, I felt like I turned into some sort of needle.

Ugh.

I woke up in the middle of the night. On top of that, I have a slight fever...

So... I'm officially one of the twelve, huh? I can't help but have a bad feeling about this.

Chapter 50 Unwillingly Blessed With Power

In any case, I'm just thankful it's already over. I was so confused and scared while I was there. I didn't like how these Gods just grabbed me and threw me some blessings to do what they want...

I won't become the slave of these Gods. And... ugh, I'm so tired. I better just sleep for now. I'll see how I handle things afterwards. But I won't do what they want. I am not interested in genocide against demons.

...

As I fell asleep, part of my consciousness drifted back to my Soul Scape as my body rested.

There, I was greeted by Naturia and the System. Both of them seemed concerned.

"S-Sylphy! Are you okay? You just disappeared out of nowhere... what happened?" the System asked.

"Foo! Foo!" Naturia uttered. She flew around me, giving off the feeling of worry.

"I-I'm fine. Nothing too bad happened. I just briefly met these mysterious Gods. I spoke to some of them, but at the end, I barely got anything out of them... unlike those stories I've read, Gods don't seem so bad. However, they were also quite manipulative. My opinion on them is mixed..." I told them.

"G-Gods...? Like my creator?" the System wondered.

"I don't know. Your creator is not exactly from this world, right?" I wondered.

"Indeed... I don't even know his name, but my creator is not from this world. He supervises reincarnation, and for some odd reason, he also creates Systems and gives them to souls when they travel to other worlds..." the System responded.

"Well, I spoke with the gods behind the humans and the other races in this world... only a few though. I met one of their Chief Gods that... ended up giving me quite the difficult task and even a title as a Hero... ugh, System, am I destined to die hopelessly while fighting against demons now?" I lamented.

"It seems they have already put you into their game... but y-you have me, Sylph. We can pull through this together... and you also got friends and... a family..." the System tried to comfort me.

"I know... I just feel so down now. Ugh, I think I hate these Gods," I could not help but say.

"I wouldn't blame you... to give such a task to such a young girl. They're really inconsiderate," the System said, voicing out my thoughts.

"I have the same thoughts! Oh well. It's not like we can do much now, right? Let's just... swallow this pill and keep going," I said, my tone slightly defeated.

"Foo!"

Seeing that I was down, Naturia caressed her soft body over my face, as if trying to cheer me up.

"Thank you..." I sighed, hugging the little spirit.

Wait a minute... I just remembered something.

"System, have you not seen any kind of "power" appear around here by any chance?" I wondered.

"Power... yes, there's something right there."

In response, the System pointed out amidst the grasslands of my soul, three glowing orbs of light.

One of them was enormous and gave off bright yellow light while the other two were smaller. One of them was crimson red, the other white.

"Before going out, the gods left these things inside my soul. Perhaps the title by itself is a type of power they bestow? A blessing of sorts... do you think you can use it and extract it into the System?" I asked.

"I... I could try, they do seem like an immense amount of power..." the System replied.

"I'll be counting on you, then," I told the System.

With that, the System, who resembled a glowing sphere of white light, soon got close to the three glowing orbs and began to vacuum them into her own body.

FLASH!

All three of them were easily absorbed into her body. Well, it seems like it wasn't that hard to do.

"Aaaahh! T-This is a lot of power!"

However, soon after, she began to scream as if she was being showered in... pleasure.

"C-Can you endure?" I asked.

"I-I can... Ungh...! Uwaaahh...!"

The System then released flashing streams of light everywhere as her entire "body" began to grow bigger.

"I-I'm solving so many bugs and errors with this... it's working to an extent... ahh... I think I could do something now! Let's see... agh...! T-This is harder than I thought!" she grunted.

I quickly moved near her and hugged her using my astral projection.

Naturia also helped by moving near her. With that, we began to "help" her by supporting the burden with our souls.

"Uugh... Sylph... Naturia... I-I think it's... over... Hahhhh...!"

The System finally finished sometime later as she fell to the ground.

"My creator made me so badly that even after all of this, I could only extract a couple of powers and stuff... but even then, this power should also be innate within you, so I've not ruined anything, I believe... the stats are still frozen... I can't seem to fix this. However, at the very least, I've formed new skills! I-It's the only thing I can do... even leveling up is impossible due to the stats being frozen... ugh, I'm so useless..." the System could not help but lament.

"You don't have to say that! You did your best. Even the way as you are, you've helped me a lot in becoming stronger... our journey is just starting, alright? Lift up those spirits and let's see what you've made for me," I told her.

"Haah... yes, look at this."

After that, the System suddenly showed some floating windows in front of me, showing what she had created using the power I had acquired.

...

[Hero Seed]

A developing power within your very being. A Hero Seed will enhance your talent and learning speed of all kinds of Magic types and Martial Art types by 10 times.

Your charm over people as a Hero is great. You also have an easier time influencing people, as well as forming bonds with them through the natural charisma of a hero.

Additionally, those who you create bonds with will receive a special benefit in their growth, as they will be catalogued as Hero's Companions.

...

[Divine Protection]

You've been blessed by several gods, giving you natural divine protection that grants immunity to Lesser Status Effects and Lesser Mind-Altering Abilities. Any damage dealt by an elemental attack is increased by 50% while damage you receive from non-humanoids is decreased by 40%.

Additionally, a natural invisible divine barrier around your body shields you from a lethal attack to your soul or body once a day.

...

[Heavenly Sight]

The Goddess of Sight and Heavenly Light has blessed you with her power, giving your eyes the power to see through all matter of things. This Skill includes several effects.

[Hawk Eye]: You can see up to 5 kilometers away from your current position by adjusting your sight as if that area was right next to you like a hawk.

[Lesser Foresight]: You have the ability to see 2 seconds into the future of a certain area or target.

[Identify]: You can identify inanimate objects, see their quality, state, and even delve into who made them and what purpose they might have. Living beings can be identified, but the information given is lesser and depending on the difference in strength, it might give nothing.

...

Before me, there were three amazing skills...

Did Aquarina get the same skills as I did?

All three of these abilities seem amazing from the get-go. For some reason, I'm beginning to regret what I said about you before, Theia-sama!

"These skills are incredible... thanks for extracting and absorbing the energy for me, System," I thanked her.

"No problem... phew... I want to take a nap now, I'm tired..." she said as she let out a long sigh of relief, resting on top of the grass.