

A Glitched 771

Chapter 771 Stopping The Swarm

Whatever was dwelling underground, it might be dangerous. I could leave this to our parents, I think they could handle it anyways, but the sooner we deal with this, the better. I swiftly flapped my wings rapidly, flying at an almost super-sonic speed into the direction where the swarm was originating from, swinging Scarlet countless times as fast as possible.

"[Draconic Blade Arts]: [Infernal Dragon Claws]!"

Each time I swung Scarlet, a gigantic draconic claw made out of my aura and flames emerged out of the sword, slashing, and tearing apart anything on our path mercilessly.

SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLAAAASH!

CRASH! CRASH! CRASH! CRASH! CRASH! CRAAAAASH!

"Sylphy! Where are you going?!" My father cried, rushing to my side by slashing countless insectoid demons. "Stay behind us!"

"Dad, I can sense somebody underground, the swarm is coming from a Dungeon Break down there! If we stay here, this'll never end!" I said. "Trust these eyes! They were gifted by Theia herself after all!"

"Heh, fine." My father smiled. "You've already grown so strong I can completely rely on you at this point! However... Aquarina, you're coming with her."

"On it, sir!" Aquarina had already followed me and arrived right behind me.

"Oi, who gave you the benefit of ordering my daughter around?!" Shade roared angrily, spreading shadow tentacles everywhere and crushing everything on his path.

"Come on! Just let the girls have the spotlight." Giggled Arafunn, waving around winds. "Don't worry about the rest, we've got this!"

"Alright then, let's go, Aquarina!" I stepped forward, rushing at super-speed and immediately arriving at the hole while slashing countless insectoid monsters on the way.

"Uwaah! I'm leveling up like crazy!" Aquarina said in surprise. "I might reach 'max level' soon!"

"Nice!" I nodded. "I guess this little invasion came just in time. Can you feel the change?" I asked, while firing dozens of Draconic Meteors.

"Yeah... the Stats are really strengthening my body a lot!" Aquarina said in surprise. "This is amazing!"

"Trust me, it'll be even more amazing once you reach max level." I smiled, as the two of us crushed the ground below us and massacred anything in our path, landing in the underground passage with a bang.

BAAAAAAMMMM!!!

A shockwave of flames and freezing winds devastated any other bugger that tried to get on our way, as we finally saw the origin of all, within this underground cavern, there was a large black-colored portal opened through the power of a black crystal.

And the protecting the crystal was a giant Insectoid Demon resembling a mosquito, his furious and big red eyes glared at us in shock, his wings beginning to flap rapidly in nervousness.

"Y-You're here already?! H-How?! This Swarm's supposed to overwhelm you enough until the stronger demons arrive!" He cried in shock.

"Maybe you're just too weak." Aquarina said cockily.

"Don't get too cocky, Aquarina." I said, pointing my blade at him. "You're not like these demons; you can speak and seem to have a mind of your own. If you surrender now, we won't kill you and you will be treated fairly."

"E-Eh?! Treated fairly?!" He asked, laughing. "Surrender, me?! I won't surrender against you bastards! I would rather die fighting than surrender against you Elves!!! [True Demonification]!!!"

FLUOOOOSH!

Suddenly, a red jewel incrustated on his chest shone brightly, unleashing a powerful shockwave of corrosive demonic energy, which I shielded using my Yggdragon's Aura combined with Alice's Holy Light Magic together.

"[Holy Yggdragon's Scale Barrier]!"

FLAAAAASSSSSHHH!!!

The Demonic Energy was incapable of piercing through his power, and improved barrier, but that wasn't really the attack at all, but a mere after-effect of utilizing this new power these demons possess...

"Hehehe... HAHAAHAHAH! I've been reborn anew!"

The power of several Lesser True Demons rushed into the Mosquito Demon's body, his thin arms and body became muscular, his height reaching as tall as five meters, his sharp proboscis became like a spear, with multiple spikes at each side.

Ding!

[The fierce otherworldly aura of a new-born True Demon is spreading around, decreasing all his foes' stats by -25% and increasing his stats by +30%]

"If you want to crush this crystal you'll have to walk over my goddamn corpse!" He roared furiously, pointing his six muscular arms at us. "Now come-"

"[Poseidon's Divine Trident]!" Aquarina roared, summoning a gigantic trident made out of her own spiritual and divine auras together, and firing it against the Demon.

FLAAAASH!

CRAAAAAASSSSHHHH!!!

"GRAAAAGGGH...!"

The trident pierced right through his chest, as purple and green blood came gushing out of his wounds instantly. Wow, that was mighty! Of course, this bug wasn't as strong as Raghidonte, he's small fry compared to that guy.

"T-This is...! No, stop! RAAAAGGGHHH!"

The Mosquito Demon suddenly lost his patience as he roared, unleashing a barrage of Demon Flames against us, firing them all furiously.

BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM!

However, I rushed forward despite the demonic flames exploding and spreading everywhere, enchanting my body with my aura, and fusing my scales with the power of Alice, my body slightly turned golden, these were Holy Scales, capable of resisting Demon Energy.

"I commend your efforts, but you've missed the opportunity to keep living." I said, pointing Scarlet at his neck and then swinging her furiously. "[Dragon Fangs]!!!"

The illusion of one gigantic dragon's jaws emerged out of my flames, as I swung the sword and pierced through the demon's neck, the jaws crushed through his entire body, devastating him with a single blow.

CRAAAAAAASSSHH!!!

"GRYYYYAAEEEEGGHHHHH...!"

Crack... crack... CRAAASH!

The shockwave alone reached the crystal and the cave pillars, shattering them all apart into pieces. I swiftly grabbed Aquarina with all my might and as I saw the Dungeon Break portal close, I jumped off the caves before they were to crumble down.

RUMBLE!

BAAAAAAMMMM...!

"Well, that was much easier than I expected!" Aquarina sighed in relief.

"I guess you're right." I sighed. "And looks like everyone's done down there... We're safe, for now."

As I landed on the floor and reunited with everybody... Suddenly, my Compass of Heroes within my own Eyes alerted me of something.

Both the Saint of Spirits and the Hero of Wild Beasts separated.

Chapter 772 Moving On

Ding!

[You earned 1350000 EXP!]

[The EXP has been stored within the Status.]

[Natura] [Ignatius] [Beelzebub] [Curse] [Furoh] [Glutton] [Sapphire] and [Scarlet] Levels have increased from Level 29 to Level 31!

[Nephilim] Level has increased from Level 15 to Level 16!

[Violet] Level has increased from Level 23 to Level 24!

[Brownie] Level has increased from Level 0 to Level 15!

"Phew, we're done here..." I sighed in relief. "Though, for some reason the two heroes have separated from one another, and... the Hero of Wild Beasts is really weakened now, I am worried."

"He's weak and they separated?" Aquarina asked. "Wait... M-Maybe something bad has happened to them! What if one got kidnaped and the other is severely wounded or unconscious?"

"Right... that's a possibility. One I would never really want to see become reality..." I sighed. "Seeing how this attack is almost synched with what's happening to them right now, I am worried this was planned to distract us while they were kidnaping one of them..."

"That could also happen, this Arachne woman behind this has shown to be quite cunning, and her endless army of bugs is really annoying..." Aquarina sighed. "I hope everyone back home is alright though..."

"I'm sure they are." I nodded. "Well, did you leveled up?"

"Oh!" Aquarina's blue eyes quickly shone brightly as she nodded. "Yeah! Did you feel it? My entire body was like... overflowing with a power I just never had before! And it just keeps in here permanently? Its not like a temporary buff..."

"Yeah, it is like a third way to cultivate." I explained. "Cool, right? I think that if we use this on our parents, who have hit their limits, they might be able to break through those limits again and might be able to grow even stronger."

"I agree!" Aquarina nodded. "But I am worried... Maybe you shouldn't give it to everyone so fast."

"I know, I'll do it slowly... Zack should be the next one on the list." I said. "His birthday's actually pretty soon after yours. I hope we can make it back home before the day comes."

"Yeah!" Aquarina nodded. "Oh, I leveled up to Level... Level 8? Six Levels made the numbers go pretty high! Oh, some skills also gained a level... Level 2."

"Nice, eight levels in a row is already pretty good at your current power level." I said. "Though, seeing how it works, our parents might take a little while to level up as they're so strong already... Though the Skills would help them nonetheless."

"What happens when I hit Level 30?" Asked Aquarina. "It says that's the "cap" thingy..." She said, trying her best to analyze the System. It was very cute.

"When you reach Level Cap, you'll be able to advance to stronger Class." Said Alice at my side. I didn't knew how it exactly worked, my familiars evolved and also got new Classes based in such evolutions, but Aquarina was different than them. "Unlike Sylphy's Familiars where they evolve into larger and stronger beings, your Class and Subclass will be able to advance to a higher rank and become stronger."

"Ooh! I... I don't know what that really means..." Aquarina said, scratching her head. "But I am looking forward to it!" She nodded.

"Hahaha, don't worry, you'll see it when it happens." I smiled, giving her a head pat.

As we made our way back to our parents, of course, after I saved in my inventory some of the corpses and the demon we defeated, including the black crystal pieces for later investigation, my father greeted us.

"Ah, you girls are back." He sighed in relief. "So was it really a Dungeon Break?"

"Yep." I said, showing him the crystal. "Another one of these weird dimension crystals was there. These things help them open portals to the dungeons, pretty much."

"Hmm, it seems to be of the same composition as the crystals from back then, in Eastgrain." Aquarina's father showed up, analyzing it. His sharp blue eyes glanced at the crystal fragments. "I've been analyzing these myself, trying to find somehow a clue to where they come from or how they're exactly made. The Blue Witch is still analyzing them..."

"Can I keep these fragments?" I asked. "I think I could use them to figure out something, maybe."

"Hmmm... Well, fine." Shade nodded. "I do trust you, you've created many amazing things, Sylphy."

"Hey, nice that you trust my daughter a bit more." My father laughed. "Though I am a bit worried myself, this happened out of nowhere. Sylphy, are the kids alright? Can you sense them?"

"I can but... Well, one of them is in the verge of dying, and the other's... I think she's been kidnaped, she's been moved away from them in almost an instant, almost as if she was teleported away." I sighed.

"Teleported away?" Asked my father. "Shit... Did Arachne caught her somehow? The kid that's dying's our priority though. I bet she wants to use the other as a hostage, so she won't kill her so soon."

"Hmm, you seem rather confident in just a feeling." Shade sighed, crossing his arms. "But well, it is not like we have any other option either... For now, we should seek the one that's closest to us."

"Hey! How is everyone?" Zack asked, reaching us with the rest of our friends. "Did you take care of it?"

"Yeah, mostly." I nodded. "Though, we can't go back to sleep for now, we need to go look for the kids, they might be in serious danger."

"Aww... I wanted to sleep a bit more..." Mist sighed.

"Well, we can leave that for later." Celeste said. "Let's go!"

FLAAASH!

Uncle Arafunn arrived just in time, he was encircling the skies above his Familiar, Tempest, looking if there was any other enemy.

"Seems like you've figured out where he is? Let's go immediately then." He said. "We can't waste any time. The longer we take, the more the lives of these children will be endangered."

Chapter 773 Luck, And The Anima Tribes

The young Luck was born 13 years ago in a small village composed mostly of Anima people of three tribes, that had converged due to survival reasons long ago. Mostly composed of Fox Anima, Wolf Anima, and Sheep Anima, despite their differences, they survived and lived together despite everything else. The harsh conditions of the Northern Lands of the Continent of Atlanta called for cooperation above all else for survival.

While the elves lived and conquered all the fruitful, nature-filled places, other nomadic and less organized tribes, such as the Anima, were discriminated against and pushed to the very arid border of

the continent, separated from the verdant areas by a gigantic mountain range, these tribes sought and hunted for survival.

Over time, their numbers became less and less, and Luck was born in perhaps one of the very last villages within these arid, desertic lands...

Despite being so far away, it wasn't as if they were isolated completely from any civilization. Within the Northern Lands lived the dwarves in the mountains, making a large Kingdom, separated an far away from the elves, and to the northwest, the Kingdom of Beasts existed, where the strongest Anima tribes, that only valued battle power lived in conjunction with the Dwarves cooperation.

From time to time, their village would be visited by merchants, and Luck would learn through them about the wide world outside, and about the many things he had never seen before.

However, his young life didn't came so easily. After being born, his mother died of a disease nobody was able to heal in the village, and only left with his big brother, to take care of him, Luck grew with barely any food on his plate, surviving and working harder than anybody for scraps.

In these lands, hunting was the only thing he cold do, and barely so, with the help of his brother, Luck barely was able to hunt a small rabbit a week, if not two, maybe. Because these arid lands were filled with only huge, dangerous monsters, finding small prey to catch was very hard, and exploring the forests was a no-go, as the dangerous beasts dwelling within would surely kill him, like many had done...

Like they had killed his father, a hunter that provided to his family until the last day of his life, when he never came back. Luck never meet his father nor his mother. His mother died when he was just a baby, and his father died a few months earlier.

It felt as if his whole life was blessed with misfortune, despite his name... Perhaps his mother, in her last moments, wanted to give him a name that might bring him some sort of fortune on his life... in her deathbed, she hoped for her little son's future to be bright, despite the many hardships of life.

With his big brother, Hans, Luck tried his best to survive. Day after day of hardships often ended with his big brother's anecdotes, or any funny joke he could think about. Luck always remembered his brother as someone that was always trying to make him smile.

"Big brother, how was dad?" Luck wondered back then.

"Oh? Dad was awesome! He was so huge and burly!" Laughed Hans while drinking some soup made out of rabbit bones. "I remember he used to lift me with his big arms all the time."

"I see... I wonder if I can become like dad one day." Luck sighed. "Though I am so weak... even the other kids at my age have hunted a monster, but I can't..."

Hans patted his shoulders, giving him a big old smile.

"Heheh, don't worry! You'll get a growth spur soon enough!" Hans laughed. "And then you'll get as big as your big brother! I promise you that, Lucky!"

"Don't call me Lucky! I am far from being lucky to begin with..." Luck sighed.

"Well..." Hans sighed, looking into the distance. "You know? Dad didn't have a tail."

"Eh? He didn't?!" Luck asked in shock. "But... wouldn't everyone make fun of him?"

"Yep, everyone laughed at him." Hans sighed. "Dad was born without a tail, and he said he was very clumsy, and weak when he was young... But he still became one of the village's best hunters, and even took down a Giant Wild Boar that had threatened the village back then."

"N-No way..." Luck felt so surprised that his father despite having been afflicted with such misfortune and a weak body since birth, had managed to grow into someone so strong all by himself.

"So, it doesn't matter if you're a bit weak now, or if you can't do what everyone else can at your age..." Hans sighed. "As long as you keep trying, and improving bit by bit every single day, one day... the results of all your efforts will show. And you may become stronger than anybody in the village! Who knows, right? The future is uncertain. Some people... like to think gloomily about it, but I like to think there might be something better awaiting for us, somewhere, we just need to reach it with our own hands if it won't get to us, you know? We've gotta keep trying, Lucky!"

Luck remembered those words very well, those words of his cheerful big brother, such words that stayed within his heart, and that still stay within.

However, Luck's boring daily life exercising, hunting bugs and rats, and doing his chores changed when one day, a mysterious girl with fluffy white hair, bright golden eyes, and white horns spiraling like those of a sheep, showed up on his life...

"P-Please... can someone help me? Pleaseeee!"

It was the morning of a Monday, at the age of 8, when Luck was looking for edible mushrooms in the grasslands, and suddenly found a beautiful girl stuck in the branches of a tree.

"Huh? You can't get down?" He asked.

"A-Ahahaha... I got up but... I am a bit afraid..." She cried. "C-Can you help me? Pretty please!"

"Why did you even got up in that tree if you're afraid of getting down?" Luck sighed, facepalming.
"Sigh... fine, alright, be careful, here, grab my hand- Eh?"

"Uwaaaaahh!!!"

THUMP!

Chapter 775 Luck's Resolve

As Luck saw what Lara started to accomplish over the years, he realized how great and talented she was. Yet, he never really liked to admit it, he had grown to appreciate her and to even love her as family.

It was weird... a girl that appeared out of nowhere on his life would make his life, and that of those in the village so much better. An annoying girl that grew up to be someone incredible... and that might actually become as great as she wanted to be.

However, deep down, a feeling of jealousy also surged on his heart. He was jealous of her talent for magic, and for her good nature, her dreams, and even her personality. It was normal, perhaps, to be jealous of things like these sometimes.

But his jealousy wasn't imbued with hatred, no, it only made him more sad and depressed with himself. What has he accomplished himself? Where will he go in this entire life? What will be of him?

While she slowly continued stepping forward and becoming better and better, Luck stayed behind, and glanced from afar as she forged her own path...

When he hit 12 years of age, he thought things couldn't continue like this. He had been practicing a fighting style using a wooden spear and has already hunted Horned Rabbits and even small Wild Boars... he wanted to show the village he was a proper hunter, that he could at least fend for himself.

While his brother was working in the village as usual to earn a few pennies, he decided to sneak into the forest, leaving Lara doing her daily job at healing the elderly's pain, or giving the nutrient-less soil some energy to grow crops.

And as he made his way to the forest, Luck remembered yesterday's conversation with her.

"Hey Luck, will you come with me when I go into an adventure again?"

"Eh? What do you mean?"

"Well, I'll be eventually leaving town, you know... I've been staying here for a bit too long, longer than I thought..."

"But... everyone likes you, why would you want to leave? You've accomplished more than anybody around here..."

"Didn't I tell you, dummy? Because I want to see the wide world outside! I want to meet new friends and also help more people, staying in a single place's not really my style, even less when the gods said I should seek the other heroes."

"But that's... the world outside is so dangerous... You're crazy. And just who are these other heroes?"

"Hmm... They said there was a half-elf with red hair around here... and someone with white hair! We need to meet them one day! They also said a boy was a hero, I've been looking for him for a while, but I haven't had any luck... Unless you're him, Luck!"

"Me? Don't joke around... I am below average, I haven't even awakened magic, and... I'm weak."

"Geez, not with that attitude! But even if you aren't one, I want you to go with me, can you?"

"I... I don't know..."

Luck remembered these words really well, this conversation, because it made him, for the first time in his life, to explore the world outside. He was afraid of it, yes, but he was more afraid of Lara getting hurt, or doing something dumb and getting herself in great trouble.

He didn't want her to get in trouble... So deep down, he wanted to stay at her side and accompany her through this hard, and perilous journey, because... She was his friend, and the only girl that was inside of his heart at all times.

But just going as he was right now, wasn't enough. To be recognized as a Hunter, he had to hunt something big by himself, before departing at her side, he wanted to become strong, to show everyone he could at least hunt an Adult Wild Boar like his father once did.

In this world, people can grow stronger by hunting powerful beasts and absorbing a part of their essence into their bodies, the stronger hunters develop physiques, which can continue to grow as they eat stronger prey, and hunt more... the Beast Kingdom has the strongest Anima in the Continent because they all hunt the fiercest of beasts.

As he had been only hunting small fries, over the years, he had only grown a tad bit stronger. To fully awaken his potential, it is said that hunting an Adult Wild Boar is necessary. Usually, if someone has a talent for a physique, they usually awaken once they hunt such a beast, with enough strength and "essence" that it will help just any child awaken whatever power they hold.

He wanted to try... to see if he really had anything going for him, even if it was the lamest, most simple of Physiques out there, he wanted one so he could be of some help for Lara, so he could be... her shield.

"Lara said that Wild Boars are around more commonly now that the summer's here and there are fruits everywhere..." Luck said, filling himself with courage while holding his trusty wooden spear, sharpened on the tip carefully by him. He wore his father's leather clothing he took without his brother's permission, and a helmet made of wild boar bones. "I'll do it... I'll hunt a Wild Boar." He clenched his fists.

Luck, someone that never looked into the bright future, someone that never wanted to do anything other than survive, and someone that always lacked a dream... Had changed over time, he wanted strength, and he wanted recognition... and above all, he wanted to stay at her side.

He wanted to be at the side of Lara, even if it would cost his life... Because she was the reason he had changed, and the reason... he had continued to persevere through a life filled with hardships and poverty.

It was the very least he could do for her, for everything she has done for him and the entire village...

"Lara... Today I'll bring back a Wild Boar for you."

Chapter 776 A Battle To Prove Oneself!

"Found it." Luck thought, his eyes shining brightly within the shadows of the forest.

Hiding himself within the bushes, he stood in silence as he glanced a large beast, of over three and a half meters of height, graze around the forest floor, smelling the floor with its huge snout, looking for mushrooms or any dropped fruit in the floor.

He had covered most of his body with mud, so his scent wouldn't be easily detected by the Wild Boar, and he had covered his body with leaves to fool it as he slowly approached its back.

While the beast slowly began sniffing the floor, and as it gave him its back...

"Now!" He thought, immediately emerging out of the bushes and pointing his wooden spear at the Wild Boar.

CLAAASH!

The spear immediately pierced the Wild Boar's back with all his strength! For a few seconds, Luck celebrated, thinking he had done it...

Yet.

"GRUOOOOOHHH!!!"

The Wild Boar, with a spear stuck on its back muscles, roared, immediately charging at Luck with all of its might!

"I-It didn't die yet?!"

Unlike small Wild Boars, which were mostly infants, an Adult one had tough enough back muscles to easily survive a measly spear attack.

TRUM! TRUM! TRUM!

The giant beast's steps made the forest tremble as it furiously charged against him. With horror, Luck quickly climbed up a tree, fearing the beast's anger.

"GRUOOHH!"

CRAASH!

CRAAASH!

CRAAAASH!

The Wild Boar started hitting the tree's furiously, as the tree gained several cracks right away, which spread upwards into the tree's entire body.

"D-Dammit!"

CREEAAAK...!

BAAAM...!

The entire tree ended falling down into the forest, as Luck had to jump away before he were to land on the floor head-first.

"GRUOOOOHHHH!"

The Wild Boar immediately started chasing him from behind, Luck tried to climb another tree, but the Wild Boar was much faster. He had to quickly evade before getting his legs pierced by the boar's tusks!

CRAAASH!

"GRUOOHHHH! GRAAH!"

The Wild Boar, however, got its tusks stuck into the tree!

"Eh? This is my chance!" Luck thought, instantly rushing towards the Wild Boar's back, only to barely evade a kick from the beast's back legs.

CLASH!

"S-Shit!" Luck gritted his teeth, leaping like a wolf would do over the beast's back and then grabbing the spear out of the back!

With blood dripping off the spear's sharp end, Luck smiled, finally having his weapon back on his hands.

"H-Hahh... I got it!" Luck roared, quickly pointing the spear at the Boar's neck this time. "Just... die already!"

CRAAASH!

"GRYEEEEHHH! GRUUOOOHHH! GRYEEEEHHHHH...!"

The Wild Boar finally felt agony as it screamed its lungs out like a pig would scream before getting slaughtered. It began hitting the tree continuously, as Luck realized a single stab wasn't enough, he started stabbing the boar in the neck and back several times.

"Ugh...! RAAAAHHH!!!"

CRASH! CRASH! CRASH! CRASH!

"GRUUOOHHHH...!"

However, the Wild Boar, using its insane, monstrous vitality, finally managed to throw Luck away from its back. The young Wolf Anima boy landed on the floor, rolling over it like a ragdoll.

BAAAAMM...!

"Ungh...!"

Luck suddenly felt he broke one of his ribs, as he vomited a mouthful of blood. His vision became fuzzy, and he could barely move his arms, while the rest of his body felt... completely paralyzed.

"A-Ahhha... Ugh..."

"GRRRRHHH..."

The Wild Boar slowly started walking towards him, covered on all the wounds he had caused him, and bleeding severely. It wasn't going to live much longer, but the wretched beast wanted to make sure he would die first.

"N-No... I can't die like this..." Luck thought, but his consciousness was slowly fading.

The memories of his life began passing through his mind. The moments he enjoyed with his brother, surviving as much as he could, as he always tried to make him smile. And everything else was just... with Lara.

Her smile, her giggles, her surprised face, the times she pranked him, and the times he pranked her back. The laughter, and her eyes filled with hope.

"I want you to come with me to an adventure! There's a whole wide world outside!" Lara said, smiling cheerfully as usual.

"Come on, cheer up Luck, I'm sure things will get better. We have to keep working hard and keep trying. Trust me." His brother smiled.

Those memories flashed through Luck's mind, as he faced imminent death.

"L-Lara... Big brother..."

Although his body was telling him to give up, and that there was simply no other chance for him to move again, or to do anything at all... He continued striving, he continued trying.

He couldn't die here... He couldn't die like this. He had his big brother and Lara, two precious people on his life...

"Move... move, you damn body... Move... Gods! Anybody... Please... At the very least... Help me move this damn body!" Luck roared, suddenly, he felt an electrifying zap run through his entire body.

ZAAAP!

"Ugh?!"

FLASH!

And then, his entire mind landed somewhere else... A jungle filled with verdant nature, and animals everywhere. And greeting him in the middle of this sanctuary of life was a beautiful, tall woman, as tall as a mountain, wearing white robes.

Her skin was bright white, almost a bit pink. Her long brown hair shone brightly, and her eyes were emerald, green, shining like real jewels, animals of all types gathered around her, and as he noticed further, larger animals he had never seen before, Ancient Beasts sat around him, their sharp eyes glaring at him with the fierceness of nature.

Luck couldn't speak, he simply could see everything unfold, as this beautiful goddess and the divine beasts surrounding him unleashed bright threads of light, that reached his very soul.

FLAAAASH!

"Awaken, King of the Beasts." The woman said, as the other Beasts lowered their heads before him. "The Path towards the strength you've been born with has been opened."

"My... own strength?" Luck thought, as his mind quickly went back to his body.

FLUOOSH!

A golden light started flowing across his entire body, there was no longer any more pain on his legs, and he felt oddly connected with the entire forest now... it was as if he could see and hear anything.

Chapter 777 The Awakening Of The Hero Of Wild Beasts!

Luck felt the power, he felt the energy coursing through his body. This strange energy he had seen and sensed before only on Lara... This was Mana. Somehow, through that strange vision, he had managed to awaken his own Mana.

FLUOOSH!

Within his very soul, several circles lined up together with strange runes. They had not the shape of any runes ever seen before, as they resembled animals. And they continued growing over his Magic Circle constantly... dozens, hundreds, thousands!

FLAAAASH!

Luck started overflowing with a gold, beastly aura he had never felt before on his entire life...

"W-What is this...?!"

Yet, as this happened, he recalled something his brother had once told him.

"When you were born, we suddenly heard the roars of many beasts around the forest, for some reason. That really scared the villagers, some thought you were a cursed child because you would bring disaster to the village... But well, it was just a coincidence, right?" His brother once said. "Though, I do wonder... if maybe it wasn't. And what could it had really meant?"

This strange connection Luck always felt with animals, whenever he hunted rats or rabbits, how he often sensed a bit of a strange, electrifying feeling whenever he caught them and touched them...

Or the times he often dreamed very vividly of possessing the body of a bird and flying across the skies as if he was one...

All of these weird coincidences slowly lined up, could this all had been a reaction to this power? This talent developing deep within him?

"GRUOOOHHHH!!!"

The Giant Wild Boar noticed Luck sitting down on the floor in surprise, and instantly charged on him to kill him for once... The beast, a Tier 2 monster, had a big enough Magic Crystal capable of helping it conjure Mana.

With the last bit of Mana the beast possessed, it reached Luck with an extremely fast charge, its entire body suddenly overflowing with red flames, as its fur turned red from all the blood, fusing with it!

"W-What the...? I see, that's why you were so resilient!"

CLAAAASSHH!!!

Luck leaped right before the Wild Boar were to crush him with its "new" form... despite it being its actual form, its true power.

The Wild Boar was in fact a Blazing Wild Boar, a Tier 3 Monster! It is known that when they don't activate their flames, they look identical to normal Giant Wild Boars...

However, one thing to notice is how much more resilient and stronger they are compared to their normal relatives...

A Giant Blazing Wild Boar was the beast that took his father's life too.

Luck began to wonder if this beast could have been the very one that took his father away from him.

"Eh? I... leaped so high?" Luck realized it a bit too late, but the moment he jumped away, he was sitting on the top of a tree several dozens of meters away from his previous position. "A-Amazing..."

This overflowing energy he felt coursing through his body not only was just pure magic, but it boosted his own physique. This was... the power of the King of Beasts, the Hero of Wild Beasts.

"Use my power, young king."

Suddenly, the voice of an old entity spoke through Luck's mind.

"Your power? Who are you?"

FLUOSH!

Suddenly, the floating, golden manifestation of a Divine Beast Spirit emerged behind Luck, shocking the young wolf boy.

It resembled a beautiful, regal tiger with golden fur and black stripes, and a prideful smile, with sharp, red eyes.

"I am the Golden Tiger King, the Divine Beast of Light and Bravery." He spoke. "I, and many of my siblings, have been told to aid you in your endeavors from now on from Lady Rhea, our mother."

"Lady Rhea?!" Luck quickly remembered such a name, that was the Goddess most Anima prayed to, the Goddess of Life and Motherhood, that represented the love of a mother, life, animals, and nature.

"Indeed, young king. You possess her divine blessings, and therefore, you've inherited the powers of the Ancient Beast King. You're technically, his reincarnation." Said the Golden Tiger. "Now, there's not much time. Concentrate, you don't have much Mana left!"

"A-Alright!" Luck nodded, he had to process everything quickly, but he knew the tiger was right, he didn't had time to dabble into things when he had a prey to take down. "How do I use this magic?"

"Simply say "[Divine Beast Awakening]" to awaken my powers within you." Said the Golden Tiger. "Once you do that, you'll-"

"[Divine Beast Awakening]!"

FLAAAASH!

"O-Oi! Let me finish speaking at least!"

FLUOOSH!

The power of the Golden Tiger Divine Beast Spirit instantly flew into Luck's body, merging with him completely. His Mana was being constantly drained as his entire body changed slightly.

His brown skin gained black stripes, and his black hair suddenly became golden, while more fur grew on his arms, legs, and his tail, which grew thrice as long, with black stripes as well!

Luck's wolf-like ears changed, becoming like those of a tiger, sharp and triangular, while his eyes glowed with red color, and his teeth became sharp fangs, his nails turned into golden claws, and his entire body overflow with a power he never thought he held within himself.

"RAAAHHHH!!!"

"GRUOOOHHH!!!"

Luck and the Giant Blazing Wild Boar clashed in an intense battle. The Wild Boar's blazing tusks reached Luck, as he managed to stop it by grabbing them with his very hands.

"GRUOHH?!"

The beast instantly was shaken as it was slightly lifted by Luck, who was gritting his teeth furiously.

"UUNNGGH...! C-Come on...!" Luck groaned, as he glanced at the Blazing Wild Boar unleashing its flames over his body, burning him!

However, in a split of a second, he suddenly noticed something within the wild boar's chest, a small, cracked knife made up of a wild boar's tusk stuck there.

He recalled the cracked knife piece that his brother gave to him once was said to belong to his father, the other half must have remained within the one beast that killed him.

And here it was...

"Y-You're the one...! I won't forgive you! RAAAAHHHH!!!"

Luck roared like a wild beast, lifting the gigantic Blazing Wild Boar and then launching it into the nearest tree!

CRAAAAASSSSH!!!

Chapter 778 The Saint Of Spirits

CRAAAASSSHH!!!

The powerful Giant Blazing Wild Boar landed over a tree, crushing it and setting it ablaze. The beast quickly stood back up again, the deadly wounds it had taken from Luck were still there, though they were slowly regenerating.

The stronger the beasts were, the faster their regeneration would become. The power this beast had, as a Tier 3 monster, was incredible, and so was its Magical Power and Mana...

"It is not dead yet?" Luck was surprised. "I literally launched it all the way there..."

"Beasts of higher tiers are incredibly resilient, boy." The Golden Tiger's voice echoed within Luck's body. "If that beast is truly the one that felled your father, then you must defeat it at all costs! You have less than a minute to maintain this form but use it to defeat it! Now, to summon my strength, you must summon my body parts! My claws, my legs, my fangs, and my eyes! They're simply spells engraved within your magic circle, use them!"

"Got it." Luck said, nodding with a serious face. His entire body began channeling this golden, beastly energy into his claws, legs, eyes, ears, and fangs.

"[Golden Tiger's Rapid Legs]!"

FLAAASH!

Luck leaped once more off the ground, in a mere instant, reaching the Giant Blazing Wild Boar!

"GRUOOOHHH!"

The beast greeted him by opening its jaws and unleashing a large quantity of flames!

"Now, my claws!" The Tiger said.

"[Golden Tiger's Sharp Claws]!"

Luck imbued this golden power into his claws, as he swung them horizontally and vertically against the beast, slashing across the flames and then landing several hits into its face and body!

SLAASH! SLAAASH! SLAAAASH!

"GRUOOHHH...!"

The Wild Boar instantly began running away from the attacks, its entire body covered in deadly wounds that weren't regenerating so fast!

"You're not going anywhere!" Roared Luck. "[Golden Tiger's Deadly Jaws]!"

Luck opened his jaws and leaped towards the Giant Blazing Wild Boar, biting its big neck and slowly tearing apart the flesh! Blood began gushing out everywhere, as the beast's flames covered his body, attempting to burn him to death!

"RAAAHHHH!!!"

"GRUOOOOHHH...!"

Both beasts clashed against one another, as Luck continued biting it or slashing it, while the boar unleashed flames and charging blows with its tusks!

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CRAAASH!

"You're so resilient... But I'm not giving up! I can't die here... I can't!" Luck roared, his eyes glowing redder, as he leaped towards the blazing boar at the same time as the beast charged against him.

His claws pointing at the beast's eyes and piercing through them!

CRAAAASSSSH!!!

The claws then reached the beast's brains through its eye sockets. The wild boar instantly stopped its charge, feeling an agonizing, electrifying pain before finally dying on the spot!

BAAAAMMM...!

The beast's gigantic body rolled over the forest floor, standing still... the adrenaline continued surging through Luck, as he gasped for air, slowly falling to his knees...

"H-Hahhh... I-I did it..." Luck sighed; tears quickly began flowing from his eyes.

The moment he defeated the boar, he felt even more power flowing into his body, as his Physique manifested, and his muscles and bones began to strengthen, yet the wounds he had were still not recovering.

"I-I did it... father... big brother... La... ra..." I think you should take a look at

The blood loss and having emptied all of his mana reserves quickly exhausted him. As his transformation ended, he fell into the floor, slowly falling unconscious...

"Little brother! What are you doing here?!"

"Luck! Please don't die! Please hang on!"

As Luck's slowly fell unconscious, he heard the voice of his worried big brother, and Lara. Her warm tears fell over his face, as her healing light slowly covered his body, slowly healing his lethal wounds before he were to die...

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Once Luck woke up the next day, he found Lara sleeping at his side, resting her legs over the wooden floor of his house and her head over the bed.

"Ah! W-What... Huh? I'm here..." Luck gasped for air, looking around.

For a moment, everything that happened yesterday felt like one long dream, so many things all at once... It was simply insane.

Yet it all happened for real. He had not only defeated the beast that killed his father, but he awakened magic and new powers he never thought he would had.

"L-Luck...?" Lara slowly opened her golden eyes, looking at Luck. "LUCK! You're awake!"

She jumped over his body, hugging him tightly.

"Uwaagh! Wait, don't hug me so tightly, you brute!" Luck complained.

"But you almost died, you dummy!!!" Lara cried, hugging him. "I was so worried... your brother was so worried too! Why did you go hunt a monster in the forest?! It is too dangerous!"

"Lara..." Luck sighed, slowly and gently pushing her away from him. "I... I had to do it. I wanted to prove to you that I was strong, that I am useful... I didn't wanted to live on your shadows anymore either..."

"E-Eh? Prove what? W-What in the world are you talking about?" Lara sighed, cleaning her tears. "You never needed to prove anything to me... You're my precious friend, my family... You're the one I love..."

"L-Love?!" Luck suddenly blushed.

"A-Ah... D-Did I just said that?!" Lara began to laugh nervously. "A-Anyways! You should- Ah, buddie! Thanks!"

Suddenly, a small creature made out of dirt crawled over the bed and gave Lara a small fruit. This was something Luck had never seen before on his life... Thinking it was a monster, he was surprised.

"Huh? W-What is that?" Luck asked in shock, suddenly jumping off the bed.

"Oh? Ah! Don't tell me you can finally see my buddies, Luck!" Lara was shocked. "Everyone! Come here! He can see you all!"

"Pigguh!"

"Gaguuh...!"

"Gehehe..."

"Kyun!"

Suddenly, countless tiny creatures emerged everywhere. Some resembled spheres of light with tiny faces on them, some looked like small, walking stones. And others were like floating droplets of water. A few, resembled tiny clouds... As he saw all of these creatures, which amounted hundreds, Luck almost couldn't believe it.

"These... what are these things?!" Luck asked.

"Huh? They're my buddies of course, dummy!" Lara giggled playfully. "They're my friends, they've been always there since I was born, helping me and... protecting me! And they help and protect you too, they really like you! Some people call them... Spirits."

Lara, without a doubt, was the Saint of Spirits.

Chapter 779 Recognized By The Village

When Luck glanced at the hundreds of small, colorful entities walking around the room, he panicked. He never thought Lara was actually saying the truth, even now, he was confused, wondering what they truly were.

"These... what are these things?!" Luck asked.

"Huh? They're my buddies of course, dummy!" Lara giggled playfully. "They're my friends, they've been always there since I was born, helping me and... protecting me! And they help and protect you too, they really like you! Some people call them... Spirits."

"Spirits..." Luck said, his face quickly changing expressions. "I-I'm sorry... for never believing you, to think you always had them around. Are they...?"

"Yep! They're the ones that help me conjure healing magic, or somethings boost the crops so they can grow healthier, or the soil with nutrients. Sometimes, they even can help me bring down rain so we can get water and have a moister place." Lara smiled. "Oh, and that sunny guy over there likes to roast things."

"I remember my brother once told me Spirits... represented this entire world, they were everywhere. They were part of nature, of the fire, of the water, of the wind..." Luck said. "But not many can communicate with them, even those that have magic talent, don't seem to be able to find them either."

"I guess he was right! You're special though, you seem to have already made a contract with your own Spirit Familiar." Lara said. "Meanwhile, well, it is mostly thanks to my weird blessing, it pretty much

makes any Spirit I come across into my familiar automatically, haha. Except those that already have a master, of course."

In theory, although Lara's power seemed slightly underwhelming, she was capable of gathering so many spirits that even unifying the entire world's elements together within her magic could become a possibility...

"Wait, I have a spirit myself?!" Luck wondered.

"Yeah... Now that you're awake, you've awakened both a Physique and... something deeper, magic!" Lara said, touching his chest with a playful smile.

Luck suddenly blushed a bit over the girl being so close to him.

"It seems you've developed a magic circle, and there's another being dwelling inside of your soul." She smiled. "So nice~ I hope it can help you be as strong as you wanted, Luck! But... dummy!"

BONK!

Lara quickly hit his head.

"Hey! What the hell was that for?!" Luck cried.

"Dummy! Idiot! Why did you just went into danger like that? Reckless... If you didn't awakened such a power beforehand, you would had just died!" Lara sighed. "If you wanted to do that, you should had just asked for my help, we would had beaten that together."

"I... Well, I wanted to prove to you that I was someone strong, that I could be more of help, asking for your assistance would had beaten the purpose..." Luck sighed, looking at his own, scarred hands. "Sorry for worrying you and big brother."

"Sigh..." Lara sighed, sitting at Lucks side. "Y-You know you don't need to show me that you're strong or something... Right? You're... my friend, and someone important, I would... I don't need you to prove me anything! Because... because I..."

"Hey!" Suddenly, Luck's big brother arrived. "Luck! You're finally awake!" He ran towards his little brother and hugged him. "You damn kid! You had the whole damn village worried about you!"

"E-Eh? The whole village?" Luck asked.

"Of course, you're the handyman everyone cares about after all, all of your tiny, odd jobs ended making the people care about you a lot, you know?" Sighed his big brother. "Hell, even the grumpy chief was relieved you were safe and sane..."

"I-Is that so...? Everyone... Was worried?" Luck felt shocked.

"Yeah, can you move? Let's go out!" His brother dragged him out of the house.

"H-Hey! Wait a second!" Luck cried.

"Yeah, let's go see everyone!" Lara decided to save what she wanted to say for later, and decided to bring Luck with everyone else in the village.

Once he stepped out, he was surprised. He saw dozens of people, all of them part of his everyday life, yet which he never thought that cared about him at all.

"Luck! You're alright?!"

"Thank god you're fine, boy!" I think you should take a look at

"I don't know what I would had done without you to always help me with my crops, dear."

"Luck! W-What you did was so reckless... but you're so cool! You took down a blazing wild boar?! Insane!"

"I don't think I would ever... have as much courage as you do."

"Luck! Thank the gods you're safe!"

Luck was surrounded by everyone, as his heart began beating faster and faster. His eyes barely were containing his tears...

He always thought of himself as useless, as someone that nobody cared for. As someone that nobody ever thought about... He always thought he would never be important, at all.

Yet... all his actions over these years, his help, his hard work, it all was worth it.

People noticed him slowly, those that didn't liked him slowly changed their minds, and those that were indifferent noticed him as well.

παπιδαςNovel.com In just a few years... He became someone important, which everyone cared for.

"E-Everyone... Yes, I am alright... Thank you for worrying..." He sighed, feeling embarrassed.

The chief slowly stepped forward, greeting Luck.

"Luck, don't be so reckless ever again..." He sighed. "Please, for your father, and your mother, you must value your life... Don't be so reckless, your life, our lives... they're precious things, we cannot throw them away, son."

"...I understand, chief." Luck sighed. "I'm really sorry."

The chief sighed, stroking his long silver beard.

"Fine, now, how about we help you out butchering that big thing you caught?" The chief wondered.

"R-Right..." Luck nodded. "We should have a feast, everyone! Let's eat that big thing to celebrate!"

"Oooh! So generous..."

"A-Are you sure?"

"I would not back down then!"

"Alright boys, let's help him butcher that huge boar together!"

"Huzzah!"

Like that, Luck lived the best day of his life, as he realized he was beloved by his village, and as he saw everyone smile and fill their bellies with delicious meat.

Slowly, yet steadily, he started to grow more mature, and let go of his traumas, or of his fears.

As time went by, Luck wished these peaceful days could last forever.

Yet nothing in this world lasts forever...

Even less when the darkness seeking the Heroes slowly made their way to his village.

Luck and Lara's peaceful lives would soon, and abruptly, come to an end.

Chapter 780 Invasion

Time went by flying, as Luck and Lara slowly discovered their new magic powers, and the fate they held as Heroes due to the words that Luck's Spirit, the Ancient Golden Tiger spoke about, the two young Anima learned more about their true calling.

Much like Lara, Luck was also chosen as the Hero of Wild Beasts, while Lara was the Saint of Spirits. They learned of other Heroes on the Continent of Atlanta, of younglings just like them striving to become stronger and better.

Often times, much like this night, Lara often dreamed about meeting them all, and creating a party of heroes to save the world. Despite the years passing, Lara never lost her innocent and dreamful nature, her personality that could barely ever see anything bad in the future, always optimistic, sometimes, too much.

As they watched the night sky, the two, who had recently hit 13 years of age, were together enjoying the beautiful star-covered night sky. Having prepared enough, soon, they would depart in a journey.

"I can't wait to meet them, and to meet so many new places! Luck, would you mind if we took a detour to the elven kingdom? Oh! And then we should go see the Beast Kingdom! And then the Dwarven Republic." Said Lara, her golden eyes shining brightly with excitement.

"Hahaha, calm down a bit, we don't even know where we'll go eventually." Luck sighed. "You're always a bit too optimistic too... There's a lot of bad things that could happen, this world isn't a gentle place."

"Come on now! This is not the time to act all boring and pessimistic either!" Lara giggled, giving him a head pat. "Don't worry, if you're so afraid, I'll protect you!"

"You? Protect me?" Laughed Luck. "Come on, I haven't grown so strong for nothing either... Sigh."

Lara suddenly rested her head over his shoulder. The moment she did, Luck felt slightly embarrassed, blushing. The sweet smell of her hair, its fluffiness, and her warm head made for a killing combination. Although her small horns were poking at his neck a bit.

"It's gonna be a great adventure... I can assure you! We'll have... so much fun." Lara smiled. "And we'll meet so many new friends... And we'll go through many new experiences! It's gonna be crazy... And we'll go together."

Luck smiled for a bit, sighing.

"Yeah... We'll go together." Luck nodded. "Though, I'm going to miss the village... My big brother and-"

"SHAAAAHHHH!"

Suddenly, as the two were having a rather calm and romantic moment, the roar of a ferocious, monstrous beast echoed in the outskirts of the village.

RUMBLE!

TRUUUUUMMM...!

"W-What is that?!" Luck asked, suddenly snapping out of his own calmness. "A monster?! Is it coming to the village?!"

"T-This is bad..." Lara said, gulping saliva. "So many... Why didn't you guys told me before?!"

"Kyuuh!"

"Kyuwahh..."

"Gugkuh!"

Suddenly, the Spirits began to explain Lara these monsters had emerged out of literally thin air, somewhere, a strange dimensional gate was leading to a place where they were constantly pouring out, like an endless swarm.

"A-A portal... opened out of nowhere?" Lara was left flabbergasted. "W-What?! No... This can't be happening...!"

"Lara! Snap out of it!" Luck said, gritting his teeth. "We need to-"

CRAAAAASSHH!!!

Dozens of gigantic insects emerged out of the darkness of the night, shattering the walls, and breaking them apart one after the other. The beasts instantly entered the village, as the screams of the people started echoing everywhere.

"Gryyaaaaahh!"

"M-Monsters?!"

"I've never seen these giant bugs before- GRAAAGGH...!"

"MOM! MOOOOM- GGYAAAH!"

"H-HELP! THE HUNTERRSSS...!"

Luck's eyes were quickly devoid of light as he saw the utter chaos that had engulfed the village in just mere seconds, panicking even more, he quickly dragged Lara with him.

"W-We need to fight them!" Luck roared.

"Spirits! Please help us!" Lara cried.

"GRYYSHAAAA!"

"GRYYYYEEKKH!"

"KRRRIEEEE!"

Three enormous black spiders quickly stepped right in front of the two, as they immediately began attacking with their sharp, spear-like legs with countless piercing blows.

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

"{D-Divine Beast Awakening}!!!"

FLUOOOSH!

Luck immediately transformed, channeling the power of the Golden Tiger into his body, and stepping into action.

"Wait, Luck! These monsters are too strong, you won't- " The Golden Tiger tried to stop him, but he stepped forward into battle.

"RAAAAHHHH!!! {Golden Tiger's Sharp Claws}!"

SLAAASH! SLAAASH! SLAAASH!

Luck furiously swung his two claws against the gigantic spiders, his attacks releasing golden aura slashes that pushed the giant bugs away, making the critters groan aggressively.

"KRIEEE!"

However, as Luck realized it, it wasn't effective. There were barely some scratches in their exoskeletons, and they were completely fine!

"W-Wha-"

BAAAAAMMM...!

A giant claw reached Luck, blowing him away into the air, as he fell down into the floor several dozens of meters away.

CRAAASH!

"AAAAGGH...! Ungh...! W-What?! I can't hurt them?!" Luck cried in horror.

"They cannot be easily beaten!" The Golden Tiger said. "Those things are comparable to Tier 7 monsters... There's no hope for you nor anybody here!"

"W-What are you talking about you damn fucking cat?!" Luck cried. "E-Everything... It was all so fine just seconds ago...!"

"LUCK!" Lara cried, as she was suddenly surrounded by monsters.

"L-Laaaa!" Luck ran towards Lara, only for him to be surrounded by more monsters. "Move... MOVE OUT OF THE WAY!!!"

Luck roared, his fur growing golden as he channeled more and more Mana, the aura exuding from his body suddenly resembled a roaring Golden Tiger, exuding a powerful enough shockwave to push away the bug-like demonic beasts away from his path.

"ROOOOAARRRR!"

"KRIEEE...!"

"GRYEEH?!"

"KRAAAHH...!"

FLAAASH!

Luck rushed towards Lara, grabbing her right in time as a large quantity of spirits began to surge from the ground around the bugs.

"Land Spirits! {Rock Golems}! {Gaia's Hands}!" Lara cried, exuding her Mana into the many spirits around them.

TRUUUMM...!

Enormous hands made of dirt and stone emerged out of the ground, protecting whoever villagers were still alive while attacking the bugs, dragging them down into the floor by holding their long legs, only for giant golems made of rocks to punch them down furiously.

However... despite Lara's efforts, it seemed to not be working. They were at most being restrained, but they couldn't be stopped.