

A Journey 771

Chapter 771 Absurdity Of It All

?Archer spent hours hunting all kinds of monsters through Elysium and eventually got bored hunting the weaker ones and decided to find some stronger foes. As the afternoon sun shone overhead, he was resting on a branch in a tree that overlooked a woodland where rhino-like creatures roamed below him.

He looked down and scanned one of them.

[Ironhorn Rhino]

[Rank: S+]

The monsters were eating grass in the clearing without a care in the world due to their rank and skin that resembled armor. Before attacking, Archer decided to check the experience he had gained so far.

[Exp: 2500000/4000000]

'More than halfway until I level up again, which will take some time, but I'm getting there,' Archer mused as he vanished in the shadows.

He still couldn't get over how easy it was to travel in this form as he glided through the shadows until Archr was directly under the largest Ironhorn Rhino, who quickly looked around as if he sensed him.

Archer chuckled when seeing the monster look confused, but he didn't let it last long before rocketing out of the darkness and piercing the Rhino's eye socket, causing it to grunt in pain before he dragged it into the shadows.

All he heard was a quiet thump that caught the others' attention. When they noticed the biggest monster vanished, it didn't bother them, as the creatures didn't see or hear anything.

'They're dumb as rocks; this will be easy,' Archer thought while hunting from the darkness. He took out the rest of the Ironhorn herd and stored their corpses in his Item Box before continuing his hunt.

Hours passed, and he was finally getting bored standing on the shore of a massive stormy sea. He sensed strong monsters but didn't want to travel under them without Cassandra or Lucrezia.

When thinking about the Mosasaur girl, he wanted to check up on her. With that, though, Archer rechecked his experience.

[Exp: 2853500/4000000]

He was pleased with the amount he gained but wanted to check if his Shadow Prince form had leveled up, as that's the form he used to hunt in.

[Shadow Prince: 4>5]

'It went up one level, which is good,' he internally mused while the waves crashed against the shore below.

After checking that, he returned to the treehouse to get something to drink and eat. He opened a gate and stepped through just as a giant tentacle flew out of the sea, but it missed him, thanks to the portal.

Archer heard the loud crash once he was on the other side, prompting him to turn around only to see a tentacle twice the size of Cassandra's thrashing at the portal, but thanks to the magic, it went straight through it.

This sent a shiver down his spine, but he chose to ignore it while promising himself not to go in the water until he was stronger or found some way to become a sea dragon, which made him laugh at the thought.

It was quiet when he stepped into the treehouse, and no one was around. Archer smiled, knowing the girls were spending time together, before making his way to the kitchen and making a sandwich.

Ten minutes later, Archer sat at a table while munching on a few sandwiches and wondered what he could do. He decided to see Hemera's Mother, Cassandra, as he hadn't seen her in a while.

After finishing his food, he opened a Gate to the Ravenna City in the Solari Empire down south. When stepping through, hot air hit his skin, causing him to smile, as it was different from the cold air he was used to.

Archer appeared just off the main street where people were doing their business. He started walking toward the Greek-style palace he could spot in the distance, built from beautiful white stone that shone when the sunlight hit it.

The heat forced him to remove his thick shirt before he put on a thin one in the middle of the street. Archer's changing shirts caught the passerby's attention as the women admired his sculpted abs while their husbands dragged them away.

Once dressed, he continued his walk but was soon stopped by a group of soldiers who resembled Spartans from Earth. They wore the same helmet and leather armor and held spears ready for any trouble.

Their armor looked sturdy and robust, allowing the soldiers to use their speed. Archer wondered how they would fight and asked Agamemnon when he saw him, as he could use a phalanx in his army.

The only difference he could notice between them and their Earth counterparts was that one had yellow mage robes on and looked to be in charge as she stepped forward and demanded while holding the hilt of a sword, "What indecent acts are you doing in our great city, weird elf?"

Archer cocked his head when hearing the woman's voice, "What are you talking about?" he asked.

"You stripped off your shirt in the middle of the street, and we had many troubled husbands claim a strange-looking elf was trying to charm their wives," the sun elf woman said while the others watched him with narrowed eyes.

"Oh," he said. "Sorry about that; I've just come from the north, where it's colder, and I was still wearing a thick shirt that made me uncomfortable."

The elf mage stepped forward as the elf woman and three other men eyed him incredulously. "You know, we have inns for around here," she deadpanned. "And since indecent behavior in Ravenna warrants a two-silver fine, you've got two options: pay up or enjoy a cozy day in our luxurious cellblock."

Archer couldn't help but chuckle at the absurdity of it all as he was practically the prince of Solari and the White Dragon, but a random city guard was fining him. He fished out the required silver without complaint and handed it over to the stern-faced woman.

However, her expression remained unmoved. "Take it to the Office of Fines, just off the central square," she instructed, scribbling something in her notepad before handing him a slip of paper. "And make sure to present this when you pay the fine."

He nodded and remembered he didn't know the city that well, so he asked, "Can you point me in its direction? I have to visit my in-laws and want to pay the fine before I do."

The woman pointed east and left the area without a word, confused him, but he shrugged and followed her directions. Archer walked for ten minutes until he arrived at the central square and looked around for the office.

Archer couldn't see anything but a group of Solarian soldiers guarding one of the street corners, so he asked them where it was. He walked over to them, and when spotting him, they all knelt.

The commander, who was an older man, spoke in a respectful tone, "Dragon Prince. It's good to see you back in the city. How can I help you?"

"Where is the Office of Fines? I have to pay one," Archer revealed while taking out the paper.

When the man heard this, his eyes widened before taking the paper and reading it before mumbling to himself, "Damn woman, she fined the damn prince, and now I will get in trouble for it."

Archer laughed, which caught their attention, "Don't worry, I won't let you guys get in trouble," he said with a smile. "I find it amusing, but it shows that the city guard is well trained and takes their jobs seriously."

After they spoke for a bit, the older elf was happy to point Archer in the direction, and Archer was told that he saved the commander from one of the sieges when the empire was invaded along with some of his siblings during the war.

When hearing this, he was happy about that and said his farewells before walking toward the smaller building made of wood and stone, which had beautiful decorations all over the front.

Archer approached the front door. He had to ring a bell to gain someone's attention from inside, so he did and rang. No one appeared initially, but a kind old woman opened the door warmly.

"What can I do for you, young man?" she asked.

"I'm here to pay a fine that a soldier gave me," he said while handing over the slip of paper with the two shiny coins. "It's two silver."

Before speaking, the woman took the paper and coins, "Your fine has been paid and will be recorded in the city records."

Archer nodded before making his way to the palace. He walked through the city, where hundreds of people shopped or worked. There were humans, sun and moon elves, and many other races.

After walking for twenty minutes, he arrived outside the gate, where a row of guards blocked the way. When they spotted Archer, three rushed to meet him and knelt before him. There was a younger elf who looked similar to Hemera.

While looking at the certain elf, the commander introduced him, "This is Athanasios Helios, cousin of Princess Hemera and new recruit to the Solarian Imperial Guards."

Archer nodded to the young man before introducing himself, "I'm Arch Wyldheart, King of Draconia."

When the commander heard that, his eyes widened until he remembered something and cheerfully said, "Oh, Draconia, they grow some delicious food and have fine craftsmen whose products are popular with the Solari Nobility, especially the children and women."

"Very good, but keep an eye out as we will be selling rare ingredients and many other products that the empire should like," Archer said with a greedy smile stretching across his face.

Chapter 772 New Friends Of Yours

After speaking to the guards, he was let through but warned that a messenger was sent to the empress, which caused Archer to smile. While walking through the Solaria palace garden, he saw people tending to it.

Archer strolled along until he felt a presence approaching, prompting him to pivot his gaze. There, he spotted the woman who had taken him under her wing many moons ago, though he often found himself distracted whenever he intended to visit her.

Cassandra moved gracefully along the path, her steps fluid and effortless. Archer caught sight of her gleaming eyes as she approached, her smile radiant and warm. He noticed the two maids following in her wake, their presence silent yet dutiful.

When the older elf woman stood before him, she spoke with affection and relief, "My son, it's heartening to see that you've finally remembered me."

"Sorry, Mother. I just get sidetracked with everything," Archer said, but as soon as the words left his mouth, he felt strange, as he hadn't had a mother on Thrylos. Cassandra noticed this and stopped walking and embraced him.

"I'm just teasing," she said with a playful twinkle in her eye as she tidied his hair. "I understand you're busy with all your ladies and saving the world, but do make sure to see me occasionally."

Cassandra freed him from her embrace before continuing, "After all, I still see you as my son, especially since you got engaged to Hemi. And that silly elf has been a new person since meeting you—making friends and smiling even more."

Archer nodded as the two of them walked towards the palace. Cassandra asked him to tell her what'd been going on in his life, and when he started recounting some of the significant things that had happened, it excited and upset her.

The Solari Empress started pampering him when he told her about all the times he got hurt. Her reaction made him chuckle, as he wasn't used to it, but it didn't stop the woman from hugging him every few seconds.

'Maybe having a Mother isn't so bad,' Archer thought as they entered a living room.

Cassandra ushered him to the sofa before ordering her maids to fetch some of the Sunfire Tea, which they instantly did as the older woman turned to him. "A representative of your kingdom appeared at the palace gates a few months ago offering an exciting trade deal, which Agamemnon agreed to.

Archer smiled, "They were sent by Aisha, who looks after the kingdom while I'm exploring the world; doing all the tedious work of ruling a kingdom eludes me."

"Just like the navy, you're building?" She asked with a grin. "Not planning to attack Solari, are you?"

When hearing this, Archer got annoyed and instantly responded, "Of course not! You're my Mother, and I adore Hemera more than a stupid empire and its wealth. All my girls are worth more to me than any land or treasure."

Cassandra's smile grew wider as she revealed, "I love it when you talk about her like that. It chooses to engage the both of you even better knowing she has someone that truly loves her."

Archer chuckled, "Her knowledge and level are something I admire; her smile is amazing and always catches me off guard."

"Is that all you like about her?" The older elf asked in a teasing voice.

He knew all she wanted to hear was why he loved her daughter, so with a smile, he explained how Hemera could calm him down or advise him about most things, including his love life. The two of them got on really well.

Archer told her that he loves to read with her when they find the time, that she is fascinated with the world around her, and that she is cheerful, which pleased Cassandra. She went on to tell him how she and Agamemnon met when they attended the Solari Magic Academy.

"We met when the first class started, and he was the handsome prince who was in line with the throne, and I was the low-born noble girl who dreamt big, but that dream became real when I beat Agamemnon in the first year tournament and won the top spot of the year and ever since then he chased me throughout our school life."

"You beat him? How?" Archer asked with a curious expression.

Cassandra beamed, "I may look like a wife and Mother who helps her husband with the empire, but I'm a powerful Sun Mage in my own right. I can drop the sun on an enemy army, causing devastation beyond words."

"Whose stronger? You or Father?" He asked, causing the older woman's big smile to grow wider.

"I am," Cassandra answered before creating a bright yellow fireball that radiated potent mana that wanted to explode. "I'm called the Sun Witch Of Solari and have burned countless Barbarian and Lunarian champions to ash."

Archer watched Cassandra's green eyes blaze with an intensity that seemed to heat the air around them like the sun. Her golden blonde hair floated as she turned serious, her voice tense as she warned, "Something's stalking you, Arch. It's just outside."

Before he could respond, her body erupted in bright yellow flames, propelling her forward with such speed that it created a loud sonic boom.

Archer stood in the destroyed room as he watched his Mother engage Motherutated Demigods from the Swarm; monstrous beings with twisted forms surrounded her, their roars filling the air with malice.

But he noticed she was undaunted by the creature's numbers, and a grin appeared. With fire burning in her eyes, she unleashed torrents of Sunfire aimed straight for the enemies, each blast striking each one with explosive force.

The air crackled with energy as beams of golden light pierced the creatures who tried to ambush him. After attacking first, Cassandra started closing in on the Demigods before engaging them in hand-to-hand combat.

Her movements became a blur as the creatures closed in. With her mastery of close combat, she dodged their attacks, countering with devastating strikes of her own. Soon, Archer couldn't hold back and transformed into his Shadow Prince form.

As the battle went to the garden, he vanished into the darkness, and Cassandra battered the mutants. Archer snuck up on one creature who tried to attack her from behind, but he lunged out of the shadow and tore out its throat, dismembering it.

The mutant crashed to the flow, and because of the strength difference, Archer felt the experience entering his being. Cassandra noticed him joining in and avoided targeting the areas he was in.

He tore apart three more Mutant Demigods with ease before they realized what was happening and started fleeing, but a group of twenty sun mages were approaching and burned the creatures to nothing.

When the battle was over, Cassandra walked over to him as he returned to his humanoid form; the experience poured into him like a waterfall, edging him closer to leveling up. After that, the older blonde woman commented, "New friends of yours?"

Archer nodded, "Yes, they are the Swarm who are planning to attack Pluoria," he said. "It's one of the reasons I came to visit you."

Cassandra smiled warmly as she guided him back to the palace, where they resumed their conversation and exchanged updates. Time flew by, and soon, she had to return to her duties. Before leaving, she tenderly kissed his forehead, eliciting his promise to visit her more often.

Archer decided to tell Osoric about the incoming Swarm attacks, which he needed to know about so the empire could prepare itself for the onslaught, after determining that he opened the Gate to the floating island in Avalon.

Once opening the portal, he entered the palace garden covered by melting snow. He watched the drops hit the ground before approaching the entrance, but two soldiers stood outside and stopped him.

But as soon as they realized it was Archer, they let him through while bowing their heads. He chuckled when he saw this but went to find Osoric, using the Aura Detector to find the Emperor, who was in his bedroom with Chloe.

Archer walked down the corridors while ignoring the panicked looks of the maids as he approached the bedroom. When he arrived outside the door, he knocked before walking in and saw Osoric relaxing on the bed while Chloe was sitting at a desk reading.

The older man jumped up while complaining, "Archer! You can't just walk into somebody's room like that!"

Chloe giggled at her husband's reaction, but Archer chuckled before revealing the reason behind his visit to the couple, "The Swarm will continue to attack the empire, and we have a year to prepare before their main invasion."

Osoric's eyes widened in shock, "How do you know this?"

"Tiamat told me in a dream," he replied. "So here I am warning you so the empire can prepare himself."

The blonde man nodded, "Thank you for that, Arch. I will start planning, so we will await their attacks."

"Okay, I'm going to eat and relax before the tournament begins tomorrow," Archer said with a smile.

He quickly opened a portal before stepping through and reappearing in an alleyway nearby, where he saw people walking past while celebrating the last day of the Frostwinter Festival with smiles on their faces.

Archer walked onto the street, where he spotted Eveline passing by, causing him to use Blink to keep up with the rabbit girl, who jumped in fright when he suddenly appeared beside her with a charming smile.

Eveline returned it with one of her own, "Hello Arch," she said. "What are you doing here?"

"Just looking for something to do as the girls spend time together, so here I am," he answered with a chuckle.

Chapter 773 Stalking You

?Archer watched Eveline smile as she spoke, "Do you want to explore the city with me? My family are drinking and celebrating the start of the Knockout Stage."

"Sounds good to me," he replied with a cheeky smirk. "Lead the way."

The rabbit girl's ears twitched in excitement before they explored Starfall City while getting to know each other. An hour passed, and Archer commented as they watched a street entertainer, "Are you hungry, Eve?"

"Yes," she answered with a meaningful smile. "I know a good place. Let me show you."

Eveline grabbed his hand and dragged him into the crowd. The duo walked for a while until they came to an outside stool that sold some soup that smelled delicious, forcing Archer to approach the owner.

The man behind the counter looked up and smiled when he saw two of them, but when he spotted Eveline, his smile grew, "Princess! How have you been?"

"I've been fine, Marvin," she replied while motioning toward Archer, "I'm bringing my boyfriend to try some of your famous soup."

Marvin, the stall owner, looked between the two; his eyes widened in shock as he stared at Archer. "Your lover is the White Prince?"

Eveline nodded, causing the man to smile. "Well, I'm happy for you, little Eve; I've known you for many years, and if someone deserves happiness, it's you."

The rabbit girl smiled, "Thank you, Marv," she said. "Can we have today's special and two bowls of Sunfire Noodles?"

"Yes, Eve," the old man commented before cooking. "Take a seat, you two; it won't take long."

Archer and Eveline did as he said and sat down before she looked at him with her crimson eyes, "How has life been? Did you enjoy the festival?"

"The girls and I enjoyed it a lot, and the food was nice," Archer replied. "And life's been hectic, to be honest. Keep getting attacked by Mutant Demigods who seem to be stalking me."

"Stalking you?" Eveline question with a raised eyebrow. "What do you mean?"

Archer went on to explain the Swarm and all the creatures involved. He told her that they started sending Demigods after him, and in the last engagement, the creatures attacked while he was with his Mother in Mediterra.

Eveline grew confused and asked, "Aren't you from the Avalon Empire? Why's your Mother down down?"

He chuckled before explaining his relationship with the sun-elf empress, "Hemera's Mother, Cassandra, adopted me as her son and has treated me like one ever since, even though I don't see her much, so if anyone is like a Mother to me, it's her."

The rabbit girl gave him a sweet smile, "Who would have thought there was a deeper side to the big bad dragon that burns kingdoms."

"Only because I like you, Eve," he replied. "I wouldn't just show this side to anyone."

When Eveline heard this, her smile widened before she reached over and took his hand, "I like you too," she said. "I don't want to rush into anything like your other girls, as I believe in letting a relationship blossom on its own; I hope you don't mind that strange reasoning."

Archer agreed with a nod, "Don't worry, I plan on getting to know you and the others before taking the first step," he explained. "We have enough time and don't need to rush anything."

As Eveline heard him, her smile changed into a radiant one, and her mood soared as the aroma of the soup hit their noses, rumbling Archer's belly. The couple didn't have to wait long when Marvin came bustling out of his stall.

He balanced two trays with four bowls of soup and two tankards of ale on them, which caused Archer's attention, but Eveline's voice brought him back to reality, "The Sunfire Soup is hot and burns your tongue, but the taste is amazing,"

Archer chuckled at her reaction and couldn't wait to try it. When the old man placed the trays in front of them, he said joyfully, "Today's special is called Forest Broth, full of mana-filled vegetables, also filled with Rank A Forest Bear meat and other ingredients. It is one of my most popular dishes, as Eve already knows."

After explaining, Marvin went to walk away, but Archer called out to him before throwing him a gold coin, which caught the old man off guard as he tried to refuse, "I can't accept this, White Prince," he said. "It is too much for a simple meal."

"Bring me two of everything and anything Eve wants, Marv," Archer threw another coin at the man, who rushed back to his stall.

The rabbit girl giggled before commenting, "You don't have to waste coins trying to impress me, Arch."

Archer chuckled, "I'm not trying to impress you, Eve," he revealed. "I'm just hungry and like supporting small businesses."

Eveline started laughing, "I'm sorry for assuming things. People with wealth like you often do it to the younger ladies to try to charm them."

"I do not need to do any of that," Archer said. "I already have enough women to keep me company, and now only bother with the ones I like."

"Makes sense," Eveline responded before eating, as the delicious smell was too much to ignore.

Archer tried the Forest Broth, which exploded in his mouth, from the bear meat's sweet taste to the vegetables' earthy flavor. As the mana flowed into his body, he felt refreshed. He started eating it without speaking, as Eveline also copied.

She was preoccupied with eating her Dragonfire Soup, which looked nice to him, but soon after that, the spice caused her to drink the ale Marvin had brought. Archer turned his attention back to the Broth before finishing it off.

Once Archer finished with the Forest Broth, he took a mouthful of bitter-and-sweet ale, catching him off guard. He enjoyed it, so he downed it before moving on to the second soup, a reddish brown color with pieces of meat.

When Eveline saw him staring at it, she explained, "That is the meat of a Fire Bird, raised just outside the city in special farms. It's delicious meat and has a kick to it."

Archer nodded before using his fork to try some of the hot meat, but it didn't burn him as he chewed the soft meat. He loved every bit of the Dragonfire Soup, and by the time it was gone, Marvin returned with another tray.

This time, it had six bowls, which caught Archer's attention as the aroma wafted off it and hit his nose, causing his mouth to water in anticipation of the incoming feast he was about to have.

While watching this, Eveline smiled before speaking, "Marv, please Bring me three more bowls of Dragonfire Soup and four bowls of Southern noodles."

"What?" The old man looked at her wide-eyed before a big smile appeared. "I found someone you're, I see."

Marvin rushed off, causing Archer to laugh as he asked, "How do you know him?"

"My older siblings used to bring me here as they also studied at the College of Magic," she said. "Papa used to join us sometimes when he wasn't meeting with Emperor Osoric."

He nodded when he heard her before picking up his first bowl of soup, which looked like chicken. Soon, Eveline revealed its name: "That's called the Starfall Special."

"Why is it called that?" Archer questioned while taking a mouthful of the smooth and tangy soup, which left a delicious aftertaste once he swallowed it.

"Marvin sources all the ingredients from local vendors and uses mana to cook them, which enriches the food, giving the customer a good experience when eating it," Eveline explained while watching the old man cook her food.

After the explanation, the two of them continued to eat. Archer offered her one of the Dragonfire Soups, which she happily took and started consuming the food with gusto, which caught his eyes.

'Maybe I found my partner in crime when he comes to food,' Archer thought while watching the slim rabbit girl devour another bowl of soup he gave her.

The thought made him strangely happy, but he soon pushed it aside and started eating the fourth bowl before Marvin returned with Eveline's food, who quickly offered him a bowl of noodles, which he took.

Archer finished the strange soup, which made him feel like he was drinking several energy drinks once he had finished eating. He shook his head before asking, "Why do I feel like I'm bouncing?"

Eveline started laughing when she looked at his bowl. She soon calmed down and explained, "It's called the Boltfire Broth. The Boltfire Eagle meat is used to make it, and it gives the person eating it a boost of energy."

'Oh no,' he thought. 'I don't want to bounce around or be hyper.'

With that, Archer moved on to the next soup and started devouring it as his leg began to shake due to the Boltfire Broth, causing Eveline to laugh at his reaction, "It will calm down soon, Arch. Just eat more."

After speaking, Eveline got up and walked over to Marvin's stall, where she grabbed four more tankards of ale before returning to the table and giving him all but one. She said, "Drink some of this, and it will make you feel better."

Archer nodded before downing one of the ales and felt the excitement dissipate into nothing, causing him to sigh. He gazed at the rabbit girl and said, "Thank you for helping me."

Eveline beamed, "No worries!" she said. "I understand what that broth does to you, as my older brothers gave me some."

After hearing her explanation, he chuckled, and the duo continued eating until their bowls were empty, and they felt pleasantly full. Marvin glanced at them with a bemused expression as if they were odd creatures, earning a laugh from both Archer and Eveline.

Chapter 774 It Felt Like A Predator Sizing Me Up

Archer and Eveline stood up before saying farewell to Marvin, who wished them a good day. He said he wanted an invitation to the wedding, which darkened the rabbit girls' cheeks.

He found her embarrassed expression adorable. Soon, they walked through the city, taking in the sights and sounds. People closed their stalls after selling off their merchandise or moved on.

While strolling, Archer took in Eveline's beauty, which he couldn't overcome. She resembled a bunny girl from an anime back on Earth. She had long white hair that flowed down to the middle of her back and glowing red eyes that gleamed with excitement.

She had a slim, athletic build with thick hips and thighs that stirred his desires, but Archer pushed those thoughts aside. Much like Teuila and Nala, she was a warrior with well-sculpted muscles that couldn't hide the feminine charm she oozed.

Archer didn't know much about Rabbit Demi-humans, and what he did know wasn't a lot. He knew some were excellent fighters and mages while the rest lived lives protected by the warrior class.

Eveline was a member of the warrior class and the seventh princess of the Moonwood Kingdom on the northeast border of the Avalon Empire. Archer found her extremely beautiful and was attracted to her.

With a unique charm that drew him to her, but as she said earlier, he wouldn't rush into anything. As they walked, he spotted a shop selling desserts with people going and coming from the store, which seemed to be popular.

Eveline stopped and pointed. "Let's try some of the pastries," she said. "Mother said they were delicious."

He agreed and let the rabbit girl drag him toward the shop, where he could read the store name, 'Starfall's Sweet Treat Bakery.' Archer smiled as they stepped through the entrance, only to be greeted by a sea of tables and staff rushing around, delivering orders to the customers inside.

No one paid attention to them as they looked for a seat. Eveline pulled him over to the table and sat down before heading to the counter, where a man and woman were waiting to serve anyone who appeared.

Eveline soon returned to the table with an excited smile. She was carrying a large tray with two oversized pastries and two glasses of some drinks. The smell that drifted off them was mouthwatering, filling the air with the sweet scent of freshly baked goods.

Each pastry was golden-brown, with a glaze sparkling under the lights. "These look amazing," Archer remarked at the sight and smell of the pastries.

"They're the bakery's forte," Eveline smiled, setting the tray on the table. "I got one for each of us as they are so good. Let's eat!"

She then produced two tall glasses filled with a creamy, white liquid that resembled a milkshake. Archer surprised himself as he took a sip. It was milk, which he liked anyway, so he started drinking it.

"And to wash it down, we have some Grassland Bovine milk," Eveline said with a big smile on her pretty face.

Archer couldn't waste any more time, so he lifted the golden-brown pastry to his mouth. The overwhelming aroma rushed up his nose and caused his stomach to rumble, which caused Eveline to laugh at his greedy reaction.

The pastry was warm and crisp, the outer layer gently yielding to reveal strawberry and creamy custard filling. Each mouthful was a mix of flavors, with the northern strawberries perfectly balanced by the richness of the bovine cream.

Archer closed his eyes to enjoy the food, and he noticed the rabbit girl staring at him like she was waiting for him to taste it. The flavor danced over his tongue, causing him to savor it and take another bite.

The pastry was similar to the ones he had eaten before but much better. Eveline watched as she nibbled on her own while waiting for Archer's opinion on the food once he finished it. He couldn't help but admire how her red eyes sparkled with delight while she looked at him while he ate.

They continued eating as Eveline went over to grab even more food and returned with cookies, donuts, and many other dishes, which shocked Archer, but he shrugged before eating alongside the rabbit girl.

After an hour of eating, the duo finished every dish, leaving empty plates stacked on the table. While relaxing, Archer spotted a woman approaching the table with a smile as she cleaned it up.

While she did that, the store manager approached them and spoke respectfully, "Young master, mistress, I hope your visit was enjoyable, and you will come again."

Archer greeted the man, "Hello," he said. "How much for everything?"

"Four gold, young master," the manager answered.

Upon hearing the price, Archer retrieved the four pieces of gold needed and handed them to the man, who thanked him. Afterward, he and Eveline left the store and exited the busy street, still teeming with shoppers.

As they emerged, Archer took a proper look at Eveline's outfit, which consisted of a black winter dress stopping just above the knees and a thick cloak wrapped around her body. He couldn't help but notice the material straining against her thick thighs, which he found attractive, causing him to shake his head to clear the lewd thoughts.

Then, he heard her sweet voice speaking in a teasing tone. "You just made me shiver," she said with a smirk. "It felt like a predator sizing me up."

Her words caused Archer to chuckle, "Well, I can't help but admire a beautiful girl, and you are indeed that," he commented while getting close to the rabbit girl. "I love that dress on you; it looks lovely."

When Eveline heard his compliment, she beamed before thanking him, "Thank you, Arch."

After speaking, she leaned over and kissed his cheek, which caused him to smile just as she linked his arm. The two started walking and talking about everyday things while getting to know each other.

Another hour passed, and Eveline told him she had to meet her family for a meal before the tournament started. Archer offered to walk her there, which she accepted, and the two set off for the noble district.

It didn't take them long before they arrived at the district entrance, and Archer said goodbye to Eveline, who had a sad smile but soon smiled as she stepped forward to place a soft kiss against his lips.

A shock shot through his body, causing him to shiver as she dashed off after showing the guards her pass. Archer watched her running down the main street until she turned right and vanished from sight,

Afterward, he decided to see if he could find the girls, and if not, he would relax in the domain until tomorrow. Archer searched for a while and didn't find anyone, but now he found himself on the pier looking out to sea.

While watching the sea, he saw large-looking dolphins exploding out of the water before swimming off when they reentered it. He soon found a bench to sit on and watch the scenery.

Archer got comfortable on the bench overlooking the sea, the perfect relaxing place. As he sat there, the never-ending ocean was in front of him, and the peaceful sounds of waves crashing against the sea below.

He remembered holidays at the seaside with his family and Alexa's back to Earth, where both families would rent out a beach home in France and spend the summer there. The memories annoyed him as he already accepted his death, but the thought of never seeing her again pained him.

When thinking about Alexa, he raised his hand and tried to open a Gate to Earth. The violet portal flickered to life but quickly cut out thanks to insufficient mana, even at his amount, which took him by surprise.

After doing that he felt tired as his mana was drained because of the failed portal, forcing him to sit there for a while as he regenerated himself using the world's mana. The salty breeze that carried the scent of the ocean mingled with hints of distant lands and exotic spices.

He closed his eyes, allowing himself to be put at ease by the gentle lapping of the waves and the distant calls of seabirds soaring overhead. Archer watched large trade ships pass by as they entered the city to sell its wares.

Each vessel differed from the others. Some were big and bulky ships that reminded him of galleys from Earth, while others were small but sleek and looked like they were from the Far East, which interested him.

Archer found himself lost in thought, his mind drifting away from the day's worries and future uncertainties. For a moment, all that mattered was the here and now, the simple pleasure of being present in the moment and basking in the beauty of the world around him.

As the ships continued to glide past, Archer reached into his Item Box and retrieved a piece of chocolate, savoring its sweetness as he watched the maritime activity unfold. His keen eyesight allowed him to discern the sailors bustling about on deck.

They engaged in their tasks as they navigated the waters and conducted business upon docking in the bustling Starfall port. Time seemed to slip away unnoticed as Archer remained seated, absorbed in his observations of the bustling harbor.

It was only when a message from the girls pinged on his device that he realized how quickly the hours had flown by, signaling their return to the domain. Archer stood up and teleported back there to meet them as the sun started to set.

Chapter 775 You're More than Welcome

?Archer entered the treehouse to see a large group of girls surrounding hundreds of shopping bags. They gestured to each other while sorting them out, causing him to laugh at the scene.

His chuckle caught their attention. Each one greeted him with a kiss and cuddle before returning to their organizing while he watched the group handing out some of the bags to each of them.

Ella and Nefertiti started keeping the chaos in check. As this happened, Halime broke off from the group and walked over to him with a beautiful smile on her face.

"Hey Arch," she said while hugging him before continuing. "We went shopping, and some of us spent too much. Now they're debating what to return to the stores after the fights tomorrow."

"How much did you spend?" Archer questioned.

"Four thousand coins," the snake girl answered. "Most of us dipped into our savings to pay for our stuff, but we needed new clothes and other stuff that we lacked."

'Damn,' Archer thought. 'No matter what world women are in they will always be the same.'

Without thinking, he took a weighty coin pouch from his Item Box and handed it to the snake girl, saying, "Share it among everyone so they can put it back into their savings."

Halime nodded with a smile before sorting out the coins and giving the girls their fair share. Some tried to refuse, but Archer forced the issue with kisses and sweet words, convincing them.

Afterward, the large group relaxed while Halime and Ella started making tea. The others wanted to show Archer the clothes they had bought. Nefertiti made him sit on the one-seater while they moved the other sofas around to create an ample space.

Once enough room was made, they began trying different styles and outfits, ranging from summer dresses and kaftans to pieces resembling leggings that accentuated their different figures and made all of them look gorgeous.

Much to Archer's bewilderment, they completed their ensembles with sandals, boots, and other shoes. He only saw the need for one pair until they were worn out, but each girl had at least seven pairs, which caused him to chuckle.

As the girls strutted back and forth before him, Archer noticed Ella and Halime returning with a cup of tea for everyone. The half-elf offered him one as he checked his status to see how much experience he needed to level up,

[Experience: 2853500>3760000]

[Mana: 751000>752500]

[Strength: 41500>41800]

[Constitution: 40300>40800]

[Stamina: 40000>40500]

[Charisma: 30300>30800]

[Intelligence: 35700>36000]

When seeing the experience, Archer got excited while he was close to leveling up and couldn't wait to grow stronger to prevent Tiamat's vision from coming true. With that thought, he started drinking, which sent a warm feeling throughout his body.

After drinking, Archer wanted some fresh air and got up before walking over to the balcony door and stepping outside, only to be hit with a nice breeze. He shook his head and started looking out over the domain.

He spotted flowers blooming below the treehouse, and beautiful colors lit up the grasslands that stretched as far as the eyes could see. Archer smiled as he sipped on the hot drink, sat on one of the chairs outside, and soaked in the peace as the sun set, causing him to enjoy it even more.

Archer gazed as the sky transformed into a stunning orange-pink hue, casting its radiant glow across the domain. He sat still for a moment, absorbing the incredible sight, until the sound of the door opening behind him interrupted his contemplation.

He turned around to spot Lucrezia walking out with a warm smile, "Hello, Arch," she said affectionately. "Thank you for saving me. I do appreciate it."

"You're more than welcome, Luce," Archer replied. "I wouldn't let you suffer like that when I have the means to help you."

The Mosasaur woman beamed before approaching him and encircling his shoulders in a tight cuddle while thanking him again. Archer returned the hug with one of his own as she melted into his arms, feeling at peace.

"There are thousands of powerful monsters down there," Lucrezia quietly spoke. "I didn't stand a chance as they ambushed me."

"What happened?" Archer questioned while running his fingers through her silky blonde hair.

Lucrezia explained that she was traveling through the underground sea and killing many creatures she had never seen before. As she got deeper, her senses started to warn her, but it was too late.

She told Archer that a massive whale-like monster appeared out of nowhere and slapped her with its tail, sending her soaring through the water until a creature that resembled a Shadow Shark bit into her tail.

It tore it off, causing Lucrezia to shiver when she recounted it. Archer soon told her to stop as it was affecting her, but the Mosasaur woman kept talking. He leaned forward and stole her soft lips, which shut her up and caused Lucrezia to calm down.

The two continued to share a passionate kiss and soon broke apart, with Archer seeing a bright smile on her beautiful face. After that, he sat down before dragging the blonde woman onto his lap, and the two relaxed.

Lucrezia looked up at the stars as her eyes shone. "So beautiful," she said. "Is that the real sky or the domains?"

She spoke of the fading daylight yielding to the brilliance of the stars overhead. They resembled a masterpiece painting by a genius artist, a sight that never failed to astonish Archer whenever he looked up.

With a shake of his head, Archer answered, "It's the real sky, and the weather you feel is also real. I like the feel of the outside weather instead of the perfect weather conditions I can create."

He clicked his fingers, and the domain turned to day, with a glaring sun high in the fake sky and a breeze on their skins. But Archer soon returned it to how it was, and the stars reappeared, illuminating the forests below.

Lucrezia nodded in understanding as the two sat in silence until they were interrupted by Halime bringing a tray. When Archer saw the snake girl, he smiled, "Hello Hali," he said. "What brings you out here?"

"Ella asked me to bring you two some tea and moon biscuits for a snack," Halime responded while placing the tray on the nearby table. "Everyone knows Lucrezia needs some personal time and has started organizing their wardrobes anyway."

Archer smiled at her before questioning, "What are you up to? Want to join us?"

She shook her head, "No thanks. I want to study and try to learn some new spells for the survival round."

"Okay," Archer responded. "If you need any help, just ask."

Halime's departure left them in solitude once more. Lucrezia rose from her seat, sauntered to the tray, picked up a biscuit, and started nibbling. Archer watched a smile grace her lips as she savored the treat.

"Delightful," she remarked. "Whoever baked these is very skilled in the art of baking."

"That would be Ella. She loves everything about cooking," he commented while grabbing one of the biscuits and taking a bite.

Archer found them sweet but delicious and started eating more while picking up the tea, which differed from the one they had drunk earlier. It had a tangy smell and tasted fruity but gave him a little energy boost, which he felt through his body.

After that, the two continued to eat and drink while chatting about Archer's new journey to level up to fight Demigods, which excited him, and Lucrezia offered to train with him so he could get used to fighting someone of her rank.

He agreed, grabbed the Death Witch by the hand, and teleported them to the training ground below. When the duo appeared, Lucrezia looked baffled, but when she realized where they were, a grin appeared.

The blonde woman stepped forward with a coy smile, "You're expecting me to fight in a dress? What a naughty dragon."

Archer initially shrugged, but his nonchalance quickly turned to astonishment as she dropped her dress, unveiling her figure adorned only in red lingerie that harmonized flawlessly with her radiant red eyes.

His jaw dropped in awe as her hourglass figure came into view, emphasized by her perfect large boobs that the bra could barely hold in. When Lucrezia saw his reaction, her smile widened, and she vanished.

When he saw her disappear, Archer spun while raising his arms in defense as her long leg slammed into him. The force of the attack sent him flying backward, and he crashed across the ground.

Archer was baffled, but Lucrezia didn't give him a break and rushed toward him as he got up and cast dozens of Eldritch Blasts in her direction. That's when she dodged all but one, which she punched.

To his shock, the punch redirected the spell, and it flew directly at him. He tried to cast Cosmic Shield, but Lucrezia's magic destroyed it, allowing him to be hit in the chest, which caused him to cough up some blood as he stumbled backward.

He shook his head to regain focus, but Lucrezia's energetic movements made it challenging. Her bouncing caused her chest to sway enticingly, drawing his gaze. Despite his attempt to refocus, a suggestive grin formed on his lips.

Sensing his distraction, Lucrezia seized the opportunity to act. She dashed forward, unleashing a flurry of attacks toward Archer. Despite his efforts to dodge, he was caught off guard as her fist connected with his jaw.

Stars danced before Archer's eyes, but with quick thinking, he grabbed Lucrezia's arms, swiftly flipping her over him, and then utilized Blink to teleport safely.

Chapter 776 Half-Naked Beauties

Archer looked at Lucrezia, who was enjoying herself, and decided to stop looking at her body and fight seriously. He quickly cast Blink to reappear behind the blonde woman and struck out.

His fists connected with Lucrezia's back and sent her flying forward, catching her off guard. Archer followed up by casting several Eldritch Blasts and Plasma Missiles at her, but she just battered them away.

When she deflected the spells, explosions rang out, attracting the attention of the other girl, who came out to see what was happening.

[The Girl's POV]

Meanwhile, the girls lounged in the living room just before the explosions started. Ella was reading a book on archery and how to use her earth magic with it while Halime studied a renowned poison mage from the eastern continent.

The others chatted among themselves until Nefertiti commented, "Why are we giving them time together? Arch could be here with us."

Hemera looked up from her book with a grin, "Is someone jealous? I thought you beat that monster, Nefi."

"Shut up Hemera," Nefertiti snapped.

"Luce was troubled and needed some pampering, so we all agreed to it, Nefertiti,"

The succubus was just about to retort until explosions ripped through the air, causing everyone to jump up and be shocked. Ella and Teuila rushed onto the balcony only to see Archer and Lucrezia fighting below them.

But something was off until Sera spoke excitedly, "She's in her underwear! What a sneaky woman."

Everyone turned toward the dragon girl, who slipped out of her dress and leaped off the balcony while taking a deep breath and releasing her dragon's breath directly at Archer, who was unaware.

Before it could strike, a firewall appeared and absorbed the flames, causing everyone to appear shocked. The unexpected situation stopped the fight as the dust died, and everyone saw Leira staring at Sera.

The group saw Sera smirking before she rushed toward Leira, whose purple hair began floating around her. She started casting Thunderbolts to throw the dragon girl off her charge, but it didn't work, so she got ready to fight Sera.

When the two girls clashed, it was fiery as Leira dodged several attacks before returning them with thunder punches that rocked Sera, but thanks to her scales, she could handle the force.

Afterward, their fight turned into a fist-to-fist brawl, and Leira's lithe form could dodge many of Sera's sloppy but powerful attacks. The cat girl returned the attacks with strong ones of her own that were mixed with fire and thunder.

Once the rest saw this, they nodded at each other and jumped down as the training ground turned into a free-for-all, but it soon turned into Archer vs. them.

[Back to Archer]

Archer found himself in disbelief as his fight with Lucrezia escalated into a chaotic melee, with half-dressed attackers converging on him from every angle. Though his instincts urged him to be distracted, he focused on the battle, deciding to use his limiter with the girls.

He sent a punch flying toward Teuila, who managed to block it, but the force sent her flying into Nefertiti as she prepared to cast Arcane Blast. Thanks to his timely intervention, It soared as the Aquarian Princess collided with her.

Next were Ella and Talila; the two elves pelted him with mana arrows that stung when they connected with his body, but he cast Cosmic Shield to block them while dealing with Teuila and Nala as they closed in on him.

With a grin, Archer rushed at the lioness and sidestepped her punch before casting Eldritch Blast into her back, causing her to crash along the training field, taking out Nefertiti in the process.

He went to spin around and intercept Teuila but was blasted in the chest with her Aquarian magic, causing him to stumble backward as she followed up that attack with a spinning kick that impacted his face.

Archer crashed to the ground, where a tentacle grabbed him and launched him into the forest. He tore through trees and boulders before crashing into the closest mountain, causing a landslide.

While recovering as his head spun, he thought to himself, 'Damn Kraken! She doesn't hold back.'

Once his Regeneration healed him enough, Archer used Blink to escape the crater he was in and reappeared, only to be peppered with a dozen Sun Blasts. He was about to charge forward, but something kept him from moving.

Looking down, he spotted sturdy-looking vines keeping him rooted to the spot as a wave of vile poison blasted him, causing searing pain to shoot throughout his body as the acid burned his exposed skin.

This wasn't the last attack, as Nala, Cassandra, and Teuila tag-

teamed him by launching many attacks that confused and clouded his judgment. One minute, a girl would be there, but by the time he attacked, she was gone only to receive a sledgehammer blow to the jaw.

Archer quickly realized he was facing a formidable team. The three girls moved with perfect coordination, each anticipating the other's moves seamlessly. With her feline agility, Nala darted close, her claws glinting in the sunlight as she delivered swift strikes.

She aimed for vulnerable spots, causing Archer to use his wings to block her attacks, but she wasn't the only one striking. Cassandra danced around him, her fists flashing as she struck, exploiting any opening he left exposed.

Meanwhile, Teuila infused her fist with Deep Sea Blast and managed to unload a combo on Archer's chest as he was trapped, thanks to the wood elf.

Talila and Ella launched explosive mana arrows down upon Archer as if this weren't challenging enough. Each arrow exploded upon impact, sending shrapnel flying and causing him to bleed from numerous wounds that littered his body.

To make matters worse, Llynriel ensnared Archer even more with thick, thorny vines, trapping him in place and restricting his movement. No matter how hard he struggled, the vines only seemed to tighten their grip as their thorns pierced his skin.

But as Archer was losing, three angels descended upon his attackers and evened out the odds. Leira, Sera, and Lucrezia joined his side and attacked the others with magic and claws as thunder rained.

Nefertiti joined Hemera to fight off Leira, who sent powerful Lightning Bolts at Ella, but she was defended by Llynriel, creating a wall of vines that tanked the spell. The half-elf was alone as Talila joined Archer's team and attacked Nala.

The elf and lioness battled so fast that some couldn't keep up and only saw sparks as their weapons connected. Meanwhile, as their battle went on, Lucrezia attacked the Kraken Princess while giggling.

"Kassie! I've always wanted to fight a Kraken," she said with a beaming smile. "Give me a good fight now, and don't disappoint."

The Kraken Princes got excited and agreed before the two started their battle. Lucrezia used her fists and moved like a professional boxer while peppering her with swift strikes, but that's when Cassandra blocked one attack and countered by swiping at the blonde's legs.

But Lucrezia vanished and reappeared behind her before hitting out, and Cassandra quickly sidestepped the attack. Archer saw their battle heading off to the side as explosions could be heard from their direction.

He looked at the last group of girls as Sera stared at Ella, Halime, and Llynriel. With a cocky smile, the dragon girl declared in a proud voice, "I am fighting you three while Teu can dance with darling."

Ella looked at the wood elf and snake girls, who gave her a nod before the trio attacked. Sera quickly summoned her wings before taking off and launching fireballs at them. Archer chuckled when seeing this, as they could deal with her flying.

This left Teuila, standing opposite, with a grin as she spoke, "Are you ready, husband? I may have gone rough on you before, but now I will be serious, as everyone is having fun."

Archer laughed as he rubbed his jaw. "Yes, your punch is something else, Teu. But you were so much stronger a few months ago," he said with a cheeky smile. "I wonder why?"

Teuila's brown cheeks went darker, "Shut up, you lewd dragon," she retorted. "It's your fault!"

He chuckled before using Blink to vanish, but she was waiting for it. Swinging to the side as he reappeared, he used his wing to block her sword before kicking her leg, which threw her off balance, allowing him to hit her with a few punches.

When his attacks connected, the impacts caused small booms. Teuila was sent flying across the training field as the other girls battled. Archer appeared where she was going to land and caught the blue-haired girl.

Once Archer held her, he cast Aurora Healing so she would be healed and back to normal. This happened just after the violet mana washed over her body, allowing her to open her beautiful blue eyes and stare into his.

Seeing this, he leaned down and stole her lips before teleporting them to a bedroom. When the two arrived, Teuila got heated while Archer stripped her of her dress, allowing him to gaze at her perfect body.

The two of them started to make love as the battle went on outside, and as they finished, it was dead quiet. With a smile, Teuila was cuddled up in bed as he sat on the edge and scanned the treehouse to check on the others.

Archer noticed most girls were in their rooms while a few were in the bath chambers. He decided to visit each one and wish them goodnight before returning to Teuila and sleeping. It took him nearly an hour to return, and his clothes were covered in red marks.

The girls were like wild animals, smooching him in love-filled kisses, which he treasured.

Chapter 777 It's A Bit Unfair Don't You Think

Archer returned to the room where Teuila was curled under the sheets, and when she sensed him, her head popped up with a lazy smile. He thought her expression was adorable as she threw back the covers.

"Get in," she spoke in a tired voice. "It's cold, and I want a cuddle."

He smiled before stripping out of his clothes and joining her. Once comfortable, Teuila scooted close to him, causing Archer to wrap his arm around her before they got comfortable.

While lying there, Teuila suddenly said, "I'm sorry for punching you as hard as I did. I got too excited when fighting."

Archer chuckled before reassuring her that everything was fine and he had fun fighting all of them, which made the Aquarian Princess smile as she fell back to sleep with her head on his chest.

He looked at her girl with a loving smile before kissing her forehead, which caused her to make an adorable noise. Archer soon fell asleep as he was comfortable and enjoyed her company.

The following morning Archer woke up to Teuila lying all over him as his head was being held against her big boobs and acted as a pillow. 'So soft,' he thought while getting comfortable, causing the girl in question to wake up.

When spotting what he was doing, Teuila smiled, "Enjoying my boobs, are we?" she teased.

"Yes," Archer instantly answered, "They are so soft, I want to sleep again."

Teuila started laughing and went to push him off her, but she yelped in pain when he pinched her backside, which made her smack him while giggling. The two of them messed around by trying to attack each other by pinching and tickling the other before they got out of bed.

Archer observed her intently as she rose and stretched. She displayed her flawless figure, clad in baby blue lingerie, harmonizing with her eyes and ears. Muscular yet elegantly curvaceous, she exuded a captivating allure.

Every time she moved, her boobs and bum jiggled at every little movement, which sent Archer wild. It was too much for him as he dragged Teuila back to bed and ravaged her until she nearly fell asleep due to being tired.

He chuckled at her reaction before casting Aurora Healing on her and Cleanse on them as they got up for the second time, but the blue-haired kept an eye on him so he couldn't jump on her again.

Teuila looked at him with narrowed eyes. "Don't ravage me like that again, Arch!" she complained, but he saw a small smile. "I can still feel you inside me, and your seed is leaking into my panties.

His smile grew wider before kissing her and getting out of bed. Archer's back popped when he stretched, causing Teuila to speak, "The survival round starts today."

"So I heard," he replied. "Do you know anything about it?"

Teuila rose to her feet, nodding in affirmation as she retrieved a fresh towel from her storage ring. "I overheard some fellow students mentioning that we'll be in a dream-like scenario, battling monsters until we surrender or die, with our performance tracked to determine our leaderboard standings."

Archer got excited when hearing this, so he questioned, "Is there a restriction on transforming into other forms?"

"You can use your dragon form, but it will spawn a monster just as big," Teuila answered before heading toward the bathroom, leaving him alone.

Once she was gone, Archer decided to scan the treehouse to see what the other girls were doing. She noticed most were in the bath chamber washing before getting ready for the day when the Knockout Stage would begin.

Archer started to prepare by getting ready but realized the girls would take an hour or two to finish. He decided to level up his Shadow Prince form even more and teleported to Elysium to do some hunting.

When Archer appeared in the jungle, he transformed into his shadow form and grew in size, his eyes and mouth allowing a violet glow to light up his surroundings. A rustle from next to him caught his attention as he did that.

His head snapped to the right, and he saw a group of goblins fleeing from him. This caused Archer to grin before sinking into the shadows and following after them to see where their home was.

Meanwhile, the creatures fled deeper into the jungle, rushing back to their home, which he wanted. His excitement intensified as he knew there would be even more of them to encounter and gain experience so he could finally level up.

Archer followed the goblins for an hour until they finally arrived back at their home. When he saw it, he was shocked. There was a mountain stretching high into the sky with what looked to be a goblin city running from top to bottom.

'What the fuck is this? Why do they have a damn city in Elysium? Maybe I should add some to the domain,' he pondered while staring at the goblin city.

A ramshackle wall circled the bottom of the mountain that Archer could easily bypass using the shadows, which he did. A dirty smell hit his nose when inside the city, causing him to recoil.

It smelled like death and rotten meat, which caught Archer's attention. He wanted to see what was giving off such a foul odor. Archer only had to search for ten minutes until he came across what he could only call a butcher station.

Upon witnessing the goblins cutting up demi-humans, Archer snapped. The revelation left him baffled. Without hesitation, he launched into action, hunting down tens of thousands of goblins except for one hundred, whom he spared.

The reason? Archer wanted them to repopulate as an experience farm in the future. Afterward, he dived back into the shadows and hunted thousands of other monsters for another day, which was an hour in the real world.

By the time Archer returned to the treehouse, he had leveled up once and was in a happy mood, so he checked his status before joining the girls.

'Status.'

[Experience: 3760000>4100000]

[Experience Gained: 340000]

[Level Up: 614>615]

[HP: 38000>38500]

[Mana: 752500>753000]

[Strength: 41800>42100]

[Intelligence: 36000>36300]

[Status Points: 0>2000]

[Draconic Synergy: 8>9]

'Finally,' Archer mused internally. 'If I continue to use Elysium and hunt in the real world, I will continue to level up.'

After studying his status, he decided to save the Status Points for a while before approaching the living room, where everyone was. When the girls spotted him, smiles appeared on their beautiful faces.

Everyone greeted him with a kiss and cuddle before Lucrezia approached, "Can I join the girls and watch the tournament with you?" She asked in a hopeful voice.

Archer nodded before opening a portal to Starfall City, where the empire had built an arena on the outside. The large group stepped through and was welcomed by a massive, colosseum- looking structure that amazed him.

While looking at it, Ella stepped next to him, "This was built by powerful earth mages," she commented. "I can feel their mana radiating off it."

"So can I," he replied before everyone approached the entrance where hundreds of people were walking towards.

As they approached, a man ran over and introduced himself. "I'm Stephan, " he said. I've been asked to escort you to your seating."

"Who asked you?" Leira sked from behind as she took the free space next to Archer.

When the man spotted the cat girl, he knelt, "The tournament president wanted to make sure you and the White Prince are comfortable."

Archer nodded with a friendly smile. "Thank you for your help," he thanked the man while continuing to talk. Lead the way," he said.

Upon hearing this, Stephan sprang into action, guiding the group into the arena. As they passed by, Lioran and Cian both flashed smiles at him. The duo was accompanied by their fiancées, Leonora, Nalika, and Cassie, who engaged in lively conversation with Archer's companions.

Joining the ensemble, the two young men merged seamlessly into the procession toward their designated seats. Aeris, Aurelia, Marve, and Eveline emerged along the way. Save for the orange-haired warrior, smiles adorned the faces of all.

Her sticking grey eyes bored into Archer's, causing a confused expression. He shook his head before asking, "What's up?"

Maeve watched him with narrowed eyes. "You took Eve out on a date but forgot about me and Aurelia," she said. "It's a bit unfair, don't you think?"

Archer quickly noticed that she was genuinely upset over the whole situation. He sighed before replying, "Wait until we are sat down? We can talk then."

The warrior princess gave him a nod as she continued walking. Archer looked at Eve and Aurelia, who shrugged as the mermaid approached, "I'm sure you were going to take us out, correct?"

He nodded, "Yes, I was waiting to see you and Maeve before asking," Archer explained. "It just so happens that I bumped into Eveline while wandering around the city."

"I understand, Arch, and want you to know that I take no offense in you and Eve going on a date because I know you treat your girls equally, which means you'd do the same to the ones you're pursuing," Aurelia explained as Stephan showed them into a large booth.

There was a clear view of the battlefield down below, and there were dozens of large mana screens that he assumed would be used for the survival round. After that, all the girls, Leoran and Cian, found seats.

Archer looked around and noticed a few side rooms on one side of the booth, where there was a toilet, changing room, another spare one and a door that led down to the field. Seeing the restroom, he walked over to Maeve and grabbed her hand before dragging her inside and turning toward her.

Chapter 778 Mana Realm

Archer dragged the upset Maeve into the room and closed the door behind them before turning to her. "Why are you so upset? I was waiting to ask you on a date when we saw each other again," he honestly said.

The orange-haired girl bristled as she responded angrily, "It was meant to be me first! Not Eve or Aurelia, me!"

When she spoke, Archer instantly heard the jealousy seeping into her words and decided to cut this off. He stepped forward, stealing her soft, plump lips in a passionate kiss that surprised Maeve.

The Avaloch Princess returned the kiss before the two broke away. "I'm sorry. Jealousy overtook me, as I've never been on a date and really want to."

Archer smiled when hearing this. "Why don't we go on one after today's fights? We can go get dinner and take a walk through the city?"

When Maeve heard this, a glowing expression appeared on her gorgeous face, and her grey eyes sparkled. "Can we?" she excitedly said. That would be amazing."

He agreed with a nod before embracing the girl, who was smiling ear to ear. Afterward, the duo left the room only to have all eyes turning to him. Teuila teased with a giggle, "No having sex in the room, Arch! But you're lucky you just finished as your first to fight in the survival round."

Archer chuckled as he said bye to the girls and stepped through the door leading to the arena. Five minutes later, he was standing on stage with twenty other boys and girls his age as they were being connected to the machine.

Archer swiftly identified Aurelia, Eveline, and the frosty Apollonia among his group. He smiled warmly at the trio, receiving reciprocated smiles from Aurelia and Eveline. However, the pink-haired girl shot him a disdainful glare, prompting a chuckle from Archer at her reaction.

That's when he spotted a man approaching the nearby stage, stepping onto it, and talking to the group, "Listen up, boys and girls. I'm Johnson Silverwind, the creator of the Mana Realm, a training simulation used across Thrylos by empires, kingdoms, and schools."

Archer watched as Johnson studied the crowd before continuing, "Each of you will confront monsters beyond your wildest imagination in this challenge. Those who emerge victorious will advance to the next phase of the Knockout Stage, where one-on-one battles await—an event eagerly anticipated by the spectators."

There weren't any rules as they would be alone and the Mana Realm. Aside from the relentless onslaught of monsters, there seemed to be no significant drawbacks, apart from the fact that they had to shout surrender if they wanted to stop.

Afterward, Johnson instructed the assistants to start the survival round before telling everyone to sit on the supplied chairs while they entered the Mana Realm. Archer took a seat and glanced over at the girls, who cheered him on with enthusiastic shouts and wolf whistles, eliciting a smile from him.

Once everyone was settled, Archer heard some of the heartbeats of the other students panicking. Just as he looked around, his consciousness was sucked somewhere, and he reappeared in a canyon with high cliffs on both sides.

The land was a long strip stretched endlessly, and he felt the hot air on his skin, which baffled him. While standing there, a flash momentarily blinded him until he faded and messed with his eyesight.

His eyes had to adjust to the brightness; when his vision got used to it, he spotted a group of Goblins encircling him, but all Archer did was scan them to see what rank they were.

[Goblin]

[Rank: F]

'Their weak,' he internally mused. 'Should be easy.'

After thinking, Archer cast Crown Of Stars, causing fourteen bright violet motes to appear above him before targeting the Goblins and shooting out smaller projectiles that took out the creatures in a wave of mana.

They kept coming, forcing Archer to fight using his claws, tail, and magic. With two quick swipes, he decapitated two goblins before launching a dozen Plasma Missiles that zoomed toward an incoming horde of creatures, creating chaos in the canyon as the bodies vanished once they were dead.

Archer was confused but remembered it was virtual reality, and he couldn't loot their hearts. He continued fighting as he slaughtered the goblins. Once they stopped appearing, he checked his experience and realized he earned twenty experience per kill.

This information shocked and excited him, causing him to butcher the Goblins while laughing after he realized that the simulation was pulling in the world's mana to create the monsters, allowing him to benefit from it.

He spent some time killing the Goblins before the Goblin Shamans appeared, and these creatures gave him fifty experience. When Archer killed the first one, the notification popped up, causing his excitement to grow, and he went on a greed-fueled slaughter.

The Goblins didn't know what hit them, and even the Hobgoblins couldn't stand a chance as he breathed his Dragon's Breath at them. Archer watched as his violet flames washed over the monsters, causing them to vanish.

This continued until a bell started ringing, and a robotic voice said, "Wave One defeated. Three minutes to rest before Wave Two begins."

Archer took a seat and looked up to see passing clouds, as if he were in the real world, and thought it was a peaceful scene. Three minutes passed quickly, and he heard the roars of more monsters heading his way.

He looked up at spotted giant bears that resembled the short-

face bear from Earth's history, which caught his interest.

[Savage Jungle Bear]

[Rank G]

'These monsters are Rank G!'

Once he saw their rank, Archer started casting Plasma Missiles around him and summoned thousands of the violet plasma projectiles spinning on the spot before he sent them aiming at the heads of the monsters.

The spells zoomed off like bullets and slammed into most of the bears, causing them to collapse to the ground as they vanished. After his attack, Archer notices even more bears approaching him from behind.

He sighed, opting to confront the bears in close combat. The skirmish with the bears proved shorter than the goblins, given their smaller numbers. Nonetheless, by the end of the round, he became increasingly frustrated.

Archer battled with the monsters for ten rounds until the simulation spawned something that challenged him. There were massive, bigfoot-looking creatures that stood ten feet tall and made him look like a twig.

Without wasting any more time, he scanned them as they got close.

[Jungle King]

[Rank B+]

When he saw this, Archer got excited, as they were strong, and charged toward them while readying his claws. He dodged the creature's large fist with ease before lashing out with several slashes, bringing the monster to the ground.

Archer finished it with a blast to the back of the head as another two appeared, forcing him to use Blink to get out of the way. When dodging, he cast several Eldritch Blasts that killed one of the creatures and made the other stumble.

He took this chance and used Blink to appear on the shoulder of the Jungle King before plunging his tail into the monster's head. This continued for a while as Archer battled with the giant gorillas.

By the time the round ended, he was winded and needed to sit down to catch his breath. He wondered what monster would be next but didn't have long to wait as a swarm of large wasp-

looking creatures appeared above.

When he saw this, Archer quickly cast dozens of spells into the horde of insects, causing chaos as the Plasma Missiles detonated in the middle of them. The battle continued as he used the Cosmic Shield to defend himself while attacking.

[The Girl's POV]

They watched as Archer battled with numerous people, and the other students dropped out one by one. Ella was the first to speak, " He's doing well, but if they send a Firewyrms or Sea Drake, it will be over."

When the other girls heard this, they gazed at the half-elf, who explained that a Firewyrms is a dragon's nemesis and will fight until the death as the history between the two races stretched back thousands of years.

Sera bristled as she heard the creature's name, but Hemera told them that it was a wingless dragon that dwells in volcanos, building lakes, and anywhere it's hot. The last sighting of one was hundreds of years ago during the Great War that engulfed Thrylos.

Once she had told them about the Firewyrms, Ella proceeded to enlighten them about the Sea Drakes, colossal serpent-like dragons that prowled the oceans and harbored a deep-seated animosity towards their airborne brethren.

As the discussion turned to these formidable creatures, Teuila grimly labeled them nightmares. Known for their proclivity for chaos, Sea Drakes were infamous for their brazen assaults on ships and coastal settlements, wreaking havoc wherever they roamed.

Their attacks were not driven by necessity but rather by a twisted sense of amusement, leaving destruction and devastation in their wake. When the girls heard that, shivers ran across their bodies.

But it was soon forgotten as Archer started fighting three dozen Wyverns that the Mana Realm sent against him. They all started cheering when noticing he was the last one left after Aurelia, Eveline and Apollonia were knocked out.

Once smiling at the three, everyone got back to the fight just as Archer threw one of the Wyverns toward the ground, causing a massive crash that angered the other monsters, who were silenced by a face full of Eldritch Blasts.

Chapter 779 Earth Drake

Archer finished off the Giant Wasps using Eldritch Blast and Plasma Missile, but this time, some parts of his body were covered in slices and punctures from the monster's stingers, causing black blood to run from the wounds.

He pulled out one of the stingers stuck in his shoulder when one of the Ice Wasps swooped down on her. But he was in no danger as his Regeneration kicked in and closed the cuts quickly, and his body healed without an issue.

With a shake of his head, the twenty-second round began, and that's when he heard an earth-shattering roar that shook the ground below him. Archer looked toward the noise; there was a massive t-rex-looking beast.

It had dark skin and glowing red eyes that stared at him like a piece of meat, but that didn't bother him as he quickly scanned it.

[Dreadnought Rex]

[Rank: SS]

When he sees this, Archer gets excited and decides to transform into his dragon form to battle with the beast. As he changed, a bright light radiated from his body, causing his large limbs to crash into the ground, and his wings stretched behind him.

He let out a roar before charging toward the monster and crashing into it. The two started biting and slashing at each other. Archer clamped down on the monster's neck by the Rex, shook his head, and managed to throw him off it.

But the Dreadnought Rex was no weak opponent; it fought back with equal ferocity, its razor-sharp teeth gnashing and its powerful tail lashing out. Archer dodged some attacks, but sometimes, he wasn't quick enough, and the monster landed a blow.

When they did, pain shot through his body, causing him to roar in pain, and he lunged forward, sinking his massive jaws into the Dreadnought Rex's neck with a bone-crunching snap.

The monster thrashed around and roared in agony, but Archer held firm, his grip unyielding as he poured every ounce of his strength into the final assault. Archer twisted his head sharply with a mighty heave, his powerful jaws closing with a sickening crack.

It let out a final, strangled cry before collapsing, defeated. Archer was breathing heavily and curled up to rest until the next round started, but when it did, the roar he heard caused something deep inside him to react.

Archer lifted his head and let out a deep, menacing growl when spotting three humanoid Giants rushing toward him. Rage overtook him, causing him to flap his mighty wings before taking off.

He swooped down, latched onto the closest Giant, and bit into its shoulder before letting out a stream of dragon fire that washed over the giant monster. His foe screamed in agony as the violet flames burned into its body.

As this happened, another Giant grabbed his tail before throwing him into the side of the canyon wall, causing his head to spin. Archer quickly recovered and shook his head before looking at the scene.

One of the Giants was burning to nothingness while the other two rushed toward him. Archer let out a deep grunt as he climbed out of the hole and used Blink to vanish, confusing the monsters.

He quickly reappeared above them and fell on top of one of them as his tail hit out at the second and hit him in the face. Archer's tail sent the Giant stumbling backward until he fell over,

Archer then dealt with the Giant below him by using everything he had: his claws dug into the monster's thick hide while he bit down on its neck, and his tail lashed against its legs, causing it to drop to its knees.

This attack allowed him to tear away at the Giant before the other returned to the fight. Once his foe was weak, Archer leaped off the creature and breathed a stream of flames onto it, causing its skin to turn as black as charcoal.

As he turned toward the last Giant, a fist slammed into his head, sending him crashing to the ground under the force of the blow. Dizzy but swift to react, Archer blinked onto the monster's back and tore into it like a wild animal until it dropped lifeless.

The round ended with a crash as Archer dropped to the ground, and the voice spoke again, "Wave twenty defeated. Five minutes to rest before wave twenty-one begins."

Archer let out a breath before curling up like a cat while recovering. His Regeneration started healing his body, and by the time the five minutes were up, most of the wounds had healed, but he was still tired.

He raised his head while scanning his surroundings and didn't see anything, which baffled him until the ground started to shake, causing him to stand up and flap his wings as the earth below him exploded.

A massive snake-like monster crashed into him, causing a shearing pain to run through his body as the newcomer was much stronger than him. Archer was sent flying across the canyon until he slammed into the ground.

Archer's body ached, but he still had enough strength to look at the culprit, and what he saw shocked him to the core. It was three times his size, with dark brown bone-like plates covering its body. Its face resembled a cobra's, with glowing red eyes that shone with malice while looking at him.

'A massive snake!' he internally said. 'It's not as big as Mary, though.'

He quickly scanned it to find out what it was.

[Earth Drake]

[Rank: ---]

'What the hell is this? Where is it's rank?'

As he was thinking, the Earth Drake dived back into the ground like water and vanished from sight. Archer slightly panicked before taking off so the monster couldn't get him anymore.

While flying, his senses picked up multiple spells being cast, but Archer was confused as he saw nothing until sharp man-sized stones started flying out of the ground and coming straight for him.

Archer instantly cast Cosmic Shield that encircled his body as the stone projectiles slammed into it, causing him to lose control of flying and plummet from the sky. When he hit the earth, it caused a crater.

He tried to get up on shaky legs, but it was already too late, as the ground below him exploded. The Earth Drake struck his underside, the weakest part of his body. This attack sent him flying out of the crater, but the giant snake started attacking and showed no mercy.

Its long body slammed into his, causing him to shoot toward the canyon wall like a meteor hitting the earth. Archer's head was spinning as the pain overtook him, but it only got worse as the Earth Drake grabbed him in its mouth, allowing him to shoot his Dragon's Breath down its throat.

The monsters let him go as it was being burnt from the inside out. Archer didn't let this opportunity go, so he Blinked onto its body before tearing off the armor plates and attacking the soft flesh with his claws.

When the Earth Drake felt this, it started going crazy, but Archer was like a flea, holding on tight while taking a deep breath. He hit the damaged flesh with his breath, causing the creature to roar in agony.

It started thrashing its massive body, but Archer kept attacking until its movements slowed, allowing him to cast a Meteor Swarm on top of the Earth Drake. Suddenly, he noticed four ominous shapes hurtling toward the earth.

Meteors, blazing fire trails in the sky, descending with unstoppable force. Reacting swiftly, Archer used Blink to avoid the impending impact zone. His heart pounded with adrenaline as the meteors crashed into the ground below with loud booms.

But as the dust settled, Archer's eyes widened in amazement. The meteors hadn't struck the barren landscape as expected. Instead, they zeroed in on a single target, the massive form of the Earth Drake, lurking below, unaware of the impending danger.

With a thunderous roar, the meteors collided with the monster in a cataclysmic explosion of fire and debris. Flames licked the sky as the earth shook violently under the force of the impact.

The Earth Drake roared in agony as it was engulfed in a maelstrom of destruction. Archer watched in awe and disbelief as the mighty beast thrashed and writhed amidst the inferno, its once formidable form now battered and broken.

Archer rushed toward the creature, who was still there, meaning he had to finish it off. He did that using his Dragon Breath, which burned it to nothing as it vanished from the canyon. It went silent as the voice spoke again.

"Wave one hundred defeated. Five minutes to rest before wave one hundred and one begins."

As he heard the menacing roar, Archer collapsed to the ground, seeking a moment of respite before the next monster emerged. Closing his eyes briefly, he was abruptly startled by the sound, forcing him to lift his head and gaze at the newcomer.

Before him stood a formidable sight: a wingless dragon, its appearance more sinister and powerful than anything he had faced before, its dark red scales gleamed menacingly, while its black eyes glowered with malevolence.

Archer shivered when they saw this creature as its ancient alarm bells activated deep inside him. He had never heard of any monster like it, so he quickly scanned it.

[Firewyrn]

[Rank: SSSS+]

'What is this madness! I've never heard of such a rank,' he internally panicked.

He couldn't even react as the Firewyrn was fast and appeared in front of him before slashing him across the chest and shattering his scales with ease. He was shocked and couldn't react as it bit one of his wings and ripped it off his body.

Chapter 780 Under Attack

When the pain hit Archer, it made him roar in agony before he tried to counterattack, but the Firewyrn trapped his limbs using its own as it started to bite into him savagely. He couldn't fight back as he was overwhelmed by the mysterious beast.

The Firewyrn tore through his scales and brutalized him before the Mana Realm pulled him out. Everything went black until the sunlight blinded him, and pain shot through his body but soon vanished,

Archer shook his head and noticed a dozen officials standing around him with worried expressions. The crowd was going mad with their cheering, screaming, and celebrating, which caught him off guard.

While coming to, he heard a voice say, "You should have given up before fighting the nightmare-inducing Firewyrn."

He turned around and spotted Ophelia standing there wearing her usual purple witch robes. Her black/purple hair was tied into a bun, and she wore glasses that made her look even more beautiful. They shared the same violet eyes and glowed with intelligence and allure.

Archer smiled when he saw the gorgeous witch. "It's good to see you, Ophie," he said. "How have you been?"

"Busy," she replied with an honest smile. "Many students have applied to join the college, so paperwork has kept me from doing anything."

Archer chuckled before looking around the arena and noticing Ella, Sera, Cassandra, and many other people were competing. When Ophelia saw this, she smiled before explaining, "Most of your ladies have fought and done well."

"What were their rounds?"

"Um, Teuila made it to thirty-five, Hemera reached thirty, and Nefertiti and Talila both hit twenty-eight," Ophelia explained, smiling.

Archer gestured towards a nearby bench, and the two sat down as she continued, "Nala reached twenty-seven, Leira hit twenty-five, and Lyniel and Halime reached twenty-three. You should be proud of them. They all fought bravely and skillfully."

"I am," he said while gazing at the girls sitting in the stands. "Every day, my pride in them grows as they become their own women."

Ophelia beamed, "It's good to see a dragon appreciate his treasure, unlike most of your kind," she said before placing her hand on his arm. "I must return to work, but I'll see you soon, Arch."

After speaking, the headmistress vanished using her witch magic. Once she was gone, Archer made his way over to the girls and congratulated each one. When he sat down, they all had radiant smiles and red cheeks.

While watching the ongoing fighting, Nefertiti appeared in front of him before sitting on his lap and getting comfortable. Archer wrapped his arms around her waist and pulled her closer, causing the succubus to melt into him.

They observed the matches together, and it wasn't long before Sera was eliminated. With a burst of frustration, she leaped to her feet and directed her tirade at the Mana Realm orbs, much to the amusement of the onlookers.

Ignoring the conventional exit, she vaulted to where Archer was seated, greeted by his welcoming smile. Much to Nefertiti's silent annoyance, he pulled her into his lap without hesitation.

The three of them continued to watch the fights, but Archer got a message from Elara, [Your Majesty! We're under attack. The inner tunnel defenses are overrun and were holding the first chamber just barely]

He sighed before asking Nefertiti and Sera to get up and explain what happened in the Ironfoot Kingdom. When hearing it, Nefertiti wanted to come, and Maeve quickly invited her to join them.

Archer agreed and opened a portal to Hammergate Town. Once it was open, the trio stepped through after saying bye to the others. Soldiers rushed everywhere when they exited while tending to the injured.

Without speaking, he cast Aurora Healing on the closest soldiers, followed by Nefertiti, who used Arcane Healing to help. Maeve couldn't do anything as she didn't know any magic that could help.

After twenty minutes, Archer and Nefertiti managed to heal many soldiers, giving the Healer Core time to tend to the others. Once completed, Archer and the two girls entered the underground city entrance.

When they passed the threshold, they heard the signs of battle coming from the checkpoint, which went deeper into the mountain. While walking, Maeve spoke while eyeing her surroundings, "Where are we Arch?"

"We're on an island east of Mediterra in a fallen kingdom called Ironfoot," Archer answered while examining the soldiers around him.

He cast Aurora Healing on them before grabbing Nefertiti's hand and sending mana into her. When this happened, she shivered before giving him a big smile, "Thank you, husband."

Archer nodded and continued until they reached the battle scene. Dragon Legionnaires held back Forsaken, but the line buckled as soldiers fell to the creatures' claws or teeth.

"You two help out the soldiers while I deal with the monsters," Archer said while looking at Maeve and Nefertiti. "Be careful."

The two girls agreed with a nod before he transformed into his Shadow Prince form and vanished into the shadows. Archer crossed the shieldwall before reappearing in the middle of the creatures.

He let out an evil chuckle before swiping, slashing, and biting the creatures, shocked by the sudden attack. The battle turned in the First Legion's favor as they surged forward while hacking and slashing,

After an hour of fighting, all the creatures were slaughtered, and the injured or dead were taken back into the first section. Archer stood at the entrance in his humanoid form, gazing into the darkness until he heard footsteps approaching him.

Turning around, he spotted Nefertiti and Maeve with tired smiles. The pink-haired succubus commented, "Most of the injured with life-threatening wounds have been treated while the Healer Core is working on the rest."

Archer nodded, "Do you girls want to join me?"

They nodded and started following him down the tunnel until they arrived at the first level that he already looted. With that in mind, the trio started searching for the way down, and after a while, Maeve was the one who spotted it.

The trio approached it and noticed the piles of corpses lying all over the place. Dwarves, humans, and elves lay entwined with the bodies of Forsaken and Ratlings. Archer watched the scene and guessed these were Ironfoot soldiers holding the line so people could escape deeper.

Nefertiti commented while gazing around, "It's so creepy here. I can feel the lives that linger in this place."

"I can feel them, and they cheer for us," Archer said. "We will free the mountain of the monster that has made it their home."

"What will you do with them?" Maeve questioned while she had her hand on her hilt.

"The island will belong to Draconia and be used to house citizens wishing to move north."

After speaking, they stepped onto the second level, only for Archer's senses to scream out to him, causing him to cast the Cosmic Shield, which enveloped all three of them just as a wave of spells slammed into it.

The violet barrier rocked but didn't break, thanks to the flood of mana Archer sent into it. The three looked around for the source of the spells. They couldn't see anything, so he summoned his Shadow Creatures and ordered them to kill the attackers.

They halted at a city square on the second level, greeted by a scene of chaos. Old, dust-covered stalls and the bodies of fleeing people littered the ground. Archer surveyed their surroundings, but nothing caught his eye.

After half an hour, experiences flooded into him as if he were the one slaying beasts, though it was the Shadow Creatures doing the killing. Another ten minutes passed, and the influx ceased.

Turning to the two girls, who were fixated on him, Archer offered a charming smile. "The monsters are gone," he said confidently. "I will summon the Stone Men before we start looting the level."

The two nodded in agreement as Archer began casting Stone Warden repeatedly, commanding the Stone Men to scour the area for anything valuable. When Maeve saw this, her eyes widened.

She turned to him, "What are those creatures?"

"My Stone Men," Archer replied. "Think of them as golems made from pure mana that comes from me."

Maeve nodded with a smile before they waited, which only took an hour as thousands of Stone Men were running around the second level. By the time they were done, there was a mountain of treasure that covered the square,

When the two girls saw the amount, their eyes shone with greed, causing Archer to laugh as he spoke, "There are eighteen more levels in this city, and it gets wealthier the further down we get."

"So there's more treasure than this?" Nefertiti questioned as her pink eyes stared into his.

"Yes," Archer said. "They are dwarves, Nefi. There are probably thousands of vaults below us, but the monsters will only get stronger from now on."

They nodded in agreement before he commanded the Stone Men to stand guard at the entrance to the lower level until the First Legion secured the second. Once this task was completed, Archer returned to Elara, overseeing the first-

level soldier's organization.

Upon seeing him, a big smile spread across her face as she hurried over to him. "Your Majesty," she greeted, bowing respectfully. "The injured have all been treated and are now resting, and there have been no further attacks on the checkpoints."

"Good," he replied. "Send a force to the second level and secure everything between there and here, Elara."

"Yes, Your Majesty," The redheaded dragonkin women rushed off after speaking.

Maeve giggled while Nefertiti watched the Dragon Marshal speaking to the other commanders. The succubus shook her head and commented in a knowing voice, "She likes you, husband."

"Most probably," Archer replied with a smirk. "I am handsome, after all."

The trio laughed before they returned to the Starfall Arena, where the other girls were.