

Affinity 1021

Chapter 1021 Someone's Breaking In

Grey didn't stay for too long, after he told him his request, he left. To his surprise, the leader of the Giants agreed to it without any hesitation, it was almost as if he had been praying for this.

With the Prince gone, Grey knew things will be calmer in the realm now, even if humans and members of the Gnome race would occasionally fight against each other, it was something that was normal here.

...

Three months passed in a flash.

Grey was still in the secret realm fully focused on cultivation, each of his friends were also doing their best as they tried to increase their cultivation level. Although they were all in the Sage Plane now, they knew that such strength didn't matter much in a place like the Aurora Continent. If they wanted anything, they would have to be strong, even staying alive needed strength.

Grey's parents were still focused on their battle. The war was intensifying, and even with Lucas' name, their opponents were still pushing forward.

Lucas couldn't kill those in lower levels since it was against the rules. Against those in the same Plane as Lucas, the Dawson Family had the advantage because of Lucas, but against those in lower Planes, they were lacking a bit. Take for instance, they had lost some areas in their territory due to the battle, two strategic locations had been occupied by their opponents and they were getting closer to them. He hated to admit it, but he alone could not do everything.

....

The Dawson Family Hall.

A group of people were seated here, all with gloomy expressions.

"Why don't we just stop these unnecessary losses and attack them straight up?" Someone suggested.

They had lost some family members due to the battles, and a few of them were starting to get tired of it.

"Losing a few Overlord Plane Elementalists isn't really that bad, but it's not good either. Even if we're at war with them, we still have to take the overall situation into account. Humans are not the enemies, the Gnomes are. Many don't want to admit it, but there have been more frequent attacks from them." Lucas said softly.

"Correct, the Gnomes are the enemies. However, why are those morons attacking us because of a secret realm we found?" Martha joined in on the conversation.

"Greed. That secret realm is not ordinary, and you can see the improvements it has had on our ranks. Unfortunately, the time has been short so it isn't too obvious yet." An old man sitting by the side said.

Everyone nodded to his statement, Martha on the other hand snorted coldly when the man spoke. This man was the reason Lucas had to return, he was none other than his father, Grey's grandfather, Roche Dawson.

Roche took a glance at Martha but didn't say a word. Lucas tapped her on her leg as if to tell her to mind her manners.

"Has anyone heard of a certain Grey Dawson?" An Elder suddenly asked.

Lucas and Martha turned to look at this Elder, along with the others in the hall.

"We've heard a few of his exploits, what about him?" Roche nodded.

Given Grey's talent, it was natural that they would've heard of him. What made it more appealing was his last name, bearing the same name as them, and also having such a great talent made most people think of him as a member of this Dawson Family.

"Sage Plane members just started to fight, I heard his a talent, and even Conor has said many great things about him. If we can get Conor to bring him here, he would not only be a good addition to the Family, but he would also be vital in this battle of the Sage Plane." The Elder explained his reason for mentioning Grey's name.

Lucas and Martha didn't say a word as they listened attentively. This man was close to Conor, so there might be a time when he might've rambled about Grey to him.

"There's no need, he'll come here when the time is right." Lucas suddenly said.

The room fell silent when they heard this, some of them a little confused while others had already gotten a guess on the matter.

"Care to share the reason behind your statement?" Roche asked, staring at Lucas' eyes.

"He's my son." Lucas' reply was simple and concise, but it shocked the entire room.

Of all the people present, only a few didn't have shocked expressions. One of such people was a middle-aged man. He was the one who was guarding the portal to the horned race the last time. He already knew of Grey's identity.

"You have a son?" Another middle-aged man asked with a strange look.

Lucas nodded.

The middle-aged man smiled but didn't say anything else. He was Lucas' brother, and also the current leader of the Dawson Family. After Lucas vanished, he had no contenders and was easily given the position of the Family Head after some time.

Martha looked at him, her expression was colder than when she was staring at Roche. Of all the people they had to be wary of, this was the most dangerous figure in the family. He was not as powerful as Lucas, but he was a cunning and intelligent man. He would go to any lengths to get what he wants. His only good side was that he made sure whatever he was doing was for the good of the family.

Lucas telling his family about Grey was a little unexpected since he planned to wait a little longer, but he knew there was no difference. Besides, other than himself and those of the Burchard Family, only a few people knew of Grey's current whereabouts. No harm would come to Grey as long as he was in that secret realm, even when he comes out, he would be safe.

The Dawson Family started to plan their strategies on the next round of battles which would be taking place soon. Once those in the Sage Plane started an all-out fight, it would soon be the turn of the Elemental Venerables.

What they all wanted to do was to make sure the most powerful figures didn't die. This was why they were mainly using those of weaker Planes. In such battles, very few geniuses go there since they might be targeted by those in higher Planes from the enemy side.

....

Back in the secret realm.

Grey knew nothing of his father telling others of his identity. He was still in training, trying to get to a higher Plane. His plan when entering this place was to break through to the Elemental Venerable Plane before leaving.

He was already in the Ninth stage after spending over four months here. His gains had been good since he had finally removed the mark from his body and also wiped out a large number of geniuses from the Gnome race.

In the past three months, he had also killed a few more, well, a hundred plus people can't really be called few, but compared to the overall number of those in the realm where the Gnomes were from, it wasn't much.

One night while sitting with Void, Grey stood up and looked in the direction of the east.

"Looks like our peaceful days are coming to an end." He commented.

"You sensed it too?" Void also stared in the same direction.

"Someone is trying to break in from the higher realm." Grey's eyes were serious.

There was only one reason why this was happening, whoever was coming wanted to kill a person here at all costs. Of all the people here, Grey didn't think there was anyone else who had offended people to this extent other than himself.

There was a time when he camped outside the portal for the Gnome race, whenever people stepped in, he would kill them. The people from the Gnome race didn't send anyone in for a month because of it and it caused a huge uproar.

Grey naturally had zero worries about it, it was not like their higher ranks could charge in here. Well, except for those in the Elemental Venerable Plane, no one else could.

One of the good things was that the higher the stage of the Elemental Venerable, the harder it was for them to stay in this lower realm. Since whoever is coming would have to find him, then he guessed it was most likely a First stage Elemental Venerable.

"Should we wait it out or check it out?" He asked Void.

He had never tried to fight against an Elemental Venerable before, and although he would like to try, he knew it was going to be risky.

"Let's check it out, I'm bored." Void replied.

Void was already at the Peak of the Sixth Rank a few months ago, the only reason he hadn't broken through was because he was waiting for Grey. This place was not like any other place, so he had to be careful as well.

Chapter 1022 A Familiar Figure

Grey and Void didn't try to hide their whereabouts, since the person might be from the Gnome race and was probably after Grey, then they would kill a bunch of Sage Plane Elementalists from the Gnome race

and try to lead the Elemental Venerable their way. This would give them the chance to assess the strength of the person before trying to engage such a person.

With Void around, it would be almost impossible for someone to sneak up on the duo. Not just that, but Grey could easily sense those from the Gnome race, so as long as this person was from the Gnome race, he would be able to sense them.

The duo soon started their killing spree, killing every member of the Gnome race they encountered, while also heading in the direction of the hideout of the Gnomes.

While Grey was killing his way through, another person was killing any human that crossed his path. If Grey was here, he would recognize the figure. It was none other than the Prince who broke through some time ago. The Prince hated Grey to his bones, so now that he had consolidated his realm, he wanted to kill Grey.

After the news of someone camping outside the portal and killing everyone, those from the Gnome race made it a priority to kill Grey, and someone in the upper realm was asked to go down. The Prince volunteered because he wanted to make sure Grey died by his hands. He had fought against Grey before and knew his strength.

"Where's he?" He asked the person that was sprawled on the ground, bleeding.

"Who?" The person didn't know who the Prince was talking about. Even after being beaten to such a state, he didn't know what the Prince was talking about.

"Your leader." The Prince said.

"He has broken through some time ago and is in the upper realm." The person replied with a tearful expression. He knew his chances of survival were very slim. Even if he told this person the whereabouts of the person he was searching for, the Prince would still kill him.

The Prince felt irritated by the young man's refusal to tell him where Grey was hiding and killed him in a blink. This was the sixth person they had encountered, but none of them knew of Grey's whereabouts.

All of them had been giving him the same answer, their leader had broken through, but there was no way he would believe such a thing. Grey was in the Sixth or Seventh stage the last time they fought. It had only been three months, and even if Grey was an unparalleled genius, there was no way he would've broken through to the Elemental Venerable Plane, at most, he would still be in the Eighth stage by now.

Crack!

A crack appeared on his arm. Looking at it, his expression changed, "My time is limited. I should go to the human hideout."

He soon came to a conclusion. On his way, he sensed something strange.

"Your Highness, he's here." He received a voice transmission from the Gnome hideout.

Before he set out, he told them of his plans. Grey directly killed his way into the Gnome's hideouts.

The Prince was first stunned, then his expression changed to one of anger. Grey's arrogance was beyond him, but the fact that he didn't fear anything and killed his way into the Gnome's hideout showed how little he thought of them.

'Once I kill him, I'll deal with that stupid Giant.' He thought to himself.

The leader of the Giants hadn't been able to break through to the Elemental Venerable Plane, so he was still here. Unlike most people, he was only in the Eighth stage when he entered this place. At the time he became leader, he just broke through to the Peak of the Sage Plane.

The leader went against his request and allowed Grey to do as he pleases with Gnomes.

The Prince didn't think too much about it as he rushed back to the hideout. Even if Grey was strong, there was no way he would be able to fight against an Elemental Venerable while still being in the Sage Plane.

With his speed, it took him only a few minutes to cover thousands of kilometers. Appearing close to the hideout, he paused and tried to observe the situation. His expression changed when he noticed all the corpses that were on the ground. Even he wouldn't dare to kill this many humans, yet Grey did it without thinking twice.

The Prince didn't try to find out anything else and rushed inside, Grey must die.

When he entered the place, he saw Grey sitting on the chair that was meant for the leader of the Gnome race while in the secret realm. What annoyed him was not where Grey was seated, but the hall was littered with corpses, even the sides of the seat had two deformed corpses.

"You're here, I thought you would take longer, I'm not done preparing my surprise yet." Grey said when the Prince stepped in.

"Oh, it's you!" He exclaimed when he saw the face of the Prince.

He never thought the Prince would be the one who would come in. This made things even more interesting.

The Prince studied Grey and surprise appeared on his face, he would never think that Grey had actually been able to get to the Ninth stage of the Sage Plane. It had only been how long, three months or so.

His motivation to make sure Grey died increased at this moment. He had already tagged Grey as a must-kill to Gnomes, but now, Grey was advancing at unprecedented speed. One has to know that the main reason Gnomes were more powerful than humans was their ability to control human corpses. If they managed to kill a human powerhouse, they could convert the strength of the powerhouse to theirs, but against Grey, this was useless. In fact, it placed them in even greater trouble since he could use it to attack their minds.

Chapter 1023 Messing With The Prince

"You're already in the Ninth stage, now I have to make sure you die." The Prince commented.

"Haha, is this how you speak to an old friend?" Grey laughed as if he was speaking with a friend.

The Prince was annoyed by his words.

"We are not friends." The Prince said.

"Come on, we could be, given how many times we've seen." Grey joked.

The Prince could tell that he was trying to annoy him. Without a second word, he attacked. Throwing his palm forward, a large palm made of pure elemental essence appeared and struck Grey's direction.

Unlike Elementalists below the Elemental Venerable Plane, Elemental Venerable could directly control the elemental essence around. Even without trying, they could easily kill multiple Sage Plane Elementalists.

Seeing the palm coming his way, Grey's aura spiked, unable to break through past the Sage Plane, but it was obvious that he was currently above the Sage Plane.

He also threw a fist made of the fire element.

The palm and fist collided and it was followed by a large explosion. The impact of the explosion made Grey take a step back to balance himself, the Prince on the other hand was standing in the same position, unperturbed.

The Prince squinted his eyes. His attack just now was testing the waters, he hadn't even made any effort.

'He's strong, but not undefeatable.' He concluded after his test.

"If this is all you can do, then you should head back before the restrictions here kills you." Grey laughed.

The Prince smiled but didn't say a word. He threw another palm, this time, the palm wasn't just pure elemental essence, rather, it seemed to be filled with the fire elemental essence. Pure essence was

different from fire or any other elemental essence. It was powerful, but the Prince didn't know how to use it yet, so it wasn't as strong as his fire elemental essence.

Grey threw another fist. This time, he also increased the strength and the fist had multiple colors, unlike the first one which was made from just the fire element.

When both palm and fist collided, the impact directly destroyed the hall, and all the bodies there disintegrated. Grey was forced to take multiple steps back this time before he was able to regain his footing. The Prince on the other hand didn't take a step back, rather, he took a step forward and directly shot through the explosion, charging at Grey.

Grey had just regained his footing when he sensed the Prince appearing in front of him. He attacked his front, not daring to waste any time. He knew fighting against the Prince was a huge gamble, but he wanted to see the strength of Elemental Venerable firsthand, so he came out. Of course he had multiple trump cards that he would use to escape.

When he fought against the Prince the last time, he made sure he hid a few things, so that if things got out of his control, he would have to use them to escape.

He never expected the Prince to be the one who would arrive, with the Prince here, it would be difficult for him to use the space element to escape, which was his original plan. But being Grey, he made sure he created a few more escape plans, just to be safe.

Boom!

Grey's attack was about to hit the Prince when he struck forward once again, instantly blasting Grey's attack apart and sending his figure flying.

Grey spat out a mouthful of blood since he never expected this to happen in the first place.

The Prince moved out almost immediately.

Grey didn't let his figure hit the ground, with the help of the space element, he maneuvered and appeared mid-air. Multiple inscriptions appeared, as well as chaos orbs. These orbs were different from the one he used the last time he walked into the Prince's ambush.

The Prince looked at the orbs and subconsciously didn't dare to charge at Grey, he still recalled how powerful they were the last time. If not for his strength and a few lifesaving treasures, he would've been seriously injured by it.

Grey chuckled when he saw this and couldn't help but mock a few times. Whenever he was fighting against an opponent stronger than himself, he knew his best bet was to make sure his opponent's state of mind was not fine. Hanging out with Klaus had honed this skill of his, so could be called a professional. Of course Klaus was still the master.

The Prince was irritated by his expression, but there was nothing he could do. Other than his previous experience, he could also tell that these orbs could cause him some damage, as unbelievable as it sounded, he felt threatened by these orbs. What was worse was that Grey actually had so many of them.

'I can't kill him.' The Prince soon knew that he had overestimated himself and underestimated Grey's strength.

This was beyond humiliation, if he were to go back and say he couldn't kill a Sage Plane Elementalist, the entire Gnome race might mock him till his death.

Gritting his teeth, he charged forward. He had to try, no matter what, he had to try.

Grey unleashed the inscriptions first at him. Each attack from the inscription was something that wouldn't be able to harm the Prince. Grey knew this as well.

The Prince was on guard as he blocked the attacks, just when he was still prepared to block against an inscription attack, he was stunned when the inscription attack switched places with three chaos orbs.

The switch was just too fast, and it happened just when the inscription attack was about to hit him.

Boom!

The attack pushed the Prince down, and before he could find his footing mid-air, multiple inscription attacks hit him.

"Ah! I'll kill you!" He roared in anger.

Just now, he wasted his energy trying to block the attacks since he was scared that it was one of the chaos orbs, but to his shock, it was one of those useless attacks.

Chapter 1024 Not As Strong, Not A Problem

The Prince was placed in a difficult position as he tried to block Grey's attack. However, Grey uses his space element to make life a living hell for the Prince.

Even though the Prince also had the space element, he had difficulties blocking this particular attack. The sudden switch of attack from regular inscription attacks to the chaos orbs was just too fast, before he could even sense the space element coming to play, the attack was already in front of him.

He soon gave up the thought of blocking and started dodging the attacks. This way, there was no way Grey would be able to catch him off guard. His only problem was that he couldn't get close to Grey. The reason for this was that Grey covered himself with multiple chaos orbs. It was almost impossible for anyone to get close to him without being blasted by these orbs.

"If you know you're strong, come, fight me head-on." The Prince tried to draw Grey out of the encirclement of chaos orbs.

Grey laughed before sending an orb out.

The Prince instantly vanished when he saw this, thinking Grey wanted to attack him, however, he soon realized that the orb only moved a few meters away from Grey before heading back.

Grey burst out laughing, while the Prince gritted his teeth in annoyance.

Grey was messing with him, he knew this, but with Grey's defenses, there was nothing he could do about it. Of all the humans he had met, not just humans, but people from both his race and the Giant race, Grey was the most detestable person he had seen. If given the chance, he would not only kill Grey, but he would also kill his parents and entire family members.

Grey had no idea of what was going through the head of the Prince. He was currently thinking of what to do to the Prince. One of the reasons he was hiding in his chaos orbs was because although he was strong, from the few exchanges he has had with the Prince, he knew that he was not the Prince's match in a battle. He was not one who would overestimate his capabilities, since he was not as strong as his opponent, he would resolve to trickery. With all the things he had up his sleeves, it was almost impossible to be killed by the Prince.

The Prince attacked, but Grey sent an orb at the attack, causing a loud explosion.

"Fine! I'll see how long these orbs will last you." The Prince snorted coldly and started to attack Grey randomly.

He didn't even bother about anything else and just attacked.

The only attack Grey could use that would be able to block the Prince's attacks was his chaos orb, and even with that, he was still continuously pushed back by the impact of the explosion.

Once the chaos orbs around him were exhausted, the Prince would be able to kill him with ease. Well, so he thought.

After sending out more than fifty attacks, he noticed something odd, the orbs didn't seem to have an end. In the space of a minute he had released over fifty attacks, and Grey had blocked all of them with a chaos orb. It would be normal for the ones around him to reduce, but they were still the same number, if his eyes weren't failing him, there even seemed to be a slight increase in their size.

'This shouldn't be possible... right?' The Prince was confused.

From each chaos orb, he could sense a large amount of elemental essence. Even with the essence in the surrounding, Grey couldn't directly take from it like an Elemental Venerable. So Grey was using from his

essence reserves. But, his reserves shouldn't be able to keep up with his current use of his attacks. Any normal Elementalist would already realize this problem and would stop using this attack. Once an Elementalist runs out of elemental essence when fighting then they were as good as dead, especially against an opponent that was way stronger than they were.

Grey didn't seem to be worrying about this as he attacked wantonly. He even seemed to be enjoying it.

"What are you?" The Prince couldn't help but ask.

"I'm the greatest genius of all time." Grey replied loudly, his voice oozing with unbridled confidence.

The Prince paused for a moment, and it was as if he was starting to believe it. But his eyes soon changed.

"Before me, you're nothing." He said coldly and started attacking once again.

'We'll see who has a greater essence reserve.' He thought to himself.

Grey wanted to fight against him in terms of this, he was only digging his own grave.

One was an Elemental Venerable, while the other was a Sage Plane Elementalist, the difference should be clear.

Just when the Prince was about to attack again, his vision suddenly changed.

'Huh?'

His expression changed for a slight moment before he sprang to action. A defensive wall soon covered his body as he roared out with explosive power. The power pushed everything around him.

Originally, the thought of Grey being able to switch places with another figure crossed his mind when he first saw Grey use the switch skill, but after Grey didn't use it, he felt maybe he could only move small things. Luckily, he still didn't bring his guard down and was able to react accordingly. Unfortunately, the orbs were just too many.

The orbs started bombarding the defensive wall and a crack soon appeared. The Prince wanted to try to use the space element to escape, but the moment a spatial tunnel was opened up, it became chaotic, putting the Prince in even bigger danger.

With his full strength, he didn't try to only block Grey's attack, but he also forcefully closed down the spatial tunnel. By the time he was done with this, the defensive screen had already broken apart and an orb hit him on the back, sending him flying.

During this short time, the number of chaos orbs had gone down by more than half its original number. From around fifty, it was around fifteen now.

The rest chased after the Prince as he was thrown to the ground.

Chapter 1025 I'll Come Back For You

Grey watched this scene while breathing heavily, although he had been hiding it, blocking so many of the Prince's attacks had taken a large toll on him. He had no issues with his essence reserves, what was troubling him was the impact of each attack after he blocked it. Even with his strong physique, he still had problems with taking such powerful impacts. This showed the large difference between an Elemental Venerable and a Sage Plane Elementalist.

It was almost unheard of that a Sage Plane Elementalist would be able to exchange blows with an Elemental Venerable, but Grey was doing it with ease. Even though the Prince was only in the First stage, he was one of the people that would be classified as a strong First stage Elemental Venerable. Most people in the same stage would have problems fighting against him.

If Grey were to fight against a weak Elemental Venerable at the First stage, he wouldn't have too many problems dealing with them, he might even be able to win against them.

The Prince slammed into the ground and the other chaos orbs crashed into the ground, exploding as well.

Grey started to make other orbs around him as well, just in case the Prince rushed out to attack him.

Before the explosion died down, he sensed an anomaly behind him and without thinking, he tossed three chaos orbs in that direction. A figure who had cracks all over his body stepped out of a spatial tunnel and was once again hit by multiple chaos orbs.

The figure was the Prince who was able to escape from the attack. Although he was still alright, Grey didn't miss the cracks that were on his body.

'Those are not the injuries caused by my attack.' He was no fool. With a single glance, he knew what was happening.

The realm was slowly taking effect on the body of the Prince. Since he came to a lower realm, he would naturally start to suffer. Things only started to move faster due to his battle with Grey.

The Prince was pushed back by the orbs, but he wasn't too affected by them.

He looked at Grey with infuriated eyes, "I'll kill you before I go back."

"You meant to say you will die before you can kill me." Grey corrected him with a matter-of-fact tone.

They had both been fighting for some time, the Prince already knew he couldn't kill Grey, and Grey also knew he could at most cause some slight injuries to the Prince, but nothing too serious. His greatest asset right now was the realm. As long as the realm exists, all he needed to do was to delay the Prince and the realm would do the rest.

The Prince snorted coldly after Grey's statement before charging forward once again.

He was about to attack when he suddenly felt a powerful pull, with his strength, he stood his ground and looked at Grey with a menacing look. Grey gave him a mischievous smile as he tossed some chaos orbs in his direction and fled.

Grey didn't want to exchange blows with the Prince any longer, he was already starting to feel the brunt of his internal injuries.

The Prince chased after him, dodging the orbs that were sent in his direction. Grey continued running as he tossed a few orbs in his direction.

Grey was extremely fast, exceeding the expectations of the Prince. Having both the lightning and wind elements that could boost his strength, it was not even a joke to say that he was faster than a few First stage Elemental Venerables.

The Prince was once again shocked by Grey's abilities.

"Damn it! Where did someone like him come from?" He cursed as he gave chase.

What was worse was that whenever he was getting closer to Grey, Grey would suddenly teleport a large distance, once again creating a gap. He was agitated because he could see that the realm's effect on him was increasing. If things stayed this way, he would not be able to catch Grey.

Just when he was thinking of giving up, he heard Grey's mocking words, followed by him tossing three things at him. At first, he thought they were chaos orbs, but only after he got close to them did he realize what they were.

"You animal! If I don't kill you I'll never have peace!" The Prince roared in anger and once again gave chase with rejuvenated motivation.

The three items fell to the ground, each of them was the head of someone from the Gnome race. Killing them was not enough, Grey went on to remove their heads and use them as he pleases. The Prince was incensed, the Gnome race would not take this lying!

Of course, he had to catch Grey first before he could exert revenge. Grey was very fast, too fast for someone in the Sage Plane.

Grey didn't bother with the Prince, all he did was run, say a few curse words, toss a few heads, and occasionally a few chaos orbs.

The Prince had been able to catch up to him on two occasions, but after just two blows, Grey would instantly flee.

The Prince knew Grey's plan, but he was helpless against him.

After a few more minutes, the Prince was forced to stop. He couldn't stay here any longer. His entire body had cracks all over, but he hadn't even been able to do anything to Grey.

He had been chasing for almost ten minutes, yet nothing. He felt regretful and humiliated. How can an Elemental Venerable be bested by a Sage Plane Elementalist, it was simply unheard of. If news of this were to spread, he would be mocked by everyone. His chances of even ascending the throne might even be destroyed.

"Damn it! I'll come back for you." He said and turned around.

Grey tried to mock him a few times, but the Prince didn't stay.

A few seconds after the Prince left, he spat out a mouthful of blood before floating to the ground. His innards were a mess, and he was bleeding from even his ears. He had been hiding it all this while, the moment the Prince left, he let everything out.

Chapter 1026 Running For His Life

"An Elemental Venerable truly is powerful." Grey said with a sigh.

If not for his chaos orb, he wouldn't have been able to contend with the Prince and would most likely have had to flee the moment he exchanged moves with the Prince. His strong physique also made things somewhat easier for him since he was able to hide his injuries from the knowledge of the Prince.

Had the Prince found out about his injuries, he might have taken the risk of trying to stay a little longer, and even attacking him more instead of letting him run with such ease. He might even try to take a few blows just to make sure that he would shorten the distance and cause even greater damage to Grey.

"You survived, I'm impressed."

A voice came from the void before a figure appeared in front of Grey.

Grey's expression changed drastically, the person standing in front of him was an Elemental Venerable from the Gnome race. This person has obviously been hiding for some time now, watching from the shadows.

'Void.' Grey called out.

'I didn't sense him, he's very good at hiding.' Void replied

The only time Grey was able to sense this person was after the person stepped out of the void. It was just like that time he was being chased and ran into a secret realm.

"Shocked? After so many years, you think we haven't found a way to bypass this stupid realm and search for a way to stay a little longer." The figure chuckled.

His strength was definitely higher than the Prince's strength, but the difference wasn't too much.

"You're here to kill me as well, looks like you Gnomes really think highly of me, too highly I fear." Grey said, his expression cold once again.

This was not the time to dwell on his injuries, he had to be prepared for anything.

"It can't be helped, you killed too many of our people, what did you expect?" The figure asked.

"A banquet?" Grey replied jokingly.

The figure's mouth twitched repeatedly.

"Unlike that useless Prince, I'll kill you and take your head back to the capital. I don't think you know the reward that has been placed on your head." He said as he stared at Grey menacingly.

Grey took a step back, and without even thinking, his figure shot straight in the direction of the portal of humans. His injuries were not something that would hold him down, the small time he was talking with the figure, he was making sure he healed to the fullest.

Although he was not completely healed up, it wasn't a problem for him to escape.

The figure rushed after him, trying to make sure Grey didn't escape from his hands.

Grey created chaos orbs as he rushed forward, occasionally tossing one or two at the figure that was chasing after him. Just when he thought he was free, another person was lying in wait.

'I thought I wouldn't have to run again? I hate this life.' He complained internally, cursing at the young man as well as he ran through the realm.

'Once you notice a secret space, notify me.' Grey said to Void.

The young man from the Gnome race chasing after him was faster than the Prince, so he was able to catch up with Grey before he even managed to get to a good distance.

Grey tried to block his attack but was sent flying, crashing into the ground, causing a large crater.

Grey didn't dare to stay there as he rushed out of the place and continued his escape. Fighting against this person was out of the question, he didn't even dare to try to exchange blows with him.

The young man was stronger than the Prince, if his guess was correct, this person should be in the Second or Third stage of the Elemental Venerable Plane. His attack power and control over his strength were miles ahead of the Prince.

"Damn it! Damn it! Damn it!" Grey cursed repeatedly as he was escaping.

Once again, he lacked strength, so he was being chased around. However, he knew this person couldn't stay here for too long, just like the Prince, the realm would soon start to take its effect on him, at that time, he would have no choice but to leave Grey alone.

"I'm not that useless, before I go, I'll be leaving with your corpse." The young man snorted coldly. He knew Grey's plan, and he didn't have any plans of going with it.

His time here was limited, if Grey thought that he would be able to use the same technique as when he was being chased by the Prince, he was hugely mistaken. Compared to the Prince, he had seen Grey's hidden moves and knew what to do against them. Of course he naturally wouldn't be able to block against all of them, but he should be able to block against most of them.

Grey originally faced the human race's hideout, but thinking of the danger that might inflict the others, he changed his direction.

The young man blocked him and attacked, Grey sent out a chaos orb to block the attack, but he was unable to block it as the impact forced him back.

He didn't have the luxury to check any of his injuries, escaping was his main priority.

Void was occasionally helping with his space element, but against a Second or Third stage Elemental Venerable, he didn't really have much say. In the Sage Plane, except for Grey, he basically had no equal, but fighting across an entire Plane was out of reach.

While in lower Planes, it would've been possible, but now, it was almost impossible. What Grey was doing was outright ridiculous. If others heard of him exchanging blows with a Second or Third stage Elemental Venerable, they would be shocked. It was still acceptable if it was an Elemental Venerable that had just broken through, but a Second stage Elemental Venerable was just too powerful for a Sage Plane Elementalist.

Chapter 1027 Who Is This Grey?

"Stop running!" The young man from the Gnome race yelled in frustration.

Yes, he was stronger, he knew Grey's hidden moves, yet, he had not been able to capture Grey. It was even harder trying to get him to stay in one location.

Grey might not be as strong as he was, but in terms of escaping, he felt Grey was unmatched. With the number of times he had smacked and sent Grey crashing, he shouldn't be able to still move, yet Grey was still running at full speed, even taking time to curse at him and also throw attacks his way.

What was frustrating was Grey's ability to switch places, when he was watching Grey use it, he felt it wouldn't be a problem for him to guard against it since he already knew of it, but Grey was a cunning individual, only using it when the young man never expected. He would use it at the most unpredictable times that even when the young man was on guard against it, he would be unable to do anything against it.

Frustration was starting to set in, not just frustration, but the realm had also started to show its hand as cracks had started to appear on the body of the young man.

Grey had noticed this and knew that all he had to do was to hang on a little while. As long as he persisted, then this young man would be forced to leave the realm just as the Prince did.

The young man roared in desperation and rushed after Grey. Some minutes ago he called the Prince useless, but now, he would be the more useless one since the Prince was weaker than he was.

"Damn it! Stop running you rat!" The young man cursed.

"You're the rat, your entire family are rats!" Grey cursed.

He didn't forget to anger the young man as he escaped, there was nothing better than making his opponent agitated. Although this would make things difficult for him, it would also make the young man make more mistakes and give him a chance to even harm him.

The young man attacked wildly, trying to make sure he injured Grey. Grey on the other hand was dodging the few he could, the ones he couldn't he would try his best to block it, even if the impact was deadly to him, he had no choice but to cope with it.

As time went on, the young man started to get more desperate, his attacks were wilder now and his eyes were red. His mind was racing, thinking of how he mocked the Prince, yet he was unable to do anything to Grey.

Grey was successfully escaping, although his body was riddled with injuries, he was alive, and that was all that was important.

The young man from the Gnome race looked at his current condition, then at Grey.

'I can't kill him.' He thought in depression.

Just like the Prince, he finally realized that he couldn't kill Grey. The only thing was that he figured it out too late. Grey had already dragged him here for so long, even going as far as hurting him. Some of Grey's ingenious attacks had been able to cause him some superficial injuries which infuriated him.

"Stop! You're powerful right? Stop and fight me like a man!" The young man was going crazy.

"You're crazy, why don't you wait till I'm in the Elemental Venerable Plane before attacking me? Hypocrite!" Grey cursed as he continued running like a scared chicken.

What he said made perfect sense that the young man didn't even have anything to retort with. If he was truly powerful, why was he bullying him with his superior strength? The fact that he couldn't even get Grey to exchange more than two moves before he ran away showed that they were not on the same level.

If they truly fought while on the same stage, Grey would beat him up no doubt, even he knew this as well.

He tried to make sure he caught up with Grey, but in the end, it was useless. His time here was up, he had to leave before his body was destroyed. The cracks on his body had already started to spread all over his body and he could barely use his original strength. One of the things placed here was to slowly weaken the strength of those above the Sage Plane.

If the young man stayed any longer, he would die under Grey's hands, he knew of this. This was also the reason the Prince escaped as well.

Grey laughed when he saw the look of hesitation in the eyes of the young man.

"Haha, you're thinking of escaping, why, are you afraid of me?" He mocked.

The young man snorted coldly but didn't respond. Without a second word, he rushed out of the place, heading towards the weak link he could use to go back to the higher realm.

Grey thought of chasing after him, but he knew it wasn't worth it, so he decided to stay put. Besides, he was bleeding all over and his internal organs were almost destroyed. The impact of this young man's attacks was more powerful than the Prince's and caused even greater damage to his already injured organs.

"Fuck! I'll kill them once I get to the Venerable Plane." Grey declared before rushing back to the human race's hideout. He had to tell the others to lay low for some time, it was best if they didn't stay in the secret realm. With so many Elemental Venerables coming here, the others would definitely face some dangers.

'I need to recuperate first, I can't go back like this.' He thought to himself and went in search of a secret space to hide while he recuperated.

The Prince just left the lower realm when the young man left as well. The weak link suddenly disappeared, impossible for them to see again.

...

In the higher realm, a meeting was being held amongst the humans.

"Who is this Grey that they want to kill?"

Chapter 1028 Each With Their Plans

"He's the person that helped us win the tournament, the second I heard they were trying to kill someone, I knew it had to be him. He's the only person that I can say for a fact is invincible in the Sage Plane." A young man said.

If Grey was here, he would've recognized the young man. It was none other than Scott, Sylvia's younger brother.

When he heard the news of someone slaughtering the people of the Gnome race, he knew it was none other than Grey. Only Grey was strong enough to do as he pleases in a place where there were no Elemental Venerables.

When the Prince went to the lower realm, they knew of it as well. Someone rushed to the lower realm as well, but the person had returned, and he didn't find Grey, nor did he see the Prince. According to the person, Grey should be alive, well, it was a guess.

The people in the hall turned to look at Scott, some of them chuckling. Saying Grey was invincible in the Sage Plane was an exaggeration. There were some of them here who felt they were also invincible while they were at the Peak of the Sage Plane.

A few of them felt maybe Grey was talented, after all, Scott was someone they all knew as a genius, and if he acknowledges Grey, that meant Grey was better than he is.

"I don't think you all understand, at the time of the competition, he was only in the Fifth stage of the Sage Plane, but he could go toe to toe with me even though I was at the Peak of the Sage Plane." Scott could tell what most of the people were thinking and explained.

Surprise showed on the faces of some of the people in the hall, they never thought Grey was that talented. Although they had all heard of him, they didn't take their time to listen to the stories. Most of the people here were already in the Elemental Venerable Plane before coming here, a Sage Plane Elementalist wouldn't catch their eye unless said person is a genius.

"I see. Someone like him will be valuable here, he can help with the battles. Send words to the Elder guarding the portal, Grey must be found and taken out for his safety."

"Also, track the movements of the Gnomes, we must do our part to protect him."

...

While the humans were having a meeting, on another side of the higher realm, another group was having a meeting, they were all members of the Gnome race.

"You didn't find him?" Someone turned to the Prince.

Although they had a higher cultivation level, they still had to be respectful to the Prince.

"No, and the realm was already starting to affect me. I guess we'll have to search for a way to go in with a large number." The Prince replied.

When he said this, a figure from the crowd looked at him, but this figure didn't say a word. This person was the young man who attacked Grey immediately after the Prince left. He knew that the Prince couldn't dare to announce the result of his encounter with Grey, and neither could he. For two Elemental Venerables to be unable to kill a Peak Sage Plane Elementalist was a disgrace.

The young man knew that he wouldn't be able to raise his head again if the others heard about it.

"Is he that important?" Someone asked.

"At the Sixth stage, he can fight against me when I was at the Peak. In the space of three months, I heard he's currently in the Ninth stage of the Sage Plane, not just that, but he seems to be able to track us down." The Prince paused and looked at everyone present, "Now tell me, do you think he's important?"

The others didn't say a word, but they could tell that this human was unlike any other. Being able to advance from the Sixth to the Ninth stage in three months was an insane speed. Not just that, but he was also able to fight against someone as talented as the Prince with such a large difference in the cultivation stage.

Grey was a danger to all of them. They all knew that the portal would soon be open and they could enter the human world in large numbers, the great war was coming, and such a talent shouldn't be allowed to grow. The fact that he grew this much was a shocking thing.

"Send words out, if he doesn't come to the higher realm and leaves before he breaks through, we have to make sure that our people in the human world would take the appropriate actions." The Prince said.

Since he was here, he was the leader of the group. He might be the one with one of the lowest cultivation levels, but his status was higher than everyone present.

Someone nodded and stood up, heading out.

The Prince wanted Grey dead at all costs, and from what he has said, so did all these people.

...

In the lower realm.

Grey had no idea of what these people were planning, all he wanted to do now was to leave this place. He was already very close to the Peak of the Sage Plane, but staying was a little too dangerous now. If someone with a higher level comes again, he might not be able to escape or hang on.

"Why don't you just hide in a secret space and cultivate?" Void suggested.

"Staying here will only put others in danger. I'm not that selfish. I can easily hide my aura and cultivate, but with the trouble I've caused, I'm afraid I can't." Grey shook his head with a self-deprecating laugh.

As much as he wanted to stay here, he couldn't.

"A shame. Let's leave then, I've been waiting for so long to break through." Void didn't argue any longer.

Grey had his reasons for wanting to leave, and he didn't want to force him to stay, besides, he had been holding back from breaking through for a long time now.

Chapter 1029 Origin Source

Aurora Continent, somewhere in the Middle Continent.

Grey stepped out of the portal with a relieved expression on his face. Void was on his shoulder, clearly excited.

He was about to break through and become a Rank Seven Magical Beast. When a Magical Beast breaks through to the Seventh Rank or the Elemental Venerable Plane is slightly different from a human. Both Magical Beasts and humans develop origin sources, but Magical Beasts awaken a new innate skill. These skills are unique to a Magical Beast and each Magical Beast, even if they are of the same species, has different skills.

These skills coincide with the origin source they develop, making them stronger. This was why the more powerful a Magical Beast, the harder it was for a human powerhouse to beat it at the same stage. Originally, Magical Beasts are stronger, adding this to their arsenal made them even more powerful.

The origin source on the other hand draws an Elementalist closer to the world, they control and knowledge of their elements becomes better, not just that, but the origin source also acts as an amplifier. Take for instance, an Elementalist's attack power is calculated with numbers, the attack power of a Peak Sage Plane Elementalist would be around one thousand. For an Elemental Venerable to unleash the same attack with that number, instead of using one thousand, they would use two hundred, but they can amplify the attack with their origin source.

An Elementalist's control and knowledge over his elements would determine how their amplifiers work. Some people can get ten times amplification while others don't even get up to two times the amplification. This all falls down to latent talent. It has nothing to do with an Elementalist's elemental grade.

Originally, before the Elemental Venerable Plane, elemental grades were very important, but with the increase of Planes, its role starts to decrease. Of course this doesn't mean that it would become useless. Elemental grades play small parts with amplification, giving around half of the original from the start. But as an Elemental Venerable advances, their strength and control increases, making the amplification better.

In this stage, an Elementalist's domain power sees a significant increase. The amplification here has double effects, this is also the place where elemental grades play important roles.

...

"You're out." The Elder on the side said with relief in his voice.

Grey looked at the Elder, a little confused. He didn't know the Elder, so seeing him with such a reaction was a little odd, but he still nodded.

"It's good. The news of someone heading from the higher realm to the lower realm to kill you has reached us..." The Elder explained.

They had even sent people inside to search for Grey, but they couldn't find him. Some of them thought he was dead, while others felt maybe he was hiding. But now that the Elder had seen Grey, he was relieved. They all knew of Grey single-handedly causing a massive headache for the Gnome race. The story of him camping outside their portals even made these Elders who were already old feel their bloods boil. Grey was powerful, and brave. His type was rare.

Due to Grey's presence, the death toll of the people who entered reduced significantly. The Gnomes were the ones who always hunted them down, now, the case was reversed, and it was all done by a single person.

After hearing the Elder's words, Grey finally understood the reason for his reaction.

'To think that they've been bullying us for so long.' He said to Void.

'The people who entered in the past were all weak, they can't be blamed for bullying the weak.' Void said nonchalantly.

If the Elder were to hear Void's statement, he might flip out and even try to kill him that instant.

Grey didn't stay with the Elder for too long, after exchanging some words with him, he left. Void wanted to break through, so he wanted to find a good spot for him to break through.

After leaving, Grey headed to the Burchard Family, he wanted to inform Sylvia that he was out and would be leaving soon.

When he got there, Sylvia was not alone, she was accompanied by some Elders.

"Grey, you're out." She smiled when she saw him.

"Yes." Grey nodded.

He knew that she wasn't alone, but he didn't want to waste too much time.

"We were just talking about you. The Gnomes want you dead, do you know that?" The Head of the Burchard Family said to Grey.

"I'm aware, they even sent Elemental Venerables after me, I was lucky." He replied.

"In the realm?" The Head of the Burchard Family couldn't help but raise a brow.

Grey told them of how the Prince as well as the young man attacked him.

The faces of Sylvia and the rest showed disbelief. If not for the fact that Grey was the one telling them, they would never believe it if someone else said it. Fighting against an Elemental Venerables and not only did he not die, but he managed to escape from two attacks. They all had a hard time believing it, but they also knew how powerful Grey was. If he could fight against a Peak Sage Plane Elementalist with a difference of five stages, then he should also be able to achieve this.

"This is unbelievable!" An Elder said with a shocked face.

Grey didn't try to convince them to believe him, it wasn't like it would change anything.

"You should be careful when moving, there's a kill order for you, all the necromancers are after you." The Head of the Burchard Family said.

"Huh?" Grey was stunned.

Why was a kill order for him, what did he do? Even the necromancers were after him, could it be that something he didn't know happened?

Seeing his face, they knew that he had no idea of what was happening.

"Our spies told us about your death warrant. Apparently, you angered the Gnomes so much that they took the risk of contacting some people here." The Head of the Burchard Family said with a chuckle.

Chapter 1030 Void's Breakthrough

Grey was stunned by the news, he never thought that the Gnomes would actually bring out a death warrant for him, they didn't even want to keep him alive or even turn him into a puppet, they wanted to outright kill him.

Void couldn't help but mock Grey for his current situation. He had just managed to remove the mark, yet he was being hunted down. With his easily recognizable face, it wouldn't be hard for people to find him. What was worse was that he didn't know who was a spy and who was not, so at the moment, he was in danger of being killed by people close to him.

"Do you know who are possible spies for them?" He asked the Head of the Burchard Family.

"There are a few suspects, but we don't have any concrete evidence so we can't say for now. But everyone is aware that necromancers are one of them. Not just that, but there are also people from multiple Factions who are under their command..." The Head of the Burchard Family explained to Grey.

Normally, a Sage Plane Elementalist didn't have the right to know of these, but given Grey's position, and also being the son of someone as powerful as Lucas, there was no need in hiding it from him, besides, his life was also in danger.

Grey listened attentively and his expression changed slightly when he heard of a familiar Faction, the Nether Faction. Being a Darkness Elemental Faction, and given their horrible behavior, it was quite easy to suspect them. It would be dangerous if the Gnomes managed to build such a powerful and large Faction.

'Damn it, when I thought I would be free.' He complained internally.

Once again, he wouldn't be able to travel freely for the fear of being hunted down.

"Thank you for telling me this, I won't be staying long." Grey bowed to show his appreciation, but he was not going to stay here. Someone like him could never be idle.

The Head of the Burchard Family shook his head with a sigh, he knew Grey would never want to stay there.

"Alright, I'll send someone to escort you till you get to the teleportation array." He said.

As long as Grey didn't die within their territory, it was fine. If Grey were to die here, Lucas would definitely turn the place upside down.

'I believe he already knows of this, he should rush over to help him.' He thought to himself.

Grey left the city in no time and before he knew it, he was already thousands of kilometers away from the city.

Being transported by an expert above the Elemental Venerable Plane was faster than when he was moving on his own.

The scenery changed and sometime later, Grey was already close to the edge of the Middle Continent, about to head back to the Western Continent.

....

"Take care of yourself, and try to stay out of crowded places." The man who escorted him till the end of the Middle Continent advised before heading back.

Grey nodded before walking away, there was no need to stay there any longer. His next stop was the Dawson Family compound. As much as he would want to go back to the Faction, he knew that with his Father being the one known as the strongest, he would be safer there for now.

He didn't have any plans of staying there for too long, he only wanted to tell his Father the current situation before heading back to the Faction.

"Void, looks like you'll have to break through now. It's too dangerous to hold back now." He turned his attention to Void.

Getting stronger was their best bet now. He couldn't break through in a short time, so he had to rely on Void if he wanted protection.

Void was stronger than most geniuses in the same stage, so they shouldn't have any issues with those in the Early stages of the Elemental Venerable Plane, only those in the Mid stages and above would pose a threat to them, but it didn't mean they would be able to defeat him easily.

"Hehe, I'll train you once I've broken through so that you can get used to the strength of an Elemental Venerable." Void said with a mischievous smile.

Grey knew Void's plan, but he didn't try to stop him. It would be nice for him to test the strength of those Elemental Venerables to make sure he was acquainted with the strength. Void was stronger than others, so it would make things better.

They soon found a good location, after Grey set up multiple arrays, Void began his breakthrough, he had been holding himself back, so now that the opportunity was presented to him, he didn't delay.

Within a few seconds, Void's appearance soon started to change, from his usual small size, his body grew larger, and his dark fur started to sprout a few golden spots on it. It was mesmerizing.

Grey watched on as Void's aura started to shoot up.

A light shot from the sky with a flash and entered Void's head, his aura started to see a change. He spat out his cores and they all started to absorb essence at a crazy pace, while doing this, they were also forming the link with each element's origin source. Grey could literally see the cores forming some sort of tentacle that started to search for something, before long, as if it was connected to something, the tentacles stopped moving and massive energy started to rush into the cores.

The speed was faster than it previously was.

Grey watched the scene attentively, he knew that although Magical Beasts were different from humans, there wasn't much difference when they were breaking through.

Some time passed and Void's size returned to its previous state, even the golden spots disappeared, it was as if they never appeared.

Grey was watching Void curiously, trying to figure out what was different with him.

"Hey, how do you feel?" He couldn't help but ask when Void kept his eyes closed.

"I feel great! Haha!" Void laughed in delight as he opened his eyes.

His eyes, which were usually pitch black had a faint golden glow in them. The glow would appear and disappear, only after some time did it stop.

"Haha, I'm the king!" Void declared.

"You only broke through to the Elemental Venerable Plane, there's no need to be too excited over it." Grey said with dark lines on his face.

"What do you know? Do you think I'm a regular Seventh Rank Magical Beast?" Void chided, his head held up high with pride.

Grey felt a bit of a headache and decided to stop answering him. Void was like Klaus, very proud and arrogant, the more he tried to want to know what he was feeling, the more arrogance Void would display, so it was best to leave him alone, maybe he would finally come to his senses after being ignored.

Just as Grey expected, after not bothering him and focusing on himself, Void soon got bored of showing off. Well, since there was no one to show off to, it was a waste of his time.

Grey scoffed as he looked at Void, "Ready to talk now?"

"You're no fun." Void said grumpily.

Grey couldn't be bothered with him as he asked the important question, "What innate skill did you awaken?"

He was quite curious. There was a possibility that the change in Void's appearance had to do with the awakening of his innate skill. Of course he wasn't a hundred percent certain of this, it was just his speculation.

"It's nothing serious." Void said with a dull look.

"Seriously?" Grey was taken aback, "Show me."

Void nodded and did as he said. Grey's vision soon changed and it was like he was thrown into boundless space, this time, there were stars. These stars were golden spots that were shining brightly. With curiosity in his heart, he stretched his hand forward, trying to touch one of them.

"Don't!" Void exclaimed and hastily withdrew the skill.

"What?" Grey was alarmed.

Void's reaction was unusual, could something be wrong with the golden spots?

"I don't know if you can handle the impact of the attack." Void said.

"Those golden spots are attacks?" Grey was stunned. He didn't sense a single aura from the golden spots. Naturally, he knew they were not for fancy, but he didn't really think they would be dangerous, after all, there were hundreds of them in there.

"Yeah." Void nodded his head.

"Impressive, I'd like to test it out though." Grey said.

He was confident in his abilities, so even if the attack was dangerous, there was no way it would be able to kill him.

"No, you will see it when I use it against someone else." Void refused.

"What are you being agitated over, it's just an attack. Is it stronger than that Gnome race's genius' attack?" Grey felt like Void was looking down on him and asked, a little irritated.

"Probably."