

Affinity 1131

Chapter 1131 Taking Care Of Business

The young lady from the Syphilis Faction walked into the platform, a little fearful.

The young man from the Syphilis Faction didn't dare to walk more than five meters away from the platform.

With Grey present there, he knew he would try to kill him. If he was attacked by Grey, he would lose his life.

Grey was smiling radiantly at him, but all the young man saw was a devil's grin. Grey was the devil.

When the young lady stepped on the platform, the lady appeared once again and repeated the same words.

Grey was watching from the side, sometimes nodding and even applauding the young lady's effort, other times, booing. In short, he was taking the battle as some form of entertainment. Not just that, but he wanted to irritate the young lady who was fighting.

The young man looked at Grey, and saw Grey dart a glance at him. His body shuddered when he saw Grey's eyes, he knew the current Grey who was applauding the young lady's performance was not the real Grey. Someone who could kill a person within the blink of an eye was not someone to be taken lightly.

Grey might be smiling, but he was evil.

The young man kept his eyes on Grey the whole time, he didn't want Grey to sneak up on him.

"Continue staring and I'll kill you." An eerie voice resounded in the ears of the young man.

Grey's figure was still in the same spot, but he could feel a bone-chilling aura from his back. He knew for a fact that Grey was standing in front of him, even though he could still see Grey's figure standing in its previous position.

His eyes widened in realization when the figure dissipated.

"Afterimage." He muttered, a wry smile on his face.

Grey's speed was something he couldn't fathom. The afterimage represented Grey's freakish speed. If Grey had used the space element, he wouldn't have been able to leave an afterimage, only when he moved with his body would an afterimage appear.

The fact that Grey could appear behind him with only his physical speed meant a lot.

'How is he so fast?' His mind was in turmoil.

"Did you enjoy my battle?" Grey asked the young man, taking a closer look at the ongoing battle.

The young lady was doing well against the lady. It could be seen that she was not using her full strength. This had a lot to do with Grey's presence. If she tried to use her full strength, she wouldn't be able to defend herself against Grey's possible sneak attack later on.

The young man was injured and his strength had declined, he was the strongest in the group, but he doesn't seem to be Grey's match.

She was fighting when she saw Grey standing behind the young man. Her heart skipped a beat, and she made an error, giving the lady the opportunity to beat her down.

"Focus on the battle, you have more to worry about after it." Grey said.

The young lady was frightened, but there was nothing she could do about it. Grey was too strong.

At first, they didn't think too highly of Grey and felt he was not on their level. They were geniuses in their own rights and felt Grey was not stronger than they were.

When they forced Grey onto the platform, they thought even less of him when he agreed to it. To them, a true genius would never agree to that.

Only after Grey caused the death of the young man in the Sage Plane did they understand that they had messed with a demon.

The young man still had the thought of being stronger than Grey, after all, Grey didn't fight against them and used trickery to separate them. However, after getting injured, he didn't dare to fight Grey any longer.

Once he was done healing, he would take care of Grey. He couldn't believe Grey was actually so foolish and allowed him to heal.

The young lady on the platform was for her life on the platform after being distracted by Grey's sudden appearance.

A minute later, the voice of the lady sounded once again, "Failed."

Other than when the lady fought against Grey, she had been speaking all through. Grey didn't only beat her, but he directly obliterated her. She didn't have the chance to tell him he won.

"A shame." Grey said when the young lady stepped off the platform with an exhausted expression.

She raised her head to look at Grey, and without saying anything further, she walked away.

Grey chuckled, "Whose idea was it to kill me?"

The young lady paused, while the young man shuddered, but he didn't show any fear. The young lady didn't say anything, only staring at Grey.

"You don't want to say? I didn't expect you to." Grey expected such a reaction.

He wanted to grab the shoulder of the young man, but he was covered with black fog.

He smiled, not afraid of this fog. His fire domain spread out, covering himself and the young man.

The young man turned around and attacked, trying to force Grey to retreat.

Grey blocked the attack with his scale-covered skin before attacking the young man with a powerful blow.

The young man heard the sound of his shoulder blades breaking and shrieking in pain.

Grey's fist landed on his shoulder, after the first blow, the sound of bones breaking spread out again. Grey punched the ribs of the young man with frightening speed. In the space of a second, Grey unleashed over twenty punches.

The young man's domain was sucked into his body, and his body inflated as he tried to fight through the pain of having his bones broken.

The young man's body started to grow large and he threw a punch at Grey.

Grey blocked the attack but took a step back. He raised his head to look at the young man, a smile forming on his face.

"Interesting."

Chapter 1133 Gnomes?

The young man fought Grey with all he had, his inflated body was starting to shrink after two minutes, and his strength deteriorating as well. Still, he didn't stop attacking Grey. He wanted Grey to pay, even if he couldn't kill him, he wanted to make sure Grey would be wounded and unable to advance.

Grey was like a fish in the water, easily dodging all his attacks. With Grey's space element, it was almost impossible for the young man to even touch his clothes, much less harm him.

Knowing the attack power of the young man was at its peak, Grey didn't want to take any attack from him.

The young man started to fall into a desperate state as he attacked in a frenzy. No matter how he attacked, he would always miss Grey by a little bit. He knew this was all due to his inferior speed and he couldn't help but feel helpless. Grey was too fast.

Darkness Elementalists are not known to be the fastest, they might have deadly attack powers, but they were not on the same level as Lightning, Wind, Space, and Light Elementalists when it came to speed. Grey had all these elements, alongside his frightening physical speed as well. Not even a Light Elementalist could catch up to him, much less a Darkness Elementalist.

The time flew by and the young man returned to his previous state, well, a state worse than his previous state. He could barely stand after his inflated body dried up.

Grey shook his head when he saw the young man. He had already injured the young man when he attacked the first time.

"I guess it's time for you to try the challenge once again." He clicked his tongue and said.

The young man was not able to respond, he was bleeding from all seven orifices.

Grey used the space element to drop him on the platform. He didn't leave, he wanted to ensure the young man died before he left.

The others who were watching from the side didn't feel too much sympathy for the trio from the Syphilis Faction. All they felt at the moment was fear, fear of the human devil that was standing before them.

Grey was strong and cunning. Having these two characteristics made him even more formidable.

The lady on the platform appeared, seeing another near-death participant, she couldn't help but look at Grey. Grey acted as if he didn't see her, watching the young man's movement closely. He could see something wriggling in the young man's skin.

When they were fighting, he didn't take note of it, only now that the young man was unable to move did he notice it.

The lady repeated the same words and attacked.

As expected, the young man was unable to block it. However, just as he was about to die, something happened. His body seemed to come back to life and he shot at Grey.

Grey's pupils dilated when he saw this as a great sense of crisis arose in his heart, without waiting for anything else, he used the power of teleportation to leave the place. He could leave since he had already passed the stage.

The moment he was wrapped by the teleportation powers, the young man appeared before him, and with vicious laughter, he exploded.

Grey let out a muffled groan as blood sipped out from the side of his mouth. Even with the teleportation power covering him, he was still affected by the impact.

The others who didn't pass the stage were not as lucky as he was. They died from the explosion.

Grey's eyes were cold as he appeared on the next stage. A place covered with snow. He couldn't care about the beauty of the scenery before him, he could still recall the eyes of the young man.

"Gnomes." He said through gritted teeth.

Yes, the young man was controlled by a Gnome. He might not have been aware, but the moment his consciousness faded after the lady's attack, his body was controlled by something else. Grey was a hundred percent certain that it was a Gnome who controlled the young man. Gnomes had different abilities, and being able to control a dead person was one of the easier ones.

Seeing how determined the Gnome was to kill him, he was sure it was aware of his identity.

"Syphilis Faction." He muttered to himself.

The probability of them being members of necromancers was not low. They were a Darkness Elementalist Faction which had grown slowly with time. In general, all Darkness Elementalist Factions are suspected of being necromancers, but there was no way to clarify it so others left them alone.

There have been necromancers who had managed to sneak into even the top Factions, so all Factions were suspected of working with the Gnomes.

Grey was an individual these Gnomes wanted dead, at all costs. They saw him as a threat since he could neutralize their strongest abilities, even using them to his advantage. They didn't know why he hadn't taught this technique to others yet, and they were glad he hadn't. Now, they wanted to kill him before he did.

Grey knew these people wanted him dead, and given how many times he had almost been killed by them, he hated them to the core. Anyone affiliated with necromancers or the Gnomes was his enemy.

He threw that thought to the back of his head and looked around. The snow-white world was captivating to look at.

"I wonder what this trial could be." He muttered.

Since they were in a new place that needed some exploring, he brought out the bunny leader and Void to help out.

The duo started playing in the snow instead of helping out.

Grey couldn't help but facepalm when he saw this. The duo was clearly still young. Well, so was he, but he felt he was more mature than they were. At least, he didn't play in the snow the moment he saw it.

Chapter 1134 Divine Luck

After letting the duo do as they pleased for a few minutes, he brought their attention back to the matter at hand, finding out how to leave this place.

Void wasn't happy being interrupted, but Grey promised to make a place filled with snow for him when they left this place so he was contented. The bunny leader didn't have any issues with this as well.

They started to explore the place, searching for the opportunity to leave. They walked for over an hour before they saw what they were searching for. In front of them was a large crystal building. They could hear the sounds of people inside the building.

Grey looked at the duo, especially at Void.

Already knowing Grey's intent, Void replied, "There are no treasures inside."

Grey was a little disappointed when he heard this, but he didn't give up, he knew there was something to be gained from each stage, he just had to make sure he did his best to get them.

Take the last stage for instance, teleporting at will wasn't the benefit he gained from there, rather, it was an elemental technique. Since he didn't have light elemental techniques, he asked for this. The lady impacted him with a light elemental attack technique. From what he read about it, he knew this technique would be fearsome.

He continued walking and stepped on the crystal building. There were rows of tables, and on the side were shelves filled with books.

The moment he stepped in, he saw a familiar figure on one of the tables with a frustrated expression. The person saw him as well.

"Buddy, you're here. Come quick, decode this thing." Klaus didn't give him the chance to say anything and tossed a book at him.

Grey instinctively caught the book and took a glance. He felt his world crumbling when he saw the book. There was a special power in it that threw him off guard.

When Klaus saw the change in his expression, he gave an embarrassed smile before saying, "I forgot to tell you to prepare yourself."

He was in a haste and forgot about the rules before reading this book. One's mind must be at ease, and they must cover their eyes with their spiritual consciousness. Grey didn't do any of that and he was almost fainted from the pressure he felt from it.

"What are these books?" Grey regained his calm and asked.

This was the first time he was seeing a book like this, and to be honest, he was quite intrigued by it.

"These are questions you will know from the pages."

The projection of the old man appeared once again. He had been keeping track of Grey's progress and saw everything that happened in the previous round. The fact that Grey was able to kill the lady was a shocking feat. He was just as shocked as when Grey managed to defeat that young man.

While the lady was still alive, she was known to be almost invisible among her peers. While growing up, she didn't suffer any defeats until she got to the Peak where she encountered a few frightening figures, the young man included. She lost to them, but it would be difficult if they wanted to kill her.

Grey on the other hand killed her while being distracted by others, it was a shocking feat.

"It's you again." Grey said when he saw the old man.

The old man smiled but didn't speak any further.

"Isn't there anything you'd like to tell me?" Grey asked.

"Your friend already told you what you need to know. To leave this place, you must understand how it was built. And all those are in the books." The old man said, before taking his seat.

Grey looked at the old man, wondering if he would gain anything if he killed him.

As if seeing through Grey's thoughts, the old man said, "I can't die."

Klaus, who was by the side, was taken aback when he heard this. He didn't understand why the old man was telling Grey he can't die.

This was the third round and he had been stuck here for a while. He blitzed through the previous stages and felt like he wouldn't have any problems with the others. Unfortunately, he was stuck here.

Grey didn't bother with the old man any longer and took a seat close to Klaus, glancing through the words in the book. This time, he wasn't hit with an oppressive wave, rather, he saw some obscure words.

"Have you been able to read them?" He turned to Klaus.

Klaus had been here for a while, so he felt he should know some things about it.

"Nope. I've tried for hours, but nothing. I think they have to do with arrays." Klaus replied.

Grey nodded and focused on the book.

While Grey was reading, the old man was staring at him with a strange look. When Klaus tossed the book at Grey, he could've stopped it, but he didn't. He was quite curious about Grey and wanted to know how he would react. To be honest, he didn't expect Grey to snap out of it within such a short time.

'This kid is special. Let's see if he can get to the last stage.' He thought to himself before glancing at Klaus.

'To think they are friends.'

He didn't know what to think about Klaus' situation. If Grey hadn't come, it was clear as day that there was no way Klaus would've been able to get through this stage. But Grey came at the time he was getting close to giving up.

'Is it coincidence? Or is his luck just that good?'

He had seen Klaus' cases, and unlike Grey who worked hard for it, Klaus doesn't seem to do anything special but he gets rewarded. Even in this stage. Others were teleported a far distance away from this place, but he appeared in the building directly.

Klaus' luck was divine.

Chapter 1135 Getting Cooked?

Grey was focused on reading the book while Klaus was studying the building from the side. The ice was so powerful that no matter how hard he tried, he was unable to leave a scratch on it. He had even tried using the sword he obtained from this place, but the result was the same. He was bounced back by the ice.

Some hours later, Grey's eyes glowed with an understanding light.

"I see. Such intricate arrays. Good stuff." He exclaimed.

"You can leave this place now?" Klaus asked from the side. He was tired of playing with Void and the bunny leader.

"Not yet, but I should understand more about it after reading more books." Grey replied.

He finished the book after a few hours. An Elementalist's memory was terrifying, the fact that Grey read it for so long was beyond Klaus' comprehension. Only the old man stared at Grey with a shocked expression.

Grey was a genius, he couldn't deny this fact. Most people would only think of how to leave this place, Grey was different, he didn't want to just leave this place, he wanted more. If he could understand this array, his ability in terms of arrays would skyrocket.

Klaus was a bit disappointed and walked to the side. Staying here was almost like the Moonlight Faction. Inside the Faction, he was covered in snow almost all the time. No matter where he went, he would either see snow or water. He was getting tired of seeing the same scenery.

Void and the bunny leader were not as enthusiastic as they were the first time they saw this place.

'At least it's better than the Faction.' Klaus thought to himself as he caught a snowflake.

He could sense some things that were different with this snow and the snow in the Moonlight Faction.

After a while, he sat down on the snow outside the building and started cultivating. It was unknown what he was doing.

"A Water Elementalist. This place is great for him." The old man muttered as he looked at Klaus.

Klaus discovered the difference on his own and started to cultivate it. There was a high possibility that Klaus would have a major power-up once he understood a few things about the water element. His domain's strength would also see an increase as well.

Time passed by in the place.

Two days went by in the blink of an eye.

Grey had been reading nonstop, while Klaus was still cultivating. It could be said that the duo was lost in what they were doing.

Only after the third day did Grey stop reading the books. He already understood some of the things in this place, even a certain cultivation technique that caused the snow here to be different.

"Good stuff!" He exclaimed.

"Tell me we can leave now." Klaus walked into the building once again.

"We can." Grey's answer made some of the people present look at him.

When he came here, Klaus was not the only person present. There were still a few unfamiliar faces here, and more had entered the place.

Some of these people were lost in the books, it was evident that they were able to understand a few things like Grey. Not everyone was like Klaus who was not serious about these things.

"Then what are we waiting for? Let's go." Klaus urged.

Grey chuckled and turned to the old man and bowed, "Thank you for the opportunity senior, we'll be leaving first."

The old man looked at Grey and shook his head, he was about to respond when he saw something. His eyes enlarged when he saw this and he chuckled unknowingly.

Grey was taking the book that would enable anyone to comprehend the technique. This was a top ice ability technique that would increase the strength of any Water Elementalist.

Grey not only understood how the place was built, but he found a way to gain access to it.

'How did he manage to use the technique so quickly?'

The old man had some doubts. Even if Grey was able to figure out the technique, he shouldn't have been able to use it so soon. What Grey did was use a backdoor to remove the most important aspect of the technique. At this rate, no matter how others understood this place, other than leaving, they wouldn't be able to get anything.

The old man didn't know if he should be impressed by Grey's genius or annoyed by his actions.

With a shake of his head, he watched as the duo and the two small Magical Beasts vanished.

He was quite curious about the next place they would be visiting.

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In another location.

Grey appeared in a volcano, but he didn't find Klaus with him.

"Could he have passed this stage?" He looked around curiously.

Void and the bunny leader were still with him, but Klaus had been teleported to another location. Luckily he thought of this happening and imparted the technique to Klaus.

Klaus was a Water Elementalist, unlike him who had so many elements, Klaus depended fully on his water element.

Grey had no idea that this was the first place Klaus appeared, and that he had passed this stage.

Grey was still thinking about some things when some creatures made from flames attacked him.

The strength of these creatures was average, with a wave of his hand, Grey sent them flying. He didn't have the time to be bothered with things in the Sage Plane. Even An Elemental Venerable in the Early stages wouldn't be able to make him flinch.

After destroying the first batch, more appeared.

"I see."

He didn't leave immediately, rather, he used his fire element to fight against these creatures.

He noticed there was an increase in his fire ability, although small, he could still sense it.

After using his icy flames to attack, he didn't sense the same increase as before. He continued fighting with the creatures that formed from the flames in the volcano.

As the battle progressed, Grey learned some things.

'Increase the hotness.'

Void and the bunny leader were already at the top of the volcano where it was safe. The longer they stayed there, the hotter it got.

Not just that, but the creatures are getting stronger. Only someone as crazy as Grey would stay there at the moment.

Grey didn't want to just leave this place. Each place had its benefits, he wouldn't leave so easily. There should be something to be gained from here.

He continued fighting under the intense heat, not withdrawing.

If Klaus were here, he would've cursed at Grey's stupidity. This wasn't the place where the main treasure was located.

Grey was unaware of this and continued fighting with the creatures. The creatures had started to show the strength of an Elemental Venerable, given their numbers, Grey knew he would have to leave this place soon enough.

As he continued fighting he suddenly started to realize something different.

'It's just like the snow. The heat is different.' His eyes widened.

At first, he didn't notice it, but as the hotness increased, he sensed the difference between them. The hotness here was more intense than in any other place he had been to.

He tried to study it, but it was futile. He couldn't feel anything from it.

His eyes showed disappointment. From how things were going, he knew that learning this technique was going to be difficult.

He had been trying for a while now, but he hadn't been able to understand anything. What was worse was that the heat was getting more intense. If he didn't leave soon, he would be in danger.

After a few more minutes, he gave up and left the volcano. He was sweating profusely.

Void and the bunny leader looked at him like he was a moron. They didn't see the reason behind his actions.

Grey didn't bother to explain anything to them. When he stepped out of the volcano, he couldn't help but give a self-deprecating laugh.

If he stayed inside the volcano for the next three years, he wouldn't be able to understand it, the reason for this was that there was actually nothing inside to comprehend. The reason why the place was getting hotter was that there was someone who was adding something that looked like a coal inside the volcano.

This place couldn't even be called a volcano, it was more like a furnace, shaped like a volcano.

"Why didn't you tell me?" He asked the duo.

"You seemed to be enjoying your fight with them. We don't have any form of entertainment here, so why not watch you get cooked?" Void replied honestly.

They knew Grey wouldn't die, so they didn't think there was any problem with not telling him.

Grey on the other hand felt a bit strange when he heard the word 'get cooked'. As funny as it sounded in his ears, it was the truth. He was literally getting cooked. There was a giant figure adding coal to the fire, making it hotter.

Chapter 1136 The Same Reason

Grey walked to where the giant was and inspected the place. He looked at the place where the giant was placing the coals and fell deep in thought.

There was a possibility he would be able to comprehend what he wanted from this place as long as he stayed there a little longer. He felt there was a way he could increase the intensity of his flames. Even if he couldn't increase the coldness of his icy flames, he wanted to make the normal flames hotter. His icy flames had always been superior to his normal blue flames.

As he studied it, he soon got the general idea he wanted.

"I'll be cultivating first, you guys can do whatever you want."

Grey didn't bother with the duo any longer. They were on an island and it was worth exploring, but his aim for now was to see if he could increase the hotness of his flames.

Void vanished the moment he said this, the bunny leader chasing after him.

The giant had stopped adding coal, apparently, only when there were people would it do that.

Grey closed his eyes and started to feel the hotness.

'I wonder if I can do something like this, increasing the hotness of my flame as I use it.'

An idea suddenly struck him, if he created some flames and nurtured it, it would grow hotter and stronger. However, that would take a long time to accomplish.

'I should try and see if I can learn this first, if not, I'll go with the alternative.'

Time went by in the blink of an eye, Grey was seated in the same spot like a statue. His body glowed with blue flames that gave off intense heat.

It had been a few hours now, and he had noticed there was a slight increase in it. This place was giving him some benefits, making this easier.

From his observation, this was the perfect place to learn how to increase the heat of his flames. Although he was elated, the time needed for an increase was too long. If it continued at this pace, he would need at least a month or so before he could get it to double the previous state.

After some thought, he decided to stay for a day. Once a day was up, he would go to the next round. There was no guarantee that the other places wouldn't take some time.

While he was at the side, he noticed the giant moving.

He opened his eyes and looked at the volcano-like furnace with a deep gaze, "Someone's here."

He contacted Void, calling him over. He didn't know which people they were, it would be bad if they were his enemies, and stronger.

He looked on for a while and saw a group of five walked out.

'Vaergahl Family.'

He recognized one of them, Ellis told him about this young man, telling him he was the leader of the younger generation of the Vaergahl Family. According to what Ellis said, he was a genius who managed to acquire a Dragon's innate skill when he broke through to the Elemental Venerable Plane.

The young man had a stern look on his face. When he saw Grey, he stared at him for a long time. For some reason, he could feel that Grey was like them.

He nodded at Grey, glanced at the giant, and left with his group.

Grey watched them leave and told Void of their presence. Since the people were not enemies, Void didn't return, but he didn't wander far either.

Grey continued his training. The longer he stayed there, the more people came over.

A day soon went by with Grey rooted to the same spot.

Grey opened his eyes, and at the same time, the giant stood up and started working again.

He couldn't be bothered with who was entering this place, a lot of people had come and gone.

Just as he was about to leave, he saw a figure rushing out of the furnace.

He saw the face and smirked, it was someone from the Nether Faction.

The young lady who stepped out looked at Grey with a cold expression, "You're Grey?"

Grey nodded as he assessed her, she was someone who was in the Fifth stage of the Elemental Venerable Plane.

The young lady attacked the moment she saw Grey nod.

Grey could only shake his head and block the young lady's attack. She was a Multi Elementalist, attacking with three elements.

Grey blocked the lightning strike, dodging the wind blades that followed. He was caught by a hand made of water.

The hand slammed him into the ground.

Grey felt his body rocked, but with his strong physique, it would take more than that to keep him down. He stood up and attacked the young lady with his fire element.

The blue flames burned with a ferocious intensity.

The young lady used the water element to block the attack before lightning fell from the sky, striking Grey.

An earth dome appeared above Grey's head, a shield hidden in it. The shield was made from the armor. He didn't want the young lady to see it, so he hid it in the dome.

The lightning strike was blocked by the combination of the earth dome and armor.

Grey disappeared from where he was standing, attacking the young lady from another angle.

The young lady blocked the attack, retreating a few steps back.

The intensity of Grey's flames was not like anything she had seen before. She paused, glancing at Grey from a few meters away.

Grey didn't attack as well, staring at her. He knew fighting here wasn't the best thing. There was no way to recover elemental essence.

The young lady knew this as well.

She had a shocked expression on her face. She was in the Fifth stage of the Elemental Venerable Plane, Grey was only in the First stage, yet, he was fighting on equal footing with her. It was a shocking thing to experience.

The reason she attacked was that she felt she would be able to beat him, but that doesn't seem to be the case.

"Do you still want to continue?" Grey asked with a grin.

They exchanged a few moves and there was no way to know who was stronger. Of course, he felt he would be able to beat the young lady in a battle.

The young lady was about to respond when they saw the giant moving.

Grey turned his attention to the furnace. The giant hadn't even been able to add more coal when a figure flashed out. The figure was someone Grey was familiar with. The young lady from the Syphilis Faction.

When she saw Grey, her eyes lit up and she attacked immediately.

The young lady from the Nether Faction didn't speak and attacked as well.

Grey was currently in their middle, so he was attacked from both sides.

He didn't panic, with a sidestep, he dodged the attack of the young lady from the Syphilis Faction and switched places with her.

His movement was swift, making it hard for the young lady to react on time. She appeared, facing the attack of the young lady from the Nether Faction.

She blocked the attack and snorted, focusing on Grey.

Grey smiled when he saw them looking at him.

"Why are you guys so bent on fighting with me?" He asked coolly.

He wasn't feeling any pressure facing the duo. Against one person, his chances might not be high, but against two or more, he had the confidence he could mess with them.

With his space element, he was not someone they wanted to be entangled with.

The young lady from the Syphilis Faction looked at him with a smile, "We are enemies, I'll naturally want you dead."

"When did we become enemies? Did I offend you?" Grey asked.

"You took the secret from us." The young lady from the Syphilis Faction replied.

"Same here." The young lady from the Nether Faction said.

Grey's offense was the same for the duo, he fought against their Factions in a competition for a secret realm and won both times. On both occasions, Grey could be said to single-handedly win the competition. This was why both parties hated him.

Grey couldn't be bothered with these, "I can't be blamed for your incompetence."

His reply infuriated the duo and they struck out.

Grey blocked the attack, dodging the ones he couldn't.

They didn't give him any chance to do anything, making sure he was only on the defensive. He didn't even have the chance to switch places.

The duo wasn't going to give him that opportunity.

Void and the bunny leader soon appeared, but they were not as strong as the people fighting, so they didn't join in. Grey had asked them if they knew how to leave this place, and they searched for it.

Right now, they could leave whenever they wanted.

Grey thought about it and decided to leave the young ladies. He couldn't fight them together.

Chapter 1137 Old Turtle

"Don't let him leave."

The young lady from the Syphilis Faction chased after Grey as he ran in another direction.

The young lady from the Nether Faction snorted at the young lady's words but she still gave chase.

Sensing the duo chasing after him, Grey snorted.

"Don't think I can't fight you, I'm just too lazy to care about you two now. I'll play with you two next time." Grey didn't stop his movements.

Fighting against these two at the moment was just a waste of time. With his strength, he could win if he gave everything, but he didn't want to at the moment. He didn't know what he would have to face later on, fighting to the death with these people at the moment was simply not worth it.

The duo felt Grey was afraid since he was escaping, so they felt more invigorated to chase him.

Grey could care less, after getting the direction of where he should head from Void, he didn't slow down, instead, he increased his speed.

The duo who were chasing after him, especially the young lady from the Nether Faction, was shocked. She had both the lightning and wind element, so she could be said to be very fast. She was also in the Fifth stage of the Elemental Venerable Plane while Grey was still in the First stage, yet, she couldn't catch up to him. No matter how she increased her strength, she was not able to keep up with him, and the distance was getting further and further.

The young lady from the Syphilis Faction was even worse, although her strength was stronger than Grey's, she was even slower than the other young lady. She was a Darkness Elementalist, and speed had never been her best aspect.

Grey blitzed through the entire forest, getting to the spot to teleport to the next area. He knew the possibility of them entering the same stage was very low, hence he didn't care. Void and the bunny leader appeared on his shoulder and he stepped into the portal, heading to the next stage.

The young lady from the Nether Faction was a step slower, before she arrived Grey had been teleported away. She didn't waste any time and stepped into the portal as well, leaving this place.

The young lady from the Syphilis Faction was the last to appear. She was five seconds slower than the young lady from the Nether Faction. Seeing no one present, she followed the footsteps of the other two, stepping into the portal and disappearing from the area.

....

Grey's vision blurred, and some moments later, he appeared in another location. This place was more serene than the previous one. He was standing on a quiet hillside.

"Hmm, interesting." He looked around.

He couldn't see anything except flowers.

Void and the bunny leader came out once again, seeing the place, they started to explore it. Grey walked in another direction while they went in another direction.

Before long, they soon saw something different. Grey was the one who saw this and called the other two over.

The hill they were actually standing on was not a hill, rather, it was the back of a gigantic turtle.

Grey couldn't fathom how long this turtle had been here. If not for the fact that he climbed down the hill and saw the strange head, as well as the shape of the supposed hill, he wouldn't have thought this was a turtle.

"Wow! Do you think it will taste good?" Void exclaimed the moment he saw it.

All he cared about whenever he saw other Magical Beasts was how to eat them, he wasn't concerned about anything else. Food was the most important! Well, after shiny things.

Grey shook his head, but he saw the bunny leader also staring at the turtle with an interested look. It was obvious it was thinking about what Void said.

"I thought you were supposed to eat only plants?" Grey couldn't help but ask.

'What do you know? I'm a Magical Beast, I can eat whatever I want to eat, meat included.' The bunny leader said, 'Bunny meat excluded. You're not allowed to eat bunnies. We are divine creatures. Cats can be eaten.'

Void bared his fangs at the bunny leader when he heard this.

Grey chuckled when he heard this but didn't say anything, his interest was on the large turtle in front of him.

The turtle hadn't made any movements since they appeared.

"Do you think it's dead?" Void asked curiously.

"I don't think so. If I recall correctly, turtles have long lifespans. Almost double that of an ordinary Magical Beast in the same stage." Grey replied.

Magical Beasts had a better lifespan compared to humans, but turtles were special, they were one of the few Magical Beasts with frightening long lifespans. Even a turtle that doesn't cultivate can easily live more than three hundred years. Those who manage to cultivate can live longer.

They were still speaking when the eyelids of the turtle moved slightly.

The bunny leader was the first to see it and turned the attention of the other two to it.

The turtle opened its large eyes and stared at the trio who were floating in the air in front of it.

"A human?" It spoke in an archaic manner, its voice filled with age.

"It spoke." Void blurted out. Other than Void, he hadn't seen any other Magical Beasts that could talk.

This turtle in front of him just spoke, which surprised him. He knew Magical Beasts gained the ability to speak from the Eighth Rank. At the thought of it, his heart tightened when the turtle was staring at him.

He might be strong, but against an Elemental Sovereign, he would not be able to even defend himself, much less put up a fight. This turtle must be thousands of years old, fighting it would be even more difficult.

The turtle saw the change in Grey's face and said, "I have no interest in killing you, human boy."

"Hmm, where are you from?" It didn't speak to Grey any further, turning its attention to Void.

Chapter 1138 Learning An Earth Element Technique

Void looked at the turtle, after some time he replied.

"I don't know."

The turtle wasn't surprised he could talk, Void was different, from the moment it saw him, it could already feel he was special.

"You should be from that place. I think you can only find out when you reach the stage." The turtle said.

"What place?" Grey was the one who asked the question.

"You're still too weak, you'll find out when you get strong enough." The turtle said in a mysterious manner.

"Can you tell me?" Void asked.

"There's no need for you to know about that information for now, it will not do you any good." The turtle replied, "I don't really know much about it, but I suspect that's where you're from."

"Where's that?" Void asked.

"There's a higher realm." The turtle thought for a while before saying, "When you get there, you will know why I said you're too weak to know about it now."

"A higher realm?" Grey wore a confused expression.

"Yes." The turtle replied but didn't want to say anything about it.

Void asked, but the turtle kept mute about it.

"How long have you been here?" Grey asked.

"I can't remember, I've been here for so long." The turtle shook its head.

It had been here for a some time now, even before the fall of the Twilight Faction.

"Alright, how can we advance to the next stage?" Grey didn't ask any more questions, going to the important part.

The turtle explained the rules to Grey. Apparently, Grey was the only one who had entered this place.

To get past this place, Grey would have to comprehend a technique passed on to him by the turtle.

The turtle was an Earth Elementalist, and was very proficient with the earth element. The technique it wanted to teach Grey had to do with the earth element.

Grey listened to the teaching of the turtle, and after a while he paused. The turtle was teaching him a peak defense technique, and if Grey could learn it, his defense would increase.

The turtle closed its eyes after it was done teaching Grey the technique. Unless Grey learned the technique and used it here, he would not be able to leave this place.

Grey started to learn the technique, not wanting to waste any time.

....

On another side.

The old man's projection had a shocked expression on his face.

"How did he get there?"

The place Grey appeared in wasn't part of the places people headed. This turtle was a beast he couldn't order so when creating this place, no one added the turtle to it. The turtle must've been the one who brought Grey over on its own.

The reason Grey was taken there was most likely because of Void who was with him. The old man didn't know Void was the reason Grey was taken there.

He was shocked by the fact that Grey was actually taken there.

From what he was seeing, he could tell that the turtle was imparting a technique to Grey.

This would make it the third technique Grey was learning, and all of them were top tier techniques in the place. The ice technique he learned in the ice building, the light technique he learned from the lady, and now he was learning an earth elemental technique from the turtle.

He also saw Grey comprehending something from the last stage he appeared on, so there's a chance he got something good from there.

"Who's luckier?"

The old man looked at another location, there was Klaus who strolled into a place that was helping him increase his cultivation stage.

In all the stages, this was the only place one could increase their cultivation stage. On a normal basis, those who appeared there would have to go through a tough test to try to get there. Not everyone could even get there after passing through the test.

Klaus on the other hand was taken directly to the place where he could increase his cultivation. This could make people pull their hair out in frustration, even the old man was a bit envious.

The old man sighed, staring at the two. There was Alice who was not having a bad run as well.

Other than these three, there were still a few who had caught the attention of the old man. Grey was a freakish entity, after Grey, Klaus was the next one.

....

Time ran as Grey was cultivating there.

Before he knew it, a day had gone by. He hadn't been able to learn the technique at the moment.

He opened his eyes and looked at the turtle.

"Senior, I can't learn it in a short time. I have to leave soon." Grey shook his head in disappointment.

"Don't worry, the time here is slower than outside." The turtle replied.

"Time? There's a way to slow down time?" Grey was stunned.

If he knew of a technique like this, wouldn't he be able to cultivate all he wanted?

The turtle nodded, "Don't get your hopes up, you can't learn it."

Grey was a bit disappointed when he heard this, but he didn't speak about it any further. This was the first time he was hearing about anything related to slowing down time. He didn't think there would be anything like this.

"One day here is two hours outside. So you don't have to worry." The turtle reassured Grey.

Grey nodded and focused fully cultivating. He wanted to learn this technique. Even if he didn't perfect it, he wanted to at least get a few things on it.

The technique involved increasing his body's strength. With that, his physical strength would skyrocket.

The turtle didn't speak any further and closed its eyes when it saw that Grey had continued cultivating.

The bunny leader and Void were playing around, not bothering with anything. They focused on playing.

'Do you think we can take the turtle?' The bunny leader asked Void.

Void looked at it and shook his head, "Difficult."

Chapter 1139 Four Domains

Void and the bunny leader were planning on how to turn the turtle into turtle soup while Grey was focused on his training. This was a good opportunity for him, so he didn't want to waste it.

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Two weeks went by in a flash.

Grey finally opened his eyes and looked at the turtle.

The turtle seemed to sense his movements and opened its eyes to take a glance at Grey, a little hint of doubt flashing through its eyes, unsure of why Grey stopped cultivating.

"I'm done." Grey spoke up after a moment of silence.

"Done... with what?" The turtle was taken aback.

Grey's skin started to harden under the astonished eyes of the turtle.

It had been just over fifteen days, and Grey had gotten the hang of the technique.

Although it couldn't be said that Grey had grasped it perfectly. He had however gotten the basics and could use it in the future. The more he used it, the better it would get.

The turtle continued staring at Grey in amazement, it couldn't say a word. The reason for this was that he knew just how difficult it was to master this technique. Grey used only fifteen days, it didn't even want to believe it. If not for the fact that it knew Grey hadn't come across this technique beforehand, it wouldn't have believed Grey learned it in such a short time.

'Genius!' The turtle's eyes lit up as he looked at Grey.

This was a true genius. Such a difficult technique was comprehended and used within such a short time. It didn't even know how to classify Grey. To it, others who were regarded as geniuses were just normal people in the presence of Grey.

"How long did I cultivate?" Grey asked curiously.

He wasn't aware of the time and was afraid he must've stayed for too long.

"Around two weeks." The turtle replied.

Grey did a rough calculation and realized it was just over a day. It wasn't bad since his gain was massive. This technique was not the only thing he gained here. Actually, he used about ten days to learn the basics of the technique, and his greatest gain was the increase in the elemental grade of his earth element and the awakening of his earth domain.

Grey was only in the First stage of the Elemental Venerable Plane, yet he already had four domains. If people found out about this, they might pull their hair out in frustration.

Presently, both his fire and earth elements were in the emerald elemental grade, a shocking feat. Of course, he was still behind Void whose elemental grade for all his elements was the legendary black grade.

The turtle had no idea Grey completed his training within the two weeks and even used some time to awaken his earth domain.

Grey used the momentum from learning the new technique, the increase of his elemental grade to his advantage, and the earth domain opened up quite easily.

He couldn't hide the pride in his eyes, with his current abilities, his defense had shot up by a large margin. One has to know that he still had dragon scales. Adding this to it would make his body harder than most weapons. There's also the armor.

With Grey's current capabilities, he might not be able to beat a Late stage Elemental Venerable, but there was nothing they could do to him as well. No matter how they attack, they would not be able to break through his defense. This was a freakish ability, especially given the fact that Grey had terrifying explosive power. All he needed was an opportunity and he might be able to one-shot stronger opponents.

The turtle didn't keep Grey there any longer, "Since you've learned the technique, you can leave. Remember, you're not allowed to pass this on."

Grey nodded to the turtle's words. The turtle was the master of the technique, and since it didn't want him to pass it to others then he wouldn't.

Void and the bunny leader who had wandered off to explore the place came back on Grey's call. The duo had a bored expression, it was clear that they didn't like their stay here. There was nothing interesting to do.

Grey thanked the turtle, and after bowing he vanished from the spot, sent to the next stage.

The moment Grey left, a figure appeared.

"You taught him your technique?" The old man asked.

He had been keeping tabs on what was happening here.

"Yes. That was the requirement to leave." The turtle replied.

"And he learned it?" The old man looked at the turtle with a skeptical look.

"Yes, in two weeks." The turtle said with a dry laugh.

It couldn't even hide its shock.

"Two weeks?!" The old man exclaimed.

The turtle nodded and commented, "He's the greatest genius I've ever seen."

The old man looked at the turtle, still in disbelief. If Grey really learned the technique in such a short time, then there was nothing wrong with what the turtle said. Although the praise was high, it wasn't undeserving.

Grey was a shocking genius, this, the old man was aware of. Even still, he didn't expect him to exceed his expectations.

"Where did he get the cat?" The turtle had a strange look on its face.

"I don't know. He came in with the cat. It must have always been with him." The old man replied, he was still in shock.

The turtle didn't speak any further.

The old man vanished after some time, he was still in disbelief.

....

Grey appeared in a large building, and the moment he appeared, he saw a strange little girl with five others dressed in black robes. The little girl flashed a brilliant smile when she saw Grey and vanished almost immediately with the five others. They had just succeeded in the task and were on the verge of leaving when Grey appeared, when she saw Grey, although she felt regretful, she knew another opportunity to meet him would come.

Chapter 1140 Not Wanting To Breakthrough

Grey stared at the spot where the little girl disappeared for a long time with an odd look. He had a strange feeling when he saw the little girl and an ominous premonition. He could almost feel the threat of death just from looking at her.

"What a strange girl." Void commented.

"She's dangerous." Grey's expression was dark.

From the look the little girl gave him, he could tell she seemed to know who he was. If that was the case, she didn't have any good intentions toward him. Even with his current strength, he still felt danger which meant that the little girl definitely had the strength to threaten his life.

He rarely had intuitions like this, but whenever he did, they were mostly true.

He threw the thought to the back of his head and looked around. He didn't have the time to care about someone that was not around, when the issue arises, he would deal with it. For now, his plan was to get stronger.

"I wonder how Reynolds and the others are fairing." Grey muttered.

He came in with Alice, and had seen Klaus. Both were doing relatively fine, although he didn't know how Alice was fairing since they separated, he didn't think she would be doing badly.

Klaus had expectedly broken through to the Elemental Venerable Plane when he saw him. His only regret was not asking Klaus how many stages he had gone through.

Grey stopped thinking about all this and focused on what was in front of him. He started exploring the building, and some moments later, he realized he had to solve a puzzle to get through to the next stage.

There seemed to be different variants of the puzzle, he guessed this had to do with the rewards each person would get. Solving the one that presents itself to you would give you the reward for that particular puzzle. According to what he found out, there were around fifteen puzzles.

Grey didn't think too much about this puzzle, the reason being that it was somewhat linked to the array he learned in the snow world with Klaus. Due to the fact that he learned the array to the smallest detail, he had no issues with these puzzles.

Directly bypassing the array set up for the puzzles, he broke through it within the space of a few minutes.

A golden light appeared on the roof of the building when he was done passing the stage.

Grey raised his head to look at the item, and only after a few seconds did he see it properly. He said slowly, "A beast's core."

This was the first time he was seeing one like this.

Void and the bunny leader looked at the beast's core with envious gazes, they could tell it was the beast core of a top Ranked Magical Beast, at least a Rank Eight Magical Beast.

"Good stuff." Grey flew into the air and grabbed it.

He had used up a lot of essences when he was fighting against the two ladies from the Syphilis and Nether Factions. The moment he touched the beast's core, he felt a powerful and rich amount of essence gush into his body.

He felt all his pores open and became incredibly relaxed. Not just that, but his aura started to climb as well. Before he could control it, he had gotten to the Second stage of the Elemental Venerable Plane.

Grey couldn't help but give a wry smile, he didn't plan on breaking through so early, but it was beyond his control. After the increase in his earth elemental grade and the awakening of his earth domain, he felt he was really close to breaking through to the Second stage.

His aura didn't stop there, it continued climbing, heading for the Third stage.

Grey thought about it and decided against breaking through to the Third stage.

Void and the bunny leader were present, so he decided to share parts of the core with them to stop his breakthrough. He wanted to make sure he didn't break through as hurriedly as he previously did. As he was growing stronger, he started to notice a few things that were wrong with breaking through quickly. First off, his control over his strength was lacking, and compared to old timers, he wasn't as powerful in the same stage.

The reason he had been getting the upper hand when fighting against these people was mainly due to his high explosive attack power. He also had other elements to make up for any issues he would face.

Once he gets used to his strength, he would be able to use an even greater explosive attack that might be well over his cultivation stage. For now, only his physical body could help with that. His fire element had also achieved this feat as well.

Void glared at the bunny leader while he greedily absorbed the essences short at them. He got a larger portion since he was stronger and had been with Grey for so long. The bunny leader got around half the size of what Void got.

The trio absorbed the essence with the rest of their time there.

Some minutes later, they were done with this and it was time to leave.

Grey didn't stay any longer, this was the sixth round he was clearing, and he didn't know how many more rounds he would need to pass through before they could leave this place.

According to what he was told before entering this secret realm, they shouldn't stay more than a month or so. They had been here for a few weeks now, so the sooner he left this place the better for them.

While Grey was heading to the next round, the old man almost fainted.

Grey didn't stay in that round for more than fifteen minutes, and the reason for that was that he was absorbing the essence of the beast's core. One has to know that the beast core had been there for a

long time and no one had been able to solve all the puzzles, Grey, on the other hand, did it within a few minutes which was shocking, to say the least.