

Affinity 121

Chapter 121 - Multi Elementalist

"Let me try it one more time", the Darkness Elementalist said.

This time, compared to the first time when he struck out, a look of utmost seriousness appeared on his face.

When the crowd heard he wanted to try again even after being pushed back the first time, they all focused their attention on him once again. They knew since he wanted to try it once more, it meant the previous attack wasn't his strongest.

For most of the people here, they felt only the Darkness Elementalist could possibly fight these protectors and get the Great Earth Essence Liquid.

The Darkness Elementalist's body fluctuated. The mighty aura of an Origin Plane Elementalist was unleashed from his body, but surprisingly, instead of releasing the aura of someone in the Third stage, the aura he was releasing was on par with those in the peak of the Fourth stage even though he was still clearly in the Third stage. Under the impact of the powerful aura, everyone could feel tremendous pressure.

The face of the genius from the Blue Wind empire turned pale from shock.

'How can he be so strong?', he looked at the youth ahead in fear.

The presence of the Darkness Elementalist had made it extremely difficult for the others who were at the Third stage like himself to obtain the Great Earth Essence Liquid. The difference between their strengths was shocking. From the look of things, he wouldn't have a problem fighting more than two Third stage Origin Plane Elementalist.

The Darkness Elementalist took one step after another, he strode towards the pond confidently. Unlike the time he battled with Grey or Alice and the group, his current demeanor was completely different. Currently, the air of an expert was revolving all around him. This was his true strength!

If not for the fact that he was suppressed due to Alice's perfect timing when attacking and strong attacks, or Klaus and Reynolds's perfect teamwork, or Grey's unexpectedly strong physical prowess and terrifying blue flames. He wouldn't have been put in such a bad position by them.

Who was he? He was a peerless genius! Well, until he encountered the freakish four though. Since then, things came crashing down. But now, it was his time to shine once more. He would show everyone here just how strong he truly was!

They seemed to be adjusting their energy as though they could feel the difference in power of the opponent. The Darkness Elementalist launched his move.

Compared to the first time, this move looked simple due to his body language, but it was anything but ordinary. This was an attack that should never be underestimated. Because, the strike contained all three elements he had in his arsenal.

Darkness element, lightning element, and fire element.

When the crowd saw him wielding all three elements simultaneously, their eyes enlarged into perfect circles. They initially thought he was a Single Elementalist, even then, they didn't have any hopes of competing with him. But now, he wasn't even a Dual Elementalist, but a Multi Elementalist.

How could someone be this terrifying?

"M...Mu...Multi Elementalist!", a stammering voice was heard from the crowd.

Even Grey's gaze turned intent when he realized the Darkness Elementalist was actually a rare Multi Elementalist. This was the first time he was encountering a Multi Elementalist other himself.

Although he had spent a lot of time with Chris, he still had no idea Chris was a Multi Elementalist. There were only a few people who were aware of this.

Even though the crowd was stunned by the fact that the Darkness Elementalist was actually a Multi Elementalist, they threw it at the back of their heads for now and focused fully on the protectors.

The attack contained three elements, and they were all very close to each other. The three elements were aimed at one of the protectors. As though feeling the attack's direction, the nine of them instantly wheeled to form a circle and aimed their palms at one of the protectors.

For an instant, all the energy had converged in the body of the particular protector. A ray of energy wave rushed out of his head.

The protector's move was pretty mesmerizing, it struck out what looked like a seal, and a huge fire snake roared to life out of it.

Roar!

Boom!

The snake rushed out of the seal and clashed with the attack of the Darkness Elementalist before both attacks exploded out.

When the attacks exploded, everyone felt how terrifying both attacks were. Compared to the first attacks both parties used, the power in these ones was like night and day.

Those geniuses who were close to the battle felt it hard to breathe and began to hastily retreat. If one got hit directly by such a residual wave, it would surely be fatal, especially for those First stage Origin Plane Elementalist and below who had too little power to counter it.

Grey and his group didn't retreat from their previous location though, they didn't get too close when the battle was about to start, so the residual wave that got to them was something they could all handle easily.

When Alice saw this attack, her heart trembled.

"So this is his true strength", she muttered.

She thought she had seen his true strength previously, but it seemed like the situation didn't allow him to show his full strength at that time. Now that she saw him use this attack, she was left speechless.

The way Grey looked at the Darkness Elementalist had taken a turn.

'Although the attack power isn't as strong as when I'm in the Fusion State, for him to unleash this sort of strength naturally, is terrifying', he was left in awe by the strength the Darkness Elementalist just showcased.

He couldn't deny the fact that the Darkness Elementalist was the strongest genius in his generation that he had ever encountered.

Grey was almost certain there was no one in the Lunar Academy who was below twenty years of age that could match up to the power this young man just displayed. If he were to find out that because of searching for this treasure the Darkness Elementalist didn't boost his strength properly in these two months, his evaluation of him would be a notch higher.

"He's strong", said Reynolds.

"Yeah", Klaus nodded while staring at the clash that was slowly dying down.

"But it doesn't change the fact that we'll kill him", he added.

"It will make it more worthwhile. It would be a shame if he couldn't fight back", Reynolds chuckled.

"Yeah. Now, all we have to do is find a way to corner him alone", Klaus said.

His previous plan was to attack the Darkness Elementalist here, but it looked like that plan has been thrown into the garbage, and the garbage was set ablaze. So now, he brought up a new plan!

The strength the Darkness Elementalist showed had made both Klaus and Reynolds apprehensive. Now they understood it was because of their flawless teamwork that made it hard for the Darkness Elementalist to attack them. If not for them not giving him a breather, then there was a big chance he might have been able to turn the tides given the strength he just showed.

Had he been able to use this attack on them once, then it was unknown who would have retreated from the battle.

Who were they kidding? This young man was too strong that their resolve to kill him was even starting to waver. Besides, they were able to save Alice in time and even injured him. That counts as something, right?

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A minute later.

The dreadful attack died down completely, and the results of it shocked everyone present. Most of them thought that the Darkness Elementalist's attack would definitely destroy at least one of the protectors.

However, the attack of the Darkness Elementalist didn't cause any harm to the protectors. Instead, the powerful seal that the snake came out from made the Darkness Elementalist somewhat uncomfortable.

"The protectors are truly too powerful! The strength of these nine protectors can perfectly overlap and merge together. Even if I were to tire myself to death from attacking, there's no way I can break their defense and step into the pond", the Darkness Elementalist whose face exuded arrogance when he was attacking previously had turned sour.

"Not even the Darkness Elementalist is their match. Could it be that there's no way to break through their defense? Doesn't that mean that we won't be able to get the Great Earth Essence Liquid? I believe there are still some benefits in the ancient temple. Will we be leaving this place without obtaining anything"

"These protectors are just too strong. It's extremely difficult to break their defense"

Everyone sighed. The feeling of witnessing the existence of the nine drops of Great Earth Essence Liquid but couldn't obtain it was certainly very painful.

Just how powerful was the old man for him to create such protectors? They were even Elemental Warriors to boot! How did he expect them to obtain the treasure with these almost insurmountable mountain he placed in front of it?

Chapter 122 - Alliance

After seeing the outcome of this attack, Grey was able to estimate the overall strength of the protectors.

'If I go all out, I shouldn't have a problem with breaking the defense of these protectors. But escaping with the Great Earth Essence Liquid is easier said than done', with a calm expression he observed everything happening.

Just like everyone here, he also wanted to obtain all the drops here. Only, unlike everyone, he was one of the few people, if not the only person who could confidently say he can obtain them single-handedly.

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The Darkness Elementalist's eyes swept back and forth the nine protectors. After studying their strength, he spoke to the crowd.

"Everyone, the nine protectors are too powerful. Even my power won't be able to destroy them. Now that the Great Earth Essence Liquid is just ahead of us, we can't just let go of this chance. I invite all Third stage Origin Plane Elementalist here to fight with me. My companions will take on two of the protectors. I have already discerned that these protectors can combine into a single unit. As long as we attack from different directions, we will be able to break their formation, and their defense will then break, automatically."

The Darkness Elementalist's words immediately caused a commotion. Those few Third stage Origin Plane Elementalist exchanged glances, feeling what the Darkness Elementalist said was right. For the sake of the Great Earth Essence Liquid, this was the best and only way.

Initially before passing through the door, including the Darkness Elementalist, there was a total of seven Third Plane Origin Plane Elementalist. But the Darkness Elementalist killed one of them before they passed through the door, and Grey had also killed one when he acquired the Great Void technique previously. This meant that only five surviving Third Plane Origin Plane Elementalist were present in the ancient paths.

Currently, there were only four Third stage Origin Plane Elementalists present here, including the Darkness Elementalist. One of the five surviving Third stage Origin Plane Elementalist wasn't present here.

"Then, how should we divide the Great Earth Essence Liquid. You are the strongest amongst us, none of us will be able to fight you. If you and your group take all the Great Earth Essence Liquid away at the last minute, all our efforts will only be in vain." Someone asked.

This was the most crucial issue and was also the matter that all the Third stage Origin Plane Elementalists was concerned about the most. After all, the Darkness Elementalist was too powerful, and he had four powerful companions beside him. So even if three of them joined forces, they wouldn't be able to defeat the Darkness Elementalist, talk less of defeating him and his group.

Once they helped the Darkness Elementalist break the defense of the protectors, then he turned his back on them at the last moment, they wouldn't be able to do anything.

There was also the difficulty of fighting against the protectors. They weren't even confident in holding one of them alone, and the others around wouldn't help since they wouldn't get anything if they joined in the battle. Who would want to fight a fruitless battle? So, if the Darkness Elementalist were to betray them after the difficult battle, they would be dismayed.

"You all can be rest assured about this. As long as we break the defense together, each of you will get one drop of the Great Earth Essence Liquid. My group and I will take whatever that is left. I am an upright person, so, as long as everyone takes one drop each and don't try to scheme to acquire another one, I wouldn't be bothered with you." The Darkness Elementalist declared uprightly.

'Hmph! I'll kill you all after defeating the protectors.' He thought internally.

Hearing what he said, the others heaved a sigh. Everyone had seen his conduct outside. He only killed the Third stage Origin Plane Elementalist and didn't attack anyone else. So they felt as long as they didn't try to take another one, they should be okay. But that didn't mean they trusted him fully though, they still raised their guard against him.

"Alright. I agree to do this."

"I agree, too."

Soon, all three of them agreed to the suggestion of the Darkness Elementalist. Their objective in coming here was to get the Great Earth Essence Liquid. Furthermore, they weren't too greedy. They knew that given their strength alone, it was impossible to obtain all the Great Earth Essence Liquids here. So, their objective could already be considered achieved even if all they obtained was a single drop of the Great Earth Essence Liquid.

"Okay. But even if we decide to fight alongside you, we still wouldn't be able to keep all nine protectors at bay. Including you and your companions, we can only keep six occupied. Then, what about the other three?" The youth from the Blue Wind empire recalled something and voiced his thoughts.

With a quick glance, he calculated that there were only a total of four Third stage Origin Plane Elementalist, if the Darkness Elementalist's companion were added, they were still short on fighters.

"I have some people in mind for the last three." The Darkness Elementalist gazed into the crowd.

Other than the freakish four, who else would he have in mind! He even felt each member of Grey's group was relatively stronger than these three in the Third stage. Although, inviting the freakish four was a huge risk for him since he was already planning on acquiring all the Great Earth Essence Liquid. He had no other choice, and felt with his group around, they should be able to deal with them.

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"They seem to be planning on how to obtain the Great Earth Essence Liquid." Said Reynolds.

"Yeah. But they still aren't enough to overpower the protectors." Grey still wore his calm expression.

"Why is that bastard coming in our direction?" Asked Klaus.

"I think he wants us to join them." Alice said.

They didn't go close when the Darkness Elementalist was speaking with the other three Third stage Origin Plane Elementalist, so they didn't know what they decided upon. But, they could guess they were trying to form an alliance of some sort to team up against the protectors.

The Darkness Elementalist wore his usual emotionless look and stopped in front of the group.

"I have a proposal for you four..." He told them the reason for he walked up to them the moment he arrived without beating around the bush.

Just as Klaus was about to start raining curses on the Darkness Elementalist, he heard Grey speak up.

"If that's all we have to do, then we agree. How do you plan on sharing the spoils?" Grey asked calmly.

The Darkness Elementalist said all they had to do was keep three of the protectors at bay. For them, that was too easy. Although he knew the Darkness Elementalist was not to be trusted, he already had a plan on obtaining the liquids.

"For the three protectors you hold back, you'll get one drop for each of them." Said the Darkness Elementalist.

"Hmm, okay." Grey nodded.

According to the words of the Darkness Elementalist, it meant he and his group would obtain three, each of the youths in the Third stage will get one, and the last three would go to Grey and his friends.

'If my guess is not wrong, he only wants to use us to defeat the protectors. After that, he will most likely betray us and collect all nine drops. According to what Alice said, he seems to be a greedy person since he wanted to kill those youths from the Lunar Academy for something they acquired' thought Grey.

But, he still followed along with the Darkness Elementalist even though he was aware of his true motives.

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"They are the ones. We should prepare ourselves for the upcoming battle." the Darkness Elementalist pointed at Grey's group before walking to where his companions were and sat down in a lotus position closing his eyes.

The other three wanted to question him upon seeing the stages of Grey and his group, but when they saw him preparing himself, they kept quiet and also did the same.

After all, this was a world where strength ruled. As the Darkness Elementalist was a lot stronger than them, whatever he said goes. And, he was also the unofficial leader of the party.

As for the others, they could only watch as Grey and the other experts divide all the drops of the liquid. Even if they felt that it's very unfair, they wouldn't dare to say it out, because they knew it would be useless. The Great Earth Essence Liquid wasn't related to them anymore. They could only wait for some good items to emerge in the ancient temple. If they couldn't eat the meat, it was still better to drink the soup.

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Ten minutes later.

"Is everyone ready?" Asked the Darkness Elementalist after opening his eyes.

"Yes!"

The others answered simultaneously. They hadn't attack previously, so they were still energetic.

"Okay. Let's attack together. I hope everyone will give this their all. Please don't allow the protectors to merge their strength or even though we've teamed up, it will still be extremely difficult. We will attack one protector each." The Darkness Elementalist said to everyone.

"Enough talking. Let's attack now." The genius from the Blue Wind empire said, clearly, he was eager to get his hands on the drop of liquid.

"Good." The Darkness Elementalist nodded.

Giving Grey and his group a meaningful glance, he walked forward.

Before Grey and his group started following behind, he whispered to them.

"Make sure to reserve your strength as much as possible."

They all nodded. They knew they weren't the only ones who would reserve their strengths, every single person here had a plan.

With each member of the party getting in position, they all prepared themselves for the battle against the protectors.

Chapter 123 - Shocking News

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At the Lunar Academy, outside Oliver's office.

Blake was currently looking at the door with a slightly annoyed expression. Shaking his head, he sighed trying to calm his head before knocking on the door.

Knock! Knock!

After knocking, he waited for some seconds. Still not hearing any invitation to come inside, he couldn't resist the urge of knocking again. Just as he was about to knock, he heard a voice from inside.

"Enter" Oliver's exhausted filled voice came from inside the office.

Pushing the door lightly, Blake stepped in.

"Teacher" He bowed to the haggard-looking Oliver.

Oliver was currently going through a pile of files. From the looks of how many the files were, it was easy to discern that Oliver had been spending most of his time on them.

"Hmm" Oliver nodded before adding, "Take a seat."

Blake sat down on the chair facing Oliver's seat.

Flip! Flip!

The only thing resounding in the office was the sound of paper being turned. Oliver was currently going through one of the files on his desk.

Blake looked at the mountain-like files and couldn't help but feel worried about his own future. According to his Teacher, he was the one who would become the next principal of the Academy. He didn't think he was patient enough to do this work. Given his personality, there was a chance he might just burn all the files and be done with it.

A minute went by without anyone saying a word.

Flip!

After going through the final words on the last page of the file he was looking through, Oliver tossed it at another mountain-like pile of files again.

When Blake's eyes followed the direction of where the file was thrown to, he saw another huge heap of files that almost gave him a breakdown. He instantly decided to discuss the matter of declining the offer of being the next principal. His future depended on this decision. How could he live such a life?

"Is Chris back yet?" Asked Oliver.

"Not yet Teacher. I just came back from the valley and there's still no sign of him visiting" Blake reported.

Oliver told him two weeks back to notify him if Chris returned. Since then, he had been going to the valley every single day after waking up to check if Chris had returned. But, even after going for so long, there were still no signs of him.

Hearing Blake's reply, Oliver fell into silence. Since the group returned from the capital, Chris had seemingly disappeared into thin air.

Sighing, he threw it to the back of his head. Besides, this wasn't the first time Chris had disappeared without informing anyone. There was this one time he disappeared for almost two years. But no matter what, he would always come back.

"Hmm, okay. What have you found out about the recent move by the Starlight Academy?" Oliver asked once more.

He recalled the slight look of annoyance on Blake's faces when he came into the office.

"According to the intel I gathered, it's all because of the Crown Prince" A look of rage appeared on Blake's face

One month ago, news of the Starlight Academy's students attacking their students started to spread. And after doing some investigating, they found out it was true.

When Oliver heard the Crown Prince being brought into the picture, he suddenly frowned and a sense of foreboding welled up in his mind.

"Why would the Crown Prince suddenly become part of the conflict between both Academies?" Asked Oliver whose brows were knitted.

Given the loss they suffered at Chris's hand in the capital, it was unexpected that the Starlight Academy would still dare to attack their students. Oliver expected them to shrink back in fear, and truthfully, they did during the first month.

But who knew they would come back much more aggressively, and even started encouraging their students to attack the students from the Lunar Academy.

"I have no idea, but he is the one riling the principal up. I also found out about something else" Blake said with his tone turning more serious.

"Oh! What's that?" Oliver asked curiously.

"The emperor is fully behind the Starlight Academy." Blake straight at Oliver before dropping the bombshell.

"What?! Why would the emperor actively seek unrest in the empire? It doesn't make sense." Oliver exclaimed in shock.

This was a piece of shocking news for him. This information meant that they were not fighting against the Starlight Academy as they thought, but instead, the emperor. He was aware of some of the higher-ups in the empire being close to the Starlight Academy, but never did he expect the emperor was part of them.

"Apparently, we're not the first ones going through this. In the other Academies, there have been massive changes in their ranks. Most of the higher-ups in the Academies have been replaced with those brought in by the emperor. As it stands, we're the only ones left for him to take total control of." Blake reported the most vital part of the intel he gathered.

After finding out the Crown Prince was currently the one who was instigating things, he investigated deeper and was able to unearth some things hidden from the eyes and ears of everyone in the empire.

Hearing what Blake said, Oliver's face turned red from anger.

"What could he possibly gain from all this?" Oliver couldn't resist asking.

"Total control." Replied Blake.

"Isn't he afraid we might revolt?" Oliver was somewhat enraged and dumbfounded by the emperor's reasoning.

What did he want total control for? No one disobeys his orders. Well, except for Chris. But even then, Chris rarely does things that go against him.

"Since he had already united the other powers in the empire, we can't revolt," Blake said.

"If we submit to him, isn't that the same as being puppets?" Oliver rubbed his head.

He had already started feeling a headache from what he was hearing.

"Yes, that's what they want. But if we were to refuse them, he would launch an attack against us. The only reason they haven't attacked should be because of Senior Chris." Blake said.

"Hmm, the emperor is wary of Chris's strength. No one else should know of his disappearance. We don't know if the emperor planted any moles here." Said Oliver.

"I'm aware of that. Actually, I caught one three days ago. The moron was following behind me when I was heading to the valley." Blake recalled the incident that happened three days ago.

He actually didn't see the person when the person was following behind him, but who knew the person would be foolish enough to try to enter into the valley. Because of the fact that he usually uses weird hand seals before entering the place, the person tried repeating the hand seals he saw him do.

When he was coming out of the valley, the person was still trying to open it. He didn't spend up to a minute there, so he was able to catch the person. After questioning, in this case, torturing, he found out the teacher was actually sent by the emperor here.

"Hmm, you should be more covert in your actions," Oliver advised.

"I understand Teacher." Replied Blake.

"Try and see if you can find out any clues about the whereabouts of Chris. But ensure to be careful when you're out." Oliver ordered.

"Okay Teacher." Blake bowed and prepared to leave.

Just as he was about to open the door, he suddenly recalled something.

"Uhhh, Teacher," Blake called out.

"Yes?" Oliver who was about to bury himself in his work raised his head to look at Blake.

"Can I decline the position of being the next principal?" Blake asked nervously.

"No," Oliver replied resolutely.

"But..."

"No buts. I've already made my decision. You're my only student and like a son to me, you will be the next principal. Maybe after that little brat is old enough you can pass the position to him." Oliver interrupted Blake.

"Klaus?" Blake asked in shock.

Other than Chris, Klaus was the next most unreliable person he knew. The only thing in Klaus's head was having fun. How could someone like that become the principal?

"If you have a better candidate it's up to you. Now, leave. I still have a lot to do." Oliver waved him away.

With no other option, Blake could only swallow his words and left. He wanted to beg Oliver to hand the position to someone else, but it looks like he's stuck with it.

Looking at Blake's departing back.

"If we get through this, I'll immediately step down and hand the position over to him." He muttered before engrossing himself once more on his work.

From the conversation of both parties, it was easy to see just how close they were. Just like how Chris was Grey's Teacher, Oliver was Blake's Teacher.

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At the depth of the trial land. On a mountain top.

"You've broken through." An old voice said.

"Of course old man. Don't think it was because of your teachings, I was already close to a breakthrough before you came and dragged me away." Another voice snorted.

"Had I not taken you, you wouldn't have broken through even in the next twenty years." The old voice proclaimed calmly not angry by the other party's remark.

"Hmph! Where is this anyway?" The other person asked.

"Focus on your training." The old voice said coldly.

The two people talking was Chris and his new Teacher. Apparently, he didn't know he was in the trial land.

He couldn't be blamed for it though, compared to when he entered, the essence here was thicker than the part he entered previously. Although he was suspicious about it, he didn't think there was a chance for him to enter that place again given the fact that it only accepted those who were below twenty.

He had tried leaving the mountain on numerous occasions, but the old man always stops him.

The strength of the old man was unfathomable.

Chapter 124 - Terrifying Beast!

Grey and the others had all picked a protector.

Alice would hold one back, Klaus and Reynolds would hold one back, and Grey would unsurprisingly hold one back.

When the other three Third stage Origin Plane Elementalist saw Grey was going to battle one of the protectors on his own, they all sneered in contempt.

"A fool who's overestimating his ability." The blue-clothed youth said.

"Tch! I don't think he would last more than a minute against the protector." Another one said.

Even they weren't confident they could hold one back, yet, a First stage Origin Plane Elementalist dared to face one alone. If that wasn't seeking death, what is?

They weren't the only ones who felt scorn towards Grey's decision to fight against the protector alone, the companions of the Darkness Elementalist and even the crowd all felt Grey was overestimating his abilities.

'He will most likely die within one minute. At that time, he wouldn't have a chance to regret his foolish decision.'

This was what everyone thought. They all tagged him dead.

Other than Grey's friends, the only ones who didn't feel anything wrong with Grey's move was the Darkness Elementalist since he had traded blows with Grey, he knew how terrifying the power of his blue flame was and also how powerful his body. And those who were present when Grey and the Darkness Elementalist fought previously.

"Now!" The Darkness Elementalist gave the order to attack.

Boom! Bam! Bang!

Every single member of the party attacked at the same time. The sounds of attacks clashing against each other rang out in the surrounding.

As the battle started, the entire crowd stared at a single individual, Grey.

They all wanted to see how he would die due to his stupidity. Some of them even felt a little sense of satisfaction from the thought of Grey dying, especially those in the Second stage of the Origin Plane. They all felt indignant that they were not the ones chosen to be part of the party.

But the next scene stunned them.

"Blue fire." Everyone muttered under their breath.

Some even forgot to breathe the moment they saw Grey using his blue flames. The shocking thing about the flame was the explosive power it contained.

'Even if you have blue flames, why is the attack power this strong?'

They all felt like crying, especially those who were feeling wronged some moments ago. They could still accept the fact that he had blue flames hence he was stronger than his stage, but when they noticed the strength of the flame, they all felt that life was unfair.

Where the God's blind?! How could they bless him alone?

"The power of his flames can rival the attack of a Fourth stage Origin Plane Elementalist. This... this shouldn't be possible, right?" A youth asked with a shaky tone.

"Is he still human?"

The entire crowd was thrown into a state of disbelief. They felt the Darkness Elementalist was talented, and Grey was nothing. They didn't even put him in their eyes even when he went forward with Klaus and the rest. Not only that, but they just took him as an extra in the battle.

If Grey was an extra, then what were the three Third stage Origin Plane Elementalists then?

Grey's attack power was a notch better than even the normal attack of the Darkness Elementalist.

If the Darkness Elementalist was talented, then what was Grey?

"F.u.c.k! Since when did that bastard possess the fire element, and it's even blue flame." Klaus stared at Grey like he was a monster.

"It looks like he will be the one with the biggest gain in this trip," Reynolds added.

Grey was originally a Dual Elementalist, to their knowledge. Now, with the addition of the fire element, he had become a rare Multi Elementalist. This had greatly improved his strength.

Alice was shocked when Grey displayed the flame. But thinking about his behavior when they were about to pass through the door, she felt maybe Grey had inherited the legacy the expert spoke of.

Even the three other Third stage Origin Plane Elementalists staggered when they saw it, but they were able to quickly regain their composure. But because two protectors were free, they merged their strength with the others, and soon, they forced back the fighters.

"What happened?" The Darkness Elementalist asked coldly.

"We're sorry, it was our mistake." His companions apologized quickly for their mistake.

"Hmph! You've made everyone waste their energies. This shouldn't repeat itself." He snorted coldly and once again prepared to attack.

Since they had already made the mistake, they shouldn't brood over it for too long, instead, they should continue attacking once again.

"You have a lot of explaining to do young man," Klaus spoke with an elderly tone while also putting on an elderly expression making his friends burst into laughter.

"But seriously, you do," Reynolds added after laughing a little.

"That would be later in the day. But for now, our focus is those drops." Grey changed the topic to what was more important currently.

The others nodded.

"But how do we share it?" Reynolds scratched his head.

They were four, and they would only receive three drops. It wasn't enough for them.

"We'll think about that when the time comes." Grey replied.

Soon, they once again started fighting with the protectors.

'Void, are we close enough yet?' Grey asked Void who was nowhere to be seen while fighting with the protector.

'No, try going a little closer.' replied Void.

'Shit! This isn't going to be easy.' Grey said before focusing his attention on the protector once again.

When they were still waiting for the seal on the wall to open up, Grey discovered he could transmit his thoughts to Void just like how Void was doing. This way, he didn't need to speak out, all he had to do was transmit whatever he wanted to say and Void would hear it clearly in his head. It was quite a mythical thing.

Void was currently hiding in his spatial ring. Their current plan was simple, steal all the drops of Great Earth Essence Liquid in front of everyone while they were still fighting.

Since Void couldn't teleport far, they had to think of a way to get close to the pond without the others finding out. Who knew lady luck was on their side and the Darkness Elementalist would invite them to join the party?

Grey refrained from using his physical strength in this battle. He had already shown one of his trump cards which happened to be his blue flame, he was not foolish enough to show it all. He didn't even use any other element and just stuck with the fire element. That way, other than his friends, no one would be aware of his other elements.

'Shit! He's almost done destroying his protector.' Grey complained internally after he took a peek at the battle between the Darkness Elementalist and his protector.

Cracks could already be seen all over the protector the Darkness Elementalist was fighting against. It was clear that it would be destroyed in a matter of a few seconds.

'Void aren't we close yet?' Grey asked Void once again after pushing back the protector.

'Almost. If I move now, I wouldn't appear close to the pond, so there's a high chance I would be seen by the others.' Void replied.

"F.u.c.k!" Grey cursed out in annoyance.

Now, he was in a race against time. He had to push the protector closer to the pond without destroying it before the Darkness Elementalist destroys his opponent.

It's not like he couldn't destroy the protector, but he didn't want to display his full strength for all to see.

"Ah!" Roaring, he sent out a flaming hammer that struck the protector fiercely.

'Now!' Grey and Void said simultaneously.

Just as Void left the storage ring...

Bang!

The protector the Darkness Elementalist exploded into bits of flames which converged into a ball and flew into the ancient palace.

The moment the first protector exploded, the strength of the other eight dropped significantly. And the protectors that had been giving the others a tough time were destroyed one by one in a matter of a minute with all of them turning into balls of flames and flying into the palace.

"Hahaha, we've finally destroyed the protectors. Now, the Great Earth Essence Liquid will be ours." The blue-clothed youth laughed in exhilaration.

Once he gets his share, he would instantly leave this place and refine it.

Just as the others were still laughing excitedly.

Roar!

A terrifying roar was heard from inside the palace. The roar shook everywhere and those with weaker strength collapsed to the ground with a 'thud!'.

"Run!" Grey yelled at his friends and quickly dashed towards the opening they used in entering this place.

Trusting Grey, and being scared almost senseless, the group followed behind him without delay. They couldn't be bothered with their share of the treasure, their life mattered most.

Some people in the crowd instinctively chose to also retreat from the place.

"Damn! Grab the treasure!"

Because the place descended into chaos and the fact that Grey and his group had run away. Some people who couldn't contain their greed dashed towards the pond. They wanted to take at least a drop of the Great Earth Essence Liquid before escaping.

The Darkness Elementalist was the first to get there though. His expression took a turn when he discovered that the drops of Great Earth Essence Liquid were missing.

"What!" He roared angrily, but he was replied by a terrifying roar from inside the palace.

His heart tightened, and he quickly made a run for it. He wouldn't stay here and die because of something that wasn't here. He was sure the treasure had been stolen by someone because he clearly felt the treasure previously.

His current plan was to be the first one to leave this place and search everyone.

Because of the manner of his escape, the others felt maybe he was scared by the roar. Some of them actually forgot the fact that he went close to the pond.

Just as the Darkness Elementalist and his companions were passing through the passageway, they started hearing shrieks from the field. Looking behind them, they saw a terrifying twelve meters long giant beast with three eyes massacring the youths who were consumed by greed.

Their backs were instantly covered in sweat from fright.

Over half of the people who came here had died. Of the four Third stage Origin Plane Elementalists, only the Darkness Elementalist and the blue-clothed youth escaped on time.

Chapter 125 - Can I Keep It?

Grey and his friends were the first group to escape from the field so they didn't have a chance to see the beast when it went on a killing rampage. But from how terrifying the roar was, he was sure the beast was at least at the peak of the Origin Plane, or it had even reached the Overlord Plane. There was no way they could defend against something that strong.

But what kept puzzling him was the fact that the beast only came out after they defeated the nine protectors.

Could it be that it was supposed to be another challenge for them, and after defeating it they wouldn't only get the nine drops of the Great Earth Essence Liquid but also all the treasures in the palace as well?

If that was its purpose, then the expert who made this place wouldn't expect there would be the anomaly called Void. Had it not been for Void, then there was no way Grey and his group would have been able to obtain anything.

As it stands, they were the ultimate winners.

At the other side of the passageway, Grey and his friends could be seen stepping out of the passageway.

'You were able to obtain all the drops of the Great Earth Essence Liquid, right?' Grey asked anxiously.

When they heard the roar from the palace, Grey didn't dare to delay and quickly signaled Void who was still in the pond to come out so they could escape, so, he didn't get the chance to ask if Void was able to acquire the treasure.

Void was currently on his shoulder looking at the passageway without any signs of fear. There was even a look of contempt on his face.

'Of course, getting them was too easy.' Void replied proudly.

On hearing Void's reply, Grey heaved a sigh and a delighted smile spread across his face.

"Huh! When did the cat come back?" Alice asked after seeing Void on Grey's shoulder.

When they were escaping previously, she remembered vividly that the cat was not on Grey's shoulder, and she also didn't see it running after them. So how did the cat suddenly appear on Grey's shoulder after they came out?

"Firstly, his name's Void. Secondly... This isn't the place to talk about it, I'll tell you when we're alone." Grey said.

Seeing how cautious Grey was about Void, the curiosity of the group was piqued, and they all suddenly had a great interest in what sort of al beast Void was for Grey to be this careful when speaking about him.

"Wait, so you're saying there's an eighth element, and this cat happens to have it?" Klaus asked with a look of incredulity.

He wasn't the only one who had a shocked expression after hearing about Void and the space element. There had been no records of there being an eighth element so hearing about this came as a shock to them.

"Yes. Void." Grey answered before calling on Void to show it to them.

At least, if they saw him use it, it would be easier for them to believe it and he wouldn't need to explain much.

Void knew the reason Grey called him, so he disappeared from his previous spot and appeared almost twenty meters away. This was the furthest he could go for now, but he felt if he pushed himself, he could go further.

"Wow! That's an awesome element. How come no one else has it?" Reynolds exclaimed, fascinated by the space element.

If he had such an element, then wouldn't he be unstoppable.

"You also spoke of a spatial ring. What is that?" Klaus asked still shocked by what he just found out.

"This," Grey showed them the ring on his hand and went on to tell them about it.

"Can I see it?" Klaus stretched out his hand towards the ring.

Without thinking much, Grey threw it at him. Holding the ring, Klaus studied it intently but still couldn't figure out how to use it.

"Can I keep it?" He asked while flashing his best smile.

Who wouldn't want to keep something like this?

"No. And besides, you don't even know how to access it." Grey declined his request immediately.

'Like I'll give the only one I found to you?' He scoffed internally.

Had there been more, he didn't mind giving it to them. But he only obtained this one, why would he give it to him? It's not like he didn't have any use for it.

"Isn't this the ring we found in one of those boxes at the first palace we entered?" Alice asked.

As a lady, she was very observant of details, so she was able to easily recognize the ring even though she only saw it for a short time.

"Yes." Grey nodded.

"Grey, why don't I help you in keeping it. You should know this is a very attractive treasure." Klaus persuaded once again.

"Yeah, nice try. But it's only attractive to those who know of it. And as it stands, other than you guys, no one else knows of there being an eighth element, talk less of knowing about a spatial storage ring, I think." Grey chuckled seeing how Klaus was acting.

"*Sigh* Why are we friends? Had we not been friends, I'd have robbed you already." Klaus said sadly.

"Tch! With that little strength of yours?" Grey mocked showing an expression of scorn.

"Pfft!"

Alice and Reynolds were thrown into a fit of laughter when they heard Grey's response.

"What? You want to fight?" Grey continued mocking when he saw Klaus's expression.

"Don't think I'm scared of you. The only reason I'm not beating you up right now is that we're buddies, and buddies shouldn't fight against each other." Klaus proclaimed with a serious expression.

"Hehe." Grey chuckled lightly.

"Okay, now, you still haven't told us how you acquired the fire element," Alice asked curiously.

"Oh, that... Uhhmm." Grey fell into deep contemplation trying to figure out how to explain it.

He couldn't tell them that he refined a blue flame and then suddenly acquired the fire element. There was no way he could explain how it happened because Fire Elementals are the only ones who should naturally be able to refine a fire element's natural treasure.

"It's the expert's legacy, right?" Alice said when she noticed he fell silent.

"..." Grey's mind went blank for some seconds.

"Yes, that's it. The expert's legacy. How did you know?" He feigned a look of surprise.

'Although this isn't the truth, it isn't far from it. I mean, I did see the legacy.' Grey thought internally.

"The expert wrote about it on a stone slab," Alice replied.

"Oh! Okay." Grey nodded.

He didn't know the expert wrote about his legacy on another stone slab, but since this had saved him from cooking up a lie, he was fine with it.

"Now people, guess what I have in my possession," Grey said mysteriously.

The valley. At the front of the black door.

The Darkness Elementalist and his companions were the first to exit the place just like he wanted. And after coming out, they've stopped and searched every single person that had come out through the door.

They didn't care if the person went close to the pond or not. What annoyed the youths who were coming out was the fact that the Darkness Elementalist's companions would take whatever they liked from their bags after searching them.

The youths didn't dare complain or even tried fighting back because of the fear of death. One youth had complained previously, and he was almost killed.

The blue-clothed youth from the Blue Wind empire walked out with four others. The four following behind him were people from his empire. Since he was from the royal family, it was natural for him to have multiple subordinates in his generation.

"Stop there! Hand over your bags." One of the Darkness Elementalist's companions said arrogantly.

"What insolence! How dare you try to stop me? What gave you such guts?" The blue-clothed youth asked even more arrogantly.

"I did." The Darkness Elementalist's voice came from where he was sitting.

"What is the meaning of this? I know I'm not your match, but that doesn't mean I'll just allow you to step on me as you wish!" The blue-clothed youth yelled angrily.

He was the son of the emperor of the Blue Wind empire, when had he ever been bullied before? Never! He was the one who usually does the bullying, not the other way round.

"Someone stole the nine drops of Great Earth Essence Liquid, I'm just trying to get them back." The Darkness Elementalist said casually.

"But I was fighting alongside you! How did I steal it?!" The blue-clothed youth shouted angrily with veins starting to appear on his head.

"I don't know. Either you hand over your bag willingly, or, I'll come take it myself. And trust me, that wouldn't be the only thing I'll take." The Darkness Elementalist's tone went cold on the last part of his sentence.

The blue-clothed youth went silent, the four youths beside him did dare speak a word. They had seen the strength of the Darkness Elementalist, and they knew he could defeat them.

Both parties stared at each other for some time. .

The youths beside the blue-clothed youth were on the verge of crying. They regretted coming out at the same time as him. Had they been alone, they would've already handed their bags over. But since they were following beside the blue-clothed youth, they couldn't do that without his permission.

They all began praying for the blue-clothed youth to hand his bag over. The suspense they were currently in was on the brink of killing them, their blood was flowing faster than usual, and they had unknowingly started sweating profusely.

"Hmph!" Snorting coldly, the blue-clothed youth threw his bag at the Darkness Elementalist.

The four youths sighed in relief before quickly handing their bags over as well.

A minute later.

"Hmph! I'll wait and see who stole the nine drops of Great Earth Essence Liquid. Besides, one of them belongs to me." The blue-clothed youth snorted after retrieving his bag before going to the side to wait.

He was previously planning to leave, but on finding out the nine drops of Great Earth Essence Liquid was stolen by someone and given the method of the Darkness Elementalist, they would find it, he decided to wait so he could collect his share.

"The exit is just up ahead." Reynolds pointed at the portal that appeared outside the ancient paths.

"Finally, we'll be leaving this place." Klaus sighed.

Chapter 126 - A Special Bunch

Outside the ancient path.

The Darkness Elementalist and his companions persisted in their search. They had been outside for almost one hour now and had searched just over forty people. There were at least around ten to twenty people left in the ancient paths.

This trip was cruel given how high the fatality rate was. Almost one hundred youths were dead, if not even more.

The youths who had been searched didn't dare to stay around the valley and immediately left after being searched. They had already lost some items to the Darkness Elementalist's companions, and they didn't want to lose more.

The blue-clothed youth and his group were the only ones who had stayed behind. Since the Darkness Elementalist was searching for the Great Earth Essence Liquid, there was no way he would allow himself to lose out on such an opportunity.

The allure of the Great Earth Essence Liquid was just too great for him to reject. Even if in the end they couldn't find it, it was better than not trying. Who knows, maybe they could get lucky, and find the bastard who stole their treasure.

"Stop there! Hand over your bags!" One of the youths in the Darkness Elementalist's group immediately rushed forward from where he sat and stopped the group who just came out from the door.

The group consisted of three young men and a young lady. Of the three young men, two of them could be said to be in a league of their own in terms of facial looks, but one of them was better looking than

the other. The third young man was only slightly above average in terms of looks, but he was taller than the other two young men.

The young lady in the group looked like someone who was still fourteen years old with her hair tied into two ponytails, she had an adorable face with lumps of baby fat still visible on her cheeks. But since she was able to enter the trial land, no one would dare take her for a fourteen-year-old.

The group of four was obviously Grey and his friends. They were still in the midst of laughing after picking on Reynolds during their journey when the young man suddenly came to their front and started yelling like a clown.

Not putting him in their eyes, they didn't even bother to respond to what he said and just continued their joyful conversation at the expense of Reynolds.

Although they knew the youth looked familiar, they didn't really know much about him. Other than the Darkness Elementalist who left an impression on them, they didn't really remember how the rest of them looked. This is expected since only those who make an impact are remembered.

Being ignored, the youth immediately felt outraged but because he knew how strong Grey and his friends were, he didn't dare to attack them. Instead, he looked in the direction of the Darkness Elementalist.

"Stop." The Darkness Elementalist said calmly and walked towards Grey and his friends.

"Uh! What do you want?" asked Grey.

"Hand over your bags. Someone stole the Great Earth Essence Liquid, and since you and your friends were part of the group that fought against the protectors and also the first group to escape, I'll have to check your bags." The Darkness Elementalist explained.

"Sorry, but that won't be possible. Why would we hand our bags over so you could search it just because you think someone stole it?" Grey said emotionlessly.

The Darkness Elementalist looked at Grey and his friends clearly a little wary of their strength. He knew all too well how strong they were, especially when fighting together. He had also fought against Grey personally, although there were only two exchanges between them, he lost in both exchanges.

"Hmph! Hand over the bags, if you know what's good for you." The blue-clothed youth suddenly jumped into the conversation.

"And... Who are you again?" Klaus asked looking at the blue-clothed youth strangely.

He remembered who the blue-clothed youth was, but he only asked this question to irritate him, and looking at the expression the blue-clothed youth was putting on, he knew he had achieved his aim.

"You..."

"What? You want to fight?" The blue-clothed youth was about to shout in anger when Klaus interrupted him. Klaus's lips curved upwards to form a smirk, and disdain was evident in the way he was looking at the blue-clothed youth.

"You..."

"Move to the side, we don't have time to listen to an insect." Klaus interrupted the youth again while waving him away like he was a fly.

"..."

Everyone stared at the blue-clothed youth whose face was turning red from anger. Reynolds could almost swear he was seeing steam rising out of the blue-clothed youth's head, or, maybe it was just his imagination though, to be honest, he didn't really know. But he knew he was currently seeing something like that.

Being riled up so much by Klaus, the blue-clothed youth couldn't take it anymore and immediately attacked.

"Ah!" He yelled loudly.

Swoosh!

"Uh!" The blue-clothed youth exclaimed unconsciously.

Surprisingly, he was currently feeling the wind brushing against his body at a fast speed and hearing the sound of something breaking through the wind. He didn't recall the place being windy. Also, all he could see was the blue sky. He was previously in a standing position, so the sky should be above him, he didn't recall looking upwards.

'How come the sky isn't above me? Wait, where is that bast...!' While he was still thinking of what happened, everything suddenly went black and he lost consciousness.

Bang!

He slammed headfirst into one of the rocks in the valley and immediately collapsed to the ground, motionless.

"You were saying?" Grey stared at the unconscious blue-clothed youth before switching his gaze back to the Darkness Elementalist.

The companions of the blue-clothed youth stared at the handsome innocent-looking youth in disbelief. Even the companions of the Darkness Elementalist couldn't comprehend what just happened. Only the Darkness Elementalist and Alice were able to get a slight view of.

Just as the blue-clothed youth was about to explode out with a terrifying attack. Grey suddenly appeared behind him, he held the shirt of the blue-clothed youth from behind and threw him like he was a spear towards the rock. There wasn't even any form of resistance, and it felt like Grey just casually threw a normal spear.

Everything happened so fast that the blue-clothed youth didn't even feel it when Grey threw him. Before he could realize what happened, he had crashed headfirst into the rock, passing out in the process.

"What just happened?" Reynolds asked stunned by his friend's speed.

"I think Grey just went from there to there in such a short timeframe." Klaus tried explaining, by pointing at Grey's previous location and his current one.

"I know, you idiot. I mean how did he move that fast?" Reynolds cursed at Klaus.

And just like that, Klaus and Reynolds started one of their usual cursing sessions.

"..."

Grey shook his head and a slight smile formed on his face.

'These friends of yours are quite different.' Void couldn't help but comment.

'Yeah, they're special. That's for sure.' Grey replied before trying to break up the duo.

It is quite surprising that even when there was a possibility that they would get into a fight, Klaus and Reynolds could still comfortably start one of their cursing sessions. This showed they weren't nervous in any way even though they were outnumbered.

"Guys, we can continue this another time." Grey tried to stop their bickering, and...

After some seconds, he managed to stop the duo from cursing at each other to cursing at him.

Grey smiled wryly and joined the cursing session. And so, the two-man cursing team turned into a three-man team.

'They truly are fit for friends.' Void said.

The Darkness Elementalist and his companions, including the companions of the blue-clothed youth were stunned by the trio's behavior.

Soon, the cursing session ended with Klaus being the final winner.

"Enough of all this, hand over your bags now or prepare for a thrashing." The Darkness Elementalist said coldly.

"Heh. With the likes of them, you don't stand a chance." Klaus pointed at the companions of the Darkness Elementalist.

"I am enough." The Darkness Elementalist said

"Looks like you have forgotten how our previous bout ended. Let me remind you, it ended with you running with your tail between your legs." Klaus retorted.

When he remembered the last battle he had with Klaus and Reynolds, the Darkness Elementalist's expression turned sour.

"Hmph! You won't get that chance again." He said coldly.

Both parties fell silent with the atmosphere turning tense.

Chapter 127 - Psychopath

"Killing you will be an enjoyable experience." The Darkness Elementalist said icily while facing Klaus.

Of the group of four, Klaus was the one he hated the most because the first person to hurt him was Klaus, and he didn't hurt him alone, but he started to rub it in. And from his expression when saying it, it looks like he relishes the experience of hurting him.

"Hey, blockhead! Your opponent is me. We had an unfinished business, remember?" Grey called the Darkness Elementalist while changing positions with Klaus.

"I'll leave him to you, I don't want to defile my hands with his expired blood." Klaus turned to Grey fist-bumping him as he walked past him.

The Darkness Elementalist almost charged at Klaus when he heard this remark. This was the most annoying person he had ever come across in his life.

"I'll see where that sharp tongue of yours gets you. After I'm done with him, you're next, maggot." The Darkness Elementalist calmed himself before replying.

"I don't think you'll live long enough to see this maggot transform into a beautiful butterfly, corpse." Klaus retorted smugly.

"Uhhh... Klaus, maggots don't transform into butterflies, caterpillars do." Reynolds whispered into Klaus's ears when he got close to him.

"I know. But you don't expect me to say transform into a fly, right?" Klaus smiled happily, clearly excited by how quick-witted he was.

"Yeah, you do have a point there." Reynolds nodded on hearing Klaus's response.

"Wait, do maggots transform into butterflies?" One of the companions of the Darkness Elementalist couldn't help but ask his comrade next to him.

"I have no idea. But I don't think they do." His comrade shook his head after pondering for some time.

"I'll have to find out from his mouth personally." The youth said before positioning himself opposite Klaus. Obviously, he had chosen his opponent.

Grey chuckled lightly when he heard Klaus's reply, but he quickly regained himself and focused on the opponent ahead of him. It was time for him to test the limit of his strength, and no opponent would be better than the young man in front of him. Although he wasn't too confident in being able to defeat the Darkness Elementalist after seeing his impressive battle when they were fighting against the protectors, he still didn't back down, rather, he was pretty excited.

He knew his strength, and the only way he could defeat the Darkness Elementalist easily was if he entered the Fusion State, which is impossible for the current him since it hadn't been long he used it. And even if he could use it, he wouldn't use the State, unless it was absolutely necessary.

"You're the first person in my generation I've regarded to be almost on par with me. It's a shame we are meant to be enemies. Had we met on a different circumstance, there was a chance we might have become good friends." The Darkness Elementalist praised Grey for his strength.

"You're not bad yourself, but, I already have great friends who I wouldn't change for anything in the world." Grey shrugged.

Although he was slightly taken aback by the Darkness Elementalist's words, he didn't bother about it.

Who would want to change such amazing friends?

"Hmph! Don't worry, after I kill you, those great friends of yours, will join you shortly." The Darkness Elementalist snorted.

Without delaying any further, he launched an attack at Grey, not forgetting to keep a good distance from him though. He was still very wary of Grey's speed and physical strength. At least at this distance, he would get the chance to react appropriately if Grey tries using his speed and physical strength.

"Heh! You're not capable of achieving such feats." Grey smirked at attacked as well.

Boom!

Attacks flew from one side to the other. The moment the Darkness Elementalist and Grey started their battle, the others also attacked.

Reynolds was fighting against an opponent in the Second stage while still being at the First stage. Although the power difference wasn't much given the fact that he was naturally stronger than his stage, his opponent was a notch stronger than him.

Alice wasn't having a good time either as she was facing off against two opponents on the same stage as herself.

Both youths were talented and even though one of them was no match for her, two of them were a little too much for her to handle alone. But as long as she focused on defending, she wouldn't have a problem holding on for now.

Klaus was having a relatively easier time since his opponent was in the same stage as himself, and he even gained the upper hand from the first attack.

Bam! Boom!

The impacts from the attacks made the blue-clothed youth's companions retreat in fear, with the unconscious youth in tow. They weren't strong enough to get close to a battle of this caliber. But they didn't retreat far from the battle and quickly started trying what they could to awaken the blue-clothed youth.

Grey crashed into one of the rocks behind him, and it exploded from the strength of the impact.

"You might be strong, but in front of me, you're nothing." The Darkness Elementalist declared with both arms open after sending Grey flying.

Grey stood up from the rubble and stared at his opponent. The Darkness Elementalist was indeed the strongest opponent he had faced.

He looked at the Darkness Elementalist calmly without any sign of fear in his eyes, rather, there was an unrestrained fighting intent.

When the Darkness Elementalist saw the fighting intent, he chuckled in disdain.

"You're not fit to be my opponent. Had you waited for another year or two, then maybe, just maybe, you could stand on an equal footing with me. But for now, you're not strong enough." The Darkness Elementalist slowly walked forward and started his attacks once again.

"It's still too early for you to say that, the battle had just begun." Grey smiled and also launched an attack, two to be precise with the second one following behind the first one sneakily.

The first attack compromised of the fire element, and the second one was the lightning element.

Boom! Bang!

The Darkness Elementalist who had just destroyed Grey's fire attack was pushed back four meters hitting the rock behind him in the process, by the lightning attack that followed behind the fire attack.

"You're a Dual Elementalist." The Darkness Elementalist looked at Grey in shock.

From the first time he saw Grey, he had only witnessed him using the fire element. Even when fighting against the protectors, he took peeks at Grey's battle, and he didn't see him use a second element, so he concluded Grey was a Single Elementalist with terrifying physical prowess, and nothing more.

"What? Do you think you're the only one allowed to wield multiple elements?" Grey asked when he saw the expression of his opponent.

The Darkness Elementalist refrained from speaking and instead, lashed out with another attack. Now, he didn't know if Grey was still hiding his strength or not.

'I'll have to kill him. If he doesn't die, he might become someone that could foil our plans later in the future.' The Darkness Elementalist thought.

Grey and the Darkness Elementalist started their intense battle once again with the Darkness Elementalist having the upper hand in most of the exchanges.

Klaus's battle.

Bang!

"Hehe! Do you think you can fight against me? I'll beat you into a pighead." Klaus proclaimed after striking his opponent once again.

Of all the fighters, Klaus's opponent was currently the most depressed one. The reason for that was that Klaus wasn't only beating him physically, but he was also beating him emotionally.

Who are the worst opponents to fight against? The ones who curse at you even when they are beating you up! And Klaus fell perfectly into that category.

Klaus's opponent was on the brink of having a mental breakdown. The words Klaus had told him were things that shouldn't be said, he still hasn't been able to decipher some. And truthfully, he didn't dare to. He was afraid he might go crazy if he were to discover the meaning of the words.

But things went from bad to worse when Klaus would actively start to explain the meaning of some of the words he was telling him when he notices the expression of confusion on his face.

"How can you call yourself a normal person! You're a psychopath!" Klaus's opponent yelled with tears-filled eyes.

"Thanks for the compliment. Kekeke." Klaus's hysterical laughter rang out.

"Aron, let's switch opponents." With no option left, he could only seek the help of his friend.

"Okay." Aron who was one of the people fighting against Alice switched places with his friend.

"*Sigh* Reynolds, look, my initial opponent ran away. I'm just too awesome." Klaus sighed putting on the air of an expert before calling on Reynolds who was having a difficult battle.

Chapter 128 - You'll Die Before I Do

"That's good to know. Do you mind giving me a hand then?" Reynolds asked.

He was currently overpowered by his opponent. Although it hadn't gotten to a critical situation yet, getting a helping hand wouldn't be bad.

"I'd love to help, but a new target just arrived. I'll talk to you when I'm done with him, it shouldn't take long." Klaus replied before studying his new opponent.

According to his previous opponent, the young man before him was called Aron.

"To think Hank was beaten by someone like you," Aron said coldly.

Klaus attacked straight away. It was still too early to start talking, after he's beaten up his opponent a little, then, he'll talk to him.

With that, Klaus and Aron started fighting. The difference in strength between his current opponent and the previous one was nearly negligible, so he was able to gain the upper hand as soon as the battle started.

Alice was having a tough time as well, although she was still able to counterattack on some occasions, she was mostly put on the defensive.

Bam!

"What?! You have a third element?" The Darkness Elementalist was left bewildered when a surprise attack he thought would put Grey down was blocked by the earthen armor on Grey's body.

Other than suffering from the impact of the attack, Grey didn't feel any other thing from it.

Panting heavily, Grey raised his head to stare at the Darkness Elementalist. If not for his quick reaction, he would have been injured by that attack. The attack wouldn't be life-threatening since his body was strong, but being injured against an opponent such as this was not something he could afford to allow.

"You just keep on surprising me. I'll see what you have in store next." The Darkness Elementalist launched an attack on Grey once more.

'I have to kill him no matter what.' The Darkness Elementalist's resolve to kill Grey had increased to a high level. The stronger Grey was, the more he wanted to kill him.

The threat he was feeling from Grey was very high, and if he didn't stop him from growing now, he'll regret it later in the future.

"It'll be something great, I assure you." Grey took in a huge breath of air and once again started defending from the attacks of his opponent.

"Ah... what happened?" The blue-clothed youth g.r.o.a.n.e.d in pain grabbing his head.

The moment he regained consciousness, he was hit by a severe headache. It felt like a battle was going on, and his head was the battlefield.

"Uh! Prince Ellis, you're awake?" One of the youths beside him was the first to notice him.

"What happened?" Ellis asked again.

"It's like this..." The youth went on to tell him what happened after he lost consciousness till now. He also didn't forget to tell him the reason he blacked out.

"You mean that guy with the blue flame threw me at a rock?" Ellis asked to confirm if they were talking about the same person.

The youth nodded in response.

"But, I didn't feel anything. How can someone grab me by my clothes and throw me without me feeling any force or contact?" Ellis couldn't believe what he was hearing.

From what the youth told him, he should've at least felt some contact, or a pulling force when Grey grabbed his clothes. But he felt nothing, how could he believe something like that?

"I don't know, but that was what happened. You can ask the others if you feel I'm lying." The youth replied.

Still having doubts, Ellis asked the other three about the issue, and they all narrated the same thing.

"What sort of terrifying speed and power will allow him to throw me so casually without me not even feeling anything?" Ellis muttered to himself.

"Huh! He's Dual Elementalist as well?" A look of confusion appeared on Ellis' face when he saw Grey using the earth element.

"No. He's a Multi Elementalist." One of the youths corrected.

"You mean other than the fire and earth element he has a third one?" Ellis asked with his mouth agape.

"Yes, the lightning element." The youth answered.

"How can there be such a monster? Luckily he was found sooner rather than later." Ellis sighed.

Since Grey wasn't from his empire, all he wanted was his death. If such a genius grew up, then wouldn't that mean he could almost single-handedly defeat the other empires given how strong he currently was.

"Come, let's go closer. If the situation permits, then we'll remove these future threats." He said coldly.

Grey wasn't his only fear, the Darkness Elementalist was the second person he wanted to eliminate as well. He didn't know where the Darkness Elementalist or Grey was from, but he knew they weren't from the same empire as himself.

Void was sitting by the side enjoying the ongoing battles, without making any moves. It's not like he didn't want to, but he was still too weak to fight them. Had he broken through and became a rank four beast, then he wouldn't have a problem with helping Grey fight against them.

When he saw Ellis and his group coming closer, he was able to quickly sense the ill intent that came with them.

'Hey Grey, I think your situation just went from bad to worse.' He alerted Grey of the group's arrival.

'Huh! What do you mean?' Grey asked.

Being engrossed in the fight against the Darkness Elementalist, he couldn't afford to be distracted. But the only reason he placed his entire focus on the battle was that he knew Void was keeping watch of the surroundings.

'That guy you threw away is coming back with his friends. And from their faces, it looks like they want revenge.' Void explained.

'Hmph! I should've killed him the first time.' Grey snorted.

He felt Ellis didn't do anything that deserved death the first time hence he didn't attempt to kill him and just knocked him out. But on hearing he was coming back and it seems like he wanted to find trouble with him, he felt annoyed.

'You should have.' Void said.

—

When Ellis and his group went closer, the Darkness Elementalist noticed them and threw a warning glance at them. His message was clear, don't come any closer.

"We're here to help," Ellis said.

"I don't need it." The Darkness Elementalist replied coldly.

"You can't defeat them at this rate. Look around, other than you, the others aren't in a good condition." Ellis persuaded.

He was right about this though, other than the Darkness Elementalist, the other four were not in good conditions except for the one who was fighting against Klaus, his condition wasn't as bad as the rest.

The reason for this was because, after the others saw how strong Klaus was, they started switching positions. At first two of them wanted to gang up against him, but then they realized something. Alice was even more terrifying than Klaus was.

Before the other opponent could go back, she had already beaten her opponent with the chance she got. But because the second person returned quickly, she couldn't deal the finishing strike.

Looking around, the Darkness Elementalist was shocked by the sorry state his companions were in. If not for the fact that one of them was still looking okay, he would've thought they were someone else.

The faces of three of them were swollen, and the mocking laughter of Klaus almost made them go crazy.

Grey was also taken aback when he took a glance at the other battles.

'Of all your friends, I think I like that one more.' Void told Grey of Klaus's deeds.

'*Sigh* That's Klaus for you. Always finds fun in anything he's doing.' Grey sighed.

'He's quite fun to be with though.' Void said.

The brief time he had been around the group, Klaus was the one who keeps the group entertained most of the time. He was sometimes accompanied by Reynolds as well. Grey and Alice were the ones who spoke less in the group.

"Fine. But this one is mine." The Darkness Elementalist agreed to Ellis' offer but didn't forget to warn him not to come close to him and his prey.

"Whatever you say." Ellis chuckled lightly and charged straight at Klaus.

"You bastard, I'm back for you." Ellis laughed when he got close to Klaus and attacked.

"F.u.c.k! You stupid moron. How can you gang up against me." Klaus cursed out.

"Blame that lousy mouth of yours," Ellis replied.

"You're lousy! Your whole family is lousy!" Klaus cursed again even when he was being beaten.

"Shit! Don't attack my face you fool. How can I get a wife if you deform it?" Klaus cursed.

"It's none of my business. Do you think you can leave this place alive?" Ellis asked.

"I don't know about that. But what I know is that you'll die before I do!" Klaus laughed after being pushed back.

Klaus, Reynolds, and Alice were facing off against three opponents each. Things were particularly worse for Reynolds and he was already planning on summoning his Elemental Warrior. The reason he didn't summon it at first was because he didn't want to depend on it.

If most of his battles were fought by it, how would he grow strong?

—

"That should be the exit." A youth said looking at the portal ahead of him.

Without delay, he stepped through it and disappeared.

Chapter 129 - Unexpected Helper

—

At the valley.

A youth stepped out of the big black door and was welcomed by the sight of a huge tornado coming his way.

He unconsciously froze in shock, not expecting something like this to happen. But after going through multiple fights, he was able to quickly regained his calm and sent a wave of fire that destroyed the attack.

When he stared ahead of him, he was greeted by the sight of a heated battle. The battle was divided into four parts. There were fourteen youths present, four of the youths seemed to be ganged up on by the other ten. Other than the most eye-catching battle which compromised of two fighters, the other three had four fighters with one person fighting against three others each.

"How shameless, how can they team up against four people?" The youth wasn't a fan of this. But, he knew all was fair in war.

The only person he felt still had a shred of dignity left was the one who was fighting against a single opponent. Both of them looked like they were the strongest amongst the groups fighting and from the little exchange he had seen, he could tell they both wielded multiple elements.

'Finally!' Grey almost exclaimed out in delight.

The inscriptions he had been trying to make were finally done. At first, he wanted to create one symbol to fight against the Darkness Elementalist, but when Ellis and his group joined the fray of things, he changed his mind and decided to create three instead. And all of them would be to assist his friends.

Since he could still hang on against the Darkness Elementalist, he didn't need one. Now, he planned to create a chance for them to escape. Had they been fighting against the Darkness Elementalist and his group alone, then he didn't fear anything, but now, things had gotten too difficult for them.

When he noticed Reynolds was about to summon his Elemental Warrior, he signaled him to wait a little longer. If he summoned it at the wrong time, it wouldn't give them the opportunity they needed to run since their opponents were too many.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

Three attacks struck out from the symbols with none of the others being aware of them being above them. This was the first time Grey was using his inscription in front of his friends.

Ellis and two others who were in the Second stage were struck by the surprise attack. Ellis having a higher cultivation stage was more s.e.n.s.i.t.i.v.e to danger and managed to defend against it. But it still threw him off balance, this presented an opportunity for Klaus that he didn't miss.

Sending out an attack, he was able to send Ellis flying.

The two others didn't have it any better and the attack from the inscription injured them, although not fatally.

Having one opponent less in each of their battles, the pressure on Alice, Klaus, and Reynolds would naturally reduce greatly.

The youths as well as the Darkness Elementalist retreated and looked around vigilantly to find out who attacked them.

—

"Which bastard dares to sneak attack me?!" Ellis roared after managing to stand up.

Blood could be seen at the side of his mouth. Klaus didn't hold back on the attack and truly wanted to take his life with it.

Looking around, the only unfamiliar person he saw was the youth who was standing in front of the door.

"It's you! Who the hell do you think you are?!" Ellis shouted, clearly infuriated by the fact that he was injured because of the sneak attack.

"I'm not that lowly to sneak attack someone like you. And... I don't involve myself in things that have no connections with me." The youth said coldly.

"Then did you see who did?" Ellis questioned.

But unlike the first time, the youth didn't respond to him, instead, he just stood at his position with his arms crossed.

"He's not the cause of it."

Just as Ellis was about to yell at the youth, he heard a voice, turning around, he realized the speaker was the Darkness Elementalist.

"If he's not the one, then who is?" Ellis asked.

Since the youth was the only one present, it was natural that he would be the only suspect.

"Look above you," The Darkness Elementalist pointed upwards.

"Uh! What are those?" Ellis asked in surprise.

"If I'm not wrong, those should be inscriptions. There's an inscriber amongst these four," The Darkness Elementalist pointed at Grey and his friends who had grouped together since the battles were placed on hold.

When Ellis heard what the Darkness Elementalist said, he s.u.c.k.e.d in a cold breath. He had some knowledge about inscribers and knew they were a terrifying bunch.

'To think there's an inscriber amongst them. They'll all have to die, I can't allow them to leave this place alive.' Ellis thought.

Now, he wanted Grey and his group dead. But before that, he'll allow them to weaken the strength of the Darkness Elementalist and his group, so killing them would be easier.

"So those are inscriptions, to think you'd learn it," Alice said looking at the flickering symbols in the sky.

"It hasn't been long I learned it," Grey replied casually.

Unknown to everyone else, Grey was secretly creating another inscription. Since the battles have gotten to this extent, creating more inscriptions would make the battle easier for them. Even if they would escape at the end, he wanted to make sure these people wouldn't be left unscathed, especially Ellis, if he had the chance, he'll be the first one he kills.

"Isn't that the guy from your city?" Klaus pointed at the youth standing by the side.

"Yeah," Grey nodded.

He recognized Jonas the moment he saw him. When he noticed Jonas's stage, he was slightly taken aback but when he remembered the legacy, he felt it wasn't really unexpected.

Jonas had reached the Third stage of the Origin Plane. When he passed through the door, he was only in the Eighth stage of the Arcane Plane.

"So what's the plan now?" Reynolds asked.

"We'll have to fight. How long can it last?" Grey asked.

"Five minutes max, Reynolds answered.

"Hmm, we should be able to escape within that time," Grey answered after pondering for a while.

"Don't give them any more time, kill them now. But remember to be wary of those symbols." the Darkness Elementalist ordered and charged at Grey.

He was dead set on killing Grey, and since he had the chance now, he wanted to make sure he does. Although he didn't know who was the inscriber, he didn't care. As long as they all died, then he was satisfied.

Ellis and the others charged at their previous opponents.

But just as Ellis was heading towards Klaus, an unexpected figure appeared before him.

"I'll be your opponent this time," Jonas said casually.

"What is the meaning of this? I thought you said you don't involve yourself in things that are not connected to you?" Ellis asked in rage.

"I don't. But you see, I'm indebted to him, and I hate being indebted to others. So, this is me repaying a favor." Jonas shrugged and attacked Ellis.

The battle got more heated with the addition of Jonas. Although Jonas wasn't as strong as Grey or the Darkness Elementalist, he was a notch stronger than Alice and Ellis, which made him the third strongest person in the battle.

He was ganged up by three people, and Alice, Klaus, and Reynolds were fighting against two people each. But given the damage some fighters have taken, they weren't at their best, so the battle wasn't as pressurizing as it used to be for the three.

Being wary of the symbols, they had to ensure to didn't put their full focus on the fight or else the consequences would be detrimental. Due to the sudden involvement of Jonas, Grey stopped Reynolds from summoning the Elemental Warrior, for now though.

Grey managed to create a fourth symbol after one minute went by, and used it to immediately attack his opponent. Having so many inscriptions up was quite tiresome, so he planned on escaping soon.

"It's you!" the Darkness Elementalist exclaimed when he was attacked by an inscription all of a sudden.

If he still didn't realize that Grey was the inscriber then he was a fool. Now, he felt more driven to kill him.

Grey wasn't just a Multi Elementalist, he also had a terrifying physique, and now, he found out Grey was also an inscriber.

How could one person be equipped with all this? Having one of the three things he had would already make one a genius, yet, one person has all three. It was shocking, to say the least.

"Rey, now!" Grey said.

Having four symbols up was very taxing to his spiritual energy, and if he didn't dismiss them, it would tire him out soon.

When Reynolds heard Grey's call, he quickly summoned his Elemental Warrior. The moment the warrior appeared, it sent out attacks towards Reynolds opponents and sent one of them flying.

Bam!

Managing to escape, Reynolds second opponent wisely created a distance between them and struck out an attack.

When the others saw the appearance of the Elemental Warrior, one of them left Klaus and came to the aid of his companion. With two fighting against the Elemental Warrior, they managed to contain it, although just barely.

Klaus being left with a single opponent didn't delay and went to work on him.

One minute later.

Klaus had managed to send his opponent flying and sent out an attack to help Alice while also preparing a gift for Ellis.

"Grey, We're ready!" Klaus said after they managed to escape from their opponents.

"Goodbye," Grey waved and made an attack that consisted of three elements and also with the symbols.

Attacking three people simultaneously, he dashed away from the Darkness Elementalist. Jonas, Alice, Klaus, and Reynolds also ran into the forest beside him.

Although Jonas wasn't aware of their plan, he was able to pick up some things since he knew they couldn't defeat their opponents and the others were also exhausted from the long battle.

But before Klaus left, he didn't forget to throw the gift he was preparing for Ellis. The ice needle was too fast for Ellis to dodge, and it entered his c.h.e.s.t.

"Consider us even," Jonas said before walking away after the group stopped running.

Grey stared at the fading shadow of Jonas, he didn't expect because he left him back at the secret room to acquire the legacy, Jonas would feel indebted to him.

He shrugged and focused on recovering. The mental stress he had from using four symbols made him tired. He needed to rest.

Chapter 130 - Exposed

As Grey and his friends were escaping into the forest, the Darkness Elementalist chased after them trying to stop them. The attack Grey sent his way slowed him down at first, so Grey and his group had gotten to a considerably far distance before he started his chase, but he didn't want to allow them to escape just like that.

But just as he stepped into the forest, his heart skipped and a feeling of danger welled up on him, without daring to wait and see what was the cause, he quickly retreated as fast as he could.

Boom!

A loud explosion rang from where he was meant to step next. Although the Darkness Elementalist retreated quickly, he was still caught by the force of the explosion which threw him over twenty meters into the air.

Bang!

Crack!

"Argghh" The Darkness Elementalist screamed in pain when he landed hard on the floor.

His body ached from the hard fall, and he was sure the bone on his left arm was cracked. Although it didn't break, it was still painful.

Looking at the edge of the forest, he shivered in fear and a chill ran down his spine when he saw the result of the explosion. Had he not retreated quickly, then he knew he wouldn't have survived that explosion.

His companions quickly rushed over to give him the tonic they had with them.

"Those bastards, they better pray they don't cross my path again." The Darkness Elementalist murmured coldly.

"But, there's something strange about that black cat," He thought out loud.

Just before the explosion, he recalled seeing a small black shadow. Only now did he remember where he had seen it before, on Grey's shoulder.

From what happened, he guessed this was all planned by Grey. Now, Grey was the one he hated the most. Because, had he not been alert, he would have died some moments ago.

While the Darkness Elementalist was still thinking about the explosion, Ellis was currently in a bad condition.

Klaus used a technique the Darkness Elementalist was all too familiar with on Ellis, 'Sub-Zero'. Since Ellis wasn't a Fire Elementalist, the attack was much more effective on him than it was on the Darkness Elementalist.

Ellis was even more unfortunate and was struck by hypothermia, before long, he started shivering from the intense cold. Soon, he started mumbling things none of his companions could hear.

Within two minutes, his breathing became shallow, and he started becoming drowsy. At first, he tried to use his element to help relieve some of the cold, but he couldn't. Now, he couldn't think properly and was also in a state of confusion.

"We need to keep him warm. Fire, we need a Fire Elementalist." One of Ellis's companions yelled.

Looking around, he realized none of them was a Fire Elementalist, the only people that he recalled using the fire element here were Grey and the Darkness Elementalist. Grey had escaped, and even if he were here, there's no way he would help, he might even kill him quicker.

With no other option, they turned to the slightly injured Darkness Elementalist whose face was still somewhat slightly pale.

"Please, help him." They came begging carrying Ellis along.

When the Darkness Elementalist looked at the shivering Ellis, he quickly sensed the chilling cold coming off his body. Being a victim of this attack, he was able to quickly connect the dots and figured out what happened.

"Hmph! I have no business with him, he can die for all I care." The Darkness Elementalist snorted coldly and turned around preparing to walk away with his group.

Losing the nine drops of Great Earth Essence Liquid had placed him in a bad mood, when he thought he would be able to finally kill Grey and his friends using the excuse of them not agreeing to be searched, they escaped, not just that, but they almost killed him as well. This was the third time he was facing off against the group, and he had been injured on all three occasions, the last one was even more deadlier since he might have lost his life.

After taking five steps, he stopped and turned back to look at Ellis.

"Move to the side," He said and walked closer to Ellis.

Ellis's companions were elated and quickly moved away from Ellis.

The Darkness Elementalist took a glance at his companions before squatting and placing his hand on Ellis's c.h.e.s.t.

He sent a warm stream of essence into Ellis's body which quickly started to provide the heat necessary for Ellis. Soon, Ellis started recovering.

The moment his head cleared up, the first thing he saw was the Darkness Elementalist squatting close to him. His heart raced a bit, but when he realized that the Darkness Elementalist was trying to help him, he calmed down.

"What? Are you surprised I'm the one helping you?" The Darkness Elementalist asked coldly.

Before Ellis could reply, he started hearing screams filled with pain around him. Looking at the Darkness Elementalist, he noticed a grin had formed on his face.

"Initially, I wanted to let you die from the cold, but then I realized something, it wouldn't be as painful as dying by burning from the inside out." the Darkness Elementalist said emotionlessly.

"Please...stop," Ellis begged weakly when he realized his previously cold body was starting to burn up.

Due to suffering from hypothermia previously, he was currently very weak and could barely speak properly. There's no way he could defend himself against the Darkness Elementalist. In other words, he was totally defenseless, and his companions who could've helped him had all been killed.

"I sensed the killing intent you had towards me when you said you wanted to help previously. I initially planned on disposing of you after I was done with them, but since they've escaped, you'll have to suffer for your foolishness." The Darkness Elementalist increased the heat he was releasing inside Ellis's body.

The Darkness Elementalist and his group could be seen walking away from the wreck the valley had turned into because of the fight that took place here not too long ago. On the ground of the valley were five corpses, one of them was particularly attention-grabbing due to how the body looked.

"Quinn, I think those four are connected to the disappearance of the Great Earth Essence Liquid." One of the Darkness Elementalist's companions said to him.

"Hmm, why'd say so?" Quinn raised a brow.

"I remember seeing that cat you spoke of inside the pond." the youth explained.

He recalled when they were still fighting against the protectors, he saw a small shadow that fits the description of the small cat that Grey had with him. But due to the intensity of the fight and how things later turned out, he forgot about it. It was only after Quinn spoke of seeing a small shadow did he remember seeing something like that.

"You mean they have the nine drops of Great Earth Essence Liquid?" Quinn didn't want to believe what he was hearing.

"Since that cat entered the pond, then there's a chance it took it. And since it's the pet of that Multi Elemental, he should be the one who has it." The youth pondered before answering.

"Then why didn't you say so earlier?!" Quinn yelled angrily.

Had he known Grey and his friends had the nine drops of the Great Earth Essence Liquid all along, then he wouldn't have tried killing Grey alone and would've accepted help.

"I only remembered about it just now," the youth tried explaining.

"You good for nothing! This is the reason we came here, now, someone else has gained the reward of our labor." Quinn exploded in rage and veins started appearing in his head.

"Calm down, there's no way they can refine it in a short time. And given how exhausted they are from the battle as well as the slight injuries they've sustained, it'll take a day or two before they'll think of refining it." Another one of the youths interjected.

"Damn! What are you all still standing here for, go find them!" Quinn ordered.

"Wait, take this. You know what to do right?" Quinn passed a two inches long object that had weird symbols all over it.

The group nodded and all disappeared into the forest. They all faced different directions since they couldn't be sure Grey and his friends went in a straight line.

"Guess you all can't escape death." The Darkness Elementalist said coldly before walking in the initial direction Grey and his friends went.

At a ruined building four kilometers from the valley.

Inside of the rooms.

"We should fully recover before using them," Alice suggested.

"Yeah, they'll be better then."

The others all agreed to her suggestion.

Grey wanted to give them their drops, but since they should wait till they recovered, it was safer with him.

After the others left, Void who wasn't present appeared on his shoulder.

"How was it?" Grey asked.

'He's very alert and managed to escape. Although he was injured, it's something he can quickly recover from.' Void replied.

"Oh! What did you use in the attack?" Grey couldn't help but ask curiously.

When they were running, he overheard the explosion.

'It's none of your business.' Void replied before going to the corner sadly.

When Grey was about to escape, he asked him if he could stop Quinn momentarily, which he agreed to. But he never expected he would have to ignite three of the lotus petals to generate enough power. When he ignited the third one, his heart was bleeding due to the loss.

'From the looks of it, it seemed like the attack he did took a lot from him.' thought Grey.

He shrugged and started his recovery.