

Affinity 1421

Chapter 1421 Don't Forget Your Job

"Grey, if I die I'm taking you with me!" Klaus yelled as he ran away from the Barbarian Tribe Leader's attacks.

Grey finally finished up the last of those trying to escape before switching places with Klaus.

"Deal with those guys."

"Gladly!" Klaus replied with joy.

With these Venerables, he still had a good chance of survival, but against the Tribe Leader, his chances of survival were very minimal.

Grey didn't try to exchange blows with the Barbarian, he knew he was not on the same level as the Barbarian and would only suffer pains if he dared to fight with his physique.

"You." The Barbarian looked at Grey with red eyes.

Grey literally wiped out his tribe right before his eyes. As the tribe leader and the protector of the tribe, he had failed them all. This was a disgrace, and even if they managed to get through this hurdle, this event would haunt him for the rest of his life.

Grey could see the hatred in the eyes of the Barbarian leader and said calmly, "It's life. You harm my race, I come after you. Given you people eat humans, we'll have to make sure you guys are uprooted. Leaving the young ones alive is too dangerous."

The Barbarian Tribe Leader heard Grey's words and knew it was too dangerous."

The Barbarian Tribe Leader heard Grey's words and knew Grey was right, but these were his people, there is no way he would take this lying down.

The Barbarian Tribe Leader looked at Grey and said, "I'll kill you and use your blood as the sacrifice for their deaths."

Grey shrugged, not bothered with what the Barbarian Tribe Leader said. He would stand on his side of the world, and the Tribe Leader was on his side of the world.

The Barbarian Tribe Leader moved close to Grey, but unlike Klaus, Grey was fast, even faster than the Pseudo-Sovereign Plane Barbarian Tribe Leader.

The Tribe Leader punched, but missed his attack. He tried to attack once again, but Grey dodged it again. He attacked with a fireball, but the Barbarian Tribe Leader was able to block it with his lightning element before attacking Grey aggressively.

Being a Space Elementalist at the Peak of the Venerable Plane, no matter how powerful the Barbarian Leader was, there was no way he would be able to hit Grey as long as Grey focused fully only on dodging.

The Barbarian Tribe Leader tried to stop Grey, but Grey didn't have any problems with playing with the man, he didn't give him any chance as he dodged the attacks while attacking. He didn't focus on attacking, just holding back the Tribe Leader.

The Tribe Leader soon got tired of attacking Grey and turned his focus to Klaus.

Without hesitation, he rushed after Klaus who was having a difficult time dealing with those people in the Venerable Plane. They were just too many and difficult to deal with. Luckily, he had a very tough defense that even with such a large group, he was able to block their attacks.

When he sensed the Tribe Leader coming his way, he yelled, "Grey! Are you forgetting your job?!"

Grey appeared in front of the Tribe Leader and was faced with a powerful attack coming towards his face. He reacted accordingly, dodging the attack before unleashing a punch of his own.

The Tribe Leader, seeing Grey throw a punch his way, didn't try to dodge, rather, he welcomed it, hoping to grab Grey's hand when the punch landed.

However, his expression changed the second the punch landed on his stomach, he felt a stinging pain and his figure shot back with shocking speed. The power behind Grey's punch was something he didn't prepare himself for. What was worse was that Grey didn't try to hold back, attacking with everything he had.

The Barbarian Tribe Leader coughed out blood as his figure was sent flying. Grey's punch was almost lethal, luckily, the Barbarian made sure he didn't allow Grey to punch any place that would be deadly to him.

Grey flew after the Barbarian Leader, hoping to take advantage of the situation.

The Barbarian Tribe Leader didn't allow Grey's first punch to let Grey take advantage of it.

He hurriedly blocked Grey's next blow, before trying to grab Grey.

The Tribe Leader was fast and Grey knew that dodging this was impossible, however, he didn't have anything to worry about.

The Tribe Leader's arm got to Grey's head, and it went right through Grey's figure. Grey was there, but at the same time, he wasn't there.

The space element was too mysterious, and so were its abilities.

The eyes of the Tribe Leader opened in shock, but that was not the end. After his arm went through Grey's figure, Grey attacked.

A fusion orb was unleashed on the chest of the Tribe Leader.

The Tribe Leader found it difficult accepting what just happened, but the force from the fusion orb said otherwise as his figure was thrown straight to the ground.

Bang!

The sound of the Tribe Leader slamming into the ground drew the attention of all the Barbarians present. They couldn't believe their leader was beaten by Grey.

Those fighting with Reynolds, Alice, and Aries were in a tough spot, but they were still able to stand up, their Tribe Leader on the other hand had been sent flying into the ground in a shocking turn of events.

Most of them placed their hopes on the Tribe Leader, yet he was the first to be sent to the ground.

"You little brat! I'll kill you and all the other humans!"

The enraged voice of the Tribe Leader came from the dust cloud and so did his lightning covered body as he shot at Grey.

Grey was just as fast, flashing through the sky, taking out one of the Mid stage Venerables in the process.

The Tribe Leader felt insulted by this act and sent a bolt of lightning at Grey.

For the first time since the fight, the Tribe Leader didn't resort to physical attacks, rather, he attacked from afar.

Chapter 1422 He Complicates Things

Grey blocked the switched places with one of the Barbarians.

The Barbarian he switched places with didn't expect the Tribe Leader's attack and was struck by the attack. This Barbarian was only in the Early stages of the Venerable Plane, there was no way he could withstand the attack of a Pseudo-Sovereign.

The Barbarian was killed by the attack.

When the Barbarian Tribe Leader saw what Grey did, he was incensed. Grey used his own attack to kill one of his people, this was even more hateful than what Grey did while he was chasing him.

His hatred toward Grey had grown stronger than what he has ever felt. He wanted Grey dead at all costs.

"My brethren, we must kill them. Forget the price we have to pay, they must die!" The Barbarian Tribe Leader exclaimed.

He didn't go after Grey anymore, rather he stood on the same place in the sky as he looked at his fallen tribesmen.

The other Barbarians gave a warcry, and they retreated from battle. Reynolds and Aries were able to stop their opponents from retreating. They were stronger than their opponents, so there was no way they would allow them to escape that easily.

Reynolds managed to seriously wound his opponent when she tried to join the other Barbarians.

Aries' opponent was lucky to have dodged the attack, if not, she would've been in the same situation as the person Reynolds was fighting.

With the Barbarian's current state, there was no way she could last another minute while fighting with Reynolds who was vastly superior to her now.

But she didn't fear, with a strong conviction, she attacked Reynolds, making sure he isn't able to stop the others. She has watched as their numbers dwindled under the attacks of Klaus and Grey. This was something she couldn't bear to see. Even if she could only hold one person back, it would give the others time to complete the formation.

The other Barbarians started a chant and Grey, who was watching from the side, felt his heart sink.

"Stop them!" He rushed towards the direction of the Barbarians, but he was stopped by the Tribe Leader.

He wanted to switch places with one of the Barbarians, but he noticed it was impossible. The space there was solidified, there was no way to break through it.

"Fuck! Klaus!" He yelled while being held back by the Tribe Leader.

Klaus knew what he had to do, but three Late stage Venerables were fighting with him, disregarding their lives. Yes, Klaus would have an easier time killing them, but it would be impossible for him to recklessly break through and then stop the Barbarians who were gathered.

Klaus felt a frustration and exploded out with a powerful chilling snow storm, hoping to freeze anything in his path. The snow storm was amplified by his domain, making it even more dangerous. He wanted to freeze everything before him and stop the other Barbarians.

The three Barbarians saw the snow storm coming their way, but they gritted their teeth and jumped into it, charging head-on towards Klaus.

Two of them used themselves as shields to ensure the safety of one of them who was forced through the snow storm all the way to where Klaus was standing.

When Klaus saw the Barbarian stepping out of the snow storm at such a close range, his pupils constricted, but then an evil smile appeared on his face.

'A futile sacrifice.'

A thin sword appeared on his hand, giving off an even greater chilling aura than his snow storm.

The Barbarian saw this and his gaze changed, he realized they've been played by Klaus. Klaus thought ahead and was prepared if they did something like this.

Klaus swung the sword at the Barbarian, but the Barbarian didn't back down, he was an Earth Elementalist, covering his hands with a brownish glow, he grabbed the thin blades of Klaus' sword.

The second his hand touched the sword, he started to freeze from his hand, however, the determination in his eyes didn't dimmer, rather, it became brighter. Something Klaus never expected happened, the Barbarian started to turn into a statue, but not an ice statue like Klaus' expectations, rather, an earth statue, with Klaus' blade firmly in his grasp.

Klaus realized what the man wanted to do, but it was already too late. The man had a firm grip on his sword and he didn't have the physical strength to drag it away from him.

A smile formed on the man's face when he saw this, his objective had been achieved, now all he had to do was leave everything else to his fellow tribesmen.

Klaus snorted coldly, "You think I'll let you die with a smile?"

An ice spear appeared in the sky and Klaus stabbed it into the chest of the Barbarian whose chest hadn't turned into an earth statue yet.

The face of the Barbarian showed pain, but his smile was still there. The Barbarian knew this effort of his would only stop Klaus for a short time, but that was all that was needed.

Alice and the others were in the same situation, only Reynolds had it easy.

When he saw the situation, he didn't delay and detached his Elemental Warrior from his body, sending it at the gathered Barbarians.

The Barbarian before him wasn't strong enough to threaten him even though he was two stages below him. With his current strength he could kill him with time. But that was not the main point, the issue now is that they had to stop those people from completing whatever they wanted to do, and his Elemental Warrior was strong enough to put a stop to it.

Klaus, seeing Reynolds send his Elemental Warrior over heaved a sigh of relief, but his expression changed when he realized something, the Barbarians suddenly stopped their chants, and their body was covered with a glowing light.

"Why don't we ever have it easy?" He complained.

He couldn't help but turn to Grey. The mission they've been doing all this while had been within their capabilities just like Aries said, but with Grey's appearance, this mission suddenly became so complicated.

Chapter 1423 We're Fucked

Klaus looked at the Tribe Leader Grey was entangled with and couldn't help but cuss out.

With no other choice, he resorted to his ice needle. The Tribe Leader was focused on fighting with Grey, so the chances of him being able to sense and even dodge the attack would be very slim.

Klaus attacked without hesitation, at least they should deal with the Tribe Leader who was the strongest person present.

To Klaus' shock, the Tribe Leader moved at the last second, dodging the needle by a hair's breadth.

"You think you can attack me?" The Tribe Leader snorted.

Klaus and Grey chuckled. Grey smiled and asked, "Who said he was trying to reach you?"

The Tribe Leader's expression changed when he saw the ice needle which was supposed to disappear appear in front of the Barbarians that had already stopped chanting.

"No!"

The Tribe Leader rushed there, hoping to stop the needle from hitting the Barbarians, however, he noticed something off.

Grey had a wide smile on his face, while Klaus was laughing.

The Tribe Leader was forcefully pulled into space and then his figure was replaced by Grey who had a fusion orb on his hand, the Tribe Leader however felt a cold sensation from his back, when he looked behind him, he was shocked that his back had been frozen.

He studied his body and found an ice needle resting between his spine.

Grey unleashed the fusion orb on the Barbarians that seemed to be on the phase of merging together.

"Damn you filthy humans!" The Tribe Leader yelled angrily and without hesitation, he flew towards the Barbarians that had been attacked by Grey's fusion orb.

He still didn't know how he was hit by an ice needle when he clearly dodged the first one and wasn't even hit by the other one. Unfortunately, he didn't have the time to think about it, his focus was making sure his last surviving tribesmen efforts didn't go to waste due to Grey's attack.

Grey didn't stop him, rather, he threw two more fusion orbs into the explosion and went over to Klaus.

"Quick thinking bud, this guy was a hassle, and there was no way to switch places with any of those guys." Grey grabbed the sword that was still held by the Barbarian who had turned into an earth statue and the Barbarian's hand broke apart.

Klaus took back his sword when he saw Grey studying it, "Of course, you know I'm always thoughtful. I guessed you couldn't switch places if not, you wouldn't have asked for my help."

Grey didn't mind Klaus' act of taking the sword away, he looked at the explosion and asked, "Do you think that would be enough."

"For those guys, yes, but you already know how powerful that guy is. He'll survive." Klaus replied.

"Even with your ice needle?" Grey raised a brow.

He knew the quality of Klaus' ice and was very confident it would be able to slow the man down, even causing serious damage to him.

"Most likely." Klaus added.

"He's a Barbarian, that should be the only reason he will be able to survive this without any serious injuries." Grey waited for the explosion to die down.

Alice and Reynolds were able to kill off their opponents. Reynolds' Elemental Warrior wasn't able to do much to the Barbarians after they started their chants, so he withdrew it and with its help, he killed off the Barbarian he was fighting with.

Aries and also defeated her opponent with some distractions from Grey harming the Barbarian Tribe Leader thanks to Klaus' ice needle.

Everything happened all thanks to Klaus and Grey's impeccable understanding of one another.

Grey knew Klaus was aware the Tribe Leader would be able to sense the attack, so he used it in a way Grey could get in front of it, then teleport it to another location, and then switch places with the Tribe Leader while also sending it back to that place. The ice needle continued its usual movement and hit the Tribe Leader after Grey switched places with him without his knowledge.

The entire situation relied heavily on the duo's trust of one another. If Klaus didn't trust Grey's quick-wittedness, he would never have attacked. But since he was confident in his friend's ability and thought process, he didn't hesitate and attacked.

This trust led to their minor victory. Of course, their victory wasn't certain yet since they don't know the outcome of Grey's fusion orb barrage.

"Hey, why don't we just send more attacks there?" Reynolds suggested, seeing their faces, he added, "Just to be sure."

The others were about to do as he said when they saw a figure shooting out of the place, it was the Tribe Leader, but he was almost double his previous size. Bodies started to drop from the sky, and when the others looked at the bodies, their expressions changed drastically.

The bodies were shriveled, one should know that a normal Barbarian is well over two and a half meters, yet they've shriveled and shrunk to a size of below one and a half meters.

The aura of the Tribe Leader spiked, but it still didn't go above the Pseudo-Sovereign Plane, it was only stronger. But that wasn't the main issue, the issue was that there were two more dangerous auras that were close to the Tribe Leader's previous state. The two auras were at the Peak of the Venerable Plane, but very close to becoming Pseudo-Sovereigns.

"We're fucked..." Klaus couldn't believe his eyes.

"Well, if you think about it properly, this is a better situation compared to what would've happened originally." Grey looked at their current opponents and couldn't help but wonder what would've happened if they didn't attack them at that time.

With the numbers present, they would've been able to produce at least four more Peak Venerables who are close to a Pseudo-Sovereign, at that time, they would've been in danger. But in this case, he wasn't too scared, he still had Void he could call on.

Void had been sleeping a lot lately and he guessed he would enter Rank Eight very soon.

Chapter 1424 Powerful Tribe Leader

Grey looked at the Tribe Leader who was giving off an aura that threatened him.

"This guy's tough. Void and I will handle him, you guys take care of these guys." Grey said to them, "I'll tell the bunny to help you guys out."

"Will it come in person or just its helpers?" Klaus asked.

"It's a little busy, and you should know it doesn't like fighting. It got a Peak Rank Seven al Beast lately, I'll convince it to tell it to help you guys out." Grey chuckled and left the place.

The Tribe Leader followed him into the sky, knowing Grey was his opponent.

"Boy, I'll kill you. I wasn't confident about this before, but now, I'm certain you'll die by these hands."
The Tribe Leader raised his right hand as he finished his speech.

"Well, today's not that day, and you're not the one, unfortunately for you." Grey didn't worry about the Tribe Leader.

'Void, I need your help. This guy is too strong for me to handle.'

'Sovereign?'

'Close.'

'You know I'm not a Sovereign yet, right?'

'Yes, but I can't fight him on my own.'

'Alright, you'll be the main force, I'll keep him distracted.' Void said.

After saying that, Void appeared on his shoulder.

The Tribe Leader was taken aback when he saw the appearance of the small strange black cat on Grey's shoulder.

"You have a Peak Rank Seven al Beast?" He scoffed and said, "No wonder you're so confident."

"He's not much, doesn't really like drama. We should get this over with." Grey shrugged.

"Yes, we should. I still have some scores to settle with you and all the humans within this area." The Tribe Leader replied.

"I don't think you have to worry about that." Grey moved out, without hesitation, he attacked, sending out a dimensional slash at the Tribe Leader.

The Tribe Leader snorted at Grey's confidence in himself, this was the first human he was seeing brimming with such confidence.

He waved his hand and a lightning bolt struck the dimensional slash, destroying the attack.

Grey knew his attack was not on the same level as the Tribe Leader, but he was shocked at the fact that the Tribe Leader dealt with his attack with such ease.

The Tribe Leader stretched his body, and Grey could hear his joints crack. The joints hadn't finished sounding out when Grey suddenly felt a sense of danger behind him.

Grey turned, only to see the fist of the Tribe Leader heading towards his face. He couldn't believe his eyes when he saw it. The speed of the Tribe Leader was above what he expected.

Void reacted quickly, using the space element to force the Tribe Leader back a few meters away from them.

The Tribe Leader had gotten to the state where using the space element to manipulate him was almost impossible for both Grey and Void.

Void had a better control over the space element which made this possible.

Grey used the opportunity to retreat from the place, leaving a large flaming fist that slammed into the body of the Tribe Leader.

The Tribe Leader wasn't able to dodge the attack since he was still in motion, and collided with it. However, he was in a state where an attack of this level from Grey couldn't cause any harm to him.

The Tribe Leader flashed through the flaming fist, destroying it in the process. After destroying it, he attacked Grey once again, not giving him the chance to have time to think. He already saw how dangerous Grey was when the opportunity presented itself, he didn't want him to have such an opportunity anymore.

Grey felt the pressure from the start of the battle, stunned at the persistence of the Tribe Leader. At this point, he was certain if they wanted to retreat, the Tribe Leader would not let them leave, this was how enraged he was with them.

To be fair, the group of five came to their tribe and killed every living thing. The Tribe Leader can't blame them for this since the Barbarians were the ones who hunted humans.

The Tribe Leader attacked Grey ferociously, unleashing attack after attack. Grey focused on dodging, he didn't even dare to block any of the attacks up close. He tried to use his gravitational force field, but against the Barbarian Tribe Leader, it wasn't effective. Barbarians have a closer relationship to the earth element, and even those like the Tribe Leader who don't have the earth element have a great understanding of how the earth element works.

Grey's gravitational force field was useless, his earth walls and other defenses couldn't withstand one punch from the Tribe Leader.

The only way he stood a chance against the Tribe Leader was if they fought with just their elements. The Tribe Leader however, didn't seem keen on giving him such an opportunity.

Void's involvement in the battle is the main reason Grey was still in this fight.

Grey was fast, but compared to the current state of the Tribe Leader, he wasn't capable of outrunning him.

The Tribe Leader had a stronger defense as well as attack power. The only positive is that both him and Void possess the space element and the Tribe Leader doesn't.

This gave them a small chance at escaping from the Tribe Leader's attacks which were all life-threatening.

'Why's he so strong?' Void asked.

'You can tell what stage he's in. Figure it out.' Grey didn't have the time to explain, he was currently running for his life with the Tribe Leader hot on his tail.

The thought of going all out flashed through his head on a few occasions, but he didn't want to act recklessly. If he were to use all his elements and still isn't able to take down the Barbarian, it would spell danger for him. News of his ability spreading wasn't something he wanted, at least not yet.

Boom! Bam! Bang!

Their battle shook the sky and the clouds were gradually disappearing from a two kilometer radius due to the impact of the duo's fight.

Chapter 1425 Team Of Two

Boom!

Grey's figure shot through the sky, but Void stopped the Tribe Leader from getting close to him, making sure it was impossible for him to get close to Grey who was still mid-air.

The Tribe Leader tried to punch Void, but given his small size and also his speed, it was almost impossible for the Tribe Leader to strike him since he was prepared for whatever attack that was coming his way.

Grey balanced himself mid-air and took a look at Void and the Tribe Leader ahead, before rushing back into the fight.

Void was fast and can use this to his advantage, making sure the Tribe Leader didn't have the chance to strike him.

Grey's armor had some cracks from the Tribe Leader's attacks.

The Tribe Leader didn't flinch under the constant attacks of the duo, he continued fighting with intensity, he was certain he would be able to defeat them.

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On Klaus' end.

Klaus and Alice teamed up against one of the Peak Venerables while Reynolds and Aries fought the other one.

Klaus had a good attack power and was also the best when it came to defending, so the best person who could protect Alice there other than Grey was Klaus.

The man they fought against didn't give them any chance as he attacked without end.

Klaus didn't show any signs of fear or worry, he blocked each of the man's attacks while also counterattacking. Alice attacked, but the man was able to almost ignore her attacks since it wasn't enough to cause him any significant injuries in this state.

If she were attacking a normal Peak Venerable, the person wouldn't dare to ignore her attacks, but against Barbarians who had tremendous defensive abilities, and also in this state, they could neglect the fact that she was even present.

The only reason she was attacking was to help reduce the pressure on Klaus. Klaus was not on the same level as the Barbarian, so he needed her. If he tried to fight against him on his own, he wouldn't be able to win.

"All I need to do is hold on for a few minutes and this state of yours will be over with. At that time you'll only be a defenseless pig begging me to kill him." Klaus said.

The expression of the Barbarian changed when he heard this, he didn't expect Klaus to say something like this.

Klaus, seeing it figured this technique would not last for long. This meant that his assumption was right and all he needed to do was to defend while waiting for the aura of the Barbarian to start its decline.

He became relaxed and fixed all his attention on blocking, he didn't even try to expend any energy in attacking. Not just that, but he also told Alice to stand behind him, telling her what he had in mind.

Alice didn't argue with him and did as she was told.

The Barbarian saw their reactions and knew that he had made a mistake. With a powerful roar, a brownish glow appeared on his body.

"I'll kill you, filthy creatures." The Barbarian's speed increased and he was able to get past one of Klaus' defenses, but Alice reacted first, attacking the Barbarian as he came close.

The Barbarian forced his way through Alice's attack, but he was still slowed down. This gave Klaus the opportunity he needed to bring out his domain.

The area around them was covered with snow. This time, he didn't make it simple, the snowstorm was so strong that it impeded the view of the Barbarian.

It didn't only impede the Barbarian's vision, it also stopped him from using his spiritual senses to track them down.

Alice looked at Klaus and praised, "Your domain is so special."

She had tried to get through it but she couldn't sense anything more than five meters away from her location.

Klaus nodded and said, "I read about this in my Faction. It's a useful technique when you're fighting against an opponent that's stronger than you are."

"Unlike others here, my vision is not impacted, so I can attack whenever I want to."

Klaus looked at Alice and said, "I'll need your help. You're faster than I am, but I have a better attack that will affect..."

Klaus paused mid-sentence when he sensed a strong wide range attack.

"This is not going to be easy." He murmured.

The Barbarian, knowing he would be in danger if his vision was impaired quickly blasted a large attack, creating a space of at least twenty five meters, even though it was not large, it was enough for him to sense whoever comes out of the snowstorm around him.

Klaus tried to force the snowstorm to cover up the destroyed parts, but he realized he couldn't. This was done thanks to the domain of the Barbarian. The Barbarian used his earth domain to create a space for himself in the snowstorm.

Klaus sensed the space in the snowstorm and said, "We'll have to change our plans. He now has some space to himself, we'll have to work with that. But it increases the risk factor of it."

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Reynolds and Aries were the ones who had it easier amongst everyone. Reynolds was a top tier Peak Venerable, adding Aries made the team even stronger. Since their opponent was a single individual at the Peak of the Venerable Plane, it was within their capabilities.

The Barbarian didn't have the chance to have any advantage in the battle as the duo were able to keep him in check. Reynolds' speed and attack power was frightening. Aries beside Reynolds made their team deadly for this Barbarian.

The Barbarian was quickly subdued by the duo. And his aura was starting to show signs of decline.

When the duo sensed this, they were elated. They will be able to kill the man in no time at this pace. Once they've defeated their opponent, the others wouldn't have to go through the stress of having to fight their strong opponents in fear.

Chapter 1426 Violent Tribe Leader

Grey and Void were the one fighting with the strongest person present, and since they were both the strongest from their group, it was normal for them to fight the strongest person from the other side.

The Tribe Leader didn't hold back as he fought with Grey and Void, but he started to show anxiety when he sensed the decline in the aura of the Barbarian Reynolds and Aries were fighting against. If that Barbarian dies, it will affect the battle.

They have the advantage now, and due to the way their technique works, as long as one of the individuals who was shared power with dies, the strength of the others will start to decline, returning to their normal state.

"Help me take them down." The Barbarian who was fighting Reynolds and Aries begged the Tribe Leader for help.

Grey had not been able to observe the situation on the other battlefield, but seeing that Reynolds and Aries were on the verge of taking down their opponent, he was ecstatic. As long as Reynolds and Aries succeeded, then the outcome of the battle would be decided. He didn't know if that guy's death would affect the other Barbarians, but it would significantly reduce the pressure on his group, giving them the victory.

The Tribe Leader flew in the direction of the Barbarian Reynolds and Aries were fighting, but there was no way Grey and Void would let him go there without stopping him. The duo appeared in front of the Tribe Leader and attacked with the space element simultaneously.

The space element is a dangerous element when used in attacking, and the Tribe Leader was aware of this.

He paused, not daring to take the attack head-on. A lightning spear struck the attack of the duo, but their combined attack swallowed the lightning spear. Even though the attack swallowed up the lightning spear, the size of the spatial attack reduced in size.

The Tribe Leader was forced to retreat, not daring to let the attack touch him. If that attack hit him, he knew it would be dangerous.

Reynolds and Aries saw what was happening on Grey's end and quickened their attacks. They became more ferocious. It was clear the Tribe Leader didn't want this Barbarian to die, and they wanted to ensure he was killed so the pressure on the group would be significantly reduced.

Klaus and Alice were having it hard, Klaus was on the verge of going crazy from how hard it was to hit the Barbarian. Even with the help of his snowstorm which kept the Barbarian in a confined space, they still weren't able to cause any harm to him.

The Barbarian made sure it was impossible for him to get hit by an attack, after creating a large space with the help of his domain, he had complete awareness of anything that enters within that small space and is able to react accordingly.

Klaus and Alice had tried multiple options, but none of them was able to hit the Barbarian.

The reason for his anger was that he couldn't keep the snowstorm domain active infinitely, which meant it would fade off very soon and the Barbarian would be able to see and attack them however it liked.

Klaus wasn't prepared for something like this, and neither was Alice. The previous times they've tried exchanging blows with the Barbarian, they were on edge due to his speed and his attack power. If he had just those two it would've been manageable, but having such an amazing defense coupled with his attack and speed, the Barbarian was one they didn't want to face.

On Grey's end, the Tribe Leader was agitated and started to attack the duo, but they held him back no matter what. The Tribe Leader even tried to attack Reynolds, but Grey made sure to block the attack before it got close to Reynolds.

Void attacked the Tribe Leader during this period, stopping him from any other plans he wanted to do.

Frustration started to show on the face of the Tribe Leader.

"Team up with Eskiel!" The Tribe Leader yelled and his aura dropped by a small margin.

Grey and Void sensed it, even though it was almost unnoticeable, the duo had very sharp senses and were able to notice the difference.

Grey turned to look in the direction of the Barbarian Reynolds and Aries were fighting and noticed his aura increased.

"Don't let him escape!" He said to Reynolds and Aries.

"You don't have to tell me." Reynolds charged after the Barbarian who was on the verge of escaping, stopping him from going into the snowstorm.

Aries attacked with her fire element, and the aura of the Barbarian which just saw an increase started to decline after being struck by a lightning bolt.

Reynolds aimed to kill, the Barbarian knew he couldn't dodge the attack, so he went for the best thing, taking very minimal damage from it however way possible.

The Barbarian roared in annoyance and tried to force them back, but his declining aura meant that there was no way he could get the better of the duo.

Aries was just as ferocious as Reynolds as they attacked. Before long, the aura of the Barbarian dropped lower than how it was before the help of the Tribe Leader, and this time, he was losing an arm.

"Chieftain! Help me!" The Barbarian yelled out.

The Tribe Leader looked at the Barbarian and his eyes turned red from rage. His aura spread out and Grey was forced to retreat, taking Void with him.

The Tribe Leader was in a state whereby the only way they could defeat him was by wearing him out. Recklessly attacking him in such a violent state was not something they wanted to risk.

The Tribe Leader was in a state he might ignore taking any damages just to ensure he killed them, and they didn't want to get in such a struggle with him.

The Tribe Leader bolted straight toward the man, but Grey and Void gave chase.

Chapter 1427 Escape

Grey and Void attacked the Tribe Leader simultaneously, stopping him from making any advances.

The Tribe Leader turned to block the attack, then using the impact of the attack to increase his speed.

The speed of the Tribe Leader almost tripled and in no time, he was standing beside the Barbarian that was on the verge of being defeated by Reynolds and Aries.

He attacked the duo, forcing them to retreat. Aries was slightly rocked by the Tribe Leader's attack, while Reynolds acted quickly, dodging the dangerous attack the Tribe Leader unleashed on them.

After getting hold of the Barbarian, the Tribe Leader transferred some energy to him before saying, "Leave this place, I'll stop them."

Grey and Void arrived and attacked, not giving the Barbarian nor the Tribe Leader any chance to escape from this place.

The Tribe Leader blocked the attack with one arm while pushing the Barbarian away with his other hand.

"Rey!" Grey yelled and signalled him for attack.

Reynolds nodded and without hesitation, he attacked, but to the shock of everyone present, his attack wasn't aimed at the Tribe Leader or the Barbarian, but it was aimed at Grey.

"What are you doing?!" Aries screamed in surprise.

Everything happened so fast and before her question left her mouth, Reynolds' lightning spear struck Grey.

But something happened, something neither Aries nor the Tribe Leader expected. The figure they saw there wasn't that of Grey, but it looked quite identical to a Barbarian's.

"What's happening?" The Tribe Leader and Aries had a shocked look.

Then it rang in their heads, Grey could switch places with whoever he wished to, as long as the person isn't able to resist the pull.

They then turned their attention to where the Barbarian was previously standing, and a smiling Grey appeared before them.

"You beast, I'll end your lives." The Tribe Leader acted very fast, making sure the Barbarian wouldn't be killed. The consequences of that Barbarian's death were too high. He didn't dare to make such a careless mistake.

Before the Tribe Leader got to where the Barbarian was standing, Void, who was close by, attacked.

The Barbarian was still in a state of shock as he didn't know how he was brought there or when this lightning spear struck him.

The Tribe Leader was fast, but so was Void's attack.

As soon as the Tribe Leader grabbed the Barbarian, Void's attack struck. The Tribe Leader was able to draw the Barbarian away, but one of the Barbarian's arms was cut off by Void's attack.

The Barbarian screamed in pain when he felt this attack. Reynolds' attack was sudden which made him a little confused, Void's attack however was very deadly. Even though he almost dodged it with the help of the Tribe Leader, he was still seriously injured by it.

Grey came over and attacked. Since the Tribe Leader was bent on protecting this Barbarian's life, then it was the opportunity they needed to take him down.

He struck with a punch, cleanly hitting the back of the Tribe Leader. His attack wasn't simple, the miasma he had stored in his body was released into the body of the Tribe Leader.

The Tribe Leader found it difficult to dodge Grey's attacks. Reynolds and Aries were attacking, trying to wrest the Barbarian from the Tribe Leader's grasp. This distracted the Tribe Leader, giving Grey the opportunity he used.

The Tribe Leader had blood slowly dripping by the side of his mouth, but he didn't scream, he kept shut and turned to escape. He knew with four of them attacking at the same time, this battle was over. He could still handle Grey and Void, but with two people supporting the duo, they had the freedom to do whatever they wanted to do to him without him being much of a threat.

The Tribe Leader knew when it was time to give up, and this was it.

Grey didn't care about anything else and gave chase. Reynolds followed behind Grey, while Aries went over to assist Klaus and Alice.

"After so long! Fuck!" Klaus exclaimed and started fighting with renewed vigor. If Alice was just as powerful as Aries, they would've killed their opponent by now, but Alice wasn't, which placed so much pressure on him.

The Barbarian they were fighting saw the Tribe Leader escaping with his counterpart and also decided to escape. Unfortunately, there was no way Klaus was going to let him go away. This was the same person who had caused him so much anger, of course he would want to kill him!

The Barbarian saw them give chase, but he didn't care, what was important was getting out of this place. The fact that Grey could make the Tribe Leader run away meant that he was very strong. If Grey

were to come back after failing to find the Tribe Leader, he would unload his anger on the Barbarian that is present, which was him.

The Barbarian didn't want to lose his life, at least not when the Tribe Leader also chose to escape.

Klaus gave chase, laughing maniacally with pleasure. He was the one who was under pressure a few minutes ago, now that things had changed for his good, he wanted to enjoy it.

"Do you think after bullying me I'll let you leave, alive?"

Klaus attacked with ice arrows as he gave chase.

The Barbarian was an Earth Elementalist and wasn't the fastest. Klaus was able to catch up to him while he was defending against one of Klaus' attacks.

Alice appeared and attacked with his fire and ice domain.

Aries came and did the same. The Barbarian wasn't able to keep up with all their attacks and chose to defend alone. He was an Earth Elementalist and had great defensive abilities.

All he had to do was to settle down and he should be able to create an opportunity to escape.

He wanted to trick Klaus into believing that he would leave this state soon, but now he didn't have such luxury.

Chapter 1428 Freedom

The Barbarian was still holding on when he sensed his aura declining at a rapid pace.

"Oh no." The Barbarian's heart sank when this happened.

This meant that one of the trio alive was dead. He didn't think it was the Tribe Leader, but the other Barbarian who had been injured by Reynolds and Aries.

Grey had the assistance of Void and Reynolds, there was no way the Tribe Leader would be able to escape with the Barbarian in tow. After Grey and his group killed off the Barbarian, the link between the trio shattered and the gathered energy that boosted their strengths leaked out. This was why the Tribe Leader didn't want the Barbarian to die in the first place.

Klaus and Aries sensed change in the aura of the Barbarian, so did Alice. The Barbarian was shockingly only in the Seventh stage of the Elemental Venerable Plane.

The moment his aura reduced to this state, his defense wasn't capable of holding its own against Alice's attacks, much less Aries or Klaus.

"Damn! This is no fun. I'll leave him to you, Alice." Klaus gave up and stopped attacking. There was no point in him attacking, he would kill the Barbarian within a few attacks.

He thought he would be able to beat the Barbarian while he was still in that strong state, but from the looks of it, there was no need to waste his energy.

Alice didn't mind Klaus no longer attacking, she struck out and the Barbarian's previously powerful defensive wall wasn't able to hold up against Alice's attack, shattering after just one attack. The Barbarian was sent flying by the impact of the attack.

Alice flew after him, but so did Klaus and Aries.

"You never can tell if he's pretending or not, but to be ready than to be too late." Klaus said when he saw Alice's strange gaze.

Klaus might not want to waste his energy on the Barbarian, but he also wouldn't make a mistake like this. If the Barbarian is pretending that his aura had returned to this state, then Alice would be in danger if they went too far.

Alice understood why he did this and decided to let it go. She focused on the Barbarian and within two minutes, she ended the life of the Barbarian.

Some minutes after they were done, Grey and his group returned. It was evident they were also able to kill their opponent since the Tribe Leader's corpse was with Grey.

"What do you intend to do with it?" Reynolds asked as they were returning.

"I'll give it to that guy. You said he could make puppets that retain their original strength, correct?" Grey asked.

"Yes, don't tell me you're going to make an army for him? This is the same as being a Necromancer, the only thing is that you're not the one doing the evil." Reynolds said, giving Grey a weird look.

"I'll decide on what to do when I go back to him. Maybe having someone like that isn't too bad." Grey said, he looked at Reynolds and asked, "Do you think doing that is evil?"

"Necromancy is evil." Reynolds replied.

"Do you know how I managed to remove the mark on my body?" Grey raised a brow.

"With Gnomes?" Reynolds answered a little skeptical.

"Actually, I extract their life force and use it to wipe off the mark. Was that an evil act too?" Grey asked.

"It's different."

"In what ways?"

Reynolds paused, not answering his question. Grey saw his silence and said, "As long as he didn't steal the corpse, or kill someone innocent to get it, I'm fine. I used to have this mentality too when I first came in contact with Necromancers, but as time went on, I realized they just use it as a means to make ends meet"

"It doesn't matter, necromancy is shunned on."

"Rightly so, but what if it's our only chance at defeating the Gnomes?" Grey asked, "I did an in depth study of necromancy before I was able to figure out how to cut their links with their puppets. And I did even deeper research when I was searching for ways to remove that stupid mark."

"Don't write off things like these just because they don't meet the moral standards. Sometimes we have to use unconventional methods to win." Grey added.

He saw Klaus and the others and nudged Reynolds, "Don't think about this too much."

Reynolds nodded and went over to Klaus and the others.

"Was he hard to deal with?"

"Alice was the one who dealt with him. He lost his boost after you guys left."

"I see. The Tribe Leader also lost it when we killed that guy." Grey finally understood how the formation worked.

It was quite strange that all three lives were linked. The second one of them was killed, they weren't able to do anything and lost their improved strength.

"Where did you send the cage?" Aries asked.

Before the start of the battle, Grey teleported the humans in the cages away to keep them safe. Since they were done with the battle, it was time to release them.

Grey teleported them to the place where the cages were. The humans were still there, incapable of using their elements.

When they saw Grey and the others appear, they all begged them to free them.

"We didn't save you people, you only entered new management. Of course, we won't eat you like those guys did, but we might do worse than whatever they had in store for you." Klaus said with an evil grin.

When he saw the scared expression on the faces of the people, he laughed and said, "I'm just joking, you guys are free to go. The Barbarians are all dead, they won't be able to harm you anymore."

The people heaved a sigh of relief, all excited that they were alive and well.

Grey and the others looked at Klaus, wondering why he enjoyed messing around with people.

Chapter 1429 A Dangerous Life

The group released the humans from the cages and inspected them at the behest of Aries, after ensuring their well-being, they let them leave, giving them directions back to their town.

The people were grateful, but there was little they could offer to people of Grey and his friends' level. The group weren't too interested in getting anything from them anyway, so they left the place after this.

"What now?" Klaus asked.

"We should get the guy that's hiding in the Phoenix Faction." Grey replied.

"What about the Necromancers hideout?" Aries gave Grey a questioning look.

"We'll sort it out on our way out of here. We've spent too much time here." Grey answered her truthfully.

He wanted them to continue their journey as soon as possible. He was the reason they've been doing all these missions. It would be bad if any of them were to get seriously injured while working on a mission for a Faction they have almost no affiliation with.

"Oh, right, right." Aries nodded.

She forgot the group were on a journey. To be honest, she had gotten used to Klaus, Reynolds, and Alice helping her out with these missions that she actually forgot she has been spending only a few days with them.

Given the situations they've gone through, she felt like they've spent years together. These battles has been exhilarating, to a certain extent, she didn't want this to end. This was the first time in her life she had lived on the edge, and it was a thrilling experience to say the least.

Alice smiled when she saw Aries' expression, she knew what it meant, she didn't want them to leave. Actually, this is how she always feels whenever the group is going separate ways. There was no way she would be able to get this excitement if she traveled with others or even alone.

Unlike most, Klaus and Grey were very daring, and as long as they had a chance of winning, they would jump into an army of thousands without looking back. This was the type of life she had grown with since leaving the Lunar Academy, and not having to be in such a scenario felt like hell.

From the short time she spent with Aries, she could tell she was one who liked fighting just like her. However, there was no way for her to engage in such daring acts on her own, nor would she want to endanger the lives of her fellow Faction members for her personal pleasure.

Klaus didn't speak much, he turned to Grey, "So we're going over to meet that guy?"

Grey nodded, he knew Klaus was referring to the man.

'I don't even know his name.' Grey chuckled when he recalled he didn't bother to ask of the man's name, and the man was too intrigued with Grey that he didn't even bother to tell him what his name was.

The group took to the air and rushed in the direction of the town the man resided.

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Some hours later.

"Who would've thought this place was like this?" Klaus commented when he saw the busy streets of the town.

The town was completely different from what they saw the first time they came here. This town, which was almost like a graveyard the last time they came was bustling with activity.

"Yeah, you can see just how much harm one person can cause to a place." Grey looked into the town, his gaze resting on an unassuming cabin.

"That's where he's located. I've told him of our presence, he will contact the person now. According to him, the person usually responds within a few hours." Grey explained, then said, "Let's hope he comes fast."

The others didn't say anything and all disguised themselves, before slowly disappearing into the busy town.

The group soon mixed with the crowd, all with a distinct appearance, different from what they looked like.

The person coming is from the Phoenix Faction and should have the position of an Elder, at the very least. If said person appears, the person will most definitely recognize the faces of Grey and his friends, Aries included. Grey and his friends were pretty popular during the trial, so it was normal that he would recognize them. Aries is the golden youngster of the Faction, her status is equal to the Elders present in the Faction. Only those above the Late stages of the Sovereign Plane have a better ranking than her.

The person will definitely recognize her once they arrive.

Time went by and before long, it was dark. Even during the dark, the city was still so lively, a complete contrast to what it looked like the first time the group came here.

The damaged parts of the town had been fixed and everyone of the townspeople knew of the extermination of the villainous evil man that lived in the town.

Very few people knew how the man looked like, so it was quite safe for the man to stay in the town while hiding.

Late in the night, when the town wasn't as busy as it used to be, a vague shadow could be seen moving through the sky. The shadow didn't seem complete, it was as if it was made of fog.

This shadow went straight to the original place the man used to stay, when it noticed that the place had been destroyed, it paused mid-air and turned around. Just as it was about to leave, a figure appeared behind it.

"You don't have to be alarmed, those people were tricky, but I dealt with them." The man said before stepping into the light.

When the shadow saw the man, it paused and a raspy voice came from within the cloaked shadow, "Who would dare to attack you?"

"Some rogue bounty hunters who felt they could take me down." The man replied before ushering the shadow to his new place.

The shadow paused when he saw the building, he looked at the man suspiciously but followed behind him. If the man was captured, he would've been killed by now.

"What's the urgent news, why did you call me out?"

Chapter 1430 I Know That Cat!

"The bounty hunters said they were sent here by Aries, your Faction Leader's student." The man said, he looked at the shadow and said, "Do you by any chance know how she got wind of my strength? All my puppets are gone."

The shadow was shocked when he heard this, he knew Aries was not in the Faction, but he didn't know where she went. Grey's presence in the Faction had taken most of his time. All he heard was that Aries left with Grey's friends.

'Could she have sent his friends here?' The shadow thought.

"Aries has been out of the Faction for some time now, I don't know her whereabouts. But no one has accepted that mission which means it's still active." The shadow didn't voice out his concerns, only telling the man what he knew.

"What about the people, did you kill them?" The shadow asked.

"No. I handled the matter, but I couldn't kill them. They're too powerful. But they're seriously injured, I don't think they will be coming out anytime soon." The man replied.

"A shame." The shadow shook its head before looking at the man, "What about my goods, are they safe?"

"I don't use your puppets, they're still in the safe." The man snorted.

The shadow heaved a sigh of relief. He had expended a lot of energy to get those people to come out and be killed by this man. They usually share the people in half. He had sent a good amount of people over to the man and the man had killed all of them. He picked his puppets and preserved the others for the shadow. The shadow hadn't been able to take some of the recent batches, so he had quite a good number of people present.

"So what now?" The shadow asked.

"I need to know if she will still come after me or not. Those people are alive and know that they would need a little more help and they can kill me. If they send a Pseudo-Sovereign my way, I'm doomed." The man said.

"Why didn't you leave this place then?" The shadow asked.

"The best hiding place is in plain sight. Who would believe that instead of me leaving this place after it was compromised, I still chose to stay here?" The man shrugged.

The shadow thought about it and nodded. Indeed, everyone would think the man was no longer present here, especially given how boisterous the town has been recently, it was easy to assume that the man had been gotten rid of.

"I'll take my goods and then head back to make inquiries about Aries' whereabouts." The shadow said, he paused and said, "If the people are the ones who left the Faction with her, then they are trouble. There's an even stronger one still in the Faction."

The eyes of the man widened, "I better leave then. I need to find a better hiding place. Do well to make sure I'm able to travel through without any hitch."

The shadow nodded and turned around, he seemed to have seen something and paused, "Since when did you have a cat?"

"A cat?" The man asked with a questioning look.

"There's a small cat there. It's not yours?" The shadow pointed at the small black cat that was resting by the side.

"It must be a random cat from one of the townspeople. There's no need to worry about it." The man waved it off.

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In the town.

Grey and the others saw the shadow when it was moving around.

Klaus was about to step out when Grey stopped him.

"That's not his real body."

"What do you mean it's not his real body?" Klaus was taken aback.

"He's very cautious. He's afraid of being captured. Luckily, there's no way he will be able to control that thing without being close." Grey said, he called for Void and Void appeared on his shoulder, "Head over and tell him to stall this guy. I'll use him to track the original body."

Void appeared lazily on his shoulder, looked around and disappeared.

"Alright, let's get to work." Grey sat down and closed his eyes, he quickly picked out the link from the shadow and started to track it.

He was very careful so as not to alert the original body of the shadow.

The others watched Grey, waiting for him to move.

Grey opened his eyes after three minutes or so, "There are three tracks."

The facial expressions of everyone changed.

"What does this mean?" Alice asked.

"Either there are three people, or this guy purposely spread out the link just to be safe." Grey explained.

"I'll give you guys the location to the other two links, I'll go after the last one." Grey took their location plaques from them and after a few seconds, they saw another glowing light dot.

"You're such a freak." Klaus was left speechless when he saw how quickly Grey dealt with this situation.

The fact that he was able to easily place the exact location on the tracking device so easily was astounding.

Aries looked at the items in the hands of the people present, shocked.

"Alright, let's go, we don't have all day." Grey was the first to leave, heading in another direction.

The others split into groups of two just like when they went to fight Barbarians and rushed toward the light dot.

The group left the town, all heading toward different places outside the town.

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The shadow looked at Void, not moving his eyes away from him.

"I know this cat." The shadow murmured.

"What?" The man didn't hear the shadow's words and questioned.

"I know this cat. It belongs to Grey Dawson." The shadow panicked.

"This cat belongs to Grey Dawson?" The man pointed at Void, "You mean the Grey Dawson the Gnomes want dead?"

"Yes. They're close, we need to leave, now!" The shadow hurried.

"What about me, you're leaving me here to die?"

"Think of your own way to survive, I can't die because of you."