

Affinity 1431

Chapter 1431 Three Links

In the forest outside the town.

Grey followed the trail deep into the forest. Before leaving, he didn't want any complications with locating the real body, so he sent Void to the man's house to make sure he delayed them, giving him the time he needed to track the main body.

As he entered the forest, he followed the trail all the way to a large tree that had a hole in it.

Just as he was about to reach the tree, he saw a figure rushing out of the tree hurriedly. The figure wore a cloak as he left the tree in a haste.

Grey didn't waste any time and disappeared, appearing in front of the man.

"What's the rush? I just got here and you're leaving already?"

Grey's voice stopped the man, as well as his towering figure that was standing before the man.

The man wasn't the largest, around five foot four, but Grey was five foot eleven and his broad shoulders made him look exceptionally big when compared to the lanky body of the man. Even the cloak couldn't hide the real body of the man.

"Boy, who are you? And what do you mean by that?" The man asked with a calm voice.

"Hmm, strange. You don't know me and why I am here?" Grey raised a brow. He knew the man was pretending since he already tracked the link to him. This was definitely the person he was searching for.

"Oh, there are two more of you?" Grey asked with a surprised expression before the man could answer his first question.

"Two more of me? What are you even saying, kid?" The man asked, dumbfounded by Grey's questions.

"Stop pretending, I know what you are, I'm just curious as to how you were able to link up with three others to create that shadow. I don't think he has ever seen your face, has he?" Grey asked.

"What the hell are you even talking about kid?" The cloaked man asked, he looked at Grey and said, "Look, if you have nothing good to say, then I have to leave. There are things I need to attend to, and you're basically spouting nonsense, wasting my time in the process. Please, get out of my way."

"You're really good at acting." Grey couldn't help but praise the man's acting. The fact that the man was acting like he doesn't even know what Grey was talking about was amusing to Grey.

The man looked at Grey and said, "Kid, if this is all you have to say, then I'm sorry, I do not have the luxury of entertaining you. There are important businesses I have to attend and you're blocking my path."

Grey sighed, he took a step and grabbed the man on his neck, raising him into the air, "I'll ask you some questions, and you will give me the answers I need."

The man was only in the Ninth stage of the Elemental Venerable Plane, against someone like Grey who was already close to the Peak of the Venerable Plane with his physical body and was already at the Peak with his cultivation level, there was no way the man could defend against him.

Grey's arm was wrapped around the neck of the man, but the man didn't flinch, he said coldly, "Kid, I know you're strong, but this is bullying. I'll let you know that I'm an Elder from my Faction, and your actions will meet deadly repercussions if you don't let me go."

"An Elder, even more reason for me to kill you. You're working with a Necromancer, killing all those young talents from your Faction just to grow stronger. Did you think you wouldn't be caught in the end?" Grey tightened his grip and the man started to find it hard to breathe, his face was going red from it.

"I do not know what you're talking about, your accusations are preposterous!" The man flared up.

"Don't worry, when I'm done with you, you'll understand what I'm getting at." lights

Grey loosened his grip on the man's throat and just as he was about to send elemental essence into the man's body, incapacitating him, the man reacted quickly, squashing a talisman that appeared on his hand, disappearing into the void.

"Haha, against a Space Elementalist, you think you can escape?" Grey laughed and tore right into the void, closely following behind the man's trail.

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On another path of the forest.

Klaus and Alice found the other link at the same time as Grey, this one hadn't tried escaping, rather, the person was still seated in the tree, thinking.

When Klaus and Alice arrived, Klaus wasn't like Grey who wanted to have a civil conversation with the person first, he straight up froze the tree, trapping the figure inside.

Alice was stunned by Klaus' method. He didn't ask any questions and straight up kept the figure locked up inside the tree.

There was no way the figure could get out of that place, unless said person was at least at the Peak of the Venerable Plane.

"What?" Klaus looked at Alice when he saw her reaction.

"Nothing." Alice replied with a chuckle.

Klaus nodded and turned to look in another direction, the direction Reynolds and Aries went.

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Reynolds and Aries caught up with their link when the figure was about to escape, seeing Reynolds and Aries, the figure froze, before walking off in a calm manner.

All three figures were covered in cloaks and without them speaking, there was no way they could tell what their identities were.

"Stop!" Aries said with a cold voice.

The figure stopped and turned to look at Aries, "How can I help you, little girl?"

It was the voice of a lady, but it was unlike anything Aries had ever heard.

"What are you doing here?" Aries asked.

"What are You doing here?" The lady asked, emphasizing on the 'you'.

"I asked the question first, and if you want to leave this place, you must answer the question." Aries said.

Chapter 1432 I Don't Need Any Evidence

The atmosphere became tense between the trio. The lady didn't immediately reply to Aries' question, nor did she react to what Aries said, she stood on the same spot and looked into the sky.

"Why do you want to know what business I have here?" The lady asked.

Aries looked at the lady and said, "Cause you're linked to something I want to get to the bottom of."

"Oh, I'm connected to what brought you into the woods at such an hour? I wonder what that might be." The lady chuckled, but didn't seem tense.

"It involves you working with a Necromancer." Aries didn't hide what brought her there.

"Do you even know me to lay such accusations on me?" The lady asked with an amused tone.

"I don't care who you are, but since you're involved with Necromancers, you deserve nothing but death." Aries said.

"What's with all this, just incapacitate her and get it over with." Reynolds said when he saw the time they were wasting with their long conversation.

The lady looked at Reynolds, "I like you, you're quick to act, unlike some people who want to ask questions."

"But, I do not know what you're talking about, neither have I ever worked with a Necromancer. So you have the wrong person. If you'll allow me, I have some things to attend to and can't stay and chat."

The lady turned and was about to leave, but Reynolds appeared before her and said, "You're not going anywhere, not under my watch."

The lady chuckled and scoffed, "What are you going to do to me, boy?"

Reynolds threw a hand forward, but before he could grab the woman, she vanished with a 'poof'.

"She's close! This is why you don't talk to the evil people."

Reynolds moved out, luckily, Grey's way of tracking the lady was still there and he could spot which direction she headed.

Aries didn't speak and followed the lightning covered Reynolds as he went after the lady.

Of all three people found, only Klaus' opponent didn't have the time to escape simply because unlike the others, he didn't have a conversation with them. He directly froze the place the person is located, trapping the person inside. Only someone on the level of Grey and Void could use the space element to escape from Klaus' ice cage. Anyone else below that level will have to forcefully break the ice before escaping.

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On another part of the woods, deeper this time.

A fissure tore in the air and a figure came out of it. It was none other than the man Grey went after.

"That kid, to think they're onto us. I told them the emergency message was suspicious. Damn it. We've been exposed. I need to leave the Faction." The man muttered and he brought out another talisman, just as he was about to use it, he noticed that another figure grabbed his hand, it was so fast that before he could react, the figure was firmly holding onto the talisman.

"You think you can escape from me using a spatial talisman? I'm a Space Elementalist, also very adept with it." Grey smirked.

The man was surprised at how quickly Grey caught up to him. He knew Grey was a Space Elementalist, he had seen Grey during the trial and also when he was challenged, but he never thought he would be this fast with his space element.

"Kid, I don't want any trouble with you, why are you bothering an old person like me?" The man asked.

Grey had assaulted him, now he chased him here too, he was worried.

"Stop with the act, I'm not going to give you that opportunity again. Your cultivation will be sealed by me and I'll take you back to your precious Faction." Grey was said, he paused and said, "Or better still,

why don't I just kill you and end all this. It'll be more efficient. There's no point in taking you back to the Faction since you'll be killed too."

The man froze when he heard Grey's statement, "What do you mean by kill me? Did I do anything wrong? Do you have any evidence that I committed an offense worth me getting killed over?"

"I don't need evidence to kill you. I'm stronger than you, that's all I need." Grey's reply was deemed arrogant in the eyes of the man.

"Arrogance will be the end of kids like you. You might be strong, but you will never live long enough to see yourself succeed." The man said coldly.

"Well, you'll be dead before then. So I don't think you need to worry about me being alive or dead." Grey's arm had a fireball on it as he was prepared to strike.

"You'll regret this decision, boy." The man's voice changed, before deeper than what it used to be.

His little figure expanded and his aura spiked to the Peak of the Venerable Plane.

"Since you want to die, I'll entertain you." The man said, and he struck first, using a fire elemental attack.

Grey blocked the attack before countering. The man used the darkness element to block Grey's attack, comfortably blocking it.

"You're mine." The man said and attacked once again.

Grey was calm and composed, taking each of the man's attacks while making sure to block off all paths of escape.

Two inscriptions lit up the sky as he used them to attack.

The man was forced to take attacks from three different angles which was a little difficult, but being a veteran combatant, he was able to keep up with Grey's attack method, biding his time, waiting for the opportunity to strike Grey down.

But as time went on, he realized the opportunity he was waiting for might not come, and Grey was slowly penetrating through his defense.

The man gritted his teeth, "Kid, what's your problem with me?"

"You're a necromancer, and I don't like you." Grey replied.

"Fine, then deal with them." The man was tired and brought out his puppets.

Only after he brought them out did he realize he made the biggest mistake of his life.

Chapter 1433 Under Control

Grey quickly found the link connecting the man to the puppets, unlike the man he took under him, this guy's necromancy was normal and he was able to cut the link between them and the puppets.

The second he cut off the link, the man wasn't able to move and Grey walked over to him, placed his palm on the man's stomach, then his facial expression changed drastically.

"This is not the main body."

He frowned and sealed the energy stored inside the body before him. This body that he thought was real, isn't actually the main body he was searching for.

'It must be one of the other two.' Grey thought, but then he thought about the puppets this guy was able to control and how when he cut off the link the guy froze.

"He's alive, but not alive."

A realization came to Grey. This was beyond what he thought was possible. This man's brain had been corrupted by someone else, and the culprit was the one who was pulling all the strings.

'This is bigger than what we even thought. A Necromancer able to use people who are still alive. This is bad, this is really bad.'

Grey was worried, if such a Necromancer was set on the loose, then it was the end of the world as they know. Imagine what this person will be capable of doing? The fact that they could control whoever they wanted at will and others will not notice the difference between a normal person and a puppet was shocking.

There was an energy core in the body of the man, but it wasn't the same as the normal cores Elementalists had. This was the only way Grey was able to sense the abnormalities.

He sealed the energy core in the body of the man. Before turning the man into an ice statue. The man was still alive, but unable to make any moves whatsoever.

Grey contacted Void, 'Track that shadow down. It's very suspicious.'

....

In the town.

The shadow had already disappeared from the man's place, but it hadn't left the town, rather, it hid in one of the abandoned houses.

Void had noticed the abnormality about it and went after it while staying hidden. When he heard Grey's words, he told him he was already following the shadow.

In the abandoned building, the shadow turned into a middle-aged man.

"How did they know? This is bad, I need to escape." The man muttered softly to himself.

He looked around and said in a soft voice, "After getting the goods. I worked so hard for them."

"Yes, yes, most definitely." The shadow spoke once again, but the voice was deeper.

Void watched the shadow talk to itself, yet it felt like it was speaking to someone else.

Void didn't do anything, only watching from the side.

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In the woods outside the town.

Grey appeared beside Klaus and Alice.

"You acted quickly." He commented when he saw that the man was sealed in ice.

"Were you expecting a battle? I didn't even try to talk to whoever is there, I just froze them. There's no point going through the hassle when all I need is to apprehend the person." Klaus shrugged.

Grey nodded and went close to the ice cage, he motioned for Klaus to reduce it so he could get close to the figure. Klaus' ice cage had the ability to counter, just like the ice when they found Alice's seelie, and he wasn't in the mood to get attacked by ice.

Klaus obliged and did as told. Grey followed the same process as when he caught the man on his end, and just like what he thought, this person also wasn't the main body. This person was also being controlled by someone else.

Grey walked over to Klaus and Alice and told them about his new findings.

"What?!"

Both Klaus and Alice couldn't believe their ears. If someone like this existed, then it was trouble for the entire Continent. There is no telling where that person has infiltrated and what power the person currently possesses.

"We need to make sure the one Rey is following isn't the main body. Also, I have a suspicion about the shadow we saw earlier." Grey answered.

"But you said it wasn't the main body." Alice said.

"An illusion it made me believe." Grey didn't deny he was the one who sent them on the hunt for these people after saying the shadow was being controlled by someone else.

Initially, they felt the person used three links to ensure that if whoever notices this tries to track him down, it would be very difficult.

The fact that there were actually three people was amazing to achieve. Now that these three people are not even the ones behind this, the situation has gotten even more complicated.

Klaus and Alice didn't have a problem with getting to the person Reynolds and Aries went after.

With Grey present, it only took a minute or so before they caught up with them.

When they arrived, the lady was fighting against both Reynolds and Aries, with the help of her puppets.

The moment Grey arrived, he didn't even speak and directly cut off the lady's link to the puppets, before sealing her energy core.

This was the first time Aries was seeing someone handle Necromancers in such an easy way and she was bamboozled by it.

"These guys aren't the problem, the problem is someone probably stronger than what we thought." Grey explained the situation to them, and Aries couldn't believe what she was hearing.

How could someone be able to control other people that are still alive? It was impossible!

The only way they felt a living person could be controlled was forcibly, and this is what they felt this situation was.

"As much as I don't want to believe this myself, it's the truth and whoever is behind this is still out there, with the knowledge that these three have been captured." Grey woke them to the reality of their situation.

Chapter 1434 Of No Help

"What do we do now?" Aries asked, knowing the severity of the situation.

"Take a look at them, if you recognize them from your Faction." Grey removed the cloak of each of the trio.

When Aries saw their faces, a gasp of shock left her mouth.

"I know them. They are from one of the average Families connected to the Phoenix Faction. They've been members of the Phoenix Faction for hundreds of years and each generation has Elders in the Faction." Aries answered.

"Then we know this might have something to do with that Family." Grey said, he paused and asked, "Is there anyone else within the same generation as these guys?"

Aries thought for a while before answering, "Yes, there's a man. He's different from the rest of them, always alone. He rarely has dealings with our Faction. There were rumors that he's unstable, mentally, but all the times he has come into crowded places, he always acts normal which debunked the rumors."

"There's a good chance he's the one behind this. Let's all hope he is the one. If not, I won't be able to assist with it since it will become a matter of your Faction." Grey said after some moments of silence,

there was only so much he could do. Being able to find out something like this was already exceptional, there's nothing else he needed to bother himself with.

This was a serious matter and if not handled properly, it might cause the destruction of the Aurora Continent. A Necromancer with such an ability should not be allowed to have any form of contact with Gnomes, if not, humans would be finished.

This is something everyone present is aware of and wouldn't want to happen. However, if the opponent is already at the Sovereign Plane, there is nothing Grey can do. Fighting such an opponent in his current state is nothing more than a suicide attempt.

"He's on the same level as these guys. But I feel he's stronger than them." Aries replied, she too was deeply worried. Just how many people from her Faction were under control of this person.

"I know where he is, let's head back to the town."

The group went back to the town.

It didn't take more than a minute or two before they got back to the town. It was just as peaceful as it was when they left. They didn't cause any commotion, so there was nothing that alarmed the townspeople.

Grey followed Void's directions and soon arrived at where the shadow was said to be hiding.

Void appeared on Grey's shoulder, "It's there."

Grey nodded to Void's words and walked into the building. He didn't hide his aura, nor did he hide the three people he had captured.

When the shadow saw Grey walk into the building with those three floating behind him, the shadow was surprised.

"I always knew you were a threat that should've been dealt with." The man said.

"Don't flatter me." Grey said with a smile, before asking, "How were you able to achieve something so incredible?"

Grey couldn't deny the fact that although it was insidious to control people, it was nevertheless incredible. Being able to make others do your will without killing them and keeping them at their complete strength was an amazing thing to achieve.

"You want to learn it? I can teach you if you want." The man replied.

"I want to understand something, are you the real person or are you still under control by someone else?" Grey asked.

Another voice replied, "What does that have to do with you? You little cunt!"

"Well, that settles that. You're under control I see." Grey came to the conclusion of the man being under control.

"Haha, you think I'm under control? But I'm not, this is me." The voice said, and then the man's voice reverted back to the way it previously was, "And this is also me."

Grey was stunned when he heard the two voices saying this is me, for some reason, as impossible as it may seem, he believed the voices. It was almost like the voices were two separate people stuck in one body.

"I think we need to have a long conversation, let's get out of here, shall we?" Grey asked.

The man looked at Grey and then at the people behind him, "Bring those friends of yours, I don't mind turning them into something really nice. They might be of use for your practice."

Grey laughed, "Don't worry, I'm a fast learner, I won't need them. Besides, I have you."

The man laughed and his figure disappeared into a smoke.

Grey could sense where he went and disappeared, going after him. Before he left, he said to the others, "Don't worry about me. Make sure these guys don't die. I'll see what I can do."

When Grey's voice sounded outside, Klaus was the first to rush into the place.

"Fuck it! I told you guys he never thinks before acting. He's too confident in his abilities and it will put him in a lot of trouble someday." Klaus was annoyed at the fact that they were left behind by Grey.

"You know he always heads into dangerous situations alone to ensure our safety." Alice tried to defend Grey leaving them behind.

"Who is going to ensure his safety?" Klaus asked, annoyed.

"Don't forget Void is with him. Even though he acts lazily, he's still a very strong companion to have." Alice replied.

"I hate that he always does this. Every single time. It was the same when we were in the trial land and that Dragon woke up." Klaus said.

"We're not as strong as him, there's no point beating ourselves over it. Become stronger and he'll take you with him." Reynolds finally spoke up.

Klaus snorted coldly, "Not everyone is as freakish as he is. The only way I can be stronger is if I'm a Plane above him. Do you think if you're only two stages above him you can beat him?"

Reynolds gave a wry smile. As much as they want to help Grey, he truly is too freakish.

Chapter 1435 Dont Underestimate Me

Outside the town.

Grey and the man stood opposite each other, staring at each other.

"What do you want?" The man asked Grey.

"You're a dangerous person, but we can work together." Grey replied.

"You want to work with me?" The man asked.

"You have such a great ability, it'll be a shame not to use it to our advantage, don't you think?" Grey asked.

"You managed to coerce that guy into joining you too, didn't you?" The man asked.

"He's of use, I couldn't end his life when he can be of use." Grey replied, "The same can be said of you. You too are of use and shouldn't be killed unless there's no other choice."

"You're very political for a young boy." The man said.

"When you have an enemy like the Gnomes, you will want to use anything to your advantage. In this case, I stumbled upon someone like you, of course there's no way I will want to kill you if you're of use to me." Grey didn't deny the man's words.

As he grew, he understood not all enemies should be killed. Of course, making enemies into allies was a dangerous risk, one that could even cause his death, but it was also rewarding if well executed. He knew the benefits when his father sent him to that meeting to cause havoc, he not only disobeyed his father, but he made a decision on behalf of the Dawson Family which gave them some moments of peace and also allies which were greatly needed.

As he grew, he understood not all enemies should be killed. Of course, making enemies into allies was a dangerous risk, one that could even cause his death, but it was also rewarding if well executed. He knew

the benefits when his father sent him to that meeting to cause havoc, he not only disobeyed his father, but he made a decision on behalf of the Dawson Family which gave them some moments of peace and also allies which were greatly needed.

As strong as the Dawson Family and Lucas Dawson, they were only one Family. If over five Families were to gang up on them, they would be in danger, and would most likely meet their end under the hands of these people.

The best thing to do was to divide the strength of the enemies and draw some people over to their side. With these people, they will be able to fight against their enemies.

The man looked at the Grey, "You're wise, but you're a fool to believe that I'll work with you."

"You're Grey Dawson, a figure wanted by the Gnomes. Someone with an even greater potential than the freakish Lucas Dawson, who happens to be your father." The man laughed, he added, "I'll make good use of your body after beating you."

"Do you think I'll come here if I don't have the confidence in being able to convince you?" Grey asked the man.

"I don't care, all I need is you. Once I have you, I'll finally get to the Sovereign Plane and then the world shall tremble at the mention of my name." The man said.

A voice came soon after and added, "At the mention of our name."

The man reverted back to the original voice and said, "Yes, our name. Our name shall shake the continent."

"I want to get something straight, you believe you're two?" Grey raised a brow, thinking the man had gone crazy.

"We are two people in a single body." The man replied.

"We were supposed to be born as twins, but our mother was attacked by a necromancer who went as far as experimenting on her." The man explained, and the voice came back, "Our father was able to track our mother and save us in the nick of time, but the damage had already been done, irreversible."

"Oh, that's an odd story." Grey placed his hand on his chin, shocked by the story, he looked at the man and asked, "Is that what made you a necromancer?"

"I'm in no mood to speak about my past. I want to end your life and make you my puppet. If we can get to the Peak of the Sovereign Plane and get to become Half Gods, we will be able to finally break this evil thing done to us." The man replied.

"Oh, there's a way to separate you two?" Grey asked.

"Yes, and we will succeed with your help. Well, not really your help, but you understand what we mean." The man said.

Grey nodded, "I understand what you mean, but that's not going to happen."

Grey looked at the man and said, "However, this is what is going to happen. I'll help you guys as a reward for assisting me. Mind you, I'm very generous to those working for me."

"Why would I need your generosity when I can take whatever you can offer for myself?" The man asked.

Grey shrugged and didn't say anything else, preparing for a fight. There was no way he would be able to get the man to work for him without the man being subdued.

At the moment, he had a plan, and it involved going back to the secret realm where he could easily find Gnomes he could place under the control of this man.

The man didn't want to cooperate, but he was sure the man would cooperate in the end.

The man prepared to fight, and just as he was about to bring out his puppets, the realization hit him, he couldn't use his puppet against Grey. He saw what happened with his siblings, doing that was just a death wish.

He gritted his teeth and charged at Grey. He was at the Peak of the Venerable Plane, there was no way he couldn't fight against Grey who was also at the Peak of the Venerable Plane.

He knew Grey was stronger than most young geniuses, but he didn't believe someone as powerful as he is will lose to Grey.

"Haha, you've already seen you can't win, haven't you?" Grey laughed when he saw the man running desperately in his direction.

He saw how the man's confident facial expression turned to one of desperation.

"Don't waste your time on this and just give up." Grey said.

The man didn't listen to his words as he attacked him.

Grey blocked the attack, but was forced to take a step back. The man was stronger than he imagined.

"Don't underestimate me!"

Chapter 1436 Unsealed?

The man attacked Grey after forcing him back with the first attack.

Grey was taken aback with the strength the man was portraying. This wasn't the strength someone at the Peak of the Venerable Plane should possess.

Grey blocked the attack with more force this time and countered, but to his surprise, the man was covered in both lightning and wind and reacted quickly, dodging his attack.

The man already had the darkness element, and when he attacked, he used the fire element, now, he is using two more elements which indicated that he had four elements.

"You have four elements?" Grey was surprised.

"What, you're the only one allowed to have four elements?" The man asked.

Grey shook his head, "I'm just surprised you have four. And why are you so strong?"

"You'll find you when you're defeated."

The man attacked with his lightning element, striking Grey with a lightning arrow.

Grey was equally as fast as the man, if not even faster. There was no way the man's attack was going to hit him. He dodged and appeared close to the man, about to attack.

The man, seemingly prepared for this, attacked the second Grey's figure appeared.

Grey blocked the attack, but he felt his figure forced back by the impact of the attack.

Grey didn't stay back and attacked, but the man dodged the attack, before turning to run.

Grey went after him, but the man was very slippery, escaping from Grey's whenever he got close to him.

The man was a genius when it came to escaping from someone stronger than himself, not just that, but while running, he used the puppets in the Early stages of the Venerable Plane as a means of distraction, exploding them as he left them on the path while he ran away.

Grey found it very frustrating and made use of his water domain. A snowstorm started and the man was caught in the middle of it.

The man used his lightning domain, making the snowstorm light up with a beautiful color.

Grey wasn't interested in the man's lightning domain, he closed up to the man and made use of his earth domain. The sudden change in gravity threw the man off his feet, before he could regain his footing, Grey was already standing in front of him, attacking viciously.

The man blocked the attack, but he was sent flying by the aftereffect of the attack. This attack wasn't a regular one, but it was a fusion orb of three elements. Grey didn't want to kill the man, so he naturally wouldn't use an attack that might take the life of the man.

The man slammed into the ground heavily, before rushing out from the ground like a flash of lightning.

Grey, covered in red lightning, caught up to the man and attacked once again. This time, he used his space element to drag the man towards him and he struck him with a bolt of lightning.

The man was once again sent flying by Grey. He spat out a mouthful of blood, but didn't give up, he knew he would be able to keep up with Grey, all he needed was an opportunity to strike.

As the battle went on, he started to realize the opportunity he was waiting for might never come. Grey was a calculative fighter, not giving his opponent any opportunity to take advantage of. He was someone who used to fighting in this position and knew just what the man was waiting for, there was no way he would give the man such an opportunity.

The man was starting to lose up, and then Grey's inscriptions lit up the sky, giving Grey the chance to attack from three different angles. And just like the man Grey fought with in the start, this man couldn't keep up and slowly started to get injured by Grey.

His movements started to slow down and Grey was able to apprehend him. Grey didn't delay and rushed over, sealing the man's cultivation.

Grey heaved a sigh of relief, and said, "You know, this would've been over if you had just let me seal you from the start."

"You think I'll let myself be taken without a fight?" The man asked.

Grey shook his head, "What's the outcome of your fight? Getting beat up and still getting caught."

The man snorted coldly, "Do you think this is over?"

Grey's eyes suddenly widened when he sensed energy in the body of the man.

"What's happening?"

A great sense of crisis came to him and without hesitation, he vanished from the spot.

A large explosion rang out on the place Grey was standing on. Under the ground, multiple puppets could be seen planted in the ground.

The man turned them into mines waiting to explode. He baited Grey into coming close before detonating them.

In the sky.

Grey looked at the explosion in shock. What he couldn't understand was how the man was able to use his essence. He sealed the man's essence and he shouldn't be able to do anything, yet he was still able to achieve this.

"It should be impossible."

He closed his eyes and sensed the direction the man ran to. He marked the man when fighting with him in case an accident like this happened, who would've thought that he would need to track the man in the end?

Without wasting time, he went after the man.

The man had run deep into the woods, frightened at the thought of almost being captured by someone. He was still trying to do something when he heard a voice behind him.

"You think you can run away from me?"

"What are you?" The man almost fainted when he heard Grey's voice.

"How did you escape?" Grey asked.

"Why will I tell you my secret?"

"Even if you refuse to tell me, I'll know either way." Grey wasn't pressured, he walked closer to the man and attacked.

The man was only able to defend with his fire and darkness element, before being sent flying.

"Odd."

Chapter 1437 Someone Must Take The Fall

"Stop! Stop! I surrender!" The man screamed after receiving a heavy punch from Grey which crushed his left shoulder.

Grey looked at the man, a little wary. He had tried sealing the man before and the man managed to escape from his sealing. He didn't know how the man was able to still use his elements, but he noticed the man was able to only use his darkness and fire element. Even when he was getting beat up, he still didn't use the lightning and wind element.

This discovery startled Grey since he already expected the man to have four elements. But seeing him use only two elements only showed that something was wrong.

'He only stopped using it after I sealed him. Could there be something else that's wrong with him?' Grey looked at him, not rushing to get close to the man.

He could beat the man, whichever way he is, except he manages to break through to the Sovereign Plane, but that doesn't look likely at the moment.

So he wasn't too worried about that. Nevertheless, he was worried about the sneak attack the man used the last time. The explosion of the puppet was very dangerous. From Grey's senses, he felt it was a Peak Venerable puppet. The force behind such power was shocking, so Grey didn't want to experience that threat again, and this time, the man might be able to actually hit him since he missed the first time due to Grey's quick reflexes.

Grey wanted to attack again, but the man begged, falling to his knees, "Please, I'm no longer in the mood to fight. You're too strong."

The man couldn't use his puppets and was naturally at a disadvantage against someone as powerful as Grey. If the man was fighting against any other Peak Venerable, he would've been able to beat the breaks out of them with the help of his puppets, but Grey was different, he was unique, which made him special. Being the natural counter to Necromancers and Gnomes meant that they were useless against him.

Any of them without good strength will be taken down with relative ease.

Grey looked at the man in his defeated state, "I'll only believe when you tell me how you broke free from my seal."

The man dropped his head and said, "I told you we're twins, correct?"

Grey nodded.

"You sealed my brother's core, mine is hidden behind his. Only myself and now you are aware of this information." The man replied, his voice down.

"Wait, you mean you have two cores?" Grey was shocked.

The man nodded and said, "It didn't come out early, and only came after we got to twenty. So we started working on it. Most people don't know I have two more elements. The ones that do are already dead."

"I see. That's a great trump card to have. Who would've thought two people would be living in the same body simultaneously." Grey shook his head, he genuinely couldn't believe what he was hearing.

To be honest, although he felt he was listening to two different people when the voices changed, he still felt maybe it was all thanks to the man's mental issues. He never thought they were actually two people with separate cores and elements. This was mind-blowing!

"You guys are an anomaly. I don't think there has ever been a case like this." Grey said, he walked closer to the man and asked with a calm expression, "Are you really willing to work for me?"

"Mind you, I'll need your complete obedience and also you should only do things in line with what I want." He added before the man could reply.

"Yes, I don't mind you implanting whatever in my body." The man replied.

"Well, you're too dangerous, so I'll not only put something on both your cores, but your brain as well." Grey said, he thought of something and asked, "Do you have two brains too?"

The man nodded.

"Oh, I see." Grey said and his gaze moved down the man's body, "And...?"

The man nodded.

"That must be tough. I have to tell Klaus. I wonder how he would react." Grey muttered to himself, but the man heard his words clearly.

The man didn't know who this Klaus was, but from Grey's expression, he didn't think he was a good person. Why else would Grey be interested in telling this person about his crotch?

"Well, I'll be sealing your cores now. However, we have a serious problem. Someone has to take the fall for you." Grey said, he looked at the man and asked, "Is there any hope for your siblings?"

"Yes, as long as I remove the control, they will revert back to normal with no memory whatsoever of what happened during the time they were under control." The man replied.

"Actually, they've been in control of themselves most of the time, I only take control of them when I need them." He added.

"So that means they will lose memory of everything?" Grey frowned.

He needed this man, but someone had to be punished in the Faction for these atrocities. Aries might not speak too much on the man who was staying at the town, but she wouldn't want Grey to take this man under him after everything he has done.

The man thought for a while before saying, "There's someone else in the Faction, a Necromancer."

"Oh, there's another one in the Faction?" Grey's interest was piqued.

"Yes, he's more dormant, barely comes out. He's also an Elder at the Peak of the Venerable Plane." The man explained.

Necromancers tend to target those people stuck at the Peak of the Venerable Plane and unable to break through to the Sovereign Plane. The reason for this is that these people were desperate and needed to break through at all costs, especially those close to the end of their lifespan.

"Alright, he'll do. You can return to being the person you used to be. Your siblings are under control and should be fine from facing any issues." Grey concluded.

Chapter 1438 Where's The Real Culprit?

"How do we get him?" Grey asked the man.

"I can bring him out, but it'll take a while." The man replied.

"Alright." Grey walked over to the man and for precautionary measures, placed the fusion orb alongside an array on both his brains and cores.

He didn't want to take any chances with someone as powerful as the man. This was a person who created a method of controlling someone without them even being able to remember what happened during that period of time, the chances that he can easily bypass just the fusion orb was really high.

When Grey got close to the man, there were signs of hesitation from him, but he didn't argue and let Grey do what he wanted.

"If I take you back, Aries will want you dead. I'm going back to tell her the culprit will arrive shortly." Grey said.

Grey didn't think he would meet two special people in such a short time, and unlike the previous people that had followed him, he was the one who recruited these ones. To a certain extent, it could be said that he was slowly building an army of freaks to fight against the Gnomes and the rest of his enemies.

Being able to control someone and know what is happening wherever they are is amazing.

"Get him to come meet us somewhere close, I'll be hiding around to take him out." Grey said and vanished, he didn't take the man with him.

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Back in the town.

Klaus and the others were still in the building, the man they fought here was also there with them.

"Why is he taking so long?" Reynolds asked.

"He'll be fine." The man said.

Klaus glared at the man, it was clear he still didn't have a good impression of the man. Even though the man helped them apprehend whoever was causing all this, it was not enough for him to forgive him for what he did to Reynolds. If he didn't act quickly by freezing him, and had Grey delayed, then Reynolds might've been dead.

He isn't sure there's anything the man could do that will make him forgive him for that.

The man saw Klaus' gaze but didn't think much of it. He wasn't too interested in Klaus and the others, if not for Grey, he wouldn't even be here in the first place.

They were about to speak when Grey suddenly appeared.

"Where is he?" Aries asked hurriedly.

"Don't worry, the main culprit will be coming soon." Grey smiled before turning to Klaus, seeing his expression, he knew he was upset.

"He's not a difficult person to deal with. You know necromancers are useless against me." Grey chuckled and walked over to where the trio were kept.

"What about these guys?" Reynolds pointed at them.

"They don't know what's happening. According to what I know, they won't even have a memory of what they're doing while being controlled." Grey said.

"So you're saying?" Aries questioned.

"They are good." Grey answered, "They have no memory of ever being necromancers, nor do they even recall coming here."

"How can such a technique exist?"

Even the man was stunned by this discovery. He didn't think there was a way something like this would happen, only after hearing it from Grey's mouth did he realize that it was true.

"Difficult, but as you can see, it's possible thanks to a crazy mind." Grey answered.

"We should leave, I'll take you to the person doing all this in a few hours." He turned to Aries and said.

Klaus looked at Grey coldly, but didn't say anything. He was still pissed that Grey left them behind while chasing a dangerous opponent.

"You're too confident in your ability, it'll put you in trouble some day." He commented when he saw Grey's nonchalance.

"Don't worry, I'm not dumb. I'll make sure to be very careful whenever I do things like this next time." Grey said in a defeated manner, he knew arguing with Klaus was pointless, and besides, he knew Klaus was right too.

Klaus didn't say anything, he snorted and went outside with Alice and the others.

Grey was left inside the place with the man.

"Did you kill him?" The man asked.

"No, let's say he picked the same option as you did." Grey replied.

"Why are you gathering us?" The man asked.

"I'm in a situation I can't handle alone, I just need some help." Grey replied with a shrug.

Grey and the man spoke for a while before leaving and meeting up with his friends. This was the first time he was having a good conversation with the man and he learnt his name in the process, the man was called Lewis.

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"Who's the culprit?" Aries asked when Grey stepped out.

"Another Elder from your Faction." Grey replied, seeing the skepticism in the face of Aries, he said, "This one knows what he's doing."

"And the person you went after?" Aries asked.

"Not troublesome, he's cool." Grey replied.

"Meaning?"

"He's only a pawn. There's no point killing him."

"But he's the one the link is connected to."

"It's not that serious. Don't worry."

"Why are you covering for him?"

"He's of use to me. He will not cause any more problems here."

When Aries heard this, she didn't speak anymore.

"Make sure he doesn't cause any problems here."

"Don't worry." Grey smiled, he recalled something and said, "Oh, and he'll be leaving this place soon, so you don't have to worry about him. There are others you should be concerned about though."

Aries didn't like the fact that Grey was seemingly recruiting these evil people, but she didn't hassle over it since there was no point in doing that.

They all left for the location Grey said the culprit would be and after some minutes of water, Klaus asked, "Where are they?"

"Don't be in a haste, they'll be here soon."

Just as Grey finished his statement, two figures appeared.

"What's the meaning of this?"

Chapter 1439 I'd Like To Try

"Elder, I couldn't succeed with the mission, someone beat me to it."

One of the figures replied.

The two figures soon came to light and they were the man Grey spoke with a while back and the other person was an old man with wrinkles.

"What do you mean someone beat you to it?" The old man asked with a cold expression.

"Lewis was defeated and all the goods were destroyed." The man replied.

"Such incompetence." The old man scolded, "How did you come about this information?"

"Lewis sent for me and told me about it. While I was here, my siblings were apprehended. Apparently, Lewis was under the person who defeated him and he tried to betray me." The man replied.

The old man snorted coldly, he looked around.

"Who is the person capable of defeating your siblings?" The old man asked.

The man was about to reply when Grey and his group stepped out.

"It's us, we are the ones who defeated them. You'll be joining them soon." Grey said.

"What's the meaning of this?" The old man turned to the man.

"I'm sorry, but I had no choice." The man shrugged and retreated a few steps back, standing behind Grey's group.

"Elder Julian." Aries cried out.

She was familiar with this Elder, he was one of the oldest Elders in the Faction and even though he is still in the Venerable Plane, he was highly respected. Only a handful of people could be said to be on the same level in terms of status with the old man in the Phoenix Faction. Aries would never believe such a respected Elder would be involved in something like this.

"Little one." Elder Julian dropped his head, he knew Aries. He wasn't familiar with Grey and his friends since he didn't step out during the trial, he had more important things to do at that time.

"You're a Necromancer?" Aries asked, still in disbelief.

Elder Julian wanted to deny this, but then again, thinking of the fact that they overheard his conversation, he didn't speak.

"For someone my age, and with my cultivation stage, I have no other choice. I would've been able to break through if I was given a few more years to complete my plan." Elder Julian said.

"At the cost of the lives of our Faction members?" Aries asked, "These people have families that were waiting for them, but you ended their lives because of your selfish desires."

"I'm sorry, I truly am, but there are certain things I had to do. I'm nearing the end of my lifespan, I need to increase my cultivation to ensure that I will have longer years ahead of me." Elder Julian said.

"You're already so old, what more do you want to experience that you haven't?" Klaus asked seriously.

Everyone looked at the man, awaiting his reply.

"The birth of a God. I want to see a God being born from this continent." The Elder replied emotionally.

"There was a vision about a God being born in the near future, I have to be part of the people to experience this." He added.

"You killed them all because you wanted to see someone become a God after hearing or seeing that vision?" Aries asked.

The man nodded.

Aries' voice shook as she asked, "What about the people you caused their death, don't they deserve such a future as well?"

"A little sacrifice for the greater good."

"What about you seeing the birth of a God is a greater good?" Klaus was stunned at the man's shamelessness.

If the man had said he was the one who was going to become a God after killing all those people, it would've at least been reasonable, but the man is saying he killed those people just so he could stand a chance to see a God. What was the possibility he wouldn't be killed in a fight before that time?

"You..."

Grey attacked, he wasn't in the mood to listen to the man's useless sermon. If he had been saying something worth listening to, he would've at least tried to listen to him, but in this case, there was no point doing so, the man was a psychopath who shouldn't even be listened to.

Klaus and Reynolds followed Grey's lead, attacking the man as well.

"He's close to becoming a Pseudo..."

Aries paused mid-sentence as the trio's attacks were sent flying back to them.

"He has the ability to repel attacks. He's a Space Elementalist, but also has the fire and darkness element." She explained.

"I see." Grey didn't budge, destroying the attack coming his way.

He also knew how to use his space element to repel attacks, but he wasn't as proficient with it like the man.

The man stood in the sky, untouched by any of the attacks.

"Little one, you know me so well. You should also know that if I get serious, only those in the Sovereign Plane can stop me." The old man was calm, he looked at Grey, "I know you. You're the one the Gnomes want dead."

Grey didn't know how the man was able to recognize him even though he hadn't said his name, but he wasn't worried. He would kill the man even if he doesn't know.

"Attack together, we can end him." Klaus said.

"There's a limit to the strength of attack he can repel." Grey was composed.

He joined Klaus and instead of using his normal blue flames, he used his icy flame domain, enforcing Klaus' attack in the process.

The second the domain covered the man, a thin shield appeared around the man, it was clear that it was what he uses to repel attacks coming his way.

When the domain hit the film, the domain couldn't pass through and was forced to move around it. The man was covered in the domain, but he was perfectly safe in his space.

"This is my space, do you think you will be able to break it?" The man asked.

"I'd like to try." Reynolds prepared a lightning spear, focusing all his energy at the tip.

The man scoffed as Reynolds sent the spear at him, but his expression soon turned serious.

Chapter 1440 Tactful Old Man

The pupils of the old man dilated when he saw the spear coming at him. This wasn't a spear created by just Reynolds, as soon as the spear made contact with Grey's icy flame domain, the tip was reinforced, further strengthened by it. Not just that, but Klaus' initial attack also merged with the tip of the spear.

The old man wanted to move, but he knew it was too late. If he tried to shuttle through space, he would be struck with this attack which is very dangerous for him.

The spear hit the film, and just as everyone expected, it wasn't repelled by the old man, rather, it broke into the old man's space, heading straight for his head.

Reynolds went for the kill.

The man was already prepared and spat out a dark substance from his mouth which immediately covered the entirety of the spear. The spear started to wear down from the tip. The more the spear advanced, the more the black substance wore it down, dissolving it. In no time, the lightning spear was nowhere to be seen.

"Impressive, but you will have to do better." The old man wiped the black substance at the side of his mouth.

The old man just finished his statement when he felt a chill run down his spine, literally.

On his right shoulder, a thin hole could be seen and it was starting to not only freeze, but the chill was spreading across the man's body, in an attempt to turn him into an ice sculpture.

Reynolds' attack was just a distraction, the main attack was Klaus' ice needle he had been preparing even before they came out.

Klaus could prepare these needles and store them, but they are not as effective when stored, so he didn't like doing that. This ice needle is one of the strongest he has created so far, and he could tell that even if it doesn't stop this old man, it would at least slow him down, giving people like Grey the chance to attack.

The old man started to freeze, but Grey didn't stop there, he appeared before the man, his eyes glowing pale blue.

The second the old man's eyes made contact with Grey's, he closed it in an instant, knowing what will happen if he stared at them for long.

Grey punched the old man's chest, sending him flying. But while the man was sent flying back, Grey stretched out his hand and the old man's body propelled back to his hand.

Grey grabbed the man by the neck, staring at him coldly, "It all ends here."

The man wanted to open his mouth, but Grey grabbed his mouth, making he isn't able to open it.

"Do you think I'll let you do that?" Grey asked.

The old man was held tightly by Grey, and his back was still in the process of getting frozen solid.

The man focused his energy and fought off the ice in his body, dispelling all of it, but there was no way he could escape from Grey's grasp.

The old man moved his hand, trying to use his fire element to attack Grey, but Grey stopped the attack even before it could be formed.

However, this was within the expectations of the old man, he didn't panic as a powerful repulsive force came between him and Grey.

Grey was forced to take some steps back, but Grey's grip on the man's neck was firm, and he was being forced back, he didn't let go of the man's neck, making sure the man was dragged with him.

When the man realized there was no escaping from Grey's clutches, he switched his tactics. This method would only put him in danger.

The man tried all means, but Grey didn't let go of the man's neck, his grip only got tighter and fiercer. If the man wanted him to let go, then he had to cut his hand. This was exactly what the man attempted next.

Two fire blades appeared and slashed at Grey's hand.

Grey didn't dare to let them touch him, he dragged the man into the attack.

When the man felt the heat, he knew Grey had drawn him close to the attack and he scoffed inside, he didn't do anything else, exploding with a fiery attack.

With him at the center, the flames spread out.

"Klaus."

Klaus was already close before Grey even mentioned his name, his domain appeared and a large sea of water poured on the man. This wasn't any ordinary water, but it was heavy water.

Against the old man's flames, Klaus' heavy water made short work of it, making sure there was no way the man could use the flames to harm Grey.

Grey wasn't hurt by the heavy water, but the ice left in the body of the man was riled up once again due to the heavy water and it started to act up again.

The man found it hard to keep both the ice and Grey's grip away. His mouth was closed by Grey which made it hard for him to speak, and so was his eyes shut so he can't look into Grey's eyes.

He was caught in a dilemma, but he didn't want to give up. He had noticed Grey trying to seal his cultivation on a few occasions and Grey had failed both times due to his resistance.

The old man thought about it and realizing there was no way for him to see and understand what's happening, he brought out a puppet, just for a short time so he could understand what was happening.

Doing this gave him the chance to see what was happening outside. He studied the location of everyone and without hesitation, the puppet exploded.

Grey was about to use the puppet against the man, but to his shock, the puppet exploded.

Grey feared for his friends' safety and let the man go. Making sure nothing happens to them. Their safety was very important.