

Affinity 391

Chapter 391 - What Did He Do?

Three hours later.

Grey stood in front of the small gates leading to a town. He took out the disc, and Klaus' light dot looked to be in this town.

'Seems like he has finally stopped moving.' He thought to himself with a sigh of relief.

A small plaque was hung on the side of the town's gate, the words 'Moon Town' was boldly written on the plaque.

After taking a step inside the town, Grey suddenly felt a chill run through his legs into his body.

'Such intense cold energy,'

Grey was dumbfounded by what he felt.

Although some parts of the town were covered in snow, Grey didn't actually think it would radiate such high levels of cold. Even for someone like him who was already in the Eighth stage of the Origin Plane, while also having a physical body that was equivalent to a Fourth stage Origin Plane Elementalist, he still felt the cold was quite strong.

He quickly tried to use his fire element to suppress the cold energy that was trying to cause havoc in his body, but to his surprise, even before he could will the fire element, the cold energy calmed down on its own.

'Huh? That's strange, what happened?' He couldn't wrap his head around what just happened.

Unknown to Grey, the drop of liquid Aetonth put in his body the previous time was greedily absorbing the cold energy as they charged into his body.

Before long, all the cold energy close to Grey had been quickly absorbed into his body.

This didn't go unnoticed by Grey, which left him stumped. This was the first time something like this was happening.

'Could it possibly have to do with the orb in my body?' He thought inside.

That was the only thing he could think of that could cause such a reaction in his body, it was just when Alice's father tried to suppress him with the aura of an Overlord Plane expert but was unable to.

He stood still by the gate to the town for a few seconds, trying to figure out what happened.

"Move, you're blocking the path,"

An unfriendly voice came from behind him, which brought him out of his thoughts.

He turned to look at the person speaking, it was an elderly looking lady, "I'm sorry, I was surprised by the cold energy,"

After apologizing, he turned and walked into the town.

"Did he just say cold energy?"

A young man behind the elderly lady asked in surprise.

"Seems like he's a Water Elementalist, one who has a good ice ability," The elderly lady replied.

The duo looked at Grey's back view as he walked deeper into the town.

"Forget about him, come let's go beat up that thief," She said. When speaking about this 'thief', hatred shone in her eyes.

The young man nodded before following behind the elderly lady.

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After walking away from the town's gate, Grey headed towards the direction where Klaus' light dot was located.

In a small tea shop by the side of the road, three people could be seen sitting inside, one middle-aged man, a younger and handsome-looking man who looked to be in his early thirties, and a delicate-looking young lady who was in her twenties.

"Teacher, don't you think we should help him out?" The handsome-looking man asked.

"No, given everything he's been doing, this seems to be a very light punishment," The middle-aged man replied.

The trio sitting around this table enjoying tea was none other than Klaus' father, Instructor Blake, and lastly, Instructor Delia. The person Blake was speaking about was obviously Klaus.

"What's he doing here?" Delia suddenly spoke out while pointing out the window.

Oliver and Blake looked in the direction she was pointing at, and to their surprise, they saw Grey walking outside.

"Call him over," Oliver said to Blake.

"Yes Teacher," Blake stood up and exited the shop.

"Grey," He called out after coming out of the shop.

Grey who was leisurely walking around stopped on hearing his name, turning around, he saw Instructor Blake's surprised face.

He wasn't too shocked to see him here since they were with Klaus.

"Hello, Instructor Blake," Grey waved before walking over.

"You don't need to call me Instructor anymore, we're no longer in the Academy. Just call me un... no uncle will make me seem old, elder brother would do. Besides, your Teacher is a close friend of mine," Blake said.

Grey smiled, he was already used to calling him Instructor Blake, and he didn't think it would be easy to change it.

"Is Klaus with you?" He asked while looking behind him.

According to where the light dot was, Klaus was around here.

"Come with me," Blake said before heading into the tea shop.

Grey followed behind them, thinking Klaus was inside.

On entering, he only saw Instructor Delia and Klaus' father.

"Hello Principal, Instructor Delia," He bowed to both of them.

Delia smiled at Grey, "You seem to have gotten more handsome,"

Grey scratched his head awkwardly.

"Grey, what brings you here?" Oliver asked after taking a sip of his tea.

"I came in search of Klaus," Grey replied.

"Oh, how did you know he was here?" Oliver asked with a strange look.

Grey instinctively wanted to lie, but after recalling that the people here could be trusted, he told them about the tracking device he made.

"Fascinating, Chris would be proud," Oliver praised.

On hearing how Grey was able to make it from the one he took from the Darkness Elementalist which wasn't as good as this one, he felt even more astounded. Grey seems to be a genius when it comes to arrays.

"Sir, so where can I find Klaus?" Grey asked.

Oliver shook his head before looking towards his left.

Grey came into the small shop through the right, so when he saw Oliver and the others looking in that direction, he curiously turned to look as well.

And behold, Klaus was surrounded by groups of people of all ages, and from their expressions, it was almost like they could kill him anytime.

The only thing that surprised Grey was that the person with the highest Plane was actually in the Origin Plane.

"Principal, what did he do?"

Chapter 392 - Sacrifice!

"Principal, what did he do?" Grey asked, shocked.

"Hehe, he absorbed the town's treasure," Blake was the one who replied with a chuckle.

"The town's treasure?" Grey asked, surprised.

"Yes, you see..." Oliver started to speak of the history of the town to Grey.

Hundreds of years ago, this town wasn't called Moon Town, it had a different name, but suddenly, a strange situation started happening in the town. Usually, in all places, the elements of the residents are always mixed, with common elements like water, wind, fire, and earth being abundant amongst the Elementalists.

But in the case of Moon Town, the water element takes up a staggering eighty percent of the people here.

According to the people, they were blessed by the Moon God. Well, after experts in the Overlord Plane noticed the strange occurrence in this small town, some started investigating it and found out that there's an ice vein under the town.. But that was not all, there was a small rock that seemed to be radiating icy energy.

Naturally, the rock attracted the greed of some of the Water Elementalist experts, but surprisingly, not only were they unable to obtain it, but they died instead.

This reinforced the beliefs of the townspeople, saying it was a blessing from the Moon God.

A Sage Plane expert finally decided to step in, and after careful investigation, he found out that the rock was not from their world.

With such findings, one would think that the town would've grown bigger, but surprisingly, any Water Elementalist that was born from this town can not break through to the Overlord Plane.

With the new findings, interest in the town started to dwindle over the years, until it was almost forgotten by most of the experts.

The elemental essence in this town was poorer compared to the other sides of the continent, and people thought it had something to do with that rock.

Since they couldn't destroy or move it away, they decided to warn the people of the rock so they would abandon the town, but who would've thought that they actually rejected it.

What was even stranger about this town though was that the people here usually live more than the normal age. For example, a Collection Plane Elementalist could live up to two hundred years, but if that said person was born in this town, they could live for an added hundred years or so.

Over the years, the rock had stored a large amount of ice energy, and Klaus was surprisingly able to absorb over fifty percent of it.

What was more shocking was that his stage only increased by two stages. According to his father, before they got here, Klaus was in the Fifth stage of the Origin Plane, but after absorbing the energy from the rock, his stage shot up to the Seventh stage of the Origin Plane. It was getting closer to the Eighth stage before he was seen by one of the townspeople.

Klaus could easily defeat most of the people, but seeing that it was their treasure, he couldn't bring himself to do that. He might be shameless, but he still has his bottom line.

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Hearing the story of the town, Grey was astounded by the mysteries of the world. A small rock that is able to easily kill experts in the Overlord Plane, and change the affinity of people is quite fascinating, to say the least.

If not for his cautiousness, Grey would've wanted to check it out, and see what it was. But after hearing it could kill people in the Overlord Plane, he decided to wait until he got to the Sage Plane, before coming back here to study the rock.

"I'll go help him out," Grey said, he hadn't taken a seat all this while, so he walked out of the shop, heading to the other side.

He couldn't sit by and watch Klaus get beaten!

Okay, that's a lie. He only wanted to go closer so that he could gloat at Klaus' misfortune.

'Even after so long, he's still causing trouble wherever he goes,' He thought while laughing inside.

Grey didn't even need to speak to Klaus before his mood lightened up a bit. He even brought out the communication device to inform Alice and Reynolds about Klaus' unfortunate situation.

The trio laughed, with Alice and Reynolds wishing they were there to see Klaus.

Grey soon got to where the crowd was gathered. The place was quite wide, he felt it was most likely the town's square.

"Look, I didn't know it was the town's sacred treasure. I'm sorry for mistakenly absorbing it," Klaus tried explaining to the crowd before him.

"Chief, don't believe him! When I got there, he was speaking of how he should've seen this place sooner." A young man said while pointing at Klaus.

"That's because I didn't know about it being your town's treasure you blockhead," Klaus looked at the young man as if he was looking at a moron.

"Young man, the essence you absorbed from the moon rock will take years to recover." An old man whose hair had turned completely white spoke up.

He was the one who the young man addressed as chief previously.

"What can I do to help you people out?" Klaus asked.

He had already absorbed it, it wasn't like there was anything else he could do to stop it.

"It's nice you're such a considerate young man. Since you want to help recover it, then you don't mind being sacrificed to the rock, right?" The old man asked with a cold look.

"Sacrifice? Me? The rock? You must be crazy!" Klaus immediately cursed out when he heard what the old man said.

He had been trying to reason with them civilly, but since they were saying such stupid demands, then there was no use. Although he couldn't beat all of them present, he was sure he could escape. Although he wasn't a hundred percent sure about his escape, he was one thousand percent sure his father would help him out!

Chapter 393 - Let's Help Them!

"Haha,"

Grey laughed out loud unconsciously, attracting the attention of the people who were around him.

Klaus was still the same, cursing at the slightest disagreement.

"Hmph! It doesn't matter what you want, the only way for the rock to regain its lost essence is if you were sacrificed." The old man snorted, he looked at Klaus coldly before adding, "Don't worry, you wouldn't die, we're only going to sacrifice your cultivation."

"Heh! Keep spouting nonsense let's see if I don't make you lose some teeth," Klaus retorted, not scared.

With the increase in his stage, he was confident in being able to hold his own against someone at the Peak of the Origin Plane. This old man looked to be at the peak, so he wasn't really scared of him.

'Dammit! If only the people who came to call me weren't that many, I'd have easily escaped!' He cursed inside.

To be honest, he didn't really come here because he had a bottom line, he's Klaus, he doesn't have a bottom line, as long as it's to his and his loved ones benefit, then he didn't really care.

When the people came to call him while he was still soaking away in the icy pool, there were over twenty of them, this was the real reason he followed them back to the town. Besides that, his father, Instructor Blake and Delia were still in the town, and that's the only way they could quickly rescue him.

"Cease him, we'll see if he can still keep speaking after we've offered him to the rock," The old man said before walking towards a well in the town's square.

After getting to the well, he tapped on the side of the well, and...

Rumble!

The well shook, not just the well, but even the ground shook as well.

Klaus who was watching the old man from the side suddenly felt a familiar icy energy.

"It must be the treasure," He muttered to himself.

A look of adoration appeared in the eyes of the townspeople, it was like they were awaiting the presence of a god. Some of the younger ones even fell to their knees.

Their actions surprised Grey, as well as Klaus.

In the tea shop, Oliver and the others' attention was focused in the town's square since Grey went over.

When they felt the ground shaking, their expressions couldn't help but change.

"Be prepared to take them out of there at any given time," Oliver ordered Blake.

"Yes Teacher," Blake nodded.

Things aren't as simple as it previously was, so there was no way they could sit by and watch Klaus and Grey get hurt by something which has been said to kill people at the Peak of the Overlord Plane.

Back at the town's square.

Grey felt the same icy energy he felt when he first stepped into the town, and for some weird reasons, he wanted to absorb more of it.

'Strange,' He thought to himself while distancing himself a little further back from the crowd.

After hearing the story about this rock, he couldn't take the risk of going close to it. Klaus was able to absorb it from some distance away from the village and was able to gain a boost of two stages within an hour or so, this goes to show how powerful it was.

One could only imagine how quickly Klaus would've advanced if he was absorbing it from such a close distance.

Grey suddenly smiled, while looking at the townspeople with a pitiful gaze, knowing Klaus, he would definitely try to absorb it again.

A small white rock finally rose up from the well, floating around one meter above the well, while giving off intense icy energy.

Some of the people here who weren't from the town shuddered and quickly started retreating further away from the town's square.

Before long, there were only about fifty people or so in the town's square, and other than Grey and Klaus, the rest were from the town.

"Bring him closer," The old man said.

Just as the people who surrounded Klaus were about to push him forward, something strange happened. The white rock emitted a mythical glow, and to the surprise of all the townspeople, the icy energy in it started depleting at an insane pace.

The icy energy formed two strands of thick essence that were visible to the human eyes, and each shot into two different people.

One of them was the criminal who was surrounded by the townspeople. When they followed the line of the second strand, it went behind them, to a handsome young man.

Initially, most of the townspeople were already secretly praising Klaus as the most handsome man they had ever seen, but this young man seems to be in a league of his own. They almost couldn't believe that someone could be this handsome.

Some of the people were in awe, but that awe quickly changed to hatred when they realized what was happening here.

"Thief!"

The same young man who saw Klaus screamed at the top of his lungs, quickly pulling everyone out of their stupor.

"Criminal! How dare you steal our treasure in front of us?!" Someone else yelled while pointing at Grey.

"And this one too, he is still trying to steal it after being caught the first time,"

All the people started pointing fingers at Grey and Klaus.

Klaus had a surprised expression on his face when he saw that all too familiar good-looking face.

"Haha, buddy! You're here. Come quick, let's ste... I mean, let's help these people resolve their long-time problem," Klaus laughed out loud.

Grey's mouth was currently twitching vigorously, he came here to gloat at Klaus, not join him in stealing the essence energy from the white rock!

What was even more annoying was that he wasn't even actively trying to absorb it, the stupid thing was coming on its own accord. It was almost like there was something inside him that was attracting it.

"They know each other? They must've been sent here by our enemies to weaken us. Kill them before they empty the icy energy!" The old man ordered with veins bulging out at the side of his head.

Only the town's Chief knew the sacrifice they had to make to get the stone to the current level it was, he could not sit by and watch these two rascals kill off the works of his ancestors.

Chapter 394 - We're Not Only Handsome, We're Strong Too!

In the tea shop.

Oliver and Blake wore puzzled expressions, not expecting what was currently happening.

They weren't surprised by Klaus, in fact, just like Grey, they expected this. What truly surprised them was Grey who was absorbing the icy energy at a crazier speed than Klaus, and from his expression, they could tell he didn't know how it was happening.

Well, either that, or he was pretending not to know how it was happening. But they felt it was the former since Grey wasn't like Klaus who did things thoughtlessly.

"Teacher, should I step in now?" Blake asked.

"No, they should be fine. If Klaus were to be alone, then we'd have watched them rough him up a bit before helping him, but with that boy there, it's impossible for them to be killed. At most, they'll beat them up a bit, and we'll step in," Oliver shrugged before focusing on his tea once again..

When Grey came here, he had tried sensing Grey's cultivation stage, and the result stumped him. He couldn't!

Grey was only an Origin Plane Elementalist the last time he saw him, and he was in the Fifth stage at that time, it had been only around four to five months, and he couldn't help but wonder how much this prodigy had grown.

From Grey's facial expression, he didn't sense any sign of fear, this meant that he was confident in his ability to escape even when surrounded by this many people.

'He's going to be more fearsome than his Teacher. I wonder where Chris is, it's been almost a year now, and he still hasn't returned,' He thought to himself.

At the town's square.

Grey still had an incredulous look, with his mouth still twitching occasionally. Klaus on the other hand was excited, he even swaggered away from the group of people, walking towards Grey.

After getting to where Grey was standing, he threw his right hand across his shoulder, while looking at the townspeople smugly.

What was more surprising was that the essence in the stone was almost used up, over half of it had been absorbed within the short span of a few minutes.

"I know this is the first time you people are seeing two handsome guys like us together, but you don't need to stare so much. Don't worry, if you people want, we can stand here a few more minutes so that you can ingrain our images in your heads." Klaus said before tilting his head to a forty-five-degree angle, "And ladies, you can fantasize about us all day, don't worry, we don't mind."

"Unfortunately, as much as it hurts me to say this, we can never be together. It's not you people, it's us, we're just too good-looking for this town."

"I can make a statue of us in the town's square so you people can forever remember us, and tell your kids about us so they can fantasize about us as well. But be warned, men are not allowed to fantasize about us, we only agree with women."

Smack!

"What bullshit are you spouting? Get away from me, you're only saying this much so you can rob them of their ice energy," Grey smacked Klaus across the back of his head.

What surprised Grey more was the fact that Klaus was actually using him to siphon more ice energy. Since more was coming towards him, Klaus would be able to absorb more if he stayed close to him.

Even after not seeing him for so long, he was still as shameless as ever!

"Come on buddy, you know I need this, I'm very close to the Eighth stage," Klaus whispered to him.

"I'm not even trying to absorb it, it's coming on its own," Grey said while shaking his head.

"But..."

Grey and Klaus started conversing in front of over fifty angry people, it was almost like these people weren't there in the first place.

"What are you people staring at?! Kill them now!" The old man was the first to regain himself and yell.

When people encounter strange things, they tend to get confused by the situation. For example, with the threat of death, Grey and Klaus were supposed to be flustered, and panicky, yet, not only were they not flustered, they were casually talking while still absorbing the town's treasure. It was like they didn't feel any sense of threat at all.

Boom!

The old man was the first to attack, sending multiple ice shards towards Grey and Klaus.

Klaus was still greedily stealing the ice energy that was coming towards Grey while also speaking with Grey.

Grey easily set up an earth wall that blocked the ice shards.

"You see, we're not only handsome, we're strong too!" Klaus yelled from behind Grey.

Grey's eyes twitched twice, he also forgot how crazy Klaus was. There were times when he would want to strangle him, but then he would recall that he was his friend.

'I still wonder how he has been able to survive till now?' He thought to himself.

Swoosh! Boom!

More attacks came in their direction, but none was able to pass through Grey's defense.

The old man at the Peak of the Origin Plane couldn't help but take a step back, he never thought these young men would be this strong.

"Attack!" He ordered.

No matter how powerful they were, as long as they only defended, then they would definitely lose in due time.

Grey didn't want to waste his energy in using another element, while Klaus didn't want to waste his energy in attacking. He focused on absorbing the ice energy, while also occasionally cursing at the group who were attacking them.

The townspeople naturally started to get infuriated. Klaus was just too annoying.

"Even if the other one escapes, the one with the loud mouth must stay here!" The young man who caught Klaus yelled angrily.

"Shut up you ugly moron, you don't have the right to speak when it involves handsome people," Klaus snickered.

Grey almost facepalmed, while Blake and Delia shook their heads with a pitiful expression.

Chapter 395 - It Can't Be!

"Grey, beat them up!" Klaus patted Grey's shoulder while hiding behind him, greedily absorbing the ice energy.

Presently, they had absorbed roughly seventy percent of the ice energy in the small rock. Grey could sense Klaus' aura improving at a rapid pace.

'At this rate, he'll probably break through to the Eighth stage if he absorbs more of the essence.' He thought to himself while darting a glance at the group in front of them.

Since Klaus needed the energy to break through, then he was going to stand guard for him. Although his earth wall can't block all the attacks, he would think of ways to stop the other attacks.

Boom! Bang! Bam!

More attacks hit the wall fiercely, causing it to shake.

Bang! Crack!

Cracks soon started appearing on different sides of the wall.

"That's it, continue attacking," The young man who was bickering with Klaus exclaimed in excitement.

"Shut up you shithead!" Klaus' annoying voice rang out from the other side of the wall.

"Dammit! If I don't kill you today, then I'm not a man!" The young man said angrily, before attacking more fiercely.

"Hehe, bold of you to assume you were a man," Klaus laughed out loud from the other side.

Grey shook his head on hearing the young man and Klaus' bickerings. He still didn't know how Klaus is able to easily annoy someone, it was almost like it was his talent or something.

Crack! Bang!

The wall soon crumbled to the ground, and Grey and Klaus was once again visible to the townspeople.

"Haha, we have you now you dumbass," The young man laughed out loud.

It was almost like he couldn't see Grey, all his attention was focused on Klaus.

"Quick bud, do something, I still need more time," Klaus said to Grey.

Grey looked at the attacks that were coming in their direction, looking at Klaus who didn't want to do anything until he absorbs the rest of the essence in the small rock, he couldn't help but sigh.

'He's such a headache!'

With that thought in his head, he spread out both hands, and a sea of blue flames sprang out, surrounding the duo.

Since the attacks of the people were ice, Grey's blue flame was able to quickly melt most of them.

Unfortunately, the sheer number of people put him in a disadvantageous position. If he were being attacked by only ten people or so, he was confident in being able to block them, but fifty people? He didn't even have up to twenty percent confidence.

Boom! Bam!

He started switching between the earth and fire element to block the attacks of the townspeople.

In the tea shop.

Oliver and Blake were watching the battle seriously.

"The boy's flame is remarkable," Oliver commented.

"Didn't he only have two elements when he came to the Academy?" Delia couldn't help but ask.

Due to the time Chris told Blake to trick Grey into believing he had a better cultivation technique, she was curious about him and checked his files. So she was aware he only had the earth and lightning element when he joined the Academy.

"Yeah, according to Klaus, he inherited the legacy of an old expert in the trial land," Blake explained.

"Oh! One can get an element they have no affinity with?" Delia asked, stunned.

"Apparently..." Blake tried to explain, but he paused since he couldn't come up with a convincing theory. Even he felt the possibility of that happening was zero!

"No need to worry about it. Everyone has their secrets," Oliver said.

Delia and Blake nodded.

Which genius didn't have a secret? Even someone as stupid as Klaus had a secret that is able to make him absorb the ice energy from the small rock while the townspeople couldn't.

"Wait, I can understand why Klaus is able to absorb the ice energy, but how's he able to do it as well?" Blake suddenly thought of something.

Grey and Klaus were obviously the only two people absorbing the ice energy, and since Klaus was a Water Elementalist, it was understandable, but Grey absorbing it doesn't make any sense.

What was more alarming was that Grey was absorbing more energy than even Klaus!

"Huh?" Oliver turned to look at Grey more intently, his pupils dilated while he muttered to himself, "It can't be,"

"Could it be that he also has the water element?" Delia asked stunned.

Having three elements was already surprising, if Grey were to have a fourth element, it would be astonishing. But the thing that they all couldn't wrap their heads around was how the hell did someone who had two elements three years ago suddenly start popping up with more elements.

It just doesn't make sense!

"No one else should find out about this, having the fire element can easily be attributed to the trial land since its mysterious, but having the water element would make things more difficult for him if people were to find out," Oliver warned Blake and Delia.

Although he knew they wouldn't divulge this information, it didn't hurt to remind them again.

"Yes Teacher," Blake nodded before adding, "If what I'm thinking is correct, then there's a chance Grey can acquire other elements,"

Delia was smart, so even she had thought of this possibility, but neither of the three people here wanted to believe that. How could they believe it? This was something unheard of.

Everyone knows the more elements an Elementalist has, the more versatile they are when fighting. They can almost certainly counter any opponent since some elements naturally suppress others.

Elementalists don't usually depend on elemental suppression since in most battles one person would be stronger than the other. But in a case where both Elementalists are of equal strength and elemental grade, elemental suppression would occur, giving one of the fighters a boost.

So with Grey having multiple elements, he could easily suppress any of his opponents. Although, none of the people here felt Grey would ever come to such a situation since he was monstrously strong.

Whoever he couldn't defeat given his arsenal, would be far stronger than he was.

Chapter 396 - He's My Friend!

Back at the town's square.

"Aren't you done yet?" Grey asked.

"I'm coming, just a little more time," Klaus replied.

He was currently sitting in a crossed leg position on the ground, while Grey was making sure none of the attacks got close to him.

He even closed his eyes, it was almost like people weren't attacking them.

Grey nodded before once again focusing on the battle. He had created two inscriptions to help fend off some of the attacks of the people.

Luckily, none of the people attacking them was an earth element, else they would have been able to easily hurt Klaus since he was sitting carelessly on the ground.

The young man looked like he was almost about to cry, he hated Klaus so much, but seeing that they couldn't even touch him infuriated him. What was more annoying was how carefree Klaus was sitting on the ground.

I mean, come on! We're fighting with you! What the hell are you doing sitting on the fucking ground?!

The young man was only in the Arcane Plane, seeing how powerful Grey and Klaus were, he felt jealous of them. He was clearly older than both of them, yet they seem to be able to hold off their own against even the town chief.

The town chief couldn't believe that they had been unable to break through Grey's defense for over five minutes now.

'How could he be this strong?' He asked himself, shocked.

He wasn't the only one who was thinking about this, even the other townspeople were also asking themselves this question. Although Grey hadn't really tried to attack them and was only defending, they knew if they were to fight with him one-on-one, he would be able to defeat them. He could even one shot most of them here.

Only the chief and a few others might be able to hold out, but only for a little time. None of the people here felt they could defend themselves if they were in Grey's position.

But Grey wasn't only defending himself, but he was also making sure Klaus wasn't disturbed.

Some of the townspeople were already starting to give up, when one was fighting against someone who they didn't see any hopes of beating, they would naturally not want to continue fighting. Only a fool would waste their time doing such things, and seeing that Grey didn't plan to attack them, they wanted to get away while they still can.

They started retreating, just as they were about to leave, they heard an annoying laugh.

"Hahaha! Yes! Daddy's ready. Now, you ugly bastard, start crying!" Klaus laughed out while pointing at the young man.

The young man shuddered and quickly took two steps back, looking at Klaus' facial expression, he was almost certain he was a psychopath.

"Fuck!" Grey cursed out unintentionally and looked at Klaus.

"What?" Klaus asked.

"Why are you jumping? you almost scared me," Grey replied.

"That's because I'm now in the Eighth stage of the Origin Plane, I can beat you up with a flick of my finger," Klaus said proudly.

"Oh really? Why don't you try defending the attacks of over fifty people, we can talk about a battle when you're done with that," Grey said sarcastically.

Klaus looked behind Grey, on seeing the number of people, he looked at Grey again, "You know what, why don't you continue doing what you were previously doing?"

"Then what about you?" Grey asked with a sigh.

"I'm coming, I have scores to settle with that moron," Klaus said while pointing at the young man who was taking more steps back.

The townspeople had already stopped attacking the duo. One could see the dejection in their faces. It couldn't be helped, their town's sacred treasure was completely absorbed in front of them, but because they weren't strong enough, they couldn't do anything.

The town's chief had a sour expression while looking at Grey and the smiling Klaus. He could at least accept Grey's expression since he didn't seem to show any joy in what happened, and from how he didn't try to attack them, he knew he wasn't a bad person.

But Klaus, he could see so much joy in his eyes. This was why he wanted him to be sacrificed! He was trying to save the world from the maniac!

"Young man, why do you associate yourself with such a bad egg?" He asked Grey, looking at his eyes.

"He's my friend," Grey's reply was short and simple.

He didn't need to make any explanations, the chief already knew there was no way for them to do anything to Klaus since Grey was present and couldn't help but feel sad.

"Who are you calling a bad egg?!" Klaus asked, annoyed.

"Take your friend and leave our town," The chief said with a resigned sigh.

They couldn't beat them, so there was no need to continue fighting.

He felt hurt because of the essence that the small rock lost, but if he were to push things with Grey, then there was a chance they might lose their lives if he got serious. And now that the maniac would join in the fight, they clearly don't stand a chance.

"I'm sorry for the disturbance," Grey walked closer to the chief.

"Here, this should be able to help, a little," Grey brought out a small pouch from his pocket.

He tossed it to the chief. The chief caught it, inside were five high-grade water element essence stones.

The chief kept it, after seeing the chief keep it, Grey turned to leave.

The chief smiled evilly before attacking Grey.

As his attack was about to land on Grey, his pupils enlarged before he was sent flying.

Boom!

He crashed into the ground, clutching his chest.

Grey turned to look at him with cold eyes, "Try that again, and you're dead,"

"Klaus, let's go," He said after getting close to him.

"I haven't even started roughing this bastard up," Klaus complained.

Grey didn't speak any further, he held Klaus by his shirt collar, and dragged him with him.

"Let me go! I'll beat you up!" Klaus immediately started throwing a tantrum.

"Chief, are we really going to let them leave like this?" The young man rushed to the chief.

"No,"

Chapter 397 - Sit Still So I Can Smash Your Head!

"Hmph! Those guys don't know who they're messing with!" The young man snorted coldly as he assisted the town chief back to his feet.

"*Sigh* You still don't get it? I feel ashamed that someone like you is considered the brightest spark of your generation," The chief sighed in disappointment.

"Huh? What do you mean, chief?" The young man asked, clearly confused by what the chief was trying to imply.

"What can we do to them?" The chief asked the young man.

"We... well..." The young man tried to reply, but he realized the answer.

There was nothing they could do to Klaus and Grey, especially Grey. Even when the town chief tried to sneak attack him, he was able to easily send the chief flying without even looking in his direction.

Some people didn't even know what was happening until the town's chief was on the ground. Only a few high level people saw what happened, Grey attacked the chief with an earth pillar that sprang out of the ground and went back to the ground within a second..

It was just so fast that not everyone could see it, especially those with lower Planes.

Given the strength of both Grey and Klaus, then there's a high chance that they were from prestigious backgrounds. This small can't afford to offend such people.

If they wanted to attempt killing the duo, then they had to make sure there was no evidence left behind that would inform their families about what happened. This was on the premise that they managed to kill Grey and Klaus which looked to be almost impossible.

"But... but... our treasure?" The young man didn't want to give up that easily.

"If you keep this mentality, you won't last long when you go outside to train. There are battles you don't give up on, those are battles you know that you have a slim chance against. While there are battles you don't think about anything and run away from, those are battles that after you've thought of every possibility, you still end up losing." The town's chief explained to the young man.

After his sneak attack failed, the chief had already given up on trying anything against Grey and Klaus. He was lucky to still be alive after that error, he wouldn't stupidly try to provoke such a fellow again.

He was weak, not stupid!

The young man fell deep into thoughts, his emotions clouded his judgement. All he wanted was to beat Klaus up that he forgot that Grey had single-handedly stopped almost all the top Elementalists from the town combined.

Thinking about it, his scalp went numb from fright. How could he dare to ask the chief to try to kill such a monstrous person, wouldn't they be counterkilled in the process?

"You should train harder, try to keep your emotions in check, or else..." With a shake of the head, the town chief walked deeper into the town.

Some of the crowd were still standing by the side, waiting to see if something exciting would happen, unfortunately, nothing else seemed to happen.

The people soon started to disperse from the town's square.

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In the tea shop.

Grey and Klaus were currently sitting on the table close to the one Oliver, Blake, and Delia were sitting.

"You're not in the Overlord Plane yet, but seeing how you're able to easily defend against them, I can assume you aren't far from it," Blake said while looking at Grey.

One has to know that Delia still hasn't broken through to the Overlord Plane yet, and she's one of the top geniuses from the previous set of students in the Lunar Academy.

From how things looked, there's a high chance that Grey would be able to kill her if they got into a life and death battle. It was surprising, thinking that Grey was still an ordinary person when Delia was already close to the Peak of the Origin Plane.

Presently, Delia was already at the Peak of the Origin Plane, just a little bit short of breaking through to the Overlord Plane, while Grey seemed to be close to it as well, but his combat strength seemed to be superior.

"I'm currently in the Eighth stage, and defending against these people wasn't much of a challenge since they only use the water element. Anybody with a good sense of battle can defend against them," Grey replied.

"Yes, I could've done it as well," Klaus chimed in.

"Oh... I bet you could," Blake replied in a sarcastic tone.

Oliver continued looking at Grey, but he didn't bring up the topic of him being able to absorb the ice energy. There were a lot of things that could've made that happen, but the most viable one was that he also had the water element. But he couldn't take out other possibilities.

"Hey bud, so where's Void? I have a big job for him," Klaus suddenly asked in excitement, his eyes shining.

Grey's expression turned sour when he heard about Void.

He brought Void out of his spatial ring, given his small size, it looked like he brought him from his inner cloth. Since he was wearing a robe, the others didn't suspect anything.

"What happened to him?" Klaus asked surprised while taking Void from Grey's hand.

"His consciousness was damaged, apparently, it would be extremely difficult to heal him," Grey replied in a low voice.

"Which bastard hurt him? Quick, tell me and watch me smash the person," Klaus said angrily.

Even when sulky, Grey's eyes twitched when he heard Klaus' comment. Couldn't he just react normally like the others did?

He didn't even ask what happened, he straight up jumped into the conclusion that Void was hurt by someone, and was even prepared to beat the person.

"Actually... I'm the cause," Grey replied after a while.

Klaus paused for a few seconds, not expecting Grey to give that reply, but what happened next stunned Grey, as well as Oliver and the others.

Klaus attacked Grey.

"Shit! What the hell are you doing?" Grey couldn't help but complain.

"I said I'll smash the person who did this, now, just sit still so I can smash your head!" Klaus said while jumping straight at Grey.

Oliver and Blake were still trying to process what was happening as Grey hurried to dodge Klaus' flurry of attacks.

Chapter 398 - I'll Take That As A Compliment

Boom!

"Stop moving, I just want to punch you in the face!" Klaus said as he chased after Grey in the shop.

There were few people in the shop, and all of them wore the same weird expression. They all saw how Grey helped Klaus out a few moments ago, then why was he chasing after the person who helped him?

What was worse was that he was even telling him to stay still so he could punch him in the face.

"Stop causing a ruckus," Oliver said.

Klaus had managed to get close to Grey and was just about to pounce on him when he heard his father's voice.

Grey naturally stopped since Oliver had spoken, but unsurprisingly, Klaus didn't stop, instead, he had a grin on his face.

'Thanks, dad!' He said inside as he dived towards Grey, prepared to land a blow on his head.

If Alice and Reynolds were here, they would shake their heads in pity. Klaus seems to always forget that Grey's physical strength, speed, and anything else that has to do with physique was miles apart from others.

Bang! Bam!

Klaus slammed into the ground of the tea shop, face first after being knocked down by Grey's punch to the back of his head.

"The Principal said you should stop," He said.

He didn't want to attack him previously because he didn't have a good excuse, but with such a good one in front of him, of course, he was going to use it.

"Ouch! You... you..." Klaus yelled out in pain as he looked up, pointing at Grey.

His face was currently covered in dust, and the left side of his eyes was black.

Grey snickered before heading back to their table victoriously.

Blake shook his head when he saw the duo's expression, they still behaved the same way they did back at the Academy. Klaus seemed to always have an effect on Grey.

He recalled that the first time Grey came to this town, he didn't have such an expression, rather, he looked kind of moody. But now, he was having fun with his friend.

Void was currently held by Oliver, he was curiously studying this strange black cat. This was the first time he was seeing this strange cat, and he couldn't deny the fact that it piqued his interest.

Klaus had spoken of the cat during their journey, but he didn't talk much about it though. All he said was that it was powerful, and had the darkness element. Oliver felt Void's darkness element was the cause of his pitch-black fur.

He soon closed his eyes, trying to check his situation.

Grey and Klaus returned to their seats while looking at Oliver anxiously.

Although Grey recently asked old man Gerald to check Void's condition, it had already been over a month now. There might be a possibility that Klaus' father would notice something old man Gerald missed.

"Hmm, it's just like you said, its consciousness is damaged. There are some natural treasures that can help, but given the damage it received, it would require a lot of it," Oliver explained.

'No wonder that drop didn't work on it,' Grey thought to himself.

"Okay, Dad, do you know any place where we can get these types of natural treasures?" Klaus asked.

"Unfortunately, the person who would've been able to easily get you one is Chris, and as you all know, we haven't heard from him for almost one year now. I don't go on expeditions, so most of the things I know are actually from him," Oliver replied.

"But, there's a high chance of seeing these types of natural treasures in the Magical Beasts' forest." He added.

"So you know if there are Resurgence Liquids in the Magical Beasts' forest?" Grey asked curiously.

"Hmm, Resurgence Liquid..." Oliver thought deeply.

"Actually, there are. A few years ago when Chris went out to explore, he spoke of encountering a small pond of Resurgence Liquid deep in the forest. But he said he wasn't interested in it, so he left without taking even a single drop," Oliver said while shaking, clearly still annoyed by Chris' decision.

"Moron!" He added in a low voice that only he could hear.

"Okay, then I'll have to venture deep into the Magical Beasts' forest," Grey said.

"Hmm, that's the only place I presume you can get it. But before going into the forest, head to the city before it. An auction is usually held there by explorers who find treasures in the Magical Beasts' forest, you might be able to find what you want there," Oliver advised.

"Okay Principal," Grey nodded.

"Hey bud, should I come with you?" Klaus asked.

"It'll be dangerous, and given my speed, it'll be better for me to escape if I'm alone," Grey explained.

"Yeah, I knew you'd reject, that was why I asked," Klaus replied with a chuckle.

"What would you have done if I agreed?" Grey couldn't help but ask.

"Heh! I would've run away before you woke up the next morning," Klaus replied seriously.

Grey couldn't help but laugh, he knew Klaus was only joking.

"I've been able to improve the device, and guess what?" He asked while handing one of the devices to Klaus.

"What?" Klaus took the device while studying it curiously.

"I've been able to make the communication device," Grey said while taking out one for the communication devices.

Klaus was stunned when he heard this, he didn't think Grey would really be able to make it this quickly.

"Wow! You're great!" He exclaimed.

"Well, I got help from something else..." Grey told him of the one he got from old man Gerald and how he used it to make this one.

"The fact that you have the idea already shows how strangely your head works," Klaus said.

"I'll take that as a compliment," Grey said.

Given how Klaus said it, it almost sounded like he was cursing him, but since that was how Klaus usually speaks, he didn't want to think of it negatively.

Chapter 399 - Why Do You Get Four?

"So I can communicate with Rey and Alice with this thing?" Klaus asked again, just to be sure.

He hadn't been in contact with any of his friends for a long time now, and if this thing was just as Grey said it was, then he would be able to communicate with them whenever he wanted. They could even talk every hour!

"Pretty much," Grey nodded.

Oliver, who was already astounded by the tracking device Grey made, was even more shocked by this communication device.

This was something recent, so he still didn't have any ideas about it, just like most of the people on the continent. With such a device, wouldn't they be able to quickly locate Chris, and anyone missing if said missing person has one of the tracking devices on them.

Of course, this could also be used in a negative way to track down people and assassinate them.

"Oh, have you run into people from the Capital lately?" Grey suddenly recalled how the Emperor seemed to want him and his friends.

"No. Why do you ask?" Klaus shook his head, diverting his attention from the communication device and focusing on Grey.

"Well, the Emperor is searching for us," Grey said.

"Us, as in?" asked Klaus.

"Me, you, Rey, and Alice," Grey explained.

"What?"

Klaus, Delia, Blake, as well as Oliver exclaimed, surprised.

"Why would he be searching for you four?" Oliver asked, a little worried.

Grey looked around, clearly, he didn't want to share this information with Blake and Delia here. Yes, he trusted them, but some people might not be able to control their greed when benefits were presented in front of them.

Oliver looked at the Grey before shaking his head wryly.

'This kid doesn't trust people so easily, huh?' He asked himself.

After a while, he decided it was best if Grey told only him and Klaus the reason for this.

Blake didn't even bat an eye, and quickly stood up from the table after getting a knowing look from his Teacher. He made sure to take Delia along.

This was something that had to do with Grey and Klaus, and since Grey didn't want others to know about it, then it must be serious. Well, given the fact that the Emperor was searching for them already showed how serious the situation was.

After the duo left the table, Klaus and Grey moved to the same table Oliver was sitting on.

"The thing is, the Emperor found out about me obtaining the Great Earth Essence Liquid, and he assumed that I might've shared it with my friends. So now, he sees us as a threat," Grey went straight to the point.

"Hmm, this is a serious matter. But, how did you find out about all this?" Oliver asked calmly.

"After you left the Academy, I stayed in my Teacher's valley, researching that tracking device..." Grey went on to tell them of how he was being hunted down in the Academy, as well as the city.

He also went on to tell them about how even Reynolds and Alice were also hunted down by the Emperor's people. If not for him getting there on time, and Alice's father reacting swiftly, then both Reynolds and Alice would've been captured by now.

Klaus was most likely safe because he not only had his father with him but because they were constantly on the move which would make it difficult to track them down.

"*Sigh* To think the empire has fallen to this level," Oliver shook his head.

"Actually, compared to the others, I'm in a far more difficult position. I'm wanted by all four empires," Grey said.

"What? How come I'm only wanted by the Qilin empire?" Klaus asked, sulkily.

"What do you mean?" Grey couldn't help but ask.

Even Oliver looked at his son in confusion.

"I mean, we're both handsome, so we should be wanted by the same number of empires. Okay, since you're slightly more handsome than I am, I'm willing to accept being wanted by three, but that's the least I can take," Klaus explained.

"You're even crazier after not seeing you for so long," Grey was short of words.

Who in their right mind would want to be wanted by four empires? They were not some small organization or something, but the legit rulers of the continent. Yet Klaus felt sad because only one empire wanted him while four wanted Grey.

"I know, but I mean come on, we were there together, right?" Klaus shrugged.

"You do know that they're trying to kill us, right?" Grey asked with a raised brow.

"Yeah, that's what makes it more hair-raising!" Klaus replied.

"Stop messing around, this is a serious matter," Oliver glared at Klaus, who just sheepishly looked in the other direction.

Grey shook his head before bringing his attention back to Klaus' father.

"Principal, from what I understand so far, the Emperor certainly doesn't want us to grow to the point where he can not control us. So I believe he would soon ramp up the manpower in the search very soon, and also, there would be Overlord Plane experts coming after us," Grey deduced.

"You're right about that. I think it's time to leave the Qilin empire, just for the meantime," Oliver said.

He wasn't as powerful as Chris who could easily stand against the top powerhouses of the empire. It was rumored that when Chris recently broke through to the Peak of the Overlord Plane, he battled against an expert in the Sage Plane, and didn't lose.

Although he didn't win as well, it was noteworthy to say that he was the only one in the history of the continent that has been able to fight against a Sage Plane expert while still being in the Overlord Plane, and not losing.

Oliver believed that Chris might've been able to break through to the Sage Plane by now. He was already in the Peak of the Overlord Plane for a long time now, it was not surprising if he really did break through.

He on the other hand was also at the Peak of the Overlord Plane, and he felt all he needed was a nudge, and he would be able to break through to the Sage Plane as well. But it was easier said than done.

Chapter 400 - Surprised Oliver

Grey didn't find Klaus' father's decision to leave the empire surprising, after all, they couldn't go against the empire.

"Wait, you found drops of liquid of the Great Earth Essence Liquid?" Oliver seemed to recall something and asked.

This was something that could alter the constitution of an Elementalist, changing their elemental grades. It was so rare that not many people believed it existed.

"Yes, back at the trial land," Grey replied.

'No wonder they've been advancing so quickly. With that thing, their elemental grades must've seen a boost. Could it be that they've attained the violet grade?' Oliver thought to himself, surprised.

He never thought that they would acquire something so precious in the trail land. Now he understood why the Emperor was searching for them so fervently, given the miraculousness of the Great Earth Essence Liquid, these youngsters go easily grow to overpower the people at the top..

Take Grey, for example, he was already more powerful than most of the Instructors in the Lunar Academy, even Klaus was more powerful than them. Then there's Alice and Reynolds as well.

Oliver couldn't wrap his head around what these four friends would be able to accomplish if given the time to grow. He knew about the story of the last person known to have the violet grade in his element. According to the story, he was jointly assassinated by three different empires.

They couldn't stand to see one empire producing such a prodigy. It was just like the cases over the years with the empires as well, trying to kill off any person they find as a potential threat.

Although they rarely succeed, there have been times when a once in a hundred years prodigy had been killed by an opposing empire. These things usually happen between the Qilin and Azure empires. Both take themselves as the true leaders of the continent.

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"Oh right, dad, we wanted to give you one," Klaus suddenly spoke up.

He asked Grey for one of the drops for his father when they left the trail land, and Grey agreed to give it to him. Due to what happened after they arrived, he couldn't take the liquid from Grey, so he was unable to give it to his dad.

"Yes Principal, I planned to give it to you after we've gotten to a safer area." Grey nodded.

He naturally didn't forget about this, even when he used it for his darkness element the previous time, he still remembered one of the remaining drops was for Klaus' father.

Oliver not expecting that he would actually get something like this was a little short of words, but being someone who is already very experienced, he was able to quickly recover.

"I'm already old, you should keep it for yourselves," He replied.

As much as he wanted this, he felt it would be of much use to the kids. Given their talent, it wouldn't be hard for them to surpass himself and Chris.

"We've already refined one each, even Void refined one as well," Grey explained.

He didn't want to take no from the Principal, after all, Klaus' life rested on his hands, so the stronger he was, the safer Klaus was.

"Even the cat?" Oliver asked, stunned.

Why would anyone give a cat such a precious treasure? It just didn't make any sense!

Of course, he only thought of this since he didn't really know Void, nor any of his abilities. To him, Void was just a pet Grey picked up from the trial land. He might be special, but not to the level where he would get such privileges.

"Of course, Void could easily whoop Klaus' ass. Why would he not get one, and Klaus gets one?" Grey asked, not forgetting to use the opportunity to take a dig at Klaus.

"What the hell? Why did you have to use me for the example? I mean, there's Rey," Klaus jumped up, pointing at Grey dramatically.

"Yeah, and he can also whoop your ass. So you see?" Grey smirked.

"I'd like to see him try that now, hmph!" Klaus snorted.

He was very confident in his current strength. If it were the time when they just left the trial land, then he wouldn't say this, but now, he felt if he really fought against Grey seriously, he wouldn't lose too badly.

"Hehe... I don't think that would end well for you," Grey chuckled, obviously making fun of Klaus.

"Don't tell me he's also gotten to the Eighth stage?" Klaus asked with a sour look, just when he thought he would be able to flaunt in front of Reynolds again, Grey was laughing at him mockingly. This only meant Reynolds was stronger than he was.

"No, actually, he's only in the Fifth stage," Grey replied sincerely.

"Hmm, if he's in the Fifth stage, then his Elemental Warrior should be in the Sixth or Seventh stage. I'm sure I can beat it," Klaus muttered.

"The thing is, his Elemental Warrior is in the Eighth stage," Grey broke the news to Klaus.

"I thought the Elemental Warrior was only a stage or two above him, how did it turn to three stages?" Klaus asked in surprise.

"You're not the only one who's lucky," Grey replied with a snicker.

Of the four friends, Klaus could be said to be the one with the best luck. This could be seen from the competition, as well as from the recent event.

Other than the time Grey accidentally teleported into the wall where he acquired his fire element, Void has been the one leading him to where he could find treasures.

"Wait, that kid's a summoner?" Oliver asked.

He was just getting more and more surprised from what he was hearing, he almost couldn't believe what happened to Grey and his friends in the trial land that they were able to acquire so much.

"Not just any summoner, but a high-grade summoner," Klaus replied proudly, it was almost like he was the one who was the summoner.

One could see the genuine joy and pride on his face when speaking about his friends' success.

He wasn't really too bothered if they were stronger than him, after all, he wanted all of them to be successful, it didn't mean he had to be successful first.