

Affinity 491

Chapter 491 Full

Boom!

Grey was pushed back by an attack from Clara. Just as he was about to regain his footing, he saw ice arrows shooting towards him at breakneck speed. Even with his lightning element, it would be difficult for him to dodge it.

He didn't panic, with a small step, he suddenly blinked, dodging all the attacks while moving forward.

Clara who thought she finally had him was left shocked when she saw him standing only a few meters away from her, what was worse was that he had a lightning orb which seemed to have hints of blue flames in it.

After practicing the chaos orb for some time, Grey had figured out a way to make the orb with two elements or three. Now, compared to the first time he tried it, his speed in making it was almost instantaneous.

Bang!

Clara set up an ice wall in front of her, and the lightning and flame orb which was still in Grey's hand slammed into the ice wall.

Grey pushed his hand forward slightly, and to the horror of Clara,

Crack!

A crack appeared in the wall, and it continued spreading across the entire wall.

She gnashed her teeth while putting more energy into the wall. If Grey's attack were to pass through the wall, then she would be in danger.

It might not be able to kill her, but she knew it would definitely hurt her.

"Ah..."

Clara screamed loudly, and she started doing something only those in the Overlord Plane could do, she started stealing ice powers from the platform.

Normally, she shouldn't be able to take control of the ice platform made by someone as powerful as her grandfather, but in this case, her grandfather didn't do anything to try to stop her from doing it.

The ice wall which had started cracking soon started closing up.

Grey noticed the sudden increase in essence in the ice wall, he narrowed his eyes, staring at Clara.

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The lady glanced in the direction of the old man in blue.

"I only created the platform, I've already removed my imprint from it the moment I made it," The old man in blue said.

The lady checked it, and it was just as the old man said, his imprint was not in the platform.

"Hmph! Your granddaughter will still lose," She snorted coldly.

"We know, from the moment the boy used the space element, the battle was decided," The old man in black said.

They all saw how Grey dodged the ice arrows. Space Elementals have always been regarded highly, even those well ahead of them in stages find it difficult to defeat them, especially one who is very proficient in using the space element.

From how Grey dodged the attacks, they could tell he wasn't that good in using it, but since he could navigate around multiple ice arrows without getting hurt meant it was impossible for Clara to defeat him.

Now, the group understood why the lady was so confident in Grey.

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Back in the platform.

Grey vanished since his attacks couldn't break the ice wall Clara made, there was no use in trying to do it. If he tried to add another element to the orb, then the power would increase, but he didn't want to waste too much energy.

The improvised version of the chaos orb still took a good deal of essence to keep active.

As soon as he disappeared, Clara increased her vigilance, looking around.

Grey appeared behind her, but she sensed it immediately.

A grin appeared on her face as she turned quickly with a thin sword that was infused with the water element. She slashed quickly, trying to cut Grey down.

The sword cleanly cut through the figure behind her, but her expression wasn't one of victory. The reason for this was that when the blade passed through the figure, she didn't feel even a single resistance. Even she knew she wasn't that powerful to easily cut through Grey's body without meeting any resistance.

And just as she was still trying to comprehend what happened, she saw the figure of Grey slowly fading.

Her pupils shrunk, "An afterimage,"

"Don't move, this battle is already over," Grey's cold voice came from behind her.

Clara was still in the slashing position, and she could clearly sense the aura of the orb which Grey held previously, but this one seemed slightly more powerful than the one he previously used.

She stared in disbelief, but still didn't bring down her sword. She was finding it difficult to believe she lost just like this.

"You were holding back from the start?" She asked angrily.

Thinking about this made her feel a great sense of humiliation. If Grey used the space element from the start, then the battle would've ended sooner.

For someone who had not been beaten by anyone below her stage before, she found it difficult to accept.

"I'm still holding back," Grey said.

His reply shattered the perception of Clara. She was still finding it hard to accept that Grey didn't go all out from the start, thinking he only went all out when he used the space element, yet Grey was telling him he was still holding back? Who was he deceiving?

"Big words for someone who depends on the space element," Clara said, trying to rile Grey into fighting without the space element.

"Whatever, admit defeat so I can leave this place quickly," Grey said, pushing the orb closer to her.

If she tried to make any funny moves, then he would instantly slam the orb into her back. Even if she was in the Mid stages of Overlord Plane, it would be difficult for Clara to survive it, much less when she's still in the Early stages.

Clara clenched her sword closely, still not willing to give up on the battle.

Just when she was preparing to attack.

"Grey,"

The lady who came with Grey suddenly called out.

Grey turned to look at her.

"We're done here, let's go," The lady said.

"Oh, okay," Grey retracted the orb with a nonchalant look before turning around.

Just as Grey turned, Clara stabbed her sword, aiming for Grey's heart.

Chapter 492 - I Just Want To Leave This Place

Clara's sword which was about to stab into Grey's body passed through thin air as he vanished.

The moment she saw this, she quickly set an ice sphere around herself, trying to protect herself from Grey's possible counter attack.

Boom! Crack! Bang!

An attack slammed into the ice sphere, and to Clara's disbelief, the ice sphere shattered with a single attack.

Grey's emotionless eyes stared at her, it was as if he was looking at a dead person. Of all the things he didn't condone, this was the one he hated the most. As long as a person has made an effort to harm him, that person has automatically been promoted from a stranger to an enemy, and if given the chance, he would wipe out all his enemies.

"Clara!" The old man in blue yelled before taking to the air, trying to get close to them.

"Where do you think you're going?" The lady appeared between him and the platform.

"Since your granddaughter feels the battle should be more than a spar, why are you trying to stop her?" She asked coldly.

"She only attacked on impulse," The old man in blue tried to explain to the lady.

"Do you call trying to kill someone when his back is turned an impulsive attack?" The lady scoffed.

The old man in black, accompanied by the three middle-aged men took flight as well. One of the two ladies also joined them, the other one was still in the Overlord Plane, so she couldn't fly.

Back on the platform.

Grey strolled towards Clara, releasing unrestrained killing intent. The only reason he didn't kill her instantly was because Void was still busy, and since the lady could take care of the group, he wasn't too worried. In the end, he was certain that even if he didn't kill Clara, she wouldn't go unscathed.

"Wha... what... are you trying to do?" Clara retreated one step at a time when she saw Grey approaching.

For the first time since she appeared, a hint of fear was in her eyes. She looked around worriedly, and seeing that her grandfather and the rest of her family members were blocked by a single person, she slowly started falling into despair.

From Grey's previous attack, she realized he wasn't lying when he said he still hadn't gone all out. If Grey were to go full power on her, then she would be dead within a few moves.

"Nothing, just repaying a favor," Grey replied with a shrug.

Clara turned around, trying to escape. But she was forced back by an attack from the sky. She looked up, and a blue inscription could be seen in the sky.

The blue inscription wasn't the only thing present, there were also the lightning and water element inscriptions in the sky, but they were hidden.

"An inscriber?" She turned to look at Grey.

Grey didn't reply, with a step, he suddenly vanished.

Clara, who had been used to seeing him appear either behind her or by her side, prepared herself for his attack.

Her expression changed when Grey's figure appeared in front of her, an orb made of lightning and fire in his hand.

He didn't even try to hold back, slamming it into the stomach of the unprepared and terrified Clara, sending her flying.

"Ah..."

Clara's shriek of pain resonated in the entire compound.

Boom! Bang!

Her body was brutally attacked by a fire and lightning attack that was released from the inscriptions above, and a long ice spear stabbed her. All these happened while she was still mid-air from the previous attack of Grey.

The ice spear pinned her into the platform, making sure it was impossible for her to leave the platform and get help from the people around.

Presently, every single individual in the mansion was outside, staring at the group who were held back by the lady, and Clara who was being attacked by multiple attacks.

Her screamed brought them out from their stunned states.

They weren't the only ones stunned, the group who were mid-air with the lady were shocked, not expecting Grey to attack so decisively and brutally.

From the series of attacks he sent out, even if Clara didn't die from them, she might be crippled.

"You rascal! How dare you?!" The middle-aged man who was Clara's father exclaimed in anger, charging towards the platform.

Just as his figure shot towards the platform.

Bam! Bang! Crash!

His figure crashed heavily into the ground after a heavy collision with an attack he didn't even see.

A huge crater was created after his body slammed into the ground.

The two old men's expressions turned cold, and the middle-aged men were staring at the lady with apprehension.

"Don't look at me like that, do you expect me to allow him to hurt a junior?" The lady said.

With her reason laid bare, it was evident that she wouldn't allow a single person lay their hands on Grey.

"Check on him," The old man in blue restrained his anger before telling the lady who was on the ground.

Before the lady got there, some of the guards had already rushed there.

"I didn't kill him, he should be fine after a year or so," The lady said nonchalantly.

Her words only made the old men furious.

"Since you won't allow a senior to attack him, what about those in his age group?" The old man asked.

The lady made a face of someone who was deep in thoughts, she turned to look at Grey, then at the group, then at Grey again.

'He's powerful, but he still lacks some control over his elements. The way he uses it is also different, it will take some time if I want to impact anything to him.' She thought while still alternating her gaze between Grey and the group.

"Hmm, okay. We'll be back in a week, gather all the geniuses below twenty years, as long as they are not in the Mid stages of the Overlord Plane, we will accept any challenge. If any of them can kill him, then so be it," The lady finally replied.

Grey's eyes almost popped out when he heard this.

'All I want to do is leave this place, why the hell are you fixing a battle for me? I didn't even agree to it!' He thought, on the verge of tears.

For someone who always tries to avoid trouble, he tends to make friends with troublemakers.

Chapter 493 - You're Vicious, I Like It!

Grey stepped down from the platform, his expression was worse compared to the group from the mansion. The lady just placed him in a difficult position, and what was annoying about everything was that he didn't even have a say in it.

After Grey stepped down, the lady flew down, landing by his side.

With no one to stop them anymore, the group who was mid-air all flew towards the platform. Clara's figure could be seen still shaking from the shock of the lightning element in the attack Grey used. Because there was also fire in the attack, she was barely bleeding.

The old man in blue hurriedly covered her with glowing blue water, and Clara's shaking figure stopped moving altogether. The old man grabbed her hand, and his expression changed drastically. He looked at Grey with furious eyes.

"Don't look at me like that, she's even lucky I kept her alive," Grey said coldly.

"You crippled her! How can you be so vile?" Clara's father asked angrily.

"I'm sorry, I only attacked by impulse," Grey said.

This was exactly what the old man said when Clara tried to stab him. Although he was focused on her, he still overheard them.

Clara's father's eyes turned red from anger, with veins popping out from the side of his head and even his eyes.

He gritted his teeth, holding himself back from attacking.

"You're vicious, I like it," The lady by Grey's side commented, but from her tone, one could tell she wasn't in any way angry with him, there was even a hint of acknowledgment.

"Alright, we'll be leaving now. I'll take what I want when we come back in a week. Also, just a reminder, if you by chance call your friends to help you hold me back, then assume your family never existed," The lady said to the old men.

Void who had been gone while the battle was going on suddenly appeared, jumping into Grey's shoulder. He came from the bushes by the side, so no one suspected anything.

The old men's expressions turned even more severe, from the lady's cultivation stage, they all knew she was someone they couldn't afford to offend. But this didn't mean they could let this go.

Since she personally set up this challenge for Grey, then they were going to make sure he dies mid-battle. As long as they weren't the ones who caused his death, the lady would let them go.

"Give out the order, I need the strongest genius in the city below twenty years. As long as they can defeat this boy, then they will be rewarded heavily. Head to the Pyro Faction, I'm friends with the Faction Leader, tell him of this incident, he will know what to do," The old man in blue gave out a series of instructions while bringing Clara's body inside.

He had stabilized her condition, but it would be incredibly difficult for her to cultivate again. What was depressing was that her cultivation was completely destroyed, this meant that unlike the people from the Smith family who slowly lost their cultivation, she lost it instantly.

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Outside the compound.

"Are we really coming back in a week?" Grey asked.

"Of course, we didn't take much from them this time," The lady replied while looking at Void with a grin.

"Aren't you scared that they will plan an ambush?" Grey asked.

'What is the use of coming back when you've already taken some things?' He thought.

"They wouldn't dare. I can decide to stay here for ten years, living in their house, and they wouldn't dare to be rude to me. The reason for this is because, I'm stronger, and my background is something they can not contend with," The lady said.

"This is bullying, you know that, right?" Grey couldn't help but say.

"This is how the world is Grey, the weak have no right to speak before the strong. Take for instance, I told you to fight against your will, were you able to refuse? No. Why? You're weak. If you want to dictate your life in this world, then be strong, be the strongest person out there. Only then will you have your life in your hands," The lady spoke as they walked out of the rich district.

Grey stared at her, not speaking a word. He couldn't refute because her words were the truth. Even in the Azure continent, he was forced to run and hide because of the Emperor's selfish desire.

"Where are we going to now?" He asked since he noticed they were walking out of the city.

"Remember I told you if you impressed me I'll show you a thing or two in the lightning element. Well, today's your lucky day, although you didn't impress me, I decided to train you so you wouldn't embarrass me when we come back," The lady replied.

Grey looked at her, although he would very much like to improve, it wasn't like he was the one who made the challenge. If not for the fact that he was scared of the lady, he would've taken the fall in the battle, letting Clara defeat him.

But alas, if he lost easily, the lady would definitely beat him up. She already threatened him before the battle anyway so he knew she wasn't lying.

A few hours later.

They were standing in the forest by the side of the city.

"Alright, before we begin training, it's time to share to loot," The lady said while sitting on the ground.

Grey and Void naturally knew what she was talking about, so they sat down close to her. Void was the one in the middle of the group, and with a small shake of his paw, items appeared on the ground.

"Oh... this is a good sword. Grey catch, you can use this during the challenge," The lady picked a sword with a blue turtle carved on the hilt.

Grey took the sword, studying it, "Wouldn't they know that it's from their treasury?"

"How's that any of our concern? It isn't like this is the only one in the world.. Come on, take some items, you have a lot of drills to go through," The lady said nonchalantly, before urging Grey to take some things.

Chapter 494 - Damn It! I'm F**ked!

Buzz! Bang!

A lightning bolt struck a tree, breaking it apart.

"You're doing it wrong. Although this attack seems to have destructive power, it's only on the surface," The lady said to Grey who was panting, his expression was one of exhaustion.

"I've tried it over fifty times, can I rest a little?" Grey asked, gasping for breath.

"No, if you continue this way, you're not going to be any good," The lady shook her head.

After saying this, Void appeared beside her, with a piece of meat on his paws.

"Thank you, I'm starving!" The lady said, caressing Void's back as she collected the meat from him.

Grey swallowed when he saw this. He had been trying to get the technique the lady was teaching him since he woke up, but it was already well over midday, yet he still hadn't been able to.

The lady hasn't given a single chance to rest, telling him to repeat it continuously. According to her, after striking with the lightning element countless times, one would get attuned to the ways of the element.

Grey on the other hand preferred learning at a slow pace. He had never been a fast learner, but persistence and quick thinking has always made training new techniques easy for him. He needed time to think, but the lady isn't willing to give him any.

With no other choice, he was forced to continue practicing the technique. According to what the lady told him, if he could master this technique, it would greatly improve the destructive power of his lightning element. He could even implement the skill on his other elements as well. Not just that, but it also consumed lesser essence as well.

This skill required making the lightning's power go sink into the body of the target, sending out the destructive power from the inside. It would make defending against it extra tasking on the opponent.

When the lady gave an example of the skill, Grey was left dumbstruck by its power. The boulder she attacked exploded, literally from the inside out. Unlike his attack which would only do damage from the outside, then maybe barely striking deep, this attack completely destroyed the boulder.

To make sure Grey didn't feel it was because of her strength advantage, she reduced the strength of her attack to be equal to someone at the Peak of the Origin Plane, yet, the attack power was still something Grey couldn't generate.

With no other option, Grey decided to follow the instructions of the lady, attacking continuously with the lightning element.

Once, twice, thrice, he continued, before long, he had lost count of how many times he had attacked with the lightning element, all using the same attack.

It soon got dark, and to Grey's fortunes, the lady told him to take a rest for the day, saying he would continue at sunrise the next day.

Grey's exhausted body fell on the ground, he could barely keep himself standing. His essence was sucked dry, and this affected him tremendously.

He was soon hit with a wave of dizziness, and soon fell asleep.

The next morning.

Grey started his routine once again, he had recovered from the exhaustion of the previous day to the amazement of the lady. Normally, even though Elementalists recover quickly from exhaustion, it's not easy to do so when they empty their essence reserves.

If only she knew Grey had what seemed like a double essence bead for his lightning element, this was the reason he was able to last almost throughout the day in the first place.

Grey continued the same routine. Before he knew it, four days went by while training.

He had started going for early morning physical training before the sun comes up, and during the day he would continue attacking with the lightning element.

Compared to the first time, he noticed his control of the attacks was much better, and he could use less essence, yet generate the same amount of power.

At nights, he would try comprehending the earth element. Presently, he had been able to get to the four hundred meters mark. The weight he was feeling in that area was already well over eight hundred kilograms.

He noticed that the more he stayed in the earth space in the Chaos Space, the stronger his physical body was. He still couldn't understand how it was possible since his physical body wasn't entering the Chaos Space.

Thanks to this, his physical body's strength was starting to gradually improve. For a long time now, he hadn't been able to increase the strength of his physical body. It was still equivalent to an Elementalist in the Early stages of the Origin Plane. But within a few days, it had shot up to the Mid stages of the Origin Plane.

He knew that as long as he is able to get to the five hundred meters mark in the earth space, his elemental grade would not only increase, but the strength of his physical body would also shoot to the Late stages of the Origin Plane, this is all on the premise that he continues training his physical body.

Three days soon went by, and the one week time Grey was given was up. He was currently standing in the middle of the field, around him were multiple ice statues.

He inhaled softly, before opening his closed eyes. A streak of lightning flashed across his eyes, he pointed in the direction of the ice statue in front of him as a lightning bolt shot towards it.

Buzz! Bam!

The lightning hit the ice statue on the chest, and within a matter of seconds.

Bang!

It exploded, bursting apart from the inside.

More lightning bolts appeared in the sky, shooting towards the rest of the ice statues in the field.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

One by one, the ice statues started to explode, just like the first one.

"Good job, you're right on time," The lady said from the side.

Grey turned to look at her with his calm eyes, with a gentle nod, he indicated that he was ready for the battle.

Just as they were about to leave, he recalled a piece of vital information.

"Since I'll be fighting alone, will I have to fight them one by one? And if it's one by one, how many people would I need to fight?" He asked.

"We'll know the number of people when we get there," The lady shrugged.

'Damn it! I'm f**ked!' Grey cursed internally.

Chapter 495 - It's You!

Ernst City.

For the past week, the city has been abuzz because of the news of a youth challenging all the youths below twenty years of age.

According to what was said, the granddaughter of the Gayle's family head was defeated by this young man, almost killing her. It was said that he even crippled her.

The Gayle family head sent out a request, promising to hefty reward to anyone who can defeat this young man.

All the young geniuses in the city were heading towards the arena in the city. This was the place the showdown was going to take place.

In a city as big as this, it was unimaginable how many people would turn up to challenge Grey, and there's also the people who would come to watch the battle.

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The arena.

It was already filled to the brim with people. Most of them were already discussing about the identity of this mysterious young man, and why he was able to cripple the daughter of the Gayle family and go unpunished.

One has to know that the Gayle family is one of the big families in this city, and no one would dare to be disrespectful towards them.

The Pyro Faction had close ties with them, so even if they couldn't deal with the backers of this young man, the Pyro Faction should be able to.

In the special area of the arena.

"It's already noon, where is this person that got us all gathered here?"

A middle aged man asked the head of the Gayle family.

Clara's grandfather turned to look at the man, "They should be here soon, if you're observant enough, you would've already sensed the aura of someone powerful entering the city,"

"Hmph! I can't believe you two couldn't deal with a little girl," The middle-aged man mocked.

"Why don't you deal with her when she arrives?" The old man who was beside Clara's father said.

He was the one who was with them when Grey and the lady came.

"Stop arguing, I'll speak to this girl when she arrives. I want to see what gives her the guts to ask willfully in my territory," A man with amber hair said coldly.

When the others heard his voice, they kept quiet. This was the leader of the Pyro Faction, Druess Vermilion. He is regarded as the strongest Fire Elementalist in the entire Gale region.

While the crowd, and the big families were still speaking, Grey and the lady soon walked into the arena.

He wore a black shirt and trouser, his mask still on his face. He had an indifferent expression, making it difficult to predict what he was thinking.

Beside him, the lady was walking casually, with Void on her arms.

"I thought you wouldn't come," The head of the Gayle family stood up, walking towards the edge of the special area, staring in the direction of the pathway leading into the arena.

His voice was loud, catching the attention of all the people in the arena. The previously noisy arena turned pin drop silent, and one could even hear the breathing of the person close to them.

They all looked in the direction where the Gayle's family head was looking.

"Heh! Why wouldn't we? I was the one who organized this show after all," The lady scoffed.

The crowd were left dumbstruck when they saw the person who made this possible. They couldn't believe that the person hadn't even gotten to thirty years of age. Without delay, they looked by her side and saw Grey behind her. They didn't need anyone to tell them who he was.

"We've been waiting for you, please, shall we begin?" The head of the Gayle family asked.

He didn't want to delay anything, wanting the people to kill Grey as soon as possible. Clara's condition was worse than what he initially thought. Presently, it was unknown if she would be able to walk again.

"What's the hurry?" The lady said while stepping into the platform in the arena.

She turned to look around, impressed by the influence of the Gayle family.

"Wow! So many people came. But, since we're the ones organizing this show, it's only proper that they pay a gate fee," She said.

Her words almost made Grey trip and fall when he heard it.

'Klaus and Reynolds would like traveling with you,' He said internally.

Void was currently having the time of his life. With someone powerful as a backer, he could do almost anything. What was worse was that he had her full support, there are times when she was even the one encouraging him to go out and steal.

During the time he was training, Void had come to the city a few times, looting from some of the major families. The reason the problem hasn't escalated was that the lady told him to only steal a few things, making sure it would be difficult for the people who check the treasury to find out.

Void's ability to bypass any array formation was unbelievable. Even the lady had complimented him severally because of it.

According to the lady, today was the final day of their stealing since after the battle, they would leave this place with the teleportation array.

Currently, all the powerhouses from each family are here, with no powerful person behind, Void could let loose. Taking as much as his spatial storage could contain.

Only now did Grey know the original plan. The lady didn't make this challenge to help Grey grow stronger, she did it so that they could gather all the powerhouses here and steal from their treasury with no one as strong as them watching.

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The man with amber hair stood up when he heard the lady's voice. He wanted to confront her.

As soon as he walked to the edge of the special area, he paused, his pupils shrunk, and he was fidgeting slightly.

"It's you!" The lady's voice came from the platform.

She was pointing at the leader of the Pyro Faction.

Chapter 496 - Start Of The Battle

"Fire head," The lady said, looking at the man standing in the special area.

The man paused, acted as if he wasn't the one she was speaking to before turning to the others in the area.

"I have something important to attend to. You all should take care of things here," The Faction leader of the Pyro Faction took flight immediately after saying this.

"Hey! Where are you going? You won't even say hello to your friend after not seeing me for so long," The lady vanished.

She soon appeared in the sky, blocking the escape of the Faction leader of the Pyro Faction.

"I'm sorry but this is a mistake, I have never seen you before in my life. Please, if you'll excuse me, I have things to attend to," The Faction leader replied calmly.

"Grey," The lady called out.

Grey, who was on the platform looked in the sky, a little tired of the lady. He was trying to keep a low profile, yet here she was calling out his name willy-nilly. What if these people try to search for him with it?

But having no other option, he answered with a resigned sigh, "What?"

"Remember that guy I beat up when you first saw me?" The lady asked.

Since she was in the sky, her voice was very loud, so every single individual in the arena could clearly hear her.

"Yeah, that Fire Elementalist," Grey nodded, he still recalled the battle, the intensity of the flames.

It didn't take long before he was able to connect the dots, "He's the one?"

"Yeah. Now, he's acting as if he doesn't know me," The lady replied, firmly blocking the escape of the Faction leader.

"Miss, I can assure you that we haven't seen each other before. How about this, I'll go and deal with what I want to do and then come back before the end of the battles?" The Faction Leader started negotiating, to the shock of the head of the Gayle family, as well as all the people here.

"There's no need for that, why don't we watch the battles together?" The lady said, advancing towards the Faction leader.

The Faction Leader tried to convince the lady to let him go, unfortunately, he was unsuccessful.

After a few minutes in the sky, he was forced to come down and watch the battles. He was even given a special role as a judge.

Grey looked at the Faction Leader, he could clearly understand what he was going through. He had been a victim of the oppression of the lady, so he understood how the Faction Leader felt.

The head of the Gayle family stared at the currently sitting docile Pyro Faction Leader, his mouth slightly twitching. He recalled how he boasted about dealing with the issue when the lady arrived. But who would've thought that the first thing he did when they saw each other was to try to escape?

A shame, he has even been beaten by the lady. No wonder he didn't dare to stay behind when he saw her.

This was the thought running through the heads of most of the people in the arena. Those, especially in the special area all, felt as if they were sitting on spikes.

Since even the Faction Leader of the Pyro Faction couldn't deal with her, then they had no chance.

The lady took the front seat, close to her was the Faction Leader, followed by the head of the Gayle family.

She nodded gently to him, indicating that the battle should begin.

While all these were going on, no one noticed a little black cat disappearing from the arena.

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Grey stood on the platform the whole time everything was happening, not moving from his spot.

His training with the lady had yielded amazing results. Not just that, but he had also been able to get to the five hundred meters mark in the earth space, increasing his earth elemental grade to blue. His physical strength is already close to the Late stage of the Origin Plane, which was a huge boost for him.

"Alright, everyone knows why you're all gathered here. Anyone below twenty years of age is qualified to engage in this battle. That young man there is the challenger, normally, we would've done a selection process to see who's strong enough to fight against him, but since the time is short, we will give him the benefit of choosing how he wants the battle to happen and how many people he can fight against," The head of the Gayle family stated.

Even though he wanted Grey dead, he couldn't be biased with the lady here. Grey was a single individual, there was no way he could possibly fight against all the youths below twenty years. Not just that, but there's still the issue of time.

"Since we're short on time, anyone below the Eighth stage of the Origin Plane shouldn't step into the platform," Grey replied.

On hearing his reply, discussions started amongst the crowd.

Grey's confidence was unmatched. Even if those below the Eighth stage of the Origin Plane do not participate, there would still be at least over five hundred people who are qualified.

Does he think he would be able to fight them all on his own?

"Since you've decided, we'll begin immediately. The first set of fighters will only consist of those in the Eighth stage of the Origin Plane," The head of the Gayle family said.

He knew Grey was too powerful for anyone in the Origin Plane, but he wasn't concerned. He planned to send as many people out to wear Grey out before the strong individuals would come in.

He did a rough estimate and realized there were about one hundred and fifty people in the Eighth stage of the Origin Plane.

He called the first person forward, for the battle to begin.

But just as he could call for the battle to start, Grey opened his mouth.

"Five should come at me at once, we're short on time," He said calmly.

His words sent waves across the entire arena.

Chapter 497 - Fighting Against Ernst City's Geniuses

"You heard him, five of you, step up immediately," The head of the Gayle family said.

He couldn't believe his luck, just when he was thinking of how to cajole Grey into doing something like this, he actually did it on his own.

Overconfidence really is the downfall of geniuses.

Of the over one hundred people in the Eighth stage of the Origin Plane, five of them stepped forward. Three were young men who looked to be around fifteen to sixteen, while the other two were young ladies around the same age.

"Hmph! You think you can defeat five of us simultaneously?" One of the young ladies asked coldly.

"Are you ready?"

Grey didn't reply, rather, the head of the Gayle family was the one who spoke up.

The group of five nodded, after getting confirmation from them, he didn't even take a glance at Grey to confirm if he was ready before calling for the battle to start.

"Begin!"

As his voice dropped, a shocking scene appeared on the platform.

Bam! Boom! Bang! Crash!

Sounds of flesh hitting flesh rang out, followed by the sight of five figures shooting into the air, landing on the ground outside the platform.

"Next," Grey's deadpan voice sounded out.

In the space of a few seconds, he had completely destroyed five Elementalists in the Eighth stage of the Origin Plane. One has to recall that he was only at the Peak of said Plane.

But defeating the group wasn't what stunned everyone, it was the method he used.

"Did I see wrong or did he just use only his physical body?" One of the family heads sitting in the special area asked, dumbfounded.

The Faction Leader of the Pyro Faction nodded his head, staring at Grey with narrowed eyes.

There are people with powerful physiques, but he didn't think there was anyone as powerful as Grey while they were still at the Peak of the Origin Plane.

It's general knowledge that the bodies of Elementalists grow stronger with his breakthrough in Plane. Take them for instance, their physical body is equivalent to that of someone at the Peak of the Origin Plane.

But Grey's elemental Plane was at the Peak of the Origin Plane, and his physical strength seems to shockingly be in the same Plane, although slightly lower than his cultivation stage, it wasn't that far behind.

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"Next," Grey's emotionless voice rang out once again.

A second set consisting of five young men stepped into the platform.

After the head of the Gayle family called for the battle to begin, an almost identical scenario played out. Grey wiped out his opponents even before they could properly think, in the same fashion, using his physical strength.

"Next," Grey said after the last figure crashed into the ground.

The head of the Gayle family called in the next set, and before everyone knew it, more than ten sets of groups of five had stepped into the platform, and all of them were defeated swiftly by Grey, in the same manner.

In the case of the first two groups, one could say maybe they didn't expect it hence they were taken by surprise. But as for the other eight groups, they all knew this was the method Grey wanted to use, but they still couldn't stop him.

"Ten," Grey turned to look at the head of the Gayle family.

He had hardly broken a sweat since the battle started. Considering that he would be fighting against all the people in the Eighth stage, he wanted to get it over with before starting with the next group of fighters.

The head of the Gayle family understood his words and increased the number to ten people in the Eighth stage of the Origin Plane.

At first, everyone thought there would at least be a little difference in the outcome. But to their greatest shock, it ended the same way, swiftly.

After Grey fought against the next group, it was easily determined that those in the Eighth stage of the Origin Plane were no match for him.

"Those in the Ninth stage step forward. The rest who are still in the Eighth stage should return to their seats, if you believe you can fight against him you're free to step forward before the group in the Ninth stage begins. But if you stay behind and can not even put up a fight, then you will be punished for wasting our time," The head of the Gayle family said.

He knew there were a few geniuses who would feel they had a chance against Grey since they could fight across stages. Only he and a few others here knew none of the people here in the Origin Plane was a match for Grey.

After thinking about the threat from the head of the Gayle family, all the youths in the Eighth stage of the Origin Plane stepped back, heading back to their seats with heads dropped.

Grey wasn't the least bit bothered about their feelings. He was currently preparing himself for the next round of battles.

Those in the Ninth stage of the Origin Stage were slightly more than those in the Eighth stage of the Origin Plane.

"How many?" The Gayle's family head asked Grey.

"Five, for now," Grey replied in the same cool and collected manner. His expression was one devoid of emotions, so no one could predict what he was thinking about.

The Gayle's family head looked at the group in the Ninth stage, and five young men who seemed to be Grey's age stepped forward.

After stepping into the platform, the Gayle's family head called for the battle to start.

Swoosh! Bang! Boom!

All of them attacked simultaneously, making sure they didn't make the same mistake those in the Eighth stage made.

Boom!

All their attacks got to a particular location on the platform, before slamming into the ice wall Grey created in front of him.

After the explosion died down, the eyes of the group bulged when they saw what was waiting for them.

Chapter 498 - The Challenge Begins

"Oh crap," One of the young men said.

He didn't have any confidence in being able to block what was before them.

In front of the ice wall, three large inscriptions were facing the group, all glowing with different colors of light.

As soon as the young man completed his statement, the inscriptions released powerful attacks.

The three inscriptions covered a large area, giving each of them the chance to release a large-scale attack. This was exactly what Grey did with them.

The lightning inscription sent out multiple lightning bolts, and the fire inscription released flaming birds which exploded as they got close to where the group of five were standing. The water inscription attacked with ice arrows.

Boom! Bam! Bang!

All the attacks were released so fast that the group didn't have time to retreat. They were all forced to try to defend them.

After only a few seconds, their defenses crumbled, leaving them defenseless against the attacks.

Boom!

A larger explosion happened, sending all five fighters flying.

Crash! Bam!

They all landed in different areas, but all outside the platform.

"Next," Grey's apathetic voice resounded once again.

The crowd looked at him, all thinking the same thing.

They underestimated his strength.

Since the fight started, it hasn't even been up to twenty minutes, yet he had not only removed those in the Eighth stage of the Origin Plane, but he had also shown that those in the Ninth stage wouldn't be a problem for him as well.

The next group of fighters in the Ninth stage of the Origin Plane soon climbed onto the platform, but the result was just like that of the first group.

After fighting against five groups, Grey decided to increase the number of people he fought in a single round. With the number increased, he wasn't able to end the battle as swiftly as he did when he was still fighting against five people.

One hour soon went by since the battle started.

"He's quite powerful, I can't believe he still hasn't been touched by a single attack yet?" One of the old men in the special area commented.

"He's only fighting against those in the Origin Plane, of course it's natural that they wouldn't be able to do anything to him," Clara's father said.

"Have you forgotten he's still in the Origin Plane?" The old man asked mockingly.

Clara's father wanted to refute, but then he remembered he was correct. Grey was just so powerful that he actually forgot he was still at the Peak of the Origin Plane. He wasn't the only one who had forgotten Grey was still in the Origin Plane, there were some people in the crowd as well.

There are a few who think Grey was lying when he said he was still in the Origin Plane because the power he was showing was something only those in the Overlord Plane would. Not any ordinary Overlord Plane Elementalist, but those who could fight across stages.

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Boom! Bang! Bam!

Attacks upon attacks kept ringing out on the platform, with figures being sent flying.

It has been over two hours now since the battle started, and Grey was just getting to the group that consisted of those at the Peak of the Origin Plane, just like him.

Individually, none of them here was a match for him, but, there might be a chance if he were to fight against ten of them at once.

Just like how he had been doing, he fought against five in the first round. The five consisted of two young men who were Water Elementalists, and three young ladies with the lightning, wind, and earth element respectively.

The battle started explosively, but Grey was able to withstand the flurry of attacks the group sent at him before he began his counterattack. After only a few moves, he defeated the first group, with relative ease.

The next round soon started and he continued his dominant battling, defeating them within a few moves. None of the groups could last up to two minutes against him.

It was like they didn't know how to fight against him. All the groups who had entered the platform have all tried a different approach, but they have all been meant with the same outcome, defeat.

It didn't take long before the people at the Peak of the Origin Plane slowly started to lose hope. It's one thing knowing you can't defeat someone, it's another knowing that even with four more people with you, you're still no match for the person.

After an hour, those at the Peak of the Origin Plane gave up, and surprisingly, no one in the crowd found their choice odd. They could already tell from the first battle that there was no hope for them.

What was more shocking was that amongst those at the Peak of the Origin Plane, there were geniuses who could fight against some Elementalists who just broke through to the Overlord Plane. But none of them felt they were strong enough to hold out against Grey.

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"It's time for those in the First stage of the Overlord Plane to step forward," The head of the Gayle family said, he turned to look at Grey, "Boy, do you need a break?"

"I'm good, start the next battle," Grey shook his head.

Although he had been fighting for over three hours, he wasn't really tired. He had barely moved from the spot he stood since he started to attack with his elements, and thanks to the training he had with the lady, he could now greatly maximize the essence spent while bringing out greater attack power.

"Alright, since you've decided we will continue with the battle," The head of the Gayle family replied.

He was already starting to lose hope since he didn't see anyone who he thought could defeat Grey. But, there are fifteen people in the Third stage of the Overlord Plane, and they're all from the Pyro Faction.

With them around, no matter how monstrous Grey was, he shouldn't be able to defeat them, right?

Grey looked in the direction of those in the Overlord Plane.

'Now the real challenge begins.'

Chapter 499 - Genius Ranking

The head of the Gayle family stared at Grey, waiting for him to give him the number of people he wanted to fight.

"One," Grey said.

His words didn't surprise anyone since they've all noticed he was a cautious person, only after being certain that he could fight against a certain number does he increase it.

They all knew he would naturally be able to defeat this person with ease, but they were all still waiting curiously for the battle to begin. This was the most dominant display they've ever witnessed, and even though the person wasn't from their city, they still felt excited by it.

A young man with an orange track-suit looking uniform stepped forward.

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The crowd was stirred when they saw the young man who walked onto the platform.

"It's Harry from the Pyro Faction,"

Someone from the crowd said when they saw the young man walking forward.

"Isn't he the most powerful Elementalist in the First stage of the Overlord Plane and ranked fifty-two in the Early stage Overlord Plane ranking in the region?" Someone asked.

"Yes. Now, this should be an entertaining battle. Harry has defeated someone in the Second stage of the Overlord Plane before, so he's not someone that could be categorized among those in the First stage of the Overlord Plane," Someone else replied.

In the Aurora continent, each continent has a ranking where the young geniuses are all ranked according to their strength and stages. There is a rank for those in the Origin Plane, Overlord Plane, and so on. Each ranking is further divided into the Early, Mid, and Late stages.

Grey turned around, not expecting the young man who walked in to be this famous.

"Guess you're going to be something of a challenge," He said.

"You're impressive, I'll give you that. But your run of continuous victories ends here," Harry said gently.

"Alright, I hope you'll be able to make me unleash at least fifty percent of my strength," Grey nodded, excited.

"The same goes for you," Harry replied confidently.

Grey nodded, turning to look at the head of the Gayle family.

"Begin!"

Swoosh! Bang!

Harry was covered by a burning stream of fire as he shot towards Grey like a jet.

Grey attacked with a stream of water, but Harry was able to blast a hole through the stream of water while still going towards Grey.

"Good! Haha," Grey laughed out when he saw how easily Harry was able to break through the water.

He only released it to test Harry's strength. Had Harry been unable to pass through the water stream, he would've been heavily disappointed since he was hyped for the battle. Of course, he knew he would definitely win.

Boom! Bam!

Harry soon got within a few meters of him, attacking with unbelievable strength.

Grey created an ice wall in front of him, blocking the attack.

After the first attack was blocked, Harry instantly attacked again, slashing out a fire sword that was over five meters long.

Bam! Crack!

Cracks soon started to appear in the ice wall, running like webs. Harry didn't delay, instantly attacking again with the fire sword.

Grey didn't stand there just defending, seeing that his opponent was different compared to others, he instantly created an inscription, attacking Harry with it.

Harry dodged to the left just as the attack was about to hit him, while still continuously attacking the ice wall which had started to fall apart after the first three swings from the fire sword.

Grey didn't panic when he saw his ice wall coming down, instead, he attacked Harry again. Ice spikes came out of the ground from where he was standing, quickly going towards Harry.

Harry sent out a large fireball towards ice spikes, destroying them as they headed towards him. Unfortunately, it didn't stop the attack from continuing.

He stomped his feet on the ground, and fire exploded out of the ground, propelling him upwards.

The ice spikes came out of the ground just after he was sent upwards.

Grey pointed his finger at him, and one of the ice spikes turned into water, stretching towards Harry like an elongated arm.

It soon grabbed hold of his ankle, before yanking him down.

Harry controlled the flames around his body, circling the water arm that was holding onto his ankle like a snake, before destroying it.

He landed softly on the ground after this, staring at Grey with a serious expression.

Grey smiled before red lightning ran across his body.

Buzz! Whoosh!

His figure soon disappeared, turning into a streak of lightning.

Harry was surprised by Grey's speed. He covered himself once again with the fire element before spreading his arms in all directions.

Tiny flakes of fire spread out, they were just as small as snowflakes. With his eyes closed, he inhaled deeply.

His eyes soon snapped open, turning to his left and attacking with a fire raven. The speed and timing of his attack were very precise since it didn't give Grey any chance to evade it, well, unless he chooses to use the space element of course.

Grey was forced to receive the attack head-on. He didn't want to show his space element yet since he felt the longer he kept it unused the better for him. The consumption of the space element's essence was very high, and he still had around one hundred more challengers to go, all in the Overlord Plane.

Bang!

He blocked the attack with his ice and lightning element, but the force of the attack forced him back by a few steps.

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When the crowd witnessed this, they cheered in excitement. For the first time since Grey started fighting, someone actually managed to force him back. Although it was just by a few steps, it was still an achievement.

The Faction Leader of the Pyro Faction nodded with a small smile.

"What are you happy about, he'll still lose," The lady by his side said coldly.

The Faction Leader's expression changed a little when he heard this, but he still felt proud.

Chapter 500 - Defeating A Genius In The Geniuses Rankings

"Oh, looks like I managed to force you back," Harry said gently.

"Yeah, looks like it," Grey replied with a slight nod.

Given his speed, he didn't think that Harry would've been able to sense him, but when he felt the small flakes of flames touching him, he knew that it was a type of sensory ability.

"Other than those guys in the Second stage, you're the only one who's given me a tough time. I must admit, for someone in the Origin Plane, you're quite powerful," Harry complimented.

He was someone who was ranked in the genius rankings, for someone who was a Plane behind him to fight him to this extent, it showed just how powerful the person was. He didn't think there are any other geniuses that's this monstrous.

"You're not bad yourself, but we should continue, I still have others to fight against," Grey said.

"Confident, the next time my attack hits you, you'll be sent out of the platform," Harry responded.

Buzz! Bang!

Grey stomped on the ground before shooting into the air, floating gently in the sky, he spread out his hands.

"Lightning rain," He muttered, while the lightning attack started, another more powerful attack started to form, "Meteor descent,"

These were attacks that usually covered large areas making it difficult for the opponent to defend against. The lightning rain can incapacitate his opponent with the paralyzing ability, while meteor descent will crush the opponent with its superior strength.

He made sure not to add the earth element, making the attack weaker than when he originally used it with the earth element.

Harry squinted his eyes when he saw the attacks raining down on him, he couldn't help but feel slightly worried. Although these attacks covered large areas, their powers were in no way weak, which was against the norms.

With him standing in the middle, a fire started to spread out, before rising. This wasn't an attack he could evade unless he left the platform, and leaving the platform was the same as admitting defeat.

The fire formed a red screen cube, with him standing in the middle. This was his best bet, defending against it.

While he was inside the cube, he was making a fire arrow, condensing as much firepower as he possibly could, not forgetting to conceal the aura from Grey. His current plan was simple, even if he was going to lose, he wanted to make sure Grey wouldn't go unscathed.

Crash! Buzz! Bang!

Grey's attacks came crashing down on the fire screen, with cracks soon starting to spread from the first few attacks.

Harry didn't glance at the fire screen that was cracking, focusing his attention on the single arrow in front of him. The aura coming out of the fire arrow was more than any of the attacks he had released so far.

It didn't take long before the screen fell apart, leaving Harry at the mercy of Grey's attacks. It was at the same time that he released the arrow that he had infused with so much essence.

The speed of the arrow was alarming, blasting towards Grey.

Grey and Harry's attacks got to their opponent at the same time.

Harry coated himself with flames, exploded out like a volcano trying to fight against the lightning and fire attack from Grey.

Grey wasn't able to sense the arrow in time, only noticing it when it was already within three feet away from him. His hairs stood on end and without even thinking, he vanished.

The crowd was kept in suspense when they saw Grey's powerful attacks in the sky, they originally thought that Harry had lost, but just when the light screen broke, they saw a red glow shooting quickly towards Grey who didn't notice it on time.

Caught in two minds, some people didn't know if to focus their attention on Harry who was going to defend against a powerful large-scale attack, or Grey who was going to be struck by a single powerful attack he didn't see coming.

Some of the audience even stood on their feet, staring at one individual, Grey.

Their expressions changed because just when they thought the fire arrow had impaled Grey, it shot straight into the sky as if there was no one there.

"He's a Space Elementalist!"

Someone from the crowd exclaimed while pointing at Grey who was currently somewhere else. If one looked closely, one will notice a slight pale blue light around him.

"What?! All these while he wasn't even using all his elements?" Someone else asked in shock.

"Yes, just how powerful is he?"

This was the question running through the heads of every single individual in the crowd. It's general knowledge that Space Elementalists are the most difficult to deal with, especially someone like Grey who had other destructive elements.

If he had used his space element from the start, then Harry wouldn't have lasted this long.

The crowd wasn't the only ones who were shocked. Those sitting in the special area, except for the lady who knew he also had the space element, as well as the group from the Gayle family.

"He has four elements, with the space element being one of them. It will be difficult for someone in the First or Second stage of the Overlord Plane to deal with him. As long as he sees the attack on time, he can almost always evade it, not just that, but he could also attack from unpredictable angles now. I wonder why he hasn't shown the space element all this while?" The Faction Leader commented.

"Isn't it simple? No one has been able to make him use it," The lady said mockingly.

The Faction Leader couldn't refute her words since they were right. If not for Harry's deadly sneak attack, then Grey wouldn't have shown the space element, keeping it until it was time to use it. A fighter shouldn't show all his cards from the start, and Grey was living with that code, perfectly.

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With Grey escaping his attack, everyone turned to look at Harry who was still covered by the huge explosion.