

Affinity 591

Chapter 591 - It's Been So Long

Swoosh! Bam!

The Mayor attacked, pushing Grey back again.

Buzz! Bang!

A lightning bolt struck the area Grey was in, covering almost a hundred meters radius.

Grey was in the middle of the lightning bolt, scurrying about to protect himself from the lightning strikes.

Now, he could see the difference between someone in the Seventh stage of the Overlord Plane, and one who was already very close to the Peak of the Overlord Plane.

With a flicker, he escaped from the rain of lightning, going out of the attack range.

The Mayor was already expecting this, so as soon as he saw him leaving the attack range, he attacked again, sending out a lightning arrow.

Boom!

Grey threw a fireball at the arrow when he saw it, and it exploded on impact, pushing him back by a few meters.

Before he could regain himself, the Mayor charged at him, sending out attack after attack.

Boom! Whoosh! Bam! Bang!

Grey blocked, evaded, and was hit by some attacks, although they didn't have the original strength behind it.

On Alice and Reynolds' side, they were getting pushed back more. After the Elemental Warrior self-destructed, the group they were fighting against finally noticed that Reynolds couldn't summon the Elemental Warrior for a second time.

The Earth Elementalist who was almost killed in the explosion was the one who was attacking more viciously.

"You bastard! I'll kill you all," The Earth Elementalist screamed as he continued attacking excessively.

Boom! Bang!

Reynolds was sent flying, with Alice protecting herself to ensure she wasn't hurt by the attacks.

Grey's inscriptions continued attacking as well, but the group was blocking the attacks, making sure Alice and Reynolds were isolated.

Bang!

Alice was sent flying as well, crashing into the ground.

"Oh, hello," Reynolds waved when Alice slammed close to him.

"Not funny Rey," Alice stood up, taking into the air once again.

"Oh shit! Let's go!" Reynolds exclaimed.

Lightning enveloped his body as he left the ground, shooting into the air with unimaginable speed. He headed straight for an Instructor in the Third stage of the Overlord Plane.

Buzz! Bang!

"Take that! Haha," Reynolds laughed, with blood slightly running down the side of his mouth and his hair in disarray, he looked like a psychopath.

"Lightning punch!" He yelled in front of another Instructor after sending the first one flying.

On hearing what Reynolds said, the Instructor prepared himself for a punch coming his way.

He was left helpless when Reynolds sent a lightning bolt to hit him on his back.

"Ah!.." The Instructor screamed in pain before falling to the ground.

The Instructor flying beside the one Reynolds just sent to the ground stared at him angrily, "How can you be so shameless?"

"Why was he foolish enough to listen to what I said?" Grey mocked.

Bam!

The Instructor attacked, accompanied by a few who were around.

Reynolds turned tails and ran away. There was no way he was going fight against so many people on his own, especially without the help of his Elemental Warrior.

Boom! Bang! Bam!

Reynolds and Alice were running from the attacks of the Instructors.

On Grey's side of the battle, he was sent flying, slamming into the ground.

Old man Gerald was watching the battle from the side, getting a little worried for Grey and his friends.

Prince Casper on the other hand was finally starting to get a sense of safety and relief. Once Grey and his friends were defeated, he wouldn't need to worry about anything any longer.

"Father, are you going to watch Alice get taken away?" Sasha turned to her father.

Donald clenched his fists, stuck in a dilemma. If he attacked now, then the chances of Grey and his friends winning would improve. But what if the disappearance of the Peak stage Overlord Plane Elementalist was a trick by them to see their reactions.

"Father?" Sasha grabbed onto her father, looking at him with pleading eyes.

Just as Donald was about to make a decision, another change happened on the battlefield.

Boom!

Powerful energy exploded out in the middle of the battlefield and looking in the direction, it was on the side of Grey's battle.

Grey's strength was soon starting to surge, increasing so fast that within a few seconds, he was already over the Fifth stage of the Overlord Plane, quickly getting to the Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, and Ninth stage.

A few seconds later, his aura was at the Peak of the Overlord Plane, and surging even.

The eyes of the Mayor nearly popped out.

Old man Gerald stood up, staring at Grey in shock.

"How's that happening?" He asked, stuttering.

Diluc opened his mouth, but no words came out of it. He couldn't explain something he didn't know. They knew it was a powerful technique that improved his strength, but they have never seen anything like this one.

At most the ones they seen or heard of would increase their stages by one or two, but Grey went straight from the Fifth stage to the Peak of the Overlord Plane.

"This... this... impossible!" The Mayor retreated back on sensing how powerful Grey currently was.

What was worse was that he could still sense that he was going slightly higher.

However, a few seconds later, it stopped. Grey's energy stopped at the Peak of the Overlord Plane.

"Get out of here Prince Casper," The Mayor warned immediately.

He knew at this rate, he was no match for the current Grey.

Prince Casper wanted to move, but he was unable to take a step back. The reason for this was that Grey appeared behind him, staring at him.

"Stay here and watch, this will be over soon," Grey patted Prince Casper on the shoulder and all the strength in his body left him.

He couldn't take a single step, nor could he generate any elemental essence in his body. With a simple pat, he couldn't move anymore.

The Mayor was shocked when he saw Grey appearing behind Prince Casper. Without thinking, he charged towards him.

"Get away from the Prince," He ordered.

Grey smiled, "I've always wanted to see how powerful I'll be in the Fusion State after getting to the Overlord Plane,"

'It's been so long,'

Chapter 592 - They're Getting Away

Bam!

Grey swung his hand, and a giant hand made of earth appeared in the sky and smacked the Mayor into the ground as if he was a fly.

Bang!

The Mayor crashed into the ground, causing a crater that was almost ten meters deep. The Mayor's body didn't stop after crashing into the ground, it created a hole in the shape of his body and went drilled deeper due to the force from the smack.

Buzz!

The Mayor burst out with lightning surrounding his body as he charged towards Grey. With a few hand seals, a lightning bird appeared and flew towards Grey. The power of the bird was on another level compared to his previous attacks.

All this while, he had been fighting with the intent of capturing Grey and his friends, but now, he was fighting to kill. He couldn't afford to allow Grey to live.

"Futile efforts," Grey smiled before raising his right hand.

At the tip of his index finger, a small black and blue orb that was around the size of a finger appeared, he stretched his hand above his head, and the size of the orb suddenly swelled. It went from the size of a finger to the size of a human head.

It flew off Grey's hand, charging towards the lightning bird.

Boom!

The two attacks collided, and a powerful wave spread out in all directions, accompanied by a terrifying blast.

Reynolds, Alice, old man Gerald, Donald, Diluc, Sasha, and everyone else on the battlefield were affected by the attack. Some of the weaker ones were even sent flying.

"Grey, do you plan on killing us as well? Take this higher!" Reynolds' voice could be heard from inside the explosion.

The bright light from the explosion didn't die down immediately, and it could be seen from every single inch of Frost City.

The other big families who were contemplating if they should join the Mayor to fight against Grey slowly started to retreat. This was a battle they couldn't win. Grey was showing strength they had never seen before, and it scared them.

A few seconds later, the light died down, and the result of the explosion appeared before Grey.

Within a one kilometer radius, there was not a single building that was standing. They were all in ruins.

'*Sigh* This is why I don't like fighting in cities. There just might be collateral damage,' Grey furrowed his brows when he looked at the result of his attack.

The Mayor was standing mid-air, staring at Grey.

"Don't worry, I've moved everyone away from this area,"

A voice suddenly came from the side. It was none other than Jonas. When he saw how intense the battle was getting, he quickly told the others to help him tell everyone around a three kilometers radius to evacuate the area. Before they even got there, some smart people had already started leaving the city in general.

"Oh, now I won't feel too bad," Grey replied with a nod.

He was feeling a little sad because of the thought of some innocent bystander getting caught in his attack, but since there was no one, he felt a sense of relief.

"Why don't we take this higher?" He turned to the Mayor.

The Mayor looked at the impact caused by the collision between their attacks before nodding his head. He had been the Mayor of Frost City for so long, and he had already grown a little attached to it. It would be a shame that his battle would be the cause of its destruction.

"Okay, but before I go," Grey suddenly flickered twice.

It was as if his body was going between ethereal and physical form. A moment it was as if he was disappearing, then the next it would seem as if he was in his physical state.

But the Mayor knew Grey was no longer there.

'An afterimage,' The Mayor thought to himself.

How fast is he that he could create such an afterimage?

This was the thought in the head of the Mayor.

He wasn't the only one who was stunned by this, old man Gerald, Diluc, Donald, and everyone else watching was asking the same question as well.

A few seconds later.

"Alright, let's go," Grey said.

His body hadn't dissolved completely when he appeared again.

The Mayor's heart suddenly sank when a thought crossed through his head, with a quick glance, he was able to confirm his thought.

All the Early stage Overlord Plane Elementalists that were fighting against Alice and Reynolds were almost completely wiped out. The Mid stage Overlord Plane Instructors were all wiped out.

There were around five surviving Early stage Instructors left, and the only reason Grey left them alive was so that Reynolds and Alice could fight.

"You..."

"We're enemies, there's no need in being sympathetic towards them. An enemy is an enemy, there's no way to change it at this point. Although I know they're only following the Emperor's orders, it still doesn't change the fact that they've become my enemy. The day they decided to capture me and my friends because of the Emperor's greedy desires was the day they cemented their deaths," Grey cut short the Mayor and said.

The Mayor looked at him for a while before flying higher into the sky.

Just as Grey was about to follow behind him, he heard Reynolds' voice.

"What?! Who killed them! It must be Grey. Damn it! And I could've taken them on by myself," Reynolds exclaimed when he saw that there were only five surviving Instructors.

Alice rolled her eyes when she heard this, "You know what, why don't you take on these guys on your own since you're so powerful?"

"And have all the fun on my own? Of course not, I want you to train as well," Reynolds replied instantly.

"Uhhh, Rey," Alice called.

"Yeah?" Reynolds asked.

"They're getting away," Alice pointed at the Instructors flying away.

"Shit! Get them," Reynolds went after the Instructors.

Alice chuckled before following behind him.

But they weren't under any pressure since they know that all the threats around them have been neutralized.. If they let these Instructors go, it still wouldn't change how things would end.

Chapter 593 - Believe Me Now?

"Doing this will only make things worse between you and the Emperor," The Mayor said after Grey caught up to him high up in the sky.

"He's already trying to kill me, things can't get worse. This is literally the peak right now," Grey shrugged.

"You might be using a secret technique to improve your strength, but all I need to do is hang on until the time elapses and you're finished," The Mayor said.

"Do you really think you can last that long?" Grey asked curiously.

"I believe in my abilities," The Mayor replied.

"Cool," Grey didn't say anything else.

Naturally, he didn't have all the time in the world, so he had to act quick.

Swoosh! Buzz! Bang!

A lightning bow appeared, on it was notched a silver lightning bow that shot out instantly.

The speed of the arrow was mind blowing. This attack was as fast as the attack the young man who attacked him at that ruin used.

Even after breaking through to the Overlord Plane, Grey wasn't too confident in his ability to dodge that attack. But with the aid of the Fusion State, he didn't have any problems with dodging it.

He soon disappeared from where the attack wanted to hit.

Due to his speed, he left an afterimage there which the arrow went through before it started to quickly fade.

He appeared on the left side of the Mayor, sending out a stream of fire.

Boom!

The Mayor retaliated with a large lightning bolt which caused a huge explosion in the sky, blasting the clouds away from where they were fighting.

Bang! Boom! Swoosh! Buzz!

They continued exchanging blows, and as expected, Grey was on the front foot.

The Mayor continued his offensive even though he was on the back foot.

With every attack, he was pushed back by Grey's seemingly insurmountable strength.

....

A few kilometers away from Frost City.

While Grey and the others were still fighting with the Instructors.

A figure suddenly appeared in the sky above an empty field.

It was an old lady with white hair and wearing a white gown.

"Hmm, how did I get here?" She questioned as she looked around.

A small shadow suddenly came to view.

'That cat, what's it doing here too?' A look of incredulity appeared on her face.

"The prince!" She suddenly exclaimed, recalling what was happening before she appeared here.

Even though she found her appearance here odd, she focused on getting back to Prince Casper first. From what she sensed, he must be in trouble since a large-scale battle was taking place where he was getting married.

She flew in the direction of the city disappearing from view.

Void, who was laying casually on a tree didn't even try to make any efforts to stop her, he only watched on as she flew away.

A few seconds later, a figure appeared above the field again. It was none other than that of the old lady.

"What's going on?" She asked, looking around suspiciously.

Other than the small black cat she saw lying on a tree, she couldn't see or sense anything else.

She soon flew off again, heading in the direction of the city. But a few seconds later, she would appear in the field once again.

When she appeared for the third time, she decided to take another route. She headed in the opposite direction, away from the city. But in a few seconds time, she once again appeared in the empty field. At exactly the same spot.

"What is going on?" She asked again, looking around.

This was the strangest technique she had ever witnessed or experienced. She couldn't sense anything, yet she keeps getting teleported to the same location.

She tried once again, but the result was the same. She tried again, and again, and again. However, no matter which direction she faced, she would appear back at the field again.

"Who are you? Come out now! I'm Overlord Gale. You must have heard of me," The old lady announced her name in a bid to scare whoever was doing this.

She made a name for herself hundreds of years ago, but she was still regarded very highly by the people of the Qilin Empire. Even till this very day, her name still struck fear in the hearts of her opponents.

From her perspective, she felt whoever was doing this wasn't powerful, that was why they resulted to such underhanded tactics in keeping her here. But she had to admit it was quite an impressive feat to create something like this.

"Oh, you're tired of trying? And I thought I could rest a little longer," Void's childlike voice entered the old lady's ears.

"Who are you? Show yourself," The old lady said calmly.

"I'm not hiding now, am I?" Void asked oddly.

He was literally lying on the tree closest to the field, and he had sensed the old lady's gaze a few times. So hearing her say he should show himself, he was taken aback.

"I don't have time for games. The Fifth Prince is in danger, and the Emperor will not take it lightly with whoever you are if the prince were to face any danger as a result of your actions," The old lady warned.

"Do I look like someone who is scared of the Emperor?" Void asked.

"Come out, with this ability of yours the Emperor would like to make you an ally," The old lady offered.

"*Sigh* Look down," Void finally gave up and said, when he saw the lady looking in her direction, "Over here,"

He stood up from his lying position, staring straight in the eyes of the old lady.

"Nice try, but there's no way a cat can speak nor be the one behind something like this," The old lady scoffed when she saw Void.

"Old lady, didn't you see me in the city before you appeared here?" Void asked rudely.

The old lady paused when she saw how Void's lips were moving along with the sound of every word.

"Impossible," She muttered when she realized Void was really the one talking.

"Believe me now?" Void asked.

Chapter 594 - In Here, I'm God

The old lady stared at Void for a few seconds, trying to comprehend how it was possible.

She knew of powerful al beasts with high bloodlines that could talk after getting to a certain stage but never had she heard of a small cat like this being able to speak.

"How... what are you?" She asked slowly.

"I'm lord cat, now, kneel before my magnificence. Also, hand over all your shiny things," Void stuck out his chest as he said.

The old lady froze when she heard Void's introduction, unsure of what to do. First, the cat referred to himself as a lord, and now he's seemingly trying to rob her.

'Such a strange world,' She said to herself.

"Come on lady, I don't have all the time in the world," Void's voice interrupted her train of thoughts.

"Huh? Oh, little cat, can you let me go so I can help the Prince?" The old lady asked with a meek smile, "If you help me, the Emperor will give you all the shiny things you want,"

"Oh... shiny things, how big are they?" Void asked wide-eyed.

"Very big," The old lady opened her hands wide.

"I heard the Emperor has a nice shiny crown, if he can give me that, then I'll think about letting you go," Void said after a few seconds of silence.

"Yes, yes, the crown is very shiny. He has three, and all of them are very shiny. There are valuable gemstones engraved in all of them," The old lady said.

She didn't know anything about Void, but from how he asked for shiny things during his introduction, she guessed he must be obsessed with them. And from his reaction, her guess was on point.

'Hehe, stupid animal, once I get out of here, you're dead,' She thought internally.

"Nice. Thanks for the information, now I know I don't have to steal only one crown," Void said with gratitude.

"Sorry?" The old lady looked at Void, stunned by his words, "Steal the Emperor's crown?"

"Yeah. I figured you'd know a thing or two about him, so I tricked you into speaking of it," Void explained with a small chuckle.

"Little cat, that's not a wise thing to do. You're a al beast that managed to gain intelligence, why don't you let me out and I'll give you all the hidden techniques we have on al beasts, what do you say?" The old lady acted like she didn't hear Void's words and tried to coax Void again.

"I'm not that dumb lady. If you manage to get out of here alive, then you can thank your stars," Void said coldly.

"What do you mean?" The old lady's expression changed.

"In my domain, I'm god," Void replied.

With the end of his statement, the space around them began to crack. The old lady could literally see cracks opening up in the sky, and the aura from within it terrified her.

"What... what are... wait, a domain?" She asked in shock.

"Oh, judging from your reaction, this is not the first time you're hearing of domains. Looks like you're wiser than I thought," Void answered.

After he finished refining the Dragon blood essence, he awakened his domain. This first domain he awakened was the space domain, and he couldn't be happier.

When he brought the old lady here, he decided to try out the ability of the domain, and he had been impressed by it so far.

The distance of the domain was around four to five hundred meters, and with the increase in his strength, the domain will continue to expand.

The O'Brien family was already regarding Ellis to be a genius amongst geniuses because of how quickly he was able to awaken his domain. However, if they were to hear of Void's case, they might faint from the sheer shock.

One has to know that Ellis was already in the Sage Plane, so he wasn't too far from awakening his domain. Void however was still a Rank Five al beast which was equivalent to the Overlord Plane. This was something unheard of.

"The last time a domain was used in this world was during the ancient times, the great war of gods. I never thought I would get to experience one in this lifetime," The old lady muttered, still in shock.

"Lady, you must be crazy. This place is too small, so you haven't been able to see things. Unfortunately, this is the end for you," Void said.

The cracks in the sky continued increasing, slowly sucking in anything around them.

The old lady looked around and attacked. According to what she read about, a domain could forcibly be destroyed if the creator was weaker than the person trapped inside.

Never in a million years does she think that Void was more powerful. Actually, she even felt pity for him because even with such a powerful ability, he was too weak.

Bang!

Her attack went into one of the cracks, and a powerful shockwave came out from the crack. After a few seconds, it started to flicker before fading.

Void wasn't downhearted when one of the cracks was destroyed by the old lady. He knew she wasn't someone weak.

A tornado rose up from the ground, trying to destroy all the cracks that were close to her. As time went on, the tornado started to send out wind blades, while the old lady moved out on her own, her speed was on another level.

She wasn't called Overlord Gale for no reason. When she rose to fame, she was regarded as one of the fastest Elementalists in the Azure Empire, even Lightning Elementalists paled in comparison to her speed.

A few seconds later, she was holding onto Void, with a wind blade in her hand, ready to slice it through the body of Void.

"Little cat, I like you, or else you would be dead. Let me go, and come with me freely, maybe then you can join us," The old lady offered.

"I'm not interested in becoming allies with the Emperor," Void replied, "Also, over here,"

The old lady turned in the direction of the voice, and to her surprise, Void was standing in the sky, perfectly fine. She hurriedly looked at her hands, and there was nothing there.

"How did..."

"I already told you, in my domain, I am god," Void replied before his size suddenly started to increase.

Chapter 595 - Can You Forgive Me?

"What?!" The lady exclaimed when she saw Void's current size.

From being slightly larger than a human's palm, Void was currently well over three meters tall and over five meters long.

He was currently no different from a al beast found in the forest.

Void suddenly disappeared, appearing a few inches away from the old lady. The second he appeared, he swiped his left claw at the lady.

Bam!

His claw hit a wind screen that the lady placed in front of her just in time to protect herself from his attack.

Ka-cha

The sound of wind screen breaking sounded out, before the claw attack continued on its track, heading towards the old lady.

The old lady was forced to place her hands in front of her as a form of protection, while not only enforcing them but also setting up a wind protection around them.

With the powerful wind rotating around her hands, it would be difficult for anything to get through it.

At first, they managed to stop Void's claws, but a few seconds later, she was sent flying from the force of the attack. She couldn't contend with Void when it came to raw strength, especially with Void's current size.

Before she crashed to the ground, Void appeared behind her, swiping his claws at her back.

Bang!

It connected, opening a large wound on her back, while also sending her flying in the direction she was coming from.

Void disappeared again, appearing in front of her.

The old lady who was already injured couldn't afford to take another direct hit from Void. Without delay, she covered herself with a wind dome that sent wind blades in Void's direction.

Void didn't panic, and as if flickering, he would disappear and appear in a matter of seconds, dodging the wind blades that were coming his way. He made sure he didn't get out of the way, so he could continue smacking the old lady.

He covered his claws with the darkness element, and as the lady got close, he attacked again.

Bang!

This time, the impact was so great that the lady crashed directly into the ground, causing a small dust cloud to rise into the air.

A few seconds later, the dust cloud settled, but the lady was nowhere to be seen.

Void didn't panic, his domain was still active, and if the old lady tried to leave the area, she would be brought back to the middle once again.

After waiting for over twenty seconds, Void paused and looked in the western direction.

'Smart,' He thought to himself.

The old lady had already marked the spot where she would return after getting through, so she stopped there and started attacking it. If the domain wasn't powerful enough, then it would break apart.

This was Void's first time using it, so he wasn't a hundred percent used to it. With a thought, he appeared behind the old lady and nudged her past the mark.

After she got past the mark, she appeared in the middle of the field once again.

Swoosh!

She was welcomed by Void's claw which was already waiting for her.

This was Void's domain, and since he was a Space Elementalist, he could travel faster here compared to others.

Bang!

The old lady slammed into the ground again, and within a few seconds, she appeared in front of Void who was already prepared.

Bam!

He attacked again, this time, a huge gash opened up on the old lady's right shoulder.

Boom!

She crashed into the ground, but unlike the previous times, she didn't try to escape. The reason for this was because Void sensibly reduced the range of the domain, so instead of the almost five hundred meters mark, it was around three hundred and fifty meters.

Even if she could destroy the domain, there was no way Void would allow her to do so. His recent action is proof of that. But what frustrated her was that Void was clearly more powerful than she was, so there was no way she could fight against him, especially in this form.

"Not running anymore?" Void asked when he saw the lady after the dust died down.

"Look here lit... I mean black cat, you don't want to irritate me," The old lady warned while glaring at him.

"Actually, I'm done playing with you," Void replied, and the area around the old lady suddenly started to disintegrate.

The old lady looked around, terrified by what she was seeing.

She sent out an attack, but the attack was easily consumed by what was coming in her direction. She couldn't see it, but she could sense a powerful attack coming in her direction.

This was Void's space elemental attack, spatial distortion. Since he was in his domain, he could easily hide it from his opponent's view. The most interesting thing about his domain was that he could easily integrate it into the real world around him and no one would know.

The old lady looked around, hesitant of which side she should take. She had previously sent an attack in one direction, so she knew that side wasn't safe.

Coming to a quick decision, she sent an attack in all directions, but her expression changed drastically when she realized all of them had been consumed.

"Lo... lord cat, please, can, can you forgive me?" The old lady didn't know when she changed the way she addressed Void.

Even though she had been alive for a long time now, she still didn't plan on dying yet. Especially being killed by a small cat. Well, Void wasn't small currently, but it didn't matter, she just didn't want to die in the paws of a al beast.

"Now you're respectful? Unfortunately, it's too late," Void reverted to his original size grinning wide as the lady's hands started disintegrating.

The old lady screamed as she watched her hands disappear before her, before long, she too vanished. It was like she never existed.

"She doesn't even have any shiny things.. Hmph! Since the Emperor has three crowns, they will do," Void said before turning towards the city.

Chapter 596 - Bold Statement

"Grey should be done by now," Void said before disappearing.

The forest soon regained its silence, looking at the place, it was like nothing happened.

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Frost City.

High in the sky above the Mayor's manor.

Grey and the Mayor were just facing off, about to start their battle.

Swoosh! Boom!

Grey attacked with a lightning ball.

The Mayor replied with a lightning bolt, striking Grey's attack.

Grey's attack was the winner in the struggle, quickly destroying the Mayor's lightning bolt before it continued moving in the Mayor's direction.

The Mayor evaded to the side, but his expression changed when Grey appeared beside him, attacking with his fist which was covered with blue flames.

Bang! Boom!

The punch sent the Mayor flying.

Before the Mayor managed to regain his composure, Grey appeared beside him and attacked again.

Bang! Boom!

The Mayor was knocked in the opposite direction, suffering burns on his back, with a few of his ribs broken.

Blood was already dripping out from his mouth and nose due to internal injuries.

Buzz!

He enveloped himself with lightning, and just as Grey was about to attack again. He attacked, punching his opponent with a terrifying blow.

Bang!

The attacks collided, causing a loud explosion that pushed both fighters back.

Grey was the one who had the better of the explosion since he was able to block most of the impact. The Mayor on the other hand was further injured, suffering heavy injuries on his right hand.

The sleeves of his shirt had been destroyed, while his flesh was burnt on different parts.

He didn't let it hold him down as he attacked once again.

Swoosh! Bang! Buzz! Boom!

They continued exchanging blows with Grey mostly sending the Mayor flying. The injuries on the body of the Mayor continued stacking, and before long, he could barely breathe properly.

Boom!

The Mayor was sent crashing into the ground after trying to block Grey's mixed attack of fire and lightning.

The impact of the explosion destroyed the Mayor's left hand.

Bang!

The Mayor crashed into the ground, causing a huge dust cloud to rise into the sky. Unlike before, the Mayor didn't stand up immediately.

Even after the dust cloud died down, the body of the Mayor could be seen on the ground, with blood-stained clothes.

He was barely recognizable.

Grey slowly flew down from the sky, floating above the Mayor's presently motionless body.

The Mayor opened his eyes, staring At Grey who was above him.

He tried to speak, but all he could do was cough out blood on multiple occasions, unable to even pick himself up.

"I'll need a messenger to send to the Emperor, and you'll be a great one," Grey said while looking at him.

'Void, are you done?' He communicated with Void telepathically.

'I'm already here,' Void replied before appearing a few meters away from them.

'Okay,' Grey nodded when he saw him.

'Did you know the Emperor has three shiny crowns?' Void suddenly asked.

'No, no I did not,' Grey paused before answering.

'Well, now you do. And guess what?' Void spoke excitedly.

'What?' Grey asked, sensing a headache coming his way.

'I'm going to steal all of them!' Void declared.

'Nice, but you do know that there are Sage Plane experts hiding inside the palace, right?' Grey reminded him.

'Damn it! I'll steal it when he leaves the palace then,' Void said.

'I don't think he ever leaves the palace. That's the safest place for him. But can't you hide from them?' Grey asked.

'Hmm, I can, but there are some cases where some people are sensitive to spatial tunnels. I can't really take that risk,' Void replied.

Grey was left speechless, this was the first time Void was thinking of the consequences of things.

'Looks like he's not too confident in his abilities to escape from a Sage Plane Elementalist. It's good that he knows his limits,' Grey thought to himself.

He had always looked at Void as a careless individual, well, given all he had done since he met him, he could be said to be careless. But from his words, the only reason he did those things was that he was confident in his abilities to escape.

"What do you want?" The Mayor managed to speak up, albeit his voice was barely audible.

Grey, who zoned out while speaking with Void, looked at the Mayor again, "Tell the Emperor that he should stop searching for me and my friends. We have no interest in his empire nor the scuffle with the other empires,"

"That's all?" The Mayor asked, after managing to get in a sitting position.

"Oh, as a reminder, tell him the princes here will just be a warning, if he persists, then I'll hunt down every single child of his," Grey's eyes went cold, sending a chill down the back of Prince Casper.

"What do you plan to do with the Prince?" The Mayor asked.

"Nothing important. I'll just destroy his cultivation as a warning to his father," Grey shrugged.

"But... I don't have any problems with you," Prince Casper chimed in when he heard Grey's words.

"Yeah, but your father does. I do not take things out on others, but seeing how your father acts, I felt it would be better to give him a taste of his medicine," Grey said.

Alice and Reynolds were back, they were able to successfully hunt down the five Instructors who were trying to escape.

When they heard Grey's words, neither of them showed any signs of stopping him. Alice already hated Prince Casper and if she was the one making the decisions, then she'll kill all the princes.

"You... you can't do this to me," Prince Casper begged.

"You're lucky he's sparing you. If it was up to me, you'd already be dead," Alice said coldly.

The Mayor struggled to get to his feet, "Please, think this over. Doing this will only infuriate the Emperor,"

"I've already thought about it. Talking nicely with the Emperor will not make things better. I need to show him my resolve, if he messes with me, I'll raze the entire empire down if I have to," Grey said coldly.

His bold statement terrified everyone present here.

Chapter 597 - Do You Think He's Safe?

Frost City.

Reiss manor.

"Father, I think you should hide with the family for now," Alice said to her father who was seated on his seat, staring at the Elders of the family.

"The commotion caused today will surely make the Emperor send people here in no time. If we stay here, we'll definitely be attacked," Sasha said to her father.

Donald looked at the Elders before moving his gaze slowly to the cause of problems.

Grey was sitting at the side of the hall, not saying anything. He even had his eyes closed, not interested in the decisions of the Reiss family. If not for Alice, he wouldn't even come here.

"Grey, I'm sorry for what happened the last time," Donald apologized for his past actions against Grey.

"Huh? Oh, it's nothing. I've already forgotten about it," Grey replied without even opening his eyes.

Donald shook his head, "We'll follow Alice's words. For now, there's nothing we can do to go against the Emperor, and given what happened here today, the Emperor will be furious,"

He was still in shock because of Grey's actions. Grey was true to his words and he not only crippled Prince Casper's cultivation but that of all the princes present as well. Even the princesses weren't left out. He went into the city and searched for every single one of them.

The Mayor was a hopeless spectator who could do nothing but watch. He knew going back to the Emperor with what just happened would make him suffer a painful punishment from the Emperor, but since he was almost at the Peak of the Overlord Plane, the Emperor wouldn't kill him.

With the war going on, the Emperor needed all the strength he could find.

Donald was stunned by the ruthlessness of Grey. For someone so young, he never thought he would be so cold.

"Thank you, father," Alice heaved a sigh of relief when her father finally agreed to her suggestion.

She had brought it up before they showed up at the wedding, but given her father's character, she thought he would never agree to it. But looks like he decided to do what's best for the family like he always does.

Staying here would only put them at a huge risk.

"But there's something I still can't comprehend, what happened to the Peak stage Overlord Plane expert guarding the prince?" Donald asked, still in shock.

He clearly sensed the aura when the old lady was coming, but the aura vanished without a trace, and he never sensed it again, even till this very moment.

"She's been taken care of. Alice, we'll need to leave now. Given the Mayor's speed, it shouldn't take him too long to reach the Capital. It has already been a few hours now," Grey stood up from his seat.

Alice hugged Sasha tightly, before hugging her father as well.

"We'll be going now father," She said.

"It's okay. With him around, you should be safe," Donald smiled.

Alice nodded before following Grey and Reynolds.

Just as they stepped out, she heard one of the Elders of the family asking an important question.

"How can we move out our treasury,"

Grey paused when he heard this before turning to Alice, "I brought a present for you. I didn't have the time to give it to you since we were fighting,"

A ring appeared in his hands before he tossed it in her direction. She froze when she saw it and subconsciously caught it.

"That's a storage ring, Rey already has one. I can give you a few more so that your family can use it to move out their items," Grey suggested.

"Oh, you finally managed to make one?" Alice asked in shock as she held onto the ring.

She was about to put it on when Reynolds' voice entered her ears.

"You should wash that first," He said.

"Huh? Why?" Alice asked.

"Well, it was taken from the fingers of a dead person. Mine had a small dot of blood on it. Tell him to wash it," Reynolds said.

Grey shook his head before taking out all the storage rings in his and covering them with water, he didn't forget to take the one with Alice.

After a few seconds, he tossed five over to Alice. He taught her how to use it, and she managed to get the hang of it on the first try.

She thanked him before rushing inside the hall once again. Since she didn't want everyone to know about it, she called her father to a secret place and passed them to him. She also taught him how to use it.

Donald was left shocked and speechless when she saw the ring. Never in his life did he think there would be something like this. He could easily keep his treasures in a ring that would always be with him, and no one would even know about it.

With great curiosity in his heart, he asked where it came from. When he heard Grey was the one who gave Alice the rings, he was once again stumped by the young man. He concluded that Grey was a mysterious person he shouldn't offend.

He couldn't help but feel grateful that his daughter managed to make such a friend. From the strength Grey displayed back at the Mayor's manor, he was certain that within a few years, he would be unrivaled in the entire Azure Continent. At that time, he wouldn't need to hide with his family any longer. In fact, they would be at the very peak of the world.

Alice stayed with him for a few more minutes before going back to meet up with Grey and Reynolds.

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Outside the Reiss manor.

"Where to now?" Reynolds asked.

"It's only right we reunite with Klaus. He must be so lonely," Grey said.

"I'm surprised he's still alive," Alice said.

"Yeah, I can attest that the Principal has beaten him up a few times," Grey said.

"He still hasn't replied to any of my messages. Do you think he's safe?" Reynolds asked, a little worried.

"He should be," Grey said, he later added, "We'll know when we get to where he is,"

Chapter 598 - Diligent Klaus

Five days later.

Thousands of kilometers away from Frost City.

Grey, Reynolds, and Alice could be seen walking into the small town.

"Are you sure he's here?" Alice questioned doubtfully.

"He's close, if he's not inside the town, he should be a few meters away from the town," Grey brought out the tracking device to get the location of Klaus.

Klaus' light dot was just beside the trio's light dots, so he was only a short distance away from them.

The trio walked into the town, looking around.

Just as they were about to question Grey again, they saw the Principal silently sipping tea from a tea shop.

"Look, it's the Principal," Grey showed the Principal to the others.

"Oh, how come Klaus isn't with him?" Reynolds asked curiously.

"Let's go and ask him," Alice walked towards the tea shop.

Before the trio got to the tea shop, the Principal had already noticed them.

"Oh, it's you three. What are you doing here?" The Principal asked when he saw them entering the tea shop.

"Good morning sir, we're here for Klaus," Alice greeted the Principal politely.

Grey and Reynolds followed suit as well.

"Klaus, he's training," The Principal replied.

"Training?" Grey asked, stunned.

"Yeah, he's been causing too many problems for a while now. If he isn't kept in check, he will most likely have destroyed this town by now," The Principal said.

"Understandable," Grey and the others nodded in agreement. They all knew Klaus' behavior.

"Thank you for giving me that thing the last time," The Principal said to Grey with gratitude.

"I can see that the Principal has made a good advancement with its help. You're already part of the Sage Plane experts," Grey smiled as he replied.

"You noticed," The Principal was a little shocked that Grey was able to easily sense he was already in the Sage Plane.

What he found more confusing was that he couldn't sense Grey's cultivation stage. He could easily sense Alice and Reynolds' cultivation stage, but Grey who was standing before him was like a normal person. It was very easy to even forget his existence.

'This boy keeps getting mysterious,' He thought internally.

The reason he couldn't sense Grey's cultivation stage was that Grey had reverted back to hiding his aura. Given the fact that the Principal was still in the First stage of the Sage Plane, there was no way he could sense his cultivation stage unless he wanted him to.

"Yes," Grey nodded.

"I can see your cat is back to normal," The Principal said after noticing Void laying on Grey's shoulder.

"Yeah. Where are Instructor Blake and Instructor Delia?" Grey when he couldn't find them around.

"They went out to train. If I'm not mistaken, they should be returning in a few days," The Principal placed his hand on his chin thoughtfully.

"Klaus is just outside the town, there is a lake there," The Principal told the trio of Klaus' location.

"Alright, we'll be going then," Grey and the others bowed before leaving the tea shop.

The Principal watched them leave with a slight smile. He was impressed with the kind of friends Klaus was able to make. If not for Grey, he wasn't sure when he would be able to break through to the Sage Plane, that is if he ever gets the chance to.

Alice and Reynolds were two people regarded as geniuses in the Lightning hall back at the Academy, and Blake does speak of them on some occasions.

Of the trio, Grey was the most mysterious given his somewhat unknown background. Alice was from a big family, while Reynolds was from a small family that consisted of him, his younger brother, and his parents.

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Outside the town.

A river could be seen running from the other side of the town, it ran all the way to the edge of a cliff before going down the waterfall.

The river was around one hundred and fifty meters wide, but close to the edge of the cliff, it started to narrow down.

Below the cliff, a youth could be seen sitting below the waterfall. Even though the water was falling directly under him, not a drop of water could be seen on his body. With a well-chiseled face and short well-trimmed hair, he was every lady's dream.

The youth was none other than Klaus who had been training for some days now. Although it was involuntary, he still persisted.

He was sitting on top of a boulder, with both eyes closed. His eyelashes fluttered a few times before he opened them. He exhaled a white puff of gas before he turned to the three shadows walking in his direction.

"How did you three find me?" Klaus asked calmly.

It was like he was a completely different person, and it stunned the trio, even Void had his mouth wide open.

Given Klaus' usual personality, he would've already tried to attack Grey for ghosting them for months, while he would've started cursing at Reynolds by now.

"Are you alright?" Reynolds couldn't help but ask.

"Of course, you can come closer, the waterfall isn't that bad," Klaus invited the trio over.

Reynolds was the first to fly over, and just as he got close to the waterfall, a powerful energy sucked him into the river below him, dragging him inside.

"Oh, I forgot to warn you about the trap that father placed here, hahaha," Klaus burst out laughing when he saw Reynolds being dragged into the water.

When Reynolds brought out his head, he was completely covered in a murky gooey liquid that smelled terrible. He quickly jumped into the boulder Klaus was sitting on.

"You bastard! You tricked me," Reynolds held him by the shirt, shaking him.

Klaus was laughing at the top of his lungs when he saw Reynolds' condition. This was the only reason he had been cultivating so diligently.

His father somehow managed to trap this sticky, smelly, gooey liquid below the waterfall, while also setting up a small-scale array that would drag anyone who tries to leave into it. He made it in a way that it would take a high-pressure water source before it can be removed.

Even with Klaus' ability with the water element, he was unable to remove it.

Grey stared at the water with an interesting look, before looking at Klaus again.

Chapter 599 - You Had So Much Fun!

"I knew you can never change," Alice said after seeing Reynolds' condition.

"It's who I am," Klaus replied with a grin.

Grey stared at the water for some time, and to Void's dismay, he appeared above it. Just like Reynolds, he was quickly sucked in by a powerful energy. Even when he tried resisting it, he was still dragged in.

Void was on his shoulder, and before he could react, he too was also dragged in. The duo soon came out of the water, covered in the gooey liquid.

Grey dragged Void with him as they stepped under the waterfall. Klaus, who was previously blocking the water from hitting him, had already stopped after being touched by Reynolds.

Alice facepalmed when she saw this, "How does the brain of boys even work?"

Grey was the most serious and thoughtful person amongst the three boys, yet, here he was, jumping in a gooey liquid that stinks.

"It works in ways you can not comprehend," Klaus replied while smacking the back of Grey as he burst out laughing.

Reynolds joined in as well.

Grey shook his head with a light smile. The only reason he tried it was to see what the Principal did. The small time he spent trying to resist the array has given him a small knowledge of the array the Principal made, but he still isn't aware of what the gooey substance was made of.

"Where have you been all this while?" Klaus turned to Grey and questioned.

"Alright, since we're all here now, I guess it's time I told you all. I went to another continent," Grey said.

There was no use in trying to keep it to himself any longer.

"Another continent? There's another continent?" Klaus asked, shocked.

Alice perked her ears when she heard this. This was her first time hearing of this, and unlike Klaus, Grey wouldn't joke with a thing like this.

"Yeah, remember when I was trying to heal Void?" Grey asked.

The trio nodded.

"Well, I encountered someone in the al Beasts' forest. He should be around five years older than us, but he's already in the Mid stages of the Sage Plane..." Grey went on to tell them about his first encounter with Ellis.

He also added the part where Ellis pretended he was very weak so he could get help. And just as he expected, he saw Klaus whispering something to Reynolds about keeping notes so they could do this in the future.

They were left in awe when Grey told them about his experiences while traveling in the Aurora Continent. When they heard of how he dominated the Origin Plane rankings in the Aurora Continent, they all felt sad since they were unable to partake in it, especially Alice who enjoyed fighting.

Klaus and Reynolds enjoyed the part of the story when Grey was traveling with Sylvia. He also told them about Necromancers, and the thought of fighting against corpses freaked Alice out.

"We have to go there," Klaus concluded when Grey was done with his story.

"Yeah, it will take tons of essence stones. Luckily, I'm not short on that," Grey said, before adding with a smile, "Did I tell you of the part where I helped Ellis fight against a bandit group?"

"Damn it! You had so much fun," Klaus said with a sad face.

"Yeah, and almost died more times than I can count," Grey added.

"I forgot to tell you," Reynolds suddenly stood up.

"What?" Klaus' facial expression turned dull, he could already hear the excitement in Reynolds' voice, so he knew it was something fun that he missed out on once again.

"We barged into a wedding..." Reynolds started to talk about the battle at Frost City Mayor's manor.

"Damn it, stop, stop," Klaus tried to close his mouth when he heard of how they stopped the wedding and started fighting against the Instructors.

Grey and Alice laughed out loud when they saw his look.

They stayed there a little while longer with Grey and the boys sitting under the waterfall and Alice sitting below a tree not far from the water.

Grey took them out of the boulder with the space element, he still wasn't confident in being able to resist the energy from the array the Principal made. Even though he might have more knowledge on arrays compared to the Principal, he had lesser experience.

Klaus almost hugged the ground when he finally left the boulder. He had been stuck for so many days that he lost count. The Principal made sure it was impossible to leave the place, well, without the space element that is. Going in was easy, leaving was another case. But with the space element, it was not even a challenge.

Grey and the boys were already all dried up. Amongst the trio, Grey was the one who let the water crash into his body more, this was possible due to his strong physique.

Void was already out of there, sitting on Alice's lap after he removed the gooey substance from his body.

They didn't stay close to the waterfall any longer, opting to go over to meet the Principal. Void was able to easily locate him, so they didn't have to search.

"How come your communication device is with the Principal?" Grey couldn't help but ask.

"Well, he didn't want me distracted, so he took it, as well as the other one," Klaus explained.

"Oh, okay. You're already in the Fourth stage of the Overlord Plane," Grey said.

"Yeah, thanks to my diligent training, I broke through two days ago," Klaus said proudly.

"Diligent? The Principal had to force you to train," Reynolds mocked from the back.

"What do you mean? I trained on my own," Klaus retorted.

"You want to fight?" Reynolds poked him at the back, trying to provoke him.

"It's been so long we last saw, if I were to beat you up today it would feel like I'm bullying you," Klaus scoffed.

It was like he was stronger than everyone in the group.

"Will you die if you don't brag?" Alice asked with a shake of her head.

"Most likely," Klaus and Reynolds replied simultaneously, before bursting into laughter.

Chapter 600 - Bad News

The group walked towards the town, joking around.

Alice suddenly asked the important question, "What now?"

"I can't really say for now. My original plan was to take you three with me to the Aurora Continent, given your present elemental grades, you all wouldn't have a problem with quickly advancing there," Grey told them his plans.

"I have no problems with that," Klaus said.

"Same here," Reynolds agreed with Grey's plan.

"You all don't have any problems with leaving, but I do," Alice said.

"Didn't you say your father agreed to hide with the rest of your family?" Klaus asked.

"Yeah, but I can't freely leave with the present situation. If it were before at least I'll know the Emperor wouldn't try to harm them, but now, the case is a little complicated," Alice said, a little worried for her family's safety.

"Hmm, that might be a cause for worry, but they should be fine, right?" Grey asked with uncertainty.

"I can't say for sure. If any of them were to be caught, it will mean the others will most likely come out to help as well," Alice said.

"What do we do about it now?" Klaus asked.

"The Principal is the only one in the Sage Plane expert on our side, so there's no way we can fight against them head-on. If the Azure Empire weren't looking for us as well, we might've teamed up with them. But presently, we're hunted by all, having no allies, not even from our empire. Although I'm acquainted with the Lenz organization, there's no way they would want to go against the four empires because of me," Grey assessed their options, and to be honest, it wasn't really good.

The expression of the others turned sour, Reynolds and Klaus were especially angry.

"Who even found out about you acquiring the Great Earth Essence Liquid?" Klaus complained.

"I have no idea, I can ask old man Gerald for help with that though. But that really isn't our main concern," Grey replied.

"Well, I'd like to have a heart-to-heart talk with whoever the person is," Klaus said.

"That person is the cause of all our worries, it's only right we paid whoever it is a visit," Reynolds added.

"We'll talk about that later, for now, settling the issue with Alice's family comes first," Grey said.

"You're right, but I just want to make sure we put that person at the back of our minds," Klaus said.

"We should go back to the Principal for now and hear what he says," Alice suggested.

....

Back at the town.

"You shouldn't worry about them, they wouldn't come out so quickly after just going into hiding," The Principal said.

The four youths nodded to the Principal's words.

"So what now?" Klaus asked.

Staying under the waterfall alone for days made him extremely bored, if he doesn't do anything exciting soon, he might go crazy.

"We should head over to the location we agreed to rendezvous with Blake and Delia," The Principal said.

The four youths stared at each other, helpless. Moving with the Principal will restrict them, well, only Klaus and Reynolds since they wouldn't be able to do anything crazy.

"Alright," Grey and Alice nodded.

Klaus and Reynolds agreed begrudgingly. It wasn't like they had any choice.

"Good, we'll be leaving tomorrow," The Principal smiled.

The four of them nodded before getting up, just as they were about to leave, the Principal told Grey to stay behind.

"Have you been able to find out anything about Chris?" The Principal asked.

"Nothing, I asked old man Gerald to help me with it as well, but he found no traces of him. I think there's a chance that he must've left the continent," Grey said.

"Left the continent?" The Principal asked, Grey's words piqued his interest.

This was the first time he was hearing of someone leaving the continent.

"Yes, I could be wrong as well. But since he couldn't be found here, that's most likely the case..." Grey went on to tell the Principal of the Aurora Continent.

The Principal was someone he trusted, so there was no need in hiding it from him.

"There's another continent?" The Principal lost his previous calm expression.

If what Grey is saying was accurate, then it was an eyeopener.

Grey nodded to his question.

After getting confirmation from Grey, the Principal couldn't help but chuckle softly, "To think there's a bigger world out there, and these fools are fighting for control over here,"

Grey didn't go into too many details, but he told the Principal of the higher cultivation stages, as well as the higher elemental grades.

Hearing about youngsters who were already at the Mid stages of the Sage Plane, the Principal was beyond stunned. If not for Grey's help, he wouldn't have broken through to the Sage Plane by now, yet, there were people who were only a few years older than his son and are already stronger than he was.

"If I find out Chris is there, I'll probably kill him," The Principal said, green with envy.

What did all Elementalist desire? To grow stronger!

If they were to find a place where they could quickly advance, they would all go there. This is the reason why the trial land was highly sought after. Sending youths with great potential there will give them the chance to bloom.

From Grey's words, the elemental essence in the Aurora Continent was higher and denser than that of the trial land.

Grey compared the purity from the areas he had reached in the trial land. According to what was said, the deeper one goes into the trial land, the purer the elemental essence, but from the area he stopped, the Aurora Continent was better than the trial land in respect to elemental essence.

Grey went to meet up with his friends after speaking with the Principal a little longer. The Principal asked if he had found his parents as well, and he told him the answer.

The Principal suggested there was a possibility they might be in the Aurora Continent which was the same as Grey's thoughts.

That day soon came to an end.

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The next day.

The group prepared themselves to travel with the Principal, and just before they left the town, a terrible news got to them.. Instructor Blake and Delia had been caught by warriors from the Blue Wind Empire.