

Affinity 631

Chapter 631 - The Day Of The Execution

Void soon formulated a plan to deal with the two old men. He opened up another space tunnel a few meters away from where he was, and when their attention was attracted to it, he left where he was hiding, opening a spatial tunnel close to the tomb. The second he appeared there, he vanished again, appearing in eight different positions in a matter of a second.

At the time he did all this, the two old men just noticed the spatial tunnel he opened up close to where he was hiding.

They exchanged glances as a hint of confusion appeared on their faces. If it was like before when Void would only appear in a particular spot, they could track him down, but now, in a matter of a second, over eight auras of a spatial tunnel appeared. There was no way they could know which of them was the real one, all they knew was that the one here was the first one opened up, which meant the person had left already.

"This skill is admirable, it allows one to travel so quickly. However, they made an obvious mistake," The old man said coldly.

"Underestimating us brothers," The old man's twin said with a smile.

The two brothers started to make a series of rapid hand seals, and before long, they threw what looked like an inscription, but it was on a large scale into the air.

The array shot into the sky, before spreading out in all directions, encompassing the entire compound.

Void was left stunned by it, not sure of how to react. His initial plan was to steal the crown on the Emperor's head, but he knew that with this array in the sky, the second he appeared would be the moment he was caught.

'Forget it, I'll take it later. These two are enough for now,' He sighed before hiding in the separate space he made there.

The two old men exchanged glances before laughing out.

"We know you're still here. If you come out now, we can forgive what you did, as long as you tell us where you learned this skill of yours," The old man said with a cold smile.

After setting up this array, they were able to find out that the last place Void teleported to was back here. The fact that he tried to use this to trick them was a little confusing, but since Void didn't take the chance to escape, they were not going to give him the opportunity any longer.

Void sneered when he heard their words. He wasn't that stupid to believe their words. According to Grey, the troops will be arriving soon, so he could wait patiently here for them.

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Grey and his friends saw the array that shot into the air through the window, luckily, Klaus had already kept the throne in his storage ring when Grey told them of the two old men who could slightly sense the space element.

The only reason they didn't pick up the aura was that unlike Void who was opening up spatial tunnels, theirs was transporting an item to a separate space. But with the array that was presently active, the old men will be able to sense them.

"Hehe, looks like Void's not having a great time," Grey chuckled when he saw the situation.

With this thing active, he was certain that Void wouldn't be able to move freely with the space element. If Void knew a skill like the one Grey got his hands on back in the trial land, the Great Void Technique, then he would've been able to escape out of the Capital if he wanted to.

Grey still couldn't use the technique properly, but if he were to enter the Fusion State, then he wouldn't have any problems with using it. One thing he noticed when he enters the Fusion State is that his mastery over all his elements is heightened to a shocking level that even he couldn't believe.

The thought of trying to comprehend the light element when he uses the Fusion State has crossed his mind, but he couldn't just carelessly use it since it was a trump card he couldn't activate willy-nilly. If he were to use it now, and then got into a difficult situation within a week, he couldn't use it, or else he might risk damaging himself.

The only good thing he noticed was that with the increase of his Plane, the interval between when he could use it had been shortened. Not only that, but he could stay in that state a little longer than before.

After waiting for over two hours with Void staying inside the separate space, the old men could only leave in dejection to plan out their counterattack against the Azure Empire, and also the Blue Wind Empire.

The array was left active, that way, if Void were to step out, he would be instantly noticed by it.

The technique the necromancers used was something that these old men were heavily interested in. In fact, they believed there might be a way to upgrade it, that way, they wouldn't die from old age, instead, they would use it to prolong their lives.

Other than them, no one else knew of their plan, well, except for Grey and his friends who found out thanks to Void.

That day soon came to an end, and the next day arrived.

The news of Grey and his friends being captured had already spread out in the entire Capital. That was not the only news, but their would-be execution was also all around the Capital.

Old man Gerald was left worried when he heard of it. The Principal as well as Instructor Blake and Delia also couldn't help but worry.

They were amongst the first people who arrived at the venue where the execution was going to take place.

It was the same place where the competition took place almost two years ago, the arena in the Capital.

Chapter 632 - The Day Of The Execution II

The arena was filled to the brim with people discussing the upcoming event and possible war. Grey and his friends were regarded as betrayers of the empire. Of course the people didn't know what they did, but since the Emperor declared them fugitives, so it was.

The Mayor of Frost City was present, looking around. He was a little excited because he felt greatly humiliated when Grey not only beat him up but sent him to the Emperor as an errand boy.

He was over five hundred years old, and he couldn't even compete with a youth who wasn't even twenty years of age. When he came back with the crippled royals, the Emperor flew into rage, almost killing him. If not for the fact that he was already close to the Peak of the Overlord Plane, and he had been loyal to the empire for years now, he would've been killed instantly.

The Starlight Academy was present, as well as the Principals from the other Academies. A few familiar faces showed up as well, such as Jonas who was with the members of the Starlight Academy. There were also a few faces from the Lunar Academy Grey and his friends were acquainted. The first summoner they saw was also present there, Damian.

Although the arena was filled up, the stars of the show hadn't arrived yet. Grey and his friends were still in the castle, waiting to be called upon.

Old man Gerald had already told them of his arrival at the arena, waiting for them to show up.

Grey told the others of the crowd in the arena, and Klaus couldn't help but sneer.

"Hmph! A bunch of morons. If I'm given the chance, I'll blow up the place," Reynolds said coldly.

"Do you think things will go smoothly for them?" Grey asked.

"Not entirely. The other empires must've heard of the execution as well. Presently, we could be said to be treasures, very valuable treasures," Klaus replied calmly.

"All we have to do is to stall as long as we can. If possible, I can use my special technique and take us to the location where the war is taking place. At least before they could catch up, we should already be close to the other empires," Grey said.

"If you can take us for such a long distance, then it's best you find a way to take us away from the war. It'll be too risky if we were to get caught again," Alice advised.

Klaus and Reynolds nodded their heads, agreeing with Alice.

Grey closed his eyes for some time, seemingly thinking of what was the best course of action.

"Fine, I'll contact the Principal so they could leave beforehand," He said after a moment of deliberation.

Due to Void's havoc the previous day, he had managed to almost complete his teleportation array as well. If he used the Fusion State, he could almost instantaneously complete it while activating it. It will take at most a few seconds. His only prayer is that the old men didn't catch up to them before they were transported away.

When the Principal got the news from Grey that they would be escaping in a few minutes, he was slightly worried.

No one knew of the havoc that Void had caused in the castle, so they naturally still felt that was the most secure location in the entire empire.

The Principal stood up decisively, along with the two Instructors. Since Grey said he would be teleporting out of there, then he was confident he could. For some reason, he had developed some sort of confidence in Grey, just like Grey's friends.

With the time of the execution drawing nearer, the people in the castle became increasingly active. Occasionally checking on Grey and his friends.

'Void, be prepared, we'll be leaving soon,' Grey's voice rang out in Void's head.

Void who was casually relaxing in the separate space he created opened his eyes and a glint flashed through it. 'Finally, I guess I still have time to take that one,'

He peeked out, staring at the sky. A smirk appeared on his face before disappearing.

Grey told him to distract the group of old men, so they wouldn't be able to sense them until it was too late.

Void naturally agreed and planned to use his domain, covering the entire castle. Even though he was not on the same level as the old men in terms of strength, he knew he could use the help of the domain to easily get out of their encirclement or even teleport to hundred positions in a matter of a second.

In the main hall.

The Emperor turned to look at everyone, "It's time,"

He rose from his seat, heading in the direction of the left-wing of the castle. He was followed by his entourage.

At the same time he stood up, Grey opened his eyes as well in their room.

'Void, it's time.'

The moment Void got the command from Grey, he spread out his domain, covering over a six hundred meters radius.

The second the domain was spread out, he started teleporting to different positions, this time, he not only appeared, but he would release an attack that would cause a loud explosion.

In a second, over ten explosions rang out simultaneously, halting the movements of the Emperor and his people.

The old men, as well as the Sage Plane Elementalists in the castle hurriedly came out from their hiding position. Rushing towards where the explosions occurred.

The twins were the only ones who managed to get to the last place Void destroyed. It was none other than the tomb of the royals.

"Such disrespect! I'll cut you into a thousand pieces!" The enraged roar of the old man spread out in the entire castle.

Void was sending them hysterical, and they almost couldn't contain their emotions any longer.

Just as they were about to move, they sensed something from the left-wing of the castle. And their expressions dropped.

"Oh no, someone is taking the prisoners away," The old man rushed in the direction Grey and his friends were staying.

Chapter 633 - Surrounded From All Sides

While all the commotion was happening, the only person who didn't retreat to check out the explosions was Jason. To him, he felt getting to Grey and his friends was more important.

He opened the door, only to see Grey and his friends standing in the middle of an array that had already been lit up. His eyes bulged when he saw Grey's perfect condition, and his heart sank.

He wanted to turn around, but an eerie voice resounded in his ears, "Since you're already here, why don't you come with us?"

Jason hastily closed the door, but his expression changed when his scenery changed, and he was held by Grey, and a small black cat could be seen, playing with what seemed to be the Emperor's crown.

This was the same crown the Emperor was wearing, but now it was on Void's hand.

'Don't tell me this cat is the cause of all the problems?' Jason asked internally, stunned by the prospect.

Boom!

The roof of the room was destroyed, but by the time the twins appeared, Grey and his friends had teleported away from their grasp.

The Emperor and his entourage appeared there a few seconds late. On getting there, the first thing he noticed was the disappearance of Jason.

"Where's Jason?" He turned to the Sage Plane experts by his head.

One of them wanted to reply, but on looking at the appearance of the Emperor, he was stunned beyond words.

"Robert, what's the meaning of this?" Jason's Grandfather asked coldly.

All three old men were present here, and the current Emperor was wearing a crown made from animal skin. How could he not get upset?

"What?" The Emperor asked, confused by his father's sudden question.

An ice mirror appeared in front of him, and he was stunned, before taking the crown off his head.

"How... what?" He asked, flabbergasted.

If he were the only one who didn't notice when his crown was changed, it would've been his own negligence, but now, even the Sage Plane experts with him didn't know as well.

"Who did this?" He was infuriated.

"They're already gone. Looks like this person took Jason as well," One of the twins said, he was the one who was originally an Emperor.

"Brother, what do we do now?" His twin brother asked.

"We can't proceed with the execution any longer, and since... wait, do you sense that?" The old man who was in the middle of speaking froze before looking in the south.

His wrinkled face showed glee.

His twin brother nodded to his question.

"Looks like lady luck is on our side," He burst out laughing before taking flight.

"Robert, tell your subjects the location of the execution has been moved. Whoever wants to watch can come, but at their own risk," The Emperor's father said.

The Emperor nodded his head before sending someone to the arena to announce the change of location.

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Some kilometers away from the Qilin Empire's Capital City.

A fissure appeared in the sky and Grey and his friends were forcefully thrown out.

"Void, what happened?" Grey asked hurriedly.

He had tried teleporting them to a separate location, but the spatial tunnel was destroyed mid-way, if not for Void's quick reaction, they would've been caught in spatial turbulence.

This was Grey's first time experiencing an interruption in teleportation, and it was very risky.

"We have company," Void's reply was gloomy.

They turned around, only to see six figures in black cloaks.

"It's them!" Klaus and Reynolds exclaimed simultaneously.

Grey hastily contacted the Principal, while cautiously staring at their opponents.

But before the six individuals could move forward. The twins' aura was felt approaching them in a domineering manner.

Not just that, but twelve more domineering auras could be felt coming from afar.

Jason looked at the people dressed in black cloaks, and a look of apprehension appeared on his face. The eerie feeling he was getting from them sent chills down his spine.

Grey quickly sealed Jason's cultivation before exiting the Fusion State. Since he didn't use it for long, he could use it again without causing significant damage to his body.

Since they have the Crown Prince of the Qilin Empire, they should at least be able to bargain with the Emperor to let them go for Jason's safety.

The twins were the first to arrive, with the other Sage Plane Elementalists as well as the Emperor arriving a few seconds later.

They stood opposite the black cloaked group, with Grey and his friends in the middle. But no one said a word, the reason for this was that they could all sense powerful auras arriving from different angles.

Before long, the figures arrived, and it was none other than the Emperors of the other three empires, and their own Sage Plane Elementalists.

They all stood in four different positions, and Grey and his friends were in the middle of their encirclement.

Grey's expression was bleak. This was not a good outcome for them. Although they wouldn't be instantly executed like the group from the Qilin Empire originally wanted to do, their outcome didn't look good either way.

"I never thought you two would still be alive?" An old man from the Azure Empire stepped forward and glanced at the twins from the Qilin Empire.

"Hehe, old Frost, if even you are still alive, why would we die?" The old man amongst the twins who was the Emperor said with a chuckle.

"It's been a while, old friends," An old man stepped out from the side of the Stellar Empire.

He was dressed very modestly, with his hands clapped together. From one look, one would think he was a simple scholar, but everyone who knew him knows that he was a bloodthirsty demon.

"Since everyone is here, there is no use in delaying any further. There are four youths who are suspected of consuming the Great Earth Essence Liquid. Coincidentally, there are also four empires here. Why don't each take an individual, and call it a day?" The Emperor of the Blue Wind Empire suggested.

Chapter 634 - Trouble

Grey and his friends were a little stunned when they heard this. They never thought someone would come up with a plan like this. It was ingenious given all of them wanted the same thing, and that was to extract the cores of these four individuals.

Since there was no way for one of the empires to lay their hands on all four, why not share it amongst themselves.

The old men from the Qilin Empire exchanged glances, clearly deliberating the matter. They weren't the only ones thinking deeply about it. The other two empires were as well.

If they shared the individuals, then they wouldn't need to go on an all-out war. Of course, the Blue Wind and Qilin Empire had suffered from the small time they were pressured for holding Grey and his friends, or someone close to them.

"So, what do you all say? This is a good bargain from how I see it." The Emperor of the Blue Wind Empire said.

The other three Emperors exchanged glances before nodding their heads.

"Good, since we've agreed on it, we should take one of them and leave," The Emperor of the Blue Wind Empire said with a smile.

"We'll take Grey,"

All four Emperors said at the same time.

They all turned to look at one another after finding out they said the same thing. Of Grey and his friends, he was the most important one. The reason for this was simple: he was the one reported to have obtained the Great Earth Essence Liquid, and not his friends.

There is a possibility that he might've shared it with his friends, but they didn't know if it happened. After all, the person who gave the news said the same thing as Grey, which was that a terrifying power resided in the place where the treasure was and if not for escaping quickly, they would've died.

So even if Grey managed to acquire the Great Earth Essence Liquid, it might just be one which he had consumed. Besides, of his friends, he was the one who had made the most improvement.

Grey's expression was odd, he didn't think all four empires would be fighting over him.

Klaus and Reynolds on the other hand were feeling a little wronged. If they were given the chance to speak up, they would definitely ask if the Emperors didn't have eyes, and weren't seeing them.

If Grey and Alice were to find out what was in the mind of Klaus and Reynolds, they would certainly beat them up. In a situation like this, how could they be thinking of wanting to ask the Emperors if they weren't seeing them? A normal person wouldn't even want to be seen in a situation like this since it didn't spell anything good for them, yet these two were upset because they were neglected.

'Void, things aren't looking good. What happened with the spatial tunnel?' Grey asked Void telepathically.

'It was forcefully destroyed. Stay close to me, I'll try to open up another spatial tunnel,' Void replied.

Grey followed his instruction and drew closer to the others. Of course he didn't forget to hold onto the Crown Prince. Jason might become a useful bargaining chip for him if they couldn't teleport away.

The Emperor of the Qilin Empire will never agree to lose his beloved son. So there might still be a chance for the group to turn this around.

Void opened a spatial tunnel just as the Emperors were speaking about who would keep Grey.

The group stepped into it, disappearing from view.

This scene stunned the Emperors, as well as the other Sage Plane Elementalists to their core. Right in front of their eyes, their targets seemed to have disappeared into thin air.

However, just as Grey and his group disappeared, a tear appeared in the sky over five hundred meters away and their figures were forced out of the fissure.

A powerful lightning attack exploded after them, but Grey and Void managed to team up to block the attack. But the impact sent them somersaulting through the air.

They quickly regained their balance, and hurriedly looked in the direction of the crack.

A dried figure slowly stepped out of the crack, staring at Grey and his friends. But they could see that its eyes were empty. This was obviously one of the corpses of the necromancers.

'They have a Sage Plane Space Elementalist,' Void reported with a solemn look.

Grey's expression turned serious, and even he felt a sense of hopelessness when he took a glance at their adversary.

This corpse was not only in the Sage Plane, but it also had the only element they could rely on to escape. It was as if they were bound to be stopped by it.

On the side of the Qilin Empire's group.

"Who is that?" The old man who was an Emperor amongst the twins asked, stunned by what he just witnessed.

He could slightly sense the aura of space element, so he knew whoever that person was, they had managed to gain the ability he coveted.

"That's not a living person. It's a corpse," The Fire Elementalist who went with Jason to apprehend Grey and his friends said to the old man.

He had fought against these corpses before, so seeing it from a distance, he could tell what it was.

The Sage Plane experts from the other empires looked at the crack in the sky in shock. What they found more astonishing was that a human figure actually walked out of it.

They would've never been able to find Grey and his friends if not for this person. Unsurprisingly, after studying the figure for a while, they realized there was something odd about it.

Thinking up to the point, everyone rushed over. The only people who didn't have any reactions to the appearance of this figure were the black cloaked group, and the Emperor of the Blue Wind Empire.

The only thing that gave him a little surprise was the space element he wasn't aware of, other than that, he already knew the corpses.

Chapter 635 - Trouble II

The corpse stood in the sky, staring at them without moving. It was clearly following the instructions of the person controlling it.

Klaus and Reynolds were a little downcast, they didn't need Grey to explain to them their current situation. From how they had been tossed out of the turbulent space tunnel, they knew it was the work of this corpse.

"What do we do now?" Alice asked.

"What else can we do?" Grey turned to look at the Crown Prince who was their hostage.

Jason seeing their gaze knew what they were thinking, and even he knew that in a situation like this, he would definitely do the same thing. The only problem with their current plan was that, other than the Qilin Empire, the other three empires didn't care about him.

There was no way the Qilin Empire could fight against all of them alone. But the Emperor wouldn't want his son to be killed nonetheless, so there was still a little bit of hope for them.

They were once again surrounded by the groups from the four empires, and after staring at the corpse for a few seconds, most of the people turned their gazes to them.

When they disappeared all of a sudden, it shocked all of them to no end. The group from the Qilin Empire had already witnessed this once, but it wasn't as clear as this one. Also, the fact that they could use it meant that one of them had grasped this amazing ability as well.

They couldn't help but be amazed at the genius of these youths, and for a small moment, the Emperor of the Qilin Empire actually regretted his choice of action. Had he left the group alone when he heard of the news, and even protected them, then he would've been able to nurture four brilliant youths.

'What's done is done. I can't rewind time,' The Emperor thought to himself.

Things were already like this, there was nothing he could do to change it. The only thing that had him a little worried was his son who was held captive by Grey and his friends.

The twins from the Qilin Empire exchanged glances before the one who was an Emperor spoke up, "The kids are from our empire, so we naturally have the right to pick first,"

"Although you're not wrong, that's not in a situation like this. We can't let you pick the best out of them and leave the leftovers for us," An old man from the Azure Empire snickered.

"Who are you calling leftovers?" Klaus refuted angrily.

"Stupid," Alice smacked the back of Klaus' head.

This was not the time to be arguing over who was called leftover or not. They had to think of how to escape from here, alive and intact.

Klaus knew this was not the time to be playing around, but seeing people who were distributing them as if they were loot annoyed him. If not that he wasn't strong enough, he would've challenged all of them, and killed them.

Reynolds clenched his fists tightly as he gritted his teeth.

Grey's expression had turned back to its usual indifferent look. Of the group, he was the only one who didn't seem to be panicking.

While the Emperors were discussing, he was thinking of ways to escape from their current predicament. He had also been in constant contact with old man Gerald, trying to see if there was a way he could help. Unfortunately, since it involved Sage Plane Elementalists, there was nothing he could do. After all, the Sage Plane was the pinnacle of the Azure Continent, and even though he was acquainted with a few, he couldn't control them.

The only person who could help them now was the Principal, and there's only so much a single person could do.

There are over ten people present here who were stronger than the Principal, after all, it hadn't been too long he broke through to the Sage Plane.

The Principal will naturally not let them take Grey and the others that easily.

Before long, the groups had come to a concession. Grey would be left with the Qilin Empire, while Alice would be taken by the Blue Wind Empire. Klaus would be going to the Azure Empire, while Reynolds would be taken by the Stellar Empire.

Just as they wanted to take them, Grey moved, creating a lightning blade, he placed it on Jason's neck.

"If anyone comes close I'll cut off his head," He said slowly.

The Emperor of the Qilin Empire froze, as well as his entourage. They naturally didn't want Jason to die, but that was not the same for the other empires. They progressed as planned.

"You think I'm joking?" Grey pushed the lightning blade into Jason's neck and blood slowly started to drip out. The lightning started to affect him.

The Emperor of the Qilin Empire yelled at the other empires to stop their movements, "Stop!"

"Heh! Robert, that's your problem. Besides, you were the one who said you wanted that boy," The Emperor of the Azure Emperor sneered as he continued his movement.

The Emperor of the Qilin Empire turned to look at one of the old men in his group, "Father,"

"Don't worry," The old man took a step forward, appearing in front of the group, stopping them from moving.

Just when hope started to sprout in the minds of Grey and his friends, the old man turned, and before anyone could react, Grey and his friends fell to the ground, incapacitated.

Even Grey was stunned by how everything turned quickly. The old man released a mysterious force that overwhelmed them.

"In the presence of real power, all schemes and plots are useless," The old man said with both hands behind his back.

Grey tried to raise his head, but the pressure was too much for him to bear. Even Void was having a difficult time staying up.

Despair appeared on the faces of Grey and his friends.

Chapter 636 - Oliver Showcasing His Abilities

'Void...' Grey called out, helplessly.

'There's nothing I can do,' Void replied, his voice anxious due to their current situation.

He looked around, but he didn't see anyone coming from anywhere to help them. Even the Principal is basically helpless in a situation like this.

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Somewhere in the void, watching the battle was an old man. He had both hands clasped behind his back, and his eyes revealed a nonchalant look.

"The young lord's situation isn't good. If things stay like this, I'm afraid I'll have to show up," He muttered to himself.

This was none other than the man tasked with protecting Grey by his mother. After Grey left for the Aurora Continent, he had some difficulties since they weren't transported to the same location, but he managed to locate him in the end.

However, just when he found him, he was about to leave for the Azure Continent again. He hurried back to the Azure Continent after him and found Grey a few days ago.

On seeing that Grey had gone from the Peak of the Origin Plane to the Fifth stage of the Overlord Plane, he was left amazed by his speed. Naturally, when he saw him the last time before Grey left the Aurora Continent, Grey was still at the Peak of the Origin Plane, which he found odd given his talent. It was only now that he knew that Grey was simply accumulating his essence for a massive breakthrough.

While watching from the void, he realized the people were about to take their respective captives back to their empires.

"I guess... oh, this will be interesting," He was about to help out when he sensed two auras, one belonged to the Principal. The other one made him smile a little bit.

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The Principal arrived at the location when they had already sealed the cultivation of the group who were incapacitated. Void was the only one left out, well, simply because he was a cat. Other than the duo he fought against amongst the necromancers, no one else knew of his abilities.

He was naturally with Grey.

"Stop!" The Principal called out when he arrived.

"Oliver, what do you want?" The Emperor of the Qilin Empire asked coldly.

"You can't take the youngsters," Oliver said calmly.

His voice was unusually calmer than expected.

"This is not a place for you to run your mouth, boy. Even though you've broken through to the Sage Plane, you're still not in the position you can speak to us how you like," The Lightning Elementalist they encountered back at the borders said coldly.

"I'm sorry for my behavior senior, but I will not allow you to take them. Not while I'm still alive," Oliver said coolly.

Even though he knew this wasn't a battle he couldn't win, he didn't care. If he didn't do anything, Grey and his friends would be taken. Unlike before when only the Qilin Empire had them, now it would be even more difficult to help them once separated.

They might be killed before he even tried to rescue one, much less all four of them.

"Hehe, since you said so yourself, then I have no choice but to fulfill your wish," The Lightning Elementalist said with an evil grin.

He had gotten the go-ahead from the Emperor, so he wouldn't hold back in the battle.

Oliver was only in the First stage of the Sage Plane, while he had been in the Second stage for hundreds of years now, even before Oliver was born.

"Please instruct me, senior," Oliver said with a bow before lightning danced across his body.

The Lightning Elementalist scoffed, with lightning also dancing across his body.

Buzz! Swoosh! Bam!

Both parties moved at the same time, causing a massive explosion as their attacks collided mid-air. Small lightning snakes danced in the sky.

They soon started attacking more ferociously. At the start of the battle, Oliver was on the back foot. But as the battle progressed, everyone could see that he was slowly getting into the battle, counterattacking whenever the opportunity presented itself.

Boom! Bang! Sizzle!

The sky was covered by a sea of lightning, and lightning clouds even started to take form in the sky as their battle intensified.

The two old men from the Qilin Empire stared at each other. They could tell that the more the battle lasted, the more Oliver was getting the upper hand in the battle.

One has to know that for anyone to break through to the Sage Plane in a place like the Azure Continent, then it meant that their talent for cultivation was top notch. If they even went to the Aurora Continent, they wouldn't pale in comparison to their peers there. Of course not all of them, but they would at least be above average.

The shortage of elemental essence in the Azure Continent made it almost impossible for anyone to break through to the Sage Plane, yet, here these people were.

In a battle between geniuses, it was almost impossible for one to fight across stages, and the increase in Plane as well, made it even harder. Only people like Grey could easily do it even with the increase in Plane.

Crack! Bam!

A figure was sent flying, and to the surprise of everyone present, it was none other than that of the Lightning Elementalist.

Bang!

He crashed into the ground, causing a long and deep crater to appear on the ground.

He didn't stay down for long, quickly flying back up.

He stood before the man in front of him, and his expression was dark, never did he think that he would be defeated by a junior.

Oliver stood in the sky, his white shirt dancing in the wind, with lightning arcs circulating around him. It was as if he was the god of thunder.

Klaus stared at his father in awe, but also sorrow. He knew no matter how his father tried to salvage the situation, there was no way he could defeat all the Sage Plane Elementalist here on his own.

"I'll say this again, leave the youngsters behind," Oliver said softly.

Chapter 637 - Oliver Showcasing His Abilities II

"Oliver, stop this and go home. I'll take it that I underestimated you, but don't think you can defeat me again," The Lightning Elementalist said coldly.

Oliver looked at him but didn't say a word. His eyes were fixated on the people holding onto each of the youngsters.

"Come, let's settle this quickly," One of the Sage Plane Elementalist from the Azure Empire said to the others with an evil grin.

The others nodded their heads, before passing over their captives to others.

They wanted to end this arrogant fool who thought he could stop all of them on his own.

Oliver stood in the sky with a calm expression, it was unclear what he was thinking about, but one thing everyone knew was that he was steady.

While Oliver was battling with the Lightning Elementalist, some Overlord Plane guards arrived at the place. Even Instructor Blake and Delia were currently present. Old man Gerald wasn't absent as well, he was accompanied by Diluc who was also with him.

"Is he going to be alright?" Delia turned to Blake, only to see him clenching his fists tightly.

He was grinding his teeth so hard that blood had already started to flow out from the side. He knew that what the Principal was doing was a worthless effort, but he couldn't sit by and watch his son and his friends be killed.

A few people in the Overlord Plane that were in the city were also present here watching the battle from a safe position.

The four people surrounded Oliver, each from one of the four empires. It was unbelievable that these four empires who usually butted heads against each other were currently working together.

Of course a single individual in the Third stage of the Overlord Plane might be able to easily defeat Oliver, but they felt they were too much of a senior, and they didn't want it to look like bullying.

Swoosh! Boom!

They attacked simultaneously.

The person from the Qilin Empire was none other than the Fire Elementalist who was with the Lightning Elementalist. The person from the Azure Empire was a Water Elementalist, the one from the Blue Wind Empire was a Wind Elementalist. While the one from the Stellar Empire was a Fire Elementalist.

Lightning danced around Oliver's body as he dodged the attacks while blocking the one he couldn't dodge.

Thanks to his superior speed, only the Wind Elementalist was able to properly keep track of him.

Whoosh! Bam! Bang!

They exchanged moves, and within a minute, Oliver was pushed back by an attack. It was already assumed that he would lose the battle, after all, he couldn't fight against all four of them at the same time. So when the people saw him being pushed back, they didn't find it odd.

Only a few people felt sad about his situation, the others were only here for the entertainment.

Oliver still had his calm expression even when he was on the brink of being defeated. He didn't panic, rather, he slowly tried to ensure that he took a few hits as he could from his opponents, while preparing a counter.

His first target in the battle was none other than the Wind Elementalist. If he could take him out, then his chances of winning would at least come up.

Buzz! Swoosh!

They continued fighting with greater intensity, Oliver dodged some of their attacks while intentionally letting a few get to him. He planned to make his opponents drop their guard, then explode out with a powerful attack.

And just as he planned, after he was hit three more times, his opponents became increasingly smug. Some even went as far as getting close to him.

'He's very cautious. Since I can't take him out, then the one with the most explosive power will do.' He thought to himself.

The Wind Elementalist didn't come close to him, however, the Fire Elementalist from the Stellar Empire was the one closest to him. She was a woman who looked to be in her mid-fifties.

While they were attacking him, Oliver suddenly exploded out with a powerful lightning dome that shot in every direction after it was destroyed.

The Fire Elementalist who was closest to him was naturally caught in it. Before she could even retreat, Oliver appeared in front of her, attacking ruthlessly and decisively.

Bang!

She fell from the sky like a kite, crashing into the ground with a resounding 'Boom!'.

Everything happened so fast that the Overlord Plane Elementalists couldn't keep up, but the Sage Plane Elementalists watching all knew what happened.

"That cunning bastard," An old man from the Stellar Empire said with hatred.

He knew Oliver acted weak just so he could draw in his opponents, when they let down their guard, he exploded out. Given his speed, it was difficult for these people who were so close to him to escape. Especially the Fire Elementalist from the Stellar Empire.

After Oliver took out the Fire Elementalist, he didn't stop there, chasing after the Water Elementalist from the Azure Empire.

Buzz! Crash!

A burst of lightning fell from the sky, striking the escaping Water Elementalist.

"Ah..." His painful shriek sounded out in the ears of everyone.

In the span of a few seconds, Oliver just took out two Sage Plane Elementalist. It was shocking, and even the Emperor of the Qilin Empire couldn't help but do a double-take on him.

The three old men however were staring daggers at the present Emperor of the Qilin Empire. How the hell did he make such a decision?

Looking at the talent of Grey and his friends, it was not a fluke if one said they would break through to the Sage Plane in the coming years.

Oliver could already battle four against one and still look like he would come out on top, and Grey and his friends' talents were above his. Thinking of how they would've been able to easily take out the other empires if they had people like this in their arsenal, they felt like killing the current Emperor.

Chapter 638 - Powerful Old Man

The Wind Elementalist from the Blue Wind Empire and the Fire Elementalist from the Qilin Empire exchanged glances, and shock was written on their faces. This was a battle they all felt he would've been able to resolve easily, but from how things were turning out, it was already easy to see that Oliver would most likely come out on top, especially now that they've lost two of their partners.

"I don't believe he can defeat us," The Fire Elementalist reinforced his will and charged at Oliver.

Even with how things were, he was still very confident in himself.

The Wind Elementalist looked at him before following suit. He couldn't be the one that would cower in front of Oliver.

The Lightning Elementalist Oliver defeated the first time was a little shaken by what he was witnessing. If he were told to face these four people, he was certain that the most he could do was to defend, and in the end, he would still lose. But Oliver not only defended himself, but he also took out two of the four people in the process.

"I underestimated him," He muttered under his breath.

The old men from the Qilin Empire looked at him when he heard his statement, before turning his gaze back to Oliver, "We all did,"

Swoosh! Boom! Bang!

The battle started once again, and the Fire Elementalist brought out everything he had, attacking with the intent to kill.

The Wind Elementalist decided to act as his support. Rather than attacking Oliver, he would occasionally distract him, giving the Fire Elementalist the chance to deal a fatal blow.

Oliver quickly realized their plans, and immediately changed his attack method. If he were a little careless, then he might lose his life.

Boom!

Oliver's attack and the Fire Elementalist's attack collided, causing a large explosion.

Buzz!

Oliver, who was covered with lightning shot past the explosion, charging at the unsuspecting Fire Elementalist. Just as he was about to get close to his target, a tornado rose from the ground, instantly placing him in the middle.

With the tornado stopping him, the Fire Elementalist threw a large ball of fire into the tornado, turning the tornado into a sea of flames.

Grey and his friends tried to move forward, however, they were unable to take a step forward.

Blake took a step forward, but a strong hand held him, turning around, he saw old man Gerald shaking his head lightly at him. He understood what he meant, but he couldn't just watch.

"Going will only make things difficult for him," Old man Gerald said.

Blake clenched his fists so tight that one would think he wanted to destroy his hands.

Delia looked at the scene with tears welling up in her eyes, she couldn't help but hate her weakness.

Crack! Boom!

A large lightning bolt ran across the sky, before falling down into the tornado that was made of flames.

With the addition of the lightning, the tornado's intensity increased for a few seconds, before it burst apart, and a figure covered in lightning appeared in the view of everyone.

As soon as Oliver came into view, he moved instantly. He was so fast that he unconsciously created an afterimage.

The lightning figure hadn't disappeared, but Oliver was already standing in front of the Wind Elementalist, without giving him any chances to move, he attacked once, ruthlessly.

With the Wind Elementalist out, he chased after the Fire Elementalist.

On seeing how Oliver quickly incapacitated the Wind Elementalist, it finally dawned on everyone here that he could take out all four people who fought against him.

The Fire Elementalist didn't get far before he was stopped by Oliver who attacked without a second thought.

The Fire Elementalist scrambled to block his attacks, but the strength and speed of each lightning bolt were just too strong. In a couple of seconds, the Fire Elementalist fell from the sky, slamming into the ground.

Oliver moved in the direction of the group holding the youngsters captive.

"Let them go," He uttered slowly.

"Hmph!"

A cold snort came from behind the group from the Azure Empire, and an old man stepped forward.

When the twins from the Qilin Empire saw this old man, fear unknowingly appeared on their faces.

They had heard of this old man when they were still young. It was said that he was one of the main forces of the Azure Empire, he was also the reason the Constantine family was unable to take over the Azure Empire and resorted to breaking out, forming the Qilin Empire.

They would never have thought that such a figure was still alive. Even they themselves were already regarded as old bones, yet this old man was still here. They didn't know what they would regard him as.

"Boy, get down," The old man said gently.

His voice was gentle, but to Oliver, it felt like the world was coming down on him. He couldn't support himself mid-air any longer and fell to the ground.

Everyone turned to look at the old man, all short of words.

All it took was a simple word from the old man, and Oliver who had been defeating people left and right lost his ability to fly.

Grey's pupils contracted when he saw this. The old man used a strange ability when he spoke those words a few seconds ago, although he didn't know what it was, he could feel that it had to do with the earth element.

Oliver on the other hand was having a difficult time keeping himself standing. He could feel a terrifying gravitational force pushing him down, the more he tried to fight against it, the stronger the force.

He looked at the old man who was standing in front of the group from the Azure Empire, and his face distorted.

The old man was in the Fourth stage of the Sage Plane. This was the only person he had seen that had gone above the Early stages of the Sage Plane.

Not just Oliver, but everyone present here that was in the Sage Plane was stunned by the old man's cultivation stage.

Chapter 639 - This Is The End

"Father," The father of the Emperor of the Qilin Empire turned to one of the twins.

"It's alright. He can't take on all of us, and his trick is only effective in a small area, if he dared to expand it, then the force would be greatly reduced. However, if he were in the presence of Overlord Plane Elementarists, then no matter how he expands it, they wouldn't be able to overcome it," One of the twins said.

After hearing his explanation, everyone heaved a sigh of relief. Grey was closely listening to their conversation, so after hearing the explanation of the technique the man used, he couldn't help but contemplate it.

This was a mysterious yet powerful technique when battling against multiple opponents, so he wouldn't mind learning it. If he had this and his inscriptions, he would be a terror to fight against.

He focused his entire being on the area surrounding the Principal. This was an opportunity for him to learn, so he naturally wouldn't waste it.

If his friends or even the people around find out that he was actually practicing given his current situation, they would be flabbergasted. How could someone who might die in a few moments have the guts to even try to comprehend a new technique?

Oliver looked at the old man defiantly.

"Your valiant effort is much appreciated, but it ends here," The old man said calmly while stretching out his hands.

Earth particles started to form around Oliver, and before long, they attached themselves to him. He soon looked like a statue made of rock.

The old man looked at his work proudly before giving a nod.

"The pest has been taken care of, we should get..." He paused mid-sentence.

He turned to look at the rock statue before muttering nonchalantly, "Oh, how resilient,"

He made a few hand seals, and the lightning currents that were running rampantly across the rocks were instantly suppressed, even the aura of Oliver was reduced to the bare minimum. If one didn't study it properly, then they would think this was an actual rock statue.

Klaus struggled to go over to where his father was, but the old man who stopped his father glanced at him. A simple glance and Klaus' entire body slammed into the ground, his bones even started cracking under the pressure of the gravitational force.

But his eyes were bloodshot, he could tell that if no one broke the rock statue, then his father would die within a short period of time. Unfortunately, he couldn't take a step, even if he wanted to.

Alice and Reynolds stared at him, tears welling up in their eyes as well. They couldn't do anything, even if they wanted to.

The people holding onto them didn't even give them the chance Klaus had. Grey on the other hand was tightly held, and unlike the others, he could feel the true nature of what the old man did since his entire focus was on that area. At the moment, every single blood cell of the Principal was slowly solidifying, turning into a rock as well. If things went on, the internal organs of the Principal would turn to rock, and the same would happen to the outer body of the Principal.

In an hour or so, the Principal wouldn't be covered with rocks, he would be the rock itself, dead through and through.

"We'll be leaving now," The Emperor of the Azure Empire said before turning around.

The other Emperors did the same, except for those from the Qilin Empire, this was their empire, so there was no need to hurry.

However, just as the groups were about to take flight.

Bang!

The rocks surrounding Oliver shattered, sending bits of rocks in all directions.

The old man from the Azure Empire raised a brow, looking at the location Oliver was standing with a slightly different expression.

'There's no way he could break it. This is definitely the work of someone else,' He thought to himself.

When he looked at the spot, he saw lightning dancing across the body of Oliver.

"I said, leave the kids and go," Oliver said, but this time, his voice was relatively lower.

Everyone could tell that he had difficulty speaking. Even standing seemed to be an issue for him.

"Impressive, now I want to kill you all the more," The old man's eyes closed to a slit, and intense killing intent spread out.

If he didn't make sure Oliver died, he wouldn't be settled.

The six black cloaked figures exchanged glances, a strange glint flashing in their eyes. To them, this was a great opportunity to acquire a powerhouse. They've already seen Oliver's strength and knew he was above some people, if they could cultivate his body after his death, then there's a chance they could increase his strength.

The old man stretched out his hand once again, and this time, Oliver couldn't withstand the pressure of the gravitational force and slammed into the ground. His bones shattered from the force, and blood started coming out from his eyes, ears, nose, and mouth.

He didn't have the strength to defend himself against the pressure any longer. Breaking out of the rock took everything he got, but he still didn't want to give up. He promised Klaus' mother that he would protect him, and even if it cost him his life, then he would do it.

Gritting his teeth, he struggled to get up. But he found out that he couldn't, it was only now that he realized that the bones on his legs were shattered. Even if he doesn't die from this, it would take years for him to recover from this injury.

He raised his head, and his eyes darted towards Klaus, his stubborn yet playful son. Warmth appeared in his eyes, and he even forced out a smile to him.

Klaus was already in tears when he saw this, he knew this was his father preparing to use his last resort, burning his life essence.

Powerful energy soon erupted from Oliver's body, but the gravitational force didn't disappear, instead, it increased by two folds.

This was the only sentence reverberating in everyone's head.

At the moment everyone thought it was over, the energy that erupted from Oliver's body was retracted, and a figure covered in white light appeared close to him.

"It has gotten to this stage," The figure said calmly.

Chapter 640 - Chris' Return

"It hasn't gotten to this stage yet,"

A calm voice said, and Oliver's erupting aura dissipated completely.

Grey's pupils dilated when he heard the voice, even though it had been a long time since he heard the voice, he was one hundred percent certain who the voice belonged to.

"Teacher..." He muttered slowly.

"Chris?" Oliver asked, staring at the figure covered by a white light.

"Good thing I came in time, if not, things would've been a little complicated for you," The white light faded off and Chris' figure came into view.

It had been over a year since he disappeared, and now he was back.

When the Emperor of the Qilin Empire saw his face, he almost fell to the ground in shock.

Chris originally looked like someone who was in his mid-forties just like Oliver, but now, he looked to be in his early thirties, younger and more vibrant. Everyone could clearly feel that he was brimming with vitality.

"Who's that?" One of the twins asked when he saw the Emperor's reaction.

"It's Chris." The Emperor said, his expression grave, "He's the one I told you about,"

"I remember him," The Emperor's father said with a glint flashing through his eyes, "He was regarded as the strongest genius of his generation..."

He spoke of the few rumors he heard about Chris. Coming from a small background, Chris rose to fame when he was still in the Early stages of the Arcane Plane, defeating multiple people at the Mid stage.

His most telling battle was the one he had when he was in the Overlord Plane, but that happened a few years after the new Emperor had ascended the throne.

Chris' reputation shot to the peak, after all, Sage Plane Elementalists would rarely come out of seclusion, so Overlord Plane Elementalists were regarded as the top figures. Being able to fight against multiple opponents who were all ahead of him by a stage or two meant that he was something different.

In Chris' story, the only thing that still surprises people is how they never really heard of him until he got to the peak. The only time they heard of him was when he was in the Arcane Plane, and since he was still a junior in the Arcane Plane, people didn't really take him too seriously. There were countless geniuses who had shown promise in the Arcane Plane, only to end up falling to form their elemental beads, thereby staying in the Arcane Plane forever.

"Such a character exists, how come I'm only hearing of him now?" One of the twins asked coldly.

His expression was severe. From how Chris was able to stop Oliver from burning his life essence, meant that he was stronger than he was. Not only that, but the gravitational force vanished the second he appeared.

"I'm sorry, Grandfather, he had been missing for over a year now, and we thought he was dead," The Emperor bowed to ask for forgiveness.

"Hmph!" The old man snorted coldly, but he didn't reply any longer, rather, he decided to watch the show. Since he wasn't the one who was attacking Oliver, it had nothing to do with him.

"Where have you been all this while?" Oliver asked softly.

"Just moving here and there," Chris replied with a shrug before raising his hand in front of Oliver.

A white light covered Oliver, and his physical injuries started recovering at a speed visible to human eyes. It was an amazing event that left the spectators stunned.

Only a few of them have been able to witness the light element before, and seeing it firsthand left some shaken, especially when they saw the healing ability it has.

It was generally known that the dark element destroys, while the light element creates. Now, everyone was seeing the reason behind that saying.

Oliver's pale face gradually regained some color, but not to the previous state. He hadn't recovered completely, but his life was no longer in any danger. The same can't be said for his cultivation though.

Attempting to burn his life essence naturally has its side effects, even though he just activated it for nothing more than a split second, it didn't change the fact that the damage had already been done.

However, his shattered bones hadn't recovered yet.

Chris squinted his eyes as he looked at the situation of his friend. He knew things were as simple as they looked.

"Who are you?" An old voice resounded by Chris' ear, accompanied by a frightening gravitational force.

Chris raised his head to look at the speaker, he didn't even flinch, it was as if the gravitational force didn't do anything to him.

When he saw the old man, his eyes trailed around the group, stopping on Klaus' body.

He turned to look in the direction of the Blue Wind Empire, then at the Stellar Empire, and then his gaze finally stopped on Grey's body.

"Oh, kid, you've grown so much," Chris nodded his head with a smile, clearly proud of his student's improvement.

"It's thanks to your teachings, Teacher," Grey bowed respectfully.

Grey's statement might sound like an exaggeration given Chris' didn't teach him much other than arrays and inscriptions, but since learning about inscriptions and arrays, it had helped Grey in almost all aspects.

Without his inscriptions, he wouldn't have the courage to boldly charge head-on into a crowd of people. Neither would he have been able to create a teleportation array, nor the tracking or communication device.

"Haha, good student. When we're done with this, we'll have a nice long conversation," Chris laughed out loud, completely disregarding the old man from the Azure Empire.

"How insolent," The old man said coldly before pointing at Chris.

A large earthen spear formed and shot at Chris at breakneck speed. Chris stared at the spear before raising a finger, and a small flicker of flame appeared before moving to the front of the spear.

Boom!

The earthen spear was blasted into smithereens. The flame didn't stop after destroying the spear, it continued on its part, rushing towards the old man.