

## Brand New 161

### [Brand New Life Online: Rise Of The Goddess Of Harvest](#)

#### Chapter 161: The Last Clues

"You remember?!" We asked in unison, as we all looked at the old grandpa drinking the last bit of tea.

"Hmm, yes, I remember it now. You guys asked for a pink girl? Yes, she came yesterday! She bought tons of tools." Said the grandpa. "I couldn't ask her name sadly, but it seems she was in a hurry."

"In a hurry?" I wondered. "Do you know where she went?"

"Hmmm..." The grandpa caressed his beard again, walking outside of his shop and looking around.

"She said she was going to the walls to meet some friends, I think." He said, pointing his hand at the walls where the golems were before.

"So she really went there... But there's nobody there, I doubt there was someone that saw her, right?" Wondered Achlys.

"No, there are guards in the walls guarding the golems, maybe someone saw her get there." He said.

"Go take a look, it still early."

"Alright, thanks for your help." Said Nieve.

"Oh, no, no, the opposite. I am very grateful for what you did. All this Kachi Herb will last me a long time. I am indebted with all of you. If you need something please come see me, maybe I can provide you with a tool or a discount." He said.

"Thanks a lot!" I said, as we quickly jumped over our giant beetle and ran into the walls.

We quickly found that guards were indeed there, wandering around cleaning the walls which were destroyed in various places. Debris spread out across the walls, and some were repairing the holes left behind as well.

"There's a lot of work to do here." Said Achlys.

"Well, let's go ask around." Said Titan.

"MEN!"

Nieve quickly startled us as usual with her loud voice, her command immediately made all the soldiers and knights here freeze in time, leaving aside everything they were doing and immediately organizing together, running towards us, and greeting Nieve.

"Lady Nieve, we greet you!"

"Men! We are looking for clues about a pink girl, she got hair and wings that are pink-colored, we presume she came here just yesterday before the snakes showed up." Nieve said. "Have any of you seen her? Be honest!"

The soldiers looked at one another in confusion, discussing about if they saw someone like that, trying their best to rack their heads about the whole situation. But it was rather hard, nobody remember any of that, maybe nobody was there to begin with, as they were busy yesterday.

"A-Actually..."

Suddenly, a young blonde boy lifted his arm.

"Yes?"

Nieve asked the boy, as he slowly began to talk.

"I-I saw a girl yesterday, she had pink hair and pink wings. Nobody was around but I saw her. S-She was going around the golems, looking at them with sharp eyes... they didn't fit in her little and cute appearance." The boy said. "I spoke to her but she quickly ran away when she saw me appear... After that, I kind of forgot about it and went to have lunch with everybody else, I thought it was just a kid interested in the golems. Children that live nearby sometimes come to see them."

"So she was here..." Sighed Nieve. "Do you have any clues about her, what did she do or how she looked like? Any details?"

"Err... She seemed to have been with the golems for a while, she was touching one and had her hands covered in black oil... I never gave it too much thought but... Could she had sabotaged the golems?" The boy said timidly.

He was fearful of speaking because he knew that due to his irresponsibility, all the soldiers would reprimand him and he might even get demoted for letting that happen without doing anything. "I-I am sorry! I am really sorry for not reporting it, I really thought it was just a child playing around..."

"So she was there! And her hands were black with oil? Maybe she already sabotaged everything!" Said Titan.

"Elvin, you fool, why didn't you speak?!"

"Idiot!"

"Newbie, you should had said that earlier!"

"We could had prevented a disaster...!"

"Men! Calm down." Nieve said. "Elvin, thanks for your help. Because you were honest, I will not punish you for what you've done... But bear in mind that as a soldier, you must always be cautious even of children..." Sighed Nieve.

She quickly flew away as we followed her, the soldiers seemed angered at the fairy boy, but he seemed to have barely evaded a bullet. When we reached the city again, Nieve's face was growing darker, conflicted, even.

"Nieve? What's wrong?" I asked.

"I... I think I know who it was." Said Nieve.

"Eh? You know?!" I asked in shock.

"Yeah... I didn't wanted to believe it at first. I was trying to find more clues just to find out it wasn't her... I... I can't believe it, but still, all the clues just point out to her..." Nieve said, her face quickly growing paler.

"Who is it then?" Rita asked, looking at Nieve's face which was slowly growing darker with an immense amount of grief and also disbelief.

"Please talk about it." Said Titan. "Is it someone you know?"

"It is... It is someone I know." Said Nieve.

"Who is it, Nieve?" I asked, growing worried.

"Isn't it obvious? I even remember seeing her hands with black oil the other day. I was wondering what that was about but she played it off so innocently... I don't even know who she truly is then..." Nieve said.

"Wait... y-you don't mean... her?" I asked.

"Yeah... It is Florie." Nieve said.

"Florie?! Your little sister?!" Rita asked.

"A little girl did all of this?!" Asked Titan.

"...We need to confirm this, Nieve. Let's go." I said.

"But... I don't want to. I am afraid... I... I don't want to know the truth if it will mean I will have to... take her life. Or if I will be forced to do so." Nieve cried.

"..."

"..."

"..."

We ended remaining in silence after her words, as she seemed to be slowly growing more concerned.

"I don't think Florie is really evil. There must be something happening to her! We'll find out together, and then we'll save her, Nieve. Have faith." I said, patting her shoulders.

"Planta..." She muttered.

"I won't let her die, nor I will let anybody kill her either... But for now, we need to interrogate her and capture her... Can you help us do this?" I asked.

Nieve looked at me as her eyes shone brightly, tears flowed through her face, but she quickly wiped them out with her hand.

"Okay, let's do it."

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### **Chapter 162: Finding The Culprit**

Due to Nieve's concerns and to follow the protocol of a knight, she ended gathering the soldiers and knights which we had spoken to. She explained to them that the culprit was probably Florie. The people was shocked. Florie seemed to be well known by some due to Nieve's stories. She had told them to her fellow friends about her every day in her services as a soldier before ascending into a magic knight.

So they were surprised and even doubtful when she told them Florie might be the culprit. Nieve herself didn't wanted to believe that either, but it was better to make sure it wasn't by going there, capturing her, interrogating her, and using magic artifacts to see if she was saying the truth or not.

By then, all our doubts would be cleared. I was really hoping Florie wasn't the culprit either. I honestly prayed to God for her to not be the one behind this. Even if this was a game, even if this might all be virtual reality, it is so realistic to all of us that we had ended getting involved into all of this drama... I've really grown to like Nieve, she's a good person. And Florie as well... I just hope... I hope it is nothing like we imagine.

Rita and Titan were also dead serious with me, mostly silent while all things happened. I was also quite silent. It was clear that they were very involved into the story of this quest with me. It felt as if we were not just watching a movie, we were being part of it. It gave a whole different vibe to it I suppose.

After everything was set up, we went to Nieve's home, it was a big home atop a large tree, even people of our size could fit inside the house, so we all walked with her towards the house's door. We heard some noise inside the moment we got closer. The knights and soldiers hid around the tree, waiting for Nieve's signal to enter and raid the place to not let Florie resist.

"Ah, big sis? Are you there? Wait a bit, I'll go open the door!" Florie's voice resonated, as she flew into the door and opened it, greeting us cheerfully as if nothing. "Oooh! Planta! Oh, and your friends are here too! You're the saviors of the city! I am so happy to see you again safe and sound! Come inside, I am halfway through lunch!"

"Y-You made lunch?" Asked Nieve.

"Yeah... I was thinking about how you might be feeling lately after everything that happened yesterday, so I decided to make something for you, you're always the one cooking, but I wanted to do it this time... I-it might not come too well though." Florie sighed.

"I see... Thanks... for your generosity, Florie." Nieve sighed, with a face filled with sadness.

We entered the room as we ended sitting down around the table. Titan was able to actually reduce his size to almost the same as us, so even he was able to eat in this large home.

Florie quickly served us food, it was a delicious stew with snake meat and potatoes with carrots. The snake meat was safe to eat and non-poisonous, only their fangs were poisonous, or scales, sometimes. There were various non-poisonous types too so the meat here was safe. She wasn't trying to poison us, as I had originally thought about.

She seems to have no clue we think she's the culprit. Is she shady enough to believe her acting will be enough, or is she trying to pretend to be the same as ever in hopes we'll pity her and simply try to find somebody else that did the same things she did and that looks similar to her?

However as we were served the delicious food, we remained in silence until she came to sit down and eat with us as well.

"Huh? W-What's wrong? Why are you not eating... It is yummy, right?" Florie asked, looking at us.

"Florie..." Nieve said, her face growing darker and... with grief.

"Huh? What is it?" Florie asked. "Why are you all so gloomy? I know yesterday's incident was big but... we go through it, right? There's hope-"

"Florie, tell me the truth." Nieve said.

"Eh...?" Florie asked in confusion.

"I've raised you all this time, since I found you abandoned and poisoned in the forest, left to die... I... I've taken care of you as if you were my real sister since then, with all the love I could... Perhaps because I lost my parents at a early age, I needed someone with me. I've dedicated my life to raise you until now but... I am... I just want you to tell me the truth. Whatever it is, I'll... find a way for you to survive." Said Nieve, looking at Florie with pity.

"Eh...? S-Survive?" Florie asked.

"Florie... yesterday, you had your hands with oil, right?" I asked.

"Huh? I-I... did..." She said timidly. "I-It was because I was just cleaning something here and got it in my hands... It was nothing serious!"

"The soldiers in the walls saw you, a girl exactly like you, with black hands with oil playing around with the golems..." Nieve said. "Were you there?"

"Eh? Ah... I-I... It wasn't me... It must have been somebody else...! Big sis, what are you even talking about? A-Are you implying something?!" Florie asked in disbelief, as her eyes seemed to grow with concern and fear.

"Florie! They saw you, there's no way there's someone that looks the same as you, wears the same dress, and had their hands black just a few hours before you went back home..." Said Nieve.

"But I was outside when that happened!" Florie said.

"No, you came back with Planta before that happened." Said Nieve. "Planta was imprisoned until night, you had plenty of time to do all the things you wanted."

"...T-That's a lie! I was... I didn't do anything bad!" Cried Florie.

"She's lying..." I said, as I held within my hands a small black sphere, a lie detector artifact.

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**Chapter 163: The Truth**

This was an artifact they used with me to detect if I was telling lies before. And it worked simply by targeting someone by infusing some mana. If they said a lie, it would be easily detected. This is an ancient artifact that fairies had been held for generations. Nieve managed to get it just for this occasion. The time Florie began to tell lies it happened, and it was glowing red, it meant she was lying.

"T-The lie detection artifact?! Big sis why did you bring something here just for me...?" Florie cried.

"Florie, tell me the truth! Were you the one that sabotaged the golems?! Were you... the one that brought the curse here?!" Nieve confronted Florie, as the girl suddenly backed down, without being able to speak, knowing about the lie detector.

"T-This is a misunderstanding; you can't simply assume I did those things out of some clues!" Florie cried. "How can you even say such things to me after we have lived together for so long?! Why would I even do that...?!"

"Why are you evading the question?" Asked Nieve. "If you didn't do anything, then you would simply say 'no' and be done with it! Tell me, Florie! If you were the one, there might be a reason why, if it is someone controlling you or something else... Please, trust me! I can help you!"

"I... I didn't do anything! Please stop saying that! I didn't do anything! I am innocent!" Florie cried, beginning to cry like a baby. "You're so mean with me! After I made... After I made lunch for you!"

Nieve looked at Florie heartbroken slowly approaching her as she tried to comfort her little sister.

However, as that happened, I looked at the orb.

It glowed with the color red.

Bright red.

She was lying.

"Nieve... it is red." I said, quickly standing up, as Achlys and Titan did so as well.

Florie's face was filled with despair, as she saw all four of us looking at her.

"N-No... I didn't do it! That artifact must be old... they gave you a falsified one! I didn't do it! Please trust me, don't trust an old item that might be broken!" Cried Florie.

Nieve hit the table, furiously throwing the food into the floor as she suddenly took out her rapier from its sheath, covering it in freezing magical aura.

"FLORIE! Why did you do something like this?! Did you spread the curse too?! TELL ME!" Nieve cried.

"I didn't do that! Why would I do that?!" Florie cried.

But the orb glowed red.

"She's... lying..." I muttered in disbelief.

"Why...?" Asked Nieve. "Why did you do this? And how?!"

Nieve suddenly grew desperate, trying to make her little sister speak was incredibly hard.

"SPEAK, FLORIE!"

Silence suddenly took over the room, as Florie continued crying over the floor, she slowly cleansed her tears, as she looked back at Nieve, suddenly, her eyes began to glow purple colored, and strange, snake-shaped tattoos began to emerge over her neck, all the way down to the rest of her body.

"F-FLORIE?!"

Nieve cried in disbelief over Florie's transformation, as the girl continued to cry.

"I didn't... had a choice..."

Florie's face quickly changed expressions completely unnaturally. As if the little girl we all knew disappeared in front of our eyes.

And then, a sadistic smile emerged, as her eyes began to glow even more purple colored, so bright it was almost blinding.

"Heheh... Looks like I was found out... Though, isn't it a bit... too late for it, huh? Big sister~?"

Her voice, her nature, and her entire personality changed. She was not Florie anymore. It was as if somebody else or something else took over her... It was shocking.

"Florie...?"

Nieve asked Florie her own name once more, doubtful if she was speaking with her little sister anymore.

"Isn't it a bit late to call for her?!"

FLAAASH!

"Nieve, watch out!!!"

Suddenly, an explosion of dark energy was unleashed from Florie, unleashing a shockwave that shook the entire room, the furniture was destroyed into bits as I barely managed to protect Nieve and my friends by unleashing the power of Spiritual Shield in time. However, the power that it could withstand was too low at Level 3!

TRUUUMMM...!

The darkness continued to condense, attacking my barrier, and attempting to consume it completely. My barrier was not even working properly! I'll have to level it up asap!

Ding!

[You have exchanged 14 Skill Points]

[The [Spiritual Shield: Lv3] Skill has increased to Level 10!]

[Spiritual Shield: Lv10 (MAX)]

Call forth the power of the spirits dwelling in Nature to generate a powerful Spiritual Shield around you, which can block up to 70% of all Damage taken in exchanged for MP. This acts as a Passive Skill that can be turned on and off, and the cost of MP varies depending in the damage taken. Additionally, the Barrier

can be conjured several times in a row to create layers, and it can also be conjured over party members or friends as a Buff that lasts 10 Minutes. Summons and Tamed Monsters share your own Spiritual Shield.

Woah! Upgraded Spiritual Shield is amazing! It can now block 70% of damage dealt, but it is draining even more MP from me! Ugh good thing I got over 1600 MP though!

FLASH!

The darkness suddenly weakened as it tried to pierce through my barrier. But my barrier still showed cracks on it, even now, this darkness was way too overpowered for our level! Is this a special event we triggered by angering Florie?! Damn it!

"FLORIEEE!"

Nieve cried her lungs out, trying to stop Florie from unleashing this attack, but the darkness kept pushing us away and it wasn't as if we had any time to actually go fight her with this powerful magic being unleashed!

"Spiritual Shield! Spiritual Shield! Spiritual Shield!"

I constantly used the skill several times, until I managed to create five layers of the barrier, the maximum amount I could make, just in time...!

BOOOM!

Just in time for the moment we were thrown outside of the house, as it was completely destroyed by the darkness that Florie unleashed...

This is seriously bad news.

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**Chapter 164: The Possessed Fairy**

BOOOM!

"UWAAAH! What the hell is happening with that damn crazy fairy?!" Rita cried, as we began falling down off the treetop and into the ground below.

BAAAM!

Crash!

Crash!

Crash!

Three barriers broke in an instant, the force we were sent into the ground would have surely killed us if we landed without protecting. I could have used whirlwind as well, maybe, but the darkness was too strong and it didn't allow me to bring the spirits out. This darkness seems to scare them off, in fact.



I quickly turned off the barriers as I looked at my friends, Rita and Titan were fine, but Nieve was hit by the darkness directly before I was able to bring her to my barrier, and she was gasping for air while the darkness was spreading into her body, like a black tattoo over her skin!

"Uwah, Nieve!" I cried, quickly thinking, and taking out a potion.

If this is Miasma as I presume, then the potion that healed the squirrel-kin might mitigate the effects or even heal them before it spreads further! I forced Nieve to drink the bottle of potion until she swallowed it all, once more resting her head into my arms, she gasped for air, but the darkness was actually slowly fading away from her body!

After I showered her with healing spells, she finally regained her consciousness, looking back at me. A minute has passed since the house was destroyed though, but Florie continued unleashing darkness, is she just not able to control this power?

"Hahh... W-What happened? Ugh..." Nieve groaned. There was no more miasma in her body, thankfully. It seems that this wasn't as severe as the curse some people in here has. Or maybe if its healed prematurely, it won't advance into a deadly curse.

"Florie went insane!" Said Achlys. "She's still up there, what is she planning?!"

"We have to go there and stop her! It wouldn't be good if we let all the NPC die because of her. These people are still... alive to me, we can't just sit down and let her have her way." Titan said.

"I think the same, we have to knock her down at least!" I said.

"Florie... She was different... She changed... Just what... what happened to her?" Nieve asked to me, feeling heartbroken.

"For now rest here, I don't know what happened to her but I presume somebody else possessed her. We'll ask her more questions when we knock her down though!" I said bravely, standing up. "Spiritual Shield! Spiritual Shield! Spiritual Shield!"

I conjured Spiritual Shield once more in all four of us, while my Tamed Monsters and Summons seemed to share mine without the necessity of having to receive one for each, which was convenient, though it meant even more MP usage, my MP was already down before and I had to quickly drink an MP Potion inside my Inventory.

"Damn it... DAMN IT! FLORIEEEE!"

Nieve desperately flew up, ignoring my words and suddenly flying all the way back home. She was being driven by her emotions and the frustration of having been betrayed by the one she trusted the most! ...Most likely.

"Wait, NIEVE!" I cried. "We can't fly like you!" I sighed.

"Use Spiritual Leap, Planta!" Said Titan. "Afterwards I'll use my roots to wrap around the tree so we can get ourselves up high, trust me!"

Titan actually had a better ability with his body than me in terms of root and branch creation, perhaps due to being an Ent who are even more like literal walking trees than a Dryad, he was able to produce even more wood out of his body.

"A-Alright then! Dragon Vein Detection...! Wind Spirits, please help me out!"

FLASH! FLASH! FLASH!

The wondrous dragon veins revealed themselves to me, as several green-colored ones activated, glowing with bright light, several little clouds appeared, alongside a big and furious one! Jackpot, I got one of the strongest of the three I can summon!

"Spiritual! Whirlwind!"

FLAAASH!

I grabbed everybody by making Loki wrap herself around them and then, we jumped off out of the ground, directly chasing Nieve that was in front of us. Her Magic Rapier was infused by her Ice Element, suddenly unleashing a storm of freezing winds and small icicle spears that hit the remains of her house, freezing through the tree's bark as well!

CLAAASH!

"Big sis! Why are you hitting your little sister, huh?"

However, despite the power of her ice, the darkness blocked it with ease, as several dark tentacles began to emerge from the black cloud, shaping themselves into furious phantasmal snakes! What the heck?!

"Give me back my sister! You're not Florie!" Nieve roared angrily.

"How can you say that to me, big sis? Pff... hahahaha! I'll fill this entire city with darkness now that I've found out... this body shall be discarded! It has long ago accomplished its goals!" Laughed Florie, her selfish and maddening voice laughed off Nieve, as if completely changing who she truly was.

Indeed, there was somebody else taking over her!

Ding!

[Act IV] of the Event Quest has been completed]

[Moving towards [Act V]: [Defeat the Culprit!]

[Now that Florie has been revealed to be the culprit behind the Golem Sabotage and the Spreading of the Curse, you must defeat her! Something else has now possessed her body, showcasing their true intentions of bringing darkness to the city of fairies. Florie has become a Mid-Boss now of Level 25! Can you defeat her before she destroys the entire city with her darkness, and spreads the Curse to every citizen? Based in your actions and how you manage to "defeat" her, different scenarios will open and the story will branch]

Huh?! What is this?! Are you asking me to kill Florie now?! No way! I am going to defeat her in my own way... If possible, we'll take all that darkness she got, and free her from whatever is possessing her.

After all, Rita, a master of darkness absorption is with us!

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#### **Chapter 165: Boss Battle!**

Florie's body slowly began to change. Her wings grew in size, almost three times as big, growing sharper and menacing. Each wing had several red-colored eye-like patterns of colors in them, as she suddenly grew a pair of little horns in her forehead, and her ears gained some purple-colored scales, which also emerged in her feet and arms. And to boot, a small snake-like tail appeared in her back! What is going on with her body?

[The [Mid Boss] [Corrupted Venomous Dark Fairy: Florie: Lv 25 (ELITE)] has emerged!]

[The [Mid Boss] has unleashed her [Boss Aura: Venomous Abyss Domain]!]

[Within this Domain, you'll take Poison and Darkness Attribute Damage Constantly, and Poison and Darkness Attribute Attack Power is enhanced by +50%]

[Additionally, those that die in this Domain become sacrifices for the [Mid Boss], each Soul increases her stats by +5%, the Death of Players also counts in this calculation]

"WHAT?! She's worse than the Mushroom Hero!" I cried in horror.

FLASH!

Suddenly, I saw something similar with the Mushroom Hero when I concentrated my eyes into Florie's ever-growing Aura of Poison and Darkness. I saw strings... similar to those the Mushroom Hero had! Is this... can I do something against them?

The strings were purple-colored and looked more like snakes. They connected to Florie and were somehow fueling her with this purple and black energy, making her grow constantly more diabolic. The more I looked at them, the more I noticed an ever-growing silhouette of an enormous Snake looking down at us, with gigantic crimson red eyes.

Was this... the Snake Queen? So she's the one controlling Florie with her powers, somehow? Maybe if I cut down those strings, I can free Florie or at least, I can try to do that!

"T-The darkness is spreading...!" Said Nieve, being protected by my barrier, we barely managed to ignore the domain's venomous effect, but it was still consuming the barriers, they won't even last ten minutes like this. I might have more MP than 1600 thanks to all the Titles bonus stats accumulated, but even then, it might not be enough.

"T-This is a Boss Domain! Without the Barrier of Planta, we would be dead meat already, we are super weak to poison as nature-type races!" Titan said. He had already spread out his roots, connecting to the tree and forming a large platform where we were standing right now, which was firmly stuck to the hard tree trunk.

"W-What the heck do we do now?! Isn't she even more overpowered than the giant snake? Do we even stand a chance?" Asked Rita nervously.

"Of course we do, Rita! Use the Malice Orb you have and absorb as much Malice as you can from Florie, she got tons, right?" I asked.

"Eh?! I can do that? ...RIGHT!" Rita realized the obvious, as her darkness orb began to float before her, suddenly beginning to absorb the darkness of the domain that Florie emanated. But even then, it wasn't fast enough to completely destroy her domain. We still had to deal with it, although in a weakened and more doable state. "Oooh! I am actually getting more power in this domain because I use darkness attribute!" Rita said maliciously, suddenly pointing her staff at Florie.

"Give me back my SISTER!" Nieve roared, as she swung her Rapier furiously against Florie, a battle quickly broke out.

SLASH! SLASH! SLASH!

Nieve's rapier moved swiftly and almost masterfully, unleashing storms of wind and icicle spears that attacked Florie with everything she had, but the little fairy intercepted them with enormous barriers of darkness, as gigantic snake heads made of some sort of phantasmal dark energy retaliated against Nieve, parrying her physical attacks!

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

"Nnggh...! S-So strong...!" Nieve muttered, mustering her strength to keep up with the Phantom Snake heads. Florie wasn't moving much at all. Was she a Stationary Boss? Well, that's for the better!

"Everyone, let's attack while Nieve distracts Florie! ...Ah! Where are the knights and soldiers at?!" I quickly looked behind me, finding them all trembling in fear far away, without being able to approach this darkness. Well, it was better if they stayed far away, even though it was very cowardly. "You guys escape! This is not something you can handle! Evacuate the people to the underground again! Tell the Queen about this!"

"U-Understood!"

The fearful soldiers and knights flew away right after I gave them that command, as all three of us ran forward! I mounted by Belle as she jumped over the platforms that Titan created for us, while Loki, Silver, and the evolved Mimy ran at my side, attacking the smaller Phantom Snake Heads that noticed us and began to direct their attacks at us.

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

"ROAR!"

Silver roared furiously, unleashing an explosive bombardment of dozens of spiraling water spears against the snakes, quickly exploding in contact, and destroying one of them swiftly. Meanwhile, Loki unleashed her vines, attacking another two snake heads and crushing them by whipping them out furiously! And while that was happening, Mimy used her brand new sword techniques to unleash several slashing attacks, all while using her shield to protect herself from the attacks of Florie.

Despite all of this, she seemed concentrated into Nieve, as she was barely attacking us using these snakes instead of her true powers. As she was conjuring giant spears made of darkness, which she pointed at Nieve.

"RAAAAH!"

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

Nieve intercepted each spear with her amazing and swift movements, unleashing a storm of snow and ice around her and freezing some before they could even reach her!

Meanwhile, I took out my weapon and decided to shape it as an hatchet, that's also a Farmer Tool, apparently! And without further ado, I swung it while calling forth the power of the Great Spirit.

"Great Spirit, please help me out!!!"

"Here I am, Planta!"

"Alright...! Spiritual Attack!"

SLAAAASH!

I swung my Hatchet with all the strength I had, as a slicing wave of spiritual green essence emerged from it, clashing against Florie's domain and her darkness barriers, and making them shatter!

CRASH!

"H-Huh?! T-That power...!" Florie muttered, suddenly feeling shocked.

### **Brand New Life Online: Rise Of The Goddess Of Harvest**

#### **Chapter 166: All Out Attack**

Somehow [Farming Tool Usage] also worked with a hatched-shaped farming tool. The moment I attacked with it, a slashing wave of green spiritual energy came out, as I had combined its effects with the [Spiritual Attack] technique that the Great Spirit of Farming and Harvest provided to me! Thanks to the Great Spirit's aid, my attack was greatly boosted, unleashing a ridiculously devastating blow that hit and shattered the darkness barriers of Florie for an instant!

CRAAASH!

"Ungh?! What the...?!" Florie asked in surprise, looking at me in disbelief, as her bright purple eyes shone bright red with fury. "You Players are truly a pest!"

Florie angrily cursed at me, as she unleashed dozens of Phantom Snakes my way. The enormous phantasmal snakes opened their jaws, pointing them at me as they started biting and nibbling my Spiritual Shield, quickly making several cracks over it, but my shield was, nonetheless resisting!

"Wind Spirit: Thunderstorm!"

I called upon the biggest Wind Spirit I had summoned by accident, as the gigantic black cloud unleashed lightning everywhere, suddenly clashing against Florie once more, her barriers shattered and her phantasmal snakes dissipated into black smoke one after the other as the lightning shocks hit her harder!

CLASH! CLASH! CLAAASH!

"Agh! Damn it!"

Florie backed down at long last, moving away from her current position and suddenly trying to run away from us. The power of my Wind Spirit was quite amazing, but he suddenly dissipated, Spirits summoned through Dragon Veins can at most attack once or twice before they go away, so it was understandable.

"You're not going away!" Titan roared, as he suddenly was flying above an enormous green-colored Wind Eagle Beast Spirit he had summoned! Wow, he didn't told he us he could do that!

"Blazing Lion! Ocean Turtle! Lightning Snake!"

Suddenly, three creatures were summoned before him, a blazing lion, a majestic sea turtle made of water, and a snake made completely out of golden lightning, all three of these Beast Spirits rushed forward, clashing against Florie's Darkness Barriers and stopping her from moving away by cornering!

"A Druid's Summons are truly something else...! However!" Florie said cheekily, unleashing another explosive shockwave of Miasmic Darkness, consuming the three beasts in an instant and making them explode one after the other!

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

"It is no use! Beast Spirits are the weakest despite their appearances, Miasma is more than enough to destroy them!" Laughed Florie, suddenly materializing a bow and an arrow out of darkness, and pointing an arrow at Titan while he was in midair.

"Abyss Arrow."

FLASH!

The arrow flew faster than we could even notice, reaching Titan's Barrier!

CLASH!

The barrier resisted, quickly gaining more and more cracks.

"Shit!"

Titan maneuvered in the skies while Florie continued to shot precise arrows made of darkness against him, the barrier continued gaining more and more cracks, until it broke!

CRASH!

"I got you~!" Florie smiled viciously, firing another arrow at Titan!

However!

CLASH!

I used [Spiritual Leap] and maneuvered in the middle of the air, swinging my weapon which I've shapeshifted into a shovel!

"Spiritual Attack!"

The spiritual energies gathered from within my body and flowed into my weapon, making it glow with bright green light, in a mere second, a powerful shockwave of this energy hit the arrows coming our way, blasting them into nothingness as the enormous beam of spiritual energy hit Florie directly!

BOOOMMM!!!

"Hahh~ Planta, you saved me..." Titan seemed grateful, as I quickly created more Spiritual Shields over him.

"Phew, I almost didn't make it...! Can't you learn Spiritual Shield?" I wondered.

"No, there are certain Skills between Ents and Dryads that are different. Instead of Spiritual Shield I have Nature's Armor, which I am already wearing over my body." Sighed Titan.

"Watch out!"

Just in the middle of our conversation, Nieve flew in front of us and suddenly conjured a large barrier made of ice, as an enormous mass of darkness impacted it!

BOOM!

"Y-Youuu...! What sort of power is that?! That was Pure Spiritual Essence...! The Great Spirits are all dead now! How come someone can wield their power?!" Florie cried in anger, unleashing a beam of darkness from her two hands against us.

"Hahaha! That's what you think, you dumb servant of the Demon King!" The Great Spirit emerged before me as a floating carrot, laughing at Florie. Although Florie could not see her, I sensed the entity controlling her... seeing her.

"A carrot?!" Florie muttered.

"I am not a Carrot you bitch!" The Great Spirit angrily barked back. That language wasn't that of a great spirit to me! "Planta, let's teach her a lesson! Swing the shovel as fast as you can, I got you!"

"O-Okay then! Guys, move back!" I cried, as Nieve and Titan moved behind me and then I gathered Mana and Spiritual Essence into my shovel again!

FLAAASH!

My shovel shone with bright green and golden light, suddenly growing three times its size! Woah, this is actually a bit ridiculous now!

"Spiritual Attack!" I roared, swinging the gigantic shovel and parrying the beam of darkness being lunged my way with an explosive blast of pure spiritual energy!

BOOOMMM!!!

"UUGGH?!"

Florie cried in agony, as the beam of green and golden light spiraled through the skies, piercing her darkness continuously! However, that wasn't the end, as I saw the Great Spirit herself flying through the beam of spiritual energy I unleashed! What is she even doing?!

"Let me show you the might of a Great Spirit, you pathetic servant of the Demon King!" She roared angrily, gathering all my Mana and her last amount of Spiritual Essence and suddenly turning enormous!

A gigantic carrot of over 30 meters flew straight towards Florie, hitting her directly and with everything I could muster!

Crack... crack...!

CRASH!

Her Dark Barriers quickly broke out, shattering into pieces as the carrot hit Florie directly, so big and strong it pushed her through the skies and then began falling with the carrot over her body!

"GYYYAAAAHHH...!"

BOOOOMMM!!!

### **Brand New Life Online: Rise Of The Goddess Of Harvest**

#### **Chapter 167: Desperate**

BOOOOMMM!!!

When the Great Spirit hit Florie and then threw her into the ground below the tree where Florie and Nieve's house used to be, an explosion of pure spiritual essence was unleashed, so strong it left an enormous crater. That was a bombastic carrot to say the least!

POOF!

Suddenly, the Great Spirit reappeared inside of my body, she was completely exhausted, and she even used all my MP too! I was, currently, falling from the sky because I had no more MP for Spiritual Leap, actually!

"Uwaahh! Stupid Great Spirit"

"What? Aren't you immortal? Dying is not a bad thing once you get used to it."

"Shut up! That doesn't make it any better!"

"Planta!"

FLASH!

But then, I saw Titan flying towards me! He extended his big wooden arms and caught me right in the middle of the air! His Wind Eagle flapped its wings, slowly descending into the ground.

"Phew, that was really close..." I sighed.

"Y-Yeah..." Titan seemed somehow embarrassed as he held me with his arms, but I quickly sat down in front of him, the back of the eagle was surprisingly warm and fluffy.

"Ah! Where's Nieve and Achlys?!" I asked. "Ah! What about Florie?!"

"Nieve went to see Florie, and Achlys is right behind me." Titan said. "Let's go chase down Nieve, I feel like she'll let her emotions do something stupid, we can't trust Florie yet even if she got knocked down!"



"Right! You're right in that!" I said. "Achlys, how is your Malice Orb doing?"

"It is completely filled already!" Said Rita. "But I've leveled up a special skill that increases its capacity, and it can hold even more! Also the Domain of the Boss moves around when she moves around too. Perhaps she didn't wanted to move at the beginning due to that."

"Oh, you're right, the Miasma is down there now! We have to quickly put a stop to that before she ends up infecting the fertile lands of the fairies!" I said, commanding everybody towards there, as Titan's eagle flapped its wings rapidly.

In the distance, we saw Nieve in the floor, suddenly holding Florie with her arms.

Is Florie unconscious already? She seems very weak, but not dead. It seems that Rita's ability really helped at weakening the darkness and malice she emanated, lowering her stats before she went completely out of control.

"Florie! Hang in there..."

Nieve was crying, desperately taking out a potion bottle from her pocket and trying to feed it to Florie. We quickly ran towards her, trying to stop her!

"NO, WAIT! STOP!" Titan roared, trying to stop Nieve from healing the Mid-Boss!

However, it was too late, Florie drank the entire potion as her eyes opened suddenly. Nieve's face smiled, comforted by seeing her little sister alive. We ran as fast as possible to protect Nieve, Florie had yet to even recover and the strings controlling her were still many, with the attack I did with the Great Spirit, two of them snapped, but another three are still there!

"Big... sis?"

"Florie! Are you okay? Is the thing possessing you dead?"

"Ah... big sis- Ungh...! Aagghhh!"

Florie suddenly began to agonize, as Nieve tried to help her.

"Florie! What's happening?!"

"Agghhhh!"

FLASH!

An enormous shockwave of darkness suddenly came out of Florie's body, once more impacting us strongly. I had managed to form two barriers over Nieve in time thanks to her being part of my party, which allowed me to grant her the Spiritual Shield Buff at any time anywhere she was as long as she was in my range of vision.

TRUUUUMMM...!

"No... NOOO!" Nieve cried, trying to help Florie again.

"AAAAGHHH! S-Sister...! Help meeee!" Florie began to cry, before the darkness of whatever was controlling her suddenly possessed her.

Her innocent face disappeared, as a vicious smile emerged in her lips. Darkness and purple essence gathered in her right hand, suddenly shaping into a dreadful claw that she used to suddenly attack Nieve!

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

"Agh...!" Nieve tripped in the floor, suddenly being only protected by my barriers as Florie's insane onslaught of attacks continued to crack the barriers!

"What's wrong, big sis?! Come on, don't you love me? Give me your life so I can grow stronger and healthier! Don't worry, after this is done, I promise you I will be a good girl~! Hahahaha!" Florie laughed sadistically, as an enormous spear suddenly materialized in her left hand, and she pierced through both barriers with it in an instant!

CLAAASH!

Nieve desperately parried the spear with her rapier, using her wings to fly several meters away from the vicious Florie, just before Titan got in her way, summoning an enormous Wooden Shield from the ground by inserting his roots underground!

"Wood Fortress!"

TRUUUMMM...!

The enormous Wooden Fortress was erected as Florie furiously started to slash it into pieces with her bare hands, rushing through the interior of the defensive barrier and reaching up to Titan in an instant!

"Get off my way!"

CLAAASH!

"GRAAAH!"

Titan clashed against her, using his sheer physical strength and defense to contend against Florie! The miasma began to seep through his body, poisoning him and taking away his HP constantly!

"I won't let you pass!"

Titan roared like a true titan, hitting the ground, and then generating countless roots from below, attempting to attack Florie with everything he had!

I quickly and finally reached him with Rita, as Rita suddenly pointed her staff at Florie.

"I'll unleash everything I've got, Titan, Planta! Move away!" She cried.

Titan noticed it, quickly generating another Wooden Fortress, and then running away, all while I boosted Rita's stats through the roof using a variety of buffs on her!

"Abyssal Underworld Gate!"

TRUUUMMM...!

Suddenly, all the Malice and Mana Rita had concentrated into the floor right before Florie, quickly surprising her and making her step back fearfully as an enormous black gate emerged! It looked like a portal right to the underworld!

The gigantic gate erected up to almost 30 meters, so big that Florie had to look up to see it completely. The entire thing emanated an enormous aura of pure obscure darkness and had an eerie phantasmal presence, this was the infamous spell Rita used against the giant snake!

CREAAAK...!

And the gates were once more opening!

### **Brand New Life Online: Rise Of The Goddess Of Harvest**

#### **Chapter 168: Purification**

"E-Eh? What is this?!" Florie asked in disbelief, slowly stepping backwards.

"These are the Gates that lead to the Abyss of the Underworld! Enjoy them!" Rita laughed.

CREAAAK...!

The enormous gate opened, as an eternal abyss of pure darkness emerged from within, and then, countless of tentacles with red eyes attached to them began to attack Florie, coiling around her Darkness Barriers!

This sight is just as frightening as back then! But if we let her get dragged inside, wouldn't Florie end up dying?! We have to let her be weakened, but not dragged into the gates!

"GYAAAAHHH...!"

Florie screamed in pure horror and fear, as the tentacles entangled her barriers and began to break them one after the other, all while dragging her into the gates of the underworld, each second that her barriers were being touched by those tentacles, the barriers were breaking, and her HP and MP were being drained as well, just like it happened with the snake yesterday!

"No...! Stop! T-This is...! STOOOP!" Florie cried in horror, trying to crawl away, using her powers to attack the gates, but the tentacles loved her darkness, and absorbed it in an instant. Her barriers finally broke, as the tentacles captured her small body, absorbing more and more of her energy, but not crushing her.

"Ugh, this shit is hard to control!" Rita said.

"Rita, you can control this spell?!" I asked.

"Kind of! I am just going to drain her of all the MP she got and then drop her there! It is up to you and Titan to knock her down for good before she does anything funny!" Rita said. Her Satiation and her MP were all being drained away by using this Ultimate Dark Magic Spell, so she was putting her everything into this.

"Alright!" I said, quickly running in front with Titan at my side.

Titan suddenly gave me a small MP Potion, this was the Beginner Potions he had been saving for himself, but he shared one of them with me.

"Here, drink it! Let's make a wooden cage after she's out of MP! Use your MP to shower her with your spirit energy, I think that might purify her completely!" Said Titan.

"Alright, let's bet on it!" I said.

"AGGHHH! Let me go!"

Florie cried angrily, attacking the tentacles with her bare hands and legs, she had gained superhuman strength out of nowhere, but this was not enough to destroy the Abyssal Tentacles of the Underworld. Suddenly her MP finally reached zero, as she suddenly grew weaker as all her dark aura disappeared. The tentacles also turned into black smoke alongside the gates, which closed and disappeared.

BAAM!

Florie fell over the floor, slowly trying to crawl back. Her MP was already recovering at a frightening pace, so we had to quickly stop her before she got any more dangerous!

Titan and I hit the ground with our foot and shapeshifted them into enormous roots that began to spread through, quickly reaching Florie and creating a large cage trapping her inside. She tried to fight back with her sheer physical strength, but our wood had grown more and more resilient as we entangled it together constantly, making it hard for her to damage it completely.

"Great Spirit! Use all my MP, purify her, please!"

"I think I can do it! Grand Harvest it is, dear!"

The Great Spirit festively celebrated the MP I gave to her, as she suddenly shone brightly, shapeshifting into an enormous tree?! She extended her roots over the cage, enchanting it and unleashing all her spiritual power, which was like the brightest light I could have ever seen.

FLAAASH!

"AAGGH...!"

Florie cried the more she was bathed in this light, as all the darkness within her began to slowly dissipate, the strings connecting her to whoever was behind this, which I assumed might be the Snake Queen, began to snap one after the other, until the last one finally snapped!

SNAP!

"A-Ahhh...! Aggh...! Ugh..."

Florie gritted her teeth, as the tattoos covering her body faded away, and the strange physical changes on her also turned into ashes, turning her back to how she looked like before. She immediately fell asleep inside the cage, her HP was barely 5%, but she was alive.

"Is that it?" Titan muttered, sighing in relief.

"I-I think so..." I sighed.

"HAHH..." Titan sighed, quickly falling over the floor. "Man, I want to take a break after this..."

"Likewise..." I said, sitting over the ground.

I noticed Rita over the floor as well, we barely managed to do it.

Nieve was still rather alright, as she flew towards us and quickly checked Florie after making sure we were alright.

"Florie... I-Is she okay? What did you do?" She asked.

"I purified her darkness... the Snake Queen was most likely controlling her through a Curse, but I uncursed her." I sighed.

"Y-You did that?!" She asked.

"I don't think I can do it so leisurely... So please, don't get excited... We have to leave healing the curse to Acorn." I said while resting over the floor.

"R-Right... Thank you for not... killing her... I... A lot of things just happened. I am trying to just... process everything..." Nieve sighed.

"It's fine... Phew... I am just glad things turned out to be alright as well." I sighed with a smile.

Ding!

[Act V] of the Event Quest has been completed]

[After you've saved Florie from the Curse that had made her a puppet of the Snake Queen, you've managed to not only gain the trust and loyalty of Nieve, but also of the Queen of Fairies and the Fairy Kingdom by itself! Now move back to the Fairy Queen Castle to receive her regards and help heal Florie and the Fairies completely, the final Act is approaching...]

Oh, the quest was finally completed... Huh, I feel like the System is just ordering me around. Well, it is not as if I wasn't going to do that eventually, so you don't really need to tell me, System.

Nonetheless, after everything ended, we ended resting for a bit over the floor and then, we slowly walked back to the Fairy Queen Castle, all while several priests ended purifying the area from the miasma so it wouldn't spread out.

"So Florie was being controlled by the Snake Queen all along?" Wondered the Queen, looking at Nieve.

"My Queen... I am willing to take any punishment in her stead! I will hold responsible for my little sister's sins..." Nieve said, kneeling before the queen.

### **[Brand New Life Online: Rise Of The Goddess Of Harvest](#)**

#### **Chapter 169: Forgiveness**

The Queen of Fairies smiled, quickly petting Nieve's head.

"Dear, there is no problem. Things were away from your expectations; it is not your fault that this has happened because of her. We had already analyzed everything, and it even seemed as if Florie wasn't being herself." Said the Queen. "Is that right, Planta?"

The Queen looked at me as I nervously nodded.

"Y-Yes! That's right, she wasn't being herself, I was able to purify a darkness seeping within her body. There was also a curse I ended breaking. It seems she was being manipulated by the Snake Queen." I said, quickly looking at Nieve while trying to relieve her.

"She was being manipulated?" Asked Nieve in confusion.

"W-Well, you were also able to notice it while fighting, right?" I asked.

"Y-Yeah, there was something within her..." Sighed Nieve.

"Indeed, just as I had suspected, Florie was being possessed by the Snake Queen." I said. "Through the System Quests I had, I learned some insight about her and what had been happening to Florie. She wasn't always herself, and she was being manipulated sporadically by the Spider Queen's powers, most likely. The spread of the Curse Disease, the sabotage of the golems, and other things might had been caused by Florie when she was being possessed. Nieve, did you said that you found Florie in the forest?"

"Y-Yes, I found her years back in the forest..." Said Nieve.

"It might had been a set up by the Snake Queen then." I said while quickly analyzing everything.

"A set up?" The Fairy Queen wondered.

"Yes... Probably the Snake Queen kidnaped Florie since she was a little baby and brainwashed her with her powers into becoming something like a servant or a slave... and then left her there so someone could adopt her later and then infiltrate the Fairy Country." I said. "O-Of course, it is all just speculation but..."

"No, there might be some truth in such words. Perhaps it might had been like that... From what I remember, the Snake Queen is a very vicious and scheming creature. I do remember back then when... She used to not be evil, when she was my friend." Sighed the Fairy Queen.

"T-The Snake Queen was your friend?" I asked in surprise.

"Isn't that just a monster though?" Asked Titan.

"Well yeah, but in the past she was a guardian of the forest like many other big monsters. She governed the swamps and protected her people, the Lamia Folk. But those people had long ago gone extinct from this place, their bodies were very vulnerable to the change in environment, and the miasma that corrupted the Snake Queen killed them." Sighed the Fairy Queen.

"The Miasma... Is it from the Demon King of Miasma?" I wondered.

"When he first appeared in the world he began spreading his Miasma everywhere... He infected many people, many friends, and made them turn against one another. It was an era of chaos. Now, thanks to the Immortals sent by the Gods, the resurrection of the Demon King is being kept at bay... Two other Lesser Demon Lords had been revived before him, but they were also slain at due time. Immortals, such as you and your two other friends, Planta, are the heralds of the Gods sent to protect the world. But sometimes, they act strangely and childishly, so we have grown to be cautious around them." Sighed the Fairy Queen.

"S-So that's a thing..." I said.

I feel like she was finally allowed to speak a bit more of lore, something the System wasn't allowing her to do automatically. Now it seems that for the inhabitants of this game world, Players are seen as Immortals sent by the Gods to protect the world and them. I guess the penalty given by killing NPC make it so most Players never dare terrorize or kill NPC. This way, for the NPC, Players usually are seen as Neutral or Good, and never truly perceived as evil.

But that doesn't mean Players can't do tricks or things to the NPC, such as stealing from them or tricking them, so they gain bad reputation and might create a fear to them, like it happened here.

"The Snake Queen died once, and much like the Demon King, she had been revived almost at the same time he did, much like many of his servants. Although they are way weaker than before." Said the Queen. "The Mushroom Hero defeated the three Evils when they were at their peak, so strong they were comparable to Level 150 Beasts."

"L-Level 150?!" I asked. "I remember I defeated the Dark Shadow Crow King and the Evil Walking Mushroom King, but they were super weak... Like below Level 20." I said.

"Yes, it is because they had already died, to regain their strength they were slowly attempting to devour this entire forest once more." Sighed the Queen. "The forest of Beginnings is a very important area in this continent- no, the entire world, it is the core of the Verdant Continent, and the last area that might bring Life and Nature back to its once verdant beauty." Sighed the Queen as she looked into the mirror. "I believe you might be the chosen one for such a task, dear Planta."

"M-me?" I asked.

"Yes... But before that, defeating the Snake Queen is a priority." She said. "She was always the strongest of the three, so her strength right now, even if weakened, might be very high." She added, while looking at my eyes. "Do you think you're ready to defeat it?"

"I... Well, tomorrow, maybe?" I said.

"Hm, I am not rushing you into this... I've already given you my gift, dear Planta." Said the Queen. "If I could be stronger, I might be able to fight at your side, but at my current state, I am too weak and sickly. My Health is slowly fading away, sadly."

"Don't worry, we'll find a cure and defeat the Snake Queen, Queen Titania." I assured her, as the beautiful queen smiled sweetly.

"Thank you... You're such a good person." She sighed. "I will be... indebted to you..."

Queen Titania suddenly fell asleep.

### **Brand New Life Online: Rise Of The Goddess Of Harvest**

#### **Chapter 170: Florie's Tears**

"Queen Titania!" Nieve cried, flying towards the sleeping Queen.

"Don't scream like that, Nieve!" I said angrily. "She's alright."

I approached the Queen and held her hand, infusing my Spiritual Essence from the Great Spirit of Farming and Harvest into her body. The moment that happened, I was able to sense her health and how she was... she was barely hanging on a thread.

However, she was still alive for now.

"We have to hurry and get a cure to this, there might only be a few days before... the Queen might perish." I sighed.

"No..." Nieve cried.

"Acorn might have already gotten something by now, should we go look for him?" Titan wondered.

"Sounds like a good idea, Titan." I said with a nod.

"Then let's get to it." Achlys added, urging us to get moving.

I suppose she might also want to heal the fairy queen. Although Rita tries to make herself be dumb about these things or simply see them as a game, she still feels moved by what is happening, and wants to help as well. I know her very well.

"I bet you're worried, right? Alright, let's go see Acorn and the Mushroom Brigade, I'm sure they're working hard." I said. "Wait, let's go take a visit to Florie first."

"Oh, right..." Said Titan. "Is Florie okay, Nieve?"

"Yes... She's sleeping now but it was all thanks to Planta and your help. She was purified and even healed... But I don't know what to even talk to her whenever she wakes up. I am... afraid." Sighed Nieve. "I don't want to see her as someone evil, nor I want to blame her, but I don't know how she'll react after realizing that everything she was might have been a fabrication of the Snake Queen... I am so worried and afraid of how she'll react to everything." Nieve sighed once more, she seemed very concerned.

I quickly moved to her side and hugged her.

"Uwah... P-Planta?!"

"Don't worry, Nieve. Everything will be alright. I am sure that your love for Florie goes past such things. Let's talk with her about this peacefully, I am sure that a girl as smart as her will realize what had happened."

"R-Really...?"

Nieve sighed, looking into the mirror.

"I sometimes feel like I don't even know her well... I am so insecure of knowing how she'll react to this. And I am afraid that I have no idea how to help her... I've trained my entire life as a magic knight, but I was never good in all of these other things about talking, dealing with people's emotions and all of that... I wish I could have paid more attention to her. Maybe this wouldn't have happened if I had discovered it earlier and would have helped her. Maybe Florie had been in pain this entire time, and I've been ignorant to this for so long... Could you think of all the times she might have wanted my help, but



could have never asked for it? While I simply never could even catch a clue..." Nieve cried, beginning to look vulnerable, she was opening her icy heart to us.

I kept hugging her as she cried in my shoulders, caressing her head.

"You're such a good-hearted person, Nieve... To think you would think so ahead and consider even her feelings in such a way. Don't worry, you're a good person, you simply couldn't see through it due to the magic's powers, not because of your negligence. Don't blame yourself for everything here." I told her.

"Hm, that's right. It wasn't something you could have ever predicted, you did something nice for her, and brought her home, gave her food, raised her, and loved her as your little sister." Said Titan. "I believe you can do that again, right? Come on, don't cry now, you're prettier and more dazzling when you smile."

Titan's words and my words quickly made Nieve calm down a bit more.

"M-Maybe..." She sighed. "But now, what should I do?" She wondered.

"Come on, they already told you, we'll go meet Florie and talk this out with her." Rita said. "Let's go dear."

"Thank you..." Nieve felt more comfortable with the three of us helping her, as we quickly made our way across the castle's corridors until we reached a room which was being heavily guarded by five guards.

With Nieve's authority, we were quickly allowed to enter the room, and in there, on a tiny bed, there was Florie sleeping peacefully.

"Florie..." Nieve flew towards her little sister, quickly touching her hand and remaining at her side. "I think she's sleeping..." She sighed. "Maybe we should-"

"Big... sis?"

Suddenly, Florie heard Nieve's words, as she slowly woke up. Her beautiful pink eyes opened slowly, as she looked at her big sister, speaking with a weak voice.

"Florie!" Nieve cried. "A-Are you okay? Do you feel good? Y-You should sleep some more..."

"Big sis..." Florie cried again. Suddenly, her eyes began to cry, as tears flowed from her eyes, covering her face like two rivers. "Ugh... I'm sorry..."

"F-Florie?!" Nieve cried. "Don't cry...!"

"Ugh... I remember everything now... Guh.. I'm sorry... I didn't want to hurt anybody... But if I didn't obey... she said they would kill you... And she said she would kill me after... I couldn't resist her manipulation... It hurt so much..." She cried. "I'm sorry for being bad..."

"N-No, please... You were never bad. If you were being manipulated by the Snake Queen... Then it wasn't your fault!" Said Nieve. "I-It wasn't your fault..."

"But I still feel bad about it... T-There's no way it still not my fault... I've hurt so many people... B-Because of me, many died from the disease... I am a bad person... Sniff... I'm sorry..." Florie cried again, as Nieve quickly hugged her, sitting over the bed at her side.

"It's okay, my little Florie... It's okay..." Cried Nieve. "It wasn't your fault... I am just happy to have you back..."