

Brand New 451

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

Chapter 451: Intense Battle

BAAAAAMMM!!!

A gigantic arm made of stone and dirt hit the Ghostly Bear Tyrant's head and threw the beast into the ground with a single and powerful hit. The enormous Earth Spirit Arm then began hitting the surrounding Hollows, sending several of them flying into the air.

"GRAAAAH! GRUOOHH..."

The bear quickly began standing up again, as Rita jumped over it and pointed her gun at it.

"Eat lead, bitch!"

BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG!

Rita activated both the [Elemental Bullet] and the [Bullet Time] Abilities of Onyx, as countless Elemental Bullets imbued with her Familiar Whitey's Holy Light Magic began piercing the Bear's body and face.

"GRAAAAH...! GRUOOHHHH...!"

But that wasn't enough.

FLUOOOOOOSH!

A massive storm of darkness and phantasmal flames surged from within the Ghostly Bear Tyrant, throwing us away, the enormous beast glaring at us furiously. It was bleeding all over yet it seemed to have grown stronger from that!

"Unnnnggh..." Rita slowly stood up, pointing her gun at the bear. "FUCK YOU!"

BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG!

"GRAAAAAHHH...!"

The bear started charging at her while taking on all the damage, a red-colored phantasmal flame slowly began surging from within its body, the bear's eyes shone bright red in utter fury.

"RITA!"

I quickly ran towards her, grabbing my crazy and reckless friend and then taking out the broom from my Inventory, flying right above the bear's claws before they hit where Rita was a second ago!

BAAAAAM!

"Mark!"

"On it!"

Mark quickly brought out two enormous Totems flaring with flames, as he placed them in the ground with his flames, while his knife began charging large quantities of his Mana.

"[Totem Spirit's Infernal Chains]!"

FLAAAAASH!

The two totems resembling a bird and a tiger unleashing roars of animals, as flames surged from within them and shaped themselves into chains, wrapping around the furious bear.

"[Lesser Dragon Flames]! [Double Slash]!"

Mark activated his dagger's skills as he unleashed a draconic flame in the shape of two powerful slashing attacks, slicing through the bear's entire body countless times.

"GRAAAAAHHH!"

However, the bear had a monstrous resilience, breaking apart his chains and then slamming him into the ground with a single slash of his claws.

CLAAAASH!

"AAGGH...!"

Mark suddenly vomited a mouthful of blood as he looked at the bear furiously looking at him. His gigantic phantasmal flames-imbued claws began unleashing countless attacks against him.

"[Blazing Armor]! [Blazing Fortress]!"

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLAAASH!

Mark amazingly tanked the hits by generating an armor made of flames and then a fortress of fire, which was being destroyed by the bears blows constantly.

"OOOOHHH!"

Meanwhile, five flying Hollows in the shape of birds reached us, trying to take a bite on our Mana while we were distracted.

"Fuck off you bastards! Whitey! [Purifying Light]!"

"CHUUUU!"

The little white rat unleashed a bright shine of white light, hurting and weakening the Hollows, as their bodies started to disappear slowly due to being exposed to this holy light.

"UOOOOHHHHH...!"

"GRAAAHHH!"

"TOO BRIGHT! IT HURTSSS....!"

"Take this!" I roared, as I imbued Mana into my free hand and fused it with three tiny Nature Spirits that were sticking to me, quickly transforming my arm into a gigantic wooden arm, as I slammed the Hollows with a single fist!

BAAAAAMMMM!!!!

SPLAAAT!

They all exploded into pieces and dropped their Hollow Crystals, dying on the spot.

Meanwhile, Mark was still tanking the Ghostly Bear Tyrant, but struggling to deal any damage.

"Rita, shoot that thing's eyes!" I quickly leaped forward, right over the Bear's head while it was being distracted.

"Got it!" Rita nodded, her aim improved after getting many equipment items that improved her DEX.

BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG!

Five bullets were shoot but only two landed in the eyes, the others ended hitting the bear's jaws and chest.

"GRUOOOHHHH...!"

Having lost its sight, I quickly reached the bear's head using the Wind Spirit's assistance through the [Wind Spirit Leap] Spell, and pointing my shovel into the bear's head.

"This better works...! [Spiritual Explosion]!"

BOOOOOOOOOOMMMMMM!!!!

The shovel absorbed over a hundred MP, as an enormous explosive impact hit the bear's head, it was pure spiritual power exploding at its strongest possible level, the bear couldn't resist it, as its skull shattered and the whole head exploded into pieces.

CLAAASH!

And I landed rather harshly over Mark.

"Ouch...! Ah, Elayne... W-Well done..." He sighed.

"Mark! Are you hurt?" I asked, quickly healing him.

"I am fine, but we're far from over." His sharp eyes glanced around our surroundings when he got so serious he always looked so handsome.

"Shit, more Hollows?!" Rita panicked as we saw a dozen more Hollows show up from the woods.

"Well, that's good, that's exactly why we came here, our Mana will attract them so we can get to kill them all." The Great Spirit said evilly. "Now, don't falter and push forwards!"

"OOOHHHH! MANAAAA!"

"MAGIC... MANA!!!"

"FOOD... STARVING!"

"GRAAAHHHH!!!"

I guess this was the perfect time to test my "army"! I quickly took out several seeds from my Inventory and threw them into the ground.

"[Plant Growth Acceleration]!"

FLAAAASH!

The seeds began glowing brightly, as they started to germinate and turn into plants, roots, branches, fruits, leaves. Everything grew and took shape. In mere seconds, a dozen walking vegetables and fruits with legs and arms showed up, with adorable faces at that, but fierce glares.

"GO!" I ordered my plant minions, as they quickly created weapons made out of their own bodies and started fighting the Hollows, piercing their bodies and attacking them with the fierceness of nature.

CLASH! CLASH! BOOOOM! CRAAASH! CLAAASH!

"Now that we've got their help, let's aid them!" I said.

"Alright!" Mark nodded.

"Woah, this is... not what I expected, but fine, it works!" Rita laughed.

We continued fighting the Hollows incessantly. We were covered in wounds, sweating all over, and our bodies seemed to be barely managing to stand up. We were drinking Mana Potions constantly while fighting. Gritting our teeth and bearing with the exhaustion had already become a norm for us.

It seemed endless, but once a few hours passed, we have finally finished. Hundreds of Hollow Crystals were lying around everywhere, alongside a few more monster corpses.

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Chapter 452: Victory

If it wasn't for the special food I made using the ingredients from Arcadia, we would have probably fallen unconscious right there. By eating the fruit pies I made, drinking some fruit juice, and eating some chicken salad, we recovered most of our stamina and magic power, giving us enough energy to carry everything inside my Inventory and then walk back home.

"I can't believe we killed over a hundred monsters..." Rita was shocked. "We've truly gotten pretty strong!"

"Kyu!" Whitey was just as happy.

"The amount of monsters that arrived here this morning was too much, however. It was a bit concerning." Mark said. "And also exhausting..."

"Phantasmos might be really close now. Perhaps tonight..." I sighed, sensing the presence of this entity slowly getting closer.

The battle against this powerful Death General, a high level monster that obeys the Demon King of Death was drawing closer. It wasn't just any monster after all, it might be at the same level as several high level late-game Boss monsters from BNLO.

"We have to get ready until then!" The Great Spirit said. "Come on everyone, with these many materials, I am sure we can all grow stronger until the bastard arrives!"

"I just want a nap before that though..." Rita yawned.

"Well we can relax while absorbing the magic crystals." I giggled.

"Elayne..." Mark said, gently touching my shoulder.

"Huh?"

"I know its hard... all of this, but please, don't ever think of bearing the entire fight by yourself once it happens, okay?" He said with eyes filled with conviction. "We've been growing stronger all this time for you, because... we don't want you to bear with all the responsibility."

"Mark..."

"Yep! Although I really want a nap, I won't let my friend just do it all by herself. I kind of know how you are though, a bit too self-sacrificing at times." Rita sighed. "I bet you were thinking on leaving us behind when the time to fight that ghost guy came, isn't it?"

"I never... well, I thought about it. I considered it." I sighed. "I just... now that we are not in our Player Avatars, battles will be much more dangerous. We can't revive if we die here. I... I don't want to lose you two."

"Awww..." Rita said. "THOUGH, ARE YOU SAYING I'M WEAK?! I'm strong as fuck!"

"Hahaha, I guess she's underestimating us a bit." Mark felt slightly hurt.

"N-No that's not it! I... I am just worried. That's all. But... I want to trust you." I said to the two of them. "You're my best friends and... I love you two so much, losing you would literally kill me."

Rita began patting my back.

"Ahahaha! Come on now, as long as we stick together and beat them baddies, we'll persevere. We haven't been preparing for nothing either, right?" Rita smiled cheerfully.

"That's right, trust us as much as we trust you." Mark said with a gentle smile.

"Okay, fine... Ugh, but don't do anything rash! For now, let's go power-up as much as possible in our hideout." I said.

We have crafted a little underground room using the help of the Earth Spirits near the River. We illuminated it with Glowing Stones that the Gnomes mined for us back in Arcadia, and we decided to use this place for anything we can't do in the open, even less at day.

I've made sure to decorate it as well! I added some nice-looking tapestry, some wooden statues my people back in Arcadia made for us, table, comfortable seats, and more.

The power-boosting started right away. After making similar magic circles than before, we placed over a hundred purified Hollow Magic Crystals on top of the node connecting to all three of us. We also added some of the magic crystals from the monsters, which were twelve in total, but we decided to save the rest to make armor, shields, or new equipment.

FLAAAAASH!

As we relaxed and meditated, we felt enormous quantities of Mana flowing into our bodies. The Crystals began disappearing into dust one after the other, after a hour and a half, they were all gone and our powers had increased tremendously.

And once more, I suddenly heard the voice.

[Your Magic Power has vastly improved.]

[Your Magic Circle has reached almost its peak.]

[You're overflowing with Spiritual Runes.]

"Aaahh, so much magic power, I can feel the power!" Rita laughed evilly, as her aura of darkness overflowed from her body almost endlessly.

"The difference is very clear..." Mark was surprised. "How strong did we become?"

"Hmmm, let me analyze you guys." I said. "[Spiritual Gaze]!"

FLAAASH!

Oooh, it was amazing! We all had now over 900 Elemental Runes. I had all of them being Spirit Runes, which more than doubled my power with the Spirits and my magic. I had engraved several new spells as well, and I also improved upon the existing ones.

This time, due to the ability to customize my Magic Circle unlike in Arcadia, I decided to make some new "original" spells, such as Nature Spirit's Rage, Greater Spirit Summon, Otherworldly Familiar Summon, Nature Assimilation, Yggdrasil's Armor, Soil Domain, Soil Manipulation, Terrain Takeover amongst others.

All of them were incredibly advanced spells that cost a lot of MP this time around, which according to the Great Spirit could only be conjured by a magician of at least Tier 4, but because my Spirit Runes were a cheat, with each one being hundreds of elemental spirits each, it was possible.

Though they were all mostly trump cards due to their high costs, so I cannot overuse them as I would have wanted. Nonetheless, with the hundreds of Mana Potions I have stored as a backup, I am pretty sure I can fight a lot with these, even against impossible foes.

Or so I hope.

"You guys are all pretty strong too, we've all gotten into Tier 1: Rank 9! We're just a single rank off getting to the pinnacle of Tier 1, or perhaps to Tier 2." I said with a smile.

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Chapter 453: Making More Magic Equipment!

"Amazing, we've gotten this strong so quickly?" Rita was shocked. "Though, can't we use the remaining materials to get to Tier 2?"

"Nope, I've already calculated, you need at least another hundred or so crystals!" Said the Great Spirit. "It is better to use these monster magic crystals to make yourselves some extra equipment for some extra status boosts and stuff."

"Well that's better. I wonder what we should get over our clothes, maybe some coats, and helmets? I also want a small shield to protect myself." Said Mark.

"I guess a Shield for me too wouldn't be so bad." Rita nodded. "Though, can't we enchant our current items even more?"

"Nope, the current limit has reached for our stuff, but you can get more stuff over it! Stack as many bonuses and potentials as you can." The Great Spirit nodded.

"Then let's begin!" I said. "You two, help me out in making a protective coat against the Undead and Phantom Type attacks using the Ghostly Bear Tyrant hide, I think it could be quite resilient. Also, let's make you two some specialized shields. I'll also make some more accessories, bracelets and perhaps necklaces too."

"Helmets as well! They're very necessary for survival. A hit in the head and it's over." Said Mark.

"Right, but how can we design these?" Wondered Rita.

"We'll use the monsters' bones, hide, and muscle fiber. I'll mix and wrap them up using my Vines, Roots, and Branches too." I said. "And then imbue spirits in each material, use Spirit Fusion and [Pathway]! However, I'll still need your assistance and what appearance you overall want. So let's begin."

Like that, we started crafting and designing the equipment we wanted. We mostly put most of our time crafting new shields for Rita and Mark, three helmets, three coats, and three more accessories.

This whole crafting business wasn't easy, and it takes a big deal of time, so we couldn't make as many things as we could have desired, and we prioritized the most important things.

First of all, I made three identical of these and then enchanted them with Potential Cubes. It seemed that through this "rapid method" all potentials ended being the same, which was convenient, as we wanted these coats to add us some extra bulk and resistances.

[Six [Potential Cube (D Rank)] have been utilized on [Ghostly Tyrant Bear Reinforced Magic Coat (E Rank)] x3!]

[The [Ghostly Tyrant Bear Reinforced Magic Coat (E Rank)] x3 has evolved into a D Rank Magic Coat!]

[The items have gained the Potential Abilities [VIT +15% (D)] [HP +12% (D)] [Phantom Resistance (D)] and [Darkness Resistance (D)]!]

I called this method of "repeatedly getting the same Potential" that I can only do through Spirit Fusion plus [Pathway] as "Mass Production". I could use it in the future to craft many of the same, identical items.

However, that wasn't all...

[The Divinities [All Mother of Life and Souls] [Dark Lady Dressed By The Night] and [Furious King of Blazing Flames] have further blessed the [Ghostly Tyrant Bear Reinforced Magic Coat (D Rank Magic Coat)] x3]

[The [Ghostly Tyrant Bear Reinforced Magic Coat (D Rank Magic Coat)] x3 have acquired the Special Potential [Magic Resistance (D)]!]

Ooh, it added Magic Resistance thanks to the gods! Thanks a lot, with this we can tank even more hits by covering ourselves with these special coats, how convenient.

"These coats are shining brightly, amazing!" Rita was shocked. "I can feel some sort of power capable of shielding us against magic power here..."

"Was this the god's doing? They seem to be actively watching us and helping us." Mark said.

[The Divinity [Furious King of Blazing Flames] says that Mark shouldn't get too cocky, this was merely a fitting reward for having slain so many monsters just now.]

"Hahaha, yeeeah." I decided to not say that to Mark.

Was the God of Fire a bit of a tsundere or something?

Because we were in a hurry and we just needed just the most basic enchantments and protections, I also decided to hurry and make the three helmets, shields, and bracelets through the same "Mass Production" technique I got, which made the creation and production of things slightly faster, though we still ended spending hours on this...

[Six [Potential Cube (D Rank)] have been utilized on [Spiritually Reinforced Beast Helmets (E Rank)] x3!]

[The [Spiritually Reinforced Beast Helmets (E Rank)] x3 has evolved into a D Rank Magic Helmets!]

[The items have gained the Potential Abilities [RES +13% (D)] [VIT & HP +10% (D)] [Physical Damage Resistance (D)] and [Total Damage Taken -15% (D)]!]

[The Divinities [All Mother of Life and Souls] [Dark Lady Dressed By The Night] and [Furious King of Blazing Flames] have further blessed the [Spiritually Reinforced Beast Helmets] x3 with the [HP and Stamina Regeneration Speed +30% (D)]!]

"Ah they further blessed them again!"

Next are the shields for my friends, my own shield was still pretty good, so I only made it for the two of them.

[Four [Potential Cube (D Rank)] have been utilized on [Roughly Made Monster Shield (No Rank)] x2!]

[The [Roughly Made Monster Shield (No Rank)] x2 has evolved into a D Rank Magic Shields!]

[The items have gained the Potential Abilities [RES +13% (D)] [VIT +15% (D)] [Magic Shield (D)] and [Magic Damage Taken -10% (D)]!]

[The Divinities [Dark Lady Dressed By The Night] and [Furious King of Blazing Flames] have further blessed the items with special, hidden abilities.]

I also decided to further enchant my own with an extra Potential Cube, something I hadn't done before yet...

[The [Potential Cube (D)] has improved the : [Roughly Made Monster Shield (D Rank Magic Shield)] Existing Potentials and Added the Following Potential Lines: [Magic Damage Taken -15% (D)] and [Spiritual Fortress (D)]!]

[The Improved Existing Potentials have become: [RES +17% (D)] -> [VIT & RES +17%] [Elemental Shield (D)] -> [Elemental Damage -15% (D)]

[The Divinity [All Mother of Life and Souls] has further blessed your shield and granted it yet another Hidden Ability]

[She tells you not to tell the other gods about this.]

Oh, thanks a lot Gaia!

"And done! Now the only thing left are the bracelets and we're set." I said with a nod. "Ah, it's already getting darker, we need to go back home to have dinner..."

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Chapter 454: The Confrontation Is Near

[Six [Potential Cube (D Rank)] have been utilized on [Spiritual Druid's Beast Bracelets (E Rank)] x3!]

[The [Spiritual Druid's Beast Bracelets (E Rank)] x3 has evolved into a D Rank Magic Bracelets!]

[The items have gained the Potential Abilities [INT & MP +10% (D)] [AGI & DEX +10% (D)] [Magic Spell Power +25% (D)] and [Magic Spells Mana Cost -25% (D)]!]

[The Divinities [All Mother of Life and Souls] [Dark Lady Dressed By The Night] and [Furious King of Blazing Flames] have further blessed the [Spiritual Druid's Beast Bracelets] x3, the items have acquired the Special Potential [Spiritual Resonance (D)]!]

Once we wore the bracelets, their spiritual and magical powers quickly boosted our strength as long as we had them equipped. With all these stacked equipment we've made through this long week, we felt more than ready to take on anything now.

"These bracelets are just the best!" Rita said happily, wearing them and quickly feeling the magical power flowing through her body. "And you say they decrease the Mana Cost of Spells by -25%?! It is an insane cheat!"

"And the Gods further blessed it with Spiritual Resonance, with this you can call and resonate with your spirits even easily." I said. "With everything we've got, the only thing left is to wait for them to come... Now let's go have dinner."

"Yeah, let's go." Mark nodded. "Though going around with these items is a bit..."

"I know, let me store them for you. Once we go out, I'll give them back, don't worry." I nodded. Going around with a giant beast-like helmet, shields, and a coat was really weird, so it was better to save them for later, yeah.

Like that, we made our way back home and found my mother with my sisters cooking something up.

"Hey look who's finally back! You three disappeared for hours! It's almost dinner now. Were you having fun?" Wondered my mom.

"Y-Yeah!" Rita said. "We went shopping and I got myself this tiny mouse."

"Huh? Never thought you would get yourself a pet, Rita." Said Mary. "I thought you... hated rats, no? Didn't Henrietta had a pet rat when she was very little and you were terrified by it?"

"Yeah I remember chasing you around with the tiny Mister Cheese and you ran away like crazy." Henrietta laughed.

"T-That's long in the past!" Said Rita while laughing nervously.

"Let me see it!" Henrietta quickly grabbed the little Whitey, petting his tiny head. "He's so cuteee!"

"Kyu, kyu!" Whitey seemed slightly nervous by being grabbed around though.

"Henrietta don't just go around grabbing a rat when we are cooking..." My mother sighed. "Now finish making the salad!"

"A-Ah, right. I'll wash my hands..." My sister quickly gave the rat back to Rita, while I joined with them and Rita to finish dinner. Meanwhile, Mark, my father, and my brother, who got along pretty well by now, began preparing the table.

After a few minutes, we were all enjoying dinner together. Mom had prepared a delicious turkey leg for dinner, which was so big it was enough meat for everyone. we enjoyed the meal together and happily.

"Ah, this salad you prepared is so fresh, Henrietta! You added some nice spices too." I was surprised.

"Yep I added a bit of Olive Oil, Coconut Milk, some Apple Vinegar, amongst other things. I know salad tends to taste bland so I like to give it a nice twist." She said, while eating a Vegan Burger I prepared for her.

"I never tasted a salad with these many flavors before..." Elena was surprised.

"Is that so~? Then I could begin preparing salad with more of these things if you want to." I said with a smile.

"Hmm, wouldn't be so bad. I especially didn't thought coconut milk would go this well..." Elena was surprised.

"Nah, the killer tonight is still this amazing turkey! I can't believe how tender and flavorful the meat is!" Anna was shocked.

"Well, we steamed it and then grilled with a lot of spices." Said my mother. "Eat as much as you want dear, you look in the bones compared to Elena!"

My mother quickly gave Anna another big chunk of meat, which my daughter's friend quickly began devouring.

"So what were you guys up to while we were taking a nap?" My father wondered while sipping some wine.

"W-We were... well, we were exploring the town and stuff." I said.

"We saw some cops around the town, it seems that there's a lot of feral animals lately, some had even tried getting inside the town." Mark said smartly.

"O-Oh yeah! They said it would be safer if we stayed home for the rest of the night. Also let's make sure to lock the farm animals well enough..." I nodded.

"I see, well there are indeed some wild boars out there. Even a bear might show up." My father said.

Thanks to Mark's idea, we managed to secure that our family would remain locked in the house for the rest of the night. When dinner finally ended, and we made sure everyone was on their rooms, we quickly escaped from my room's window and then we decided to set up our extra defense plan.

"These Totems were designed exclusively to conjure a protective barrier. If we combine them with the Spiritual Seeds you've created, I think it should be enough to even hold off a hundred Hollows." Said Mark.

"Alright, that's good enough..." I sighed in relief. "Its amazing that the materials of the strong monsters can also be repurposed as "Offerings" for the Totems you make."

"Yeah, with my new Spell [Totem Offerings], I can offer precious magical items to the totem spirits, which will boost their power much beyond their original abilities." Mark nodded.

Leaving the offerings near the totems, we quickly decided to make our way into the town's outskirts, an enormous group of monsters was drawing closer as we walked across the night.

The monster the Gods named "Phantasmos" must have finally arrived. We cannot let him even set foot on our town; we'll eliminate him before that even happens!

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Chapter 455: Clash

Phantasmos glanced at the town in front of him with his hundreds of red eyes. His phantasmal body was twisting and shapeshifting almost endlessly as he had absorbed many monsters, animals, and even human souls on his way here. However, these human souls were all wandering ones, as he hadn't had the opportunity to kill people yet.

"It is truly a pity that I have to get by through eating beasts souls..." He sighed. "However, my Master has said that I must prioritize the killing of the World Tree's true body... And she must be here."

A smile surged on his multiple faces, as his eyes glowed bright red. Although most people was now sleeping, he could feel their souls their life energies, their emotions and even their presences.

"But I guess it is fine if we storm this place, right?" He asked, as several dozens of Giant Phantoms, which he had created out of his own body began to laugh evilly. "After all, we are all quite hungry, isn't it?"

"Gehehehe..."

"That's right, Boss..."

"Let's eat them already! I am so hungry for human souls!"

"Ahhh, they're so pure, filled with life, and there's no mana within their bodies!"

"Ripe for the taking, so weak and frail!"

The Giant Phantoms spoke, as Phantasmos only grew hungrier. His Phantasmal powers quickly activated, as the enormous army of hundreds of Undead Monsters he had gathered through this journey, alongside several dozens of Hollow Legions and hundreds of other weaker Hollows started to march forward.

"Take it all, devour everything! Rip them all apart! Tonight, my brothers, WE FEAST!"

The Undead began advancing rapidly. Zombie monsters, animal skeletons, ghosts and phantoms, and several Hollows quickly made their way into the town's entrance.

"OFFER THEIR SOULS TO OUR KING, THANATOS!"

With that command, his army of undead and monsters went rabid!

"GRUAAAARRRRGH!"

"AWOOOOO!"

"SHAAAAHHH!"

"FEAST... EAT SOULS!"

"GRAAAHHH!"

As they were about to step into the backyard of one of the houses in the outskirts of the town, however...

FLAAAASH!

A sudden ray of light emerged. Suddenly beginning to cover the entire town's surroundings, and expanding widely, spreading all over the place and creating a barrier made of Spiritual Light and Life Energy, so bright and shiny that it blinded most monsters, the very impact of the barrier's creation easily purified several dozens of phantoms, ghosts, and undead, and many others screamed in agony as they stepped back in fear.

"W-What?!" Phantasmos was suddenly shocked. He was never told these humans would have developed magic on their own. How could it be possible they managed to create a Spiritual Barrier which even held a bit of Gaia's divinity within?!

"This is... How come?!"

"Boss, what is happening?! Have the humans developed spiritual magic?!"

"But I can't sense any of them possessing not even an inch of Mana!"

"No, wait... THERE!"

The Giant Phantoms, which worked as Phantasmos bodyguards and closest subordinates suddenly noticed a small group of three people outside the town. Their very magic being the reason behind this immense barrier.

"Those are...?!" Phantasmos, unaware of this world's humans on its totality, had fully believed there wouldn't be anybody challenging enough, yet the power he felt from those three was overwhelming.

And as if things couldn't get any better.

"Huh?! From over there too!" Suddenly, one of his Giant Phantoms pointed behind them, to the area where the mountains were located, another three powerful presences were making their way here as fast as they could.

"Six... Heh, heheheh... HAHAHAA! Good! It wouldn't had been any fun if they didn't fought back at least once!" Phantasmos laughed. "Now, let us see how much your barrier and your strength can hold back before my army engulfs your entire town! [Phantasmal Magic]: [Phantom Aura Enhancement]! [Bloodshed Enhancement]! [Ghostly Armor]!"

FLUOOOOSH!

With a few words, Phantasmos immediately boosted his entire army of monsters and undead in mere seconds. Three powerful buffs quickly covered every single monster, as their defenses increased, their fighting power improved, and their auras became even more intimidating and deadly.

"GRUOOOHHHH!"

A group of Skeleton Beasts led by a giant Bear Skeleton rushed forward, hitting the Spiritual Walls which slowly began gaining cracks the more hits landed on them. Their ability to self-regenerate was strong, but against the monsters constant attacks, which were hundreds at the same time, even the powerful barrier wouldn't last longer than a few more minutes.

The three protecting the town were easily being overwhelmed, even as Phantasmos glanced at them fighting and struggling utilizing all sorts of magics and magical weapons and armor, they were only three while his army was soon to surpass a thousand.

"Hoh, it does seem that the True Body of the World Tree is here as well!" Phantasmos noticed, as he saw Elayne with Mark and Rita fighting desperately against hordes after hordes of monsters. "Well, you've just made my job easier!"

Elayne heard Phantasmos tenebrous voice from afar, gritting her teeth in fury, as she suddenly smiled defiantly towards where the mass of phantasmal essence was located.

"Do you truly believe we're alone?" She asked with a cocky smirk, as she hit the floor with her foot, a sudden shockwave of Spiritual Power began flowing across the town's entire surroundings. "[Territory Takeover]! [Spiritual Awakening]!"

FLUOOOOOSH!

With the power of taking over a Territory's Soil and Nature itself, and through the ability to awaken Spirits themselves, a sudden change in this impossible battlefield happened.

RUMBLE!

From the ground, several totems that Mark had placed beforehand, alongside the Spiritual Buds and Spiritual Seeds that Elayne had previously placed started moving by themselves, as spiritual power and Mana began flowing through them.

Phantasmos saw in horror as dozens of Spiritual Beasts took over wooden totem bodies and started moving forward, alongside several hundreds of Spiritual Plant Soldiers, which started popping out of the soil began marching forward.

They were in all sorts of shapes, some resembled walking trees, others were like mushrooms, some were big fruit-like creatures, but they were all unified together as a big army, they even had weapons made out of sharp wood and even shields!

"T-This is....! It can't be...!" Phantasmos was unable to accept it.

"You see now? This is the power of preparation!" Elayne smiled back, swinging her shovel-staff as she destroyed a dozen skeleton monsters into pieces.

CRAAASH!

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Chapter 456: Reinforcements Arrive

While a battle between Undead and Nature was unleashed, the group of the three members of the Agency of World-wide Protection Against the Supernatural, named Sword, quickly made their way where Phantasmos was located.

"This bastard's in the middle of the fucking skies!" Said Albert in anger.

"Do you think you can get us there, Josuke?" Rose wondered.

"No, I am already getting pretty tired, I cannot maintain my flight indefinitely." Sighed the young man carrying them, as the Phoenix, or well, the Vermillion Bird dwelling within his body was already asking him to take a break.

"Then let's go for Plan B, let's lure it." Rose smiled.

The three landed on the ground and then suddenly felt an enormous barrier erecting all around the town. At the same time as that happened, the presences of those three magicians they felt before, alongside hundreds of familiars started appearing everywhere.

"What the...!?" Albert felt shocked. "This much Magic Power and Spiritual Energy... everywhere?!"

"T-This is... Is an Ancient Spirit awakening?!" Josuke felt immediately shocked.

"No... That power is coming from those three, one in specific is handling most of it though." Rose smiled.

"Seems like we got the jackpot, they're not only protecting the town but also fighting the monsters with an army of plant familiars, they're most likely on our side."

"That's relieving but how come they're so strong? Just who in the fuck are they?" Albert felt conflicted with himself. "The last time I ever sensed such a powerful Magic Power was from the Ancient Spirit

Awakening incident in Alaska, the one that ended freezing three whole towns before we were able to stop it..."

"A lot of power in the wrong hands is dangerous, but in the right hands, it can be our hope." Josuke said. "Let's trust them. The Vermillion Bird told me they're not bad people. The spirits love them."

"If you say so..." Albert sighed, as a black and red aura began slowly surging through his body. "So we're doing it now?"

"Yeah, while they're distracting the majority of monsters." Rose nodded.

"Well, before that... We've got company." Josuke said, his flames flickering around as the group noticed hundreds of red eyes glaring at them amidst the darkness of the forest.

A group of Giant Phantoms emerged atop the skies, glancing at these unexpected visitors with deadly eyes, while the hundreds of Undead and Monsters slowly began approaching, many Hollows were included in the mix.

"Hmph, to think that more of you pesky humans with magic powers would exist in this desolate and weak planet, it is baffling!"

"Well, they don't seem like quite the big shots anyways..."

"Kekekek... I want to devour their delicious souls! That girl is mighty beautiful too!!"

The trio glanced at the talking ghosts while squinting their eyes.

"Giant Phantoms, these are C Rank Monsters." Rose sighed, her eyes suddenly beginning to glow bright red. "Let's take care of them before we make our way towards their Boss, if they get in our way, things are only going to get more complicated."

FLUOSH!

Her Aura suddenly changed, as a blood red aura encompassed her body and blood started pouring out of her wrists, which opened automatically upon her command. The blood gathered together, swirling in the middle of the air, and then shaping into several sharp blades that started spinning.

"[Blood Tempest]"

FLAAAAAASH!

A massive spiraling tempest of blood and sharp blood blades engulfed her surroundings, as dozens of monsters that jumped to attack her were instantly engulfed in her powerful attack.

BOOOOOOMMMM!

It didn't end there as a massive explosion covered her surroundings almost completely. The bodies of many monsters, undead, and hollows were left in the floor, covered to the brim with Blood Blades, which pierced their magic crystals, making them immediately die one after the other.

"Hey Rose you've gotta calm down a bit! You almost hit me there!" Sighed Albert, his entire body was covered on a black and red aura that emanated a truly demonic power.

Unlike Josuke and Rose, Albert was a normal man. However, on his younger years, he made a contract with a powerful and mysterious demon sealed within the Grimoire that his father inherited to him.

Becoming the demon's vessel he gained unprecedented powers, in exchange of offering sacrifices, be it animals, monsters, high quality materials, or even human lives, he's able to feed his demon and in exchange, grow stronger.

The demonic aura quickly shaped into a multi-armed demonic being behind him, which crossed his arms while laughing evilly.

"Gahahahaha! That's the power of a Vampire for you, kiddo! If only I could eat her soul..." He said while smiling diabolically.

"Shut up and help me out, Hellberos."

"Fine, fine~"

"[Demonic Infernal Manifestation: Claws]!" Albert said, his eyes suddenly turned completely black, as he swung his hands to the left and right, two enormous demonic claws emerged, devastating his surroundings, and slicing apart the monsters nearby into pieces.

CLAAASH! CLAAAASH!

"W-What with those guys?! They defeated almost the entire army of monsters so easily?!" One of the Giant Phantoms reacted.

"We can't let them get to the boss..." Said the second.

"We'll fight them then!!" A third said.

They were not named "giants" for nothing. Within the many ranks of Phantasmal beings, the more souls they consumed, the larger their phantasmal bodies would grow and the stronger they became, as they were amalgamations of many souls.

"DIEEEE!"

One of them boldly stepped against the three strangers, as his gigantic phantasmal body shapeshifted into hundreds of enormous fists, devastating everything.

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLAAASH!

"Heh, that at least must have killed one or- Huh?!"

However, the only thing the clueless Giant Phantom saw was a gigantic barrier made of blazing blue flames, as a Vermillion Bird Spirit manifested in front of him, protecting her vessel and her vessel's allies.

"[Heavenly Flames Martial Arts]..." Josuke jumped towards the Giant Phantom, as his flames encompassed his powerful fists. "[Ghost-Exorcizing Fist]!"

BAAAAAMMMMM...!

"GRUUUUAAAAAGGGGH...!"

FLAAAAASH!

The Giant Phantom that was hit by the young man's fist was completely covered by holy flames, slowly and painfully being completely purified as a result!

"Hoh, I suppose you're not half-bad." Phantasmos smiled.

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Chapter 457: A Fight To Protect The Town

The fight against Phantasmos started much sooner than Elayne had hoped it to begin, but thankfully her plan seemed to be a success. With the aid of Mark and Rita's magic powers, they were able not only to erect a powerful Spiritual Barrier around the town, but also to summon roughly three hundred soldiers.

From Beast Spirit Totem Familiars to Spiritual Plant Familiars of all shapes and sizes, these forces alone, although not the strongest out there, were able to hold on the army of Undead and Monsters approaching rather skillfully.

Although the three of them had grown strong enough that they were devastating most of the weaker monsters making up the army of Phantasmos using their magic and attacks, they were still unable to cover every single place around them, making it so the monsters attacking the town from areas where they couldn't attack were the weakest.

Elayne quickly utilized her Magical Powers while drinking a Mana Potion using her finger, which she shaped as a liquid-absorbing root, a "cheat" she was able to figure out to drink potions without filling her belly completely, by merely absorbing the liquids like plants would do.

"Attack the areas where we cannot reach, concentrate in there!" She commanded her troops as they started moving. All sorts of critters from walking trees, jumping mushrooms, brownie-like fruit plants, and even masses of vines began marching, attacking the undead fiercely.

Many of them were also dying, but not before giving a proper fight. And also, each time one of them died, something impressive would happen.

"[Spiritual Bloom]!"

Elayne closed her fists as the bodies of the familiars that had died in battle suddenly started glowing brightly, exploding into Spiritual Light one after the other!

BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM BOOOM!

The explosions covered the surroundings, so loud that the people inside the town couldn't simply ignore the commotion. Many curious people emerged, looking out through their windows, only to see countless swarms of creatures fighting walking plants, a fantastical sight they would have only seen in dreams!

"Just what is happening out there?!"

"Explosions?!"

"Is the military fighting something?? No, cops?!"

"I don't know!"

"T-Those look a bit too savage to be normal animals!"

"But why can't they pass? Its as if an invisible barrier's stopping them..."

Many people was concerned, but they were smart enough to stay locked inside their houses while looking at the outside with worried expressions through their windows. Naturally, the commotion quickly made the people call the authorities, although this small town only have a few police stations, and they were already unable to do a thing.

BANG! BANG! BANG!

Some of the cops reached the invisible barrier and were shooting at it, but they were unable to even break it with normal bullets. And the monsters at the other side were clearly saying that they should just stay inside instead of trying to get out.

"Who are those people?!"

"Look. At the other side of the barrier there's three people fighting the monsters!"

"I-I saw this in the news! After the first contact a week ago, some people were reported to awaken magic powers! And the monsters that invaded the big cities were all real!"

"I didn't believed this crap at first. I thought it was just some sort of trick of the government to make the people afraid, but monsters... monsters are real..."

"Those things aren't even normal monsters, haven't you played games before? They're undead!"

The cops right at the other side of the barrier were talking and discussing with one another in shock and fear of what was happening, some quickly realized that the people outside fighting the monsters... were heroes protecting this place.

"Those people must have made this invisible barrier, they're protecting us..."

"But why didn't they said a thing?! We could have helped them somehow..."

"Man, we don't have any magical powers, don't we? What can we do? At most, we should keep the civilians from walking out of the barrier! We're wasting time here, let's make sure nobody goes out of their houses!"

A group of cops quickly began giving rounds around the town on their cars, stopping any civilians they found from going outside to see the monsters like idiots, and also sending everyone else they found to a shelter inside the biggest school of the town.

As Elayne made the dead plant familiars explode and unleash spiritual essence around, the barrier which had gained many cracks began to heal, recovering the damage as the monsters attacking it realized it suddenly was strengthened.

"[Spirit Barrier Recovery]!"

FLUOOOSH!

CRACK!

The teeth of the beasts biting on the barrier suddenly shattered one after the other. As piercing spear attacks wielded by the Plant Soldiers began piercing their magic crystals and shattering them one after the other, many monsters started falling apart into pieces.

"Seems like we're managing, but for how long?!" Wondered Mark, gritting his teeth as he was wearing his helmet and swinging his knife, generating a storm of slicing flames that engulfed a group of Hollows and burned several Beast Zombies.

FLUOOOOSH!

BOOOOMMMM!!!!

"GRYYAAAEERRGGH...!"

The screams of the beasts as they were burned alive had become common place in the chaotic battlefield. Mark's words were understandable, things seemed good, but they would never last forever either. It was better to keep a yourself cautious than to regret lowering their guards later.

"At this pace we can extend the barrier's duration to around ten more minutes." Elayne said, swinging her shovel-staff as a gigantic, explosion of spiritual power hit the head of a massive Phantom Bear Skeleton which had already been hurt by Mark's flames.

BAAAAAM!

"GRYYAAAAAAGH...!"

The Bear Skeleton was still standing as its skull was shattered, swinging its sharp claws against Elayne and slicing through her skin, only for more branches to emerge out of her wounds and cover her like an armor.

"[Yggdrasil's Armor]!"

Elayne's fist suddenly grew into a gigantic fist made of wood, hitting the bear's chest and shattering its magic crystal into pieces, finally finishing off the mighty undead.

CRAAAASH!

As that happened, a group of incredibly powerful Phantoms made their way towards them, as Rita called for Elayne and Mark's help.

"Someone come give me a hand! I am surrounded!" Rita panicked, as four Giant Phantoms started attacking her all at once!

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLAAASH!

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Chapter 458: Saving Rita

"It might be dangerous to fight them all together at the same time, especially when they're lead by the incarnation of the World Tree..." Phantasmos was cautious. "I'll give you authority over my troops,

quickly take her allies one by one first, and then once everything is over, attack her. However, because I know she might possess more power than I expected, I'll prepare a special Spell, until then, buy as much time as possible!"

The leader of the Undead Legion spoke, as the dozens of Giant Phantoms obeyed his words, immediately going to fight both parties attacking his army from both the front and behind. He wasn't stupid for being a Death General, and knew clearly not to underestimate his foes, at least a bit.

Elayne had showcased impressive battle prowess and amazing magical abilities. She was even able to make that barrier and now was controlling an army of almost three hundred Plant Familiars with her friends, if her abilities weren't impressive enough, then what else?

Phantasmos simply couldn't afford to fight her head-on, especially when the elements she wielded were very strong, and his phantasmal body would risk getting purified easily if he approached her. He simply had to take a different measure.

Crack... crack... crack!

His Phantasmal powers started distorting space around his body, as the small cracks leading to Arcadia which were located in here suddenly began widening and widening... all while he took out thousands of "sacrificial souls" he had stored within his own Soul Core, and started to use them for a powerful Ritual.

"Lord of Death, please give me your Authority!" He called for the aid of his master.

"I see what you're trying to do, Phantasmos... Very well." Thanatos responded quite quickly, as Phantasmos suddenly began overflowing with the highly refined and powerful Netherworld Essence that his master wielded!

"With this... Hehehe... HAHahaha! I can even kill someone as strong as her." He smiled, as space continued shattering and opening more and more. "I need a few more minutes... And your soul shall be for my master to feast on!"

...

Meanwhile, the five powerful Giant Phantoms that Phantasmos sent to kill Elayne's allies had already begun to attack Rita all at once. Thankfully she was wearing strong armor and a powerful weapon, and even more, she had her coat that protected her from phantasmal magic damage.

BAAAM! BAAAM! BAAAM!

However, even for her, this was a bit too much! The Giant Phantoms were all over ten meters of height. And they were able to shapeshift and conjure gigantic fists, arms, and tentacles to fight and devastate everything.

Hundreds of gigantic phantasmal fists were constantly falling over Rita, while she was barely being able to shield herself using her armor and shield while destroying some of these fists with her magic bullets.

"Dammit, someone come support me!" Rita quickly dodged a barrage of attacks as she gritted her teeth desperately, summoning a veil of night covering her body to temporarily travel across shadows, trying to run away from her overwhelming foes.

FLAAAASH!

"You sneaky human!"

"Catch her!"

"Eat the witch's soul!"

The five Giant Phantoms began following her relentlessly, as Rita felt her heart beating faster and faster. She had ran off a bit too far away from Elayne and Mark because she wanted to cover more area while fighting the monsters, which made her an easy target for these stronger monsters.

"Shit, shit, shit..." Rita gritted her teeth. Unlike in Arcadia and her Avatar, she was unable to channel Malice Energy, and therefore couldn't unleash the utterly devastating spells she could in there. However, it wasn't as if she didn't had many strong spells already.

She just had to find the perfect opportunity.

BAAAAM!

The ground was shaken once more as the floor split open, the attacks of the Giant Phantoms caught Rita off-guard once more as she was thrown off the shadows she was hiding and escaping through.

"Found her!"

"Kill her, quickly!"

Several Phantasmal Fists and Death Rays were fired against Rita, as she suddenly gathered all the Mana she could, and countless tiny dark spirits emerged around her through her new bracelet's power. What Rita lacked the most was the ability to call and utilize these Dark Spirits around her, something she lacked here... until the bracelet that Elayne made for her showed up.

FLAAAASH!

"[Shadow Spirit Call]! [Abyssal Underworld Gates]!"

TRUUUUUMMMMM...!

Dozens of Darkness and Shadow Spirits fused together as Rita's surroundings and all her Mana gathered together in place, the Giant Phantoms felt a truly frightening power coming from her, as a gigantic gate made of darkness opened behind Rita.

And thousands of shadow arms, tentacles, and even jaws showed up, wrapping around one of them and attacking the rest! A Giant Phantom was being dragged away, as it was being devoured by the gate's eternal darkness.

"W-WHAT IS THIS SPELL?! Darkness magic that can even affect a ghost?!" Wondered the Phantom, as his entire body started to be torn apart and devoured, assimilated by the magic Rita conjured.

"[Bullet Time]!"

Rita didn't stopped there, channeling the powers of her gun, and utilizing the gun's powerful [Bullet Time] Potential Ability, allowing Rita to see her surroundings in slow motion. At the same time as her

speed was enhanced tremendously and so her accuracy. Whitey enchanted her bullets with Holy Light, and then she started blasting.

BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG!

"UNNGGH?!"

"AAAGGH...!"

"T-THOSE BULLETS...!"

"MY BODY...!"

The four other Giant Phantoms were covered in dozens of holes all around their bodies as Rita held her own ground, damaging them severely, but not managing to kill them in time.

"Ugh...!" Rita suddenly fell to her knees, having spent all her Mana, she couldn't properly move.

"YOUUUUUU!"

The fifth Giant Phantom that was dragged into the Gates of the Underworld somehow freed himself, barely "alive" as he rushed towards Rita to finish her off.

"[Phantasmal Beam]!"

A massive beam of phantasmal energy that could completely make a person's soul dissipate into nothingness was about to hit Rita.

BOOOOOOOOMMMMM!!!

Rita closed her eyes, thinking this was it... only for her to realize a bright, spiritual barrier protected her from the attack, Elayne and Mark had arrived barely in time.

"You guys...! Ugh..." Rita muttered.

"You dummy, why did you ran off so far from us?!" Elayne reprimanded her.

"They're here...!"

"The World Tree's Incarnation...!"

"Well, whatever!"

"Even if we can't completely kill them, just buy time!"

The Giant Phantoms immediately started attacking the trio, while bringing more and more of the Undead and Monsters from the Legion led by Phantasmos.

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Chapter 459: Fighting The Giant Phantoms

Elayne and Mark had arrived barely in time to save Rita's life. The two of them easily figured out Phantasmos intentions of taking them down one by one separately, so they would leave only Elayne by herself. It was also quite obvious they were not exactly coming for the town... but for her life.

"So you guys are admitting you want to kill my friends." Rita said angrily. "And buy time? For what exactly?!" Rita furiously pointed her handgun at the Giant Phantoms as Whitey unleashed his bright light.

FLAAAASH!

A shockwave of bright light suddenly blinded the Giant Phantoms and made the surrounding Undead and Hollows step back due to the pain they felt by being touched by the tiny rat's light powers.

"Hehehe... HAHAAHAH! As if that were to matter!" Laughed the Giant Phantom that had been hurt by Rita the most by her spells, his entire body was trying to regenerate back by devouring surrounding Undead and Hollows. "As long as we can buy enough time, our lord shall eliminate all of you!"

"Is he readying some sort of Nuke Spell?!" Mark wondered. "We have to quickly kill him if that's the case!" Mark said furiously, as branches and roots began growing over his body, reinforcing his muscles, and making his body grow larger and taller, slightly similar to his Game Avatar, several Totems of Beast Spirits appeared around him as he summoned them.

"Hahaha, it is something even worse! But we won't let you stop him!" Laughed one of the Giant Phantoms, suddenly taking the shape of a monstrous chimera with many animal body parts and filled with bones and Hollows mixed into his body. It was the Giant Phantom Rita failed to kill. "YOU'LL DIE BEFORE THAT HAPPENS, THOUGH!"

CLAAAAASHHHH!!!

A gigantic bony claw covered on Hollow Mud and Phantasmal essence of over ten-meters-big impacted the ground where Mark was, completely crushing him down into the ground!

"MARK!" Elayne panicked, calling Blackie as the cat suddenly emerged, unleashing his Tentacle attacks against the Phantom.

"MEEREOOOWWW!"

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

However, the claw barely took damage, as it easily threw Blackie away with a slash.

BAAAM!

"Meoow...!"

"Blackie!"

Elayne ran towards Blackie and covered him on an armor made of branches and roots, healing the little and brave cat.

"HAHAHA, YOUR FRIEND IS NOW GONE!" Laughed the Giant Phantom.

FLUOOSH!

However, out of the blue, his giant claw started burning with an infernal fire imbued with enormous quantities of Life and Fire Spiritual Essence.

"W-What?!"

"Gone? I am far from gone."

BOOOOOOOOMMMM...!

A gigantic fist made of wood and covered in flames crushed the Giant Phantom's claws and then directed itself towards its pain body, completely blasting it into pieces!

BAAAAAMMM...!

"T-This is... impossible...!" The Giant Phantom muttered, still trying to regenerate only for Mark's knife to launch itself into his body, piercing his crystal-like core and shattering!

"Die."

CRAAASH!

"GRYYYAAAAAAHHHHH...!"

Once the Giant Phantom's Magic Crystal was shattered, his entire body began to distort until it dissipated into nothingness.

"Mark, you're alright?!" Elayne was surprised.

"I am! But this is not the time to talk. They're not invincible. Use your Spiritual Gaze spell to detect their Magic Crystals and shatter them!" Mark said.

"Right!" Elayne said. "I always forget that..." She sighed.

FLAAASH!

Elayne and Rita's eyes began shining brightly with spiritual and magical lights, as the Giant phantoms panicked once they figured out their weakness. Most monsters would die once their Magic Crystals were to be shattered, it was like their hearts.

This, of course, also included phantasmal-type monsters such as ghosts, phantoms, and more. These Giant Phantoms were invincible with their amazing Assimilation and Regeneration, once their magic crystal was shattered, it was the end of them!

"I can see it now!" Rita smiled evilly, covering herself on her Veil of Night and suddenly disappearing into the shadows. Her gun suddenly appeared behind one of the Giant Phantoms she hit with her Holy Light Mana Bullets, this time, she aimed at their Magic Crystal.

"EAT LEAD BITCH!"

BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG!

Crack... CRASH!

"UNNNGGH..! AAAGH!" The Giant Phantom groaned in agony, grasping his own Magic Crystal and escaping Rita's attacks while bringing forth dozens of Skeleton and Zombie Monsters to attack her.

"CRUSH HER!!!"

"ROOOAAARR!"

"GROOOAARR!"

"SHAAAAHH!!!"

"That's not going to work!" Elayne said, stepping forward and swinging her shovel-staff with all her strength. The tip of her weapon started shining brightly with a powerful Spiritual Light, as her enormous powers were channeled fully. "Irene! Let's do it! [Spiritual Explosion]!!!"

"GOT IT! TAKE... THIS!"

The weapon itself spoke as she unleashed her combined powers with Elayne, a gigantic blast of spiritual power impacted the Undead Monsters, completely disintegrating them, at the same time as their magic crystals fell into the ground shattered, the beam hit another Giant Phantom, the very one Rita had attacked, and finished it off with a loud, over-dramatic explosion.

BOOOOOOOMMMMM...!

"That's not all!" Elayne roared, hitting the floor with her foot as the ground, surrounding trees, plants, herbs, mushrooms, everything, began to move to her own commands. "[Terrain Takeover]! [Nature Spirit's Rage]!"

TRUUUUUMMMMM...!

All plants in the vicinity gathered together as they wrapped around one of the Giant Phantoms near Elayne and attacked the rest of them. Despite being solid, the plants were able to touch and fight the Phantoms by taking the power of the Nature Spirits within them!

"GRAAAHHH...! H-How come her mere incarnation is so strong?!" Cried the Giant Phantom Elayne caught, only for her to jump over him and crush his Magic Crystal with a strong, piercing blow from her weapon. "[Wooden Spear]!"

CRAAASH!

Her weapon suddenly shapeshifted, as it was still ultimately made of wood, turning into a sharp and powerful spear and shattering the Giant Phantom's Magic Crystal with ease.

"UUUAAAGGGH...!

POOOOOF!

The monstrous Undead's entire body dissipated into thin air as his Magic Crystal's shattered pieces fell apart. At the same time as Elayne and Rita killed them, Mark was also unleashing his powers to fight back.

"[Infernal Blazing Lion Totem Spirit]!"

FLUOOOOSH!

"ROOOOAAARR!"

A majestic lion made of wood and fire emerged, leaping over one of the Giant Phantoms and burning its phantasmal body.

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Chapter 460: The Power Of The Gods

"[Infernal Blazing Lion Totem Spirit]!"

FLUOOOOSH!

"ROOOOAAARR!"

A majestic lion made of wood and fire emerged, leaping over one of the Giant Phantoms and burning its phantasmal body. The ferocious lion began biting and slashing the Phantom's body while Mark rushed forward, pointing the Magic Crystal with his knife and then...

"[Twin Slash]! [Lesser Dragon Flame]!"

SLAASH! SLAAASH!

Two enormous slashes made out of all-burning dragon fire impacted the magic crystal, so strongly that the crystal gained hundreds of cracks and exploded into pieces, shattering apart.

BOOOOOMMMM!!!

Crack... crack... CRAAASH!

"GRUUUUAAAAGGGGH...! Lord... Phantasmos...!"

The Giant Phantom was unable to keep himself alive, dissipating into thin air as his shattered magic crystal fell over the floor. A small eagle flew across the skies near Mark, as the bird flapped its wings rapidly, unleashing a rain of sharp feathers.

"CRAAAH!"

FLASH! FLASH! FLASH! FLASH!

The feather projectiles immediately targeted the rest of the Giant Phantoms, which were now four after the massacre the trio was unfolding. The feathers cut through their phantasmal bodies while distracting them, giving enough time for everyone else to attack the Giant Phantoms with everything they had.

"[Spiritual Explosion]!"

BOOOOOMMMM!!!

"[Bullet Time]!"

BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG!

"[Lesser Dragon's Flames]!"

FLUOOOOSH!

Elayne, Rita, and Mark attacks converged into an incessant barrage of powerful explosions. The Giant Phantoms were forced to step back as they grew more desperate. Barely managing to protect their magic crystals from being shattered, they continued Assimilating more and more Undead and Hollows, making the last four Giant Phantoms take aberrant forms.

"You damn humans! Who do you think you are to oppose us to this extent?! DIE! DIE! DIE!!!"

One of the largest of the four suddenly expanded its massive body around, making itself look like an absolutely titanic being made out of bones and blue-colored phantasmal energy. Dozens of gigantic bone-made fists started hitting the ground furiously, shaking the forest.

CLAASH! CLAASH! CLAASH! CLAAASH!

"RAAAAHHHH!"

The second Giant Phantom took the form of some sort of quadrupedal beast, opening its wolf-like jaws to unleash a gigantic Death Ray, instantly making nature around him die off.

BOOOOOOOMMMM!!!

"For beings that have barely begun to understand magic itself, you're too cocky!"

The third Giant Phantom transformed into a massive snake made of bones and phantasmal energy, opening his jaws and attempting to devour Elayne constantly with his jaws, only for her to give him back several hits into his head and the rest of his body with her Spiritual Explosions and Nature's Rage.

CRAAASH! BOOOOM!

"UUUAAAGGGH...! G-GET AWAY FROM MEEEE!"

The Giant Phantom panicked in front of a sure death, only for Elayne to mercilessly crawl over his body and grab his large magic crystal, crushing it with her bare fists.

"Perish!"

Crack, crack... CRAAAASH!

"GRYYYYAAAAEEEEHHHH....!"

The Giant Phantom screamed in agony as its body exploded and dissipated, while his magic crystal shattered into pieces and fell into the floor, Elayne made sure to absorb its magical power while shattering, restoring all her Mana in the spot.

"And the rest of you..."

She quickly glared at the other three Giant Phantoms with a glare filled with anger and fury, the fury of a mother! Her aura continued overflowing around her. Nature itself got mad if she got mad, and immediately after her mere thoughts, two massive arms emerged out of the forest itself, made up of many trees combined together.

"[Nature Spirit's Rage]! [Wooden Fist]!"

BAAAAMMM! BAAAAMMM!!!

Two enormous fists hit the three Giant Phantoms, throwing them into the ground. The fists were coated on Spiritual and Life essence, making even the Giant Phantoms groan in agony.

"Y-YOUUUU...!"

"S-She's too strong! Aaaggh...!"

"T-The Incarnation of the World Tree!"

The three Giant Phantoms were suddenly pummeled into the ground by Elayne's furious fists, as Rita and Mark joined in the attack, shooting Holy Light Bullets, and unleashing explosive dragon flames over the phantasmal Undead.

BANG! BANG! BANG! FLUOOOOOSH!

"UUUAAAAGGGHHH...!"

"NO... WE HAVE YET... BOUGHT ENOUGH TIME!"

"STOOOOOP!"

Elayne closed her eyes as she gathered the power of many elemental spirits, which flew into her opened hand and gathered together, swirling with tremendous power. Her entire aura only grew larger and more powerful, resembling a tall, all-seeing tree that both protected the world and fought back against the wicked.

"[Spiritual Resonance]"

FLUOOOSH!

The colors of all the spirits converging into her fist shone like a rainbow, as she imbued them into her shovel and unleashed one last hit.

"Spiritual... EXPLOSION!"

A gigantic, rainbow beam emerged out of Elayne's weapon, completely blasting the three Giant Phantoms and then... hitting Phantasmos atop the skies!

BOOOOOOOOOMMMMM!!!

"GRYAAAAAGGGH...!"

"LORD... PHANTASMOS...!"

"NOOOO...!"

The three Giant Phantoms disappeared in an instant, as the enormous Phantasmos was hit so hard his entire gigantic body fell into the forest floor!

BAAAAAMMMMMM...!

"Unngggh...! Y-Youuuu! How come... How come you're this powerful?! It doesn't make any sense for you to grow to this extent after only a week since those events...!"

Phantasmos panicked, gritting his many bony teeth across his aberrant body, composed of countless bones and souls. His entire body was weakened the instant he received that beam, as a large hole in the middle of his soul had yet to regenerate.

Elayne, Rita, and Mark walked towards the culprit of everything, their Spiritual Powers overflowing. Behind them, a large army of Plant Familiars and Totem Spirits appeared, mostly all other Undead and Monsters were already eliminated.

"It doesn't make sense? Well, it does for me." Elayne smiled defiantly at him. "If I didn't grow this strong, I wouldn't have been able to protect those I loved, and my family. You're severely underestimating the willpower of a Mother!"

"RAAAAAHH! DAMNED WORLD TREE!!!"

Phantasmos only grew more furious, fighting back as his entire body shapeshifted into countless tentacles, attacking Elayne, Rita, and Mark together!

CLAAASH! CLAAASH! CLAAASH! CLAAASH!

However...

"Huh?!"

Phantasmos' various eyes were filled with shock as he sensed the power of... Arcadia's Gods themselves! Flowing across the body of Elayne through the [Pathway] Ability she acquired from them.

"That power... It can't be...! You're...?!" Phantasmos was deeply shocked. "The Gods are dwelling within your body?! That's... not possible!"

"It is very possible. The Gods have decided to grant me their powers, Phantasmos." Elayne said, her eyes were overflowing with so much power they began glowing brightly like the rainbows themselves, while her hair turned completely white, shining with divinity. "Prepare yourself!"