

Brand New 641

Brand New Life Online: Rise Of The Goddess Of Harvest

Chapter 641: Versus Laplace, The Ruler Of Dreams!

"He got super buff out of nowhere?!" Rita cried. "Holy shit!"

"Rita, focus, he's coming!" Elayne said, as she summoned a barrier seconds before Laplace's huge fists were to land on her!

"[Nightmare Fists]!"

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

Laplace's fists distorted Elayne's Spiritual Barrier and her Wooden Shields were broken apart into pieces in an instant! Laplace who seemed so small ended being quite mighty on the physical department!

"RAAAAAH!!!" The jester raised both of his hands into the sky and clenched them together, aiming to crush Elayne with a hammer. "DIE, YOU GAME CHEATERRR!"

BAAAAAMMM...!

"UNGH?!"

However, Laplace quickly realized his two powerful fists didn't reach Elayne, but hit Mark instead, who had moved so fast in front of her that it seemed as if he had teleported there.

"Oi, you're going straight for her?" Mark said, clearly pissed off. "As long as I am here, you won't be touching Elayne! RAAAAHHH!!!"

With a ferocious roar, Mark transformed his Magic Knife into a huge blazing sword, unleashing a barrage of Quadruple Slashes with each swing of his sword, overwhelming Laplace and setting him ablaze on dragon flames!

SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLAAASH!

"Arrgh...! It burns so much!" Laplace screamed, seeing his entire body set ablaze, he timidly stepped back, trying to turn off the fire.

"You're not running away!" Lily roared, as she hit the ground with her pickaxe and several rock pillars emerged one after another, hitting Laplace from left, right, behind, front, and below!

CRASH! CRASH! CRASH! CRASH! CRAAASSH!

"Uuuuaarrgghh...!"

Laplace was already covered in blood as he was thrown into the skies, only for Elayne to smile, leaping high up and charging her huge shovel with mighty Spiritual Energy.

"[Great Spiritual Explosion]!"

The Spiritual Energy and Mana channeled into her Shovel Weapon overflowed, making the shovel glow with the brightness of divinity itself! The impact generated a huge explosion that threw the Jester into the ground once more!

BOOOOOMMM...!

"Gryyaaarrgghh...!"

CRAAASH!

His body hit the floor, generating a huge crater below. The toy monsters glancing the scene were left speechless, their cheers stopping as they glanced the scene in utter hopelessness...

"U-Uurgh... H-How come you're so strong?!" Laplace vomited blood. "Grargh...! I-I am the God of Dreams! I should be the strongest... in this dream world!"

"You've thought wrong then!" Rita roared, her gun shooting several Light-imbued bullets at him. "[Holy Bullet Barrage]!"

BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG!

"[Nightmare Walls]!"

Laplace quickly stood back up and floated in midair, generating walls made of black, nightmarish energy that swallowed the bullets and then fired them back at Rita!

"Wrong? ME?! Preposterous! I am the Ruler of Nightmares!" Laplace screamed. "[Nightmare Repulsion]!"

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

"S-Shit! He can shoot me back?!" Rita panicked, jumping around while evading the gun shoots sent back at her with twice the speed and strength. Thanks to Lily's boulder shields, she was able to block several bullets at once.

"[Dream Mirage]! [Nightmare Clones]!" The bleeding Laplace screamed, as he suddenly divided his body into several clones!

Mark and Elayne's attacks ended hitting false mirages which exploded into dream and nightmare elemental magic explosions, causing some damage into their armor.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOOM!

"Dammit, all fake!" Said Elayne. "My Spiritual Gaze can't properly detect which one is real... Is this because Laplace is also made of dream?"

"Must be!" Mark said, as he defended Elayne from Laplace's clones, swinging his blazing sword against them and making them explode one after another.

"Kekekekek! You thought fighting me would be so easy?! I am the God of Dream-"

"[Super Bullet Time]!"

Rita's eyes glowed bright red, as her gun overflowed with Mana she imbued into it to activate the Skill of the same name. Time around her became much slower as she quickly started shooting all Laplace clones she found!

BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG...!

"H-Huh?! Argh!"

Laplace ended taking several shoots on his body as he started bleeding even more, realizing that in just a couple of seconds all his clones disappeared by Rita's super-fast bullet barrage!

"I-Impossible!" Laplace screamed, vomiting blood.

"It's more than possible, jerk!" Lily roared angrily. "[Cave Drake King's Earthquake]!"

Lily hit the ground with her huge pickaxe, as she unleashed the might of the Cave Drake King imbued into her weapon after its upgrade using the dragon's Scale Pieces and Bone Pieces!

RUMBLE! TRUUUUUMMM...!

The entire ground started trembling as Laplace was hit by an enormous quantity of Earth Attribute Energy erupting from the ground beneath!

BOOM! BOOM! BOOOMM...!

"Aaarrgghhh...!"

The jester screamed in agony once more, his body continuing to gain more and more wounds. His mask started shattering, continuously gaining more cracks!

"N-No...! My mask is breaking?!" Laplace screamed looking at the scene in utter disbelief as he saw his own mask beginning to crumble. "No, no, no! YOU BASTARDS!!!"

Filled with utter and maddening rage, his entire body erupted with Nightmare Magic power, beginning to cover his surroundings with a powerful, shadow domain.

"[Nightmare Domain]! Be absorbed by your own nightmares!!!"

FLUOOOOSH!

Gigantic red eyes and countless tentacles emerged from within the Nightmare Domain, trying to wrap themselves around everyone! They jumped and flew into the skies, but the tentacles still managed to touch them.

"[Heavenly Light Flash]!"

However, before everyone were to be engulfed by the nightmares, a huge flash of purifying light emerged from Elayne's entire body, which quickly dissipated the dark nightmares, and made everyone wake up!

"W-WHAT?!" Laplace vomited blood in shock once more, his mask barely keeping itself stuck into his face. "Y-Youuuu! [Nightmare Beasts]! [Dream Explosive Bombs]!"

The Jester screamed in anger, summoning a dozen of beasts made out of nightmares, and materializing, pink-colored bombs out of his hands, launching them at Elayne and her group!

"GROOOARRR!"

The Nightmare Beasts were as strong as C Rank Monsters! Nonetheless, Mark and Elayne quickly charged into the frontlines and began slaying the beasts with Mark's Quadruple Slash and Red Dragon Queen's Fire while Elayne unleashed her Great Spiritual Explosion while spreading her Nature Domain to gain more advantage on this dreamy landscape.

However, the bombs were launched strategically as they were slaying the Nightmare Beasts. Laplace laughed as the bombs reached them and exploded!

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

"Gryahahaha! Have your dreams consumed by my bombs!"

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Chapter 642: Versus Ephiales, The Embodiment of Nightmares!

"My Dream Bombs can consume dreams, part of your own minds and psyche! Without your dreams, you'll go insane and fall into madness!" Laughed Laplace.

"Urgh, it certainly gives me quite the headache." Sighed Mark.

"Is that it?" Elayne was a bit surprised it didn't hurt that much.

"E-Eh?" Laplace took a step back in surprise. "M-My bombs..."

"Your bombs suck, fucker!" Rita appeared from above, her gun suddenly shapeshifting into a gigantic black cannon with the tip shaped as a furious dragon head. "[Blue Dragon King's Bullet Cannon]!"

A gigantic beam of darkness descended as she flew down towards Laplace, impacting the jester's entire body!

TRUUUUUMMM...!

"Guuuuaaarrrrgghhhh...!"

With an agonizing scream, the beam pierced through the entire arena stadium and shattered the halls where the toy monsters were sitting, massacring hundreds!

BOOM! BOOM! BOOOMMM!!! RUMBLE!

Meanwhile, Laplace was thrown away like a ragdoll, his body covered on wounds, with his bones broken, his skin burning, and missing half his lower half...

But above all, his mask completely shattered this time.

"D-Did you do it?!" Lily asked in surprise. "W-Well, that was faster than I imagined-"

"GRAAAAAAH!"

"You shouldn't had said that! It was such a huge flag!" Mark facepalmed, as he and Elayne glanced at Laplace.

His huge body suddenly started to swell like a balloon, without his mask, something within him had changed. The entire atmosphere across the arena changed. The toy monsters were suddenly absorbed into his body, as his form started to shapeshift.

Revealing his face, everyone were shocked to see that he didn't exactly look like an ugly goblin, but half his face was missing, and instead, there was simply a deep, black hole, with a single red eye glancing from within.

"You've... awakened him... My other... self..." Laplace screamed in fear. "Y-You idiots!!! Gryyyaaaeergghh...!"

While screaming in horror, Laplace's entire body was consumed by the nightmarish darkness emerging from within his body, as his "other self" appeared.

If Laplace was the embodiment of Dorothea's Dreams, and was the "playful" and "childish" side... The other self he hid behind that mask was the embodiment of Dorothea's Nightmares, her "evil" and "wicked" side.

The pressure around the air became much stronger. Everyone felt almost paralyzed as the entity emerged from his deep slumber, the stadium shattering apart into pieces as its fragments floated in midair.

The entire room distorted, resembling the depths of a black nightmare, where they could only see stars of red and purple color across the endless black horizon.

The entity emerged from the black hole within Laplace's face, being freed from the shackles where he had been sealed...

"I am freed once more... I, the Embodiment of Nightmares, Ephiales!"

TRUUUUUMMM...!

His monstrous body resembled a huge sphere of darkness, with a single red eye, and countless thick, huge tentacles spread across the endless nightmare realm. Countless mouths opened across his body amorphously.

"T-The embodiment of nightmares?!" Rita asked.

"So this guy was hiding this thing inside of him?!" Lily panicked.

"It doesn't matter." Elayne sighed. "If it's for my daughter, I'll even defeat as many Death Generals as possible, Demon Kings, or even whatever this thing is! [Pathway]!"

FLUOOOOSH!

Elayne had enough, quickly activating [Pathway], as her body started overflowing with the might of the Gods of Arcadia. Their Elemental Divine Energy started overflowing into her body and into that of her allies around her.

"Pathway...?!" Ephiales red eye squinted. "Your tricks Will not work against me, the embodiment of nightmares!!! [Abyssal Nightmare Eyes]!"

Suddenly, dozens of floating black eyes emerged around Ephiales, as they glowed bright red and immediately started firing deadly red beams, covering Elayne and her friends with huge explosions!

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

At the same time, Ephiales charged as much energy as possible into his own single red eye, gathering it into an even larger beam!

"[Nightmare Purgatory]! DIE!"

The beam reached Elayne and her friends in a split of a second, completely decimating them through its darkness! Unlike Laplace, Ephiales was much more ruthless, and went all-out from the very start.

BOOOOOOMMMMM...!

"Hahahaha! That should had eliminated you for real this time- Eh?!"

Not even a second passed but Ephiales eyes opened wide in shock, the smoke dissipated, only to show all four of them floating in midair... Unscathed!

What had protected them was Elayne's Shield, which had generated an enormous barrier fueled by Pathway's powers. Surrounding their bodies were mystical, translucent veils of divinity.

[The Divinity [All Mother of Life and Souls] has manifested herself]

[The Divinity [Dark Lady Dressed By The Night] has manifested herself]

[The Divinity [Furious King of Blazing Flames] has manifested himself]

[The Divinity [Lady Mother of Earth and Ores] has manifested herself]

Four Gods from Arcadia, the four that had chosen Elayne, Rita, Mark, and Lily as their "heroes" had manifested a part of their divinities to deal with this dangerous enemy, that could put the entire world of Earth into danger if he were to not be defeated now.

"The Gods have decided your fate." Elayne's eyes shone with bright rainbow light, divinity overflowing from her body.

"The Gods...?!" Ephiales asked. "Y-You mean the Gods of Arcadia?! So it was true... You can somehow... You're their Mortal Incarnations?! To think they already choose incarnations in this world! That means that-"

"[Divine Chains of Judgement]!"

FLAAASH! FLAAASH! FLAAASH!

Before he could finish his words, Ephiales various tentacles were wrapped by Divine Chains, these were the divine version of Elayne's [Life and Light Chains of Restraint]!

"UNGH?! AARRGH...! I-I can't move?! This bright divinity... It hurts! Y-You're Gaia's Incarnation!" Cried Ephiales. "BEGONEEEEE!!!"

Unleashing several beams from within the many eyes he had summoned, Ephiales hopelessly attempted to destroy Elayne, only for her friends to appear around her, blocking all the hits with their own thin veils of divinity.

"You ain't touching my bestie, you tentacled abomination!"

"We'll end this!"

"As I said before, you're not hurting her while I'm here!"

Rita, Lily, and Mark appeared around Elayne like her three loyal knights, reflecting and intercepting the attacks from Ephiales with their weapons, as cannons of blue dragon breath, quadruple slashes of red dragon flames, and giant boulders carrying the might of the cave drakes appeared around Elayne.

"[Punishing Divine Holy Smite]!"

Elayne's Shovel fused with the Light Spirits and Earth Spirits she had saved for this moment, transforming into a gigantic hammer of light, and hitting Ephiales huge red eye, his nightmarish powers being incapable of taking over the minds of these four mortals once the veils of divinity covered their bodies!

BAAAAAAMMMM...!

"M-My eye...! ARGH...! GRUUUUUAAAAARRRGHHH...!"

With an agonizing scream, the embodiment of nightmare's huge red eye started gaining countless cracks, shattering apart into pieces as Rita, Lily, and Mark's attacks reached the eye as well, giving Elayne's attack enough power to decimate their foe once and for all!

The divine light filled the Embodiment of Nightmare's body, inflating like a balloon, and then bursting into pure light, as all the nightmares, including this nightmare realm, exploded!

BOOOOOOOOOMMMMM...!

It felt as if reality around them started to rearrange itself, going back to how it was. Everyone quickly realized that since they started the trials of Laplace, that they had been sleeping while their minds were within a Dream Realm this whole time, waking up in shock.

"W-We did it!" Elayne gasped for air.

"I can't believe it... That was all a damn dream?!" Rita was shaken.

"Hahh... So that's why he was so powerful..." Mark sighed in relief.

"Oh, Falco's back to normal!" Lily clapped happily.

"CRAAAH!"

"If we were trapped inside a dream this entire time, where is the real Laplace?" Rita asked.

"There..." Elayne stood up, pointing at a small jester-like doll over the floor.

"Curse you... humans...!" It muttered, before completely dissipating into particles of darkness and disappearing, only leaving a small heart-shaped jewel behind, with one half being pink colored and the other half being black colored.

"This whole time he was that tiny doll?!" Mark was shocked. "You have to be kidding me... We went through so much trouble for that."

"I guess the original plan was to trap us and kill us within the dreams..." Elayne sighed in relief. "Well, that didn't go as he planned." She grabbed the stone.

Using her Spiritual Gaze, she quickly realized the item's name, and she could even see its detailed information inside of her mind.

[Dream & Nightmare Spirit Heart Core (S Grade)]

The Core of Laplace Ephiales, the Spirit of Dreams and Nightmares.

It possesses mysterious powers...

"Huh? What with this short description? It's not like the game at all..." Elayne facepalmed. "Anyways, we have to get going! Quickly!"

"Alright!"

Everybody hurriedly jumped over Falco, as the bird flew as fast as possible.

FLAAAASH!

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Chapter 643: Double Dungeon Break

"GRAAAH!"

A D Rank Skeleton Chimera roared, rushing towards a young-looking Dhampir girl, whose body exuded a powerful Blood Aura that swiftly shaped into a gigantic crimson wolf.

"Tsk!"

"ROAR!"

The crimson wolf roared at the same time as the girl leaped into midair, evading the hue Skeleton Chimera's charge, swinging its huge red claws, and crushing the Chimera's head and torso into smithereens.

CRAAASH!

"Phew, this is like the tenth already! How many of these things are coming out of that Gate?!" Rose cried, glancing as her friend, Albert, fought against a dozen Skeleton Warriors.

"No clue!" Albert sighed, using his bare fists, overflowing with a Demonic Aura, to crush the skeletons skulls in a barrage of punching attacks.

BAAM! BAAM! BAAM!

"I wish that damn Josuke wouldn't had gone back to Japan just yesterday! Who would had thought a Gate would appear outside this city the next day?!" Albert complained, as he gave out a powerful kick, which released a strong red shockwave that blew away a dozen zombies.

BAAAAAM...!

"You don't say! And just as we're busy here, another Gate appeared in one of the high schools of this city?!" Rose cried, swinging her two long black nails, coated on her Blood Aura, as two powerful crimson slashes devastated another Bone Chimera and a dozen Bone Beasts following it.

CLAAASH! CLAAASH!

"I sure hope that's not where her daughter goes though..." Albert seemed concerned about Elayne.

"I can't even call her, we're too busy now! That Gate, you said nobody can enter it, right?" Rose asked one of the soldiers at her side, as she was crushing a skull with her foot.

"Y-Yes! We've tried accessing it but it has some sort of barrier, it was specifically created to simply pour out Undead! We believe it might... be connected to the "main gate" in the city! We've already dispatched some people there!"

"Actually we got a report just now that four unidentified masked hunters beat down all the Undead coming from it and then a hue skeleton! The last time they were seen, they entered the school again, have they gone into the Gate?!"

The soldiers seemed confused and concerned about what was happening. Most of the members here were SWORD's superhuman corps, although Rose and Albert were the strongest of the bunch, the rest had to rely on special weapons and cooperation while these two Solo'd most monsters with their bare fists.

"Must be them." Albert said, gritting his teeth as he unleashed several Demonic Fireballs against a group of skeleton soldiers, blasting them into ashes.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

"Yeah, but there's a fourth now?! Ah, it must be that other friend they've got." Rose said, swinging her claws as she slashed apart several skeletons while charging in, her Crimson Wolf swiftly jumped off her aura and attacked a Bone Giant, making it crumble apart.

SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! CRAAASH!

"If it's them then, probably it's her daughter..." Albert said. "Well, we can't go there while we're protecting the city. We'll have to leave this to them again!"

"Dammit!" Rose felt frustrated but couldn't help but agree with her companion. "Please, you guys... be safe!"

Rose and Albert alongside a group of over twenty SWORD corps continued fighting the incoming army of Undead, while several other soldiers were deploying a magic barrier around, so the Undead wouldn't escape the area.

Josuke was not there to give them his much-needed support, as he had to urgently move back to Japan, his country of origin due to a personal family issue. At the end, they all had their hands full with this situation, and ultimately, had to leave the fate of that Gate to Elayne and her friends...

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"Laplace... You useless puppet."

A young girl with pale white skin and long, dark blue hair extending to her hips sat down over a huge throne made of cushions and plushies.

Her red eyes seemed irritated as she sensed that her "puppet" Laplace, the Spirit of Dreams and Nightmares that she had created thanks to Thanatos' powers, was dead.

"How can you die against those four?! You fool..." She sighed. "You let them kill you so easily! However, they have already used their power. At the very least, you managed to push them very far. They must have exhausted even a tiny bit..."

She smiled, glancing at a huge projection of the four people that had infiltrated her Dungeon. Elayne, Mark, Rita, and Lily were flying across the corridors above a huge Magical Beast Bird overflowing with a Wind Elemental Magic Aura.

"At the end, I simply cannot rely on anybody! Laplace and Ernest are gone, and I am alone..." She sighed. "Fufu, but this Dream Dungeon... It still belongs to me, and I am its true master. As long as this Dungeon exists, that Gate I opened far away will never close! I owe you a lot for this, Phantasmos, without the seeds you've planted, creating Dungeons would have never been as easy for us now." The girl laughed, as she glanced at the four people, and then, at the many girls trapped inside the Dungeon.

Beneath their heads there were pink cushions, bringing them to a land of sweet dreams, unlike the dreams where Elayne and her friends were, which was made to kill them.

"Don't worry, my dear Monica." The girl giggled, holding a sleeping girl in her arms. "As long as I am here, your eternal world of dreams will never end. And slowly, your life force will become mine, and so your dreams, your delicious dreams~ Once it is finally done, I'll have enough power to even cover this entire city with dreams, everybody will have sweet dreams, and we'll live together in a world of happiness, of fulfillment... forever and ever."

She waved her delicate hands, as dozens of puppet knights materialized, marching towards the intruders, while her red eyes glowed brightly, and a mischievous smile emerged on her flawless face.

"Yggdrasil... Don't think you can escape my land of dreams again..." She squinted her eyes. "I'll make sure to make you suffer for what you've done to my lord..."

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Chapter 644: Amusement Park

The amusement park was filled with colors and life. Elena walked into the entrance while holding her dad and mom's hands, jumping around in excitement. The little girl's eyes were filled with happiness, and her innocent smile melted her parent's hearts.

"Mama! Mama! I wanna go there! To the big car!" Elena innocent pointed at the distant roller coaster.

"Heheh, that's called a Roller Coaster, dear." Giggled her mother. "But isn't it a bit too dangerous for her? She's still too little."

"Come on, the security is really good." Elena's father smiled. "But before going there, let's go to the horsies, you like those, right?"

"The carousel!" Elena nodded, as her parents led her to a beautiful and bright carousel with bright horses that moved around with the sound of circus music.

"Waaah!" Elena raised her little arms as her father held her from behind.

"B-Be careful!" Her mother, a worrywart, cried behind them in another horse.

"Hahaha! Calm down, everything's alright!" Elena's father laughed, helping his daughter raise her little arms.

"Everything's fine mama!" Elena giggled.

"Geez..." Her mother sighed, although she smiled happily.

"Next! Next!"

Just a minute after that ride, the little Elena was energetically jumping around, awaiting her next ride into another wonderful area of the amusement park.

"Oh, there's a smaller Roller Coaster over there! Look, it has the shape of cute caterpillars." Her mother smiled, pointing at the distance.

"Eeeh? But that's for babies mommy!" Elena pouted.

"Dear, you're a baby..." Her mother sighed.

"Well, let's try that one first for now! So you can get used to the ride and all!" Her father said.

"Oway..." Elena sighed.

Although she seemed a bit disappointed, once she got up on the caterpillar-shaped roller coaster that started going on circles, without many extreme elevations, she started to feel her heart pounding fast.

"W-Woah! Wawawaahhh!"

"It's going fast, isn't it?" Her mother giggled.

"Hahaha, I told you it would be good!" Laughed her father, enjoying the ride.

"Waaah! D-Don't let me go!" Elena was about to cry while her parents held her from both left and right, as she sat in the middle of a three seats row that the caterpillar-shaped roller coaster had.

Despite acting all cocky, she was really scared, and felt like the world around her was moving on its own. When the ride was finally over, she wasn't letting go of her father, hugging him while he carried her around.

"Waaah... It was scaryyyy!" She continued crying.

"Geez, I told you it would be scary! And you wanted to go to the big one for adults?" Sighed her mother. "Calm down, dear, it's alright now..."

"B-But mommy..." Elena continued crying.

"Come on now." Her father quickly let her stand up on the ground again. "It was still a bit fun, right? New experiences are a blessing the young like you get to enjoy. Even if it was scary, wasn't it cool and exciting to go through something you've never gone through before?"

"T-That's right! Let's look the positive side of it!" Her mother nodded nervously. "Right? It was a good experience; we learn and develop through experiences! Even the scary ones can help us grow as people, dear."

"E-Eh? Really?" Elena wondered, as her mother cleaned her tears with her handkerchief.

"Indeed!" Her mother giggled.

"Yep!" Her father nodded. "Now, how about we go eat something?"

"Ice cream!" Elena quickly forgot why she was even crying. "A-And cotton candy! And those red candied apples too! Ooh, popcorn too!"

The little baby girl started wandering the amusement park section where there were many small stalls selling delicious food, while her two parents held her little hands.

There were many children and their parents there, all running around, eating, laughing, and enjoying. The atmosphere was almost magical, making her laugh and sing without realizing.

"Alright, alright~ One thing at a time, Elena. You'll get sick if you eat too much bad food, you know?" Her mother sighed. "So choose one thing to eat first, not all things."

"Yep, your mom's right. Too much sugar will make your tummy ache! You don't want your tummy to ache like it did back in Halloween, right? You were a very cute little witch, but you ate too much candy!" Her father laughed.

"Meeeh! I want tons of stuff..." Elena sighed. "But if you say so... Okay, I want ice cream then! Chocolate ice cream with... Pistachio!"

"Then let's go, I was also feeling like ice cream myself. I wonder if they got cookies and cream~" Her mother started drooling.

"Hahah, you really love that flavor." Elena's father laughed. "I remember that whenever you felt down, I would buy your mother a cookies and cream ice cream pallet, and she would immediately smile adorably."

"Eeeh~? Really mommy?" Elena giggled. "Were you two really in love when you were kids too? Oh! Like those school dramas mom watches when she's lazing off in the couch?"

"E-Elena! D-Don't say that... I don't laze off; I was just resting a bit..." Her mother sighed.

"Hahaha, maybe like that?" Elena's father recalled the past. "You look a lot like your mom, especially those eyes, and that cute smile you've got, Elena. Whenever I see you laugh, I get reminded of your mom."

"H-Hey! Stop saying such corny things..." Elena's mother blushed like a tomato.

"Hahah, mommy's red!" Elena pointed at her mom. "Oh, the ice cream is there! Let's goooo!"

Little Elena was piggybacked by her father with her mother at her side, as the three landed on the ice cream shop and quickly ran to see all the colorful ice cream in front of her.

"Daddy they got bubblegum flavor!" Elena pointed at the pink colored ice cream.

"Ooh, really? Maybe I'll pick that one then!" Her father smiled, giving her a head pat.

"T-They got the cookies and cream one..." Her mother smiled.

Walking out while drinking ice cream cones, the family wandered around the colorful amusement park, Elena held her father's hand tightly, as if she didn't wanted to let him go.

She wanted to enjoy this as much as she could.

Even if deep down, it felt like something wasn't right...

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Chapter 645: Nightmare Knights

FLAAAASH!

Utilizing the presences of Elena, Elisa, and Anna that Elayne could sense through her powers, everyone flew across the Castle of Dreams over the swift Falco, faster than even their flying broom.

"I can sense them, we're getting closer!" Elayne said, pointing to the left. "Falco! Through that corridor!"

"CRAAAH!"

The swift Magic Bird flapped his wings, swiftly changing trajectories and rushing across the left corridor. The end of the corridor had a huge door sealed with black colored chains.

"There! They're THERE!" Elayne cried.

"Alright!" Mark nodded. "Once we secure the girls, should we run away from the dungeon and then come back? Securing their lives should be our priority."

"But can we even find the entrance again so easily?" Rita asked. "Also the rest of the girls inside the dungeon..."

"We're saving everyone!" Said Elayne. "We'll secure the girls and then everyone else. And then, we'll beat the Boss and blow this dungeon to smithereens!"

"I guess that's what we'll do then!" Lily giggled. "Elayne seems decided."

"CRAAAH?!"

However, before Falco could move any further, several shadows materialized around the floor, gathering, and transforming into over twenty black knights, Nightmare Puppet Knights!

"T-That power... C Rank monsters?!" The Great Spirit panicked. "H-Hold on!"

"GRUOOH!"

SLASH! SLASH! SLAAASH!

All the Nightmare Puppet Knights coordinated their attacks at once, swinging their huge black swords. Their combination of attacks generated a storm of Nightmare Attribute Slashes, which sent Falco and everyone else flying away!

BAAAM...!

"C-Crahh...!" Falco was wounded, quickly going back to his smaller size.

"Falco, hang in there!" Mark said, using his healing magic, as phoenix flames covered the beast and slowly healed his wounds.

"You cannot... pass!"

"The dreams of the children..."

"You cannot interrupt them!"

The knights instantly charged against them without them even being able to prepare for battle. Their huge swords swung, releasing sparks of black lightning that not only dealt huge damage, but also hurt people's psyche, filling their minds with nightmares.

CLASH! CLASH! CRAAASH!

"ARGH!"

Mark had ran in front of Elayne to tank the hits, covered on his blazing wooden armor, but even then, his body was seriously hurt as several pieces of his body flew away, and his mind felt electrified, as if someone had punched his brain.

"Urgh... Fuck! My head...!" Mark groaned, desperately swinging his knife against the Nightmare Puppet Knights, quadruple slashes of fire dragon flames were unleashed.

SLAASH! SLAASH! SLAASH! SLAASH! BOOOM!

"Graaaagh!"

Several knights were attacked at once, the explosions blowing them into pieces. Their pieces suddenly turning into a liquid, nightmarish goo, and merging together until it suddenly summoned... the exact amount of nightmare knights that were killed!

"They can revive?!" Elayne was shocked, standing up after wrapping Falco on her roots and putting him on the safety of Blackie's shadows.

"It seems like they're made of that strange... nightmarish thing!" Mark said. "Don't let their attacks reach you, or you'll end up getting hit in the head, as if a hundred nightmares hit you in a single second. It hurts!"

"Got it." Said Rita. "We'll use you as our shield if you don't mind then!" She giggled, shooting at the nightmare knights with her gun.

BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG!

Charged with the holy light element of her little holy light mouse, Whitey, the magic bullets blew the knights heads into pieces, making the rest of their bodies fall into the floor.

And then the same process happened again! They slowly melted into black goo and merged together, summoning the knights once more.

"This is ridiculous! How can we kill them?!" Rita complained.

"Watch out!" Elayne rushed in front of Rita, putting her shield in front of her. "[Spiritual Scale Fortress]! [Wooden Shield]!"

Combining her shield's Ability with the Wooden Shield Spell created a huge fortress of wooden dragon scales around them, which tanked the powerful Nightmare Slashes of the knights.

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CRAAASH!

However, even this powerful barrier didn't hold on for much longer, taking ten hits before beginning to crumble down into pieces.

"They're not C Rank for nothing. They might be weaker than the Death Generals you've fought, but they're right below them in terms of power, and there's tons, and they're pretty much immortal! Was the boss in charge of this dungeon preparing this damn thing for all of you?" The Great Spirit complained.

"I'm not sure, but all this nightmarish energy is sure giving me a lot of Malice Energy." Rita already had summoned her Malice Orb, a spell she created imitating the one from her Avatar in BNLO. "I'm gonna prepare a blast to turn them to ashes and blast that door, cover me!"

Rita decided to go all-out, as she started absorbing as much energy as possible, gathering a tremendous quantity of darkness and nightmarish energy into a huge sphere.

"Okay!" Everyone agreed.

"[Earth Domain]! [Earth Manipulation]! [Earth Golems]!"

Lily hit the ground with her hands as she fused with it, spreading out a thick layer of pure ground and earth, which quickly turned into mud and by fusing with Earth Spirits she brought out, several huge golems emerged.

"Earth Golems, attack them!" Lily commanded, as a dozen golems, each one as huge as three meters charged forwards.

CLASH! CLASH! CRASH!

Their huge fists constantly pushed the nightmare knights away. But the knights numbers were much higher, they started ganging on the golems, slowly tearing them down one after another.

Lily continuously summoned more, regaining some of her Mana through her Domain and that of Elayne, which also brought tiny lesser spirits to help, while also summoning crystal spears and earth walls.

"[Beast Spirit Totem Summon]: [Blazing Falcon Totem Spirit]! [Holy Light Lion Totem Spirit]! [Freezing Frost Bear Totem Spirit]!"

Mark decided to go for a long-ranged approach, as he expanded his wooden body and summoned out of his own blazing wood three huge Beast Spirits made of wood and different elements. A huge falcon covered on flames, a lion emanating holy light, and a giant bear covered on frost.

All three of these powerful spirits were as strong as ten earth golems, rushing to fight the nightmare knights!

CRASH! CRASH! CRASH!

Meanwhile, Elayne was preparing a mightier magic.

"[Light Spirit Call]!"

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Chapter 646: The Power Of Fusion Magic

"Fufufu~ Keep struggling all you want! I've created the Nightmare Puppet Knights specially for beings such as you." Laughed the little girl sitting over a throne made of plushies, controlling the dungeon.

"No matter how many times you kill them, they'll keep coming back!" Laughed the girl. "And you know why?! Because they're fueled by the nightmares of everybody here... As long as they exist and keep dreaming, they cannot die! Invincible, isn't it?!"

"And in just a few more minutes, my dear Monica... They will never be able to wake up again." She smiled, while caressing Monica in her embrace. "Those girls you love so much, Yggdrasil... They will be the first ones to go! All the time you're wasting fighting my knights will be your daughter and her friend's dooms! Pfff... Hahahaha! HAHAAHAHA!"

"You'll FINALLY know the true pain my Lord went back then! When you and those bastards you allied took away everything from HIM! YOU'LL LEARN HIS SORROW!!!"

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"[Light Spirit Call]!" Elayne roared.

FLAAAAASH!

Her Terrain which had already expanded through most of the Dungeon shone brightly, the grown trees, flowers, and grass glowed, gathering their produced Spiritual Energy into her body.

At the same time, the hundreds of Spiritual Sprouts bloomed, as hundreds of tiny Lesser Light Spirits emerged around her.

"Now..." Elayne said. "Rita's powerful beam might be really strong, but even then, these things might not go down. In the worst case possible, I need to have a plan B!" She thought.

FLUOSH!

The hundreds of Light Spirits smiled and giggled innocently as they condensed together around Elayne's aura, fusing together into a mass of light that permeated her.

The Yggdragon powers within her armor and everything else also reacted to their spiritual energy, as Elayne quickly started to combine the concepts of her learned Spells, and even her equipment Abilities together.

"I cannot limit myself solely to what I've acquired through my Magic Circle or my Equipment's Skills." Elayne thought. "Just like before when we defeated Ephiales, I was able to combine my Divine Energy into my Spells and upgrade them into even stronger versions, even if that lasted a few seconds. I have to do it but without relying on [Pathway], as it exhausts me the more I overuse it..."

Her train of thoughts was incredibly fast and accelerated thanks to her upgraded Physique, that even enhanced her thinking speed and process.

She channeled the power of several Spells together, their Runes converged around her, as she built a huge spiritual magic circle made up of the Light Spirits themselves.

"Light... It is the element that can overcome darkness... I must channel it more, and more!"

FLAAAAASH!

"[Light Bullets]! [Light Shield]! [Spiritual Domain]! [Spirit Creation]! [Wide-Area Exorcism]! [Light Blade]! [Light Arrow]! [Sunshine Veil]! [Heavenly Light Flash]! [Life and Light Chains of Restraint]! [Spiritual Battle Aura]! [Spiritual Muscle Enhancement]! [Holy Light Spirit Smite]! [Yggdragon's Spirit Breath]! [Draconic Aura]...!"

Elayne kept conjuring Spells and fusing them into the magic circle, while Lily and Mark held on against the Nightmare Knights while Blackie protected her and Rita concentrated all the power she could, until her Malice Orb started gaining cracks!

"Here it comes!" She roared. "Let's do the strongest blast I can! Everyone, move away! [Abyssal Dragon Queen's Breath of Destruction]!" Rita created a new Spell on the spot, combining some of her spells and her gun's ability together similarly to Elayne. "RAAAAH!"

TRUUUUUMMM...!

The Malice Orb fused with her gun as the gun transformed into a gigantic draconic head, unleashing an enormous beam of darkness, blasting the nightmare knights into almost nothing, as the blast hit the gate behind and shattered the chains!

Crack, crack... CRAAASH!

"It worked!" Rita celebrated, although she felt exhausted right after. "Ugh... And- Ah!"

FLUOSH!

However, although the gates behind were dealt with, the nightmare knights weren't! Their masses of nightmarish liquid fused together, forming a giant black knight, with several dozens of arms and eyes.

"GRAAAAAH!"

"It merged together into something even bigger?!" Mark asked.

"N-No way, it is really immortal?!" Lily cried.

"Now's my turn." Elayne said, the huge magic circle she had created, which went unnoticed until now, was quickly noticed by her friends. Their eyes opened wide by the beautiful magnitude of the runic scripture.

"RAAAAAH!"

The Giant Nightmare Knight rushed forwards, as Mark, Lily, and Rita instinctively ran behind Elayne as her magic circle activated. A tremendous mass of light was materialized, concentrating so much light that the element was elevated to the next level of power.

"Shine with the brightness of the stars!" Elayne roared. "And bring down the darkness of nightmares! [Celestial Heavenly Sun]!"

FLAAAAAASSSH!

The sphere of light fully created itself, flying towards the gigantic, "immortal" nightmare knight, and engulfing it on its eternal brightness!

The light constantly started turning all nightmares into pure light, as the nightmare puppet knights merged together screamed in agony, their very existences were being erased!

"W-What?!" Dorothea sitting over her throne glanced at the scene in utter disbelief. "T-That's... no, it can't be! What is this light?! Yggdrasil... Yggdrasil never wielded such light before! Has she evolved?! What has she attained?!"

"GRAAAAAHHH...!"

The Nightmare Mass, the true identity behind the immortal Nightmare Puppet Knights, a B Rank Nightmare-Attribute Monster, screamed, showing its true form as it battled the light, resembling a chimeric creature with countless amorphous forms stuck together.

However, resistance was utterly futile!

"You cannot escape the light I've created." Elayne said. "Once it catches a darkness elemental entity, or something similar, it will encompass them into a sphere of pure light. There will be no place for you to hide or run away from! Now, compress!"

The valiant mother pressed her fists as the sphere of eternal light started growing smaller, and smaller, and smaller! The smaller it grew, the more light it unleashed!

Until finally, it became the size of an ant!

"Begone!"

FLAAAAAASSSSH!

A last blinding flash of light covered everything, and then, it completely disappeared. The "immortal" monster that Dorothea had created...

It was annihilated!

"I-Impossible...! T-This can't be!" Dorothea screamed. "W-What is she?! WHAT IS SHE?!"

The ghostly maiden started trembling in fear.

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Chapter 647: Creating A New Spirit

[The [Celestial Heavenly Sun] Spell has been registered within the [Fused Spells] category of your Magic Circle.]

"Fused Spells... This is new." Elayne was surprised.

"This whole time it was actually a B Rank Monster that could transform into many forms?! It was being fueled by an endless amount of nightmares and dreams that this dungeon constantly creates... So that's why it seemed immortal." Said the Great Spirit. "But that insane Spell you created... It was at least as strong as the Spells that Tier 8 Magicians wielded! And you made it by fusing just how many spells?! A- And in a magic circle made up of spirits! You've done something nobody ever thought before..."

"Phew, so it was actually a B Rank monster, ugh." Elayne sighed. "Well, it's gone... Hahh... I'm exhausted. But we can't stop here." She quickly took out a Lesser Elixir crafted using small drops of Advanced potions in BNLO, and drank it, recovering her stamina and mana plentifully, although not completely. "Everyone, have one as well!" She shared the potions with everyone as they made their way into the open gates.

"That was amazing!" Mark said in excitement. "Just how much stronger have you grown? I'm simply dazzled..."

"Hahaha, c-come on now... Don't praise me so much..." Elayne felt slightly embarrassed her handsome boyfriend loved to praise her.

"No, seriously, you were like a goddess or something! And I thought my blast was awesome! I got completely owned by you, hahaha!" Rita laughed over the ridiculousness of Elayne's newest spell.

"It was indeed incredible; I wonder if you can teach us how to fuse spells like that in the future?" Lily was excited.

"Sure! It was something I did on a whim, but I'll show you how to do it later. Now, Elena's what matters!" Elayne quickly kicked the door open, as everyone found themselves on a room covered on fluffy plushies, cushions, and beds.

"T-This place..." Said Elayne, glancing around. "E-ELENA!"

Her eyes quickly landing on three girls sitting over beds on the floor, on of them was Elena. In front of the beds, there were piles of bones spread around, and three shattered skulls.

"T-The skeletons!" Rita cried.

"So they died here? But there's no monsters?" Mark wondered.

"Maybe there were..." Lily said.

"Ah!" Mark's eyes opened wide as he realized something strange was happening here. "Elayne, watch out!"

He extended his arm into a huge branch and grabbed Elayne, pushing her back seconds before all the plushies and cushions started moving on their own, arranging into several golems... made of them!

BAAAAAMM...!

"GRUOOHHH...!"

"W-What?! More monsters?!" Rita cried, gritting her teeth.

"This is a dungeon, so it should be normal for this place to be infested with these things at every damn corner." Sighed Mark, putting Elayne on the floor.

"B-But Elena!" Elayne cried, glancing as five "Dream Golems" emerged, moving around the girls as if they were guarding them.

"They're... Dream Golems?!" Wondered the Great Spirit. "Elayne, calm down! Those things are not weak despite their squishy appearance."

"Hahh... Okay, I'll calm down." Elayne sighed, her eyes glowing with spiritual light, she gave a swift glance at the piles of bones and felt their souls somewhere around the room. "You guys did well, thank you for protecting them. Your souls and bones... I'll rearrange them into something much stronger!"

Elayne took out the Dreams and Nightmare Spirit Heart Core and channeled the powers of dozen spirits, while grabbing the bones which she dragged towards her body using Mana itself as a gravity field.

"You seem the most compatible with this thing, so be reborn, my loyal skeletons!" Elayne roared, as the Dream Golems suddenly flinched the moment they saw the jewel she merged into the skeleton's bones and souls. "[Spirit Fusion]! [Spirit Creation]!"

Adding her own Spirit Wood, her Spiritual Essence, Mana, and many other Lesser Spirits into the mix, Elayne created a brand-new being, a new Spirit!

The souls of the brave Skellington, Skellrus, and Skullosus fused with the dream and nightmare powers of Laplace's core.

Elayne knew that to deal with this endless nightmare of a dungeon, she'll need to use fire against fire...

FLAAAASH!

[Your powers have converged three brave souls with several compatible materials and willing spirits.]

[You've created a brand-new [High Spirit Weapon]!]

The combination of materials and souls emerged, shaping themselves into a huge scythe made out of black spirit wood and bones, three skulls arranged over the top, while the sharp blade glowed with dark pink and dark purple color, emanating a pink and purple flame-like aura.

The jewel that was Laplace's spirit core fused into the entire Spirit Weapon, forming a completely brand-new entity. Overflowing with the power of Dreams and Nightmares, while holding the brave souls of three skeletons that fought to protect Elayne's daughter and her friends until they were torn to pieces.

[You have created the [Spirit Scythe of Dreams and Nightmares: Morpheus (Tier 3: Rank 5)] High Spirit Weapon!]

[Morpheus] has instantly connected his soul with yours, becoming your [Soul-Bound] High Spirit Weapon!]

[The strong loyalty that the souls that created this spirit possessed has become their new will.]

"Hm? Ah! I am alive?! What...? Our minds... are one?" The floating scythe spoke, all three skulls empty black eyes glowed with purple and pink phantasmal flames.

"Welcome back, you guys!" Elayne smiled, shedding a small tear. "Thank you for protecting my daughter!"

"B-Boss!" The skeletons spoke at the same time, now their minds and thoughts merged as a whole being. "W-What happened?! We died and...?"

"You've become my new Spirit Weapon; your new name is Morpheus." Elayne smiled. "I've used the core of a powerful Dream and Nightmare Spirit to recreate you, so you better pull your own weight now!"

"S-So that's what happened!" Morpheus was amazed. "I can tell we've changed... Alright! If that's the case, let's do this! Those damn Dream Golems are a real threat, boss! Be careful against them!"

"I will!" Elayne smiled, holding the scythe in her right hand and the shovel in her left hand. "Mark, Rita, Lily, let's do this...!"

"You don't even need to say it!" Rita smiled.

"Yeah! Let's!" Lily nodded.

"As always, let me take the hits." Mark said, his eyes blazing with conviction.

All four of them charged against the powerful Dream Golems, as countless of dreams fueled these powerful monsters, their auras exuding incredibly high magical power.

A clash of magic and might resonated across the Dream Castle Dungeon!

TRUUUUMMM...!

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Chapter 648: Morpheus

[Your powers have converged three brave souls with several compatible materials and willing spirits.]

[You've created a brand-new [High Spirit Weapon]!]

[You have created the [Spirit Scythe of Dreams and Nightmares: Morpheus (Tier 3: Rank 5)] High Spirit Weapon!]

[Morpheus] has instantly connected his soul with yours, becoming your [Soul-Bound] High Spirit Weapon!]

[The strong loyalty that the souls that created this spirit possessed has become their new will.]

[Morpheus] is both a Weapon, a Spirit, and a Familiar. He has developed new Spells: [Dream Manipulation], [Nightmare Manipulation], [Dream Storage], [Nightmare Slash], [Dream & Nightmare Distortion], [Dream Destruction], [Nightmare Absorption], [Dream Restoration], [Dream World Travel], [Summon Nightmarish Skeleton Knights]]

[Morpheus] cannot be enhanced with [Potential Cubes], but like any Familiar, will develop new Abilities and Spells as it grows stronger through the absorption of Magic Crystals.]

[However, [Morpheus] is also capable of growing stronger by absorbing Nightmares and Dreams.]

The Voice of the World whispered inside of Elayne's mind, as she learned all of Morpheus details and his many new abilities. He possessed several abilities, and all of them related with Dreams and Nightmares! They were ideal for this situation.

"GRUOOHHH!"

The five Dream Golems, exuding enough power to be comparable to B- Rank monsters rushed forward, attacking Elayne and company with their enormous cushion-made fists overflowing with purple flames, these were Dream Flames, capable of burning souls and consume the mind.

BAAM! BAAM! BAAM! BAAAM...!

Elayne swiftly evaded their slow attacks, as she felt some of their flames reaching her armor, and bypassing most of her defenses, slightly burning her soul. It felt painful, but the pain instantly dissipated the moment Morpheus' aura covered Elayne.

"Be careful, boss! I can absorb a part of the damage you receive if its dream or nightmare based, but it is not an endless absorption!" Morpheus said.

"Alright!" Elayne nodded, the moment she rushed forwards, the Dream Golems set their target on her.

"GRAAAAH!"

Gathering their magic power together, a huge wave of Dream Flames emerged, rushing like an endless fiery wave! Lily desperately summoned a barrier of stone, but the flames destroyed it instantly and pierced through them.

CRAAASH!

"What?! What are those flames? Not even phantom flames can easily pierce my stone walls!" Lily said in surprise.

"Watch out!" Mark cried, as he sent his three Spirits, which were still alive, towards the flames.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM...!

The spirits tanked the flames and burned in agony, before turning into ashes. These Dream Flames were incredibly powerful! Elayne, however, knew that Morpheus was the key to defeating these new dangerous enemies.

"GROOOHHH!"

As the Dream Golems cooperated and tried to unleash more dream magic against everyone, Elayne already imbued Mana into her new scythe and conjured a powerful new spell.

"[Dream & Nightmare Distortion]!"

TRUUUUMM...!

A powerful wave of distorted mana reached the Dream Golems. Their entire bodies started to tremble as the dream magic they were trying to conjure was instantly interrupted and backfired on them!

BOOOOMMM...!

The explosion of the backfired spells that couldn't be conjured was strong! All five of the Dream Golems had to step back, their cushion-made bodies revealing that they were indeed made out of dream energy was the wounds they gained were dissipating into pink colored particles of light.

"Amazing! That new thing you made worked against those bastards!" Rita said, still slightly tired. "They looked weakened now!"

"This is Morpheus, a new Spirit Weapon I created using Laplace's stone, but I guess you already saw his creation." Elayne said, her eyes not losing focus on the regenerating Dream Golems. "Those three brave skeletons have fused into this Spirit Weapon as well; their power will allow us to defeat these Dream Golems. While they're weakened, attack them on their wounds, before they fully regenerate! I'll keep them on check!"

"Alright!" Mark roared, rushing forward as his knife transformed into a huge blazing sword when he imbued mana into it. "[Quadruple Slash]! [True Red Dragon Flames]!"

SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH!

Four powerful slashes emerged out of a single, piercing swing of Mark's sword as it reached one of the Dream Golem's open wounds, the dragon flames easily overflowing the golem's ethereal insides and constantly damaging it!

"GRAAAHH!!"

The Dream Golem attempted to fight back, covering its huge fists with Dream Flames, and attempting to pummel Mark with them, but Mark was faster, raising his hand into the air as huge wooden spikes in the shape of totems appeared, covered on phoenix flames.

"[Phoenix Totem Spears]!"

CRASH! CRASH! CRAAASH!

Impaled by the blazing totem spears, the mighty Dream Golem, already weakened and wounded by Elayne's attack, perished against yet another quadruple slash from Mark, exploding into smithereens!

BOOOOMMM...!

CLANK!

The only thing that was left was a huge, pink-colored magic crystal, which also worked as the Golem's Core, the rest of its body was completely made out of "Dream Energy".

Meanwhile, Rita's eyes glowed bright red as her Physique's abilities were channeled alongside her many other Spells and her Magic Gun.

"[Shadow Self]! [Corrosive Magic Bullets]! [Super Bullet Time]!"

Her body suddenly divided into another clone of herself made of shadows, holding an exact copy of her magic gun as well, and holding half of her total power! Her clone copied all her movements, pretty much doubling her attacks!

Combined with her Corrosive Magic Bullets, capable of corroding magic power, she fired over ten bullets in a split of a second, all of them landing on the wounded Dream Golem.

BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG...!

"GRAAAAH...!"

The Dream Golem didn't even realized what it happened before it was covered by holes, its entire body incapable of regenerating in time before a mass of shadows in the shape of a claw slashed against it to finish it off!

"[Abyssal Dragon's Shadow Claw]!"

SLAAAAASH!

CLANK!

The Dream Golem perished instantly, dissipating into particles of pink light, and leaving behind a large magic crystal, its golem core. With two out of five Dream Golems gone, a third was attacked by Lily, while Elayne swung her two weapons at once, attacking the other two.

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Chapter 649: The Tenacity Of A Mother

"GRUOOHH!"

While two Dream Golems were being defeated by Mark and Rita at the same time, a third Dream Golem desperately groaned, rushing towards Elayne from the back!

"Not going to let ya!" However, Lily appeared right behind the Dream Golem. "[Earth Spirit Body]! [Ore Absorption]! [Earth Golem Summon]!"

Lily desperately attempted to enhance herself to the level her friends were, which were still much stronger than her. She activated two of her Physique Abilities at once and then summoned a bunch of Golems, absorbing them into her body until she became a half-golem lady made of stone and crystals, temporarily enhancing her physical might to her body limits!

"[Earth Shattering Might]!!!" She roared, her pickaxe growing several times larger as she swung it against the Dream Golem's back countless times.

CRASH! CRASH! CRASH! CRAAASH!

"GRUOOHHH...!"

The Dream Golem took a large quantity of damage, falling into the floor. It quickly tried to stand back up while desperately summoning Dream Flames, which it fired into fireballs against Lily, incessantly attempting to burn her soul.

However, Lily divided her body back into the golems and made them take the hits for her, while she rushed forwards and leaped over one of her golem's heads, pointing her pickaxe into the Dream Golem's wound.

"[Draconic Mother Earth's Wrath]!"

BAAAAAAMMM...!

A powerful strike hit the third Dream Golem, the shockwave of the impact alone made the entire Dream Golem explode and dissipate like a balloon having been popped, leaving behind a large magic crystal behind.

CLANK!

At the same time, Elayne confronted two wounded Dream Golems. The first one moved to her right and swung its huge fists, unleashing a barrage of Dream Flames-powered punches, pummeling her strongly!

BAAM! BAAM! BAAM! BAAM!

However, Elayne utilized Morpheus to intercept most of the blows, making the scythe spin around and create a powerful defensive barrier, utilizing [Dream Destruction] to destroy the Dream Flames altogether!

"[Dream Destruction]!"

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

The Dream Flames were covered on pink lightning, instantly disappearing on the spot! At the same time, the other Dream Golem attacked Elayne from the other side by gathering Dream Energy and unleashing a Dream Beam, attempting to send her into a Dream World, trapping her soul within!

TRUUUUMMM...!

"That's not going to work either!" Elayne roared, gathering the power of Morpheus, and transferring it into her Shovel, Irene. "[Great Elemental Resonance]!"

FLAAASH!

"Wooah! T-This new power is really good!"

Irene had the innate power of Great Elemental Resonance, allowing her to absorb and assimilate any element, temporarily transforming her appearance to fit this power for a couple of seconds.

Her shape, which was like that of a staff with the tip of a golden shovel transformed into a black and pink colored spear, which Elayne quickly used to unleash another of Morpheus Spells combined with Irene's innate abilities.

"[Nightmare Slash]! [Great Spiritual Explosion]!"

A slash of pure nightmarish darkness emerged, exploding against the Dream Beam, and slicing it into two perfect halves!

SLAAAAASSH! BOOOOOMM...!

The explosion that came right after that was the Dream Golem that got hit by the explosive Nightmare Slash and was instantly evaporated, leaving behind only its magic crystal.

"RAAAAH!"

The other Dream Golem attacking Elayne with its Dream Flame fists grew restless, unleashing a deadly wave of Dream Flames which suddenly turned black colored, transforming into the even more lethal Nightmare Flames!

"Morpheus, Irene!" Elayne channeled her Mana into her two Weapons at once, swinging them at the same time to finish off this Dream Golem. "[Nightmare Absorption]! [Dragon Spirit Summon]!"

Morpheus absorbed the Nightmare Flames instantly, while Irene transformed the Nightmare Flames into a ferocious, black dragon made of fire, which roared and rushed towards the Dream Golem, engulfing it on its blazing jaws!

"ROOOAARRR!"

BOOOOOMMMM...!

A huge explosion of nightmare flames imbued with spiritual energy reached the Dream Golem, who instantly exploded into smithereens, leaving nothing but its magic crystal behind!

"Phew..." Elayne sighed in relief, falling to her knees. "Hahh... I've spent too much Mana again. B-But I can't stop now, not now!" She started absorbing the Mana and Spiritual Energy that her Terrain had created, rushing towards her daughter. "Elena!"

As she ran towards her daughter, the surrounding plushies started overflowing with Mana! As if someone was watching them, and instantly wanted to stop her, hundreds of living toy monsters started marching towards Elayne.

"W-Wha? Even more?! Ugh!" Elayne was growing restless. "E-Elena!"

"[Quadruple Slash]! [True Red Dragon Flames]!"

"[Super Bullet Time]! [Elemental Bullet]!"

"[Earth Golem Summon]! [Draconic Mother Earth's Wrath]!"

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

Her friends arrived just in time, attacking the swarm of toy monsters, and stopping their advance, allowing Elayne to quickly summon a Spiritual Barrier utilizing her Gaia-blessed Shield as the medium.

FLAAASH!

"Wake the girls! We'll hold on as much as we need to!" Mark roared.

"Don't even worry about us, we'll be fine, girl!" Rita winked at her.

"Please, save your daughter and her friends!" Lily said.

"Thank you everyone!" Elayne was about to cry of the happiness she felt for having her friends at her side. "Elena! Anna! Elisa! Please wake up!"

Elayne tried to wake them up, but it was quite clear they weren't fine, their faces looked deadly pale, and there was a weird pink pillow stuck on their heads.

"Morpheus, do you know what's going on?! Great Spirit?" Elayne asked while panicking.

"Looks like those pillows have something to do with it! They're part of a powerful spell, I think..." The Great Spirit analyzed.

"They're Dream Pillows, they trap a person inside a Sweet Dream Realm!" Morpheus panicked. "I somehow know this... Is this the knowledge of the spirit core's original owner? Anyways, you can't remove them as it is! If you do it, they'll instantly have their souls dragged into the dream realm and die..."

"D-Die?!" Elayne cried. "W-What do I do then?!"

"The only way is to drag them outside of their Dreams, but that's a delicate issue all on by itself! B-But we can do it... It'll be a heavy load on your mind though, boss!" Morpheus said.

"If it's possible I don't care what happens to me!" Elayne said. "I would even give my life in exchange, there's no question!"

"Then I'll divide your mind into three separate egos and send them into the Dream Realms! Help the girls wake up, Boss! [Dream Manipulation]! [Dream World Travel]!"

FLAAAASH!

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Chapter 650: Entering The Dream

Elayne felt as if her mind was divided into three egos, and her main one was sent through an endless tunnel of pink and purple light.

FLAAASH!

When she opened her eyes, she found herself in a completely different place altogether than the strange, dreamy castle dungeon she was seconds ago.

She felt slightly dizzy, and her head hurt a lot... But she couldn't really care about her own pain at this point. She had to first...

To first...

"Papa! Mama! Look, we can see the whole city from here!"

"Woow! Look at the view! Amazing..."

"E-Eh?"

Elayne didn't know what was happening. She found herself sitting inside a Ferris wheel, looking at the distance, the beautiful scenery of the city in the night made her feel lost on its beauty.

"What was I...? Eh?" Elayne felt her mind cloudy, her memories were becoming fuzzier, as if she couldn't remember exactly why she was here, and if what she had experienced before was even real.

"Mama, are you okay?"

And the voice of her beloved daughter resonated, right at her side, an adorable little girl with emerald-colored eyes and long black hair appeared, tilting her head while wondering why her mom was looking strange.

The appearance of her beloved Elena when she was much younger and innocent. When she used to be filled with life and energy... so different from the present.

"E-Elena?" Elayne was confused. "Eh? When did you become so little?"

"Little?" Asked Elena, raising an eyebrow. "Was I big before?"

"H-Huh?" Elayne then looked at the person behind her daughter.

"What's wrong? Are you a bit dizzy because of the ride?" A young man with short black hair and black eyes asked her.

"F-Fran... Francis?" Elayne couldn't believe her eyes when she saw him.

The love of her life, the man that she married, and the one whom she had a daughter. The one that brought her so much joy and happiness through her life, and the one...

The one that left her, after a battle against cancer he couldn't win.

"Yes? Are you okay?" He wondered, genuinely concerned.

"T-This is...!" Elayne resisted the urge to cry, trying to remember something very important. "But... you... you aren't... no... this is- Ah!"

And then, the cloudy memories inside of her mind became much clearer, she recalled she had come here to drag her daughter outside of a dream.

This beautiful dream... Where her husband was alive, and where they were reliving the memories of going to the amusement park.

How could she ever forget this day?

It was just a few days later that her husband would be diagnosed with pulmonary cancer.

"M-Mommy?" Elena was nervous, as if she also felt... something with her mother's strange reactions.

"Elena..." Her mother quickly hugged her, as she started to cry on her daughter's shoulders. "I'm sorry, Elena... I know how much you loved your father... It makes me feel so bad that I have to drag you out of here... I wish... we could be here with him together, forever..."

"M-Mom?" Elena was confused, while her husband remained in silence.

Elayne felt her little hands trembling as she held them tightly, and didn't let go of her beloved daughter... Her mother felt perhaps even worse than her right now.

"I know it hurts... I know it still hurts, even now!" Elayne continued crying. "But you have to wake up, dear! This isn't... this isn't real! If you stay here any longer... You will die... I don't want to lose you! I already lose your father; I can't fathom to lose you!"

While her mother's warm tears covered the girl's shoulders, she quickly realized that she was right... That those feelings she felt since this morning, they were right.

This was all a dream... a fabrication.

And it wasn't real.

"Nngh..." Elena resisted the urge to cry, but started crying, a river of tears started flowing from her big eyes. "B-But I don't want to... I don't want to lose daddy again!"

"But Elena! T-This isn't...!" Elayne muttered. "Please..."

"Daddyyy!" Elena cried, rushing towards her father, and hugging him.

Her father remained in silence, shocked about what he was hearing. Yet... he hugged her tightly, and kissed her forehead, cleaning his daughter's tears, and then his wife.

"It's fine... I get it now." He sighed. "I'm not real... Right? This... this faint feeling I felt from the morning. As if I was reliving something from long ago..."

"Y-You know?" Elayne was shocked. "W-Wait, how? W-What's... going on?! Are you...?!"

"I don't know either..." Francis laughed. "But I would never dare not trust my wife. I'm sorry, Elena, but you need to wake up."

"B-But daddy..." Elena continued crying on his chest. "When you were gone I didn't know what to do! I felt so lost... Please... I don't want you to leave me!"

"I won't." Her father smiled.

"Francis!" Elayne cried, hugging him as well.

"I won't leave you. I'll never will." Elayne's husband sighed, smiling at the two of them. "I'll always remain within your hearts. The memories you have of me, they keep me alive, perhaps the whole reason I feel so real now is because of the very memories you treasure. I love you two so much... So that's why I need you to wake up."

"N-No!" Elena cried more and more, grabbing on her father.

"Please, Elena... I don't want you to die." Elayne cried.

"Please..." Her father looked into her eyes. "You have to grow up, Elena... Please, accompany your mother. She loves you so much, and always does everything she can to support you, to protect you... Please, Elena... Go with her."

"Sniff..." Elena continued crying, as she hugged her mother.

The entire world around them started to crumble apart, as if reality itself was trying to rearrange itself back to what it was before.

The beautiful lights of the amusement park disappeared one after another. The dreamy night sky filled with stars, the beautiful view of the city, the Ferris wheel...

And then Elena's father, which slowly turned into particles of light, with a smile on his face.

"Please... live..."

"DAD!"