

Brand New 651

Brand New Life Online: Rise Of The Goddess Of Harvest

Chapter 651: The Love Of A Mother

With tears flowing from her eyes, Elayne grabbed her daughter, dragging her out of this dream world she had been trapped into. At the same time, her consciousness traveled across two other dreams, where Elise and Anna's souls were trapped.

All three dreams had the same thing in common, Elayne saw Elise happily living with her two parents, who had left her behind to live alone from a young age.

And Anna dreamed of her mother finally getting along with her father, who had divorced her many years ago, living together as a family.

The dream world targeted the children's most deepest, emotional desires related to their own family traumas. Elayne felt terrible every time she had to drag these girls out of their ideal worlds.

Worlds that weren't real, and perhaps, that's why they didn't want to leave, no matter what...

The moment she emerged out of the dreams and her consciousness moved back to her body, all three of the girls suddenly lost the pillows below their heads, however, they remained asleep even now.

"T-They're still asleep?!" Elayne cried, glancing at the girls.

"Yeah, but don't worry, they're not trapped within any dream now!" Said Morpheus. "For now, cover their heads with a bubble made of holy light, that'll stop any monster from trying to drag them into a dream or nightmare again."

"A bubble made of holy light?! G-Gotcha!" Elayne desperately conjured her light magic, shaping it into a bright, golden-colored transparent bubble, and gently placing it around all three of the girl's heads. They looked like astronauts now.

"Blackie! I'll be leaving them in your care!" Elayne called Blackie once more, as the black cat emerged out of her shadows and quickly wrapped the girls on his darkness.

"Meow!" He quickly dived into Elayne's shadows again, sating his energy for now and using it to protect the girls instead of fighting.

His ability to travel through shadows, hide in them, and create a shadow pocket space was quite useful now. Of course, it didn't had oxygen inside, but Elayne easily resolved that problem by placing a few dozen Lesser Wind Spirits inside, which could fill the shadow world with enough air to last a whole week.

"Alright!" Elayne said. "The girls are safe!"

Elayne quickly glanced around her surroundings, the barrier protecting her already had several large cracks, and her friends looked desperate and exhausted, fighting an endless army of toy monsters.

"You're done?! Oh thank god!" Rita cried, shooting down a dozen black colored teddy bears.

"This damn army never stops coming! We have to run away or somehow destroy the magic circles summoning them!" Mark said, burning over twenty small toy monsters with his flames and quadruple slashes.

"Do you have any idea? The magic circles seem very well hidden, we haven't been able to find them yet!" Lily said, swinging her pickaxe against a large wooden knight over a wooden horse.

"Magic Circles of Summoning, right?" Elayne joined the battle as the barrier shattered into pieces, while holding both Irene and Morpheus in her two hands.

She spread out her Spiritual Senses and activated her Spirit Gaze, yet just like her friends, she couldn't find the source of the endless summoning of Toy Monsters.

"Wait, over there!"

Suddenly, Morpheus pointed at an empty space. Elayne was confused at first, before Morpheus conjured a beam of pink light, revealing something that nobody had detected before.

FLAAASH!

It was a large cloud of illusory dream energy, which held several magic circles where the Toy Monsters kept popping out from.

"So it was within a small Dream Cloud?! That's why we couldn't find them!" Mark said. "Can we destroy that?"

"Not with mere magic, dreams can only be fought with dreams." Morpheus said. "Boss!"

"Alright! [Summon Nightmarish Skeleton Knights]!" Elayne roared. She quickly infused Mana into Morpheus as the Dream Scythe Weapon Spirit spread out a large quantity of Nightmare Essence.

The essence spread out like a black liquid, quickly giving birth to dozens of black skeletons that solidified out of this nightmarish substance, gaining tattered black armor and black swords, spears, or axes.

Each Nightmarish Skeleton Knights were as strong as D Rank monsters, and quickly rushed into battle, swinging their weapons and defeating dozens of Toy Monsters, while a trio of them, holding the minds of the souls that created Morpheus, pierced the Dream Cloud with their swords.

"Take this you damn cloud!"

"First time I ever stab a cloud...!"

"Feels weird, isn't it?"

Their Nightmare-made weapons distorted the Dream Cloud's composition, making it explode in an instant, and with its destruction, the summoning magic circles disappeared as well.

POOOOF!

The surroundings were filled with a pink colored smoke, as all the monsters stopped being summoned, and whoever was left behind was quickly taken care by the skeletons.

"Phew... I can't believe it... That was tough, I need a break." Rita sighed, sitting over the floor.

"Well, it wasn't without great rewards either." Mark said. "The girls are now safe and look at all the Magic Crystals around!"

"So many..." Lily was surprised.

"They'll come in handy, let's quickly collect them and keep moving." Elayne said.

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As she was dragged out of her dream, Elena realized it was all just a false, something that wasn't real. Her father wasn't back with her, and her mother was the one to wake her up.

Thinking that she was simply sleeping in her bed, she felt slightly awake, yet at the same time too drowsy to completely open her eyes.

However, in those seconds she was freed, she felt her warmth. Surrounding by a strange world, a fantastical dungeon, someone was holding her with her strong arms.

The warmth of her arms, her voice filled with love, and her strong, energetic aura that always wanted to protect her.

Despite looking slightly different, covered on woods and a mask, Elena... unmistakably recognized her.

"Mom...?"

However, before she could even find out more about what was happening, she quickly fell asleep. Not because a dream dragged her into their illusions, but because her body and mind felt too exhausted.

It wouldn't be until much later that she would learn the truth, as she was now fast asleep, within a realm of shadows, where a small and brave feline guardian watched over Elena and her friends.

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Chapter 652: Confrontation

After having rescued Elena, Elisa, and Anna from the malicious dreams, Elayne quickly decided to move toward the "end" of this malefic dungeon, the origin of everything, where the Boss that had created it existed.

Flying across the many corridors above Falco's large body, they followed the enormous amount of Mana they felt, which was also quite closer to where the other girls that were captured were located.

At the same time as they reached the last stop to their journey, a huge red door, everyone finished absorbing all the magic crystals they had acquired through this journey, with the help of Elayne.

She had divided the magic crystals evenly, without wanting to hoard them all for herself, knowing her friends needed as much of a boost in strength as she did.

And because of the sheer amount of crystals they acquired today, she was finally able to break through Tier 2!

FLAAASH!

As her Magical Aura expanded and grew stronger, her Magic Circle rotated, quickly generating a third circle around its core, being quickly filled with dozens of Spiritual Runes.

The Voice of the World quickly informed her of her growth, as if eager to make Elayne learn her new strength and abilities.

Although still monotonous, the voice sounded slightly excited, or so Elayne believed.

[You have absorbed a large quantity of Mana.]

[Dozens Runes have been inscribed within the Magic Circle.]

[Your Magic Circle has grown stronger.]

[Your Magic Circle Rank has increased from Rank 2 Tier 10 to Rank 3 Tier 1.]

[New Spells have been Generated: [Spirit Tempest] [Dream Spirit Call] [Dream Piercing Nightmare Spears]

[Your Magic Power has improved and your Mana has fully recovered.]

She acquired three new Spells as well, the last two were quite new to her, perhaps related with Morpheus existence, not only she could channel his own Spells, but she might begin learning Dream Spells herself.

Especially with something like [Dream Spirit Call], confirming the existence of Spirits within Dreams themselves! Even though she had never seen them before, she was sure they might come in handy.

The last spell was a special offensive spell that worked really well against Dreams themselves, her last trump card, aside from all the other powerful spells she had.

Naturally, everyone else was overflowing with their strengthened Magical Auras, although nobody had yet to breakthrough Tier 2, Elayne was the first to get to Tier 3 among everyone else.

"Is everyone ready?" Elayne asked with eyes flaring with determination.

"More than ready." Rita nodded, holding her handgun tightly.

"I am." Mark seemed ready.

"I'm still nervous but... There's no other way around this, let's end this and quickly go home!" Lily seemed to desperately want to go home.

Elayne couldn't blame her, they had gone through so much that it was ridiculous, and because this was Lily's first ever experience inside an Earth's Dungeon, she was much more nervous than in Arcadia, using her Avatar instead.

"Then let's go."

She stepped in with the rest of her friends, afraid of the unknown, but fully knowing that if they did nothing, those poor girls would eventually die.

BAAAAM!

With a powerful kick imbued with her Mana and Spiritual Energy, Elayne broke the gate open, which quickly flew into the depths of a huge, pink, and dark purple colored hall, colorful black and white floor and golden pillars stretching into the high ceiling above.

In the end of this enormous palace-like hall, there was a throne made of colorful fabric, sitting above were two girls, one was unconscious, sleeping in the arms of the other, Elayne recognized her, it was Monica.

And the one holding Monica, a pale-skinned girl with bright red eyes and long, silvery-white hair glanced at her new guests, there was no smile in her face but a very annoyed expression. She wore a dark purple and red dress; she looked like a princess straight out of a fairy tale.

"So you've made it here..." She sighed. "Despite how hard I've tried to kill you, despite all the attempts, you're really persistent. I guess I can see why you were able to defeat all those other Death Generals so far. Yggdrasil, you, and your accursed followers, are indeed quite strong."

"Who are you?! Are you also serving the Demon King Thanatos?!" Elayne asked angrily. "Where are the other girls?! I can sense their presences but-"

"My name is Dorothea Von Sorrow, and I am the niece of my master, Lord Thanatos." The girl said. "Perhaps you don't remember us at all, maybe you're indeed someone else that has inherited their powers, but our grudge against Yggdrasil will never end. You've inherited her powers, so you will pay for her sins."

"Sins?! What are you even talking about?!" Mark asked angrily. "We've never done anything against you guys! What is this thing about inheriting Yggdrasil's power?"

"You're too foolish." Dorothea laughed. "The cause of the fall of our Kingdom, the traitors of the Luminous Kingdom, allied with the Yggdrasil Church, it was all your fault! A Kingdom Alliance broken by your greed and selfishness! And your fear... your fear for my Lord, who had inherited the powers of an ancient, accursed being! But he never used such powers for evil! He has always been such a benevolent, good man..." The suddenly started crying.

"W-What is she talking about?" Lily was confused.

"No idea..." Rita sighed. "She talks as if we were there, when we perhaps we weren't even born yet!"

"The past..." Elayne sighed. "So that's what happened? Is this why you have such deep-rooted hate against me? Yggdrasil... So there was once a church around the World Tree? And they betrayed your Kingdom... But that's so long ago! All the people that betrayed you are long dead!"

"No, they remain, and you, Yggdrasil, you're one of them! You may have a different soul, a different mind! But your powers are hers! The Saintess of Yggdrasil that brought so much destruction to our land, that doomed us for eternity, and that forced my lord's powers to awaken when everything was gone. You're the cause of our current forms, it's your fault we are all cursed to be Undead! And you... you killed my lord's wife, and her beloved daughter! Unforgivable!" Dorothea cried. "I'll do the same to you! I will take away everything you love!"

FLAAASH!

Suddenly, the girls trapped inside the dungeon were finally revealed...

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Chapter 653: Against Dorothea, The Princess Of Nightmares

With words filled with resentment against people that had never done anything wrong to them in the first place, before all of this began, Dorothea summoned the girls that she had trapped.

FLAAASH!

With a bright pink light spreading across the hall, their figures appeared out of thin air. The girls seemed to be hanging from the ceiling, their arms and legs wrapped by pink colored threads made of dream energy.

Their bodies were covered on black, nightmarish armor, and their eyes glowed bright red, as they slowly descended from the ceiling, landing on the black and white floor, large weapons being summoned off their hands.

"W-What is this?!" Lily cried.

"S-She turned them into monsters?!" Rita asked in disbelief.

"No, they're not monster... yet." Mark sighed. "Is this your way of getting revenge on people that's already dead? To hurt innocents that have done nothing to you all. You're not justified at all, you're all just sick!"

"Fufu, maybe..." Dorothea laughed. "My lord has long ago made up his mind! He will submerge this world and Arcadia into an eternal veil of darkness and devour all of you mortal's souls! Do you like what I've done with these sweet little girls? Aren't they good puppets? I wonder if you'll still try to save them now that they'll try to kill you!"

"OOOH!"

"AAAH...!"

"GRAAH!"

The armored girls ran towards Elayne and her friends, their movement faster than they expected, as they furiously swung their swords, axes, and maces against them.

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CRAAASH!

Elayne quickly generated a barrier of wood and spiritual energy around her and her group, as they were quickly swarmed by over twenty brainwashed girls, their eyes glowing bright red with the sole intent of killing them.

"Ooooh!"

"Graah!"

"Gruooh!"

They groaned, hitting, and constantly trying to destroy the barrier while Dorothea laughed in the back, doing nothing but waiting for the girls to either get slaughtered by her foes in retaliation, or for her foes to get slaughtered by the girls.

Elayne remained silent while this happened, standing right in front of Dorothea while trying to hold back her emotions from exploding, her energies fluctuated constantly, rapidly, and furiously.

"What's wrong, Yggdrasil?! Are you afraid? Don't you want to get me? You'll have to first get through all these girls first!" Laughed Dorothea.

"At first I thought you were just an innocent girl being forced to do this..." Elayne's fists tightly grasped her weapons. "But its clear that the only thing that looks like a young girl is your appearance, you're a wicked being. I can't... tolerate you, and I will no longer hold back!"

CRAAASH!

With a furious swing of her two weapons, Elayne cleaved the barrier protecting her and her friends and destroyed it, rushing directly towards the brainwashed girls!

"[Dream & Nightmare Distortion]!"

With a slash of Morpheus' scythe, a powerful, slicing wave of pink and black light reached the countless threads connected to the brainwashed high schoolers, their bodies instantly dropping over the floor the moment the threads were cut.

SLAAAAASH!

Her attack should had never had such an effect to begin with, but thanks to Morpheus special spells, she was able to cut the dreams parasitizing the girls psyches, freeing them from their control.

"W-What?!" Dorothea stood up from her throne as she saw her little entertainment quickly being ruined in front of her.

What she had thought was gonna be a show to remember quickly crumbled apart in front of her, realizing that Elayne was simply not going to play along with her malefic, evil plots.

"H-Hah! That's not going to be enough anyways!" Dorothea laughed. "Nightmare Living Armors, move and attack!"

The girls quickly stood back up again, being controlled by the black armors they were wearing. But Elayne wasn't finished either, gathering more Mana into her scythe and then transferring it into her shovel as well, she gathered both Dream and Nightmare essence into both weapons.

"[Nightmare Destruction]!"

CRAASH! CRAASH! CRAASH!

Her powerful blows hit the girls one after another, as their bodies barely were affected by the damage, as their armors took it all, shattering into pieces one after another.

Her attacks brought with them the ability to destroy nightmares themselves, these Nightmare Living Armors didn't stand a chance, especially now that Elayne's Magical Power had increased so much!

Crack, crack...! CRAASH!

In front of the Boss of the Dungeon, Elayne destroyed all her minions and freed the girls from their nightmares! Unlike Elena, Elisa, and Anna, they didn't had those strange pillows, and were in a much easier to freed nightmare instead of a deep-rooted emotional dream, making it so with just Nightmare Destruction, she could free them easily.

"T-This can't be...! Just what is that scythe you're holding?! How did you get your hands in such a powerful relic?!" Dorothea screamed in anger, Monica's body floating in midair alongside her.

She quickly tried to take the girls away from Elayne, as she materialized three huge claws made of materialized nightmares, which rushed towards Elayne as she was healing the girls.

CLAAAASH!

However, a wall of flames intercepted the powerful, over five-meter large Nightmare Claws, as Mark stepped forward, slicing through them with his Blazing Spirit Sword.

SLASH! SLASH! SLASH! SLASH!

Four blazing slashes imbued with draconic flames reached the Nightmare Claws, blowing one into pieces while the others, too damaged to move forward, flew back, Dorothea's face distorted once more in anger.

"Mark!" Elayne said in relief.

"Take care of the girls, we'll hold her back for now!" Mark said.

TRUUUMM...!

Suddenly, several Crystal Spears emerged out of the ground, piercing one of the floating Nightmare Claws and destroying it by leaving it covered in countless of piercing holes.

"Yeah, that's the least we can do!" Lily said, controlling the Crystal Spears.

BAAAM!

And then, a huge shadow tentacle emerged from the ground, slamming the third and last Nightmare Claw into the ground, shattering it into pieces.

"Heal them well!" Rita said. "We can't have any of them die on us!"

Elayne quickly smiled, feeling relieved once more to have such reliable friends at her side.

"Y-YOUUU!"

However, their foe wasn't going to take this lightly. With a wrathful roar, Dorothea's surroundings began to distort, Dreams and Nightmares slowly beginning to merge together into reality...

"[Nightmare World Manifestation]!"

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Chapter 654: Nightmare World Manifestation

Elayne quickly conjured healing magic on the girls, who were now freed, but still too weakened. The dreams and nightmares sapping at their strength, life force, and whatever mana they had even without awakening.

Covering their heads with the same bubble of holy light that she used on her daughter and her friends, she told Blackie to hold them within his little Shadow Realm, no bigger than the classroom where the girls came from.

However, right after she finished that, Dorothea snapped. Her plans were easily destroyed by Elayne's abilities, and on her desperation of facing foes whose strength she couldn't easily gauge, she panicked and decided to unleash all her magical power at once.

"[Nightmare World Manifestation]!"

FLAAAASH!

The world around everyone started to distort, the walls in the hall quickly disappeared, as they found themselves floating above a near-endless landscape of purple and black clouds, stars shining across a night sky, and several other floating islands covered on bright jewels.

The Nightmare World she created and Reality merged into one, a single, strange, and distorted reality that mixed both the fantastical powers she held within Nightmares with the real world itself!

"T-This...! Are we falling into a dream again?!" Rita cried.

"No! This is different..." Mark said. "It is as if... reality itself is distorting?! She could do such a thing?!"

"She is merging her Nightmare World with the Real World!" Lily said.

"So this is your power..." Elayne sighed, quickly joining her friends. "I doubt dealing with us was all you wanted... What's your endgame?"

"Fufufu... Hahahaha! Do you want to know so badly~?!" Dorothea laughed, hugging Monica from behind.

Elayne had already realized that Dorothea's existence was bound to Monica. It was as if she was some sort of ghostly entity, a specter similar to Phantasmos, bound to Monica's soul.

The reason why Monica was with her was because without her, Dorothea would never be able to manifest all these powers, it was her vessel.

And that's why Monica was floating in midair, while Dorothea seemed to be "coming out" of her own body.

"Well, it is pretty easy." Dorothea gently caressed Monica's unconscious face. "I'll open more Gates to my Dungeon and fill your entire city with my Nightmare World! Both worlds will merge, and your entire city will be submerged in chaos as countless monsters devour everyone! With thousands- no, perhaps millions of souls offered, my lord will surely grow even stronger, and the wounds you've left behind on his body will be healed in no time!"

"I guessed you would do such a thing..." Elayne sighed. "But you're really just going to kill innocent people, despite them not having anything to do with your revenge? Then what's the point of your revenge if you are not even avenging anybody?!"

"You just don't understand, don't you?" Dorothea smiled back at Elayne, her surroundings quickly distorting as enormous Nightmarish Tentacles covered on red eyes emerged from within the void of the Nightmare World. "This is all part of our greater plans, we know you love life, Yggdrasil. So our revenge will be to take away all the life you love so much. We will make of this world, a world of Undead where my lord shall govern supreme!"

After her words finished, the tentacles moved, immediately attempting to crush Dorothea's rivals as soon as possible, their enormous size reminded everyone of Ephiales, the Nightmare side of Laplace's existence.

"Those tentacles... Is that Ephiales?!" Rita cried.

"But didn't he died?!" Lily wondered.

"No, it is not HIM, but something similar... After all, he was merely a creation of Dorothea, the creator most likely has the same power as their creations." Mark added.

"GRUOOOHHH!"

The countless tentacles roared furiously, shaking the entire Dungeon, now slowly merging with the Nightmare World of Dorothea. The girl sat down over the abomination, controlling the dozens of tentacles.

"Don't even think about getting out of here alive!" She roared.

The tentacle' tips quickly materialized into metallic, black spikes, swiftly descending towards everyone else with tremendous speed and precision.

"We have to evade those, there's no way we can take them head-on!"

Elayne quickly spread out her roots, grabbing her friends and swiftly springing out of the floor by transforming her legs into spring-like plant roots.

CRASH! CRASH! CRASH! CRAAASH!

The tentacles followed them very closely from, as the group swiftly mounted Falco once more, and with Elayne's Wind Spirits imbued into his body through Spirit Infusion, he became much nimbler and faster!

FLAAASH!

The huge bird evaded the attacks one after another, as everyone quickly conjured their strongest magic spells, bombarding the tentacles with destructive elemental explosions.

However, be it fireballs, shadow bullets, or stone bullets, the damage was very small, if they didn't wanted to empty all their Mana, they had to strike down the tentacles with the might of their weapons.

And for that, they had to let them get close enough.

CRAAAASH!

One of the tentacles managed to just do that, appearing from below, and trying to pierce Falco's belly to kill the bird instantly and take away the method of transportation of the party.

"[Nightmare Absorption]!" However, Elayne was waiting for this moment, leaping towards the tentacle head-on and hitting it with Morpheus' blade, while through Irene, she charged another attack.

SLAAAASH!

The Tentacle suddenly felt its energy being sapped away, slightly weakening, giving Elayne enough time for Irene to quickly transform, absorbing both Land and Light Spirits and changing her form into a huge golden hammer.

"[Spirit Fusion]!"

Through Spirit Fusion, these Spirits once more temporarily transformed Irene's shape from a shovel into a huge hammer. Elayne charged her weapon with Mana and then, while the tentacle was weakened...

"[Holy Light Spirit Smite]!"

CRAAAASSH!

Accompanied by a piercing holy light, the powerful strike hit the weakened Nightmare Tentacle and instantly sent countless cracks across its body, where holy light erupted from.

Crack, crack... CRACK!

BOOOOOOMMM!!!

The Nightmare Tentacle quickly exploded into pieces. Dorothea tried to heal it back, but she suddenly realized such a thing was impossible, Elayne's holy light covered the wounded areas of the void-like beast, inhibiting its regeneration.

And that wasn't all... her Nightmare Absorption and her Holy Light Spirit Smite generated powerful shockwaves, the nearby Nightmare Tentacles weakened just in time for everyone else to strike as well!

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Chapter 655: Going All-Out!

"I-I can't regenerate my Nightmare Void Beast's tentacles?!" Asked Dorothea in anger. "What sort of power is she wielding?! To inhibit the regeneration of a being made of nightmares! That scythe she crafted... It can't be! S-She used Laplace's core as a material, didn't she?!"

Dorothea grew furious, only for her anger to rise into mindless wrath as she saw what Elayne's friends did once she took down the first of the dozen tentacles.

Thanks to her special combination of Nightmare Absorption and Holy Light Spirit Smite, not only the foe she targeted grew weaker, but the attacks and spells generated shockwaves, spreading across the rest of the beast, merged into the Dream World, which shockwaves weakened the other limbs.

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

Mark descended into battle, his muscular and large body being covered on an armor of blazing wood as his arms grew several times larger. Although he couldn't completely take the same form as his Avatar, Titan, as he still remained mostly into a small, human-like appearance, he could go to the extent of reinforcing his muscles and appear much larger than originally.

SLAASH! SLAASH! SLAASH! SLAASH!

Four blazing slashes charged with his Mana and Spiritual Energy emerged of his fantastically powerful god-blessed blazing knife, which by absorbing his own blazing wood and spirits, grew into an even larger size, resembling a giant blazing sword similar to the Berserk Blade he wielded in Arcadia.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOOM!

The slashes exploded into blazing flames, covering the entire tentacle that targeted him. The explosions generated enough force to change the tentacles trajectory, as Mark barely managed to stop them from piercing his chest.

"GRUOOHH!"

FLASH! FLASH! FLASH!

The tentacle quickly opened its eyes firing countless red lasers against him. However, Mark resisted the large holes spreading across his body, tanking the hits while constantly regenerating the damage through his Wooden Regeneration and Flames of Regeneration, two innate abilities of his physique.

Nonetheless, the damage he was accumulating was too much, regenerating it constantly wouldn't work for too long before he emptied his energies.

"[Blazing Armor]! And... [Blazing Fortress]!"

However, he had an ace below his sleeve, of course. His own clothes, enchanted and magically blessed by Elayne activated its two abilities, as Mark was covered in yet another layer of armor made of flames, and then, a huge fortress of fire materialized right around him as he struck down the tentacle, using this defensive technique offensively!

BOOOOOOMMM!!!

The flames generated explosively melted the tentacle, turning it into ashes as Mark unleashed a series of slashing blows, the tentacle dissipated into ashes in mere instant, but two more came for him!

CLAAASH! CLAAASH!

However, the Blazing Fortress Ability was still active, the two weakened tentacles only ended hitting a solid wall of fire, burning, and weakening even more. Mark quickly attacked the two, without wasting any time.

"Thanks for weakening them, Elayne!" Rita smiled, quickly clashing against another tentacle by jumping off Falco.

Her entire body was covered by the Abyssal Veil of the Night and her Shadow Tentacles, two of the innate Abilities within her enchanted clothing!

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH!

The tentacle attacked her furiously, but her veil and her own tentacles intercepted the blows and lowered the damage, as Rita sneakily traveled across the many shadows, her gun loading with her Mana.

"[Abyssal Dragon Queen's Poisonous Breath]!"

Her magic and spells converged together in that moment, as she unleashed a powerful breath attack coming from a dragon-shaped shadow aura of malice, emerging out of her own body.

BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM!

The breath attacks were strong enough to hold back the two tentacles that decided to fight her, their laser beams easily evaded as she moved across their bodies through her Shadow Sneak Spell.

"Now!"

She leaped into midair, both tentacles noticed her and instantly flew towards her, aiming to pierce her body with their sharp, spear-like tips.

However...

"Get out of my face! [Blue Dragon King's Bullet Cannon]!"

Her magic gun quickly shapeshifted, growing larger and resembling a huge, blue-colored cannon, ending with a ferocious dragon-shaped head, from within, a tremendous blast of darkness emerged.

TRUUUUUMMMM...!

Both tentacles couldn't take any more damage, crumbling apart at the same time before Rita's might. She wasn't going to just let Elayne take all the spotlight, her magic talent was just as good as her friend!

And lastly, fighting another two tentacles, Lily unleashed a rain made of crystal meteors, summoning them by channeling all her Mana at once.

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

Whenever the crystal meteors hit their targets, they would instantly explode into piercing spears made of crystal and deal extra damage against the tentacles, pushing the abominable nightmarish beast back.

"[Earth Spirit Body]! [Metallic Skin]! [Ore Absorption]!"

Channeling several Physique Abilities at once, her body quickly absorbed the Earth Spirits Elayne had summoned beforehand, which kept spreading with her own terrain as well!

Alongside that, through Ore Absorption, she absorbed the crystals that shattered from her Crystal Meteor, reinforcing her body and strength even further. And lastly, with Metallic Skin, she gained an extra layer of defensive strength.

With all of these combined effects, her body quickly became like that of a golem herself, large and made of sharp crystals, which she used to gain further strength, compensating for her lack of it compared to her friends.

Imbuing Earth Spirits and Nature Spirits into her pickaxe, it quickly grew several times larger, resembling a beautiful crystal pickaxe.

"GRUOOHH!"

The roar of the Nightmarish Abomination echoed, both of its tentacles, weakened as they were, rushed towards Lily to stop her.

But that was just what she wanted at the end, as they got in the perfect range of her attack!

"[Draconic Mother Earth's Wrath]!"

BAAAAAAM!

A powerful strike using her pickaxe pushed both tentacles away. Their entire bodies gaining countless cracks, slowly beginning to fall apart.

But just when Dorothea was about to heal them...

"[Cave Drake King's Earthquake]!"

Lily went for the overkill, striking both tentacles at once with her powerful Magical weapon, as the roar of the Cave Drake King could be heard echoing across the Nightmare World.

"ROOOOAARRR!"

CRAAAAAASSSH!!!

Both tentacles were already weakened beforehand, but now, they simply exploded into pieces, leaving nothing behind!

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Chapter 656: Enacting Divine Punishment!

Elayne swung Morpheus, absorbing the Nightmare Energy out of the dozens of tentacles attacking her and her friends, empowering her own Magic Power as she unleashed a barrage of Holy Spirit Smites with Irene's Holy Spirit Hammer form, which also came combined with her Great Spiritual Explosion Ability for even greater results!

CRASH! CRASH! CRAASH! CRAASH!

"[Dream Spirit Call]!"

At the same time, Elayne called for the aid of Dream Spirits, as countless tiny Lesser Dream Spirits emerged out of thin air, the Real-World fusing with the Nightmare World made it very easy to call for them.

In this dire situation, their adorable little appearances, varying from small floating spheres of pink light to tiny butterflies, toys, or even cupcakes and cake slices, quickly merged together by Elayne's orders.

"[Dream-Piercing Nightmare Spears]!"

The Dream Spirits fused in mere seconds, channeling Morpheus Nightmare Energy he had previously absorbed, constantly creating pure black spears made of nightmares, each one as large as ten meters.

The tentacles were struck down and then pierced by countless Nightmarish Spears, their bodies quickly beginning to flail agonizingly, crumbling apart, and exploding.

BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOM!

"GRUUUAAAAARRGH!"

The monstrous Nightmarish Void Entity that was fused with the Nightmare World of Dorothea and controlling this entire fusion between realities roared in agony!

"Stop it! STOP ALREADY!" Dorothea screamed. "My creation's being overwhelmed?! B-But how?! It is made of all my Nightmares! It is my strongest creation yet!"

"Not for long!"

Elayne rushed forward, leaping out of Falco once more right after he brought her and her friends towards the center of the spiraling nightmare void where Dorothea controlled the Nightmarish Tentacles.

"One last time...! [Pathway]!"

FLAAAASH!

The power of the Divine Gods of Arcadia was activated a second time already, this was Elayne's current limits, that she was doing this now meant she was betting it all for this moment!

[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]

[The Divinity [Ruler of the Stars] has manifested herself]

[The Divinity [Wise King of Creation] has manifested himself!]

[Several other Divinities have manifested themselves!]

The divinity of countless colors channeled across her body, and quickly exuded around her friends and even Falco, Blackie, and Whitey, their familiars.

"W-What is that power?!" Dorothea screamed, having nowhere else to escape now that she was being so cornered. Her nightmare was already half taken over by Elayne's Terrain of Nature and Life, and hundreds of Lesser Spirits were floating everywhere, which were dangerous for a malefic being such as her. "G-Get away!"

She quickly shapeshifted the Nightmarish Void Entity into a gigantic red eye, channeling her Mana into it and firing several beams of darkness and red energy towards her foes.

"[Abyssal Nightmare Beams]!"

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

However, Elayne and her friends intercepted the attacks, combining their magic and powers with the divinities emerging from Elayne's [Pathway] ability, striking the gigantic beams with their weapons, while Elayne readied her Shield!

"T-This...! Y-YOUUU!"

Dorothea was growing desperate and afraid! Quickly beginning to tear apart the Nightmare World and gathering it around her, burning it with her desire for revenge as Black Nightmare Flames appeared around Monica's body, resembling an armor.

"[Infernal Nightmare Flames Sentinel]! HYAAAAH!"

With a desperate, maddening scream, Dorothea leaped to battle while shapeshifting the entity's eye into a gigantic black axe, striking down her foes and attempting to end them with everything she had!

"[Abyssal Nightmare Flame Axe]!"

CRAAAAASSSSSH!!!

However, Elayne's powerful shield protected them all, her eyes blazing with rainbow flames as her shield, blessed by Gaia herself, channeled her powers!

"[Spiritual Scale Fortress]! [Life's Dragon Shield]!"

Combining the shield's two out of three innate abilities, Dorothea realized that Elayne had created a near impenetrable barrier made of countless dragon scales, further reinforced by the divinities flowing from [Pathway]!

"W-Wha...!?" Dorothea's face distorted in disbelief once more, incapable of accepting that Elayne was resisting her attacks. "This can't be... THIS CAN'T BE! I WON'T ACCEPT THIS! YOU DAMNED YGGDRASIL!!! DIE! DIE! DIE!!!"

With desperate, insane screams, the adorable girl possessing Monica kept transforming into a monstrous specter made of nightmares, hitting the shield's barrier constantly, slowly beginning to shatter it with her powerful Axe!

CLASH! CLASH! CLASH! CRASH! CRASH!

Crack, crack... CRACK!

"Get ready!" Elayne said, as if ignoring Dorothea's tantrum as her friends started to gather all their power together into their weapons. "[Nightmare Absorption]! [Spirit Tempest]!"

FLUOOOSH!

Morpheus activated its Spell, absorbing the Nightmare Energy coming from Dorothea, as her armor of Nightmare Flames and even her Weapon weakened, growing smaller alongside her own size and power!

"U-Urgh! That blasted power again!!!" Dorothea screamed, hitting the barrier by summoning hundreds of Nightmare Eyes. "Come her and FACE MEEEE!"

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

The Nightmare Eyes fired hundreds of red lasers against the barrier, as it finally reached its limits after a while, shattering into pieces!

And in that moment, Elayne leaped directly towards Dorothea, or well, Monica!

"What are you...?!"

"[Divine Chains of Judgement]!"

FLAAASH! FLAAASH! FLAAASH!

Before she could finish her words, Dorothea's vessel, Monica, was wrapped by Divine Chains, these were the divine version of Elayne's [Life and Light Chains of Restraint]! Now much stronger, glowing with rainbow light.

Her body was suddenly restrained, as Monica's appearance could be finally seen beneath the Nightmare Flames consuming her. She looked terrible! Too pale, her eyes were white, her hair was dry, and her body almost skeletal, Dorothea was pushing her too much, and she was about to hit her limits and die.

"L-LET ME GO!!!"

Dorothea screamed in fury and agony, madly attacking Elayne with her attacks, only for a sudden shockwave of the Divinity of Life and Nature to encompass her and her vessel, and everyone else around!

"[Gaia's Divine Dragon Domain]!"

FLAAAASH!

Activating the newest Ability that Gaia had left into her Shield, a domain channeling Gaia's divinity, that could only be activated with [Pathway], emerged!

And this Life and Nature energy was like fire to Dorothea, burning her horribly!

"GRYYAAAAAAGGH...!"

"I won't let you hurt little Monica any longer, you monster!"

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Chapter 657: The End Of The Nightmare

Combining the Powers of her equipment, spells, and literally everything else she could, Elayne generated an opportunity to exorcize Dorothea out of Monica's body and free her once and for all from this maniac entity!

She desperately began combining spells while she had Dorothea restrained, as a huge magic circle emerged above her body and quickly summoned a brand-new spell.

"[Exorcizing Heavenly Purifying Light]!"

FLAAAASH!

With the effects of the Spirit Tempest still active, all the Spirits Elayne had previously summoned emerged, spiraling like a storm of rainbow, ethereal winds, converging around Monica's body and holding her alive, all while the Gaia's Divine Dragon Domain created countless dragons made of life energy, wrapping around Dorothea, and restraining her even further with Elayne's chains.

The powers of the exorcizing light worked almost instantly, piercing Dorothea's spectral form and extracting her from Monica completely, with the aid of multiple spells at once!

"GRUUUAAAAGGHH! IT BURNSSSS...!"

While covered on the Flames of Life, Dorothea screamed, forcefully dragged away from Monica and squirming her monstrous, phantasmal form which barely resembled a small woman, made of nightmare flames.

"Even without a Vessel, I can kill you ALL!!!"

She furiously flew down towards Elayne and her friends, but this was also within her plans, after all! Elayne combined the power of both Morpheus and Irene, combining them together through Spirit Fusion.

"[Spirit Fusion]!"

FLAAASH!

The result of the fusion was a glorious-looking black and gold spear, with the tip being dark purple colored, and decorated with black, metallic skulls around its handle.

"Now, everyone!"

Elayne charged all her leftover energy into her newly created, temporarily Spirit Weapon, at the same time as Mark, Rita, and Lily unleashed their strongest attacks after having drained all their Mana, combined with the Divinities of the Gods that favored them.

"[Abyssal Dragon Queen's Breath of Destruction]!"

"[Infernal Dragon Phoenix Totem Spirit's Rising]!"

"[Mother Earth's Wrathful Draconic Might]!"

Three Divine strikes hit Dorothea all at once. Her body overwhelmed by the Darkness, the Flames, and the might of the Earth together at once!

BOOOM! BOOOM! BOOOOM!!!

"UUUAAAAGGHH!"

With a pitiful scream, she was still somewhat still alive, but not for long, Elayne appeared right in front of her, the Spear she had created overflowing with all the strength she had left.

"[Nightmare-Piercing Celestial Heavenly Dragon]!"

"ROOOAARR!"

Her spear exuded the power of the Dragon Spirit Summon Ability within Irene, combined with her other Spells and Morpheus Nightmare Destruction Spell, the furious Dragon opened its jaws, devouring Dorothea at the same time as the spear pierced the depths of her accursed soul.

CRAAAAASSSSH!!!

A tremendous shockwave, an impact that could easily blow away half a city was unleashed, everyone was blown away instantly, as Dorothea's very soul was shattered, destroyed into pieces!

"T-This can't... BE...! MASTER... MY LORD...! NOOOOOOOO!!!"

BOOOOOOOOOMMMMM!!!

With her scream came the entire destruction of all Dream Worlds and Nightmare Worlds in the entire Dungeon, including the dungeon itself, which quickly started to distort and slowly tear apart piece by piece, her entire soul exploded as well, leaving nothing behind but a black void that was consuming everything that was being undone.

"W-We have to run, quickly!" Elayne tried, using the Divine Chains to grab everyone, including the unconscious Monica, and flying over Falco across the distorting world around them, which was falling apart in front of their very eyes.

"Hurry, Falco!"

"CRAAAAH!"

Falco was fused with the last Wind Spirits available, his entire body temporarily becoming even larger, his feathers becoming emerald, green, as he flew as fast as he could!

FLAAAASH!

This time, the Demon King did not appear, too exhausted already with having been beaten by Elayne back in Fafnir's battle, the group was able to safely exit the Dungeon Gate before it completely collapsed, appearing in the skies above the city!

TRUUUUUMMM...!

The Dungeon Gate instantly consumed itself, closing and leaving little behind as a huge part of the high school building was destroyed.

"L-Look! What's that?!"

"A monster?!"

"No, it's them!"

"T-They really made it back?!"

"Are you filming this?! It's going to go into the news for sure!"

Several reporters started filming the skies as they saw a huge green falcon descend and then gently sit over the floor, the four heroes that had saved the city from an even larger disaster quickly appeared in front of everyone.

"It's really them!"

"The Dungeon gate is closed!"

"T-They completed a Dungeon?! No way!"

"I-Is this a first?! Is this the first time this happens?!"

"To think the ones that would complete a dungeon first in the entire world would be from our country..."

The people was in awe, they didn't knew about the Dungeon incident back in Elayne's hometown because that was covered by the government, but this incident was too obvious and in everyone's noses to hide, quickly being showed all across the world through the Internet.

"The masked hunters!"

"Please let us give you an interview!"

"Why do you conceal your identities, who are you?!"

"Please, just a word is enough!"

"A-Ahahaha..." Elayne started laughing slightly nervously. "S-Sorry, please, make some space! Blackie!"

Elayne called Blackie as the black cat appeared behind her, amazing everyone even more, the cat quickly spread out a large shadow, as dozens of unconscious, yet healthy girls appeared one after another!

"T-The other students! They're safe?! Oh my god! Thank you so much!" The director and several other professors waiting outside ran towards the girl, as the medics swiftly started bringing them to the ambulances.

"They saved the students!"

"They're our heroes, our heroes!"

"Please, just tell us who are you?!"

"And those animals you've tamed, are they monsters? Maybe familiars?! This is also a first worldwide!"

Elayne and her friends ignored the press as they made sure every girl was brought to the hospital through the ambulances, including Elena and her friends.

"Sorry, but we can't talk now. We did what we had to do, that's all."

Elayne's words, albeit simple, hit everybody's hearts strongly. Such a benevolent, generous lady like her felt like the embodiment of goodness!

Amidst the swarm of interviewers, Blackie dragged everyone into his shadow and quickly disappeared from the scene, leaving nothing behind...

Once they were back to their normal clothing attires, everyone rushed into the nearest hospital to check how the girls were.

Unknowingly to Elayne, those humble words she said would eventually create countless ripples across the world, as many powerful figures set their eyes into her.

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Chapter 658: The World Must Continue Evolving

With the defeat of Dorothea and the destruction of her Dream Dungeon, a threat larger than anything humanity could had been able to handle was prevented.

If things would had been left as they were for longer than a few days, the Dream Dungeon would had expanded across the entire city, merging both Dreams and Reality together, and generating an utterly destructive landscape, where no normal civilians would had been able to survive.

And eventually, this Dream Dungeon would had kept spreading across the Country, Canada would be swallowed in a month, then America and Alaska, then the rest of South America, it would then expand across the seas, swallow Europe, Asia, and everything else...

This was one of the Demon King's plans, utilizing Dorothea's Unique Powers combined with the many "Dungeon Seeds" that Phantasmos had left behind between the distortions in space.

Of course, that's without taking into account that Yggdrasil would come out victorious. It was half-expected, the Demon King of Death, Thanatos, wasn't someone that always thought his plans would work.

And that's why he didn't seemed as surprised after he learned Dorothea had failed, and she was slain. Maybe in the past he would had cried tears of sorrow and scream to the heavens, but now, he lacked eyes to cry, nor he had a throat to scream.

And his soul felt almost emotionless, with the only lingering emotions being the endless drive to avenge his family and his Kingdom... To slay Yggdrasil and those related with her.

"So Dorothea has failed, my poor niece..." Thanatos sighed, his empty black eyes glowing with phantasmal blue flames. "Don't worry, your death shall not be in vain."

The enormous titanic skeleton, whose body was still repairing itself after his battle against Yggdrasil when Fafnir was defeated, glanced into the endless landscape that was the Underworld.

"Every one of you, my Death Generals... your sacrifices will not be wasted. Your strength and your charisma, I will never forget it." He said, his eyes flaring up. "Although Dorothea could not complete her original mission, much like Phantasmos, she had left behind seeds."

His sharp teeth distorted alongside his mandible, something a skeleton shouldn't be able to do... Yet he did, Thanatos smiled maliciously, smirking like a maniac.

"And those seeds... Will germinate."

...

At the same time, within the Divine Realms of Heaven above Arcadia's Skies, the Gods gathered as usual, surrounded by several System Windows, more than gods, they resembled a large team of workers in an office.

"S-She managed to do it..." Sighed Gaia with a smile, her fair appearance filled with divine grace.

"What a relief." Nyx nodded; her seductive body veiled on shadows.

"It was a good idea that we gave her [Pathway], even if such a tremendous power would eat away at whatever was left of these bodies strength..." A muscular man made of flame sighed, Agni, the God of Fire.

"Well, would you look at that, after you were the one that opposed the idea so much back then..." Giggled a lady made of stone and ore, Terra, the Goddess of Earth.

"Enough banter, that woman might be gone, but whatever she left behind, it might be dangerous. Just like Phantasmos did, Thanatos is doing this carefully, making sure to leave behind "seeds", that'll germinate and become problems that we won't be able to handle properly in the future." Sighed a woman whose entire body seemed to be made of stars, Nebula, the Goddess of Space. "We're already doing our best to maintain things as they are..."

"But we still lack hands, is that what you're trying to say?" Wondered a tall, bearded man made of pure brilliant light. "Elayne and her allies alone might not be enough, but to whom can we ask help? Earth has several supernatural groups, but are they as trustworthy as she is? And our strength... Do we even have enough to create another like her? I doubt so." Sighed Deus, the God of Creation.

"It is certainly a concerning thing, but Elayne is... making connections, she's slowly growing her group of allies." Said a mysterious man covered on gray robes. "Let's not force her to do anything if necessary, it will do no good with her trust towards us. However, what we could do is guide her, to find people that could lessen some of her responsibilities." Spoke the God of Time, Chronos.

"Hmmm... I can see you guys are thinking a lot about these things."

Suddenly, a completely unknown voice echoed behind the Gods, their eyes quickly landing on the figure of what looked to be a simple human male, wearing a black suit, with short blonde hair and sharp gray eyes.

"You're all so diligent... I've come with good news; the new update is ready."

"Is it?!"

"So soon?"

"But that's... The Demon King has yet..."

"I know, he has yet to come out of the Underworld, is it not?" The mysterious man asked. "Nonetheless, we cannot keep delaying it any longer. The System demands an update, and if we don't do it now... You know what'll happen to the continuity, right?"

The Gods fell into silence, they had delayed the inevitable too much already, whatever this update contained, there were things they didn't wanted to unleash into the World of Arcadia.

However, there was no helping it now, as the man said, there were things not even the Gods could postpone for eternity, this world must continue moving, it must continue changing.

"The world must continue evolving." The man said, looking into the stars above the heavens. "There are strong people out there, you've blessed your own already. We have to hold hope that humanity will persevere... Because it was thanks to the sacrifice of the Ancients that we've gotten a second chance. We cannot let such an opportunity to go waste. Please, press the "agree" button."

Ding! Ding! Ding!

Suddenly, in front of the Gods, several System Windows appeared with green and red buttons, everyone sighed, yet pressed the green colored "yes" button.

Ding!

[The New Update Patch has been Uploaded!]

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Chapter 659: Visiting The Hospital

(Elayne's POV)

After what happened, we quickly dressed differently and followed the ambulances, landing on the hospital. As Elena's mother, they allowed me inside as they checked the girls. They were fine, thankfully, I had sure they were all very well healed.

I was so dead worried nevertheless, so I stayed in the hospital's waiting room with Mark through the entire day and the night, until the next morning. Rita and Lily had gone back home already, but Mark stayed with me, even as I insisted that it wasn't necessary.

They told us that the girls were healthy, and many of the doctors were surprised by how good their health were, they had received some magical devices recently too, which detected mana disruption in a person's body, a common disease nowadays.

Alongside that, they had been acquiring some things from the government, such as special unguents that can disinfect mana-infected wounds, such as with miasma. And also, genuine healers had begun popping up, they mostly go to hospitals than risking their lives on hunting monsters with others.

The doctor that was giving us my daughter and her friend's reports said he had awakened the ability to discern a person's health problems, and also some minor healing magic, he used that to help people close wounds quickly, which was very useful on a variety of surgeries and to prevent blood loss.

It wasn't anything as crazy as helping people regrow limbs or something I think, but it was indeed quite good. There are potions in development for that, but they had only been selling them to hunters, and hospitals have yet to get their hands on anything.

"Your daughter seems to be doing fine, she looks very exhausted though, and perhaps might continue sleeping for a while, her friends as well, and also the rest of the high schoolers. It is truly miraculous what had happened... Usually, Dungeon Breaks end with many people dead, but the news said there were no casualties." The doctor seemed rather happy.

"I-I see..." I nodded, sighing in relief.

"Those masked hunters... They must have their reasons to hide their identities, but they are like the heroes of the country at this point, haha." The doctor laughed. "I hope more people with powers are as responsible and good-hearted as they are. The least we would want is people coming here because another super powered person hurt them instead of a monster."

"I sure hope that's never the case." I nodded.

"Thanks doctor." Mark said. "If possible, whenever she wakes up, could you come to tell us?"

"Sure, I will." The doctor nodded, making his way back.

I felt much more relieved, but I would prefer if Elena woke up already. Even as I know she's alright, I can't help but feel worried. The smell of the hospital also brings me a lot of bad memories... It makes me feel uneasy.

"Are you feeling alright?" Mark hugged my shoulders gently. "Want me to bring you something to eat?"

"Well I do have a few things in my inventory, but its mostly just veggies and fruits..." I sighed. "A coffee maybe."

"I'll add some donuts, how about it?" He smiled charmingly.

"Alright~" I gave him a kiss, as he gave me back several more kisses.

His warmth and love calmed my uneasiness and made me feel protected and comforted. I guess I am no longer just alone against this world.

"I'll be back." He quickly walked off the hospital to the nearby coffee shop.

As I rested my back over the chair and sighed, I suddenly felt the presences of two annoying Spirits.

"Hey, are we going to be stuck here for the entire week or something?" The Great Spirit of Harvest asked. "You need to get back to Arcadia! Don't you remember what the Queen said and the Princess? About the Ancients and all?!"

"I know, I know, but I can't go now! Geez." I sighed, talking her back through telepathy. "My daughter is much more important."

"Sigh, but she's fine!" The Great Spirit complained.

"If you don't stop annoying me I'll cut your connection with my soul." I told her with a deadly serious tone of voice.

"Eep! Y-You can do that?1 No way...!" She said.

"I can now..." I smiled maliciously.

"Eek! Please don't be so mean! S-Sorry..." She apologized for perhaps the first time ever.

"Hahaha, well, you get what you deserve for saying those things to the boss!" Morpheus laughed back at her.

"Ugh, why are you even here?! Weren't you some sort of scythe thing?!" The Great Spirit was deeply annoyed Morpheus was linked to my soul, and therefore, like her, he could rest inside of it if he wanted.

"Any Spirits can rest inside the souls of their masters!" Laughed Morpheus. "Boss said I could stay here because it was less scary than the Inventory dimension... And I agree."

"Okay but stop your banter for now." I sighed. "The last thing I want is two annoying spirits constantly bickering inside my head."

"..."

"..."

The two quickly fell asleep, yeah, I was quite irritable today, can't help it, I'm dead worried about my daughter and her friends... Especially my daughter! But also... Monica.

They said she was completely fine, but that she had awakened her Mana conducts, something that everyone else didn't even as they were exposed to a lot of Mana.

Maybe because she was possessed by Dorothea... She ended awakening some sort of Magic. Her mind seemed freed from her control, and her soul was pure, I made extra sure to leave her soul possession-proof by wrapping it in a veil of light.

However, it's going to be hard for her to process what happened, she's as much of a victim of what happened as the other girls. For now, nobody know exactly where the Dungeon Break happened.

But I am sure that the other students will remember that Monica was possessed first, I'm really concerned about her daily life as much as I am for my daughter now.

Maybe I should call Rose...

"Miss Elayne?"

Suddenly, a nurse walked to my side.

"Eh? Y-Yes?"

"Your daughter Elena just woke up, the doctor said that it was possible for her to talk right now, would you like to-"

"Yes! Let's go there right away!"

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Chapter 660: A Talk With Elena

"Here, she just woke up." The doctor said, as I ignored him and entered the room right away, rushing to my daughter, who was sitting over the bed looking around.

"Elena!" I cried, hugging her tightly.

"M-Mom?!" She cried, surprised.

"I'm so happy you're alright! I was so scared! I love you so much!" I couldn't help but hug her lovingly, but I made sure to not do it too hard, my physique had become quite strong lately.

"So I was really... in a dungeon?" She asked, sighing. "Agh, my head's all dizzy... It felt like I had a really weird dream."

"Thankfully somebody rescued you." I sighed, letting go of her. "I'm just glad that-"

"Somebody? But it was yo-"

I quickly covered my daughter's mouth, as gently as I could.

"A-Anyways, can we have a private conversation?" I asked the nurse and the doctor.

"Oh, sure." The doctor and the nurse walked outside and closed the door.

"Y-You remember it?!" I asked my daughter.

"Yeah, I remember that you rescued me from that dream... And that you carried me to safety. The last thing I saw was... you were battling monsters... in real life now." She sighed. "Ugh... Is this real? Am I dreaming again?"

"I-It is indeed real." I Sighed. "I-It is hard to explain but..."

"Well, even I feel like I should be more surprised but... to be honest, I am just happy you were there for me..." My daughter looked down at her own hands. "I felt so hopeless... Thank you mom, whatever you have, it's fine, you don't need to hide it from me."

She took it surprisingly easier than I expected. I thought she would make a ruckus and everything...

"Y-Yeah, I can... explain better once we get back home." I said with a nod. "But it's... Well, Mark, Rita too, Lily as well."

"Wait, what?! Even Rita?" My daughter gasped. "So you've had magic powers this whole time... Wait, then that time in grandpa's town..."

"Yeah, it was us that also resolved that issue, with the help of some government people." I nodded. "It's complicated... As I said, I'll explain it later. But it might have something to do with... the game."

"Eh?" Elena was dumbfounded.

Well now, she's surprised now that I mention the game?! I guess it is more surprising now than just thinking her mother awakened abilities, like everyone in the world seems to be doing nowadays.

"W-What do you mean?" She asked, rising an eyebrow.

"The World of Arcadia and Earth... Are connected." I revealed to her. "The entity that possessed Monica and created a Dungeon serves the Demon King of Death, Thanatos. And... we've been fighting to stop him from hurting people in this world for a little while now."

"H-Huh?!" Elena almost passed away out of the shock, until she calmed down. "T-This is... You were right mom; this is too much! It just sounds like you're the insane one! Can I even believe this?! Ahh... Let's talk about this back home... I don't think you should be speaking this in a public area."

"Yeah, well, you're right. Thankfully, Monica and your friends are fine, and also the rest of the students." I smiled. "Oh, the news should have something about what happened..."

I turned on the TV with the controller and saw as every single news channel was plagued with the same news about the incident at my daughter's now ruined high school.

"On today's news, the Dungeon Break that shook a small High School has been stopped from becoming a chaotic scene by four brave masked hunters. There were several videos posted on Twitter, Youtube, and other social medias about their incredible feats and how they rescued so many people, before leaving after their leader, who people is calling the "Masked Tree Lady" said to the press."

The news then showed me in TV, wearing that stupid wooden mask!

"Sorry, but we can't talk now. We did what we had to do, that's all."

"Although it was just a few short words, many people found in her words the comfort of someone hat genuinely thought about their wellbeing, and simply did, what she had to do." The news lady smiled, slightly happy. "Many people had begun to speculate if Canada might have acquired their first group of masked superheroes, and social media is going crazy over these new hunters, the first ones to have completed a Dungeon after New York's failure from past week."

The news kept going on and on about social media reactions. Ugh, seriously, is this what the news are all about nowadays?

"Mom, seriously?" My daughter asked me in disbelief. "You had all that attention and barely said anything!"

"I-I'm sorry... I'm not used to this kind of attention... Nor I want my identity to go viral and known by everyone, it would make it easier for creeps to find us." I sighed.

"I-I guess you're right, those hunters that publicly show their faces and all, must really be overconfident to think nobody is going to target their families or something..." Elena nodded, agreeing with me. "But still!"

"Hahaha... Sorry, maybe if I get the opportunity once more, I'll give a better speech." I sighed.

Well, I said that mostly to not disappoint my daughter, I couldn't care less what the rest of the world thinks about me.

"Hey, I'm back." Mark suddenly stepped into the room, carrying a box with donuts and two coffees. "Just heard Elena's awake! Hey, how are you doing?"

"I'm fine." Elena smiled. "And... sorry."

"E-Eh? Why sorry?" Mark and I asked in surprise.

"I've been a bit of an asshole to you back then, but you're a superhero and you saved my life so... Ugh, now I feel guilty." Elena sighed.

"S-She knows already?!" Mark almost dropped the coffee, but I caught them in midair.

"Careful, dummy!" I facepalmed. "But yes, she remembers us and all, so there's no helping it."

"Yikes..." Mark sighed.

"Teach me how to use magic later, will you, mom?" My daughter asked.

"Yikes indeed." I agreed with Mark.