

## D. Extraction 571

### Chapter 571 Escape

Enraged by the Masked Devil's ridiculing laugh, Gregory charged with his full might.

He had no idea why the Masked Man's Phantasm State hadn't ended yet, and he didn't know when it would end. He couldn't continue this type of enduring battle.

'I'm the one who's about to reach the limit... I need to end this quickly!' Gregory gritted his teeth as he realized how incompetent he was.

If it was his older siblings, he knew that they wouldn't struggle against this Masked Devil.

"I know you're tired, Masked Devil! I'll end this now!" Gregory shouted to boost his confidence. He was sure that the heavenly lightning that the devil summoned took a toll on his body.

There was no way he wouldn't receive a backlash from summoning such mighty lightning.

However, the Masked Devil's preparation had already been completed.

The moment Clovis used his Light Absorption a while ago, he had also moved the corpses on the Airship's Deck!

He had already readied himself for the impending confrontation.

As soon as Clovis saw the opportunity, he released his Spell!

"Behold, Corpse Explosion!"

Clovis chanted, unleashing a series of explosions on the airship's deck.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

The surrounding was suddenly filled with deathly energy as the dread invocation of a Necromancer's Spell unfurled.

The corpses weren't triggered at the same time as they heralded a sequence of ominous detonations that reverberated through the airship with resounding force.

"W-what?!"

"Ahh! Help!"

"Save me!"

"My eyes!"

"Get away from the corpses!"

"Use your Spells to defend!"

The unexpected detonations seized the guards and the Prince in a maelstrom of disarray.

They were completely caught off guard in the wake of the ghastly spectacle that unfolded before them. Some of them were thrown away from the blast, and those that were unlucky immediately died.

The grim display of power made them want to surrender and give up any resistance.

'That's too strong...' Clovis mused for a moment, but he recalled that the strength of the Corpse Explosion also largely depended on the Corpse itself.

It means that he didn't have control over it.

Clovis's mastery over this Spell had already ascended to the Advanced Realm. It was about to reach the Perfect Realm, so its strength was further amplified.

"Just hold on! He'll be exhausted after using this strong Spell!"

"Yes! Kill him when you get the chance!"

The airship's crew started shouting as they tried to intimidate the Masked Devil. In reality, they just wanted him to go away and not come back.

Then, the airship quaked beneath the onslaught of the concussive force. It was a testament to the explosive might unleashed by Clovis's Necromancer Spell.

Amidst the chaos, the airship's descent was hastened by the urgent commands of its Captain, a sense of urgency permeating the vessel as it hurtled earthward with escalating velocity.

'Perfect...' Clovis muttered as his task here wasn't over yet.

Seizing the opportune moment presented by the chaos, Clovis swiftly invoked another spell. It was? Lightspeed Spell that allowed him to move quickly.

Then, in less than a second, he was able to grab the disoriented Prince!

[ Human corpse has been discovered. Would you like to extract it? ]

'He's at least a real human...' Clovis commented in his mind as soon as he heard.

Then, he continued with his extraction.

[ Extraction Successful. Energy +40, Vitality +0.25 ]

[ Extraction Successful. Energy +40, Vitality +0.25 ]

[ Extraction Successful. Energy +40, Agility +0.25 ]

[ Extraction Successful. Complete Spell Light +1 ]

[ Extraction Successful. Complete Slave Mark Spell Model ]

[ Extraction Successful. Spirit Stone +5 ]

[ Extraction Successful. Unopened Arcane Sigil Scroll ]

[ Extraction Successful. Artificial Human Blueprint ]

'Mhmm?' Clovis didn't quite expect the result of his extractions.

The Prince didn't give many attributes, but he had actually given several items! This had never happened before!

'So generous!'

Clovis knew about the Spirit Pearls, but the Spirit Stone was new to him... However, he felt that they were related to Spirit Strands.

As for the other two items, he could only guess. He wanted to inspect them immediately.

However, he didn't have much time to spare.

Several Arcanists were already rushing at him, and his Phantasm State was about to end.

He had to leave quickly!

"You won't get away!"

"Catch him!"

Clovis heard his pursuers as he executed a daring escape from the plummeting airship.

He was spurred by their ominous approach as they seemed to have gone mad the moment he threw the Prince away.

Furthermore, the Arcanists from the two other airships had also started aiming at him...

Initially, he wanted to extract all these people who dared to ambush their squad and try to take the treasures they got in the Vampire Castle.

However, the duration of his Phantasm State had already exceeded forty minutes!

It was such an incredible achievement, and no one would probably believe him if he said this. Of course, this would not be possible without the Obsidian Amulet bestowed upon him by Heinz.

If not for that, he'd probably be on the verge of madness, or according to their professors, he would be taken by the Darkness.

'Levitation...' Clovis muttered.

With a deft command of Levitation, Clovis swiftly navigated his course toward the verdant embrace of the dark forest below.

Then, several targeted spells came at him, but his evasive maneuver made it impossible to get hit!

"What's with this movement technique?"

"How can he move like that while flying?"

"I thought he's a Dark Magician?! That flying skill is not normal!"

"Don't stop! Continue chanting your spells!" The leader of the Arcanists shouted, though he also felt frustrated.

On the other hand, amidst all the strange spells coming at him, Clovis realized that he would get hit soon.

With this in mind, he immediately canceled his Levitation, Lightspeed, and Meridian Access...

Then, he used his powerful Divine Lightning again to stop the other airships from following him!

Boom! Boom!

The bright, powerful lightning bolts caused another chaos and made it easier for Clovis to escape.

As the lightning faded, Clovis disappeared into the darkness...

Chapter 572 Faith

A lady in her thirties woke up because of the strange fluctuation of Arcane Energy near the village where she was staying.

She had a fair complexion and delicate features. Her long blond hair was braided and hung over her shoulder. She wore a simple white dress while lying on her bed.

Because of the threat she felt from those waves of Arcane Energy, she instinctively held the cane that helped her sense her surroundings. Of course, it was also a weapon in case she needed to fight.

The room she lived in was small and cozy. It had a wooden bed, a table, a chair, and a wardrobe. There was a window that let in some light and fresh air. The room was decorated with some flowers and candles that she could smell.

Although she was blind, she still glanced at the window as if she could see what was going on outside...

'What's going on?' She muttered.

Her name was Faith.

Previously, Faith had served as the Manager of the Contribution Points Exchange Hall at Vermont Academy. However, following a devastating attack on the Academy, she discovered that two students had been displaced to an unknown location.

She couldn't just escape with the others, so she took the mission of taking them back even without the instruction of the Headmaster.

She was determined to locate them, and she knew that she had to avoid any conflicts that may stop her from finding those two students.

Soon, her incredible senses found several airships in the sky and one of them was being assailed in the vicinity.

She was bewildered by the sudden outbreak of conflict in this border region.

"Why are they here? Is there another war I'm unaware of?" She pondered.

Luckily, she didn't have to flee from the village since it didn't take long before the disturbance eventually abated, allowing her to return to rest.

The next morning, she got up and prepared to leave the village.

Now that she thinks about it, she feels that the commotion was related to the students she was trying to find.

She didn't bother having breakfast as she put on her cloak and grabbed her cane.

She then walked out of the room and thanked the innkeeper for his hospitality. Before anything else, she headed to the market, where she hoped to find some food, water, and medicine.

After all, she wasn't sure if she could find another village to resupply.

Faith approached a stall that sold fruits and vegetables. She smelled the fresh produce and picked some apples and carrots.

She checked their prices and confirmed that everything in the village was cheap.

"2 zen and 50 nolls for a dozen, Miss..." The vendor said.

"Alright..."

Faith then handed him the coins and put the fruits and vegetables in her bag.

"Excuse me, sir, but do you know what happened last night?" She asked casually. "I heard some loud noises and saw some lights in the sky."

Faith said. Although she was blind, she could easily pose as a normal person thanks to her being an Arcanist.

The vendor then looked around nervously and lowered his voice.

"It was an airship attack, miss. I heard that some rebels tried escaping the country. They failed, of course. The Kingdom's airships are too strong. They have powerful cannons and a crew made up of Arcanists! They can fly faster than the wind. They are the pride of the Kingdom!"

She nodded and pretended to be impressed.

"Wow, that sounds amazing. But why did I notice that an airship was plummeting? I mean, do you know about those rebels? Why are they doing this? As you see, I'm a traveler from a different country." She said.

The vendor shrugged.

"Who knows, miss? They are crazy. They hate the king and his laws. They want to overthrow him and start a new order. They are dangerous. I heard that even the 14th Prince is chasing after them. I hope the Prince is fine..."

Faith forced a smile as she realized that she couldn't really get any decent information from a vendor.

Well, it was not like she was expecting a lot from them.

"Ahh. They sound terrible. Thank you for your information, sir. Have a nice day."

She quickly moved away from the stall and looked for another one. She hoped to find someone who knew more about the Kingdom's rebels as she might encounter them while staying here in this country.

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After some time, Faith started walking through the forest, following the traces of Arcane Energy around the place.

It didn't take that long before she arrived at what seemed like a battle field and she could sense the different types of Arcane Energy that had been used in the battle.

There were traces of Elemental Energy, Mystical Energy, Aura, and Beast Energy.

However, what attracted her attention was the existence of Dark Energy.

This confirmed the existence of Dark Magicians around the place!

'Finally... I'm getting closer.' She silently thought.

Of course, she wasn't sure whether she had found the students or whether these were the traces of other Dark Magicians.

Nevertheless, she finally had a clue and wanted to celebrate it a little.

'But where did they go this time? Were they captured by the airships?'

She mused for a moment.

Then, as she continued her search, she saw a castle on the hill.

It was a large and imposing structure made of black stone and iron. It had tall towers, pointed roofs, and blocked windows. It looked like an abandoned castle since she wasn't feeling anything.

However, she had heard the rumors about the castle from the villagers.

They said it belonged to a vampire, a creature of the night that fed on blood. They said no one who entered the castle ever came back.

It was supposedly cursed and haunted according to them...

'So I really can't trust those people...' Faith mused as she headed to the castle.

#### Chapter 573 Fused

Faith did not feel any threat after looking at the castle. At most, it seemed quite intimidating if viewed from afar. Furthermore, once at night, this castle would really look like a haunted one.

However, despite spreading her Magic Zone to the limit and using her Spirit Sense, she failed to find the said Vampire or even its familiars.

'Did it flee after the commotion last night?' Faith mused as several scenarios about last night's events occurred in her mind.

The Vampire might've been caught in the crossfire between the kingdom's soldiers and the rebels, or perhaps the Vampire was the target all along.

Anyway, Faith had no interest in exploring the castle, but she had to find any traces or clues in that castle...

She had a feeling that this castle would help her find what she was looking for.

Soon, she reached the main door, which was open and broken.

After several more inspections of her Spirit Sense, she cast a Spell to hide her presence and entered the castle. Then, she started using a stronger inspection spell, Spirit Vision.

Then, she saw signs of a fight all over the place.

There were scorch marks, blood stains, broken furniture, and shattered glass. There were also skeletons around, some of them wearing the uniforms of the kingdom's soldiers and some of them wearing the robes of Arcanists. They were all killed by various means.

'The traces of battle look recent, but they're already skeletons? What's going on here?' Faith felt confused.

It seems that after the battle of the airships in the sky, the kingdom's soldiers rested in this castle only to be met with a gruesome death.

"It's weird..." Faith muttered as the traces she found looked quite unusual.

She searched the bodies, hoping to find more clues or information.

However, she found nothing but broken weapons, coins, and some personal items.

She had no other choice but to move on, deeper into the castle.

She explored the castle, room by room. She saw more signs of destruction and death. She also saw some strange and creepy things, such as paintings of pale and sinister faces, statues of bats and wolves, and books of dark and forbidden lore.

'These things are valuable... There was no way the Vampire would just leave these things behind.' Faith mused as she felt more curious about what had happened to this place.

Soon, she reached the end of a corridor and saw a large door. It was locked and sealed with a powerful spell.

'This Formation Circle is incredible...' She muttered as she realized that without her Sovereign Artifact, she would undoubtedly fail to open this seal.

After a moment of hesitation, she decided to open the door and see what was inside. She tapped the door a couple of times and activated the cane's special ability.

Thud!

She used her cane to absorb the seal and dispel the traps placed on the door!

It happened so swiftly, and she didn't even feel any resistance from the seals. She pushed the door open and entered the room.

"Mhmm?"

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Meanwhile, as Clovis was immersed in his Spell Fusion research, Pearl had a stack of books next to her as she was also looking for a better Spell Fusion.

After all, unlike Clovis, who had an Extraction Space where he could experiment with his Spell Fusion, Pearl could only try it once or risk ruining her Spell Models and losing her proficiency over them.

Clovis, in his Extraction Space, was in the midst of his Spell Fusion.

[ Spell Fusion Successful ]

[ Toxic Wind, Wind Bullet, and Flame Arrow Spell Models have merged into Toxic Tempest Spell Model ]

[ You have 5 seconds to undo the Fusion, which will cost 50 Divinity Points. ]

[ Do you wish to accept this Spell Model? ]

5... 4... 3... 2...

[ You have acquired Toxic Tempest Spell Model ]

"Toxic Tempest... It seemed a lot stronger. However, it feels too evil." Clovis mused as he realized how dangerous this Spell was.

He could literally wipe out the population of a whole city with this Spell if he decided to increase its mastery.

Normal people would be so helpless on this Spell and would die if they didn't have the antidote they needed.

Nevertheless, Clovis didn't stop, as he knew that he had to get stronger Spells.

He already had enough movement spells and support spells. He was currently lacking offensive spells that could turn the tides of battle. After all, he couldn't just rely on his Celestial Art, as it consumes a lot of Divinity Points.

After some time, he selected other spells he'd Fuse later on. There was a cooldown for the Fuse Function of the System, so he had to wait for a while.

After looking at his Spell Models, he thought of Fusing the Life Detection Spell he recently obtained and Divine Sense... It was a Fusion of Elemental and Holy Spell.

If the Fusion Spell result were good, he would go with it.

However, if the Spell Fusion result were bad, he'd cancel it and add the Spirit Vision instead.

Apparently, fusing from different Arcane Paths was difficult. The results could be terrible, especially if they don't have the same essence or effects.

Because of that, he had to experiment a lot, or at least, he had to do more research in various Spell Fusion Books he could find.

One of the solutions he discovered was to add more Spell!

As he was thinking of another set of Spells to be fused, a commotion occurred in the room.

"Ah! Someone's breaking the seal!" Pearl exclaimed as she only sensed the intruder of the castle when the seal that she created was attacked!

Clovis was instantly awakened by Yvaine and snapped out of his trance.

Then, he quickly glanced at the door and saw that it was already open!

Without delay, he used his Divine Sense to identify the intruder while also using his Morph to alter his appearance.

However, his Divine Sense failed him again, so he had to rely on his Eagle Eye and Spirit Vision.

Soon, he spotted a familiar woman.

It was the enigmatic lady of the Exchange Hall.

"Manager Faith?" Clovis said in surprise as he changed back to his Vale Chambers' appearance.

Chapter 574 Revenge

"This aura... and that Dark Spirit... Vale?" Faith asked in astonishment as she recognized Vale's presence.



As a Half-Spirit, she had a keen sense of the existence of Dark Spirits.

Since Vale had Yvaine, a Dark Spirit living in his Shadow, Faith could easily remember him.

"Yes, Manager Faith. It's me, Vale. I'm surprised to see you here." Vale answered as he got up to greet the Manager of the Contribution Points Exchange Hall, Faith.

Faith wryly smiled when she heard him and replied. "The Academy was already in ruins. It was destroyed by the Holy Arts Faction's Alliance. I'm no longer the Manager of the Exchange Hall."

Vale couldn't help but feel gloomy after hearing this. Even though he already knew that the Academy was attacked and the war between the Dark Arts Faction and Holy Arts Faction was ongoing, he still hoped that the Academy had survived.

After all, he had studied at the Vermont Academy for the last four years.

"So the Dark Arts Faction really lost to them..." Vale murmured.

"Don't worry... The Faction had endured for so long. This loss isn't much. Furthermore, the top Arcanists of the Faction didn't join the battle this time. It would be different if they were protecting the Academy at that time. Besides, the Dark Arts Faction isn't alone this time. They'll make a comeback soon..." Faith mysteriously said.

Vale wanted to ask more questions, but Faith shifted her attention to the young girl close to him. She was a striking beauty with sapphire eyes and azure hair that cascaded down her back.

She had a slender figure and a graceful posture. She wore a simple white dress that contrasted with her dark leather boots.

At this time, she was holding a book in her hand, indicating her interest in learning. She looked at Faith with curiosity and respect as she waited to be introduced.

"What's the name of your companion?" Faith asked.

"Right... This is Pearl. She's a friend of mine. After I was attacked by the members of the Vessels, I escaped the city, and she joined me afterward." Vale said.

"Pearl... Are you a—Wait! Vale, are you referring to the Evanescent Vessels? Why were you attacked?"

Faith wanted to know about Pearl's real identity, but after processing Vale's words, she quickly asked what happened.

There, Vale told her what had happened after he obtained his complete Shadow from the Headmaster.

The Vessels tried to kill him and take the reward he got from the Ascension Tower. However, he managed to fight back and flee the scene.

The reward, or the Creation Ring, wasn't even usable yet as it was still sealed.

Vale didn't mind telling this story since he knew Faith wasn't a Dark Arts Practitioner, or at the very least, she wasn't just practicing the Dark Arts. Like him and Pearl, he knew Faith was also practicing multiple Arcane Arts.

After some time, Vale inquired about Faith's presence in the Vampire's Castle, prompting her to explain that she was searching for Lisa and Chad, who had been displaced to a different location following a malfunction in the teleportation circle while they were attempting to escape.

"Lisa Grayback and Chad Bulmung?" Vale asked in shock.

"Yes..."

Faith had taken it upon herself to locate the two. After all, she knew that aside from her, no one else had noticed the location where they went.

Furthermore, she could've accurately traced them if she hadn't been hindered by the Third Guardian of the Transformation Arts Faction and the Vice Commander of the Prime Wisemen at the time of the incident.

Shocked by the revelation that Lisa and Chad were missing, Vale asked, "Is there anything I can help you with, Miss Faith?"

"During the time they were displaced, I sensed that they were transported to this region. My little knowledge about spatial disruption allowed me to sense it at that time..." Faith explained as she accepted Vale's offer of assistance.

Vale then forgot about his plan for the Spell Fusion as the group engaged in a discussion.

Vale started sharing the events that transpired in the Vampire Castle while Faith provided insights into the current situation of the Dark Arts Faction against the Allied Factions.

Finally, Vale recounted the previous night's events involving the Airships led by a Prince. Of course, he hid the fact that he was the Masked Devil and just mentioned how those people tried taking their items.

"You and your squads confronted the 14th Prince?!" Faith asked in astonishment.

"Y-yes... Is it really that bad?" Vale asked.

"No... You guys should've killed all of them instead. It would be less troublesome that way." Faith replied while shaking her head.

"Ah." Vale's mouth opened, but he was unable to give a proper response. He couldn't help but recall Heinz's words before when he confronted the seniors of the Academy.

"Miss Faith, I don't think we are strong enough to fight against their fleet." Vale could only reply after some time.

"Ha! You think you can fool me? Your companion here isn't ordinary... You as well. I'm sure that you could've dealt with the problem. You shouldn't hesitate next time. Anyway, I won't be asking about your secrets. My mission here is to find those kids." Faith replied as she waved her hand.

Vale could not reply to that and just nodded obediently.

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In the meantime, while Vale was immersed in his reunion with Faith, his enemy was already planning to take his revenge.

In the grand halls of a large manor, the 14th Prince had just finished his report to his father's subordinate, the Royal Knights Commander, Gram Cromwell.

Adorned with red tattoo marks or Arcane Sigils all over his body, including his face, Grant stood tall while looking at the incompetent Prince.

He was in the middle of a celebration for acquiring another Arcane Sigil when this person chose to interrupt him in his chamber.

After learning what had happened, he couldn't help but feel disappointed again in this Prince.

"So everything has turned into chaos because of one Arcanist, the Masked Devil Incarnate?" He inquired, his deep voice echoing through the opulent chamber.

## Chapter 575 The Ritual

As Vale and his companions left the Vampire's castle, a ritual in a distant land had started.

In the northern part of the Millton Kingdom, a large gathering of hundreds of people dressed in black robes could be spotted chanting in an ancient language.

They stood in orderly rows in front of a towering stone statue that bore a striking resemblance to a demonic figure.

For nearly an hour, they chanted prayers and offered up valuable materials, the worth of which could easily exceed a million zen.

Soon, they reached the end of their prayer.

"Oh, mighty one, from the depths of the unknown, we implore you to grace us with your presence. Bring forth your wisdom and power, and bestow upon us the gifts of chaos. We offer our sacrifices as a testament to our allegiance. Hear our call and manifest before us!"

Following the conclusion of their intense prayer, the members of the cult dressed in black robes simultaneously collapsed to the ground, creating an eerie and foreboding atmosphere.

Sometime after this, otherworldly energy began to permeate the surroundings, signaling the imminent arrival of the mysterious entity they had been invoking.

Not far from this unsettling scene, another group of individuals, also garbed in black robes adorned with a goat's head symbol, gazed at the stone statue with intense anticipation.

After a few moments, a monumental crack in the fabric of space materialized beneath the statue, and a multitude of entities emerged.

These otherworldly beings seemed human, except for the prominent presence of horns upon their heads.

"They're here..." One of them muttered as they observed the individuals.

They soon glanced at each other as they silently agreed to welcome them.

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At the forefront of the group of entities that had just arrived, one figure stood out with two black horns adorning his head and fiery red hair.

He had striking white skin, handsome visage, and discernible fangs that added to his enigmatic presence. Clad in a robe that exuded an aura of demonic power, he surveyed the collapsed individuals in black robes with a bemused expression.

"What do we have here?" He murmured upon seeing the fallen cult members.

At this time, the spatial crack behind them had also closed, confirming that only 16 of them had been summoned into this realm. Then, his piercing gaze shifted to the approaching figures.

These figures were the ten black-robed men who had been observing from a distance, and they hastened to greet the newly arrived entities.

As they drew near, they swiftly fell to their knees and addressed the entities with reverence.

"Welcome, Demon Saints! We have eagerly awaited your arrival..." They proclaimed, their voices resonating with deference and anticipation.

"Oh? Interesting... So you know about us? Who are you, and why did you summon us?" The Demon Saint asked with an arrogant tone. He seemed to be testing the humans in front of him.

The ten black-robed people were shocked by his question. They thought he would be pleased by their worship. They did not expect him to sound hostile.

They quickly tried to explain.

"We are your loyal followers, Demon Saints. We are the members of the Order of Fatality. We have been praying to you and waiting for you for a long time. We want to serve you and help you... To be exact, we want to join you in your glorious mission."

The Demon Saint didn't know whether to laugh at their words as none of them had such a glorious mission.

However, if they were summoned for a specific reason, they could guess what was going on.

"Glorious mission? Hmm... Are you telling me that there's a living Immortal in this realm?" The Demon Saint asked curiously.

At this question, the others behind him finally reacted.

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In the Arcane Cloud Tower situated near the capital city of the Millton Kingdom, Odessa, the esteemed Royal Mage, sat in a cross-legged position, attentively overseeing the Core of the Tower.

Her fair complexion seemed to radiate a soft luminescence in the muted light of the chamber.

Adorned with intricate magical accessories, including ornate amulets and rings adorned with ancient runes, she exuded an aura of wisdom and nobility, befitting her esteemed position.

Her Arcanist Robe draped gracefully around her, bearing the symbols of her station as a custodian of Ancient Knowledge and Guardian of Lost Arcane Arts.

'Mhmm?'

Odessa furrowed her brows as she felt something off about the Core's pulsation of energy.

Her Arcane Tower served not only as a center for learning and honing magical skills but also as a vital shield safeguarding the surroundings of the capital.

Any reaction from the Core could be related to their safety.

Suddenly, the aura it was emitting started getting stronger.

The Tower's Core underwent a brief and unsettling upheaval.

"What's going on? Why are you reacting like that if we're not under attack..." Odessa was confused, as such anomalous behavior from the Core typically signified the detection of a looming ominous threat.

However, the disturbance didn't last long, as if it was nothing more than a momentary malfunction.

Of course, Odessa wouldn't leave it at that.

She was perturbed by this unusual occurrence, so she swiftly sought the counsel of the Tower's Seers to unravel the mystery.

After a consultation with the Seer, a chilling prophecy was revealed to her...

"The realm that was long sealed, shall soon yawn open, unleashing a tide of unrelenting chaos that shall engulf the entire continent. From the depths of darkness, ancient powers shall rise, casting the realm into an era of turmoil and strife. The balance of magic and the fates of all shall be put to the ultimate test in a cataclysmic struggle for dominion."

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As Odessa unearthed this foreboding menace, a multitude of eminent Arcanists across the continent had also come to the same alarming realization.

The venerable heads of the Twelve Arcane Paths, the esteemed leaders of the Orthodox Churches, the influential figures governing the Arcanist Guilds, and the sensible guardians of the Arcane Bureau all became acutely aware that the facade of tranquility was on the brink of shattering.

## Chapter 576 Seized

"Are we there yet?" Vale asked Faith while looking at her graceful figure from behind.

At this time, he was still unable to understand how Faith could see the surroundings and how it felt like she had unlimited duration in Magic Zone.

Apparently, it had already been two weeks following their departure from the Vampire Castle, and Faith finally stumbled upon a new lead that could lead them to Lisa and Chad.

"We're getting closer... However, it might take the whole day if we continue like this. What's your movement spell's mastery?" Faith asked as she turned her head as if she was eyeing Vale.

"It's in the Advanced Realm... I'm not using it yet." Vale replied as he shifted his attention to Pearl.

"It's the same for me." Pearl added.

Faith nodded in acknowledgment. She didn't seem surprised as she had just accepted that young practitioners like them could have several advanced realm spells.

"Alright... Try to keep up with me. Use your Movement Spells now," Faith urged as she activated her own enchantment.

The moment she did so, her form seemed to transform into that of a ghost!

Her speed became nothing short of incredible, and most remarkably, she effortlessly phased through trees and rocks! Nothing could impede her while she remained in this otherworldly state.

Vale couldn't conceal his astonishment at the astonishing speed displayed before him.

"Is that the Ghost Walk in the Perfect Realm? That looks so incredible..." He pondered aloud.

Recollecting that the Ghost Walk was primarily purposed for combat, designed for short bursts of movement, he had never deemed it necessary. Instead, he'd rely on his exceptional Agility to cover close distances in battle.

He felt that it would be better than wasting a Spell Light for a short burst movement spell.

Observing Faith grow more distant, Vale and Pearl swiftly followed suit.

Vale invoked his Lightspeed Spell, augmented by his unmatched Agility, propelling himself to catch up with Faith. Meanwhile, Pearl's eyes radiated with an azure glow, enveloping her in crackling static electricity before she surged forward.

Whoossh~

In the blink of an eye, she drew level with the pair and maintained her velocity to keep pace with them.

'These two are comparable to graduates in terms of movement speed. Amazing...' Faith silently thought as she was also monitoring the two's movements while tracing Chad's Ghost King Body...

Indeed... The reason why Faith could sense Chad's whereabouts was thanks to Chad's mastery of Ghost King Body. A physique that only Spiritual Beings or Undead Creatures could typically learn.

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As they continued to travel for more than half an hour, Faith decided to take a rest as she found a spot to wait for the cooldown of their Spells.

"Let's rest for 15 minutes..." Faith said as she stopped on a nearby rock formation.

"Hmm... Did you select this spot to deal with those Evil Creatures?" Vale suddenly asked as he looked ahead.

"Oh..."

Faith felt a bit surprised since the location of those Evil Creatures was about 270 meters! That was incredibly far already!

There was no way a fourth-year student was capable of doing that.

Faith suppressed her astonishment as she nodded at Vale.

"Yes, I'm planning to take care of them... No matter what, they're someone else's corpse possessed by an Evil Spirit. We should free them or put them to rest." Faith said.

"Alright... I'll take care of them. It won't take long," Vale replied confidently.

He then gestured to Pearl to stay and take a rest before he dashed forward to confront the trio of Malevolent Entities positioned about 270 meters away.

Despite not being able to see them directly, his Magic Zone keenly detected their presence, and they seemed to be quite injured.

They must've fought against someone and had fled in this direction.

'This should be quick.'

As he approached, the three Evil Creatures pivoted towards him, revealing their eerie appearance.

Each entity bore a peculiar visage, with gnarled, obsidian-hued features twisted into grotesque, malevolent expressions.

Their eyes glowed with an eerie, crimson light, exuding an intense aura of malice.

They looked sinister as shadowy tendrils extended from their forms, surrounding them in an aura of darkness that seemed to warp the very air around them.

'These guys looked strong...' Vale commented in his mind as he noticed that these creatures had horns on their heads.

Without hesitation, these Evil Creatures rushed towards Vale with an intimidating roar!

Graaa!

They seemed so delighted and couldn't wait to tear him apart!

"Come!" Vale taunted as he wanted them to get nearer. Although his Spells could reach them already, it would always be stronger if they were nearer.

With a swift and practiced motion, he soon unleashed his Chain of Souls.

The dark chains appeared from the darkness around them, and before they could react, the chains had already started coiling them, binding them in an otherworldly embrace, restraining their movements, and sapping their malevolent strength.

'That's easy...'

They tried removing the chains by brute force, and they could certainly succeed if Vale had just watched them destroy the chains.

Seizing the moment, Vale conjured his Shadow Soldiers. In a few moments, shadowy apparitions materialized around the Creatures.

These otherworldly warriors encircled the entities, but this time, they didn't manifest their dark blades.

"Hold them down..." Vale ordered.

With seamless coordination, the Shadow Soldiers pressed upon the entities, further subduing their resistance and enveloping them in a shroud of spectral suppression.

"Don't resist... I want to extract you all with your full strength intact." Vale said as he knew that these Evil Creatures have Spirit Arts or Neutral Spells.

It must be remembered that his Traceless Shift was taken from an Evil Creature. There was no way he would allow such a creature to be unextracted!

As their movements gradually waned, Vale advanced purposefully.

Vale then approached each entity, his touch invoking the Extraction process.

One by one, Vale extracted their attributes, malevolent energies, Spell Models, and drew out the essence...

Chapter 577 Extraction Space

[ Living Monster has been discovered. Would you like to start the extraction? ]

'Yes...'

[ Extraction Successful. Energy +120

Vitality +1

Agility +1.5

Fiend Essence +100

Complete Spell Light +1

Complete Toxic Breath Spell Model

Immortal Shard ]

'Immortal Shard? Why would this creature drop a shard on me?' Vale was surprised as he had never extracted this item before.

Nevertheless, he continued with his extractions as he surely wanted to get more of them.

[ Extraction Successful. Energy +120

Vitality +1

Strength +1.5

Fiend Essence +100

Complete Spell Light +1

Complete Heat Detection Spell Model

Immortal Shard ]

'Another Immortal Shard... Not bad.' Vale couldn't help but smile, seeing the good result of his extractions.

As for the last creature, he finally got a decent Spell Model.

[ Extraction Successful. Energy +120

Vitality +1

Agility +1.5

Fiend Essence +100



Complete Spell Light +1

Complete Evil Hand Spell Model

Immortal Shard ]

Vale wasn't sure what kind of Spell it was, but he felt that this Spell might be a good combination with his Gorilla Punch and Flaming Palm Spells.

These two low-tier Spells were taking up precious slots in his Spell Lights, after all. Instead of removing them, he'd just fuse them with other spells and hope for the best.

'Maybe I should do the Fusion now before returning...'

Vale suddenly had an idea, so swiftly killed the barely struggling Evil Creatures before extracting them once again for more Attributes and Energy. He no longer received any Spell Models or items from them, but he was already satisfied with it.

Extraction Space...

Vale didn't bother to find a different place. He simply ordered Yvaine to guard him as he entered the special state.

Inside the Extraction Space, his spiritual body stood in front of the Spell Models he had recorded.

There were quite a lot of them.

[ Human Arts List:

Dark Arts: Spell Dispersion Lv8, Incorruptible Body Lv10, Darkness Manipulation Lv8, Spirit Vision Lv7, Light Absorption Lv7, Create Shadow Soldier Lv7, Active Curse Break Lv7, Corpse Explosion Lv7, Locate Corpse Lv7, Shadow Gate Lv7, Moonlight Specter Lv7, Chain of Souls Lv7, Oblivion Trance Lv7 ]

Holy Arts: Divine Sense Lv8, Blessed Healing Lv7, Exorcism Lv7

Summoning Art: Grimoire Attraction Lv7

Transformation Art: Morph Lv7, Voice Manipulation Lv7

Martial Art: Meridian Access Lv9, Flaming Palm Lv0

Mystic Arts: Arcane Armor Lv8, Soul Bind Lv7, Reveal Lv0, Telepathy Lv0, Item Appraisal Lv0, Tree Shapeshift Lv0, Nature's Guise Lv0

Beast Art: Wild Whisper Spell Lv7, Eagle Eye Lv0, Gorilla Punch Lv0

Elemental Arts: Tidal Wave Torrent Lv7, Water Domain Lv7, Ember Spirit Lv0, Wind Spirit Summon Lv0 , Toxic Tempest Lv5 ]

Rune Arts: Rune Simplification Lv0, Rune Analysis Lv0 ]

Celestial Arts List: Call of the Divine Lightning Lv8, Shadow Mutilation Lv7, Aurora's Embrace Lv7 ]

Spirit Arts List: Extrasensory Perception Spell Lv9, Traceless Shift Lv8, Lightspeed Lv7, Levitation Lv7, Blood Manipulation Lv0, Blood Curse Lv0, Shadow Extraction Lv0, Sonic Fist Lv0, Life Detection Lv0, Slave Mark Lv0, Toxic Breath Lv0, Heat Detection Lv0, Evil Hand Lv0 ]

Vale certainly had plenty of Spells compared to normal Arcanists. However, he believed he was still lacking... Especially if he wanted to fight against the beings he should be careful of.

According to Pearl, the Time Manipulators and Demon Saints were the natural enemies of Celestials. The Time Manipulators were certainly a big problem, and he felt that his current set of Spells was still lacking.

At this moment, he had no idea how to deal with anyone who could control Time.

At most, he'd probably heavily rely on his recently acquired Artifacts to fight them to save himself.

As for the Demonic Light of the Demon Saints, he doesn't know how this light works, so he has to continue acquiring better spells.

[ You have selected Eagle Eye, Life Detection, and Heat Detection Spells. ]

[ You can no longer select another Spell Model. ]

[ Do you want to start the Fusion? ]

Vale saw the message, and just like his previous Fusion, he got the same message after selecting three Spells. He was planning to just agree with it, but he suddenly had a thought...

"I can no longer select another Spell Model... but does it mean I can add anything that's not a Spell Model?" Vale thought as he recalled something that he had been curious about: the addition of Essence stored in the Extraction Space for his Fusion Process.

[ 100 Draconic Essence has been added. ]

[ You have selected Eagle Eye, Life Detection, and Heat Detection Spells with 100 Draconic Essence. ]

[You no longer have a Fusion Slot. ]

[ Do you want to start the Fusion? ]

"Yes!"

Vale said as he proceeded with the Fusion.

[ Spell Fusion Successful ]

[ Eagle Eye, Life Detection, and Heat Detection Spell Models have merged into Dragon's True Sight Spell Model ]

[ You have 5 seconds to undo the Fusion, which will cost 50 Divinity Points. ]

[ Do you wish to accept this Spell Model? ]

5... 4... 3... 2...

[ You have acquired Dragon's True Sight Spell Model ]

"Dragon's True Sight? Isn't this too amazing?" Vale was shocked as he hadn't expected that he'd obtain such a great result just by adding 100 Draconic Essence.

Although it decreased the number of times he could morph into a dragon, it was certainly worth the price, considering this Dragon's True Sight Spell was something he could always use.

Without any hesitation, Vale increased the Mastery of the Spell by spending some Energy Points.

[ Consume 25 energy points to improve Dragon's True Sight? ]

'Yes...' Vale proceeded as he didn't mind the number of points he had to spend. After all, it was still cheaper than his Incorruptible Body.

[ Advancement Successful. Dragon's True Sight Lv1 ]

[ Consume 50 energy points to improve Dragon's True Sight? ]

[ Consume 100 energy points to improve Dragon's True Sight? ]

...

[ Consume 1600 energy points to improve Dragon's True Sight? ]

[ Advancement Successful. Dragon's True Sight Lv7 ]

Vale spent a total of 3,175 Energy Points, but he didn't mind this at all.

As soon as he came out of his Extraction Space, he immediately tried to use the newly acquired Spell.

#### Chapter 578 True Sight

Vale swiftly entered his Phantasm State and spread out his Magic Zone...

After doing this, he activated one of his Spell Models, the Dragon's True Sight!

His eyes turned blue, and his pupils constricted, similar to that of a Dragon.

Then, he observed the surroundings and looked around the trees, rocks, the waning corpses of the Evil Creatures, and the insects and animals hiding around, and soon, he found what he was looking for: his party members.

He first sensed Faith, followed by Pearl, who seemed to be observing him as well.

'Ahh... Is she worried about me?' Vale momentarily thought before inspecting her with his True Sight.

'I can feel her Divinity and even the Magic Artifacts she had. Furthermore, I can sense her... soul? What's this?' Vale felt a bit confused as he tried to find the difference between his normal detection spells and the True Sight Spell.

After a moment of thought, he finally understood.

'So it's like that...' Vale finally realized that it was Pearl's true soul, the Master of the Mystic Tower. It was certainly prominent and befitting of her status as a Tower Master.

Vale also noticed some ethereal glow in the space around her.

It was the same for Faith. It was something he couldn't see from animals and insects, so he could only guess that it was similar to Arcane Energy.

As he focused his True Sight on Faith, he finally understood her true identity.

"So she's really a Half-Spirit... Furthermore, she's carrying a Mystical Artifact that's glowing too brightly." Vale muttered while feeling a bit shocked.

After all, he thought that the ring she had was just a normal Artifact. He didn't expect the Dragon's True Sight to see something in it.

'So this true sight can see the true nature of magic items... And if I'm not wrong, it can also see through disguises, invisibility, and shapeshifting...' Vale mused as he appreciated the new Spell Fusion.

He believed that with this Spell, he'd no longer get tricked or get caught in traps.

Of course, Vale's trial didn't end at that. Once the Dragon's True Sight was activated, it would last for 3 minutes, so he had to make full use of it.

He then started inspecting his body or, specifically, the Spell Models he had recorded. This allowed him to fully understand the mysteries of the Spell Models recorded in his Spell Lights.

Then, as he inspected the Spell Model of the Dragon's True Sight, he realized that it could also find the weakness of his target!

However, he had to observe his target for about 30 seconds before he could see it!

It was actually a new power he acquired after upgrading it to the Advanced Realm.

'Awesome...' Vale couldn't help but feel glad about this as he immediately tried it on Pearl.

"Let's see..." He muttered as he confirmed that Pearl was no longer paying attention to him.

He observed her for 30 seconds, and soon, he found her three weaknesses...

Three red lights started emitting from Pearl's body, indicating her weakness.

It was the Divine Crystals that were in her pocket, her left eye, and her heart.

Vale could understand that heart was her weakness since anyone could die from it. However, he couldn't understand why her left eye was a weakness but not her right eye.

As for the Divine Crystal, it must be connected to her Divinity, so it could certainly become fatal to her as well.

'Interesting...' Vale mused as he shifted his attention to Faith...

Just like what he did a few moments ago, he also observed Faith for 30 seconds.

'There's no resistance, huh... Great.' Vale thought, satisfied that his True Sight wasn't deflected like his Divine Sense.

However, he only found one weakness in Faith. It was actually her belly... To be exact, it seemed as if there was a core in her belly.

Vale felt a bit confused by what he saw, but since she wasn't an enemy he had to fight, he decided that it was enough.

After removing any traces of the Evil Creatures, he returned to their resting spot.

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After a grueling day of journeying through treacherous terrain near the border of the Ruri Kingdom, Vale's party finally arrived at the place where Faith believed Chad and Lisa were being held.

"So it's this place... How did they build this deep into the forest?" Faith muttered.

She meticulously followed the ethereal traces of Chad's Ghost King Body and had no idea about the place they were heading to.

As the sun began its descent, casting long shadows across the dense forest, they stumbled upon a haunting sight.

Nestled amidst the heart of the woods stood a castle, its eerie silhouette shrouded in the fading light.

The imposing structure exuded an aura of ancient malevolence, and Faith suddenly felt worried that Lisa and Chad were being held by a Dark Magician or any Arcanists who didn't care about human lives.

These Arcanists are those Researchers who would do anything for the advancement of their research, whether it was experimenting on humans or something even more horrible.

"We must find them quickly..."

The very thought of what horrors might await them within those dark walls filled her with a deep sense of urgency.

Vale also observed the castle and couldn't shake the nagging suspicion that this castle, although lacking the awe-inspiring grandeur of the previous Vampire Castle they had infiltrated, might be another stronghold of the vampiric kind.

'It looks like an abandoned castle from the outside, but with the Dragon's True Sight, it's completely different. The one living is stronger than the Vampire before.' He mused.

As they stood before the foreboding structure, an intense tension enveloped the group...

"We've been found..." Vale muttered. He didn't know where it came from, but he was sure that a detection spell was just used on them.

Faith and Pearl didn't notice this so they looked at him for a moment.

"Are we being invited?" Pearl asked.

"If we're not harmed, perhaps we can just negotiate..." Faith added.

They didn't express their doubt but trusted Vale with his sense.

Chapter 579 Magnus

"We don't know what we'll be encountering inside, so complete your preparations before you enter..." Vale cautioned, his voice remained calm despite the underlying tension.

"I'm fine..." Pearl asserted. In any case, she felt that she didn't have much to prepare in the first place. She only had to cast a Spell to protect her body and make sure that her Psychic Art was ready to be cast.

"I'm also ready. I can feel their traces here. I'm sure Lisa and Chad were here at some point." Faith affirmed, her voice tinged with concern.

"Great... Let's go..." Vale declared, summoning his Shadow Soldiers to lead the way. The effortless summoning of two Shadow Soldiers by Vale elicited a smile from Faith, who marveled at his remarkable mastery over the Spell.

She knew this Spell very well, so seeing how Vale could casually cast the spell made her realize that this young man was indeed a reliable one.

After all, it was a feat that even seventh-year students would struggle to achieve, let alone summoning two, or recording the Spell itself. It was evident that Vale's command over this Spell had already reached the Intermediate or even the early stage of Advanced Realm, considering how he summoned the Shadow Soldiers from another object's shadow and not his own shadow.

'Such a young age with several high-level Spells... It's very impressive. I wonder why the Vessels decided to choose the extreme choice.' Faith pondered as she looked ahead.

As the heavy doors of the castle opened, a loud creaking noise echoed. Then, as they thought they'd smell the scent of death, blood, or vampires inside the place, they actually smelled the scent of medicine!

It feels as if this castle was an alchemy shop instead.

Nevertheless, they also noticed something unusual within the castle. Their Magic Zones were immediately suppressed upon entering, cloaking an area of only about 20 meters around them. It was such a huge suppression, but considering they were only inside the castle, they didn't mind it that much.

"There's no enemy?" Pearl muttered. She was expecting someone to welcome them since they had already been discovered when they were still outside.

It was quite disappointing.

On the other hand, Faith found this natural as the enemy had probably realized how strong they were.

"We're here to talk... If you're the owner of the Tower, please come out!" Faith called out, her grip tightening on her cane.

She doesn't want to start a fight if it could be avoided. After all, it might harm the students that were staying here. However, if it was not possible to resolve it peacefully, she would have no other choice but to destroy this castle.

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Meanwhile, as Vale's party made their way into the castle, Magnus was in his study room, observing the projection of the three intruders with a mix of intrigue and fascination.

Unlike his usual attire, Magnus had foregone his Dark Cloak and Ebony Staff, instead opting for his Sacred Alchemy Robe, a garment renowned for enhancing dexterity.

Despite the change in attire, he was still displaying his imposing physique and long black hair, coupled with eyes glowing with a scarlet hue. If not for his Alchemist Robe, he would surely be recognized as an ancient warrior.

After surveying the formidable newcomers, Magnus pondered their origins with a hint of disbelief.

"These people possess an unprecedented level of power. Where have they been concealed? How is it that I do not recognize any of them, yet they have such formidable strength?" He muttered, astounded by the enigma of their existence.

He had lived for a long time and knew almost all the Grandmaster Arcanists from various organizations and factions. It was quite baffling how he could feel that these three felt equal to him.

Lastly, what bothered him was their youthfulness, especially of the two youngest behind the Half-Spirit.

It stirred a subtle unease within him, for despite his mastery of Alchemy Arts, he remained unable to reverse the effects of aging. With his years of research, he could only temporarily stall his aging.

'Perhaps they're aware of how to regain youthfulness?' He mused.

After a moment of contemplation, Magnus was set to confront the trio.

Simultaneously, he issued a command for all the creatures under his control in the surrounding forest to converge upon the castle, preparing for the imminent encounter.

Magnus then made a swift change in attire, discarding his Alchemist Robe in favor of his Dark Cloak and Ebony Staff.

The cloak, woven with ancient enchantments, could provide him with an active Defense Barrier, offering formidable protection against curses and insidious spells.

As for his Ebony Staff, it bore a mystical link empowering him to command the Formation Circle, enveloping the castle, a potent tool of defense and subjugation.

With his preparations complete, Magnus invoked his Ghost Walk, seamlessly materializing before the intruders, intercepting their ascent to the upper floors.

"What delusion led you to believe that trespassing in my castle was permissible?" Magnus interrogated, his form now fully corporeal.

None of the three seemed surprised at his arrival as they maintained their cautious stance.

The young man of the group, exuding an air of mysterious confidence, promptly retorted, "We are aware that you sensed our presence long before our arrival. Enlighten us as to why you permitted our entry."

Magnus, taken aback by the audacity of the inquiry, found himself compelled to chuckle at the impertinence.

"Very well... I do indeed perceive your presence," Magnus conceded.

"Since your party didn't seem lost within the forest, I am intrigued by your purpose here. However, if you seek to become my disciples, you are sorely mistaken. I have no intention of taking on any apprentices in the foreseeable future." He declared as if this had already happened multiple times before.

Of course, Vale's group had no such intentions, so Faith interjected, "We have come in search of students of Dark Arts Academy. Those young kids have bright future... I trust you have not made a mistake messing with them."

Her words were delivered with serene composure. However, her gaze showed her readiness to fight.

Chapter 580 Trap Formation

Magnus's smile waned as Faith's words reached his ears, prompting a shift in his expression from surprise to indifference.

He had foreseen that individuals would eventually seek out the two practitioners of Dark Arts he had hidden, yet the swift arrival of these intruders caught him off guard.

'I did not expect their scouts, or perhaps Dark Seers, to have progressed to this extent...' Magnus ruminated, realizing the alarming speed at which they had located the Arcanists he had captured.

Despite his internal musings, he was firm in his resolve not to divulge any such information.

"I'm not sure what you're talking about... Should you wish to search this castle, you shall have to contend with me..." Magnus declared, driving his staff forcefully into the ground.

Boom!

This move didn't destroy the floor, but it actually activated the ancient Formation Circle embedded within the castle.

Vale and the others didn't have the time to stop the activation as they could only watch the light emerging from every crack in the walls and ceiling.

The Formation Circle stirred to life as arcane symbols started appearing in a mesmerizing display of luminescence.

The Trap Formation was set into motion!

Sinister energies coalesced, creating an intricate web of malevolence designed to ensnare and subdue anyone.

As the Formation was fully activated, the castle itself seemed to awaken, ready to either kill or repel intruders.

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Vale looked at the Trap Formation, and he couldn't help but feel wary of it. For the first time, he felt that this Trap Formation could not be sabotaged just by cutting off the supply of Arcane Energy.

It was all because of the complex link of Formation Circles all around the castle.

If he wanted to stop the energy linked to the Trap Formation to deactivate it, he had to destroy everything instead.

'Is this a Formation Circle arranged by a Grandmaster?' Vale mused as he looked above them.

As the Trap Formation completed its activation, a number of otherworldly entities materialized, encircling Vale's group with an ominous presence.

"Blood Specters?" Faith murmured after identifying the entities.

"Holy Arts and Mystic Arts are effective against them... I'll deal with it." She declared, producing a talisman with practiced swiftness.

Without delay, she exhaled sharply. Her breath sets the arcane symbols adorning the Talisman ablaze with otherworldly energy.

Whom~



Faith's invocation of a high-level talisman resonated through the chamber. Soon, the mystical forces imbued within the T0alisman surged forth to repel the encroaching specters.

Screech!

With a harrowing noise, the specters unleashed a disturbing cacophony that sought to paralyze the trio.

Yet, the radiant mystic light emanating from Faith's Talisman mitigated its paralyzing effect, much to her satisfaction.

Apparently, this was no ordinary talisman—it was a formidable artifact worth 4,000 zen, and its potency far exceeded that of a common charm.

Whom~

The luminous radiance persisted, intensifying in brilliance as it continued to engulf the blood specters...

It didn't last long, but it gradually eroded their essence until they were naught but dissipating wisps of malevolent energy.

"Impressive," Vale remarked in awe while Pearl nodded in solemn acknowledgment.

However, their respite was short-lived. The trap formation was still active, and soon, a fresh contingent of blood specters materialized with an eerie wail.

The renewed onslaught of specters, now numbering more than twenty, assailed Vale's party with renewed ferocity.

"Screech!"

They attacked once again with the same sound spell... Furthermore, as soon as the Blood Specters felt that they had constrained them, they started moving closer as if they wanted to take a bite off of them!

In the face of this overwhelming assault, Faith prepared to unleash her formidable Spirit Art, only to be halted by Vale's decisive intervention.

"Not yet... Slaying the blood specters will only increase their number... Pearl, shield us while I dismantle the formation circle." Vale commanded, his gaze fixed upon the arcane symbols etched into the ground.

It was as if he had seen through the Trap Formation already.

Though initially taken aback, Faith agreed to Vale's strategy, recognizing that his words sounded reliable.

However, amidst the chaos, she discerned a peculiar transformation in Vale.

"Those eyes... and the aura you exude... Are you a dragon?" she inquired in astonishment, her gaze lingering upon him with incredulity.

Vale didn't answer and simply smiled at this.

Anyway, it wasn't important right now.

As soon as he activated his Dragon's True Sight, he realized that the Trap Formation doesn't just weaken the Spells of all Arcane Paths, but it was slowly absorbing their Arcane Energy as well.

The longer they use their Spells, the faster they get exhausted...

'What a sinister Trap Formation... That Vampire is also good. He knows that he'll get killed if he fights us directly. He must've realized that we're not ordinary Arcanists.' Vale mused as he focused on the matter at hand.

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"Not killing the Blood Specters is a lot more difficult than you think. Please do it quickly..." Pearl said.

As she maintained her Spiritual Domain to fend off the encroaching Blood Specters, Vale knelt upon the floor. He seemed so focused as if he was truly trying to understand the mysteries of this Formation Circle.

However, his thoughts say otherwise.

'Divine Extraction System, activate...' Vale silently prayed as he was trying to make the system recognize the Trap Formation as an 'extractable' target.

The system was designed to swiftly identify extractable entities such as corpses, living beings, and immortal items, promptly triggering a notification upon their detection.

However, Vale was keenly aware of the system's potential to extract other entities, provided they met the requisite criteria.

Having used the system in unconventional ways previously, he understood the inherent challenges that accompanied such endeavors.

It was difficult but not impossible.

In the meantime, Magnus was watching everything from a distance and was unsure what they were trying to do...

'They immediately realize that the Blood Specters will just multiply if killed... That was impressive, but are they thinking of destroying my Formation Circle?' Magnus smirked as he observed the young man in the group.

'Arrogant... Not even the finest Formation Experts of this era can destroy that. I guess I'll have a few more slaves.'