

## D. Extraction 661

### Chapter 661 Practice

?A few days had gone by after the incident.

Constance, who was formerly the master of the Mystic Soul Tower, had now become known as Pearl of the Cursed Forest's Castle...

Pearl was also regarded as a Half-Immortal at this point. During the past few months, she had recorded several Spell Models and some of them were even Celestial Arts.

That part was thanks to Vale's advice... Vale told her that if she tried merging eight normal Spell Lights with her Divinity, she might be able to get the mysterious Spell Light that could record the Celestial Arts.

She had no idea where Vale learned something like this, but she tried it anyway.

She was actually excited about it even if she hadn't proven it yet since these Celestial Arts were considered useless Arcane Arts since they couldn't be recorded by any means.

That was something that she also thought since even with her Divinity, she still depended on the twelve pioneered Arcane Paths.

But everything changed after she followed Vale's idea.

She obtained an Evolved Spell Light and recorded her first Celestial Art she found in Magnus' collection. Although she knew other Spell Models of Celestial Arts, they weren't as incredible as the one she found in one of Magnus' books.

It was called Starfall.

The name may sound an exaggeration, but it was a spell that could summon dozens of falling scorching rocks from the sky and bombard the enemies with explosive force.

It was a powerful and beautiful spell that could awe and terrify anyone who saw it. The only downside of this Spell was the fact that it uses a lot of Divinity compared to others.

Nevertheless, this was Pearl's strongest and most destructive Spell.

"This will be the last..." Pearl muttered as she planned to use this Star Fall Spell once again, and this time, she wanted to control its intensity as a preparation for the upcoming Invasion.

She was practicing it in a clearing far from the castle as she didn't want to destroy the natural defenses brought by the cursed forest.

At this time, Pearl raised her hand and chanted the Spell.

"Starfall! Destroy everything in path!"

Since this Spell was a high-level one, she had no choice but to use a few words to lessen the burden of casting it.

It would reduce the required concentration, and it would also be a lot faster!

Soon, she felt her Divinity and her Spell Model resonate and activate the Spell.

Then, she saw a bright light in the sky and then a shower of "stars" falling down. She aimed them at some targets she had set up and watched them explode with a deafening noise...

Boom! Boom! Boom!

The barrage lasted for about 20 seconds, and as soon as Pearl saw the result, she couldn't help but smile and felt a surge of satisfaction and pride.

Although she had just recently learned this Spell, her mastery was already reaching the Intermediate Realm. This speed was more than enough for her.

Pearl then checked her remaining Divinity and confirmed that although she couldn't cast another Starfall, she could still cast the one other Celestial Art she recorded.

Actually, she also learned four more Celestial Arts from Sage Merlin and the Pontiff after Vale brought them to the castle.

However, she could only record one of them. It was called the Ethereal Prism Shield. It was a spell that could create a barrier of light with the essence of water around the caster and protect them from any harm. To be exact, this barrier could cover the whole castle as well!

Unlike the Star Fall, it doesn't use a lot of Divinity, but it requires a medium to activate. This time, she planned to practice this Spell as well since she needed to have decent control over it if she needed to cast it.

It was a useful and reliable spell that could save her from danger!

After adjusting her mind, Pearl decided to continue with her practice in the same clearing.

She lowered her hand and chanted the Spell.

"Ethereal Prism Shield..."

She then felt some of her Divinity leaving her body, and the medium she prepared lost its power to activate the Spell.

Well, the medium was the Formation Node or the Immortal Shard according to Vale. She previous used a Noble Rank Artifact and the shield that was formed was certainly great.

However, the Formation Node was even better!

Soon, she saw a golden light around her and then a shield of light that seemd like flowing water started forming.

She felt a sense of security after seeing this... Of course, this wasn't over yet as she expanded the shield she had created...

This lasted for a while before she felt satisfied and left the clearing to return to the castle.

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After some time, Pearl arrived at the vicinity of the castle in the Cursed Forest.

She looked at the changes that had taken place in the castle over the last few weeks.

There were now three layers of barrier around the castle.

A new layer was added after the Pontiff and the Storm Knights easily broke through the outer or second barrier.

Anyway, Pearl was not affected by the barrier since she could pass through it smoothly because of the emblem she got from Magnus, the Formation Expert who designed the barriers.

"Is there a guest?" Pearl wondered as she sensed two unfamiliar people in the castle.

When she entered the castle and reached the reception hall, Vale greeted her right away.

"Pearl! I just received a report from these two agents of the Arcane Bureau... They told me the location of the Demon Saints... What do you think?" Vale asked.

Pearl hesitated for a moment as she tried to figure out what Vale wanted to do...

"Do you want to attack them? How many Demon Saints are there?" Pearl asked.

"They confirmed two of them, but there might be more in hiding..." Vale replied.

"Mhmmm... Since they're still recovering after entering this realm, it might be a good chance to attack them now. However, I think that with your strength alone, you can handle this one problem and eliminate all of them." Pearl said truthfully as she recalled Vale's true might.

## Chapter 662 Blind

?Vale was surprised but also felt a bit pleased by what she said. It meant that Pearl really acknowledged how strong he was.

"If you think so... Then, I'll check it out." Vale said as he thanked the two Agents from the Bureau.

They could have just sent him a message through their communication crystal or summoned a messenger to deliver the information. But the fact that they came in person showed that they were really taking his position in the Bureau seriously.

After the two agents said goodbye, Vale started to get ready.

He wore a new Arcanist Robe made by Magnus and used the scabbard that Faith had given him to suppress the power of his Stormbringer Sword. This way, he wouldn't have any trouble carrying it around.

Then, Vale wore his broken Arcana, the black cloth, and blindfolded himself. Of course, his Doombringer Ring was also worn on his middle finger just in case he needed to use its power.

It didn't take him that long to complete his preparation. Then, he informed everyone in the castle about his plans.

"Are you sure you want to go alone? I can probably help you escape if you're in a life-and-death situation." Lisa, the Vampire, asked after hearing Vale's plans. She was confident that with her current ability with her Blood Manipulation, she would be able to escape any danger.

"I'm fine... I have a Dark Spirit with me. I'll also feel reassured if you're staying here in the castle." Vale replied.

"What? Marcus and Merlin are here. What kind of problem will we even have here?" Lisa replied as she knew the strength of the two Half-Immortals. Nevertheless, she could see that Vale had already made his decision, so she decided not to pursue it.

"Do you want me to send Lotus with you?" Denise suddenly asked, referring to her Dark Spirit... Denise had been busy with the golems all this time and rarely left her workplace.

After hearing her voice, Vale couldn't help but smile. Since Denise was one of his first few friends, she always had a special place in his heart, so he nodded after a moment of thought.

"Lotus? Sure... If she's okay with it, then I guess it will be nice to have two Dark Spirits."

With that said, Lotus attached herself to Vale, who was already blindfolded. She didn't say any words and simply entered his shadow.

After a few more words, he activated the broken Arcana's mystical ability that allowed him to use space magic!

With this ability, Vale could easily reach the place that the two Agents mentioned as long as he knew the coordinates!

He only felt a slight dizziness as he used the space magic... It was nothing compared to when he first used this ability.

However, he was still not used to this kind of travel since he wasn't using it every day, but he knew it was faster and safer than flying.

After a few moments, Vale realized that the Broken Arcana failed him. He didn't arrive at the place he wanted, perhaps due to the Arcana's limitation.

"At the very least... I'm close to it... It should be two or three more times." Vale whispered as he realized that he had arrived at the Millton Kingdom once again.

He easily recognized it because he sensed the numerous Holy Knights in the city not too far from him. They seem to be hunting the Dark Magicians still.

He decided to ignore them as he continued with the use of his Arcana.

He hoped that the coordinates given to him were accurate and that he would not end up in a trap or a dead end.

'If it's a trap... I guess I'll have to personally visit the Bureau.' Vale thought as he activated the Broken Arcana for the fourth time...

This time, he finally arrived at his destination.

As soon as he opened his eyes, he saw that he was in a dark and desolate place.

The thick cloud that was threatening to become a heavy storm and the thick aura of corruption in the air was already telling him a lot...

He knew that he was in the right place.

Then, he also sensed the presence of the Demon Saints nearby.

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"A visitor?" The only Demon Saint in the Northern Ice Valley said after feeling the disturbance in space. It wasn't a ritual, so someone must have used their skill to get here through space magic.

As soon as a person with a blindfold appeared, the Demon Saint got up and narrowed his eyes.

The person who came excited him!

"Immortal!" The Demon Saint's eyes sparkled as he knew the benefits he would get if he got their Core that produced Divinity!

But he also knew that Immortals were powerful. They were not comparable to Half-Immortals at all.

In short, fighting him alone would be a certain death for him!

He needed to stall for time until his brother came!

After some hesitations, the Demon Saint slowly approached the man who was standing still on a rock where he landed.

"Welcome, Blind Immortal. I'm Galan and I'm honored by your visit. What brings you to this humble place?"

He tried to sound polite and friendly, although they both knew that they would have to fight later. Nevertheless, he knew that this Immortal was curious about them as well, so he decided not to appear too aggressive to buy more time.

Of course, while doing this, the Demon Saint Galan was already wondering what the Immortal would do and how he could escape or fight him.

"You know very well that I'm looking for you guys... Where are the others?" The man asked rudely.

Galan gritted his teeth as he hoped that his brothers, who were in another valley, would sense his distress and come to his aid.

He knew that his brothers were stronger than him and had a better chance of dealing with the Immortal.

Anyway, he tried to remain calm as he knew that Immortals were good at reading emotions and intentions.

He tried to act confident, but he was not sure if he could fool the Immortal.

"There are no other Demon Saints in this valley, Blind Immortal."

Chapter 663 Hideout

Vale looked at the Demon Saint who had greeted him.

The Demon Saint was a tall and muscular man with dark skin and red eyes. He had a single horn on his forehead that curved slightly backwards.

His appearance was completely different from the previous Demon Saint who had visited him when he confiscated the cursed items they were spreading to the small villages and towns.

This Demon Saint also wore a black robe that covered most of his body, except for his arms and legs. He had several tattoos and scars on his skin, as well as some jewelry and accessories that he believed were Magic Artifacts...

This creature from another realm looked fierce and menacing, completely in contrast to how polite he was when speaking.

"Are you here to fight against us? Even if you're an Immortal, you can still be corrupted. How about we--"

"Cut the crap. I know why you're here. You want to obtain Divinity. You want an Immortal's power... But you won't get it. You'll only get death..." Vale said as he scanned the surroundings to find the other Demon Saints.

However, aside from a few Arcanists who seemed to be doing some ritual, he couldn't find any other Demon Saints.

Well, although he had become Immortal, the range of his Zone was only more than a kilometer. It wouldn't be surprising that the other Demon Saints were actually spreading the cursed artifacts they'd made.

'I guess this is also a good thing for me.' Vale thought, as he also knew that fighting against a dozen Demon Saints would be difficult.

"Don't be so rude. I'm just curious about you. You're an Immortal living in the Human Realm. You should be thinking of Ascending now instead of finding trouble with the Demon Saints. I am curious what you're thinking..." The Demon Saint, who called himself Galan, spoke in a sincere voice.

However, Vale didn't buy this and replied with a mocking tone.

"Don't play dumb. I know what you're after. I'm not sure how you got summoned here with your brothers but I'll make sure that you won't be returning to your realm." Vale said as he finished investigating the area.

He guessed that the people who were doing some rituals were actually the members of the Order of Fatality. He also found many hidden buildings underground and various treasures that seemed to be important for the Demon Saints.

'Is it the manufacturing site of the Cursed Items?' Vale mused.

The Demon Saint, on the other hand, continued on his job of delaying the battle.

"Don't be so arrogant. I know what you're capable of. You have a meager amount of Divinity, so you weren't that strong to begin with... Even if you have Divinity, if you only use it to empower your Arcane Spells, and not use the Spells meant for Immortals, then you will not have a chance to win against us.

Vale chuckled after hearing this.

"I know you're just delaying the time, but I will still answer you. Don't be so confident... I'm also waiting for your brothers and I'm also aware you're a Demon Saint who is still weak after entering this realm..."

The Demon Saint narrowed his eyes as he released his Corrupted Divinity.

"Enough! I'm tired of talking. Let's fight. Let's see who is stronger..." As Galan said that, he attacked Vale with his Corrupted Divinity.

Against True Immortals, using Spells would rarely affect them unless they were incredibly powerful or had reached the Perfect Realm.

Because of that, the Demon Saints would only use their Corrupted Divinity to fight against them. Well, it would be different if they were indeed weakened and couldn't fully use their Corrupted Divinity, just like the first Demon Saint that Vale encountered.

Galan then tried to suppress Vale with his dark and twisted Divinity.

He unleashed what seemed like hands made of darkness that were corrupted and destructive.

This attack may trouble some Immortals as the Demon Saints directly attack the Divinity inside their bodies.

However, Vale was not an ordinary Immortal. He was a Shadow Celestial!

He had a power that was different from the others!

Vale resisted the Demon Saint's attack with his Divinity, or what he would like to call Shadow Divinity. He countered the Demon Saint's power with his own Divinity!

"Hahaha! I knew it! You don't know a single Immortal Spell!" Galan laughed as soon as he noticed that his opponent tried to clash his Corrupted Divinity with his own Divinity!

It was as if Vale was telling him to convert it to a Corrupted one! He certainly wouldn't pass this up!

However, as the two of their powers clashed in an intense battle, Galan realized that he wasn't getting any advantage!

He was failing to convert Vale's Divinity into a Corrupted one!

They were feared by the Immortals because of that ability! However, it wasn't working at all against a new Immortal!

This realization scared him a lot!

However, his eyes lit up after realizing something! He immediately poured all of his power to attack Vale!

Just then, one of his brothers arrived at the scene!

It was secretive, and Galan knew that the Immortal hadn't noticed him yet...

This newly arrived Demon Saint had sensed the commotion and came to check it out. He thought that the Cultists had already succeeded in their ritual.

However, he was shocked to see that Galan was engaged in a fierce battle with an Immortal!

'He dared to come alone?! We must be the ones hunting your race!'

He knew that Galan was in danger and needed his help.

He wasted no time and dashed to his side to join the fight against the Immortal!

But before he could get close to the intruder, two lightning bolts descended from the sky and hit him!

It was Vale's Divine Lightning!

'An Immortal Spell?!'

"Aahh!"

The brother screamed and fell to the ground, charred and smoking. He was still alive, but he was paralyzed and in pain!

#### Chapter 664 Curse

The Divine Lightning was incredibly powerful... Moreover, it came at him so fast that he barely managed to put up some defense. His defense was easily shattered and he was lucky that he escaped being fatally injured!

However, because of this lightning, the Demon Saint couldn't move or speak for now... He needed some time to heal. He could only watch as Galan continued to fight the Immortal by himself.

But this Immortal was incredibly strong!

It was as if he could manipulate the Darkness itself!

'An Immortal specializing in Darkness?!' He couldn't help but feel surprised.

Immortals may be capable of wielding any Arcane Path or even wielding something beyond that Path, but Immortals that specialize in Darkness were rare since it could be considered as a Cursed Path...

The Immortals practicing these were the ones who could be easily corrupted by the Demon Saints!

However, Galan was struggling to corrupt the Immortal!

Bang! Bang! Bang!

The battle between Vale and Galan may not seem to be intense but it was quite chaotic...

They weren't using fancy spells when they clashed but they used their raw Divinity to try to overpower each other and only used physical techniques when they were closed to each other.

'Why is he not using the Divine Lightning against Galan? Can he no longer use it?!' The Demon Saint felt a bit excited as he wanted to quickly recover and help Galan in battle.

If the Immortal could no longer summon that lightning, they would surely win this battle!

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In the meantime, Vale was actually gauging the strength of the Demon Saint in front of him... He could've easily won this battle if he decided to just utilize his system's Extraction.

However, he wanted to have a better understanding of their abilities since Faith, Pearl, and the others might actually face these Demon Saints as well.

If he had learned about their fighting techniques and weaknesses beforehand, then once his companions faced them, he wouldn't be too worried about their safety.

'They're mostly relying on their Corrupted Divinity to convert their targets' energy.' Vale analyzed as he resisted the Corrupted Divinity...

Well, his opponent was probably confused by now. Even if he was getting hit by the Corrupted Divinity from time to time, he wasn't being corrupted or converted at all.

Needless to say, this was all because of his Shadow Celestial physique and his Perfect Incorruptible Body.



Futhermore, Vale also had the advantage of using Shadow Divinity, a power that was different from other Immortals.

He could manipulate the Shadow or Darkness itself...

As they fought, he was able to create and control shadows that could attack or defend him...

He could also use the Light, creating and controlling flashes that could blind, burn, or reveal. He could also switch between the two, creating and controlling contrasts that could confuse, surprise, or overwhelm.

On the other hand, Galan's Corrupted Divinity, a power that was common among the Demon Saints, seemed to be a lot weaker than he thought.

'It can't corrupt the surroundings... It can only target the energy... This is good to know.' Vale remarked in his mind as he initially thought that the Demon Saints were capable of spreading plague-like miasma that would slowly destroy the earth.s

However, it appears that he was overestimating their capability...

'But it can also be due to their weakened state...' He added.

Galan could corrupt and twist the power of others, turning it against them or weakening it. He could also use his own power like a curse, which was quite expected considering that they'd made those cursed objects.

Lastly, Vale also noticed that they weren't too reliant on Magic Artifact. Galan's robe and accessories could provide him with added defense and boost his energy, but it was all just that.

Boom!

As the Vale's controlled shadow clashed with Corrupted Divinity, he realized that he already had enough and had to end this battle.

He decided to extract the Demon Saint!

Harnessing the power of his Presence Shift, Vale seamlessly transitioned through the fabric of space, materializing nimbly and noiselessly behind his unsuspecting adversary.

In that fleeting moment, the movement of the air was the only clue that Vale used a technique to arrive behind the Demon Saint!

At this time, Vale , with a calculated and decisive motion, used his Shadow Divinity to create a shadow hand that grabbed the Demon Saint's head!

"What?! You—" Galan was surprised as he didn't expect such a swift movement!

Then, Vale invoked the Divine Extraction.

It didn't end there, because he felt the resistance of the Demon Saint from his Extraction, he used his Stormbringer to peirce the Demon Saint's heart!

Since the Demon Saint had plenty of vitality, it wouldn't actually kill him.

Nevertheless, this stopped his resistance as Vale extracted the Demon Saint freely!

[ Living Demon has been discovered. Do you wish to extract it? ]

'Yes!'

[ Extraction Successful. Energy +500, Corrupted Divinity +30, Vitality +0.8, Corrupted Immortal Essence +100, Complete Spell Light + 2 ]

[ Extraction Successful. Energy +300, Corrupted Divinity +30, Vitality +0.8, Corrupted Immortal Essence +100, Complete Abyssal Fire Spell Model ]

[ Extraction Successful. Energy +100, Corrupted Divinity +30, Vitality +0.8, Corrupted Immortal Essence +100, Complete Demon's Wrath Spell Model ]

[ Extraction Successful. Energy +100, Corrupted Divinity +30, Abyss Key, Demon Saint's Horn x1 ]

"Aaahhh! What are you doing?!" Galan shouted in fear as he felt his power leaving him!

On the other hand, Vale felt the Demon Saint's energy flow into him.

He no longer bothered talking as he watched as the Demon Saint's body and soul crumbled and vanished. He watched as the Demon Saint's life and existence ended and disappeared.

Then, his gaze shifted to the injured Demon Saint and made a quick work on him. He was completely powerless as Vale lifted his hand and manipulated the shadows.

[ Living Demon has been discovered. Do you wish to extract it? ]

'Yes!'

[ Extraction Successful. Energy +500, Corrupted Divinity +30, Vitality +0.8, Corrupted Immortal Essence +100, Complete Spell Light + 2 ]

[ Extraction Successful. Energy +300, Corrupted Divinity +30, Vitality +0.8, Corrupted Immortal Essence +100, Complete Demon Eyes Spell Model ]

[ Extraction Successful. Energy +100, Corrupted Divinity +30, Vitality +0.8, Corrupted Immortal Essence +100, Complete Corruption Curse Spell Model ]

[ Extraction Successful. Energy +100, Corrupted Divinity +30, Abyss Key, Demon Saint's Horn x1 ]

"I... I curse you! You wicked Immortal!"

Chapter 665 Crimson

"They're still continuing their ritual?" Vale narrowed his eyes as he saw the cultists weren't bothered by the intense battle just now.

He couldn't help but respect them a little for being too focused on their jobs. However, their actions have to end. Although he had no idea about the ritual they were doing, it could not be good...

As he was ready to approach it, he suddenly heard the voice of his Dark Spirits!

"Stop! It's dangerous..."

"Do not approach them!"

Yvaine and Lotus warned at the same time!

Of course, Vale was worried after hearing this, so he immediately halted his steps.

He had no idea why they reacted like that, but he knew that he had to listen to these Dark Spirits. Although he had become an Immortal, the beings of the Spirit World were still mysterious for him.

"What's going on? Can I only attack them from a distance?" Vale asked.

This time, Lotus appeared beside him and communicated with him through telepathy.

"They're inside a huge defensive magic circle. Their ritual seemed to be related to the Abyss Realm..." Lotus said.

"What? Then that's the more reason I have to stop them!" Vale replied.

"You're space magic heavily relies on that broken Arcana... You basically have no knowledge about it. If you enter their space, they might force you to enter the Abyss Realm instead. Once you enter that Realm, you will be facing Demon Saints that have their full strength while you were suppressed. Do you like that to happen?"

Vale was stunned as he heard this.

"There's no way I'd want that to happen..." He immediately responded.

"What do you I do then? Can I just use my Divine Lightning?"

"That's possible... However, I can tell that they have already opened the Abyss Realm and were simply waiting for an opportunity. If you're too close, they might try and bring you inside the Abyss Realm instead." Yvaine responded.

These words made Vale step back a little.

If the Abyss Realm was opened, then he would expect thousands of Demonic Beings to pour out of it! Furthermore, he didn't want to enter the Abyss Realm as well!

"I don't think this is the only entrance they created. Similar to the Spirit World, they must've opened numerous paths for their invasion ." Lotus said as she seemed to have realized what Vale was thinking.

"I suggest that you stay as far as possible when attacking them... You can use the Curse or the Divine Lightning..." Yvaine suggested.

Apparently, the two Dark Spirits had indeed saved Vale's life just now.

The Cultists weren't just minding their own business all this while and they were actually monitoring the battle.

As soon as they confirmed that the two Demon Saints were defeated, they were getting ready to send the Immortal to the Abyss Realm!

Unfortunately for them, Vale suddenly disappeared and they had no idea where he had gone to!

However, as they felt relieved that their lives were spared, they saw dark clouds gather above them... Then, without being able to guess what was going on, a bolt of lightning descended!

Boom!

The lightning almost killed the cultists!

However, because of their advanced preparation, the lightning didn't hit them; it only hit the space above them!

Whom~

Because of this attack, the hidden crack was finally revealed!

It was a crack in space that led to the Abyss Realm!

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"So it was that thing..." Vale muttered softly after seeing the tear in space... It seemed that it was previously hidden by an illusion a while.

Since his True Sight wasn't active before, he didn't notice it hidden a while ago.

Anyway, Vale didn't stop after revealing the crack.

He continued to attack the Cultists with his Divine Lightning.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

He wanted to stop their ritual and prevent more Demonic Saints from entering this realm. The Invasion might still happen but he at least wanted to lessen its intensity.

However, all his attacks were being led to the void!

It seemed to be a bottomless hole, and whatever attack he sent might just be sent to the void!

After some hesitation, he used his Presence Shift to get closer since his other spells doesn't have a long-range at all.

This time, Vale decided to use his Crimson Plague!

The Cultists were caught off guard by Vale's attack!

It was a spell that could infect and weaken the enemies with a deadly disease!

Vale hadn't used this Spell because of how dangerous it could be if it spread.

However, since his target was isolated, he doesn't have to worry about the possible spread of disease to ordinary people.

After all, it was a spell that could spread and multiply with every contact. It was a spell that could cause pain and suffering to anyone who caught it!

Vale then used his control over the Shadows to create a hole in the defensive barrier of the Cultists...

As soon as he created a small entrance, he used the Crimson Plague to affect one of the Cultist's bodies. He used his Shadow Soldiers to create chaos for the Crimson Plague to spread.

"Aackk!"

Soon, one of the Cultists felt a sharp pain in his chest and then a burning sensation in his veins.

He looked at his body to see if he was wounded, but he was not! Instead, he saw a crimson mark that was spreading across his skin.

Slowly, he felt his strength and vitality draining away!

As he tried to suppress it with his Arcane Energy, something worse happened!

He felt his organs and tissues rotting away and his mind and soul fading away!

"A Curse!"

He screamed and writhed in agony, attracting the attention of the other Cultists. They saw his condition and felt fear and horror.

They tried to help him or avoid him, but it was too late.

The Crimson Plague had already spread to them through the air...

They all felt the same symptoms and they suffered the same fate.

Chapter 666 The Void

Vale took a deep breath as he watched everything unfold in front of him. He wanted to properly see the effect of his Crimson Plague Spell.

"Aahhh! Save me! I'm dying!"

"You demon! You will go to hell!"

"Evil Immortal! Your fate will be worse than us!"

"You will regret this!"

"Stop this now! Aahh!"

"I curse you! We don't deserve this!"

They all screamed and writhed in agony, creating a scene of chaos and despair. However, there were also those who were filled with fury.

They all looked at Vale and felt hate and dread. They all cursed and begged for mercy, but it was useless. The Crimson Plague had no cure and no mercy.

That's right, even Vale was unsure whether he could Extract the Crimson Plague from these people. He never had the chance to try it...

Furthermore, once he released the Plague, there was no way to control it anymore, unlike most of his Spells. With that in consideration, he would surely have some trouble if he used it in the open field where his allies could be there as well.

They all died and withered away, leaving behind only crimson corpses and blood.

"That's quite scary..."

None of them survived, leaving only a failed ritual and a broken Magic Circle...

Soon, even their corpses started decomposing so quickly, and they all turned into a red goo!

"What?" Vale didn't expect such an end!

That Crimson Plague was too dangerous! There was no hope of saving them at all!

Vale could only shake his head as he noted to himself not to use this Spell unless he was sure that no one on his side would be affected.

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As he was thinking of leaving the place, he noticed that the void or crack leading to the Abyss was still there!

'It's not going away even after the Cultists disappeared? Is this a permanent thing?' Vale mused as he observed it for a while.

He tried using his Divine Sense and even the Dragon's True Sight, but in the end, he was unable to see through the void.

After some hesitation, he asked Yvaine to bring out his Creation Ring... This Ring was the reward he obtained from Constance in the Mystic Soul Tower.

She only knew that it could help him close the Abyss, but he had no idea how to even trigger this item!

As he wore the Creation Ring, he didn't feel anything change in his body like before. It seemed that it was still Sealed, and even Constance had no idea why it was like that.

'Is it because this void is different?' Vale mused as he thought of another method.

He was thinking of closing it just now, but after some time, he decided to just attack and try to destroy it!

"Let's try this one..." Vale muttered as he used his Divine Lightning to create a bolt of lightning that struck the void!

Boom! Boom! Boom!

Three consecutive Divine Lightning descended!

He hoped that the powerful spell would break the void or crack and stop it from any possibility of sending out other Demon Saints.

Unfortunately, it didn't happen.

The void simply absorbed the lightning, and it even became more unstable and violent. It started to emit more dark and twisted energy as if it was ready suck in more things around it.

'W-what? Did I make a mistake? Lotus, Yvaine... Do you have any thoughts?' Vale asked.

"Even the Guardians of the Spirit World couldn't close the gates that the Demons had made in our world..." Yvaine replied.

"There's a reason they've been unstoppable... We could only delay it but can't stop it. The Guardians could at least use a barrier to temporarily suppress these Gates. You can try assembling a Trap Formation if you want." Lotus suggested.

"Ugh... Let's just try it again."

Vale muttered.

This time, he used his Aurora's Embrace to create a myriad of light that surrounded the void!

Whoosh~

He hoped that the beautiful spell would seal the void or at least, make it smaller!

However, it didn't work once again... The crack resisted the myriad of light and it just became more chaotic and aggressive. It even started showing signs of sending out creatures!

"Not good..." Vale muttered as he saw that it was about to spit out some unknown creatures!

Vale then switched to another Spell...

This time, he used his Cursed Flame to create a flame of darkness that burned the crack! He believed that the destructive power of this spell would incinerate any creature trying to use this void as a gateway!

Luckily, this time, he didn't fail miserably.

The Cursed Flame remained at the edge of the void, and it even started burning the dark and twisted energy that it was previously producing!

'Mhmm... Is it that easy?' Vale mused.

Although it looked like it started to calm down, Vale didn't put off his guard as he continued to observe the situation.

As expected, his bad feeling turned out to be correct.

After more than half an hour, the Cursed Flame dissipated as it lost its energy and the void fed on the darkness and became more powerful and dangerous. I

It started to emit more dark and twisted energy and he had no idea how to stop it!

His spells were not working and that he was making things worse!

'Ugh... I have no other choice...'

Vale gritted his teeth as he decided to try to get closer to the void.

He wanted to try to Extract it with his Divine Extraction System!

He believed that his System would have a higher chance of helping him close or destroy the crack in space!

He then used his Presence Shift to move closer to the crack. He was careful about it, as he wasn't sure if it would try and suck him in.

Whom~

However, before he could reach the crack and try to extract it, two Demon Saints emerged from the Void!

Chapter 667 New Demon Saints

"I already attracted them?" Vale helplessly smiled as he saw the two Demon Saints emerge from the void.

They were different from the previous Demon Saints that he had fought and killed.

They looked a lot stronger and more menacing based on their appearance at the very least...

The biggest difference was the fact that they had three horns on their heads, each one larger and sharper than the other.

They wore dark and heavy armor instead of dark robes. Because of that, they looked more like a warrior than a magician. The two of them also had weapons made of bone, and they were both ready to fight!

"An Immortal? Did you slaughter all the vanguards?" One of the Demon Saints, with a long spear as a weapon, asked after examining the situation for a moment. But Vale kept his silence and continued watching them...

He seemed to be inspecting them with his various analytical Spells.

"There's no use asking him a question. He had waited here for us, so he's probably planning to take over this gate." The other one, equipped with two daggers, said.

They had participated in various Invasions, and they had already experienced being camped by the strongest beings in that Realm to stop their invasion.

It wouldn't be surprising that a strong individual in this Human Realm had decided to try and stop them...

"Hmm... The preparation is not even done yet. Well, the other gates are likely being guarded like this... Should we just finish this Immortal? He barely has Divinity in him. He's probably a new one. My horns would hardly get improved if I take his Divinity." The Demon Saint with Spear replied as he knew that this Human Realm already had many gates leading to the Abyss Realm...

However, the only problem was the fact that the Will of the Human Realm was suppressing them. If they charged in right now... All the Demonic Creatures and the Demon Saints would be suppressed by more than half!

In short, they will be battling the natives of this Realm with only about fifty percent of their true strength!

Since they don't want to be annihilated, they should just wait until the Will of the Human Realm dissipates. That shouldn't be long! It will likely happen in just two or three more years!

"Hey, he's still a source of Divinity. This gate was also weird... It seems that it's only suppressing us by about 20%... Let's kill him fast before the suppression returns to normal..."

After some hesitations, the two Demon Saints finally agreed to fight the Immortal in front of them!

However, Vale would certainly not allow them to kill him.

Since he was initially planning to extract the Core, he decided to use his Extraction to take the power of the two Demon Saints instead!

However, he was a bit worried since he was getting too close to the void... If they somehow drag him to the Abyss, he might be the one in danger instead.

'I have to weaken them first...'

With a plan in his mind, Vale quickly acted.

Once again, he used his Presence Shift to move behind the Demon Saints.

It was a Spell that didn't have any weird effect that would notify his opponents. It was quick and stealthy, so he was confident about using it to catch them off guard and surprise them with another Spell.



Without waiting for the two to wield their Corrupted Divinity, Vale used his Shadow Divinity to create Shadow Hands that grabbed the Demon Saints!

"Hmph!"

The Demon Saint, who uses Spear, wasn't impressed by the Shadow Hand and destroyed it with a swing of his Spear emanating with Corrupted Divinity!

The other Demon Saint also used his Dagger to destroy Vale's attack.

There wasn't much effort from their movement as well, so they couldn't help but look down at the Immortal who had attacked them.

"We're already suppressed, but your Spell couldn't even hurt us... Pathetic..." The Dagger user said as he felt that he had overestimated the Immortal standing guard at their gate.

Vale simply smiled as he used his Holy Smite to attack them!

It was a spell that had already reached Level 10 or the Perfect Realm! Not even the Pontiff could such a Realm!

There was no doubt that it would hurt these Demon Saints no matter how strong they are!

Boom!

A ray of holy light struck the enemies!

It happened so abruptly that the two didn't even have the chance to avoid it!

"So he's this type of Immortal..." The spear-user gravely muttered as he felt the Holy Smite.

It was a spell that could damage and weaken the enemies with the holy power.

The Demon Saints were obviously surprised by Vale's attack.

They didn't expect him to use a holy spell after using a dark spell.

"Hmph! You think that we're the same as the Abyssal Creatures?! Dream on!"

Although they didn't expect the Holy Smite, they weren't panicking!

They used their Corrupted Divinity to defend against the attack.

Just like what the name implies, they tried to corrupt and twist the holy light and turn it against Vale!

They worked together and used their artifact to block and deflect the holy light!

Unfortunately, they were not successful.

The Holy Smite was too powerful and unpredictable for them! They had no idea that they were facing a Perfect Holy Smite!

The attack broke through their defense and resistance. It damaged their bodies and weakened their souls. Furthermore, it also damaged their artifacts...

The two Demon Saints screamed and staggered in pain! Although they could easily recover from this just by spending some of their divinity, they still couldn't help but curse at the Immortal who had dared to attack them with Holy Arts!

But Vale was not done yet. He had another trick up his sleeve before extracting them...

He used his Shadow Mutilation and hit the two perfectly!!

It was a spell that could link and affect the shadows and their owners! As soon as they were hit, he ordered Yvaine and Lotus to attack the shadows!

Chapter 668 Last

Vale ordered Yvaine and Lotus, his Dark Spirits, to impale or cut the shadows of the Demon Saints...

The two Dark Spirits didn't question Vale's command as they executed his orders and followed his plan.

"Don't worry about their counterattacks... I'll protect the both of you..." Vale said as he decided not to get too close to the void.

Although he was confident that he was stronger than those two Demon Saints, he didn't feel comfortable getting too close to the crack leading to the Abyss Realm. After all, it was a place where many Celestials had perished.

Soon, the two Dark Spirits controlled their energy to form a blade and spear that they used to impale or cut the shadows of the Demon Saints.

"W-what?"

"A curse?! When did he?"

The two Demon Saints felt a sharp pain in their bodies and souls!

They were both confused as they couldn't recall when they were attacked by their enemy.

Nevertheless, because of their ability to sense their surroundings, they immediately sensed the source of their problem.

They swiftly looked at their shadows and noticed the Dark Spirits.

"When did you—"

After being noticed, the two Dark Spirits didn't even stop as they continued to attack the shadows of the Demon Saints!

"Stop! You vile creatures!"

"Die!"

The malevolent Demon Saints, driven by sinister resolve, unleashed their Corrupted Divinity to forcefully expel the Dark Spirits entwined within their shadows.

Unyielding in defense of his spectral allies, Vale swiftly intervened as he released his Moonlight Specters and the formidable Chain of Souls with a wave of his hand!

Clank... Clank... Clank...

Amidst a symphony of resonant metal noise, the ethereal chains materialized, weaving a mesmerizing web of radiant light that ensnared the Demon Saints in an enchanting embrace.

As the Demon Saints found themselves ensnared, six resplendent Moonlight Specters materialized. These Specters' spiritual forms looked more menacing than the Abyssal Creatures!

Each of them wielded a shimmering Moonlight Blade, poised to kill the Demon Saints!

The Demon Saints released their Corrupted Divinity once again, and this time, they were no longer holding back!

They tried to escape or fight back, but it was too late!

The Shadow Mutilation still had ten more seconds... Yvaine and Lotus continued with their attacks to hurt their bodies and souls!

The two Demon Saints couldn't defend against all the attacks on them! They might have killed five Moonlight Specters and destroyed the Chain of Souls in the end, but they weren't capable of defending their shadows!

Soon, they screamed and collapsed in pain...

They looked at Vale and felt hate and dread. They wanted to curse and retaliate, but it was useless.

Vale didn't waste any time and tried to finish them off once and for all.

He aimed his Stormbringer Sword at their hearts, hoping to end their lives and take their Corrupted Divinity later!

However, as Vale believed that this was already the end, one of the Demon Saints had a last resort.

Boom!

Without any signs, the spear-wielding Demon Saint detonated himself, creating a massive explosion of Corrupted Divinity that engulfed the area!

Furthermore, the other one seized this opportunity to escape to the void, leaving behind a trail of blood and curses!

It all happened so fast!

"This..."

Vale barely had time to react. He shielded himself with his Shadow Divinity, but he still felt the impact of the blast!

It was so strong that he coughed up blood and felt his body ache!

'What a ruthless Demon Saint...' Vale stabilized himself as his Divinity immediately worked on healing his body.

He then looked around and saw the devastation. The gate or the void was already destroyed, the Moonlight Specters were gone, and the other Demon Saint was nowhere to be seen.

'He really sacrificed his life to let his friend escape...' Vale remarked as he didn't expect that the Demon Saints were capable of making such decisions.

Nevertheless, he immediately looked for Yvaine and Lotus, who had attached themselves to the shadow of a stone that was thrown away by the blast.

"Are you guys hurt?" Vale asked the two Dark Spirits, who seemed weak and wounded based on his Dragon's True Sight

"Yes..." Yvaine and Lotus replied in unison.

"Then feel free to draw some energy from me to heal yourself." Vale said as he was confident with his current Arcane Energy, Divinity, and Vitality.

He was sure that even with their absorption, he wouldn't be in a risky situation.

The two Dark Spirits paused for a moment and looked at each other before accepting Vale's offer...

They then fully came out of the shadows and revealed their gorgeous figures.

Vale couldn't help but admire their beauty and splendor before he gestured for them to begin to gradually take some of his energy to recover themselves.

As the two Dark Spirits touched Vale's skin, he felt a slight pain and a warm sensation.

'So this is what it feels like...' Vale mused as he felt that a fraction of his energy was being drawn to the two Dark Spirits.

It didn't take that long before he could feel their energy rising and their expressions brightening up.

He smiled and said, "Don't worry, I can handle it. You two have helped me a lot. You deserve this."

"Thank you..." Yvaine and Lotus said softly, feeling grateful and attached to Vale.

They continued to take his energy until they felt fully restored. Then, they let go of him and bowed respectfully.

"Vale, we are ready to assist you again." They said in sync... This time, they seemed to be even more powerful as Vale couldn't help but guess that they also took some of his Divinity!

Well, even if they did not, they still took the energy from a Shadow Immortal!

'I guess it's not bad if they get even stronger...' Vale mused.

He then nodded at the two and replied with a smile.

"Good. Let's go then. I'm thinking of visiting the Arcane Bureau to see if they know other places where a void has appeared."

Chapter 669 The Bureau

Agent Axe woke up to the sound of his alarm clock.

"Ugh~"

He groaned and reached for the snooze button, but then he remembered that he had an important day ahead of him. He forced himself to get up and get ready for work.

He put on his black suit and tie, his badge and his gun. He then checked his appearance in the mirror and nodded.

"Not bad..." He said to himself.

Agent Axe was a man in his thirties with brown hair and green eyes. He had a sharp and handsome face, a muscular and fit body, and a confident and charismatic demeanor. He was one of the best

agents in the Arcane Bureau, having solved many cases involving cursed Artifacts, strange Magic Items, or any problems related to the items in the world of Arcanists.

After wearing his jacket, he finally felt satisfied as he looked like a professional agent of the Arcane Bureau, the organization that oversaw the world's Arcane Magic, Arcanists, Magic Artifacts, and other things that cause strange phenomena.

He grabbed his briefcase and went out to walk to one of the Bureau's bases, located in a secret underground facility.

He was quite lucky since his apartment was close to the secret entrance. It was located in a tailor shop that led him underground.

After passing through several security checkpoints, he was greeted by his colleagues and made his way to his office.

He checked the newspapers on his table and searched for any news regarding any possible problems that Magic Artifacts may have caused to ordinary people.

If these problems weren't too difficult, he could pass them to the Faction's Orders. Of course, there are also chances that he had to inform the Churches as well, or perhaps he could act on his own if it was an emergency.

"Agent Axe, for you..." One of the staff in the office suddenly approached him and handed him a piece of paper.

It was a letter telling him that he had received a new assignment.

After expressing his gratitude, he read the details of the new assignment.

'What?'

His eyes widened as he learned what he had to do.

He had to escort Vale, the Shadow Immortal, to the headquarters!

Vale was an Immortal who had ascended without the help of any Immortal Spirits.

It means that his path as an Immortal was unpredictable unless they learned which Immortal Law he had chosen.

Anyway, what was even more surprising was that Vale had already helped the Bureau stop a Demon Saint invasion by closing one of the gates at the northern region of the Milton Kingdom!

'How did he do it?' Agent Axe couldn't help but feel curious.

Vale's action was such an incredible feat since closing the gate was almost impossible unless the Demon Saints on the other side decided to do so.

Agent Axe could only shake his head as he decided not to overthink. He wasn't an Immortal and was simply a Second Class Arcanist who had graduated from Mortimer, the Academy of Transformation Arts.

Nonetheless, the Bureau wanted to debrief Vale and perhaps, learn more about him and his abilities.

Agent Axe felt a mix of excitement and nervousness. He had never met an Immortal before.

Even after working for the Bureau for several, he never had a chance to meet the members of the Council!

Thankfully, his recent achievements and his acknowledged mastery of Transformation Arts allowed him to be selected for this mission.

He wondered what Vale was like and how he would react to the Bureau's interrogation. He hoped that Vale would cooperate and not cause any trouble.

He looked at the time and saw that he had to leave soon. He had to meet Vale in the city, where he had been staying in a hotel.

He quickly packed his briefcase and left his office.

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"My only request is that the Bureau gives me information about the locations of the gates that lead to the Abyss... I have no interest in going to the Bureau." Vale said as Agent Axe laid out their plans.

They were currently at a hotel in a city called Coulston. It was a city in the eastern region of the Ruri Kingdom. From what Vale heard from Agent Fox, this was where the main headquarters for the Ruri Kingdom Branch of the Bureau was located.

During this time, Vale had a companion on this trip.

Apparently, when he got back to the castle after taking care of the Demon Saints, he told his companions about his plans.

Chad, Faith, Lisa, and Pearl expressed their desire to follow along...

But he clearly couldn't do that, and he preferred to work solo. Unfortunately, they firmly objected because of how risky it was.

Finally, he gave in and agreed to take one to appease them.

"Ahem..."

Agent Axe cleared his throat and smiled professionally. He then nodded to Vale's words.

"You're right... I read the letter that was sent to him... If I can, I also don't want to take up your time by going to the Bureau. But the information you requested takes a lot of time to gather, and not just anyone can access it. The higher-ups then thought that you might want to see the place in case you discover something intriguing... As you're aware, we also seize Magic Artifacts as part of our job... Some of them were seized because of their curses, mysterious origins, and unknown powers." Agent Axe said while keeping his smile.

Vale frowned as he heard Agent Axe's words. He didn't fully trust the Bureau or their intentions.

After all, Sage Merlin, who seemed to be a terrible person, was treated in high regards in the Bureau.

Because of that, he had a feeling that they wanted to use him or his Shadow Divinity for their own purposes.

He then looked at the person who accompanied him on this trip.

Lisa stayed by his side, smiling and waiting for his decision...

Vale sighed and replied to the Agent.

"Fine. I'll go to the Bureau with you. But only for a short time. And only if you promise to give me the information I need... I also don't like how you're disguised while meeting me... So, can you remove that now?"

Chapter 670 Unusual

Agent Axe was shocked after finding out that Vale had noticed his disguise.

Of course, he didn't intend to insult the Immortal in front of him. That would be foolish for a Second-Class Arcanist like him. But the reason he had to use his Transformation Art was also for his own protection...

After all, the missions he accomplished in the Bureau weren't all lawful. Most of them were tasks that disregarded the government laws and there were times when they'd anger the Arcanist Faction's Secret Orders in order to seize or confiscate some Magic Artifacts.

"I'm sorry if I have to look like this, Sir Immortal. I just wanted to make sure that our trip will go smoothly. I have to ensure no one identifies me." Agent Axe explained.

"What? Are you a criminal?" Vale asked as he knitted his brows. He hadn't doubted that this man was a member of the Bureau since he saw his badge a while ago.

However, he couldn't help but take a closer look as he didn't expect that the members of the Arcane Bureau had problems with the local governments or perhaps wanted by the police.

"It isn't like that... Our organization just wants to maintain peace in our world, but there are many people who don't like this idea." Agent Axe immediately explained.

Vale no longer bothered to respond and simply let the man escort him to their headquarters.

At this time, Agent Axe already prepared a carriage since he couldn't escort Vale using the secret path that members like him use on a daily basis.

Soon, they started passing through various streets and roads in the city.

Vale didn't pay much attention to the scenery, as he was lost in his thoughts. On the other hand, Lisa was had her eyes closed, but she wasn't sleeping... She was sharing her senses with one of her bats that was tailing their carriage.

As for Vale, he was simply wondering what the Bureau wanted from him.

After all, he didn't fully believe that they couldn't just pass the information to him. They must have other ulterior motives...

Nevertheless, he hoped that they would give him the information he needed and let him go. He didn't want to stay there any longer than necessary.

During this time, Agent Axe tried to make some small talk with Vale, but he soon realized that Vale was not interested in conversing.

At this rate, he wouldn't really get much information about Vale... Currently, he only knew that Vale had the ability to see through an Advanced Realm disguise.

He then glanced at Lisa, who was sitting beside Vale. She looked bored and sleepy.

Agent Axe wanted to speak with her, but Vale suddenly gave a stern gaze that made him immediately retract his plans. In the end, he had to stay quite for a long time.

After a long drive, they finally reached their destination.

Agent Axe stopped the carriage in front of a large and imposing building. He then got out of the carriage and helped Vale and Lisa to get down.

The building in front of them looked like a normal factory building, but it had a lot of security measures and hidden entrances.

Inside the building, there were a lot of shops. There are upholsterers, cobblers, haberdashers, tailors, and even confectioners.

However, Vale had a feeling that they were all working for the Bureau since they are all Combat Artists, at the very least.

After reaching a quiet room, they finally saw the third door guarded by a few security guards. This time, Agent Axe finally took out his badge and scanned it on a device embedded in an iron door.

The device beeped, and a voice said, "Welcome, Agent Axe. Please proceed to the elevator and enter the code 7-4-2-9."

'So it's an elevator? This place feels a bit more modern than I expected.' Vale thought as he continued to monitor the surroundings with his Magic Zone and Divine Sense.

He actually realized that most of the people in the building practice Transformation Arts, Summoning Arts, Combat Arts, or Elemental Arts.

Anyway, Agent Axe nodded after hearing the voice and turned to Vale and Lisa.

"We're here. We will be entering the Bureau's headquarters. Follow me and don't wander off. There are a lot of restricted areas and classified information here. It's also for your own safety since there are many Formation Traps installed in this place."

After saying this, he led them to the elevator and entered the code.

Thud...

The elevator doors closed, and it descended to the underground level.

Agent Axe then spoke with a hint of pride in his tone.

"The Bureau's headquarters is located underground for security and secrecy reasons. There are many departments and facilities here, such as the Research and Development, the Intelligence and Analysis, the Operations and Enforcement, and the Artifact Storage and Management. We're going to the Artifact Storage and Management department, where the Director is waiting for us. He's the one who wants to talk to you, Vale. Ahh... He's not Director Virgo... You can think of him as the Branch Director instead... He may not be a Half-Immortal, but he's a Half-Spirit."

At this time, the elevator stopped and the doors opened.

"We're here. Follow me..."

He walked out of the elevator and into a long and dimly lit corridor.



He walked past several doors and windows, showing various rooms and labs. Vale and Lisa followed him, looking around with curiosity and awe.

They saw many Magic Artifacts, some of them familiar and some of them strange.

Other than that, they also saw many Arcanists and some of them seemed to be working on experiments related to Magic Artifacts.

'Interesting...' Vale commented in his mind as he saw many machines and complicated devices that were being used to appraise or even test the Magic Artifacts.

This place truly looked professional to Vale.

Lisa's eyes also widened as she saw a lot of things that she had never seen before.

She felt that they had entered a different world, a world that was full of secrets and mysteries!

However, Vale didn't seem impressed as he commented in a soft voice... "You guys obtained the technology, or maybe Arcana of the Immortals?"