

Arcane Academy: The Divine Extraction Legacy

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899 Curses

Vale heard the excitement in the man's voice and nodded...

"Go ahead and do what you need to do... Do you need to take them?"

"No need... I can't handle these things, and there might be a problem if they aren't properly stored. Please take it with you. I already recorded the items."

"Alright..." Vale replied.

He also felt a sense of anticipation, seeing that the items he brought out seemed really important...

'I wonder what kind of person this Chaos Alchemist is.' He mused... He felt confident that these items would catch the attention of the Chaos Alchemist.

"Very well... This might take some time, but you can explore the temple while you wait. However, it shouldn't take an hour, so please don't go too far." The Temple Hall Master said.

With the arrangements made, Vale continued his exploration of the temple grounds. It was certainly a lot better than just waiting silently inside the office.

As he wandered through the gardens and ancient structures, Vale couldn't help but feel how marvelous this place was.

'Mhmm?'

Suddenly, Vale felt a strong wave of Arcane Energy in one of the temples. This wave of energy wasn't harmful but was actually incredibly beneficial for many Arcanists within the Temple.

'Is that the place where the Chaos Alchemist is staying?' He thought.

Nonetheless, even though he was curious, he decided not to offend the Chaos Alchemist and continued looking around, and he even chatted with various red-robed priests or acolytes.

Hours passed, and just as Vale was beginning to wonder if he would hear back from the Chaos Alchemist, a young acolyte approached him.

"The Chaos Alchemist has agreed to meet with you," the acolyte said, bowing respectfully. "Please follow me."

There weren't any other details aside from that, but it was enough.

Vale's heart quickened with excitement as he followed the acolyte through various Concealing Formation Arts as expected of the Temple of the Goddess of Concealment and Secrecy.

After some time, they finally arrived at a secluded chamber, its entrance guarded by powerful wards and enchantments.

'Sovereign Artifacts?' Vale mused as he assessed the amount of energy from these things. Although he already had some Artifacts at this level, they were still something that you wouldn't normally see.

Soon, the acolyte gestured for Vale to enter, and he stepped inside, the door closed silently behind him.

The chamber was dimly lit, with shelves lined with ancient tomes and alchemical equipment. In the center of the room stood a figure cloaked in shadows, their presence commanding and enigmatic.

"Welcome, Shadow Immortal," the Chaos Alchemist said, her voice was melodic and most of all, very familiar. "I have heard of your offerings. Let us discuss how we might assist each other."

As soon as Vale stepped into the chamber, he was taken aback by the sight of the Chaos Alchemist. The figure standing before him wasn't some mysterious, ancient sage cloaked in dark robes as he had imagined.

No, this was someone he recognized instantly.

"Maya?!" he blurted out, eyes wide with disbelief. He could simply not connect her to the supposed successor of the Chaos Alchemist.

'How did she do it?'

Vale knew she had joined the church under the alias "Miya" to distance herself from her powerful family, but the last thing he expected was for her to rise to the rank of the Chaos Alchemist's successor.

Maya smiled warmly at Vale's reaction as she fixed her golden-blond hair. Previously, she felt so little in front of the Shadow Immortal, but now, although she knew she was still weaker, she felt a lot more at ease while conversing with him.

Furthermore, the fact that she was showing her blond hair also shows that she no longer feared her family from finding out her current situation. Gone was the disguise of Miya...

"Ahem... It's been a while, Immortal Vale," she said, her voice calm yet playful. "I've only recently taken on the inheritance of the Chaos Alchemist and became its successor, so I didn't have the chance to visit you."

She gestured for him to take a seat. The place was filled with the rich, earthy scent of herbs and alchemical ingredients. However, for Vale, it was refreshing rather than overwhelming.

"Just call me Vale, Chaos Alchemist Maya..."

"Haha... Then you should also call me Maya."

Vale smiled and sat down, he couldn't help but feel both nostalgic and curious about how far his former classmate had come.

Maya, now seated across from him, clasped her hands together and leaned in slightly. "So," she began, her eyes twinkling with interest, "I was informed by the Temple Hall Master about those precious items."

Vale nodded, still processing the unexpected reunion. "I've gathered a few rare items that I believe would catch your eye."

He then flicked his wrist and soon, in front of them were the ten vials of Astral Essence, five Elysian Fruits, fifty Starfire Gems, and a single Voidroot. Each item radiated its own unique aura, and Maya's eyes immediately locked onto them, her expression turning serious.

She leaned closer, inspecting the items one by one. Her fingers brushed the Voidroot lightly, and a small, impressed smile curved her lips.

"I'm really curious how you got these things, Vale. These are not just valuable; they're extraordinary."

Maya stood up, pacing around her alchemical workspace, deep in thought.

"The Astral Essence alone is something that shouldn't even exist here. Its ability to grant insight and clarity is something many Arcanists would kill for. And the Voidroot..." She stopped, eyeing the dark, twisted root. "This could nullify even the strongest curses

I could think of... Even Forbidden Curses... like Immortality... Of course, it's also invaluable for protection in both alchemical experiments and dangerous rituals."

"Curse of Immortality?" Vale paused for a moment as he just thought of curses that could corrupt or kill living beings. He didn't expect that the Voidroot could also do such a thing...

Now, he couldn't help but hesitate to sell one of these... However, without the Chaos Alchemist's knowledge, he also wouldn't have any idea what it could do!

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"Yes... But other ingredients would be needed for that. However, the Voidroot is the main one." Maya explained.

Vale nodded as it certainly made sense. After all, this Voidroot would be such a powerful weapon against Immortals if it were too easy to use them.

"I figured they'd be valuable... It's a good thing that you can tell as well." Vale replied.

Maya chuckled and turned to face him.

"You always did have a good eye for opportunity." Maya said with a chuckle, recalling how Vale would always know the best materials when making rituals, especially the one with the human bone powder.

She returned to her seat and fixed him with a thoughtful gaze. "I'm willing to negotiate. Given the rarity of what you've brought, I'll offer you something that I think will be of great use to someone in your position."

She reached into a drawer, retrieving several items that she carefully placed on the table in front of Vale. "First, I'll give you these," she said, pushing forward several glowing bottles filled with a brilliant emerald-green liquid.

Vale raised an eyebrow. "What are these?"

"Elixirs of Shadow Fortification," Maya explained. "They enhance the abilities of someone like yourself, reinforcing your control over shadow manipulation, increasing the density of shadow, and providing resistance against light-based magic. These will help you push your limits. Well, I believe that if the seal in our realm didn't happen, you'd probably ascend to the Shadow Realm."

"Wait... You're are aware of the Shadow Realm?" Vale asked in surprise.

However, Maya shook her head.

"I don't know much about it, to be honest. However, I know for a fact that this realm existed, and there were Shadow Sentinels who had similarities to your existence." She explained.

Vale nodded. He wasn't too disappointed since this knowledge wasn't related to Alchemy. Nonetheless, the fact that Maya believed that he was planning to travel to the Shadow Realm made him a bit curious about what she believed he would gain there.

Anyway, he observed the Elixir using his Divine Sense and he even realized that it could be extracted by his system...

'Now... That's surprising...' Vale felt surprised since extracting potions wasn't something he'd normally do. Furthermore, he probably just got some type of essence or energy from it, which was something worse. He'd rather consume the Elixir than make it useless with his Extraction.

"That's not all," Maya continued, producing another set of pills, each encased in what looked like small spheres of starlight.

"These are Immortal Restoration Pills. They're only useful to those with Divinity. You're probably aware that most Artifacts, Pills, and Potions are no longer useful to you. It's all because of the Divinity in your body... However, with these pills I made, Half-Immortals or even Immortals would benefit from it. They speed up recovery from serious wounds and replenish your Divinity at an accelerated rate."

Vale's interest deepened. These were rare and powerful items-exactly the sort of tools he could make use of.

Maya wasn't done. She tapped the table lightly, and a small, ornate box appeared, glowing with protective runes.

'Ohh? The Chaos Alchemist is actually proficient with Rune Arts...' Vale thought to himself after having a quick analysis on the box.

"Inside this box are five Eternal Mist Talismans. They grant you the ability to slip into the ethereal realm for a short time, perfect for evasive maneuvers against Time Manipulators... Well, I made plenty of these since I thought that Time Manipulators would start invading us. However, based on the news I got. I shouldn't be worrying about that, right?" Maya explained, hinting that she knew that they have captured or even enslaved some Time Manipulators.

Vale had no idea how she was aware of that, but knowing she was still working with the Goddess of Concealment and Secrecy, it really seemed possible that she was updated on their movements.

Vale then leaned forward slightly, considering the offer. It was tempting, no doubt. Potions, pills, and talismans like these were priceless items since they were all guaranteed by the Chaos Alchemist...

But still, he wanted to push a little further. "That's a generous offer, Maya," Vale began, stroking his chin. "But given the nature of the Voidroot and the potential of the Astral Essence, I think we could strike a more balanced deal. Perhaps you could throw in a few of those incredible potions that could turn ordinary people into Arcanists."

Maya raised an eyebrow, intrigued. "You mean the Philisoper's Elixir? You drive a hard bargain, Vale."

"I think it's fair," Vale replied smoothly. "After all, these items aren't easy to come by." Maya considered for a moment, her eyes narrowed thoughtfully. Then, she smiled. "Alright, Vale. I'll add in a batch of Philisoper's Elixir... Twenty of them... Fair enough?"

Vale grinned. "Now that's a deal."

They sealed the arrangement with a handshake, and Vale couldn't help but feel satisfied. Not only had he managed to trade his rare items for things that would aid him in the near future, but he also reconnected with a key figure of this continent, Maya Featherstar-one who had clearly risen to extraordinary heights in her own right.

As Maya began packing up the items they had agreed upon, she glanced at him with a knowing smile. "It's good to see you again, Vale. I have a feeling we'll be crossing paths more often

now."

Vale nodded. "I look forward to it."

Finally, Vale returned to his castle...

It was finally time to deal with one of the items that the expedition group brought back. 'Orden and Ryzoir should be done analyzing it...' Vale mused.

As he walked through the halls of the castle, he was already looking forward to seeing the item: the Perfect Vessel.

This Vessel, according to the initial research conducted by his Avatar and the others, was a genderless human body created by the Celestial Beings. It was designed to allow spirits to enter easily but not exit, providing a means for the Celestials to avoid curses, corruption, injuries, or diseases that they could not heal.

Currently, the body was perfectly preserved in a chamber deep within the castle...