

## D. of Pride 761

Chapter 761 Viper, Chaos Order (2)

"What's going on? Did you not find anything useful after interrogating him?" Annette looked at them and questioned.

"It's not like that, we did find out lots of useful information from him. However, we also found out many bad news" Cynthia answered. Given how pale her face was, the news she got from that person was definitely not good.

And it was just as Annette had thought, the next words that came out from Cynthia, proved her right.

"The Kingdom has fallen, Blackthorn declared a war against Ellesmere three months ago and the kingdom Lost. Its capital city now occupied".

"This..."

Annette wore a complicated face. If it was before, the fate of a single kingdom and what happened to it wouldn't have mattered to them. However, it was different now. Their lord and master had plans for the kingdom and as such, it couldn't be allowed to be invaded by the other countries.

"I see... but Princess you are not thinking about directly charging to the capital city are you?"

With their home gone, one's reasoning and thinking ability can become narrowed and irrational. Annette cannot have the person their lord had entrusted this mission with to seek their own death.

"Thank you for your concern Miss Annette, but I'm fine. Thinking about it now, it might be a good thing for us. Since the Blackthorn managed to occupy the capital, it must mean that my brothers lost. With them gone, it means one less enemy for us. It would also be easier to persuade the surviving nobles and bring them to my side that way"

Cynthia analysed. Even though the news should have been devastating to her, losing her home and all, she still managed to keep a rational mind and observe everything from a third person's perspective.

'As expected of master, he chose the perfect person for this mission' Annette was a little impressed.

"Did you find anything else from that person?" The person she was referring to was of course Marcel.

"Yeah, we did manage to find many useful information from him. As expected he was one of the double agents working for the criminal syndicates of the Tower Town. From what we managed to learn from him, the problem in this town seem to stem from the two powerful organisation known as the Viper and the Chaos Order"

"Both of which are foreign organisations who took root in this town more than a year ago. They slowly laid their traps and grabbed the weaknesses of the adventurers and guilds before taking over the town completely. Although it might not look like that from the surface but the town is now completely under their control"...

"So we just have to take those two organisations out right?" Theodore muttered.

Cynthia and her subordinates looked at the two children besides Annette. It was quite unusual to see children on a mission such as this. However, they did not voice out their thoughts, after all, they were people who were sent by that demon, how could they be ordinary?

They didn't know what it was, but whenever they glanced at the deep blood red eyes of the two children, an unsettling feeling would run down their spine and a chill that they never experienced before, would grab hold of their bodies.

Warriors like Alvara and the old assassin Bert felt that sensation even more clearly. As such, they were aware that even though these two looked like children they did not make the mistake of treating them as such.

Cynthia shook her head and answered "I am afraid, it would not be that easy. The two criminal organisations ruling the town are very smart, all their plans are very meticulous and they make sure to cover all their tracks"

"Even Marcel who works as a double agent for those two organisations, does not know where their base is. What's more, it is very hard to know who their top members are. If we rashly make a move,

it would have an adverse effect and might make all the criminal organisations in the town wary of us. If that happens, we won't be able to find the mastermind of this whole thing"...

"What she said is right, this is a big problem for our dungeon, we can't go about it half-heartedly. If we want to clean the town, we have to do it thoroughly"

Annette added, "Is there anything else you were able to find out?".

Although Annette and the others were only ordered to aid Cynthia and her group in every way possible to clean all the criminals plaguing the tower town, she knew that her master's plans were much deeper than that.

Even if they managed to clean the criminal organisation and find the mastermind behind this, who is to say that the tower town will not face a similar predicament again? If it can happen once, surely it can happen again in the future.

The best way to remove this problem would be to take control of the town entirely. However, therein lies the problem.

The perception of the people against demons was already extremely negative and it was hard to change it. If their master tried to control the town, it would only end up having an adverse effect. There is no way the humans would accept it.

Then what should be done?

Their master had already found the answer and it was right in front of Annette. The Violet haired woman, she was the key to solving the problem plaguing their dungeon.

If he cannot control the town openly, then why not rule it from the shadows by placing a puppet leader who would do his bidding?

That way not only would he be able to control the Tower Town, but the humans would also accept it since it was another human who was ruling over them.

That said, not just any human can be placed for that job. They would only accept someone who they recognised and believed could lead them. The only person who could do that was Cynthia and even she would need to be recognised by the adventurers.

Is that why the master told us to aid her in reclaiming her kingdom in every way possible? Is he trying to make the adventurers of the tower town recognise her by giving her all the achievements?

As expected of the master, he had already planned so far ahead.

"From the information we were able to pull out from him, it seems that he is supposed to meet with a high ranking member of the Chaos Order today. If we can capture that person, we will be able to know more about these criminal organisations. But..."

But sparing Marcel would be too dangerous especially when he had already betrayed her once. There is no way they can trust this guy. However, it was also true that they needed his help if they wanted to catch that high ranking member of the criminal organisation.

This was also the reason why they didn't finish off Marcel.

"I understand, so what you are saying is that we need to make him completely subservient to us right?"...

"That's right" Cynthia nodded at Annette's query.

"Hehe, that's not a problem, leave it to me" Theodore stepped forward "It's your turn, Ariel".

At his command, the shadow beneath him expanded and a figure slowly came out of it.

"You know what to do right?"

The figure nodded and walked towards the bound Marcel.

"An Elf?" Over at Cynthia's side, Burg and the others arched their brows as the figure came out of the boy's shadow.

Long ears, regal and ethereal appearance, flowing hair shimmering like silver that was locked into a braid and adorned with delicate jewelled pins. Her sharp and elegant feature, exuded a grace that was different from humans.

There was only a few races in this world that had that kind of appearance. Cynthia and the others were sure that she was an Elf. Although very rarely seen around this part of the subcontinent, they are a race that inhabit the Demi Human Continent.

It was as they thought, the woman named Ariel was indeed an Elf. She was one of the six demi human slaves who had survived the Trials of the Shadows and turned into a High Ranking Vampire, a Vecna.

After becoming a vampire, her initial appearance was restored and her shimmering silver hair grew back once again. She became a breathtaking beauty that one cannot take their eyes off from.

She wore a robe crafted from exquisite, enchanted fabrics with intricate patterns of runes and symbols embroidered with silver threads. The robe was both practical and stylish and was made with ease of movement in mind.

Around her waist, she donned a belt designed for utility and had various pouches. Leather boots that reached to her knees provided protection while not hindering her agility.

Ariel's attire suggested that she was a mage, unlike Drow who was a close combatant. After approaching Marcel, she nonchalantly extended her hands and made a small cut on her finger.

A small droplet of blood leaked out and fell on the ground. In that very instant, it was as if the ground had changed colour. From a brownish red colour, it instantly changed into a dark black shade.

Cynthia and the others observing from not far away, all had a surprised expression in their faces.

The changes did not stop there, after the ground was turned into a dark black colour, complex dark red lines and symbols started appearing around the man bound by the pillar.

## Chapter 762 Resistors

Like a circle, these strange lines encircled him in the centre and pulsed with a blood red colour.

"W-what is happening? What are you trying to do to me"

Marcel tried to struggle as the sinister looking blood red lines slowly started inching towards him. From his feet, they travelled towards his body and before long, he looked like a person with blood red patterns all over his body.

These patterns pulsed with a bloody light and entered his body almost as if integrating with him.

"AAARRGHH!!" Almost at the same time, a blood curdling scream that was incomparable to the time when he was being interrogated came out of Marcel.

His scream contained so much pain and agony that anyone who heard it could almost feel his pain. Marcel continued to scream his heart out until his throat became sore, his screams started sounding more like a croak now.

The entire process didn't take much longer but to Marcel and anyone hearing his screams, it appeared as if hours had passed. When in reality, less than a quarter of an hour had passed.

After the blood red line disappeared, the ground returned to its former colour and Marcel who was bound to the pillar limped down.

"What did you do to him? He is not dead right?" Burg questioned, his throat made an inadvertent gulping sound as he remembered the inhumane screams of the man.

"Of course not, I just turned him into an obedient servant of mine, a low ranking vampire familiar" Theodore answered cheerfully.

It was also now that they realised that it was only their side that was affected. Annette and the others appeared unfazed throughout the whole ordeal.

"A vampire?! Does that mean that he is no longer human?"

"That is correct, he has turned into a race that is close to mine. Now he will never be able to betray us"

After explaining, Theodore walked towards Ariel and praised her "You did a good job... but did you really have to use the most torturous method of conversion?"

There were other methods of transforming someone into a low ranking vampire other than the blood pact which was the most brutal and painful one.

"Hehe, there is no way I am going to let the blood of a dirty human ruin my mouth. There is only one person's blood I swore to drink in this life" Ariel replied with a passionate and sultry look in her eyes as she gazed at him.

"I see... then here is your reward" Theodore pushed his sleeve and allowed Ariel to bite his hand.

"I am forever grateful my liege"

Saying so, she happily drank some of his blood with relish. The scene was quite unusual and strange for people like Cynthia and her group to witness. However, they knew better than to probe around and keep their mouths shut.

It didn't take long for Marcel to regain consciousness, the moment he did, he easily broke out of his restraints. The chains made of special material binding him snapped easily as if it was made of sand.

As he stretched his body, one could tell that something about him had fundamentally changed. Although, he still retained his previous appearance, his body and the aura that he naturally exuded had changed completely. He was taller, more muscular, and with features that one couldn't easily overlook.

To put it bluntly, his charms and handsomeness had increased manifold. However, this wasn't the only change Marcel had gone through, what struck others the most was his piercing crimson eyes which was a little similar to the two children and the elf.

"Master" he knelt on one knee.

"Hmm... it looks like it was a perfect integration. Good, from now on you are one of my, Theodore Bloodrite's familiar".

"Yes master"...

"Call him Ancestor" Ariel corrected.

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"Is he the same person? He seems completely different from before. Princess can we really trust him?"

Later the same day, the group gathered near an alleyway not far away from the location Marcel was supposed to meet the high ranking member of the Chaos Order organisation.

"Hmph, are you doubting my abilities?" Ariel glared at Burg in an unfriendly manner.

"Please excuse him Miss Ariel, he is an idiot" Marba from the side grabbed Burg's head and forced him to apologise.

"Silence everyone, it's time" On Cynthia's rebuttal all of them shut their mouth and observed Marcel who was standing in front of an intersection that connected three roads.

Given that it was the time of the night and the place was a remote area that not many people visited, it made for a perfect place for criminals to hang around.

The group didn't have to wait before a tall man wearing a brown robe and Mythril armour underneath, walked towards Marcel and initiated a conversation.

"Who is that person?"...

"Wait why do I feel like his face is familiar? Could it be Dieter?"..

"You know him, Bert?"



At his words, every eyes turned towards the old assassin. Bert did not hide anything and nodded his head.

"When I was still an adventurer, I met him on one of my journeys. At that time, he was a young man who showed remarkable talent and was extremely skilled with daggers. I thought that he was someone destined for greatness, never could I have imagined that he would one day join a criminal organisation".

"So that was the case" Cynthia nodded her head. Before becoming one of her retainers, Bret was someone who was once a renowned adventurer who travelled to many countries. As such it did not come as surprise to her that he knew the man in the robe.

"However, that is not important right now. With his involvement, things have gotten even more complicated. Your Highness I must inform you that man belongs to the guild Blades of Ascension, a guild many times more powerful and bigger than even the most powerful guild of the kingdom, the Sea Gods Trident"

"With Dieter being one, they have many high levelled people who are above level 600. What's more, there could also be Rankers among them"

Rankers... just as those words came out of Bret's mouth, the atmosphere around Cynthia's group changed.

What kind of concept was a Ranker? Their monstrous talent and abilities aside, a ranker meant that they were above level 700 and had enough potential and strength to be ranked among the strongest in the Central Continent.

For a country like theirs, the realm of level 700 was like a legend that only their founder was able to reach ever since the founding of their kingdom. So it could be imagined how disheartening it was for them to know that among their enemies there might even be rankers.

"What are you guys panicking for, our side isn't any less powerful" Cynthia words woke the others up. That's right, what were they worried about? It was not like they were alone, they had the aid the demon sent them.

Although they did not know how powerful these people are, but from the fact that they were people closest to the demon, they ought to be very powerful.

The group silently watched Marcel as he discussed something with the brown robe person. After a while, the latter left and Marcel after taking a detour to make sure nobody followed him, came back to the group.

"So what were you discussing with that person?" Alvara immediately questioned as soon as he arrived.

However, Marcel did not reply immediately, he first looked at Ariel and only after seeing her nod, that he open his mouth and report.

"The Viper and the Chaos Order are about to make a move. They came to me because my achievements were enough to garner their attention. They asked for my aid in the upcoming battle against the Resistors. It appears that they have found one of the places where the criminal organisation was keeping the hostages to make the adventurers and guilds obedient to them".

Everybody took a moment to digest the information. This was a great clue that would lead them to the activity of the criminal organisation and what they were trying to accomplish.

"It's as I thought, there are people who are trying to fight against these organisations. If we can bring those people to our side, it would greatly boost our strength and help us when we take down the criminal organisations" Cynthia mused, she looked at Marcel and questioned.

"When and where is this raid going to be?" This was the perfect opportunity for them to grasp a weakness of the criminal organisations and Cynthia was not going to miss it.

"It's tomorrow at the outskirts of the town, near the borders of the southern region of the forest. There is a rock formation there, that person asked me to be ready there at the first sign of dawn break. It appears that they are going to ambush the resistors there"...

"I see, it's the perfect opportunity then. When the criminal organisations are engaging with the resistors, we are going to attack them. This way their ambush will fail and we will gain some new allies. Alvara I will leave it to you to lead our team"...

"Leave it to me, princess, I will not fail you"...

"Hoh, look at them go, they really are a high spirited bunch" Ariel commented, covering her mouth as she smiled.

"By the way master, what are my orders?"

"Hm? Ah, you are to stay on standby. Now that you have completely assimilated with the power inside you, this is the perfect stage for you and the others to try out your powers and get used to them" Theodore answered.

## Chapter 763 763- Resistors (2)

"Others?! Wait you don't mean that she will also come here right?"...

"By she, if you mean Drow and Diana then yes. You all have become my Family now, so the sooner you get along with each other, it would be better for you all".

Ariel made a frowning face as if expressing her dissatisfaction "Diana is fine but it's difficult for me to get along with that dark elf woman who constantly brags about how you called her first for a mission and how she was your favourite".

Her voice became as low as a mosquito in the middle of her sentence.

Theodore tilted his head not understanding what was wrong with his subordinates.

"This is why boys will never understand how girls think. Don't worry Ariel, I'll send my family too. Alric and the others also need battle experience to get used to their new powers" Maybell added from the side.

"Is this fine with you Leader~?" Theodore looked at Annette.

"It's a fine plan, with you two assisting Cynthia and her team, I don't see any reason to stop you. Since the plan has been set, I leave the protection of the princess in your hand Bianca"

Saying that, Annette was just about to bring everyone back to their temporary base, when Theodore stopped her.

"Wait... what are you and sister Emily going to do tomorrow?".

In reply to his question, Annette flashed a spirited smile that was very unlike her and said. "You people aren't the only ones who have become stronger. It's time to see the results of our training".

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The next day, near the south eastern borders of the forest, a group of more than forty people could be seen vigilantly and carefully making their way towards the southern region of the forest.

Over their gears and armours, the group of people wore robes and cloaks to better hide themselves with their surroundings. However, a skilful assassin or a ranger, could easily spot them from miles away.

Leading the group were a couple of adventurers who seemed more powerful than the rest. Among them, one had frizzy red hair and donned an impressive looking armour that suited his large build.

He was not overly handsome nor did he have any features that left one with a strong impression. However, what stood out about the man, was the aura he naturally exuded that brought others to his side.

Next to him, was a woman in mage's garb, passing him a worried look "Are you alright Blake? I'm sure your sister is alright, we will definitely save her"...

"Yeah, thank you for supporting me as always Frida" Blake clenched his hands tightly and thanked the woman. His knit brows and taut nerves also relaxed a little.

Their group slowly made their way through the forest, culling down monsters along the way and arrived at a place decked with impressive rock formations, when suddenly the assassin who was responsible for navigating the place, gestured them to stop.

"What's wrong Wyot? Have we arrived at the destination?" When questioned, the assassin named Wyot nodded his head.

"That is right; however, there is something wrong. There is no mistake that this is our destination but there is no sign this place is being used to keep the hostages. Moreover, the [Danger Sense] skill of mine has been constantly giving me warnings. It is as if we have walked into a trap" With a grim face, he explained.

"Hahaha... what are you saying, there is no way the information given by my guild, the Black Blade warriors could be wrong. Isn't your skill reacting because you are just too tense, Wyot? Relax, this is a surprise attack, there is no way the Viper and the Chaos Order will be able to predict this"

A blonde haired man holding a long crimson spear, walked out. He was fairly handsome, decked out in stylish armour and carried a smirk on his face. Whether it be his words or the aura he exuded, it carried an inborn haughtiness as if he was a class above others.

His manner of speech did not upset others as they were already used to it. After all, all of them knew that he was once a spoiled son of a noble. Although that family no longer stands, one could guess where that attitude of his comes from.

Besides, he wasn't just only talks, he had the appropriate skill to back it up, as one of the strongest warriors of the group.

"What Sir Thilde said is right, this is a surprise attack. There is no way the other party will be expecting us" His lackeys rallied behind him.

"Since we have arrived at our destination, let's divide ourselves into groups and search this place". Before anyone could agree, Thilde and his group already trudged and started searching the place.

"That fool, does he still think that he is a noble? Giving orders to everyone as if he is the leader" A few complained; nevertheless, they still stepped forward and started searching the Rock formation.

"Are you alright Wyot?" Blake approached Wyot after seeing that the other party did not look right.

"I'm fine, maybe it is as Thilde said, maybe I'm too tense" The man gave a wry smile before setting out to search the place with others.

"Let's go Blake" Frida beside him urged.

"Yeah, just in case stay sharp Frida. We don't know how our enemies will react. Although Thilde said that this is a surprise attack, I believe in Wyot's instinct more than that guy".

With that, the group of adventurers entered the rock formation unaware that they had already fallen prey to the trap laid by the criminal organisations.

BOOOM... an explosion shook the ground. A few groups nearby, immediately surveyed their surroundings and found out that it came from the direction they just came from. A huge rock outcrop had fallen cutting off their exit.

Before anyone could ponder about it, multiple went out simultaneously from numerous directions. One huge rock mountain fell after another encircling and caging them inside.

"This is bad, we are trapped"

No matter how dense they were, they all knew that they had fallen into a trap. The information was wrong, this place wasn't where the criminal organisation kept the hostages, instead, it was a trap to lure them in.

As soon as that realisation set in amongst the resisting adventurers, they saw shadowy figures pop up from all around the place. Whether it be atop the Rock formations or the narrow crevices, they were completely surrounded. What's more the enemy outnumbered them too.

"Hehehe... they really fell for it, a bunch of idiots" a voice filled with condescension rang out. A group of five people appeared on top of the large rock formation and looked down at the resisters.

"They are..." There was no need to even think, flashy armour that shone with the light of high class material, the powerful aura they exuded and the symbol of Blade they carried on their armours.

They were the Blades of Ascension, the strongest guild currently present in the tower town. Normally for adventurers, they are the objects of idolisation and adoration. However, for Blake and the others, they were nothing but villains who were oppressing and exploiting them.

"What do you expect from a bunch of weaklings, Dieter? Trapping them was so easy that I don't even feel motivated to take action" A berserker with a large built, tanned skin and carrying a huge round axe spoke.

"We can't do that Jordan, the orders from above are absolute. Wipe all the resistors... so even if you don't feel like it, you must take action" Dieter responded.

"Fine, but it doesn't look like we will all get a chance to show off. How about we decide who will go with a small game?"...

"Fine with me"..

"We can do that.."

"That will be for the best"...

"It looks like Joses, Arnet and Alesia are up for it. What do you say, Dieter?" Jordan looked at Dieter who finally acquiesced.

While the five from the Blades of Ascension were playing a small game to decide who would make a move, on the ground the battle had already begun.

The numerous figures who bore the sign of the criminal organisations had already engaged with the adventurers.

"What should we do Blake?" Frida asked while concurrently firing her spells.

"We need to get out of here. There is no way we stand a chance against those bastards. Dammit, this whole thing was a huge trap" Blake answered glancing at the five from the Blades of Ascension.

He channelled his mana into his sword to cull down a few enemies rushing towards him before grabbing Frida and running towards the backlines.

Wyot and the others had already gathered there and were busy opening a path to their retreat.

"Sorry Blake, it is my fault. I should have been more thorough with the authenticity of the information" the assassin apologised with a heavy heart.

"It's not your fault, you only wanted to save your wife. I know how you feel, my sister is also with them. Every time I think about her, I cannot keep myself still. Every cell, and blood in my body boils, wanting to go save her this very instant. I understand the desperation you are going through. However, this is not the time to blame yourself, we need to get everyone out of here. If we fall here, all the resistance would have been for nothing. Our loved ones will not be saved if we fall here"

Chapter 764 764- Your Highness?!!

Blake's words were not only for Wyot but for everyone here. The resistors were made up of adventurers who shared the same goal and that was to save their family and loved ones who had been taken away as captives by the enemy.

They wanted to bring down the criminal organisations ruling the tower town from the shadows and free all people and adventurers currently being suppressed by them. It can be essentially said that what brought them together was the cause and the goal that each of them shared.

As such, when they heard those words from Blake, it was as if a fire that was burning silently within them, erupting like a volcano.

That's right, if they die here, their loved ones will never be saved. For this reason alone, they must fight and get out of here alive. The spark that was lit by Blake, spread through the every resisting adventurer as they fought fiercely against the criminals ambushing them.

Magic and skills were fired in every direction, weapons collided and war cries rang out everywhere.

For a moment, the adventurers even though heavily outnumbered started overwhelming the criminals.

"Look at that, even after a few years, you are still the same, leading everyone. The guild leader of the Burning Arrows Guild is still alive somewhere within your heart" Frida commented looking at the adventurers rallying at just a few words from Blake.

"I told you not to call me that. I have thrown away that title" He grumbled while his hands moved continuously to clear the rubble blocking their way.



"Isn't it time you stop blaming yourself for what happened back then? The situation was beyond anyone's control. There was nothing you could have done back then. In fact, you played your role splendidly by leading us all this time"..

"No, I could have done more. Even now I led the both of us to a dead end" The hands clearing the rubble suddenly stopped. The plethora of guilt and remorse he had buried in his heart all these years finally burst out.

HUFF... HUFF... Blake's breathing became unsteady, he was just about to lose his sense of self, when a warm pair of hands gently wrapped around him.

"You can't break down here, these people need you. If you don't lead them, none of them will be able to save their loved ones. Their death will have no meaning like this. Only you can do it Blake, only you can lead them"

Perhaps it was Frida's words that got through him or maybe it was just his nature, Blake finally decided to step up and take the reins.

Although they were lost in a moment of their own for a while, everything that was happening around the battlefield, did not go unnoticed by them. This also included the shocking betrayal of Thilde and his group.

It turned out that this whole information was a trap to lure them out. The hostages being held captive here was misinformation spread by Thilde and the Dark Warrior Guild who sold them out.

This whole surprise attack thing was a trap set by the criminal organisation to sieve out the resistors. Even now, from the corner of their eyes, they could him pathetically grovelling on the ground, as he begged for their mercy and acceptance.

"Esteemed people of the Blades of Ascension, I did just like I was told to. I completed the task you guys gave me, so please don't kill me and my people".

At this moment, one of the five people from the Blades of Ascension came down from the rock and slowly approached the grovelling man.

"Ah, man it sucks. Even though it was my idea, why did I have to lose.. tch"

Jordan clicked his tongue and slowly stretched his arms. He was just about to join the battle, when his attention fell on the man speaking some nonsense on the ground.

"Ah, aren't you the informer who came to us and begged us to spare your life in exchange for the information on your side? Haha, you are quite the backstabber aren't you, you really did what you told us" Jordan gave a hearty laugh.

Seeing that one of the Five from the Blades of Ascension was happy with his conduct, Thilde lifted his face and glanced at Jordan.

"Then in that case am I..."

However, before he could say anything further, a round axe came slamming at his back, bypassing his defences and killing him on the spot.

"There is no way, I would allow a two faced snitch like you to join us" Jordan sneered. He swung his axe around a few more times, quickly dealing with the adventurers that came retaliating at him.

The speed and the strength of his swings were so fast that to a normal person, it would all seem like a blur. Even these adventurers who were all above level 400, could only see a vague shadow before their body was smashed apart and split into many pieces.

From this, it was not hard to imagine how powerful this person from the Blade of Ascension was. Even with the weight of the round axe, Jordan was swinging it as if it was weightless. The ordinary adventurers weren't his match at all as they quickly fell under his attacks.

Bestowed with the powerful strength that his Berserker class bestowed him, only a handful of people could stop him.

Seeing this, the morale of the resisting adventurers was almost on the verge of collapsing when someone stood up to take in the reins.

Jordan's attack which was brutal and seemingly unstoppable, was stopped by a man with frizzy red hair that flowed down till his shoulders just like the mane of a tiger. He wielded a huge great sword and was donned in an impressive looking armour.

The man was none other than Blake Gunvald, former guild master of the once renowned guild of the city of Mountmend.

"Hoh, you stopped my attack huh? Not bad, it looks like it won't be as boring as I thought"

Jordan smiled, his attacks started becoming increasingly fierce. However, unlike before when no one was able to stop him. This time his attacks were perfectly being contained and stopped by Blake causing the resistors to sigh in relief.

Not only that, as they fought the gangs of criminals coming at them, their attention sporadically went towards the area where Blake was having a showdown with a member of the Blades of Ascension.

Given the achievement of this guild and their high levelled members, they were quite feared in this region. No other guilds or adventurers even came close.

However, seeing Blake go toe to toe with one of the members of such a guild, not only raised their morale, it also inspired them to do their best.

"Hehe... Blake, so you finally decided to stand out huh"

Wyot who was assisting the resistors in clearing a path to exit, glanced at Blake and grinned. Ever since the tower town had been taken over by the criminal organisational and their loved ones taken hostages, all of them had been left at a loss.

Fearing for the lives of their dear ones, they could only do as they were told and be oppressed. All their resistance amounted to nothing until they met others who were in the exact same situation and shared the same cause as them.

They didn't meet through a stroke of fate or because they were actively resisting the criminal organisation. They came together and became the resistance they were now, thanks to a single man.

Even though the man himself refused to step up and lead them all, in the hearts of these adventurers he was their leader.

"Everyone follow Blake, let's show these criminals the strength of the adventurers"

Leaving a few to clear the path, Wyot steered the others in the battle. For the first time in a while, the resisting adventurers or the resistors who had been nothing but annoying, pesky little flies to the criminal organisations were starting to push them back. Blake's actions alone were enough to encourage the others.

"Hoh! Look at them go, it seems like their morale increased because of a single person"...

"Hmm... that guy is not bad. In terms of strength, he is already on par with most early level 500 warriors. However, too bad Jordan is far more higher levelled than him"...

"That said, Jordan likes tormenting and playing with his prey. It doesn't seem like it would end soon. If this goes on, the adventurers might defeat the guys on our side".

Up atop the rock formation, the other members of the Blades of Ascension discussed. They looked at Jordan who was having fun and the members of their organisation who were being pushed back by the adventurers.

These fellows were at the end just footmen who worked for their organisations. Their strength lay in their numbers; however, right now even that strength was failing them.

"Even though they are just disposables, it would look bad on us if we let all these people die with us present. Plus, it might even upset some of the higher ups. I guess we have no choice but to take action ourselves" Dieter remarked analysing the situation.

"That fool Jordan, he always has to make things difficult for us. If only he took it seriously, we wouldn't have to step in"

A woman in crimson robes spoke. She wore a strange type of Bauta mask to cover her face and held a rune staff with a bizarre design. She had long wavy hair that reached till her waist and carried several artifacts on her.

Chapter 765 765- Your Highness?!! (2)

"Oh?! Alecia are you going to go? It's strange for you to make the first move". "Shut up" Tossing those words, Alecia jumped down and joined the battle.

"Let us go too"...

"Alright alright~" The one who said those words and called out to Alecia was another woman. Decked out in tight black leather garb that tightly accentuated her body and highlighted her attractive curves, she was Arnet.

With her short jet black hair, piercing green eyes and poisonous smile, she was the very definition of a flower with thorn.

Arnet brandished her twin green daggers and smiled in a cruel manner "Against my poison all resistance amounts to nothing"

With that, she left quickly too.

"Wait... Haa!!" Dieter sighed in exhaustion "Why do all the women in our team have to be so headstrong?"...

"Can you complain after seeing how Jordan is?" the last of the five, Joses retorted.

"Haha, you might be right".

Whoosh... with the swiftness of the wind, they too joined the battle. With the addition of the members of the Blades of Ascension, the battle quickly overturned.

What at first looked like a victory for the criminal organisations with their ambush and trap, quickly overturned towards the resisting adventurer's side after Blake stood up to lead the adventurers. Now the victory tipped towards the side of the criminal organisations once again.

"This is bad, at this rate we will have many casualties at our side" Wyot who was fighting a group of criminals, observed.

"What are the ones at the back doing? Have they not cleared a path to the exit yet?" Finishing off the ones in front of him, he turned towards the backlines to stand rooted in his place.

Blood and body decorated the place where their path to exit was. All of the adventurers there were killed in a brutal and cruel manner, their guts and gore spilling on the ground making a strange pattern as if they had been deliberately cut like that by someone.

Who would do something so repulsive and twisted? Wyot did not have to think long before the answer presented itself in front of him.

"It's beautiful, isn't it? Their bowels decorating the floor like an exquisite piece of art?" Sitting on a rock protrusion, a woman carrying two bloody daggers, spoke. She had short black hair and piercing green eyes that made her stand out.

"Blades of Ascension huh" These weren't any ordinary people she cut down, but adventurers who had experienced and fought numerous battles.

Who else but a member of the strongest guild present in the entire north western region could do something like this.

"Oh please, don't associate me with those fools, call me Arnet"

The woman smiled. Given her beauty and her attractive appearance, any man would be smitten by her smile. However, seeing her smile Wyot could only feel a bone piercing chill shooting down his spine. As if he was being preyed on by an enormous venomous snake.

'She is dangerous, I must stop her here' This was the only thought he had facing her.

Wyot raised his guard and clenched his weapons tightly. A droplet of sweat trickled down his head from the immense pressure he was feeling.

"Hehe, you are a fine prey, I'm sure your bowels would look good too. However, it's too bad I'm not interested in a warrior. Mages are more up to my taste..."

Arnet trailed off as her piercing green eyes shifted at a direction behind him. Looking at the direction she was eyeing at, he noticed Frida standing there, supporting the adventurers with her powerful spells from the backlines.

She couldn't be thinking of going after Frida right? If Frida collapses at this moment, not to mention Blake who would be devastated, their entire resistance group would fall apart.

Without her spells, the remaining adventurers wouldn't be able to hold on for long. He cannot let that happen, Wyot resolved. He attacked her with all his strength but Arnet was too fast and agile. She easily evaded him and went into stealth.

"Kugh!!"

Just as he was about to pursue her, he felt his vision go blurry. The world around him started to spin and before he knew it, he lost his footing and fell on the ground.

What was going on? Wyot tried to flail his limbs around only to feel a prickling pain like that of a needle stabbing his body, from his back. Thin tiny needles were stabbing his left ankle.

Poison Darts!!

Since when did he? Before Wyot could think any further, he heard multiple footsteps approaching him. He had been surrounded by multiple criminals.

On another side of the battlefield, Frida was casting one spell after another when her senses suddenly sent her warning signals. Immediately, she erected a shield around her and in that split second, multiple needles came smashing at her shield.

"Nice reaction" The needles now devoid of their momentum, fell to the ground. Almost at the same instant, a voice came from behind her.

Frida hurriedly turned around only to see Arnet standing there with a smile on her face.

"You why are you here? Wyot should be..."...

"Ah, that guy. I had no interest in an assassin, so I put him to sleep. Instead of him, I'm more interested in mages. Their screams and spilled bowels always make a beautiful art. I wonder how yours would be when I cut it open" With a flushed expression Arnet licked the blade of her dagger.

This woman was crazy, seeing her aroused face, Frida felt a sense of crisis. She opened up a distance and immediately started casting her spells.

All kinds of intermediate and amalgamation magic took form. They carried enough might to even severely hurt a person above level 500. However, it wasn't enough to defeat a member of the Blades of Ascension who are all above level 600.

Not to mention hitting their target, none of the spells Frida cast, could even touch Arnet. She was so fast that it was almost unfair. What more, her enemy did not give her any room to cast her spells and repeatedly attacked her shield to probe its weakness.

It was generally known that despite possessing the greatest firepower out of all the classes, mages were considered weak against agile classes focused on speed and swiftness like the assassin.

It was because they needed time and space to cast their powerful spells. On a battlefield, it was common knowledge to defeat the opponent mage first.

If one could cover the distance against them and bar them from casting any magic, one can essentially shut a mage down. At this point, they would be nothing but dead weight in a battle.

This was also the reason why they had numerous guards and knights protecting them. It was their job to stop the enemy so that the mages could cast their spells without any disturbance.

Arnet was perfectly aware of this weakness of the mages and that is why she liked gutting them the most. What's more, in a situation like this, Frida was alone. No warriors or knight was guarding.

This was practically asking for trouble. How could Arnet who liked killing mages the most, be willing to let go of this opportunity?

Within a few seconds, the magic shield around Frida was riddled with chinks and nicks, indicating that it could collapse at any moment. Once the magic shield was gone, she would be left completely unguarded.

"Hehe, that's what I like about mages. Their face starts showing their fear once their magic shield is about to break" Arnet teased attacking the magic shield relentlessly.



Frida's predicament didn't go unnoticed by Blake and the others. However, their hands were tied in their own battle leaving them with no leverage to go help her. This was especially for Blake.

"Hey... hey...hey... are you ignoring me?"

Jordan spat, the round axe in his hands swung widely causing Blake to take a heavy hit. He who was caught off guard for a second there, went crashing through the rock formations.

"Ah! I used too much strength. Anyway, that guy won't die with just this much, but I have to say Arnet is having too much fun. Will she kill that mage so easily?" Jordan turned his attention towards the other fight.

At this moment, just as the magic shield came crumbling down and the daggers rushed forward to take Frida's life, a shield appeared and timely blocked the attack.

It was not only the shield, two pairs of daggers, a longsword and numerous spells came targeting Arnet forcing her to back down. A group of people appeared around Frida.

When the latter saw who the people who saved her were, her first reaction was to become stumped, then came the disbelief and surprise. Her wide open eyes especially lingered on the silhouettes of two figures among the group for a long time.

"Your Highness and Alvara?! You are alive"

Being a citizen of the Kingdom, it was normal for her to recognise the princess of the country and the guard captain. However, for Frida and the former members of the Burning Arrows Guild, it was different.

They knew the princess and the guard captain on a personal level. In fact, before finding their own guild, Blake and the others used to live in the capital. And there they had the opportunity to learn the sword techniques from the strongest person of that time, Alvara's brother, the commander of the royal guards.

From there they got to know the princess and Alvara. Of course, these were from the olden days, time when they were still children.

## Chapter 766 766- Might of the True Vampires

After moving away to Mountmend their interaction became quite limited and from there they were engulfed in their own circumstances. That said, news from the capital and about the princess still travelled to Frida's ears.

In one of those news, she heard the sad demise of her friends inside the dungeon. So it could imagine the shock she felt when she saw the very people she had assumed dead, show up in front of her to save her.

The surprise she felt was on a whole another level. It was not only her, Blake who pulled himself out of the rubble after getting blown far away, also looked at the scene with pure bafflement.

He was relieved that Frida was saved; however, more so than relief, the emotion he felt at this moment was astonishment.

"Are you alright? Here is a mana potion" Cynthia supported Frida who fell on the ground and offered her a vial of mana potion.

"Yeah, but you..." the latter unwittingly took the vial, her face a mix of surprise and amazement.

Cynthia did not mind her surprise and simply smiled. She was aware that many would show the same reaction as Frida upon seeing her. After all, to the outside world, she had been declared dead. Her return was no different than returning from the dead.

"Yeah, I am alive. I will explain to you how I survived some other time. Right now we have other things to focus on our hand" Cynthia gave a small explanation.

"Are you still able to fight?" Alvara came up to her and winked. Back in the days, they used to be good friends.

"Yeah, I can still fight... but you all"...

"We came to aid the resisting adventurers after finding out that the criminal organisations had set a trap for you all here"

Alvara answered her doubts. She took out her sword and pointed it at the enemy.

"As usual, Burg will draw the enemy while Bert and I keep her cornered. Princess and Marba will use their spells to finish her off. Let us take this enemy out"

At her orders, the group got into formation and encircled Arnet. The latter simply smiled, her piercing green eyes nonchalantly gazing at the new group.

"Hoh!! So you guys had backup coming huh? But it's too bad, no matter how many people you bring, none of them will change your fate today"...

"I don't know about that"

Alvara came slashing down. Bret followed after with Burg connecting next. They locked her down and constrained her movements. Thereafter, magic conjured by Cynthia and Marba, came raining down on her.

With Cynthia and her group working together, even Arnet had to take them seriously. She dodged and parried attacks using her skills and counterattacked fiercely. Even though she liked picking the easiest prey, it did not mean that her ability could be doubted.

Facing six people head on, she was not at the least bit at a disadvantage. On the contrary, it looked like Alvara and the others were the ones who were being slowly caged in.

"Dammit, her attacks contain poison. Do not let the smoke cloud touch you"

Alvara stated gritting her teeth. Those weirdly shaped daggers of their enemy, was not only insanely sharp, but they released a greenish cloud of smoke that corroded everything around them, except for the wielder.

It was not only the poison smoke, needles, arrows, threads, and all sorts of weapons and skills that their enemy used, that contained poison. This made it difficult for Cynthia and the others to ignore even the most simplest of attacks from their enemy.

What made Arnet so difficult to face, was not her skill or tactic, but the many poisons she used.

"You guys are not bad. However, how long can you hold on? Even if you can, what about the others..."

Arnet who was in the midst of sneering at them, suddenly had her words stuck in her throat. An unexpected phenomenon was occurring right now. Blood all around the battlefield, started glowing.

Blood that was shed on the ground, blood that leaked out of wounds, or the blood still flowing inside one's body started heating up. This phenomenon was felt by everyone on the battlefield.

Before anyone even knew it, the entire battlefield was covered by a bloody mist.

"What is going on?"

It was not only Arnet, but all the others from the Blades of Ascension, the criminal organisations and even the resisting adventurers who had the same question. Perhaps the only ones who had any idea were Cynthia and her group.

CLACK... CLACK... at this moment when all sound seemed as if they had mysteriously disappeared, sounds of footsteps rang out across the battlefield, followed by the appearance of multiple figures.

These figures emerged seemingly out of nowhere from the blood mist and stood out like a sore thumb. What made this group so unusual, was the fact that all of these figures belonged to a different race.

A group made out of many different races, it was only natural that they would stand out.

"Weretigers, High Elf, Dark Elf, Cienthrope and even Cat kin. That's an unusual bunch, where are their masters?" Jordan casually commented.

In the tower town, demi human races were used as slaves, cannon fodder for clearing dungeon, sex toys and basically every other way that you wouldn't treat a human. Their position here could be said to be the lowest of the low.

Normally, demi humans are only allowed to roam near the tower town once they form a slave contract with a master. It was no wonder that Jordan and the others looked for their masters once they saw that this new group was made up of demihumans.

"Master, what are your orders?" Drow glanced behind her.

"Well, let's start with reducing their numbers. They are oozing everywhere"..

"Understood. Diana come with me"...

"Hey why are you behaving like you are the leader? Diana comes with me" Ariel argued.

Diana was a half Cienthrope half true vampire with long black hair tied into a low ponytail that reached till her legs. On top of her head, she had large wolf ears. She sported a purple and red heterochromatic eyes and had a slender build with ample curves.

She was donned in a special dark suit tailored and built for her free way of combat. She wore a uniquely made glove to contain her claws and equipped sleigh bells at the end of her furry tail.

Diana could only look in confusion as Drow and Areil tugged her arms as they dragged her along.

"Hey remember, the ones with the badge of the criminal organisations are our enemies" Theodore sighed as he instructed his subordinates as they went away.

"Rob, Alia... clean up the mess after those three. I'm sure in their excitement, they are bound to forget our objective" The burliest amongst the two Weretigers standing behind Maybell, spoke.

On his command, the other Weretiger, namely Rob who resembled Alric a little but had a different skin tone and facial structure, nodded. He along with Alia, a beautiful Cat Kin from the extremely rare Golden Jaguar Clan, moved to execute the desire of their master.

Alia had large cat ears, a long golden tail and shimmering golden hair. She had a slender and beautiful figure with a childlike and curious personality.

Seeing two of her subordinates move to execute their plan save for Alric, Maybell couldn't help but tilt her head and inquire.

"Aren't you going too? My orders were to aid the group over there and eliminate our enemy".

Alric nodded his head and replied in a serious and determined tone "I am well aware of your orders master. However, please forgive me for acting selfishly. I would like to remain by your side since for me there is nothing more important than your safety. I am willing to accept all sorts of punishment but please let me guard you with my life"

A complex light flashed in the weretiger's eyes as if he was reminiscing something.

"It's alright, do whatever you want" Maybell who had a soft spot for catkin races, immediately agreed to Alric's selfishness and allowed him to guard her side.

"Your Kindreds look like they get along. How did you do it?" Theodore questioned his sister after seeing how well they got along.

"I didn't do anything. Alric here seems to be suited for leading, the others unanimously follow him. Besides, brother you are too dumb when it comes to relationships. It's not like your kindreds are not getting along, it's just that they are competing for something"...

"Compete? Compete for what?"

Maybell's answer seemed to have only confused Theodore further.

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Over at the battlefield, with the demi humans now joining the adventurer's side, the situation had changed for the umpteenth time. The side of the criminal organisation was swiftly suppressed with the demi humans going all out.

They used the power bestowed within them to manipulate the battlefield as they wished and took complete control. Their powers and abilities were so tyrannical that within a few moments of their arrival, they quickly took the spotlight from everyone. Among them, three stood out the most as they went rampant across the battlefield. Blood flowed out like river wherever they went and only a nightmarish desolation was left in their wake.

In just a few seconds, the air itself became nauseating with a thick scent of blood. Even for these gangs of criminals who were used to killing and seeing blood, it was a harrowing sight.

## Chapter 767 767- Might Of The True Vampires (2)

"R-Run..." In front of such an overwhelming and striking display of power, how could their morale not break.

As soon as they realised they were just sitting ducks waiting to be butchered, they immediately started running away. However, how could it be so easy to run from True Vampires?

Just as they started running, blood that had already been spilled on the ground, seeped out as if being pulled by some force and formed thin lines of threads that quickly ensnared and immobilised them.

"[Ephemeral Bloodweave] and then for the follow up [Ethereal Haemal Blades]" Ariel made a few hand signs and the many immobilised criminals were immediately turned into Swiss cheese by the thousands of blades made of blood, falling from the sky.

"Hmph, this should be put me in lead. Let's see how that dark elf is doing"

Muttering to herself, she turned towards Drow who was in the midst of killing her opponents like culling crops with the numerous clones she created. She was like an army continuously increasing in number with the blood of her fallen opponents.

After killing who knows how many opponents and dyeing her clothes crimson with the blood of her opponent, she turned towards Ariel and gave a smirk of victory.

Seeing that look, Ariel was instantly incited and started killing the gangs of criminals even faster. Who knew when, but at some unknown point in time, they started competing against each other over who killed the most number of enemies.

If Drow and Ariel who were the most smart and astute among Theodore's kindred were already like this, so one could imagine what Diana who was all brawns and no brains, was like.

Sniff... Sniff... with her extraordinary sense of smell and other senses, she located the most powerful opponent amongst the enemy and went straight for him. Her speed breaking the barrier of sound, crushed any opponent that stood in her path and quickly arrived before Dieter.

Dieter who had just defeated a high level member of the resistors, sensed an intense amount of battle intent directed towards him and turned around only to find a Cienthrope Beast Kin looking at him.

"Oh? A beast Kin huh!! It is said that amongst the beast kin, the Cienthrope are a race that specialises in battle. They possess so much raw destructive power that it could be even compared to some Apex races of this world"

"It is also said that they possess special senses that allow them to detect the strongest person in the vicinity. Although I don't think you are comparable to those powerful Cienthropes from the legend, you are not wrong in approaching me in the sense that I am the strongest here"

Dieter proudly declared. His eyes then was drawn towards the beautiful figure of Diana. He looked at her well balanced figure, lustrous hair, attractive curves and black suit that accentuated her beauty even further.

"For a demi human you are quite maintained by your master. Un, I have decided, once I kill your master, I will take ownership of yo..ugh" Dieter was unable to complete his sentence as a hand grabbed his face and lifted him up.

"RAWR~..." With a primal roar that shook the very air, Diana grabbed the man babbling something in front of her and jumped high up with him in tow.

Gifted with the natural strong body of the Cienthrope and now granted with the extreme abilities of a True Vampire, Diana became a force that couldn't be trifled with.

Her race's already raw destructive power was taken to a whole new height after she became a vampire. Like a weapon of destruction polished and upgraded to the extreme, she was the definition of completion.



Whether it be her body or her abilities, it had reached a frighteningly destructive level. As could be seen how easily she neutralised Dieter who was the strongest member of the Blades of Ascension and jumped as high as sixty meters without breaking a sweat.

It was not only her athleticism and agility that needed to be feared, but even her strength was so. Diana did a few spins in the air and flung the man down with all the inertia and momentum.

BOOM...

As one could imagine, being thrown at such high speed and from such height, did to the person. Dieter plummeted down onto the ground, creating a large crater in the process.

Clouds of dust and debris rose to the sky for dozens of meters and blotted the vision. Blood seeped out from the openings of his armour, his bones creaked in pain and his vision became black for a moment.

The impact alone knocked all the air out of his lungs and almost made him lose consciousness.

Dieter was unable to believe what had happened at that moment. What kind of being was he fighting? Before he could think properly, he was forced awake by a loud sound coming from directly above him.

The person who did this to him, was coming for him again.

"RAWR~..." Diana shouted from up in the sky and came plummeting down right where Dieter was.

Her extreme physical strength allowed her to change directions in the air by generating great amounts of wind pressure just flinging her arms and legs. This in turn also allowed her to remain in the sky much longer even without the use of any flight skill.

Using her immense physical strength, she came plummeting down to the ground at a breakneck speed.

BOOOM... As if an artillery had been fired, the air shook with the sound of thunder. The ground trembled and clouds of dust and debris was flung in the sky once again.

The already big crater collapsed even further and the ground ran with crisscrossing cracks. Though more than the condition of the ground, the one who was in a more miserable state was Dieter.

After taking on the full brunt of the air drop from Diana, most of his armour and rib cage was crushed, several of his bones fractured and he suffered heavy concussion. Although he was still alive, he had already lost consciousness.

His defeat was swift and overwhelming with not even chance to make a comeback and all it took was a few seconds.

One need not even explain how short that was. Before everyone could even understand what was happening around this part of the battlefield, the strongest member of the Blades of Ascension was already defeated.

However, Diana did not just stop after knocking her enemy out, she picked him out of the hole and hurled him around like a club destroying and killing nearby enemies.

The side of the criminal organisation already had enough on their plates dealing with Drown and Ariel and now the image of one of their leader casually being manhandled around like he was an inanimate club, was the last straw that broke the camel's back.

Their morale collapsed and they fell on the ground defeated. Nevertheless, the nightmare for them was yet to end.

Who knew when, but at some unknown point in time, a sweet scent started spreading through the air. When these people inhaled the scent, the colour in their eyes changed to almost match that of the blood.

Their expression became savage, blood flowed out of their seven orifices and after a few more seconds, they started behaving peculiarly. They attacked each other, tearing and biting the flesh of the other like a maddened beast who had lost their mind.

It was not only them, such scenes could be seen playing out everywhere on the side of the criminals.

In the distance, Alia the Cat kin from the Golden Jaguar Tribe could be seen puckering her lips and exhaling some glitter like substance.

"Baneblood Hysteria Inducement" she slowly muttered under her breath.

It was not only the three kindreds from Theodore's side that were running rampant across the battlefield, Maybell's side were no different.

While Alia made the despondent and crestfallen crimianls to fight each other, Rob was currently taking on one of the five members of the Bales of Ascension, the Heavy Guardian class Joses and sweeping the floor with him.

All the five demihumans were showing off their new powers and abilities and dominating the battleground.

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Done with capturing the leader, Diana looked around for any other strong enemies. Although her senses did pick a few individuals, they were far too weak for her entertainment. Even their leader who was supposed to be the strongest, could not even take two blows from her.

Bored, she dragged Dieter along with her as she made her way back to her master when...

"Dieter!!"

On the way, the mage Alecia blocked her path. She quickly conjured several spells to attack Diana; however, most of it was either swatted away by her or dodged with minimal movements as if they were some poultry tricks and not powerful spells.

"Kuh!!" Seeing that ordinary magic did not even faze the demihuman in front of her, Alecia resorted to more complex and powerful attacks.

She distanced herself from her opponent, erected a magic shield and started chanting spells for Seismic Magic, advanced attribute of Earth magic and several Amalgamation magic of Intermediate Tier.

Using the lost tier [Shadow Chant] and [Concurrent Chant] skills and several other Mana consumption skills, she was easily able to keep up with the strain of casting so many powerful magic at once.

Under her manipulation, the ground around her seemed as if it was made of water, as wave after wave rose up and rushed towards Diana as if wanting to bury her underneath.

### Chapter 768 Might Of The True Vampires (3)

She also simultaneously made the footing around Diana like a marsh restricting her movements and slowly pulling her in. On top of that, she also cast multiple magic that created fire golems to zone her in a limited area and numerous Seismic Shocks to increase the destructiveness of her spells.

Alecia went all out displaying the power of a level 631 [Mystic Geomancer]. On any other occasion, her spells would have a certain absolute result. Even if it was an army against her there was no going against such destructive spells.

However, unfortunately for her, her opponent was Diana, the only demi human out of the six who even after failing to inherit all of the powers of the Vecna, still survived the Trials of the Shadows and became a True Vampire.

If she failed to acquire all of those powerful abilities like the other five, does that mean that she was weak?

The answer was no. In fact, when it came to pure destructive power and strength, Diana was undoubtedly the strongest.

Although she did not gain many powerful abilities and skills, it needs to be mentioned that what she did gain was a body like none other. All of the powers that she failed to inherit, were instead absorbed by her body, tempering and altering it to such extremes that it became even more destructive and powerful.

Diana became a true vampire like none other. Facing Alecia's spells, she looked completely unimpressed.

Just as the attack was about to reach her, she used the club in her hand and swung it with all of her might.

BANG... A deadly and berserk to the extreme wind pressure was generated that directly smashed against the waves of landmass brought forth by the Seismic Magic Mastery, stopping its momentum completely.

The wind pressure was so tyrannical that it directly swept away the swathes of landmass and the golems rushing towards Diana. It only stopped after destroying four waves and numerous golems.

BANG... the club was swung again and another wind blast was sent forth towards the caster.

BANG... BANG... BANG... Diana kept at it, sending numerous wind blasts and destroying all of the magic targeting her. Right after that, she slammed her foot down on the ground with enough force to completely sweep away the marsh like ground restricting her.

Using the force to propel herself forward, Diana quickly covered the distance between her and Alecia. The latter panicked and tried to create a few more defence; however, a hurriedly created defence stood no chance against Diana's brute strength.

The walls of bedrock shielding her crumbled like fragile glass until the magic shield was all that remained to protect her.

Unfortunately against an opponent like Diana, even the magic shield couldn't give her a sense of safety for even a second.

For a magician, the Magic shield was their last line of defence. It was said to be extremely tough and durable, capable of sustaining powerful attacks. The more higher level and proficient the magician was, the more durable the magic shield.

Frida for example, was a level 421 Elemental Spellcaster, yet the magic shield that she erected had enough toughness and durability to even stop a level 637 assassin like Arent for a while given that the other party wasn't going all out.

From this one could see how tough the last line of defence of a mage was.

Alecia was level 632 Arcane Spellweaver, her magic shield was bound to be more powerful than Frida's. Yet in the face of Diana's extreme brute force, it collapsed like fragile glass unable to even hold on for a second.

The fist of pure brute strength continued forward unabated and squarely smashed into her. All that force and power travelled onto her body, destroying her willpower and putting her out of order.

Alecia was defeated and the time it took for Diana to accomplish that, wouldn't even be more than a few minutes. After defeating the mage, she dragged her body just like Dieter and brought it back to her master.

"Master.. rawr... I completed my task... rawr" purring cutely, she wagged her tail and came closer for a head rub.

"Good job Diana, as expected you are the first one to complete the job" Theodore praised, patting her head.

"Brother, the others look like they are almost done too" Maybell pointed.

Just like she said, the others too returned soon after practically sweeping the battlefield with blood. At this moment, other than a few from the Blades of Ascension, not even a single enemy could be seen standing in one piece on the ground. All that remained was a harrowing sight for all to witness.

GASP... the adventurers gasped, unable to believe their eyes. Just until a few moments ago, they were fighting with their life in line, trying to get out of this hopeless situation. However, just when victory seemed as if it was slipping away from them, it quickly overturned with the arrival of a new group of people that they had never heard or seen before.

What's more the battle that they had been fighting with their life for so long, was over in just a couple of minutes with their arrival. The display of power that they exhibited was so impactful that for many present here, it would never leave their memories for as long as they lived.

The remnants of the resisting adventurers looked at the blood soaked ground and death sprawling all over the place and couldn't help but gulp. The sight was so shocking and terrifying that their bodies trembled with fear and at the same time they felt rejoice from the fact that the new group of people weren't their enemies.

Or else, by now their outcome would have been the same as the ones lying on the battlefield with their bodies lying in incomplete pieces.

"Shit... this.. what kind of joke is this? All the people on our side were killed and Dieter, Alecia and Joses were captured. This is not even funny... those demi humans there is something ominous about them. hey even defeated Dieter, there is no way I can win against them"

Muttering to herself, Arnet who was fighting Cynthia's group suddenly turned around and fled. With all of their forces annihilated and their most powerful member Dieter down, she wasn't foolish enough to stick here for any longer.

One couldn't blame her decision after all, who would have expected the arrival of a new group of demi humans who would wipe the floor with them? Escape was her only hope.

As for her teammates, the members of the Blades of Ascension never had a close bond like the other guilds. In here, every man was for himself. If you are strong enough, your efforts will be recognised and rewarded.

That was all there was to it, so about camaraderie, it never even occurred to her. It was their fault for lacking strength, her top priority was herself.

Being the high level assassin that she was, Arnet quickly disappeared from everyone's perception and melded with her environment until not even her presence could be felt any more.

"Dammit, we lost her. Where did she go?" Burg grumbled in frustration.

"What are you getting annoyed for, it's not like we could have defeated anyway. It looks like she realised that she stood no chance on her own after her comrades were captured. Thus she decided to flee" Marba slapped the knight's wide back.

"Huff... is this finally over?" Cynthia asked breathing a sigh of relief.

"Not yet, the one fighting with Blake is still around" Alvara reminded, guarding her back.

While everyone relaxed to catch their breath, Jordan of the Blades of Ascension who was fighting Blake, suddenly broke away from him and headed straight for the twins.

"That bitch ran away but so what? I am still there, as long as I can take their masters out, those demi humans who had lost the ones to command them, will not be able to move for a while. Using this chance, I will retrieve Dieter, Alecia and Joses, resetting the board completely"

Jordan planned his actions in his head as he ran. In his mind, he believed that the twins who were clearly the masters of the six powerful demi humans were weaker.

His belief was due to the fact that the twins looked like children and how strong could two children be? There was no way they were stronger than the demi humans.

Jordan increased his pace, even if they had lost the battle, he at least wanted to salvage it by getting the three who were knocked out, back. There was no reason for it, it was the only option he had.

After all, if he went back like this, his higher ups would no doubt kill him given the results. Not only was he unable to kill the last of the resisters, he had even lost his group and returned alone.

The disgrace and humiliation he would suffer not to mention the consequences, was something he did not even want to imagine.

Thus he rushed forward at full speed, his target the twins whose guards were completely relaxed. They were not even aware that he was approaching them at full speed.

A level 639 Wasteland Berserker in his full speed was faster than fast. In just a few seconds, he had already covered the large distance between him and his targets.

There was just a few meters of distance between them, Jordan gripped his huge round axe tightly, ready to go for the kill in the split second when...

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"Please excuse me for a second master"



Alric who was standing straight and motionless like a pole beside Maybell, lightly stepped aside. At that very instant, his figure disappeared, he reappeared next to Jordan like a ghost.

He was fast, faster than one could even perceive him. In the split second that he disappeared from the side of his master, he appeared next to Jordan, removed the gloves from his right hand and lightly scratched the other party's skin with his claws before reappearing next to Maybell.

Afterwards, he took out an umbrella from his shadow and methodically unfolded it to cover her behind it.

What just happened? Jordan who was still in mid motion, felt the weretiger's movements. However, the latter was just too fast for his eyes and even his senses to perceive clearly. Before he could understand what had happened in that split second, everything was over.

His body suddenly swelled with heat and in the blink of an eye, his entire body started ballooning. Like a disfigured monster, he looked ugly and hideous as he kept on expanding.

And then pop, just like a balloon he popped, his blood and gore flying everywhere.

Jordan was killed as easily as that. Even until his last gore flying everywhere.

Jordan was killed as easily as that. Even until his last moments he was unable to figure out what just happened.

"Are you alright master?"...

"Yeah, thanks for taking care of me Alric?" Maybell smiled.

"It's my duty"...

"Hey, if you are gonna do something like that, you should say something beforehand"

Ariel complained, stopping the blood and gore that was about to splash in their direction, mid air. None of the parties got soiled thanks to her.

"It looks like the High Elf is at least somewhat useful" Drow passed a snide comment as she walked by her.

"What did you say you stupid Dark Elf?"...

"Enough you two, it looks like they are also done over there, let's regroup" Theodore stopped his two kindreds from fighting again.

Over on Cynthia's side, everyone was catching their breath now that everything was over. Adventurers regrouped with their friends and tended to the injured.

"Blake, are you alright?" Frida rushed to the warrior's side and tightly hugged him.

"Yeah, I'm fine. What about you?"...

"Thanks to Her Highness and the others I'm alright" she pointed at the people behind her.

"Thank you your highness for saving Frida. If not for you all, I might have..." Blake thanked.

"You don't have to thank me, I saved her because both of you are my friend"...

"That's right Blake, Frida... you are treating us as if we don't know each other. Did the short years of separation make you forget all about us?" Piling up on Cynthia's words, Alvara and the others started making fun of the couple.

"Haha, what can I say, I am so glad to see you all and Her Highness alive. That said, how did you survive inside the dungeon for so long?" Blake curiously questioned.

"Now is not the time, I plan on telling you all about it later. For now, we need to plan our next course of action. Although we have won here, it's not like the criminal organisations have been defeated. To make sure of that, we need to take them out from the root"...

"Are you saying that..."...

"That's right, we are going to help you save your dear ones who have been held hostage back. Only then, can we unite all the adventurers and destroy the criminal organisations in the Tower Town" Cynthia explained.

The cause that brought the adventurers of the tower town together was to save their dear ones. However, they had little chance of winning the battle they were fighting.

It was for this reason that many of the adventurers either did not support them or were afraid to. Even the ones who joined were only doing so because they had no other choice.

Yet here was Cynthia saying that she would help them save their dear ones. How could Blake and the adventurers not be surprised? They looked at Cynthia as if she was their saviour.

"I don't know how I can ever repay you for this..."

Blake who became a little at the thought of being able to save his sister, was stopped by Cynthia mid sentence.

"I told you already, you don't have to thank me. Besides, it's not like I am doing it without any strings attached. I have my own reason for doing this" she spoke in an unequivocal voice.

"No matter what reason you have I am still thankful; no, we are all thankful for your help. I'm sure everybody here would no doubt agree to help you in return if we are able to save our dear ones. Am I right?"...

"Yeah, leave it to us"...

"We will do anything if we can save our loved ones".

When Blake gestured at the adventurer behind him, all of them showed their gratification for helping them, promising to aid her in return no matter what.

"It looks like things are going accordingly on your side too, your Highness"

At this moment, while Cynthia and her group were becoming familiar with the adventurers, Annette and Theodore's group who met up with each other earlier, joined them.

Annette was dragging two people behind her, one of whom was the female assassin Arnet.

"Yeah, that's right. We were just done here" Cynthia nodded.

"If I may ask, but who are those people, your Highness?" Blake asked the question that every people here wanted to know. The overwhelming strength these people had shown, their identity cannot be ordinary.

Blake expected them to be some famous adventurers from the distant Mainland. However, the answer that he received, took him by surprise.

"They are people who are going to aid us to take the tower Town back".

To take the tower Town back? Putting aside the fact of how difficult of a task it would be, the fact that she mentioned taking the tower town back, meant that she was not here to simply save the people who have been taken hostages by the criminal organisations.

Instead, she was here to defeat them and kick them out of the tower town. If it was anyone else telling him that, Blake would have no doubt questioned the sanity of their mind. However, the one to say this was none other than Her Highness.

Plus, he had witnessed the strength of the people on her side with his own eyes. As such, it was definitely not an undertaking they had no chance at.

Understanding some of the plans and power behind the princess, even Blake started to feel like it was possible to defeat the criminal organisations. He was finally starting to see light in this dark tunnel.

"Now that our task here is done, should we return back to our base?" Bert questioned.

"Not yet, when I was chasing these two, I heard from one of them that there is a hidden underground cellar here somewhere that is used to keep the hostages. After they regain their consciousness, they can lead us to the exact location"

The one to answer him was Annette as she pointed at the two people she brought back. Hearing her response, everyone was surprised.

"So there really was a hidden cellar here. Our information wasn't wrong?".

Given the fact that they were double crossed by their own comrade, they thought that this place was just a trap to contain them. Who would have thought there was actually an underground cellar here?

"It's surprising but not unexpected. Since we now know that there are hostages here that can be saved, our next course of action is clear. We will wait here for them to regain consciousness and lead us to the exact location"

After saying that Cynthia looked at Annette and the others and asked "Is this alright with you all?".

"Hehe, don't worry princess, master told us to follow all your orders and aid you in any way possible. As such, no matter what you decide, we will follow you through" Annette replied in a mannerly voice.

"I see, that's very helpful" Cynthia thanked before looking at the unconscious unknown figure beside the female assassin.

"Right, who is this person? I believe I haven't seen him on the battlefield before?" Cynthia glanced at the unconscious figure beside Arnet.

"I found him in the forest, he was observing the whole battle from afar. I think he was an agent sent by the criminal organisations to spy on the people on their side, keep a tab on the whole thing and report it back in case things went south"...

"Is this the reason why you didn't join the battle?"

Annette nodded her head at Theodore's question. It turned out that the criminal organisations did not trust their own people and had sent a spy to track their actions.

It was not an unusual thing but it was a good call from Annette to have foreseen something like this happening and thus intercepting the spy before they can reveal any information back to their side.

With Cynthia making the calls, everyone decided to rest here for the time being. Given her status and influence, not to mention the promise she made to everyone, it was no wonder that everybody started seeing her as their leader.

They all followed her instructions unanimously. Before long, Arnet and the other less injured ones regained their consciousness.

The moment they saw Cynthia and the others, they tried to run. However, they were restrained by Emma's sturdy strings making it impossible for them to break out.

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"Let me go, unbind me"...

In such a situation, all they could do was bark. "If you want us to release you, then tell us the location of the underground cellar. Tell us where you kept the hostages?".

Facing Alvara's question, Arnet simply snorted. However when she saw Annette and the dark and dreary eyes of Emma beside her, a terrified expression appeared on her face and she immediately confessed everything.

"Please don't kill me, I will tell you everything. The place where the hostages to rein in the adventures of tower town, is a few kilometres away from here. Under the largest rock formation, there is a hidden passage artificially created that leads to the place"

"However, it is just one of the cellars being used to keep the hostages. I don't know the location of the rest..."

Cynthia and the others calmly heard what she had to say. To make sure that she wasn't lying or that it wasn't another trap, the same question was also posed to the other members of the Blades of Ascension who were caught alive.

The result was, she was telling the truth. All of the members of the Blades of Ascension gave the same answer. What's more from the man that was caught by Annette, they also found out the location of another cellar, making it two locations that they knew about.

"Near the Yellow Placid Lake huh? If I'm not wrong, isn't that place in the northern region of the forest?" the adventurers discussed.

"Great, we found two locations, let's go there and destroy the place. Let's save everyone they kept hostages as soon as possible".

The adventurers who were familiar with the geography of the Ghastly Winding Forest were already making teams to go and raid the place.

Just as the momentum reached its peak, Blake who had been contemplating the information quietly in his head, stepped forward and stopped the adventurers.

"Wait, don't jump the gun. Listen to me first, the Yellow Placid Lake in question isn't any ordinary place. Putting aside the fact that it is in the northern region of the forest, which is filled with stronger monsters, it is one of the territory of the Three overlords of the Ghastly Winding Forest".

Three Overlords of the north, just hearing the name, changed the expression on every adventurer's face. Their excited faces quickly turned ashen and all their energy seemed to have left their body.

Being experienced adventurers they were aware of the term the Three Overlords represented. These were three powerful monsters that resided within the northern region of the forest.

They were not only powerful but were also very intelligent having conquered their own territories by pushing the other monsters out.

All these reasons make them an extremely dangerous monsters for adventurers to face inside the Ghastly Winding Forest other than the Seven Kings.

"About that, you don't have to worry about it".

A calm voice interjected. All eyes turned towards Annette.

"What do you mean?" Blake inquired.

"It's exactly what I mean, you don't have to worry about the overlord of the lake" Annette repeated.

The overlords of the Ghastly Winding forest had all been subdued and taken inside the dungeon by her master. They were no longer the overlords of the forest.

'Yellow Placid Lake huh... isn't that where that crocodile came from?' she wandered inside her head.

Blake looked at Annette with a clueless look for a while before suddenly a thought crossed him.

"Ah, I see. Why didn't I think of it before? The Yellow Placid Lake is as dangerous to them as it is to us. Incidentally, this also makes the perfect place to hide the hostages. If the criminal organisations got rid of the overlord of the lake, they could just use the place for themselves since no sane-minded adventurer would ever dare to venture out there".

Blake's mumbling also woke the other up. Now that they thought about it, it made sense. Why else the criminal organisation would use the place if they hadn't gotten rid of the potential risk themselves?

Just the name Three Overlords evoked enough fear and alarm in the adventurers that it made them subconsciously ignore such places. Making it the perfect place to hide the hostages.

"Great, if there is no overlord there, we can win. Let's go save everyone"

With the threat of the overlord gone, the adventurers were once again filled with fighting intent.

They quickly divided themselves into three groups, one would stay here and monitor the overall situation while the other two teams would lead the raid. the underground cellar here, the other would go save the ones that are kept near the lake.

It was decided that Blake would lead one team while the other would be led by Alvara the guard captain.



"Your Highness, once again thank you for your help" Blake bowed his head towards Cynthia before moving on to ask a peculiar question.

"By the way your Highness, what would happen of the members of the Blades of Ascension? Why did you give them to those people?".

The reason why it was a peculiar question was because before the adventurers set out to raid the locations, Cynthia made it clear that they wouldn't kill the members of the Blades of Ascension now that their use was over.

Instead, they would be given to the group of demi humans. Needless to say, keeping a powerful enemy alive naturally evoked many concerns. However, since it was the elite group of demi humans who were given the task, they did not say anything.

After all, they were the ones to defeat the members of Blades of Ascension in the first place. However that said, it still weighed on the mind of others.

"You don't have to be concerned about it. They are not ordinary people, naturally, they have their own means"

Cynthia did not explain much either. She knew what was going to happen to these people after seeing the precedence of Marcus. Nevertheless, she was not in a position to divulge the secrets, especially when it came to 'His' people.

Getting the cue, Blake tactfully retreated. Since the raid was a surprise attack, there were no powerful guards stationed in the two locations. The raid teams would soon return with the hostages.

However, before that, the team which remained behind which included Cynthia, the old assassin Bert and Annette and the others, were responsible for finding a base from where they could operate from.

Needless to say, with so many people on their side and the hostages that were freed, they cannot simply return to the tower town. They need to find a base outside the town.

"Bert, go scout the place. Look for areas that are well hidden and have ample space" Cynthia ordered.

"Your Highness, you don't have to worry about finding a base. We can just use any area of the forest, Maybell here can make that place as impenetrable as an iron fortress while also hiding it from any outside perception" Annette suggested gesturing at Maybell.

"Is something like this possible?"

Cynthia was amazed, her eyes looked at the girl. No matter how she looked at her, she only seemed like a child. However, it was this child that had seemingly extraordinary power that was beyond her understanding.

"She has the power, Cynthia leave it to them" The Guardian Beast Leo spoke inside her mind.

Even it couldn't perceive the true depth of power these seemingly ordinary children had. However, based on the fact that they could command those powerful demi humans it could tell that they were even more powerful or had enough status to do so.

Cynthia nodded and agreed to leave the task to them.

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Five days later, near a river bank located at the southern borders, hordes of monsters could be seen drinking water here. All kinds of species were present from high level predators to low level prey.

In one corner of the place, a large inconspicuous formation was laid down, disconnecting the area and hiding it from the outside world. An invisible dome like film covered the area, making it impossible to peer inside.

The place was used by Cynthia and the adventurers as their base of operation and to shelter the hostages.

Tents were erected all over the place to shelter the people. Inside one such huge tent, all the leaders of the adventurers, Cynthia and her group were gathered. In addition to them, there were also the group of Annette and the demi human directly under the twins.

All of them were currently discussing something intensely.

"Our activities these past few days have been found out by the criminal organisations. They have started placing heavy guards to stop us from releasing the hostages"...

"There were too many high level warriors in the last location, we were almost wiped out if not for the timely aid from Her Highness' people"...

"That is not all, the whole town is in an uproar. From the spies we placed there, I got to know that we are being hunted all over the forest. Blake and the other's faces are already on the wanted list"

"Yesterday I saw a few people scouting this area. Thankfully we have the formation isolating us. However, I believe it won't stop there, soon more and more scouts will come looking for us"...

"This is a serious problem. What should we do? There are still a few locations holding people as hostages?".

The atmosphere inside the tent was heated. After the first raid five days ago, the resistance forces under Cynthia's lead, raided many other locations that were holding the families of the adventurers.