

Death Guns 381

Chapter 381: Alex Vs Leonardo

Alex and Leonardo disappeared and clashed.

Clangs!

Their weapons clashed, creating a shriek that sent sparks flying into the air. Alex tried to kick Leonardo, but the latter stopped the blow with his knee before trying to headbutt Alex in retaliation; Alex dodged before putting some distance between them.

They both stared at each other as if to see through each other before they vanished again.

Leonardo appeared behind Alex and slashed downwards with the sword. Alex spun around and parried with one arm; using his free arm, he summoned Silveria and fired point-blank range.

BANG!

One should have expected Leonardo to be caught off guard by this sudden attack; however, it wasn't what happened; somehow, he spun his sword to block the bullet.

Alex smiled before silently muttered Time Acceleration; he saw his speed increase while Leonardo slowed.

Instinctively, Leonardo noticed that something was not right; however, he didn't have the time to ponder about this as Alex had already before him; somehow, his speed was godly; unknown to Leonardo, it was because he was under the effect of Alex's Time Acceleration.

Alex created another weapon using Xerox; he aimed the two silver guns that shined under the sun against Leonardo's chest; the latter could see the dire situation he was in, he tried to summon lightning armor; however, even this seemed almost impossible as the activation of this shield seemed extraordinarily long and Alex wasn't going to wait for him.

Bullets struck Leonardo in the chest; the lightning was halfway formed when the bullets struck; at the last moment, Leonardo managed to bring his arm forward.

BANG!

The impact sent Leon crashing against the building behind him; he passed through it, destroying another one behind this one. The floor caved in, and the glass panels exploded into tinkling shards.

SCREECH~

"Cough!"

Leonardo coughed up a mouthful of blood. His chest and hand (the one he used to defend against those bullets) ripped open, and hot blood splashed out.

He ignored the pain, and he put his feet on the ground forcefully and stopped himself from dragging back any further.

"This is so much fun; I expect no more from you!" Leonardo grinned as blood trickled down his lips, his expression was twisted, whatever he experienced during those few days he disappeared had wholly changed on into a battle crazy.

"But now is the time we bring this to an end!"

He lifted his bloody hand towards the crevice in the sky before abruptly bringing it down.

"Lightning Descent!"

Zila~

The sky above them darkened, black lightning appeared and struck Leonardo, his body shuddered; usually, he should have been burnt to a cinder; however, it wasn't what happened, on the contrary, he had an ecstatic expression on his face as if he had taken a hot bath during winter.

Leonardo took a quick-draw stance bending a little, legs spread wide, one hand holding the sword sheath and the other on the guard of the sword he said [DOOM], instantly another Leonardo made of black lightning appeared having the same attacking stance as him.

When the real Leonardo unsheathed his sword, the lightning clone also did the same; they disappeared simultaneously.

Alex heightened his senses to the limit, his Divine Sense fully activated; he waited until the last moment before unleashing his attacks. His arms aimed left and right, he fired.

Bang!!!!

Two gunshots, however, six bullets tore through the air and arrived before the two Leonardo; the two had a calm expression on their faces as they moved their sword, choosing the same stance.

Split!!

Calmly they split the bullets into two; the split bullets continued on their destination, striking two pillars.

Boom!

Two large appeared on these pillars, almost destroying the structure of the building, making tilt forward.

Alex did a backflip to succeed in dodging two horizontal lightning slashes barely sent his way. He was still in the air when he aimed his two guns at the lightning clone and fired.

BANG!!!

Three bullets left the guns, one a millisecond less than the other, the first one speed through the air before the second arrived and struck him in the butt increased its speed to an astonishing level, and as if it wasn't enough, the third bullet struck the same support as the second bringing the first bullet speed close to March 2, lightning clone or not, he couldn't react in time before the super bullet struck him in the head, there was no sound only the lightning clone head behind pushed to an almost ridiculous degree before,

Boom!

Like a firecracker, it blossomed, creating a beautiful black and blue contrast.

Leonardo's expression didn't even change when his lightning clone was destroyed; on the contrary, he smiled, somehow; his speed doubled as if the destruction of his lightning clone boosted his speed.

Seeing this, Alex's eyes widened, Leonardo flashed next to him, his black sword moved, just some casual moves, yet the speed of his sword was dramatically increased to an astonishing level. Even so, Alex was not a pushover; he grinned, battle intent flashed through his heterochromia eyes accompanied by a crazy smile that seemed to indicate that he was enjoying this fight, a fight where the slightest lack of focus would result in a grave injury or worse a death, in a fight like these that you break your limit to grow stronger.

Alex surpassed his limit; he had to, green light covered his limit, his MP decreased at fast speed; even so, he didn't care, he moved his arms and fired.

Bang! Clangs!

Leonardo was shocked to see Alex being able to parry his sword using a bullet; he smiled, increased his speed to the limit that his body could handle. At this stage, it became impossible for naked eyes to follow them; the only thing visible was two lights moving, one black while the other blue followed these sounds.

Bang! Clangs! Bang! Clangs!

None of Leonardo's attacks managed to land on Alex as he could parry them at the last moment using his bullets; it was a godly move only he could accomplish.

Seeing none of them managed to have the ascendant on the other, they silently agreed to put a distance between them; they stared at each other, forgot about others, forgot about their goals, the only that remained was to trample on the other.

Chapter 382 - 375: Purgatory

Seeing none of them managed to have the ascendant on the other, they silently agreed to put a distance between them; they stared at each other, forgot about others, forgot about their goals, the only that remained was to trample on the other.

Strangely they have the same Rank; after joining the dark side, the unknown organization, Leonardo saw his level boosted catching up to his peers, his eternal rival, he even got a new power he would use on the man responsible for his downfall toward the dark side, all he wished for was to stand in the limelight, to receive all glory, to be the king enjoying all that comes with it; however, this was proven to be impossible as one said there couldn't be two captains inside the same cruise, even if Alex doesn't wish for it, he was bound to attract all attention, it was natural, so naturally for Leonardo who seeks attention he couldn't tolerate him, no matter what, therefore they would inadvertently clash at some point, it was what happened, if only Leonardo were not an attention seeker maybe these two would have become best friends, unfortunately, this was bound never to happen.

"Let's end this!" Leonardo announced, and his speed increased to the limit; he was faster than before, it was almost impossible for Alex to detect him.

Everything was happening at a speed impossible to describe, with the exploding circle reaching Alex instantaneously. Despite this, he smiled and said,

"Your speed has indeed increased to an astonishing degree; if it increased more than that, I might have trouble keeping up, but not now."

Turning around in a flash, he fiercely his green the covered into the exploding circle.

BOOOOM

A world-ending blast occurred, turning into a gigantic mushroom cloud. Simultaneously, green light that transformed into wind flames rippled outwards as shockwaves.

The Leonardo staggered back, its eyes reflecting the incredible sight of Alex.

Alex wasn't done yet; he was rushing through the mushroom cloud, splitting the mushroom cloud!

"To be honest, if I want to overpower you, it would be difficult even for me because somehow you have become incredibly powerful to extend of three weeks ago you asked me I would have said it was impossible," Alex acknowledged with a pleasant smile.

"As for obliterating you, that would be next to impossible as well; you know what."

"?!"

Leonardo's expression darkened; he decided that it was time to use that technique, the technique he acquired after joining that side; he smiled, showing his white teeth.

Suddenly, Leonardo's smile made Alex feel as if this was some ominous premonition.

While trying to make sense of this, it swiftly raised its hands to protect its chest as Leonardo's sword seemed suddenly to have transcended space, instantly reaching his chest.

But then Alex surprised the corpse by stopping the hammer just a hairsbreadth away.

【Master, the attention he was about to use a dangerous skill.】 Silveria suddenly warned.

Leonardo's lips curved up, and he said, "You push me into the pit of despair with no way out, I crawled back from hell, time to settle the score."

As these words entered Alex's ears, it felt an intense sense of crisis coupled with Silveria's warning. This crisis reached its peak when it heard the concluding phrase.

"Purgatory."

Swoosh~!

Suddenly, the alleyway turned pin-drop silent and turned blinding dark. Every source of light lost its function.

A sense of helplessness gripped everything. It was a helplessness every blind man would know in a strange environment, but it was new to those in the mausoleum.

RIPPPPPPP

In such an environment, just a mile behind the Alex, a slit violently ripped open. It was a gigantic eye.

The slit was not even as thick as a hair. Still, it was too bright, the radiating glow of countless colors swirling as if it was the insides of a kaleidoscope tube.

Alex hurriedly jerked its head at the slit. Memories that were suppressed in its brain awakened, and it realized where the slit led. It wasn't his memories; it came from Nyx; she identified the origin of this slit.

『Purgatory...So, they are the ones behind this, the ones backing the unknown organization.』 Nyx's voice echoed inside Alex's brain, informing of the origin of this slit.

Whoosh!

Ghost-like and demon-like figures appeared in the swirling colors, their expressions filled with hunger. They were pitch black, malevolent.

Alex looked at them; his heart momentarily froze.

"Do you think now is the time to be distracted?"

Leonardo's voice rang in Alex's ears, bringing it back to reality.

It quickly turned its head.

But it was too late.

BANG!

By then, Leonardo's sword had brutally pounded onto its chest.

Its chest caved in, and its back arched out while its body slammed into the slit. The ghost-like figures smiled and tried grabbing Alex, then their ethereal hands turned into chains and tightened around Alex, trying to bring Alex dragged inside the slit.

It was at that moment, Alex's right eye throbbed, followed by a click sound; it was the sound of something being released. Alex saw a scene, the scene of him being tied up to a gigantic altar, chains pierced his body from all sides, these chains were burning hot meaning he was being cooked alive, making matters worse, the altar on which he was being tied up was extremely cold, so he was feeling both burning and chilling sensation at the same time, numerous shadows and skeletons were crawling under his foot, wanting nothing more than swallowing it, it was eternal suffering.

Alex understood the future that awaited him if he were to enter that slit, so he mustered all his strength; his right eye shined icy blue, a large pupil appeared above the slit, instantly crushing it.

Bang!

Alex fell to the ground, Leonardo's chin almost fell to the fall, never would have he thought Alex was stopping him.

Just as he fell into the ground creating a small crater, Alex used Time Acceleration to appear before Leonardo; his head was throbbing, suddenly, he lost his balance and fell headfirst toward Leonardo, the latter finally reacted and thrust his sword forward, the black sword pierced Alex's chest before sending flying before he was sent flying Alex whispered something into Leonardo's ears, it was quick, nobody saw it.

BOOM!

Cough!"

Alex coughed up a mouthful of blood as he passed through several buildings before finally stopping at his fourth building. His chest and hands ripped open, and hot blood splashed out. His right arm was bent at an odd angle.

Leonardo looked in the direction Alex disappeared to before staring at the large scar on his chest; somehow, Alex managed to injure him; even with his strong vitality, the wound was closing at a plodding speed. Leonardo sighed before putting back his mask; this mask has a special function; it acts as GPS at the same time as a monitor.

"I will have another scar."

Leonardo muttered and became Cain after putting on the white mask; his expression had passive; nobody knew what he was thinking, not even the Lord monitoring him; he didn't show any expression after beating his nemesis.

Leonardo (Cain) moved inside the Duke's mansion and arrived at the hidden room; he walked in and was about to destroy the magic core, simultaneously, Alex had reverted to Sam, he was lying on the ground, his injuries slowly recovering, there was a smile on his face, like Leonardo nobody knows what he was thinking.

Chapter 383: Ignorance Is Bliss

When Alex and Leonardo were fighting, and the fight was about to end, Sakuya and Lilith arrived at the location where the Duke and Silver were fighting against Camilla, the vampire. They watched the ongoing fight with enchanted eyes.

Long white hair curled at the end, crimson eyes, white skin coupled with a beautiful face, and this beauty named Camilla, the vampire duchess, was effortlessly fighting two Rank 11 (almost Rank 12).

Suddenly, Camilla dodged Silver spear even when she was being locked inside the Duke's gravity cage. She disappeared into a mist before reappearing before the Duke; the latter increased his gravity cage to a hundredfold; Camilla's feet sank into the concrete; it should have been at that moment Silver would attack because Camilla was trapped; unfortunately, this didn't happen, Camilla smiled.

"Darkness Rise."

Then, the entire world before the Duke changed instantly!

The sky, earth, and everything from before disappeared. All of it was enveloped in pitch-black darkness, and only dots of starlight flickered around them. It seemed as though Camilla had thrown the Duke into outer space at this very instant. Upon realizing it, the Duke revealed a flustered and stunned expression.

He realized that the power he counted on the most was slowly vanishing! he couldn't use his gravity properly, nor could he feel Silver's presence.

It was a moment, Camilla flashed next to him and smacked the Duke across the cheek, sending them spiraling across the air like twirling ballerinas. The Duke broke several buildings before coming to a stop; he wiped the blood falling from his mouth; he felt like all the bones inside his bones were broken.

Camilla didn't give chase; she became vigilant all of a sudden; she possessed extremely sharp sense, she had a bad feeling. Or maybe that should be called conviction. She felt a chill as if the hair on her back stood on end; this feeling originated from neither Silver nor the Duke, not from the two girls hiding.

Suddenly, Camilla raised her left arm; sharp nails appeared; she doesn't like to use weapons that often as she believes that the greatest weapon is one body; however, for the first time since her apparition, Camilla's frowned and looked at her arm on the ground, unexpectedly, it had been cut off, she didn't even notice it, staring at the man that somehow appeared not far from her, she sighed and picked her severed arm.

"So, it's one of the Emperor Shadow, no wonder. I guess I should get serious." She said before huge amount of magic burst out from her body; it was crimson in color, the Duke was sent flying.

Sakuya and Lilith clutched a stone pillar not to be sent flying while one of the Emperor's Shadows, the one Alex encountered in Elesim, shielded Silver; his expression was calm, he yawned before glancing in Sakuya direction, his gaze lingered on her for a second, their eyes locked, Sakuya felt naked under the man gaze, so unconsciously she gulped, the man chuckled and silently moved his lips, reading it Sakuya was able to understand what the man meant to convey.

'Just watch.'

Then he moved, he simply lowered his center of gravity, putting one leg in front of the other, lowered his katana he unsheathed, and Sakuya saw it, the image got imprinted forever inside her brain, Camilla was cut into million pieces, it was the ultimate sword skill.

However, something even more astonishing happened, Camilla was back even after getting cut into million pieces, almost as if she could rewind time, there was no injury on her body, the only thing worth noticing was the fact that she became paler, she was panting, she glared at the man with katana and mumbled.

"Even that wasn't enough. I should use my weapon. Come forth I-"

Camilla stopped calling out her Gift; she stared in a specific direction before looking at the man with katana and smiled.

"We won."

Following this announcement, there was a massive explosion in the Duke's mansion. A tremendous amount of magic exploded, soared, and bloomed in the sky like a firecracker; the Duke, Silver, had an ugly expression on their face.

"No good!"

They shouted before disappearing; they were going back to the Duke's mansion. They ignored Camilla, who became expressive suddenly, just because they succeeded in completing their goal.

"Hahahaha! I shall take my leave; we succeed in our goal. Until next time stay safe." Camilla said before transforming into countless small bats and disappeared.

Until the end, the man with the katana, who goes by the name of Kamishiro's expression, remained unchanged even after feeling the huge protect shield protecting Celesta vanish entirely after Leonardo broke the magic core. Camilla attributed this to the fact that the Emperor Shadows being formed not to have any emotions no matter the situation. If only she knew the truth; as one said, ignorance is bliss.

Kamihiro turned into Sakuya and Lilith's direction; the two came out, knowing better than anybody what was happening.

"You know, my previous emperor once said: Ignorance was actually a kind of happiness, just like how some people believed that they weren't brainwashed, but in fact, they were always accepting the intelligence of the brainwashing. Some people believed that they were the ones who controlled their fate but weren't aware that everything they did was predetermined in their lives. The more one knew, the more pain one would suffer from. But the problem was that almost no one knew whether they truly understood the truth of fate in this world. You know, just like who was standing at this place a moment ago, she thought that everything was under their control, that they were the ones playing the tune unaware that they are dancing on someone's else tune." Kamishiro said while staring at the sky; he stayed silent for a while before turning to face Sakuya.

"Lady Sakuya should one day visit the Far East, the Miko shine, I believe there is something worth there. Well, I wouldn't waste more of your time here I have to go. Good evening Demon princess. Please pass my thank to your man for having come up with such an interesting plan. See you."

Chapter 384: Trapped

Sakuya and Lilith stared at each other after Kamishiro disappeared; they both chuckled, and Lilith inquired.

"What are your plans?"

Sakuya's stopped and stared at Lilith with surprise; there was no need to ask what Lilith was talking about; she was probably referring to her plan for the Far East Empire; what she would do? Would she go or not? This surprised Sakuya as normally Lilith would have asked this; this means she was slowly changing, slowly accepting them, her to be more exact.

"What?"

Sakuya's silence made Lilith frown; she wondered what happened. Was her question too insensible?

"Hahaha! Nothing, I will eventually go because I feel that something is waiting for me there. I hope when the time comes, you will follow me. For now, let's focus on our current mission." Sakuya said while glancing at Lilith to see her reaction, and she was not disappointed.

Lilith looked elsewhere while saying, "Who knows!"

"Hahaha! Sure, let go back." Sakuya chuckled; she found Lilith's reaction extremely cute, not that she would tell her this. The girls disappeared; they rejoined Alex, whose injuries had recovered.

At the same time, somewhere in Avalon, the moment Leonardo broke apart that magic stone, the invisible shield protecting Avalon vanished, making it possible to infiltrate it. This was precisely the aim of the demon and the unknown organization; they wanted to disable the invisible shield always protecting Avalon to infiltrate a certain facility safely; if this shield was active, they could never succeed breaking through it except by sacrificing untold amount of demons and monsters. What they were after is of the utmost importance; this thing was located in the underground maze of the fallen palace, the imperial family's former palace.

Two individuals, one woman and the other a man. They were wearing a crimson robe with a white mask having the same design as Leonardo's when under Cain's identity.

"Fufufu! Soon we will get our hand on that key, one of the five keys to help our Lord. I can be happier." The woman said her happiness couldn't be hidden even with a mask on her face; she was probably grinning like a fool behind that mask.

"Stay vigilant; who knows what we might face. This is not some leisure trip; everything can happen. Never forgot that." The man warned; his voice was rough.

"Hmph!"

The girl harrumphed; she never understood the cautious nature of this partner; they are both Saint, which in itself is pretty rare. They are the most robust existence beside the Demi-God, so there's no need to fear, especially when nobody should be aware of their presence here. Even if some guardians are protecting that key, they weren't something there should fear, not now that the invisible shield that could give away their identity and suppress their power was disabled.

The two kept walking silently forward; strangely, they didn't encounter anyone, even the girl started to find the situation unusual; however, she believes in her senses, she had swept the underground tunnels but never found anything.

After walking for another fifteen minutes, the Duo stopped before a room with gigantic doors. Behind these doors, they could feel the presence of five individuals, 3 Grandmasters and two Saint Realm experts whose levels weren't high as their levels.

The two looked at each other through their masks; they smiled before moving, the doors automatically opened themselves let the two walk-in.

Immediately, the five guards guarding the altar, which had a black key on top of it, raised their weapons.

"Intruders state your goals. Where do you come from?" Asked the head guards and as one could expect, the two didn't answer, the female disappeared to reappear before one of the guards, her arm was going toward the latter neck, and once she caught it, she would have twisted it, she loves the sound it makes, it gives her a unique sensation.

"Four, wait." The man shouted; however, his warning was late; the moment Four's arm gripped the guard's neck, the latter vanished as if he had never existed.

"What?"

Instinctively, Four knew that something was not right here; she tried to retreat; however, she couldn't. The other four guards vanished like a mirage.

Giri~

Then the giant doors closed behind them, and numerous individuals appeared surrounding them. It was at this moment the Four and Two knew they had fallen into a trap.

"Since when did you notice?" Two asked; he was eerily calm; however, inwardly, he asked himself where they had done wrong; however, he couldn't think of anything other than wait. This position sent shiver down his bones, making him tremble; if previously he had the confidence to face so many enemies (5 Saints et 15 Grandmasters alongside many Masters), now it wasn't sure anymore because if things are like he thought then they were screw up, so severely that it is hilarious.

"Two, what going on? Let's kill these weaklings and retrieve the key. I can praise them for laying an ambush for us, but so what? We are stronger if will not be a group of weak humans that can stop us. Let's slaughter them."

Like usual, Four is a battle maniac with zero ability to read the situation rambled. Two felt compelled to massage his forehead, feeling headache coming; he almost shouted, you were previously a human when Four said, weak humans. Never underestimate humans. If not, the cost you will pay would be huge.

"Shut up, Four, we have lost. We have been played. They lured us here." Two declared.

"What?"

This declaration was like a vast slap on Four's face akin to thunder striking close to her; the eyes behind the mask were widened beyond description.

Clap! Clap!

"Well, said Two. I believe that is your codename. I'm wrong?"

Suddenly, there were clapping sounds followed by Julius's voice. Unexpectedly the emperor, the strongest of the emperors, personally came out, immediately everyone except Two and Four kneeled at the emperor's arrival.

"Rise!" Julius said and observed Two and Four with a smile.

Sigh!

Two sighed and tried not to tremble, even though he had thought of this possibility when he understood that they had been lured, he still almost controlled himself in the presence of the God-like presence, even if Julius stood there doing nothing, simply smiling, the innate coercion that appears when one reaches a certain level was still there. He almost wanted to kneel; however, he knew he must not act rashly, not give in to fear if not everything would be lost; he was secretly trying to contact the headquarter.

However, not everything knows to put their fear under control. It is said that when fear exceeds human capacity, this human will act irrationally, it exactly what happened in Four's case.

She felt so much fear that blood rushed to her head; she threw all rationality to the trashbin and lunged on the emperor, something she would have normally never done.

"Die Human emperor scum." She bellowed and unleashed all her strength.

Julius let slip an almost inaudible sigh before slowly raised his right hand before letting down and.

Boom!

Four was instantly pummeled to the ground by an invisible force, creating a giant crater; she quietly lay in this crater, limbs bent to an unnatural angle, all the bones inside her body were broken, she kept vomiting blood nonstop.

Gulp!

Everyone except Julius and Two gulped; rarely they have seen their emperor fight; no, they have never seen him, at least those present here, so they were shocked by the fact that the emperor could pummel a Saint Realm expert to the ground so casually.

Two sighed, thinking as expected of Demigod expert.

Smiling like a father trying to have a peaceful conversation with his runaways son, Julius said.

"Let's talk, shall we? By the way, the shield has been reactivated, so no communication, no reinforcement."

This information pushed, Two deeper into the already sinking abyss. Indeed, they have been played; they have never been the hunter, but instead, they were the prey, and they are now trapped.

Chapter 385: Gracier's Training 1

Two weeks passed in a flash since the demon's infiltration; nothing noteworthy happened. Julius failed to acquire any information with the two captured targets; they died because their hearts suddenly stopped working, probably due to a curse put on them. No demon nor members of the unknown organization was seen; they knew they were fooled; even after losing two strong members, they stayed hidden.

Alex's group disguised Sam, Mio and Elsa continued to travel toward the demon continent, accepting missions along the way.

Currently, they are fighting against the weakest monster.

With a casual swing of the Razor, the custom-made black long knife sliced three Goblins at the torso. Goblin blood and entrails were scattered everywhere.

Frowning at the uncomfortable sweat coming out around his eyes, Alex looked towards Sakuya, fighting nearby. Avoiding a wide swing of a long rusty sword, the next moment, the tip of her katana sheath quickly pierced into the Goblin's forehead before being swiftly withdrawn. It looked like a practiced series of movements.

Alex shifted his attention to Lilith.

What had unfolded was a one-sided stomp rather than a fight. A Goblin desperately wielded a rusted spear, which Lilith easily dodged and destroyed the goblin's head with the back of her sword.

Quickly, the group cleared the thirty goblins blocking the road; having how easily they were dying, the remaining goblins fled at shocking speed.

Normally, with the difference in strength, they shouldn't have never attacked the group because instinctually, they knew they were not Alex's group match. However, they still attacked, meaning they were desperate to disregard everything to attack a strong; something wasn't right. Alex's group was encountering more and more of this situation, almost as if monsters, especially weak monsters, lost their place, were forced to migrate, forced to search for food elsewhere than their usual place, and Alex was not so free to investigate the cause behind this.

The group had made considerable progress during the past week, with Alex leveling up twice, Sakuya thrice, and Lilith twice. Like this, Alex level 107, Sakuya Level 88, while Lilith is level 108, one more than Alex.

Alex still hasn't used his SP. As the group silently road the carriage toward the next town, Sakuya sighed.

"I wonder what the others are doing right now, especially little Gracier."

"Probably training," Alex answered. Maria was training under Freya, Luna under that paladin while Gracier was with Artemia.

"I want to train to. Come spar with me." Sakuya said with a yawn.

Alex smiled, "We will, don't worry."

"I would like to spar with you two. We will use our full strength." Lilith, who had her eyes closed, opened them and said there was no way she would miss out on the opportunity to fight Alex one time; the last defeat she hadn't forgotten about it; she wished for revenge.

"I don't mind," Alex responded as he drove the carriage forward.

At the same time, back in Avalon, in one of the numerous forests on the floating capital, a young girl could be seen running toward the forest; naturally, this young girl was none other than Gracier, Alex's sister. Under Artemia's order, she had come to take a mission, a B Rank request.

The request is pretty simple; she must rescue a group of adventurers who went to kill a Gamelion, a rabbit-like monster extremely sought because of how tasty their flesh is; Gamelion meat is highly demanded in high-class restaurants. Gracier firstly accepted this mission because she couldn't bear to let fellows adventurers suffer, not when their children and wives come daily to ask for other adventurers to rescue them. It has been two days since their disappearance. Their family went so far by putting money together to issue a mission on top of the guild mission. Secondly, Gracier would supply the Gamelion's meat to her brother's restaurant.

Gracier, who had to grow up a bit, dashed through the forest in the search for the missing adventurers; it would have been easy if she could use her full strength; however, this would have gone against the goal of this training because this was the aim of this training, she was forbidden for using her full

strength, she could only use fireball and magic shield. This training aims to train her physical strength, train her to be able to still fight after running out of MP because a situation like this was bound to happen; if she couldn't fight, then she would die.

Gracier smiled before suddenly; her pointed ears picked up sounds coming from a specific direction, without hesitation, she dashed toward that direction. Even without using blaze step, her speed was breakneck, and soon she arrived she saw adventurers fleeing from a monster, becoming they were dragging a fellow injured adventurers, their speed was slow.

However, what shocked Gracier wasn't the scenes of adventurers fleeing for their lives but instead the monster chasing them; normal Gamelion didn't exceed 3 m tall; however, the one chasing those adventurers was 8 m tall, meaning it's a rare species. Normal Gamelions are C Rank monsters; however, this rare species is equal to B Rank, no wonder the mission was B Rank.

Gracier smiled before jumping to land violently between the group and the big monster.

"Quickly leave the forest; carriage is waiting outside," Gracier told the adventurers without turning back; she summoned Ignia in her scythe form.

The adventurers momentarily lost their capability to think because of the absurd scene in front of them; a small child stood between them and a monster three times her height; no matter how you see, she would be crushed.

"Are you deaf? Quickly scam." Gracier shouted; she was getting annoyed; instead of using this opportunity to escape, they were blankly staring at her.

Finally, the adventurers moved, helping each other they left after one of them said.

"Thank you, please be careful."

Gracier smiled, thinking at least they are not ungrateful; she stopped smiling and stared at the rare species Gamelion; the latter was looking at the punny human that appeared and stopped its hunt; she must have a death wish thought the Gamelion.

Roar!

The Gamelion roared and charged at Gracier.

Chapter 386: Gracier's Training 2

Having its prey stolen under its nose left the rare species Gamelion furious.

Roar!

The Gamelion roared and charged at Gracier. The latter wasn't idling either, putting strength into her weapon; she swung it at the rare species, which was about 5m away.

"Flying Slash!"

Saying the Red Scythe's skill, Gracier let loose a flying slash. As its name, a slash flew out.

"Gaaa~!"

Maybe it felt the power of the slash. The rare species Gamelion leaped high into the sky with a cry.

As expected of a monster similar to a rabbit, its jumping power easily jumped over the flying slash. It was also a jump on the spot. From this, Alex could see the intelligence of the rare species, who didn't jump forward to close the distance to her and her scythe.

Swoosh!

The moment Gracier thought that she heard a sound of whistling air, and he swung the red Scythe almost on reflex.

Kin~!

At the same time, a metallic sound echoed out as something clashed against Gracier's scythe.

"Gugya!"

Right after, she heard the rare species scream. She glanced at a 3 m rope-like object that fell to the ground for a moment before raising her eyebrows; it was the monster's long tail, longer than an ordinary Gamelion tail.

"Ga...gaaaaaa!"

It seems that it was angry that its tail had been cut off so easily. The rare species gave a large cry and showed its powerful fangs, which were overwhelmingly more prominent than the ordinary Gamelion. It was to intimidate Gracier. Nevertheless, she didn't lose her nerve when confronted by its rage and anger. Instead, she pointed her scythe at the monster, and from its tip, a fireball the size of volleyball was formed, then she swung the scythe.

It was fast enough that it would have been unavoidable for low-rank monsters. However, Gracier was fighting a rare species of Gamelion, which was usually a rank C monster but was now equivalent to a rank B monster. In addition, because it was a rabbit-based monster, its instantaneous power and speed were relatively high.

"Kyuiii~!"

It gave a short cry; the rare species avoided the fireball by jumping sideways. Without pause, it pushed all its strength into its hind legs to jump towards Gracier and make her pay for cutting off its tail.

Roar~

Then the monster felt shivers.

"!?"

The rare species looked around on reflex to find the sound source and saw that the fireball had burnt a 2 m diameter area to nothing with its overwhelming power. Even the grass affected by the magic power of the Forest of intermediate (farming ground for intermediate adventurers) and never withered all year round had been turned to ash before Gracier's flames. The monster almost gulped; this girl is dangerous; she must be killed asap, thought the monster.

Gracier decided to end the fight as she had finished gauging the monster's strength; with her suppressed level, she would have no trouble dealing with it without breaking her seals, because she didn't have Appraisal skills like Alex and others, Gracier couldn't know the monster level, she could only speculate, to her this monster is around level 70, 80 at the most.

Swoosh!

Gracier disappeared, the rare species felt a sense of crisis; relying on its instinct, the monster jumped back. Gracier smiled and continued to walk toward the monster slowly.

Realizing that it was being overwhelmed by this small human, unlike its earlier angry voice, the rare species cried as if to inspire itself.

"Kyu kyuuu!!!!"

The rare species revealed its long sharp fangs to threaten Gracier. The Gamelion was 8m in size. Its mouth and fangs were huge, and for someone of Gracier's size, it could swallow her in a single gulp. Even if that was impossible, if it pierced her with its fangs, it could inject poison. And if that happened, Gracier would die, so the monster thought.

Using abilities unique to Gamelions, it jumped forward to strike with its fangs before entering the Gracier's Scythe's range.

"Gakin~!"

However, the fangs that should have struck Gracier were blocked by the flame shield that appeared so suddenly that it startled the monster.

Almost simultaneously, Gracier put all the strength she could muster into the scythe and swing it.

"!?"

The rare species recognized the blade of the red Scythe approaching it and tried to catch the attack with its right blade ear almost on reflex.

The sharp blade ear would have been able to block it if it had been an ordinary long sword or spear swung. Alternatively, it might even have been able to cut through the weapon. However, the weapon this time was a magic item called Gift formed from the soul of its user, said to be almost indestructible. It surpasses any ordinary weapons and is coupled with Gracier's enhanced physical strength. As a result, the rare species' right blade ear could hardly resist it, and it was neatly sliced off.

Gracier flicked her wrist and swept the Scythe around, turning the blade towards the rare species again.

No skill was used, only pure physical strength.

"Gagyaaaaa!!!"

As the cutting edge of the blade fell, the power of the attack was increased by Gracier's physical strength. The rare species was hit by it, dyeing its usually proud fur with blood. It was blown away nearly seven meters while raising a shriek. After rolling along the ground for several meters, it finally stopped moving.

"Are you joking?"

Among the adventurers watching from the forest, the man who seemed to be the leader murmured.

The man was the one who had said a few words before leaving. However, it was already impressive that he had been able to speak. All his other friends had yet to fix their breathing and couldn't say anything at all.

Gracier had blown away the 8 m large rare species. She was only around 165 cm and looked to be a delicate child. However, what she had just done, a delicate child couldn't do it.

Fully aware that people were watching her, Gracier ignored them and stared at the half-dead monster trying so badly to get up. Putting strength into her legs, Gracier shot forward; she passed by the half-dead monster before stopping 2 meters at its back; nobody saw how her scythe moved except the strongest existence hiding.

What the others saw was the head of the rare species flying in the air. From the top of its neck to the bottom, its head was cleanly cut off. Blood spurt into the air dyeing the monster fur red as it crouched before falling.

Gracier collected the monster's body before, under the astonished eyes of the adventurers who still hadn't gotten over the previous, vanished.

"Bloody hell."

Shouted one of them, finally left for the guild.

Floating in the sky was Artemia dressed in black training gear; she was holding Gracier, who was waiting for her evaluation.

"Not bad, 8 out of 10," Artemia announced the result of this training; Gracier smiled; however, she smiled more at Artemia's following words.

"Let's move, the next training is about skills, you can finally unleash your meteor skill."

Chapter 387: Gracier's Training 3

After Artemia and Gracier left the forest of intermediate, they appeared in another forest.

The forest was enormous, luminous, and diverse. Its canopy was monopolized by beech, maple, and cedar, and abundant dancing lights bounced through their crowns for scattered mushrooms to reign the fertile soils below.

Bundled branches hung from a couple of trees, and a potpourri of flowers, which were seen occasionally, enriched the otherwise dark scenery.

A variety of noises, most belonged to foraging animals, added life to the forest, and overpowered the occasional sounds of birds of prey gliding in the air.

Strangely, Gracier felt no presence of monsters.

Having noticed Gracier's confusion, Artemia smiled and explained.

"This a special forest at the other side of the capital. As you have noticed, this part of the forest doesn't have any monsters only ordinary animals. This is the outer edge of the forest; only in the forest's depth will you see monsters. You can fight to your heart content here, unleash whatever skill you want without fear of damaging the forest because it will regenerate afterward."

"I see. Where are we going?" Gracier asked this.

"Follow me," Artemia said and walked deeper until they saw a platform; using this platform, they appeared in the depth of the forest, in an arena-like space.

"What is your current level?" Artemia asked the moment they stood atop the platform in the middle of the open space.

"Level 78," Alex answered while checking her status.

『[Gracier Alexandra Touch]

「 Rank 8」

Level 78

Class: Fire Empress

Age: 14

Female

Race: High Half-Elf

Experience Value: 10200/37000

Magic Power: 3500/3500

Magic: Fire Magic

Attack: 1310 ➤ 1335

Defense: 700 ➤ 725

Agility: 800 ➤ (+50 BP) 875

Intelligence: 800 ➤ 825

Luck: 700 ➤ 725

BP: 0

SP: 10

Gift: Ignia's Bracelet

Skills: [Cooking Level 4] [Sewing Level 3] [Fireball Level 5] [Fire Arrows Level 4] [Meteor Level 1] (New)
[Fire Snake Level 4] [Flame Shield Level 5] [Presence Detection Level 5] [Chantless Magic Level 8] [Fire Lotus Level 5] [Archery Level Max] [Blaze Steps Level 5] [Golden Arrows Level 1]

Special Ability: [Dragon Eye Level 10 Max] [Flame Wings Level 3] [Dragon's Breath Level Level 2] [Lord of Hundred Flames] (New) {Dark Mode (Sealed due to its instability)}

Titles: [Avenger] [Child of Fire] [The Awakened] [The Diligent] [Lord of Flames]]

"I see, that's good. I hope you still have not used your SP yet?" Artemia inquired.

"No, I still haven't used them. I'm waiting for your instruction." Gracier responded, she still doesn't understand why Artemia forbade her from immediately using her SP; however, she knew she was about to get the answer to this question soon, and indeed she was not wrong; Artemia began to explain the reason behind her order.

"You see, most people often mistook immediately spending their SP on their skills as a normal thing to do; however, it isn't the right thing to do. Let's me explain to you why I have said this."

Artemia's words had caught Gracier's attention; she nodded her head, ready to listen to Artemia's full explanation.

"Why is it not a bad thing to immediately distribute your SP. You will acquire more benefits if you practice your skill, having the minimum mastery over it before spending SP on it; this increases the overall capacity. More than anything, you will have perfect mastery over it. For example, if two persons have the same skill and one spends more time practicing his skill before using SP. The other only spend SP doing nothing, at the Max level, the person who practices hard before spending SP will have his max skill power will be doubled compared to the other that only use a shortcut, it's why I have suggested not to use your SP yet on your meteor skill." Artemia explained why she had stopped Gracier from spending her SP on her meteor skill; if not for her, Gracier would have used all her SP on her meteor skill as she believes that it was her strongest skill with the more destructive force among her skills.

"I see; I understand your reasoning. Does my brother know about this?"

Gracier couldn't help but think about her brother after hearing Artemia's explanation, she wanted to know if Alex knew about this information and the answer was negative.

"I doubt it, don't worry, I will tell him later. You should also know that your brother is special, possesses special training methods, so there's no need to be concerned about this; however, just in case, I will have to tell him."

Smiling, Gracier said, "I will appreciate it if you do that."

Artemia nodded, "Let's us begin."

Immediately following this announcement, she vanished; two Artemia appeared, one at the front while the other at the back of Gracier they hands thrust forward.

A normal person shouldn't react in time; however, Gracier was different, especially after training under Artemia's spartan training; not dodging this attack would have shamed her master.

A crimson flame appeared under Gracier's feet, launching her into the sky like a rocket. She didn't waste time before deploying a flame shield under her foot, and flame wings appeared at her back, making her float in the sky.

Fwoosh!!

Boom!

Immediately after Gracier deployed the flame shield under her feet, a lightning spear struck it, creating an explosion that destroyed the shield. Fortunately, Gracier had fly higher, dodging the explosion.

Aiming Ignia in her bow form at Artemia looking at her.

Tuk! Tuk!!!!!!

In a single shot, seven flame arrows were fired. Facing the incoming arrows, Artemia's expression was calm as the surface of the water; she summoned her Gift in the form of a spear and swung it, she deflected all incoming arrows to the side.

Gracier smiled when she saw this; immediately following her command, those flame arrows which had previously fallen on the ground blossom into a beautiful yet deadly fire lotus flower, and how could Artemia haven't known this?

Just as the fire lotus tried to swallow her, Artemia flicked her fingers; however, for Gracier, it was like the announcement of the grim reaper; she heard the flicking sound loud and clear, her eyes widened, it was then she came to learn that Artemia previous attempt to strike her with that lightning spear from the ground wasn't without purpose, the scattered lightning after the explosion have gathered together and unexpectedly struck her before she could deploy a shield. Like that Gracier was struck by lightning and lost the ability to fly, she pummeled toward the ground at astonishing speed.

Artemia was still standing where she stood since the beginning; she thrust her spear at the falling Gracier; five lightning spears were sent toward Gracier; the latter knew what would happen if those lightning spears struck her, so she moved her paralyzed body, the mouth was enough. Finally, struggling enough, Gracier managed to open her mouth and unleash dragon breath.

She spewed fire from her mouth toward Artemia, and because of her proximity to the ground, Artemia should have been caught off guard; however, just as the flame was about to reach her, blue lightning appeared around Artemia and parted and tried to divide the incoming in two, it was then Gracier showed why she got the title Child of fire, she changed the flame and a gigantic flame fist that struck Artemia, the latter widened her eyes, she had fought numerous times with this girl, however, her control over the Fire element, her quick decision never ceases to amaze Artemia, even though she suppressed her Rank at the same level as Gracier, she almost lost because of the sudden element of surprise.

Grinning, Artemia's figure blurred at the last moment, leaving the giant flame fist struck empty air.

Boom!

An enormous crater appeared on the ground; numerous trees were uprooted and burnt to a cinder; Gracier wasn't happy at all; she felt chill down her bones; she tried to turn around; however, it was already too late.

Bam! Boom!

Artemia, which appeared behind her, punched her to the ground; the strike was so strong that Gracier felt that all the bones inside her body almost broke as she embedded on the ground face; first, she created a small crater not too far from the one she created using that flame fist.

Artemia landed softly on the ground and watched Gracier stand up, she said.

"You lost, always stay hundred percent focused during a fight, until the last moment your opponent may use some mean to reverse the situation, however, if you are attentive enough she can cope with any unexpected situation." Artemia lectured Gracier; the latter lifted her head wiped the blood around her mouth, and nodded to indicate that she understood Artemia's words; she was careless; it won't happen again, she vowed to herself.

"Great, although I wish for us to continue, we will stop for today. I have something to take care of. Sorry, we will come back later." Artemia announced; Gracier was disappointed; she thought she would unleash her meteor skill today; I guess it won't happen.

Just now, one of Artemia's men on a mission informed her of something; she must go back and check it. It was why she canceled today's training.

"Let's go," Artemia said before leaving with Gracier; she thought if her subordinate information was correct, then she might be able to know the traitor's identity.

Chapter 388 - 381: Lucifer's Return

Alex's group continued to travel toward the demon continent. Currently, they arrived in a city known for welcoming couples and family on vacation, Blue Ivy, the coastal city. Also known for its Hot springs like the one in the Far East Empire, most people visit this town at least because of the Hot springs and Alex's group wasn't an exception, they could have chosen a detour, however, they didn't, this could mean they want to take a short rest here.

Entering the town that looks like a mixture of modern buildings and traditional buildings like Tokyo, Alex and the group when to the best Inn Blue Ivy had to offer, The Rising Jade Inn, a five floors pagoda.

They booked two rooms on the highest floors, and naturally, this Inn has its own hot springs.

After entering their rooms, they decided to take a rest before visiting the hot springs later.

•••••

~ Demon's continent, the throne room.

"Damn you, Julius."

Crack! BANG!

In the throne room in the depth of the demon continent, a heavy atmosphere weighed on all those present as they kneeled, their forehead against the ground.

Even though their face was covered in sweat, no one even dared to move in order to wipe it out.

They knew that with what happened, it wouldn't be surprising if Lucifer, known for his short temper, decided to take the head of everyone currently present.

Lucifer wanted to improve his standing within the organization; it was why he volunteered to take care of Avalon's ultimate shield; he believes he had a chance.

The plan's premise was simple, first open up a path for the organization numbers to infiltrate the capital and retrieve one of the keys; everything should have worked fine because he made sure of it.

Most importantly, for the next war, there must acquire this key, timing is the key, but now all failed.

Just thinking about the shame or the extent of his current wrath and shame was enough to make them lower their heads even more.

They even wished they could completely bury their heads in the ground. They had promised to succeed in this mission as Lucifer tried to conquer that dungeon, as he couldn't personally go down even with his suppressed level, Lucifer chose to supervise, to search, no train talent to go down and get what he wanted, so he was busy, he left the task of the ultimate shield to one of his men to handle.

"Who was the fool who told me that that he could complete the mission!?"

None of them dared to step forward.

"I said... Who!?"

ROAR

The heaviness in the air became almost physical as the ground itself began to crack and splinter.

The roar was so loud that some of the servants had their eardrums burst and blood flow from their ears. Despite this, neither the servants nor the officials kneeling in front of the emperor complained. Lucifer's right-hand man stood beside him with a shield deployed around him; he had wished to be the one to take care of the plan; however, Lucifer wanted him beside him, so he complied.

Finally, one of them, a demon with a goat-like horn, raised his head and advanced toward Lucifer while still kneeling before lowering his head once again.

"I am terribly sorry, your majesty! This whole situation is my fault! I should have reevaluated the situation more after the first failure."

"I see. Then, how will you repent?"

At this question, the demon with goat-like horn once again raised the upper part of his body and said with a quivering face.

"I pray you, your majesty, bestow death to me. But on account of all the service I accomplished, spare my family!!"

At the demon's words, Lucifer's purple eyes turned dark, his face contorted.

"Oh? Are you giving me orders?"

"I wouldn't dare."

"I see. Then do not worry. I am a man of parole. Your family will be safe."

"I sincerely thank you for your benevolence."

Once he said so, he stretched his right hand and received a long curved black sword from the hand of a servant before placing the edge of the blade against the left side of his neck.

Closing his eyes, he took a deep breath, then using his other left hand, he hit the blade with all his strength.

Splash

Blood spurted as his head fell, followed by his powerless body.

All the retainers shivered, but none moved. They were already used to such scenes. At Lucifer being merciless, the man slaughtered his own family; from this, you could see how cruel he is.

Looking expressionlessly at the blood staining the ground, Lucifer finally spoke; his words sent shivers down to those kneeling spines.

"Does this man has a mistress and twins?" Lucifer asked.

"I-I think he did."

Answered one of a kneeling man, he was shaking, he knew what was about to come next would not be pleasant and indeed he was right.

"Good, kill them all, I will live his main lineage alive, I'm such benevolent being." Lucifer's order was absolute.

"As you wish."

Responded one of the kneeling men before disappearing to complete Lucifer's order; the remaining men were left kneeling while shivering; they prayed for Lucifer's madness to stop there if not, they may all lose their heads alongside their family slaughtered.

Glancing at the shivering men, Lucifer snorted.

"You are dismissed. And someone! Come take this corpse away and clean this filthy blood."

Everyone except for Lucifer's right-hand man left the throne room.

"Tell me, have you succeed in locating my sister? Has she left the empire yet?"

"We are still searching, although she tried to make us believe she was still inside the empire I believe she left around two weeks ago, as for where she currently at, what she looks like we have no clue." the man in purple dragon robe answered.

"I see; keep your guard up. Knowing Lilith, she will try to sabotage our plan; we must succeed; you know how vital this is for the next step." Lucifer said, arms crossed at his back.

"Don't worry, we will."

"You can go. Tell the vampire duchess that I wish to see her." Lucifer said to the retreated man; he bowed and left.

"I must get that thing to become more stronger. I will rule over everything."

Black aura burst out from Lucifer's body, instantly turning the throne hall dark his body bristling with sparks of dark lightning, he looked like a beast ready to shred everything to pieces

Chapter 389 - 382: The Queen Of Underworld

Two hours passed in a flash, Alex could be seen heading toward the hot springs. This would be his first time in this world; back on Earth, he likes to soak in Onsen, like Japanese people like to call every time he visits Japon.

As for Sakuya and Lilith, they went ahead, saying stuff like girls needs time to prepare before enjoying a heavenly bat; as Japanese herself, Sakuya was fond of Onsen, to the extent that she let slip that Alex should build one in their house in future.

"Future house, huh?"

Alex thought, he became lost in thoughts, so he collided with someone walking in front of him.

"My apologies, I was lost in thoughts." Alex immediately apologizes to the man.

The man in question smiled, waving his hands to indicate that he didn't take it to heart.

"I'm also at fault." The man lowered his body to help Alex pick up his towel, which had fallen onto the ground during their collision.

Alex smiled, feeling embarrassed; when he looked closely, the man seemed to be in his early twenty, beautiful long white hair, cerulean eyes; he wore a monocle on his left eye, which was strange considering that he was going to take a bath.

'Well, it doesn't concern me.' Alex thought and tried to leave.

[[This man is sure strange. I can't feel anything from him what you be impossible. Be cautious around him.]]

[[He is dangerous.]]

Alex was shocked to hear the siblings' warning; however, he didn't let it show on his face, politely he tried to leave.

"Once again, I'm sorry. I shall take my leave. If fate allows it, we shall meet again."

"Sure, we will meet again, I'm sure of it, Mr. Sam. Please take care; by the way, I'm Zero."

The white-haired man said, although Alex wished to ask him how the hell he knows his name, he refrained from asking, and he hastily left; the more time he spent standing beside the man, the more dreads he felt.

Looking at the retreating Alex's back, Zero smiled and mumbled.

"What interesting young man. Although you tried to conceal it, you possessed a huge amount of mana. Sam, leader of a C Rank group, was recently promoted to B Rank. Interesting, we shall reencounter each

other. I must head back. Lord Thanos will be furious; however, if he learns about a potential future member, stronger with more potential than Cain, I think he would be happy."

Like a child that just found something interesting and couldn't wait to brag about it to his parents, Zero smiled before vanishing; previously, he wished to take it slow by enjoying the once time opportunity to come to the human world; however, after his encounter with Alex disguised as Sam, he had a change of plan, he decided to head back.

On Alex's side, Alex threw his encounter with Zero at the back of his head as he decided to enjoy the Hot springs.

After cleaning his body, Alex entered the hot springs because they had paid for the highest room, meaning the emperor's suite; they have the right to enjoy one of the personal hot springs.

"Fuh!"

Alex exhaled as the hot water enveloped his body, relieving most of his stress.

"It should have been perfect if I had someone to give me a shoulder massage," Alex said with a smile.

"Oh? So, you wish for a shoulder massage? Lucky you, I happen to be good at this."

Unexpectedly, Sakuya, with only a towel wrapped around her hot figure, appeared and declared; Alex chuckled. Truth be told, he knew of her arrival because, since his encounter with that strange man, Alex had been on edge, his Divine Sense was always activated.

"I wouldn't mind. Thank you in advance." Alex said, still soaked in the hot spring.

Sakuya smiled before crouching down him started to massage Alex's shoulders slowly; it was gentle.

Alex moaned few minutes, statement to how good Sakuya's shoulder massage was; the massage session lasted fifteen minutes with Alex feeling completely refreshed.

Sakuya decided to share the hot spring with Alex, not that he minds.

"Where is Lilith?" Alex asked after not sensing Lilith's presence nowhere, even in the adjacent hot spring.

"Ah! Lilith said she was feeling uncomfortable after soaking a bit; she went back. She said she would sleep, to have fun." Sakuya explained the reason behind Lilith's absence.

Alex frowned, finding this reason a bit odd; with their Rank, heat shouldn't be an issue, and yet, well, maybe it was this period when women..., Alex couldn't help but think of something rude.

"Aren't you thinking of something rude right now?" Sakuya asked with narrowed eyes.

Alex immediately waved his hands to indicate that he wasn't thinking of anything rude.

The two burst into laughter, laughing to their heart content as they shared a rare intimacy.

.....

At the same time, elsewhere, in an unknown basement, the sound of high heels clicking against the ground could be heard, it was slow yet rhythmic, and soon a silhouette appeared, a woman dressed in all black, her face was obstructed by a black butterfly mask, long black hair and purple eyes were the only things visible.

This woman walked forward before stopping and place her hand on an inconspicuous wall. Doing so, a line of light ran through the wall, and the wall slid open.

Without finding such a phenomenon surprising, the woman with the butterfly mask enters the now open passage.

Inside was a staircase leading further down. The woman continued forward until she found a wooden door.

What was waiting behind the door was a beautiful study room.

Some countless old books and candles are always lit even though nobody ever tends to them.

And in the middle of this room was a big magic circle; its purpose couldn't be more obvious.

Stepping inside the magic circle, the woman sent her mana inside it, making it shine and cover her body with brilliant blue light; as the light died down, the woman was nowhere to be seen.

The woman appeared in an unknown underground palace; there was a black throne with a butterfly engraved on top of it; sitting on this throne, the woman crossed her legs.

"Welcome back, Queen; we have been waiting for your arrival."

Numerous men and women kneeled, they all wore black, emitting killing intent, their eyes were ruthless, like the eyes cunning hyenas, around their right wrist was the tattoo of a black-blue butterfly, this is the underworld, and their queen has graced them of her presence, she who appeared like a ghost and conquered everything, the black Butterfly Queen, the slaughter queen, singlehandedly slaughter the old underground king and subordinates, transforming into a beautiful butterfly.

Chapter 390 - 383: The Young Shadows

Deep in the night, somewhere in the outskirt of the outer capital, one hour before the Queen of Underworld return, five shadows could be seen moving at high speed like some ninja; those shadows were dressed in black from head to toe.

The five exchanged looks, they communicated through their eyes, then two disappeared going to the left of the lone house not too far from their position, another two went to the right while the remaining simply vanished.

Fwoosh! Fwoosh!

Four shadows infiltrated the lone house; it was entirely dark; however, for the shadows, this couldn't be considered a problem, they were able to see in the dark, moving their eyes they located their target, a lone male sitting leg crossed, this man had a large scar running through his face, he seemed to be waiting for the shadows because immediately, the room turned brighter startling the four shadows.

"Kukuku! I was waiting for your arrival, you have killed my brothers, and now you think you can kill me two? Keep dreaming; I will kill you all and avenge my brother." The man with the scar roared and threw his ax at the nearest shadow.

Fwoosh!

The ax traveled to the air and arrived before the shadow; it was a split-second decision; the shadow bent back, letting the ax pass, before taking support on its hand to spin, crisscrossing her legs to kill the flying ax momentum before catching it between her legs and throw it back to its sender.

The man with the scar widened his eyes; however, he was not your typical thug, snorted his left arm bulged, thick veins appeared all over it turning it red; it was a small physical enhancement.

"Break for me." The man bellowed and threw his fist, it collided against the incoming ax, and surprisingly the ax broke apart.

During the time that the man with the scar was locked in a fight with one of them, the other three moved, one went to switched the light, while the other two nimbly dodged darts shots at them from hidden spots, the man wasn't alone, the information was wrong, it was a trap, however, when they remembered what their instructor said, they quickly calmed down, and chuckled, she must have known beforehand this was a trap, it is a test we shall not fall.

Reaffirming their determination, a small black cord appeared under their wrist; controlling this, they wrapped the cords around the poisoned dart before sending it back with the doubled speed of its initial launch.

Puh! Puh! Puh!

The hidden men's eyes turned purple in seconds; they couldn't believe that it was their darts that came back to kill them.

Immediately, the room turned dark, four shadows moved as one, using darkness as cover, they struck the man with the scar where he was the most vulnerable, the man had his muscles cut off, the muscles controlling his arms and legs, his eyes rolled back due to the extreme pain coming from his lower body.

Holding what was left of his precious jewel, the man fell headfirst; butt raised high.

"Secure the target." The leader of the five shadows entered and ordered; the other quickly nodded before one of them put the unconscious man on his shoulder as the group vanished; the house was set ablaze shortly after they left.

Back to Avalon, in a mansion not too far from the Blue Haven Manor, the five shadows with the extra luggage appeared in the basement.

"Welcome back. What took you so long? This mission should have been completed in half an hour, yet you took 45 minutes to complete it. Care to explain?"

A woman with her back facing the five writing something on a paper stopped and tilted her head back, her brown eyes looked at the five, she momentarily glanced at the unconscious man, no he was faking because when the man heard her voice, he shuddered.

"Apologies, teacher, we were ambushed; they were people waiting for us other than the man and the initial three subordinates. We were forced to improvise." The leader of the five stepped forward, he removed his mask, and a youthful face appeared, no less than fifteen, pale white face with few scars running across his face, light purple eyes, black hair.

Following his gesture, the other four removed their masks; strangely, they are all women no less than sixteen; two among them are from the beastmen race, from the cat tribe, there was one elf, and the last one is a human.

"I see; you should have expected this kind of situation and better prepared. Missions will not always go as predicted, no matter how much information you have. Sigh! Let's stop for tonight, go settle him in the underground prison for interrogation later, making sure he couldn't kill himself." Sera ordered, dismissing the five.

After bowing, they dragged the man who started thrashing the moment he heard dungeon and interrogation; he knew he was screwed, he wouldn't live after that, they want information, recently, he and his kind were repeatedly targeted, the strangest thing was only those with wicked deeds such a rape, prostitution and illegal slave trading were targeted, only the small gang, almost as practice, the bigger gang have not been targeted yet, however, the man believes that it was because of the lack of information. He happened to have that information; thinking about it, the man couldn't help but shudder; he must have retired, elope that time with the boss wife.

Back in the basement, Sera sighed, and without looking back, she said.

"Pandora, do you have something to report?"

Pandora, former Meera, the Elf Spirit mage appeared and stared in the direction the five shadows left to; she smiled. It has been few days, almost a month since they bought them, yet those five were former slaves Sera bought for the sole purpose of forming assassin, information collector, and so on; this will be Alex's personal force, and looking at them, it could be said that it was going well at the moment, jumping from Rank 2 to 5 in less than a month under Sera's hellish training, their assassination skills are above average, already entering the realm of an intermediate master, what they need is more training more missions more bloodbaths and they got the perfect target.

Shaking her head, Pandora decided to focus on the reason she was here.

"There is an unusual movement in one of the kingdoms."

"Tell me more.." Sera's interest was piqued; maybe they could lead on the mysterious organization, thought Sera as she listened to Pandora's story.