

Death Guns 421

Chapter 421 People Have Hings They Are Not Good At 2

The following morning, Alex and the girls had already boarded the ship to traverse the endless sea; it was a medium-sized ship especially prepared for Alex and his crew. The number of people onboard numbered only ten, Alex's group and the ship crew members. The ship was the fast type; it was loaded with goods to the Far East Empire.

The ship passed between Drexia Empire and the Holy Crux empire; the sea was calm and beautiful.

But there's one person who is currently relentlessly shaking on the ship.

"If you already shaking this much on such a calm sea, you won't be able to survive if we arrive at where it's the most chaotic, you know?"

"I, I don't even want to go there in the first place....."

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That person was Sakuya, who was covering herself in a blanket on top of her bed.

Lilith was reading a book; she was so focused that she wasn't paying attention to the shaking Sakuya.

"Hahahaha! To think that the S queen has something she was afraid of, how unexpected. Come on, let's go out and watch the beautiful sea." Alex said and closed the report he was reading; this report was about his private force's recent activity and their next mission; Sera also suggested that he must come with a name, a codename for the group, it what Alex was thinking about.

"I will skin you if you approach Lex," Sakuya said threateningly; however, because she was under the blanket trembling, her threat didn't sound like a threat at all.

"Curse them the gods that created the sea...! I won't forget this grudge.....! I will never forgive them; one day, I will change it.....!"

"You don't sound convincing when you are shaking so much, though," Alex said as he rubbed his forehead; Lilith acted like she did not hear anything, but from the way her shoulders were shaking, she was doing her utmost not to laugh.

Sakuya was afraid of the sea. She was okay with baths, but she's the type that turned useless in rivers and the ocean. It's something called Aquaphobia if Alex remembers correctly. To the almost perfect Sakuya, one could say that this was her only weakness. Even though Sakuya herself hates losing, this was the one weakness that she couldn't overcome.

Looking at the sea, she will start feeling nausea and dizziness due to anxiety, and when she gets on a ship, her body can't stop shaking due to her unexplainable fear. If she went to the deck right now, she would probably faint from shock. Alex truly wished to see why he was teasing her, suggesting they visit the deck to enjoy the sea breeze.

"To think that you would be so afraid of the sea. Is there a story behind your Aquaphobia ?" Alex said as he closed the report he was reading.

"Uhh! I slipped and fell into a small river once in Japan when I was little; I thought I would drown to death; fortunately, the part where I fell into wasn't profound, so somehow I got out, but since then, I have had an inexplicable fear of river and ocean, it as if they would swallow me and never let go." Sakuya explained, eyes full of shame.

"I see; no wonder when we were about to take the cruise to Italy, you and the girls went missing. Well, I understand your fear, but why you didn't say anything until we are now on the sea? You could have told us, and we would have found another alternative instead of letting you suffer like this."

"What Alex said is right. You should have told us." Lilith agreed with Alex.

"Well, ugh! I didn't want to be the one to slow us down. Taking this route will save us a lot of time. People have things they are not good at; this is one of mine. Also, I want to use this opportunity to cure my Aquaphobia; I could not continue dragging the same problem even after my reincarnation; it would be too pathetic. We are bound to travel on the sea again in the future, fight on sea. So tell me, will I not die if I still have this same problem?"

Alex and Lilith exchanged looks. Putting like that they could understand, she ought to cure her Aquaphobia soon as it may one day cause her a serious problem. What if she was fighting and suddenly sent flying in the ocean? Wouldn't the enemy successfully deal her a fatal blow after seeing she had Aquaphobia? She can lose her life because of this Aquaphobia.

While Alex and Lilith were thinking about how they should help Sakuya overcome this phobia of her, the ship shook a little.

It wasn't shaking a lot, but it seemed Sakuya was taking it as a huge impact.

"KYAAAAA!!?? Ouch!?"

She rolled around her small bed, struck her head, and now crouching in pain.

This scene was impossible to witness on land, so it felt rather refreshing seeing her like this now. Alex thought.

"You are useless on water, huh. If pirates attacked us, then it would be over for us, right?"

"D, don't look down on me...! If push comes to shove, I.....! KYAAAAA!!?? That was a big one, wasn't it!? Did it make a hole in the ship!?"

"If push comes to shove, then you will be useless, right. I guess that it won't come to that, but it would be a different story if a Sea Dragon showed up, though."

The scariest thing on the sea was the Sea Dragon, the king of the sea. A gigantic monster classified between A to S, depends on its age, the Endless sea is known to be a house of such terrible monsters, it was why people didn't like taking ship, especially during this period of the year where Mana was abundant and was likely to cause a monster wave. Sea monster waves are terrific as every sea monster would attack any nearby coastal city.

"Please don't say such a dreadful thing. N-nothing will happen I- guess." Sakuya said, trying to comfort herself; Alex chuckled while Lilith returned to her reading; the group's first day passed peacefully.

Chapter 422 - 415: Apparition Of The Sea Dragon

Four days later, halfway through their destination, Alex's ship was about to arrive near the Wolfgang Empire. Yesterday night Alex had a chat with his friends; Leon was still stuck in his hometown, accompanying his sister while Ferris and Eris were taking some trial. Kuina was busy as well.

Sakuya had learned to fight against her phobia, it wasn't perfect yet, but some progress had been made; she could not sit on her bed and not tremble as she used to on their first days, however, going on the deck to enjoy the sea was still not possible.

"I think you have made pretty good progress; you should keep up," Alex said he was alone with Sakuya; Lilith has gone out for some fresh air.

Suddenly, Lilith entered without knocking.

"What is happening?" Sakuya was the first to raise this question; due to her oversensitivity in the sea, she knew something was happening, and indeed she was right.

"A storm is coming." Lilith's response was short, and yet colors drained from Sakuya's face, she started shaking.

Alex stood up and went outside on the deck in a hurry. On the deck, strong gales and high waves are assaulting the ships.

No matter how you look at it, it was strange, the weather was fine a moment ago, and suddenly, it became cloudy all of a sudden? Alex's face sank; there was only one explanation for their current situation; someone or something was behind this sudden change.

"This is not a natural storm! It suddenly appeared without any signs! This must be a work of some sea monster, Mr. Sam; we might not be able to make it. I don't understand why this is happening."

The captain said the moment he spotted Alex.

Suddenly, a violent wave came crashing against the ship shaking, people on the deck were forced to grab the rails not to fall into the sea. However, it wasn't the end; more and more waves crashed against the ship making accumulate more damage.

"Captain! Get us out of this storm!" Alex roared.

"I'm doing it right now!" The captain answered as he did his best to bring the ship out of the storm.

"Use the canon as propulsive to send us out of this storm." Suddenly, Alex got an idea; thus he suggested.

"We-"

Roaaarrrrrrrrrrrr!

A sudden roar interrupted the captain, and the ship was sent flying backward.

Boom! Crack!

Cracks appeared all over the ship, and it was about to sink.

[Quickly evacuate the Sea monster that is about to attack.]Silveria warned Alex cursed his bad luck. He immediately instructed via telepathy.

"Lilith,please help the captain and others use the rescue boats. Sakuya will help you out. Quickly,I will take care of the monster; however,I don't want to reveal my strength in front of others."

"Understood,don't worry,I have my way of dealing with the problem. They would remember anything." Lilith responded; Alex didn't bother asking her what she meant by saying that; he was busy looking for the monster's location amidst the storm.

Si~ Si~ Boom!

Lightning struck the almost sunken ship,Lilith and Sakuya were helping the others board the small boats,Alex stood on the front levitating slightly above the water,because of mist,ordinary people couldn't see him.

Then it came.

"The Sea Dragon...!?"

A Dragon with a long body wrapped up in beautiful blue scales that looked like they were formed with clear water.

It has a pair of wings and arms. Its feet are probably submerged underwater. A dragon that adapted to the sea. Its appearance was close to a snake but too big to be one.

Just the part that emerges from the water is already over 20 meters long. Everyone was shaken by its figure that was much larger and more terrifying than the average sea dragon; this one is at least two hundred years old,an S class monster.

Uninterested in those people's reactions,the sea monster slowly opens its mouth.

And shoots out a giant water bullet.

It was incomparable to what one can create using normal water magic.

Immediately aware of the danger,Lilith gave her an order.

"Evasive maneuver!"

Immediately,Sakuya summoned wind around the small boats and made them change direction at the last moment.

Kaboom!

Thanks to Lilith and Sakuya timely maneuver,the two boats were able to escape the terrible fate of getting crushed by the giant water ball that had the strength of a small meteorite.

"Roaarrrrrrrrrrr!"

The sea dragon roared,seeing its target escape from its attack; it opened its mouth again to prepare another terrible attack,and how is Alex going to let him do that?

Without hesitation,he released all of his strength and appeared in front of the monster.

At first,the sea dragon was surprised as the monster hadn't felt Alex's presence; however,seeing it was a puny human that dared to stand against such a noble being,the sea dragon opened its move and fired.

Boom! BANG!

Following the shot,Alex immediately used a crimson bullet,the sea dragon's eyes widened,and something unexpected happened,the monster retreated before the giant water ball,and the crimson bullet clashed.

Kabooooom!

Both Alex and the retreating monster got pushed because of his small frame,Alex suffered more.

Meanwhile,when Alex and the sea dragon were exchanging their first blow,on the other side,two small boats were putting distance between them and the terrible monster; naturally,it was the group composed of Lilith,Sakuya,and other ship members.

"Where is Mr. Sam?"

The captain couldn't help but raise this question as he did not see Alex anywhere after they successfully put a distance between them and the monster.

"D-don't worry,he will join us soon. He is fighting against the monster to buy us some time. Don't worry; he is strong."

Unexpectedly,it was Sakuya who responded,she did her best not to show her Aquaphobia in front of others.

"I wonder if he can survive. It's a Rank S monster we are talking about,maybe you have-"

Before the captain could finish what he was saying,his eyes turned white; he was not the only one; his other crew members had the same symptoms.

"Mind manipulation."

Lilithcoldly muttered before flicking her fingers; the captain and his crew members were immediately put to sleep; when they awoke,they would remember only what Lilith wished them to remember.

"Done."

"Great!"

Alex could now fight to his heart content.

Occasionally missing content, please report errors in time.

Chapter 423 - 416: Vs The Sea Dragon

After receiving Lilith's message, Alex smiled.

"Ops! Sometimes it dawned over me that I didn't have any defensive skills; I must think of something." Alex said while dodging another water bullet.

[Kuh! Your humans are always trying to disturb my sleep.]

Unexpectedly, the Sea Dragon was intelligent enough to speak human language. This greatly startled Alex.

"So can talk, huh?! Doesn't change anything." Alex spat out while firing a phantom bullet at the monster; as expected, it did nothing to the monster.

[Today, none of you shall live here alive, I will slaughter you and destroy few humans cities.] The sea dragon said threateningly, but the only response he received from Alex was a simple chuckle; the monster became surprised; normally, when he faced such a threat, he should have rushed forward in rage to defend his peers, like that the monster could catch him off guard, unfortunately, the monster plan failed miserably.

As far the monster could remember, he was born in the sea, grew up in the sea in peace, but recently, this peace was broken, but some unknown people dressed in robes catching his brethren, and those caught never came back. The sea dragon knew that something was being done to those captured; humans and other creatures are vicious after all. Since those kidnapping, the sea dragon had been on edge, living a life of fear; for his safety, he often created ocean storms for people not to pass its territory; it was a temporary solution, he knew, but it was the only thing he could do until he ranks up to the Saint Realm to have a human form to escape this nightmare, escape the fate of being captured.

Few months passed since no ship took this route; the sea dragon was thrilled, he focused on his Rank up; however, at a critical juncture, some humans appeared and interrupted him; at first, he thought it was the same group responsible for those kidnapping, but it wasn't them, furious and ashamed to have almost fled due to fear, the sea dragon decided to eliminate those humans and feed on them to perfect his Rank up.

[Die, you human!] The sea dragon bellowed, and numerous giant water bullets got created and were shot toward Alex.

Alex was about to dodge, but suddenly, his right eye twitched; he had experienced this phenomenon many times, so he knew what would happen. He saw a vision in this future; the three water balls exploded just before reaching him to form a water net around him before; from behind, water tentacles tried to pierce through his body. As he was busy dealing with those attacks, the sea dragon unexpectedly appeared above him and swallowed him; the vision ended there.

A smile appeared on Alex's face; it was a vicious smile.

'You want to play me to death? Watch how I play with you instead.' Alex sneered.

Following the future Alex saw, he did nothing; he acted as he did in that future until the sea dragon appeared above him and opened its enormous jaws to swallow him, then he smiled.

Immediately, the sea dragon's eyes widened; he knew he had screwed up; he tried to fall back, but how could Alex allow that?

[Time Stop] [Crimson Bullet]

It was a deadly combo that should have been the end of the sea dragon; however, unexpectedly, at the last moment, a water bubble appeared inside the mouth of the sea dragon, which swallowed the crimson bullet to kill some of the impacts before the bullet exploded.

Boom!

The enormous body of the sea dragon got lifted into the sky before slamming into the sea, creating a terrible storm.

Alex was thrown back; he hastily crossed his arms.

"Roarrrrrrrrrrrr!"

The sea dragon roared in pain before jumping out of the water; its speed was so fast that one should be in awe compared to the size of its body. The bloody figure of the sea dragon with some of its scale falling off arrived before Alex and opened its mouth, a five meters long water spear was shot at Alex; he dodged; however, he felt chill down his body, somehow, the monster tail appeared behind him and was about to strike him.

Everything happened too fast; Alex didn't have the time to put forth a perfect defense; without hesitation, he aimed the two silver guns behind him and shot two bullets that combined into one; this bullet clashed against the sea dragon tail and created an explosion. Borrowing this explosion, Alex successfully escaped from the attack.

Just as he appeared in the sky, the sky rumbled, and a gigantic water spear appeared above him. This attack seemed to contain space property as Alex found himself unable to maneuver his body as he wished perfectly.

"Damn it." Alex cursed aloud.

[Dieeee human!!!!] The sea dragon bellowed, and the water spear descended from the sky and reached Alex's in an instant; everything was perfect, that damned human was about to get skewed by his perfect attack, unlike its peers, the reason this sea dragon survived for so long and was crowned the sea dragon king was because of its intelligence and exceptional talent when it comes to battle. Just with those few exchanges he had with Alex, he knew he had exceptional combat sense almost at the same level as him; facing this kind of opponent, you better think twice, no three moves ahead to win, it was what the sea dragon did. He firmly believed that with his moves, he could win; getting caught was unexpected; however, forcing Alex to escape was a deliberate move for its final attack to strike.

Alex watched the fifteen meters long water spear close in; it was already before him, ready to pierce his body when he opened his mouth and said.

[Shadow Shift!]

The sea dragon about to savor his victory unexpectedly found his body shift through space and take Alex's place.

[What???] The sea dragon's eyes almost fell out of their sockets.

And the fifteen meters long water spear struck its owner, drilling through its body to slam him against the water surface.

Kabooooom!

The sea almost parted in two; even Sakuya's group sensed the sea tremble before it regained its calm again.

Chapter 424 - 417: Asura Form

"What was that?" Sakuya asked. She wished she could be there to assist the fight. From here, they couldn't see how the fight was going on, only some flash in the sky when Alex and the sea dragon clashed and the consequences of their clashes.

"Well, probably the sea dragon getting slammed by that water spear," Lilith responded.

Although they couldn't perfectly see the fight, some details could still be seen; such as the water spear that suddenly appeared in the sky and knowing Alex, what he was capable of doing, he must have used that dreadful ability of his that let him switch place with anything at the last moment to let the sea dragon taste its attack.

"Tch! He was having fun on his own without calling us." Sakuya said she had momentarily forgotten about her Aquaphobia; she wanted to join such an exciting fight.

"Pfft! Said the girl who can last ten minutes above the sea. Eh! A storm is coming."

Lilith's words almost made Sakuya jump on her feet; she started trembling..

"Storm? Where? Where?"

"See, it is what I'm talking about. Don't worry, they will be some exciting fights, especially when we enter the demon continent. You will fight to your heart content." Lilith said to calm down Sakuya, who was about to blow up.

Suddenly, their expressions turned grave because even from here, they two could feel the sea violently shook as if the god of the sea was angry.

"No good, the fight is about to reach its climax."

The two thought they could only wish for Alex to eliminate the monster without getting too much injured quickly.

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After the sea dragon was sent into the depth of the sea, the latter became calm; however, Alex knew it was not the end; checking his remaining MP, he had about half of it. Thanks to his Mana Synchronisation skill, he was recovering at fast speed, suddenly Alex accel-ed to reappear fifty meters away, the sea under him rumbled and the sea dragon shot out from the water, its figure couldn't be more sorry, broken scales, blood leaking from them.

"Roarrrrrrrrrrr!" The sea dragon roared, blue light surrounded the monster's body, its body appeared to be shrinking; from its initial 25 meters long body, it shrunk to fifteen meters. All of the injuries on the monster's body disappeared like a lie.

"No way," Alex said as his vigilance increased, somehow the monster had become stronger. Alex immediately used the Eye of Truth on the shrunken sea dragon.

[Leviathan

Rank 11

Level 111

Race: Lesser dragon

Gender: Male

Age: ??????

Magic Power: 8000/8000

Magic: Water element

Attack: 6000

Defense: 5000

Agility: 2300

Intelligence: 2400

Luck: 1000

Skills: [Water ball Level 10]; [Water Spear Level 9] [Water Net Level 7]

Abilities: {Water Breath}; {Absolute Control}]

"Almost a Saint. This monster is powerful. Better watch out." Alex said and immediately attacked.

Twelve knives were launched simultaneously; using Link, Alex was able to direct these knives to surround the sea dragon and tried to strike between the scales where the monster's defense was at the lowest.

[[You damn human!]]

Countless water bullets appeared from the monster's body and collided against the twelve white Bettie's in the sky above the sea.

Boom!

The twelve knives were flung far away, Alex Accel-ed to appear above the monster his right leg raised high, green light covered he leg to form a small wind tornado that descended into the monster's back like a rocket.

Everything happened in seconds; normally, Leviathan shouldn't react in time; however, it wasn't what happened; somehow, Leviathan could move its tail. He sent it to intercept Alex's tornado-splitting kick.

"How naive!" Alex snorted before using his Time Acceleration ability, the tail slowed, and Alex's kick struck the monster in the back.

Swoosh! Boom!

Leviathan's body was almost turned into a V shape as it was sent flying toward the sea once again. Alex tried to follow in dealing the finishing blow, but his body became momentarily frozen.

[[Kuh! Don't get cocky!]]

Leviathan roared and opened its mouth wide.

The water bullets so far were only something created using its power; they are not the special attack of the dragons, the [Dragon Breath].

So it finally decided to use its trump card.

[[Master, you better not take that attack head on]] Silveria warned.

'I know, but these small water threads are annoying.' Alex said and looked at the extremely thin water threads coiled around his body to obstruct his movement temporarily. Somehow, Leviathan had used the water in the air to create the thin water that currently restrained Alex. He must have used Absolute Control to do this, Alex thought while trying to free himself out of these thin water threads.

Meanwhile, more and more water is being compressed inside Leviathan's mouth. It was compressed into a small ball, and from there, a water breath fired out like a beam.

Alex was forced to use Time Stop to first stop the water breath from clashing against his body before using Shadow shift immediately after time resumed.

Even so, Leviathan had anticipated this; he immediately used Absolute Control to redirect its breath at Alex, who had never expected this.

[Phantom Bullet]

At the last moment, Alex, whose instinct had been sharpened during countless battles, reacted and fired a Phantom bullet at the incoming beam.

Kabooooom!

This time it was Alex's turn to be slapped against the water surface.

"Kah!"

Alex felt like he was being slammed against a hard concrete; his bones creaked, blood surged to his mouth; Alex immediately swallowed it down as his body fell deeper into the sea.

[Absolute Control]

Leviathan roared; he would not let Alex rest; he immediately controlled the sea. Alex got slammed to the sky by a water tentacle.

"Guh! Cough! Time Acceleration." Alex said and wiped away the blood around his mouth and stopped gliding across the sea's surface after fifty meters.

"Damn, he got me good." Alex said and looked ahead, and to his horror, more than a hundred water tentacles surrounded Leviathan; he was like the God of the Sea, these hundreds of water tentacles combined to form a gigantic trident over thirty meters. Even Sakuya and Lilith saw it; their faces turned instantly pale.

Alex could see that water wall appeared behind him to cut off his escape route.

[Die human!] Leviathan roared and was about to send the trident in Alex's direction.

Quickly, Alex's mind went overdrive, thinking about some possible solution. Then he got an idea; he immediately drowned a Mana recovery potion to replenish his MP and then shouted.

"Asura Form!"

Then the sky above the ocean resonated; crimson light descended from the sky and covered Alex. An avatar with a height of twelve meters of Alex appeared behind him; he wore a long crimson robe, dark pants blacker than the night itself. A wheel was behind his head, and in the avatar hand was an oversized Silveria, almost tall as the avatar him. There was a certain savageness deep in the avatar's eyes.

Leviathan opened its eyes widened until they fell off their sockets. Sakuya and Lilith's mouths were opened in an O shape.

Finally, Leviathan regained his calm and roared.

[Die!]

BANG!

Alex's avatar moved at the same time the trident was shot and fired.

An eight meters long crimson bullet tore through the air, broke space apart, and clashed against the trident; the latter didn't even last a millisecond before the crimson bullet destroyed Leviathan; the sea was parted in two, and the crimson bullet disappeared to God knows where.

Immediately following this, Alex fell from the sky and plummeted into the sea; he had lost consciousness.

Chapter 425 - Side Story: A Certain Saintess 1

After Alex, followed by Sakuya and Lilith, left because of the mission on the Demon's continent, the girls who stayed behind each went on their own to accomplish their goal. Maria went with Freya into the sealed realm while Gracier went with Artemia.

Meanwhile, Luna met for the first time her instructor in one of the academy private realms also dungeon, the Holy paladin Armstrong; he was over two meters tall, a long pants with a short-sleeved shirt on top that tightly clung onto his body to display his bulging muscles that threatened to explode.

"Not bad little Luna. What is the most important thing when it comes to Light Element? I meant Healing magic?"

This was the first question Armstrong asked Luna.

Luna's first thought after seeing her master was the man was weird, but she had to answer her master's question.

"Master, I believe the most important thing is treating others."

Luna thought she had perfectly answered her master's question; unfortunately, she got it wrong.

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"Tsk! Tsk! Wrong little Luna. The most important thing about Light Element is about manliness, yeah, manliness." Armstrong flashed his bulging muscles, making them dance as he wished.

Luna almost fell face first.

'This man is indeed weird.' She thought.

"Follow me, little Luna," Armstrong said and started walking deeper into the giant forest. Luna quietly followed.

"You know people believe that light element is one of the weakest, that healers are weak, they need a permanent protection?"

Armstrong's voice reached Luna's ears, she nodded. Indeed, the general opinion was that Light element Mages are weak, a flawed thought.

"This thinking is wrong. They think like this because nobody innovated, nobody created new techniques, only sticking onto the old beliefs."

Armstrong continued to advance deeper in the forest; he seemed to have a special location in mind. Strangely, the duo never encountered monsters; they seemed afraid of showing up; it was instinctual.

"To me, Light Element is the strongest of the elements. As for why I shall tell, he can heal injuries; even severed limbs can be regrown if you have sufficient level. Facing undead-type monsters, we are the strongest, the quickness to finish them. Let's say that you can reverse the healing process; instead of healing, you can make the cells age faster? How dreadful will this ability be? And we Light Element mage can do it with a bit of training and a bit of potential. I know you have started already. Light Element mages have a better understanding of the human body. What I want to teach during our training is how to make proper use of your body, how to increase your physical strength to fight temporarily. As previously said, Light Element is about manliness. If you wish for it, you can have such nice muscles as your teacher."

"Thank you, teacher, but I'm fine with my current body." Luna immediately refused Armstrong's suggestion. Hell no, she wouldn't want Alex fleeing from her just because she turned into a gorilla woman; it would be the end if he did that.

Finally, the two arrived before a small crater of twelve meters deep. Peering into this crater, Luna saw an earth-colored salamander, an oversized lizard.

Tap! Bang!

Just a slight tap on the ground and the ground cracked; the earth salamander woke up and roared.

"Roarr!"

After roaring, the monster searched for the culprit that disturbed its slumber, and the Earth salamander found them. Opened its mouth wide enough, small earth were formed inside its mouth, ready to be shot at Armstrong and Luna.

"Little Luna watches closely," Armstrong said and stepped forward.

[Instant Strengthening]

White light covered Armstrong's body before he disappeared; the next moment, he was already above the Earth salamander; the latter widened its eyes and tried to redirect its attack on Armstrong; however, before the monster could, Armstrong struck.

Dong! Boom!

When Armstrong's fist collided against the salamander's thick skin, its defense instantly lowered, and it got slammed into the crater; scales cracked, blood flowed out of them, dying the monster into crimson color.

Dong! Boom! Dong! Boom!

Armstrong was toying as he pleases with the helpless Earth Salamander, striking its head, its arms, and its feet, and soon the monster couldn't move anymore; normally, monsters, especially lizard type have a strong regenerative ability, this Earth salamander wasn't an exception, but somehow, its regenerate ability seemed to have dysfunctioned all of a sudden, turning its body into its current state.

[Reverse Healing]

Armstrong said before striking the salamander's head; a white light left his hand and traversed the monster's body. Then it started to convulse, lightly at the start before it turned violent; under Luna's eyes, the monster's body shrunk, no it's turned old before its skin dried up, turning into a powder while its bones soon followed.

Luna's eyes widened to think that it was possible to use the power of her domain this way. Used like this could decrease the cost of MP needed; no wonder Armstrong showed her this technique. It was to teach how, to tell her that instead of using her reverse healing in the form of a domain, slowly chipping away the opponent's strength before finally dealing the finishing blow using reverse healing.

Armstrong landed softly in front of Luna; he didn't forget to flash his muscles as if it was some ritual.

"Have you carefully see how I did it?" He asked, and Luna nodded.

"I do, master. If I succeed, I can save up a lot of mana."

"You will, little Luna. You have a big Mana capacity. There is still some room for improvement. Don't worry; I will teach you perfectly all I know, make your body remember every technique." Armstrong declared with a smile, but somehow, this smile sent chills down to Luna's spine. She almost stepped back, but thinking about why she came here in the first, what she wished to accomplish, Luna's eyes turned resolute, and she announced.

"Teacher, I'm ready."

"Good, then let train you into the most powerful, the most dreadful Saintess the world ever had." Armstrong declared, happy to have such an understanding student.

Chapter 426 - Side Story: Chaos' Eye

It happened after Silveria and Nyx were blasted away after the mysterious giant hands appeared and caught the mysterious lady before disappearing.

In a place where everything appears to be in perfect harmony with each other, a perfect paradise sat two men; their features could not be seen; it was blurred. These two men were playing chess; one of them had his arm on his back; this arm was dark, almost as if it could disintegrate at any moment. In this perfect heaven, this arm could be said to be the only thing imperfect.

"How is your hand?" Asked the one dressed in pure white.

"Not bad. Sigh! I was careless." The one in black sighed; however, there was a certain playfulness inside his voice.

"If I didn't know you better, I would have said you were careless. To think you will waste a body to seal that girl again. What were you thinking about opening the Pandora box so soon, Primodeus?"

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"Hahahaha! Don't know what you are talking about, Elemial." Primodeus said and continued to play as if nothing.

The one in white lifted his head, the mist surrounding his eyes got momentarily lifted, his eyes were rainbow, the universe seemed to revolve faster because of those rainbow eyes, the elements became chaotic, when suddenly, the mist-covered Elemial once again, the universe regained its calm.

"You know, everything has cause and effect. I thought we decided to only act like outsiders, nothing less. No intervention, have you forgotten what happened?" Elemial asked. Having lived together for so long, longer than he could ever remember, it was easy to know when Elemial was angry; currently, indeed, he was.

"Sigh! Forgive me, brother. It's precisely because of that; I knew it was under my order others moved to separate them into a different world; it couldn't be helped. In the beginning, how many of us are there? However, what about now? Forget it, forget it. I know there is a balance, but it couldn't be helped. Without my intervention, the last of Asura, our-, forget it. Let's wait and see. Hopefully, this time it will be the end; it will be the good one." Primodeus said and stopped playing chess; he was not in the mood anymore. Also, it was time for him to switch bodies, for a supreme being such as him, even Nyx's ability could be dreadful.

Primodeus vanished, Elemial sighed, the chess in front of him disappeared to leave the place to a myriad of worlds, amidst these worlds, some were shining brightly than others, Mysthia's was one of them, in every world a reincarnated person was inside of, it would shine brighter. Sixteen worlds shining white while on the other side there was 16 dark world, it was like chess pieces.

"Why did it becomes like this?" Elemial asked and looked into a certain direction, in a completely dark dimension where no source of light ever reached.

A man was chained against a throne; somehow, the chains binding him increased.

"Hehehehe! So you couldn't stop yourself from intervening. It is a shame I didn't manage to get her. I have tried, though. Well, the plan shall continue. More worlds should be conquered as for where my little wife is. Things should be accelerated; he must grow stronger before being thrown into the deepest pit of despair. Hie~ Hie~ hie~ how exhilarating it is going to be. Chaos shall reign, everything will return to chaos, and I shall rule once more."

•••••

Mysthia; unknown location, in the headquarter of the unknown organization.

In the highest throne hall, Lord Thanos sat on his throne. Zero could be seen kneeling; numerous black chains wriggling like worms pierced his body from all sides; not even his heart was spared. Blood drenched the ground, Zero's skin was paler, these chains wriggled nonstop and ate Zero flesh, gnawed his bones, the pain Zero was suffering was unimaginable, even so, he didn't even utter a single word, not even his expression changed even once, he was like calm water.

"The supreme lord wanted the thing in the deepest part of that dungeon. However, you failed; we failed our Lord. He is too merciful; however, a second failure will not be tolerated. We chaos are everywhere; failure is not chaos. Think about it." Lord Thanos said and sent Zero away, space twisted behind him, and he was dragged away; at the last moment, Zero was smiling, a crazy smile, the smile of a lunatic.

Shortly after Zero's disappearance, the vice guild master appeared, the same man that previously acted as the Golden Nugget manager until Maria fired him after Alex's acquired the restaurant.

"Kretos, you are here." Lord Thanos said.

"Yes, my lord," Kretos said and kneeled.

"Rise, sit beside him." Lord Thanos ordered, and Kretos obeyed.

"How is the human world? Everything is going according to the plan?"

"Yes, Lucifer will acquire that box sounds. The Eighth and the demon's princess seemed to have vanished; we are still searching for them. As you have said, they must be heading to the Demon's continent." Kretos roughly explained what was going on.

"I see. We mustn't let them succeed. It would be detrimental to ours. How are Lord Drakos preparations?"

"The preparations are underway. I heard that the Holy Crux would be making a move soon." Kretos suddenly announced.

"Oh? These fools that label us as Evil?" Lord Thanos asked with a smile.

"Yes, the Holy Daughter will be going on a mission soon." Kretos dropped another piece of news.

"I see. They treat us as Evil, and yet they covet someone else body. How hilarious. Those hypocrites gave the urge to puke, acting all righteous. Simply, "The church."

In the guise of helping people, the church controls whatever they can in secrecy. They use threats, bribery, and 'the word of god' (which they fabricate) to get their way. They teach the people of their society only the things that will eventually benefit them, sell admissions to heaven, and take in a lot of eager, young people who don't know they are being used. The king under the church is a figurehead for the head Priest, who has a number of Arch-Bishops, a number of bishops themselves, and so on down the line.

The Church is an example of an evil organization disguised as a place for good and healing. Bunch of hypocrites. We the Chaos's Eye shall corrupt this world, turning it into evil, Chaos shall reign!"

"Chaos shall reign!"

"Prepare for war. The world shall learn of our existence, what Chaos's Eye is." Lord Thanos declared the eyes under the hood turned darker like the most frightening abyss.

Chapter 427 - Side Story: A Certain Saintess 2

Armstrong asked his student to sit in front of him, and Luna did as she was told.

"Let's start with the lesson. Look closely and follow my instructions."

"Channel Mana through your body to first active the Instant Strengthening," Armstrong instructed, and Luna immediately abides by his words.

"Instant Strengthening!"

Luna felt her body becoming filled with strength after the white light covered her body. She waited for her master's following instructions.

"I know you feel your whole body overwhelming with strength but to use this better and not to waste your mana because you don't have unlimited mana. Focus more Mana in one point to save up Mana."

Luna carefully listened to Armstrong's voice, not to miss anything..

Armstrong stood up and activated Instant Strengthening.

"If I want to be faster, I just focus mana in my legs to momentarily increase their speed like this."

Swoosh!

Armstrong disappeared to reappear after traveling fifty meters in an instant. He was swift.

"If I want to punch faster if I want my punch to be hard as the hardest metal, to be destructive as well. I will pour more mana in my hands."

Bang! Bang! Crack! Crack!

Each punch broke two adults trees.

"If I want to have a stronger defense focus your mana in one point." Armstrong lastly said.

"I understand, master. Previously, I was only wasting my mana. If I follow your instructions, I will save up more mana." Luna said, immediately she followed Armstrong's instructions, and as she had said, she felt the Mana consumption decrease as she only focused mana in one point.

"Great, I heard that you are also a Water mage?"

"Indeed, I can use the water element. Why do you ask master?" Luna responded but immediately raised a question to know if there was any implication behind Armstrong's question.

"Hohohoho! It's perfect. Although we can temporarily have a strong defense under instant strengthening, using the water magic, your defense will be doubled. A water armor above your body plus instant strengthening is like the perfect warrior. Starting from now on, you will try creating a thin water armor on your body and maintain it until the end of each training session. Understood?"

"I understand," Luna responded and immediately tried to create a thin water armor on her body, but she failed; it was only on her eleven tries she succeeded.

"Good, do you that the Light Element is the closest to the Time element?"

It was a sudden question; Luna had never thought of it; she could only shake her head.

"I knew you wouldn't know. Most people don't know. Our predecessor, the creator of our current skills, said Light is related to time. After analysis, I agreed to it. Healing is like we rewind time. She said at the highest level; we could heal even the world, rewind time to the past. So, I want you to one day be able to do as I don't believe that I can." Armstrong entrusted his dearest wish to Luna, and she accepted.

"I will do, Master, you have my promise."

"Great. It's time to crack some skulls, no need to hold back. Light Element is about manliness; always remember this. Fight to your heart content."

After Armstrong's words, Luna was sent into the depth of the forest.

Luna did not walk for even twenty meters, and she encountered her first monster; it was not a weak monster, a monster often seen in the deepest part of dungeons, a Minotaur.

The Minotaur was around 5 meters tall.

It is as big as a big Ogre.

The battle-ax that the Minotaur was holding in its hands was dyed in blood.

"Gwoooooooooooooo!"

The Minotaur howls in anger, and with its battle ax overhead, it rushed towards Luna.

"Instant Strengthening!"

Luna immediately activated Instant Strengthening; she rushed forward after pouring mana into her legs; she had flashed next to the surprised minotaur, the battle-ax descended, Luna's fist was launched.

Bang!

A collision happened, and unexpectedly it was the minotaur who got pushed a couple of steps back and,
Crack!

The battle-ax made from the sturdiest rock found in the depth of the forest broke apart.

"Guoo?"

Swoosh! Bang! Bang!

Luna did not give the minotaur the chance to prepare before she punched its chest with her enhanced fists covered by thin water armor.

Crack!

The minotaur's ribs cracked, its chest caved in, and its heart ruptured; it was instant death.

"Boring! I thought at least you could last few rounds." Luna was disappointed that the Rank 7 minotaur died with only one punch; she forgot that she was Rank 9. With the addition of the water armor, her punch had double their initial strength; no wonder the poor minotaur couldn't survive three punches.

Luna wished to fight to her heart content, unleash everything she had, to satisfy that hunger she had, so she walked deeper into the forest; she encountered monsters, orcs, red goblins, ogres (normal ones), but none of them managed to survive more than five punches, it was then Luna understood why the water armor combined with the instant strengthening was too overwhelming; however, she couldn't stop using the water armor, then she got an idea? Why not heal the monster after a few beatings? It would also serve as training for her healing art.

From that day onward, Luna would beat the monsters she encountered to the brink of death, heal them using her Gift, then beat them again; it was a bloody endless circle. Even Armstrong could only kneel in front of such beautiful art, he said. In the span of four days, no monsters wished to encounter Luna; they all hid, trembling in fear, nobody wanted to face the psycho healer.

"Bunch of cowards!" Luna spat, and the monsters accepted, better be a coward to keep your life than act brave and suffer hell before dying.

"I'm almost Rank 10. Time to fight the big boss of the forest. Maybe this boss won't be a coward and entertain me for a while." Luna decided to go into the core region.

"Umu! She is turning into a fine healer." Armstrong complimented from the sky.

"You succeed in turning her into another madman like you."

Unexpectedly, there was someone beside him; Freya stood floating; she observed Luna massacre then heal and massacre again. She wondered what Maria would say if she were to see her sister right now. Well, guess she will laugh as she knows Luna better than anybody.

"Hohoho~ Thanks for the compliment. By the way, I heard that the elves became agitated recently. What happened?"

"Don't ask me." Freya refused to answer.

"Tch! Stingy Old ha-"

Before Armstrong could finish cursing, a thin blade exuding extreme chillness was held against his throat; he hadn't even seen it coming, he gulped.

"My bad, I had a slip of the tongue."

"That's more likely. Take care, do train her well. Time is about to change."

Leaving these words behind, Freya disappeared.

"Indeed, time is changing." Armstrong sighed and watched his student head deeper into the forest; it was time for her to graduate from this dungeon; she was about to face the strongest and toughest opponent.

Chapter 428 - Side Story: Elves

Mysthia's Western Part.

The Forest of Life, also known as Elfira.

This was the continent inhabited by the proudest mortal race in this world.

The Elves.

In the past, this same race had almost complete control of the world. It was when the ancestor of Elves first appeared in this world.

Despite how they were perceived nowadays, contrasting with the peace-loving exterior they now adorned, elves were quite the warmongers in the past, reveling in all prospects of war and spreading their influence on this world. At least, it was how the High Elves of the primitive age acted. This persona of the elves mainly originated from the way they perceived the world, a contrast with the other races. Maybe, the first High Elf came from a world where Elves dominated everything and everyone one, nobody knows..

Everything changed after the first empress ruled; elves stopped their conquest, they turned into a peaceful race, they became one of the protectors of Mysthia. Since the first empress's reign, Elven society turned into a matriarchal society where the only talented woman rules, the strongest rules. Typhania could be said to be the strongest of Elves of all time, the talent she possessed none other had it, her bloodline was the purest, the High Elves believe that she would be the one to open the pass to their hometown; however, after that battle, she vanished to complete a long-awaited prophecy. But their patience was running out, so Elves (High Elves mostly) prayed for the next genius with the purest bloodline to appear, they waited, and time had come; an opportunity had recently presented.

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Elfira.

The infrastructure of the houses in Elfira, the Elven Empire, was fused with the beauty and presence of nature.

Elves did not cut their forest to create houses; instead, they put their magic to create special trees that were empty on the inside, spacious enough to inhabit themselves and whatever they might use to make it habitable.

The closer someone came to one of the five main settlements of the elves, the taller the trees were. It was to the extent that 30 to 40 meters tall trees were a common sight in the inner settlements, with trees that reached more than 70 meters or more also present.

In the center of the forest, where the high elves lived, stood the tallest tree in all of existence.

One so tall that it pierced the clouds, so high that no one could perceive just where the end of it lay.

The elves called it the world tree, a tree born from one of the seeds of Yggdrasil, the tree of life. The First High Elf planted it after he appeared in Mysthia by accident.

The world tree also housed the sanctuary where the high priestess and the empress gathered and made important decisions after long discussions.

Currently, deep in the sanctuary, a gentle and beautiful melody flowed, echoing in the silent surroundings, reverberating throughout.

In a room adorned with scarce and straightforward decorations, two women with an air of absolute authority sat opposite each other, locking their sights on one another.

The two of them were wearing robes, green in color and slightly transparent in their hue; the clothes left little to the viewer's imagination.

The two were High Elves judging by how longer and sharper their ears were. Naturally, they were beautiful, simply a work of art given life.

Sitting on one side was a pale-skinned high elf. She had a slim figure, modest curves adorning her lithe body, yet strangely she had no lack in feminine charms, seemingly being overabundant with the said trait. Though, because of her emotionless face and the long golden hair that was so long that it reached the ground, gently hanging and swaying with the gentle breeze.

The person mentioned above was none other than the current acting Empress of Elfira, the Queen of the entirety of the race of elves, Stefania Elvira Elfied.

Sitting opposite to her was a short-haired woman, the High priestess; in contrast to Elvira, this woman possessed a seductive body; the clothes she wore clung tightly to her body; thin straps held their gigantic breasts together. A coy smile adorned the High priestess's face as she stared at Elvira, Rhea Elfied, yes, Elvira's little sister, yet so dramatically different.

"So Rhea, you wish to say that the council wants to go bring the girl with the purest bloodline back?" Elvira asked in an emotionless tone.

"Sis, you should smile more." Rhea tried to lighten the mood but, as one could expect, failed miserably. She could only sigh.

"Yes, the council wish to bring Gracier back. Even though she is a half-Elf, she possesses the purest bloodline. She is Elder Faranal daughter; she should be here."

"And what about the empress? Did you all think that she would stay still, letting you lots use a small kid for your benefits? You abandoned her when she needed the most attention, and now, because of some miracle, her bloodline increased, you wished to use her? Have you thought of consequences? Did you want to have his brother, Alexander as your enemy? He, who is the one in the prophecy? Tell me, Rhea, if others have gone nuts, have you as well lost the bit of brain you have?"

Elvira didn't hide her disappointment; she could see where they were going. While Typhania sacrificed everything, these fools wanted to change, to switch her for someone they could control; however, they didn't know that by targeting Gracier, only one outcome awaited them, disaster. Elvira was special among the High Elves; she had a certain ability, foresight, to foresight some part of the future; she saw only desolation if these foolish people continued in what they were doing.

"Sigh! Big sis, I'm trying; I will continue trying. Please get in touch with the empress and tell her to think about something. Elder Faranal is becoming more uncontrollable. I don't know how much longer I can hold for." Rhea said and stood up; she stopped at the door.

"I know what sacrifice the empress made, what you sacrificed, don't worry, I will try my best."

Then she left, leaving only Elvira in the room.

"Sigh! Master, I'm tired." She said before taking a communication stone to contact a certain guild master.

Chapter 429 - Side Story: The Black Prince's Reverse Scale

It happened the day after the emperor Julius birthday after he had a short discussion with Alex.

~ Emperor's Room.

There was an enormous painting on the wall, and there were furnishings collected from all around the world adorning it.

They ate all works of art, no matter what you chose. It can be said that a luxurious and extravagant room is a symbol of power.

In that room was Prime Minister Kyle, and sitting before him, was 12th Emperor Julius Von Havens.

"Is there something you want to say?"

With wine in hand, the emperor looked at Prime Minister Kyle with eyes as sharp as a hawk's.

"Was it all right to tied the Third Princess hand in marriage so unexpectedly? If you are going, Mister Alexander, I believe there exists a better method.. Such giving him territory and-"

"That would create an obstacle for future plans."

"As you know, the boy didn't like politics. I must think of my daughter. Those all foxes think I have gone blind. They are trying to make Artemia race for the throne as they think she can be easily controlled because she always stayed indoors and has a gentle, they think they ride on her overwhelming popularity to turn her into the First Empress, their perfect puppet, only if they knew."

"What?"

The prime minister wanted to know what the emperor meant by saying these words; unfortunately, the emperor had no desire to answer him.

"Nothing, Tell me, Kyle, what is your evaluation of Alexander?"

Seeing the emperor switching subject, not wanting to answer him, Kyle could only sigh and answer the emperor's question. Kyle's first impression when he saw the boy nicknamed Black Prince after he engaged with Artemia is the boy had an unusual amount of mana, that's all. Say he had king presence, he is too intelligent; Kyle could only shake his head as he not seen any of those traits in the boy. Although shocked by what he had done for his sister, for Kyle, a desperate man can accomplish anything; therefore, when being asked a question about the said boy, Kyle's answer was simple.

"He has a lot of mana, and he is a bit unusual."

"An answer typically like you." Julius was not surprised by Kyle's evaluation of Alex as he knew better than anybody how his right-hand man thinks; if you don't have the ambition to rule, to do marvelous things, you're not worthy of Kyle's attention.

The emperor sniffed the scent of the wine, then took a sip of the exquisite wine before saying.

"Although not the smartest, he is smart enough to know where his priorities lie. Men like him are destined to do great things, things you and I can accomplish because we only see the narrow view before us, not what is after. Only a man like him deserves my daughter; I don't mind tying her to this type of man as I'm well aware of what she desires; Drexia is too small for it; no Mysthia in its whole is too small for her. Mark my word, that boy will keep shocking the world. Do you know what is goal is?"

Kyle shook his head, curious about what a boy like Alex would desire apart from reigning as emperor.

Julius chuckled and said, "Becoming the strongest. Not just the strongest of this world but the strongest of all. This might sound childish to you, but I believe if it's him, he can do it. Have you seen his progress in just a few months? From a nobody to the strongest of the younger generation, not even our Princes and princesses with unlimited resources couldn't hold a candle to her. So, you should understand why I have to tie such man to my family, even if I can control him, I must have him somehow, everything is for the empire, for the sake of the future."

Putting it like that, Kyle couldn't be dissatisfied anymore. He could only sigh that his son, who wanted to ask for Artemia's hand in marriage after coming back from abroad, could only dream and forget his plan.

"Sorry, I know your son's feelings, but to you than anybody, you should know that he didn't stand a chance since the beginning as he was nothing that childhood playmate in Artemia's eyes, as painful this may sound, it's the strict truth. Time will heal his injuries; we should focus on what is about to come. Time is fast changing; a storm is coming; war is looming. We should be prepared and use everything we can."

"I understand, your majesty." The prime minister Kyle nodded and bowed.

Few days later, Alex indeed was once again shocked as the emperor had expected; thanks to him, the empire was able to deal a blow to Chaos's Eye. From that day onwards, Kyle never underestimated the

boy known as the Black Prince; he started paying attention to everything related to him; he even thought of befriending him; it was because he was on alert that he learned of the elves plan.

"So, the reason the Elves have become a little bit active recently was due to Gracier, Alex's adopted sister possessed the purest bloodline like that monster Typhania?" Julius asked as he sat on his bed.

"Yes, indeed, they wished to retrieve Gracier and make her the future emperor," Kyle responded.

"I see, those idiots. Don't they know what would happen if they kidnapped the girl? Because of the internal situation on their side, they can only resort to this method, and knowing the Black Prince's temper, only hell awaits them if they ever touch his sister, especially now that he was away on a mission, everyone knows that Gracier is his reverse scale. Sigh! I will deal with it somehow." Julius promised before clapping his hands.

As the emperor claps his hands, a man dressed in man kimono appears from behind him. It was Kamishiro.

"Your Majesty." Kamishiro kneeled.

"Orochi, you will secretly protect Gracier in the shadow, kill the first two individuals that will try to kidnap her. That's all you can leave." Julius ordered, and Kamishiro bowed before disappearing as if becoming one with the shadows.

Kyle looked questioningly at Julius, wondering what he was up to; the emperor smiled.

"I will let the boy own me. The reason I gave that kind of order is to let the girl experienced another setback to see if she grew, to see if she could defend herself. What would her decision be? Is she soft-hearted or ruthless one like her brother?"

"I see, the emperor is sure wise."

"Stop it, just a child play. Let's wait and see."

Unknown to him, the Black Prince had his special squad.

Chapter 430 - 418: Alice Nihil

Air moves in blossoming brilliant arcs within the sun rays of a new day. It was on the fourth day Alex was traversing the Endless Sea.

Gracier could be seen dressed in her training gear heading into her training ground, in one of the special forests owned by the royal family; Artemia had said to head; first, she would join her later.

『[Gracier Alexandra Touch]

「 Rank 8」

Level 80

Class: Fire Empress

Age: 14

Female

Race: High Half-Elf

Experience Value: 2000/37200

Magic Power: 3500 (+20) ► 3520/3520

Magic: Fire Magic

Attack: 1335 ► 1345

Defense: 725 ► 735

Agility: 875 ► 885

Intelligence: 825 ► 835

Luck: 725 ► 735

BP: 20

SP: 10

Gift: Ignia's Bracelet

Skills: [Cooking Level 4] [Sewing Level 3] [Fireball Level 5] [Fire Arrows Level 4] [Meteor Level 1] [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 Abilities: [Dragon Eye Level 10 Max] [Flame Wings Level 3] [Dragon's Breath Level Level 2] [Lord of Hundred Flames] {Dark Mode (Sealed due to its instability)}

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

"Fufufu! Almost Rank 9, I wonder if big brother would be happy with my progress?" Gracier said with a smile before suddenly shaking her head.

"I must at least become Rank 10 before big brother come back." She decided. Flame wings appeared at her back, and she started flying; today, Gracier wishes to venture deeper into the forest, fight stronger opponents to advance rapidly.

At the same time, several shadows traveled the forest.

In another part of the forest, two individuals stood before each other, one woman with pure white hair and a man dressed in black clothing. It was Kamishiro facing Alice, Gracier's bodyguard.

"Young girl, can you let me pass?" Kamishiro tried to make Alice let him pass. Never he would have thought, neither would have the emperor thought that Alex had already placed somebody to protect Gracier.

"I refuse, go back and tell the emperor that my master has everything under control." Alice calmly stated, her hand had never left the sword at her waist.

'Sigh! She even knew that the emperor sent me. I wonder where the hell the boy finds this unusual girl. I can't sense anything from her, not even the once of mana which is odd considering that mana dwells in everything. There is only one explanation; this girl is at a level where she could perfectly hide her mana. If it is true, then she would be a terrifying enemy to face.'

Kamishiro, also known as Orochi, quickly analyzed, then he caught sight of something; he was not the only one, though.

Shing!!

Katana and sword were both simultaneously unsheathed as if the two wished to take each other life. However, just as the blade was about to arrive near the other, it suddenly struck the opposite side, heads flew, blood danced in the sky, and the two passed each other and unsheathed their weapons again; another carnage happened.

In less than a minute, four bodies lay headless on the ground.

"You are not bad." Kamishiro complimented; he tried to sound calm; however, inwardly, he was shocked because the move used by Alice couldn't be more familiar to him as it was the same move he performed god knows how many times to perfect it to what it was today. It couldn't be helped that Kamishiro was shocked; imagine the skills you have painstakingly performed to be perfectly copied by a stranger just in front of you at your first meeting? Everybody will be shocked, and also the moment Alice unsheathed her sword, Kamishiro felt something he had never felt before, a sensation of dreadfulness like never before, it like he was standing before an abyssal monster that could swallow every within its sight if angered, the man known as Orochi even back in the Far East, feared by many gulped and took the only logical decision he could think of at the moment.

"I shall take my leave," Kamishiro announced and started to blend with the surrounding; however, before completely disappearing, he asked.

"Young lady, what is your name?"

"Alice Nihil."

"Nihil means 0 in one of your master's world languages, I think? Well, take care, Alice Nihil; I hope we never see each other ever again." These were Kamishiro last words before he vanished. He was extremely knowledgeable, almost as he was once an Earthling.

Left alone, Alice calmed her trembling hand; she might have appeared calm on the surface it was only because of her personality, her eternal emotionless face, to be able to copy a man of Kamishiro caliber sword skill perfectly, it took all she had, she almost failed, she could have used other sword techniques. Still, by copying Kamishiro skills, it would have struck fear deep into the man's heart, to make him wary of her, he would see how strong and dangerous she is and at the same time put a brake on the emperor ambition, he would think twice before messing with Alex from now after learning what his men are capable of.

"Sigh! I'm still weak. I must become stronger, not to fall behind as my master kept growing." Alice said as she touched her chest where that stone acting as the heart was, she could feel the connection between her and her master, even though faint because of the distance.

Then, Alice's cold face turned even colder as she glanced at the headless bodies on the ground. She turned into a shadow and disappeared; however, a small black flame appeared in the place where Alice was to land on the corpses; instantly, the four bodies were set ablaze and rapidly turned into cinder before disappearing into the wind.

Like the Grim reaper, Alice moved into the forest, reaping life as if cutting off some grasses.

The first batch of men sent by the Elves as they were getting desperate was annihilated, and Gracier didn't even know that a massacre occurred as she was happily slaughtering monsters to level up.