

Earths GMagus 1061

Chapter 1061 Dagger Master

The number of spectators had gradually increased since the duel between Atlas and Zeto. Now that they heard there was going to be another duel between those in the top 10, especially with one of them being the young savage acolyte, most people in the area were more than willing to make time to watch the match.

[Taylor Haze - Rank 8]

The white-haired young man calmly stood before him. Two small, crystal clear daggers just 10 inches in length were ready in his grip as he looked at Emery with a deadly gaze.

Under the crowd's anticipation-filled eyes, Emery pulled out his [Savage Sword] and prepared his [36 Dao Sword Technique] stance.

With all the information provided by Klea, Emery knew what kind of person the opponent he was about to face was hence he was ready.

"Fight, start!" the magus referee shouted.

The moment the referee's words resounded in the area, the white-haired man in front of him immediately cast a spell on himself. At that moment, the temperature sharply dropped, causing even the crowd watching to feel the freezing cold.

Knowing that Taylor was using a spell to buff his body, Emery quickly used [Immortal Gate Stage 6] to do the same.

[Battle Power: 256 (320)]

The young man took a breath and dashed toward Emery like a chilling wind, leaving a thin cloud of smoke from the cold.

Clank!!

It happened in less than a second as Emery managed to parry it with his reflexes just in time, but just as the two's weapons collided, the man swiftly passed him and turned to attack for the second time.

Clank!!

Once again, Emery's sword technique blocked the opponent's daggers. However, it seemed that the man had already expected it as he quickly followed up with a battle art skill.

[Wind Stride]

The skill was a high-tier battle art, a combination of dual dagger wielding and the wind element that was on par with Emery's [Shadow Blade]. Throwing multiple slashes at the opponent, the battle art skill didn't even require its user's daggers to touch the opponent's flesh in order to make a cut.

Swish, swish, swish, swish!

Unfortunately for him, Emery already knew about this skill beforehand. The moment he saw the wind gather at the opponent's daggers, he immediately countered using his new sword skill.

[Omega Strike]

Emery swung his sword with a powerful strike. However, it wasn't to block the barrage of wind slashes.

Instead, Emery struck the arena ground.

BAAMMM!!

The strike broke the arena ground while creating a force strong enough to disrupt the wind and simultaneously throw himself back a few steps, allowing him to perfectly dodge the battle art.

The clashes occurred in the span of just a few seconds.

Seeing this, the crowd cheered in excitement as they closely watched the two's clashes, and some even clapped in awe. After all, the dagger battle art shown by Taylor was something even a magus would have difficulty dealing with, yet Emery was able to escape it not only with ease, but also beautifully.

And it wasn't just the crowd. Even Taylor was slightly taken aback when he saw Emery stop his proud technique in such an unexpected way.

"It looks like you've read my data." Taylor gave a calm smile and prepared his stance again. "But I've witnessed your fight against Zach with my very own eyes. You won't be able to win against me!"

This time, the young man cast another spell that made light blue lines appear all over his body.

[Aurora Vessel]

It was a divine spell that boosted his body with the Law of Wind and Ice, one of Taylor's most well-known spells that he could cast despite still being a rank 9 acolyte.

Seeing him use this skill, Emery also quickly prepared his [Fey Transformation]. At that moment, shiny silver fur grew on his hands and feet, boosting his agility to the max.

Howwlllll!!

In that instant, Taylor swiftly dashed forward with twice the speed, while Emery stood still with both of his hands on the Savage Sword's hilt.

Clank!! Clank!!

The two's weapons clashed yet again, creating sharp squeaks from the clashing blades as the two focused on the speed of their attacks rather than power.

Clank!! Clank!!

With Taylor using dual weapons, Emery was at a disadvantage for a close-range battle on speed. Even so, Emery's sword technique variation was enough to allow him to parry and block all his opponent's attacks.

However, at the same time, Emery noticed that the bombardment of attacks was quickly growing faster. It was to the point that he could no longer see the movements of Taylor's hands.

The next thing he knew, the man had once again broken through his defense and blood was gushing out from his waist.

When Emery reflexively turned around, the previously calm yet sharp expression on the man's face had turned into a wicked grin as he licked the blood from the crystal dagger.

"I like to see you bleed."

Shivers ran down Emery's spine, and his expression quickly turned into shock.

In turn, the man's eyes became filled with mirth as he looked at the expression on Emery's face, like a predator looking at his prey.

"Haha, you should be afraid..."

However, Emery's response as he doubtfully looked at the young man surprised him.

"Err, no... I'm not afraid, just... Why are you licking my blood? That's disgusting."

The twisted smile on the man's face turned into a deep frown at a speed visible to the naked eye. Annoyed, he once again charged at Emery, and Emery countered.

Clank! Clank!

10 clashes, 20 clashes, 30 clashes...

Emery was able to parry Taylor's attacks, but he was still quite amazed. For Taylor to be able to stay on par with him, even with Emery using his sword technique at almost his highest speed...

Splaattt, splatt!

Like before, the man's attacks quickly increased in speed until Emery could no longer catch up. In the end, another deep wound was cut into his body before Emery could [Blink] away.

Emery was slightly taken aback. Seeing this, the man became even more confident as he said.

"To satisfy your curiosity... what I just used is not in the data because it's not a skill. It's the Dagger Aura."

Emery's eyes widened. As his master once told him, the Weapon Aura was part of the Laws, something only those at the level of a magus and higher would be able to use.

However...

When he heard this, instead of getting intimidated, Emery became even more interested to fight.

Chapter 1062 Speed

Those who sat on the top ten privileged class leaderboard were certainly not easy opponents at all.

This person named Taylor Haze was probably the fastest privileged acolyte Emery met so far, comparable to Zach in speed without the latter's using his bloodline transformation.

Tier 6 buff-type spells, coupled with mastery over the dagger to the point of possessing the Dagger Aura; the man was certainly a genius.

However, facing such an extraordinary opponent did not discourage Emery. In fact, it actually made him even more excited and looking forward to the fight.

His reason for retreating earlier was because he knew he wouldn't win with his current setup. Therefore, now that he knew some of Taylor's cards, Emery cast two spells in his repertoire that could help him.

A faint layer of blue-colored energy enveloped Emery's entire body as [Slipstream] took effect, increasing his speed; while [Jade Skin] did its job and covered Emery with a layer of jade, enhancing his defense.

"Let's go!" Emery said with such enthusiasm that it managed to irritate his opponent.

Both of them swiftly exchanged strikes once again, and just like before, the longer the clash went on the faster Taylor became. Emery's [Slipstream] was only able to give him ten extra seconds before he was once again overwhelmed by the other party, his body receiving cuts here and there.

However, thanks to the [Jade Skin], Emery's wounds weren't as deep as before. Hence, he could easily continue fighting while depending on his innate [Undecaying Flesh] for recovery. Still, the situation didn't look too optimistic for him.

Each cut and stab done by the dagger impressed Emery, making him understand more about the art of wielding a dual dagger. He finally realized that although the dagger's range was shorter than the sword, its smaller size made it easier to hide from the opponent's eyes, making predicting attacks a bit more difficult.

Emery marveled at how his opponent incorporated his incredible dexterity to change the trajectory of his attacks at a moment's notice. As for Aura which sharply increased the lethality of his opponent's attack, even at this point he still couldn't get it.

The fight went on for half an hour. Hundreds of cuts had been inflicted on his body, yet Emery still didn't stop. Rather, if one observed carefully, one would realize that his swordsmanship gradually got better and became more refined.

It was to the point that Emery even took out his [Moon Dagger] and started fighting with a dual sword and dagger combination that he hadn't used in a long time.

"It's no use! You will not defeat me!" said Taylor as he saw Emery bringing out a dagger. It seemed that action somehow provoked the former as Emery was immediately bombarded with attacks.

After receiving several more cuts on his body, Emery once again cast [Blink] and retreated. The source of this content is Freewebnovel.com.

Seeing that, Taylor scoffed. "Huh! Are you retreating now?!"

Shaking his head slightly, Emery replied, "No, of course not. I just want to say that you're right; I can't win."

It was clear that Emery's words caught the man off guard by how unexpected they were.

"..Are you admitting defeat?" asked Taylor, visibly confused.

Emery shook his head. "No, of course not. What I mean is I have fun, but..." He threw his gaze towards the spectators for a moment before returning to his opponent and saying, "It just thought it's not nice to keep them waiting"

It took a moment, but when Taylor finally understood what Emery meant, a look of anger appeared on his face. On the other hand, his opponent didn't seem bothered by what he just said as he prepared himself.

"I'll make you regret saying those words!" Taylor said, brandishing his dagger.

This time, Emery didn't start by taking up his sword stance. Instead, he cast a spell.

When Taylor shot towards him, Emery's figure was gone. Where he stood, four shadow figures bearing resemblance to him appeared. Seeing such a sight, his opponent let out a derisive snort.

"Illusion? Is it something new? Hah! It won't work on me!"

The four shadow figures dashed at the same time and attacked from multiple angles. Even though Taylor's dagger was faster, he was only able to deal with one shadow before the other three joined in. And if being ganged up wasn't annoying enough, the shadow was able to phase out of existence when attacked, and he couldn't predict which one was the real deal.

This was Emery's new spell, [Void Mist]. One that was born after combining [Dark Void], [Blink], and [Shadow Mist]. When cast, the spell would create identical clones to the caster that were very difficult to differentiate, able to blink away and hide in the void.

Spllaaatt!

Finally, after a few exchanges, Emery was able to make his first cut on Taylor's body. Knowing that he still had a chance for more, he quickly threw a roundhouse kick and sent the man sliding across the arena.

Taylor was naturally furious, and he once again attacked Emery. Unfortunately, his efforts were in vain. Instead of succeeding, he had instead suffered the same result he received just a moment ago.

His expression changed when he finally realized that Emery had been using him like a combat puppet for the past hour. The realization rattled the man so much that his anger flared violently, his calm expression no longer there.

However, his anger yielded nothing. Emery was still able to lay a hit on Taylor. In fact, this time the former managed to do it a little faster than before.

"I noticed that when you are not calm, your movements actually become slower..."

Taylor tried to find out which shadow figure was speaking, because it had to be the real one. Unfortunately, his attempt bore no fruit. Irrked by what he had just heard, he snorted and retorted while his eyes wandered to the four figures before him.

"Huh! I didn't lose to you; I lost to this fucking spell!"

Emery heaved a sigh and said, "Alright then, I will use a different one."

As soon as Emery finished speaking, the arena floor cracked as dozens of jade-like roots crawled out from it. They permeated through the entire arena while several flesh-eating flowers emerged from their midst, surrounding Emery who had reverted to one.

With the combination of [Jade Root] and [Primal Flora], Emery simply took over the arena and restricted Taylor's mobility by limiting the space could take advantage of. Then, while his opponent was busy dealing with his summons to pay attention to him, he appeared behind him using [Blink] and placed his sword on the man's neck.

"Admit it, you lost"

Taylor lowered the dagger in his hand. Even though he was exasperated with how he lost, the young man still admitted defeat to the referee.

[Emery Ambrose wins!]

The crowd cheered and applauded for Emery's beautiful win. Chatters and discussions spread among them.

"The savage acolyte is certainly on par with the top 5!"

"Yes he is"

Those words entered the ear of one particular young man who then stood up from his seat and walked into the arena. While his eyes were fixed on the winner of that previous fight, he said,

"You will fight me next."

The man who stepped into the arena and stood in front of Emery was Rank 7 - Jai Strider.

However, contrary to expectations, Emery did not immediately accept the challenge. Instead, using the rest time he had, he approached Klea and asked for her opinion. "What do you think? Should I?"

He certainly found the data and information Klea gathered very useful, hence he would rather use the time he had to consider the challenge and not accept it right away as he usually did.

However, the answer that came out of Klea's mouth was something he didn't expect.

With a cheeky smile, Klea said "I want to watch more! Beat that man for me!"

Chapter 1063 Puppeteers

[Jai Strider - Rank 7]

The young man currently standing in the arena was covered in light metal armor on his chest, legs and arms. He also donned some metal devices on his eyes, a spectacle and one oversized bracelet.

"We know about each other's existence, but have never properly introduced ourselves. Let me formally introduce myself. My name is Jai Strider, you can call me Jai or many called me the metal puppeteers" said the young man, speaking with poise.

Emery found this particular opponent of his seemed to be much of a chatter. However, just as the other party had said – that they basically knew nothing about each other, he decided to partake in the conversation to glean more from direct observation.

After all, even though Emery was confident in his own abilities, everyone in the top 10 of the leaderboard possessed some unique and miraculous skills that if he were not careful, could easily defeat him.

"All right, Emery. Now that we've introduced ourselves, let's get into the matter at hand." A smile on his face, Jai continued, "Do you have anything for your recovery or should I give you some extra time?"

Emery would naturally not underestimate the guy, so he took out a [Spirit Regeneration Pill] and ate it to help replenish the depleted spirit energy from the previous fight.

He spent the ten minutes of rest he had to recover as much of his condition as possible. In the meantime, he also conversed with his upcoming opponent who seemed to have an interest in many diverse things.

Then, all of a sudden, the young man flashed a confident smile and said, "I like you, mister savage acolyte. Even though you scored 5th rank in the test, you were not in a rush and instead decided to fight Taylor and me first. That's confidence indeed."

Emery decided to not reply and listen as Jai continued with his speech.

"I just want to say that though Taylor is fast, he could never go further from where he is now. He lost to me five times already, after all." Turning to Emery, he gestured with his hand nonchalantly. "Actually, if I am you, I will immediately challenge that Cross brat, instead of fighting me or the guy after me. That's a better chance in my eyes."

Such a statement naturally piqued Emery's interest. With raised eyebrows, he asked, "Why do you think so?"

Again, in a nonchalant manner, Jai said, "Well, the guy after me is basically unkillable, while me..." A smile crept onto his face, as he said, "You have the opportunity to see it yourself now, aren't you?"

As the ten minute mark was about to reach its end, Jai took out eight palm-sized metal balls from his spatial ring. However, they didn't land on the ground as expected, instead the eight metal balls hovered in the air, expanding in size and gradually forming into a metallic humanoid figure.

Apparently, the man was a metal element acolyte; and from the looks of it, his fighting style seemed to depend on using summoned creatures. He then said something that made Emery raise his eyebrows again.

"I know that you have your earth summons. How about we face them against each other? I propose a change of location to make this interesting."

Emery was intrigued by the other party's words and couldn't help but look towards the referee to see what they thought of the proposal. However, Jai didn't seem to want to wait any longer and interrupted.

"I am sure you don't care much about the rank, so let's go! Follow me!"

As soon as he said those words, he flew into the air leaving the arena. Only after seeing that there was no response from the referee did Emery follow suit.

Led by Jai, the two of them arrived at an open clearing just a few miles away from the arena. Hundreds of people who were present in the arena followed after, as they certainly did not want to miss such a fight.

"Alright, now we're here," Jai said as his feet landed on the ground. He then turned to Emery who had just landed and said "I've shown you, my metal boys. Let me see yours."

Hearing that, Emery cast his [Mineralized Warrior] spell and summoned ten Type 1 soldier that looked similar to him. He then quickly ordered them to stand opposite the metallic humanoid Jai conjured. It was as if two armies were preparing to clash.

Seeing them, Jai smiled and said, "Hooo... looks like you underestimated me." Follow current novels on Freewebnovel.com.

He glanced at one of his metal summons and immediately it charged alone towards one of the Mineralized Warriors. With just one punch, it broke through the warrior's defense and destroyed it into pieces.

Jai metal summon was definitely on a much higher level than his.

The metal soldier dashed back and Jai said with a smile, "Feel free to summon more.. We don't mind more challenges."

Emery knew that he might be manipulated to play on his opponent's hand, but honestly, he really didn't care about winning or losing right now. He considered fighting as an opportunity to practice, an experience to improve himself better.

Hence he did as requested and cast [Mineralized Warrior], summoning 100 Type one Mineralized Warriors at once. The sudden appearance of an army of summons sparked various reactions from the spectators.

On the other hand, a smile appeared on Jai's face as he saw the army saying, "That's better."

"Let's Fight!"

At the orders of their respective summoners, the two armies consisting of different summons marched forward and clashed with each other. 8 metal humanoids against 100 Mineralized Warriors; it was a conflict on the scale of a skirmish in a war.

It was a ten-against-one situation, putting the advantage of numbers on Emery's complete favor. On top of that, each and every Mineralized Warrior fought wielding a sword. At first glance, it seemed like there was no hope for the other party to win.

Clank! Clank! Clank!

The loud distinctive sound of metal clashing against a hard surface echoed through the air as the Mineralized Warriors attacked Jai's summons. However, despite their superiority in weapons, the warriors were only able to make scratches on the metallic humanoid bodies, dealing less damage needed to destroy them.

On the other hand, Jai's summons only needed to land one hit; a punch or a kick to destroy them into pieces. The stark difference in strength between the two sides was obvious.

Realizing that his warriors were not strong enough, Emery tried to surmount the issue by summoning more summons. This time, he summoned the Type two Mineralized Warrior that took the form of wolves. Twenty of them swiftly rushed forward to help their brethren.

Working together, the pack of Mineralized Wolves managed to overwhelm one of the metallic humanoids, tackling it down with sheer numbers before chewing its head off. With that, there were only seven Jai's summons remaining.

However, instead of being annoyed, Jai was happy to see his summons lose. To be precise, he was excited.

"Hahahah! Very good, impressive."

Afterward, he took out and threw three more metal balls, this time however it didn't turn into the form of the previous metal fighter, in fact, two metal balls grew four times bigger creating a pair of four meters tall gigantic humanoids with enormous limbs.

Meanwhile, the other one turned into a humanoid figure just like the other eight, but with a slender physique.

The gigantic summon swiftly charged towards the army of Mineralized Warriors, the eight humanoids stood close to it as if covering behind a wall. On the other hand, the slender humanoid went to the broken humanoid and began to repair its headless state.

It was a full-function squad of metal humanoids.

Chapter 1064 summoners Battle

The audience was all cheering and giving various comments about the ongoing battle of summons. The spectacle of two summoners clashing head-on was something that was rare to see, after all.

"Did you see that? Those things the savage acolyte summons are so weak!"

"That's just to be expected, isn't it? If Jai had recharged all his metal humanoids, even the dragon boy wouldn't be able to have won."

"Yes! The savage acolyte is a fool to play the puppeteer's game!"

Even though Emery managed to defeat Taylor Haze with rather an ease, most of the audience did not think he would win against Jai easily. Some even thought Emery would lose after seeing the miserable display of his summons against the metal puppeteers.

One healer, two defenders, and eight fighters; Jai's summons had formed a solid configuration of elite summons where each complements the other, making it very difficult to deal with.

In just a matter of minutes, Jai's 11 metallic humanoids were able to rip apart Emery's hundreds of Mineralized Warriors, destroying nearly half of them.

Still, wanting to defeat Jai at his own game, Emery quickly cast [Mineralized Warrior] and summoned more warriors at his maximum capacity. Within seconds, hundreds of Mineralized Warriors emerged from the ground.

When he finished, Emery's gaze was completely filled with his summons. A congregation of Mineralized Warriors standing in front of him. Including the ones from the previous summon, there were 200 Type 1s that possessed 55 battle power, and 50 Type 2 which had 80 battle power.

At the end of his time on the planet Andora, Emery only managed to create and maintain 200 Mineralized Warriors at the same time. Now that he underwent another upgrade, he was able to create this many while still being able to spare 30% of his spirit pool just in case.

Of course, this number of summons was not something to be underestimated, and the audience understood this fact. Expectations sparked in their eyes, as the army of Mineralized Warriors once again clashed with the metallic humanoid squad.

The two defenders that Jai had conjured, who played a huge part in the previous confrontation with their towering and sturdy bodies that seemed indestructible, quickly tried to stem the attackers like before.

Alas, the number of enemies they had to take on was simply too much. Thanks to that, several Mineralized Warriors managed to slip through the defenders and attacked the metallic fighters.

Soon enough, a few metallic fighters were destroyed by being ganged up and the lone healer started to get overwhelmed.

If the situation continued like this, the metallic humanoids would definitely lose.

However, as if he was unaware of the situation, their summoner still had a confident smile on his face. Seeing such a reaction from his opponent, Emery did not relax. He was sure the man still had something up his sleeve.

Moments later, his hunch was proven correct.

"Good! Very good indeed!" Taking out more metal balls, Jai smiled at Emery and said, "Don't worry! It's just starting to warm up!"

Three metal balls floated in the air before starting to transform like their predecessors. One expanded and transformed into a slender humanoid figure, an extra healer while the other two transformed the same as metallic fighters but instead of two human-like legs, they had eight long, spider-like legs.

"Now you shall try to fight my knights!"

The two spider-like metallic humanoids shot forward at Jai's command. They moved at a speed that was twice faster than the wolves – Type 2 Mineralized Warrior, a standard that was comparable to the privileged acolytes' speedsters.

Within seconds, they managed to destroy dozens of Mineralized Warriors who surrounded the metallic fighters and healer, giving room for the second healer to start doing its job. Emery's Mineralized Warriors quickly tried to surround the two metallic knights, but they were powerless against the latter's superior speed.

As a result, the metallic fighters who had fallen earlier were revived by the healers. Then, to Emery's surprise, the two healers brought out a weapon – a long metal chain, which allowed them to attack from behind the defensive line.

"Amazing!"

Emery was very impressed with Jai's abilities. With merely 14 summons, he was able to fight his 250 Mineralized Warriors.

Inspired by what he saw, Emery summoned more Mineralized Warriors and quickly sent them to the battlefield to replace those who were destroyed. He then passed down a series of orders, causing the warriors to form and fight in a better, more structured formation.

It didn't take Emery long to discover that it would take a lot of control – which he currently lacked – to make the hundreds of Mineralized Warriors fight with the specific timing and discipline he envisioned. Hence, within a few minutes his army was once again destroyed.

Still not giving up, Emery once again summoned his army of Mineralized Warriors, which caused Jai to raise his arm in the air to reveal the oversized bracelet there, showing the glowing green crystal within.

"If you're thinking of depleting my spirit pool, think again. This baby of mine is the best charger for my boys." A smile on his face, he continued, "It will allow them to fight non-stop for an entire day, something I'm sure not even your unique spirit pool will be able to match."

Emery believed the man's words; however, he had thought of another way to fight them.

Apart from the 250 Mineralized Warriors he summoned, he still had one more fighter at his disposal.

Himself.

[Immortal Gate - stage 6]

[Fey Transformation]

[Night Transformation]

With most of his spirit pool used to maintain the 250 Mineralized Warriors, Emery would have to use his raw physical strength in order to support them. Hence the transformations.

Emery, who had transformed into a dark-furred wolf, shot forward. He arrived and grabbed one of the metallic defenders in an instant, before mustering all the strength he had to slam the summon into the ground. A huge crater formed while the defender itself broke into pieces.

Hooowwwlllll—

The sight of Emery instantly taking down the stout defender sparked reactions from the crowd, but Jai still had a confident smile on his face. Under Emery's predatory gaze, he took out his last metal ball.

It quickly expanded and began transforming. Four human-like limbs formed as it grew past the height of a normal human and reached the two and a-half meter mark. As its head began to form, wings made of metal sprouted on its back.

In the next second, Emery saw its figure disappear and his instincts warned him of an impending attack. He managed to bring his hands together before a strong impact struck his body, causing a grunt to escape from his mouth.

Jai's voice rang in the air.

"I introduce you to my guardian queen!"

Emery was inwardly shocked by the power of the summons his opponent summoned. Prior to this fight, he had never thought that there would be a summons capable of stopping his 400 battle power.

Howwwllll!!!

The dark fur figure pushed back screaming "Not Strong Enough!", as he was able to overpower the so-called guardian queen and grab both of its hands ready to split it apart.

But then, suddenly another 3-meter humanoid appeared behind him.

"Another one!?"

Before Emery could do anything, it threw a punch so powerful that it instantly made him vomit blood. The attack also forced him to release his grip on the guardian queen.

"Argh!"

As his body was flung aside, Emery turned his gaze to the humanoid that had just attacked him. Turns out that it wasn't a metallic humanoid, but Jai who was covered in full metal armor he summoned.

Jai smiled and said, "Now you've seen it all; my family! Can you defeat us?"

Chapter 1065 Powerful Unit

Howlll—

A pair of massive humanoids made of metal approached Emery with lightning speeds. One has four large limbs covering Jai Strider's whole body like a suit, while the second one was much more slender than its counterpart, looking like an approximation of a woman's body with a pair of wings on its back.

One was built for strength, while another was built for speed. The two metallic humanoids worked in tandem as they attacked relentlessly, making Emery unable to easily focus on hitting Jai, the king of the group.

"How do you like it?! Hahaha!"

Jai jumped forward with four limbs, his movement reminiscent of that of a huge monkey. Despite being encased in a massive metal construct, he moved so fast while the guardian queen dashed from behind, forcing Emery to cast [Blink] to get away from their pincer attack.

"Hahaha, I am telling you, savage.. You should finish me off while you can!"

There was no need to explain the taunt, as Emery knew for sure that right now his summons were being massacred by the other 14 humanoid metal constructs. And before long, Emery would be the only one standing against all of them.

While still dodging the fierce attacks, Emery observed the surroundings and his situation, paying attention and taking note of the metal summons attacks and fighting styles. Once again, he was impressed by his opponent's abilities.

There were soldiers, defenders, knights, healer and ranged attackers; Every summon had their own specialized role. Individually, they had glaring weaknesses, but together, each covered the other metal summons, ensuring they could operate as a single, powerful unit.

Unable to overpower the Duo King and Queen fast enough, Emery willed his brain to work. Various ideas came to mind on how he could win the fight, such as using his [Primal Flora] spell to add more fighting power to the troops, or using his spatial magic to forcefully separate Jai from his little army.

However, in the end, Emery decided to unsummon his own army, stopped abruptly in his tracks, and said.

"I admit defeat, you win."

Upon hearing that, the spectators were disappointed. They were certain that the savage acolyte hadn't given his all in this battle. Regardless, Emery ignored them all.

He approached the annoyed Metal Puppeteer and said.

"Thank you, you are very strong indeed... I have learned much from this fight, and I really hope that you would be willing to accept a rematch in a few weeks."

Hearing the claim, Jai gave him a confident smile, and he said, "You are mistaken if you think you would be able to defeat me by then" to which Emery only responded with a smile of his own.

Emery thought that there was no need to insist on winning this fight, as there was basically no consequence of losing. However, Emery really wanted to give it another try to fight Jai on his terms. Hence his surrender.

After giving their mutual respect, Emery walked toward Klea. He sheepishly rubbed the back of his head as he arrived in front of her. A troubled expression on his face.

"I am sorry I lost..."

Klea narrowed her eyes in annoyance for a second, but soon after, it was replaced with a nod as she said, "Hope you got everything you need."

"Yes, I actually did."

As the battle had ended on a disappointing note, the crowds that filled the wide clearing began to disperse, with Annara and Atlas among them.

The red-haired woman was cursing, disappointment evident in her tone for his loss. Meanwhile, the half-machine acolyte was throwing a sharp glare at Emery. If his eyes could communicate by itself, it would be clear that he wished to fight Emery right now.

Hidden by the crowds, in a certain corner, one man clenched his fists. He was glaring at Emery from a distance with apparent annoyance.

Anyone in the crowd would be able to recognize the man as the young prince of the Cross family. Shatter Cross, the current rank 5 holder.

When the crowds thinned and the man left, someone seemed to notice the anomaly and decided to approach Emery.

Noticing the approaching figure from the corner of Emery's eye, he smiled and said "Ahh, Roran, I saw your fight before. Congratulations."

"Huh... How could a rank 75 be comparable to a rank 8?"

Roran then proceeded to tell Emery his worries about the rank 5 holder, Shatter Cross. The Cross family was one of the families known for their hatred of any halfblood. The last time, Shatter was beaten by Zach, causing the former to be harshly reprimanded by his family.

"You should know, the Cross family is a Grade 4 much like mine. However, he was sort of raised differently, so you should be careful."

Afterward, Roran talked about how unfortunate it was that Julian decided to join the Nephilims. But he also expressed understanding, after all, Julian had not yet become an inner member of the Harlight faction.

"Do you think he would be in danger?" Emery ask

Roran stopped for a second, clearly a bit hesitant to answer, and said "Julian knows how to position himself in a tricky situation. I believe he should be fine."

That answer was not enough to give Emery any real confidence in Julian's safety. However, it was still a confirmation that his friend was doing alright. Hence he nodded his head.

They resumed a short conversation, before bidding their farewells and going their separate ways.

Now that his business in the monthly arena was over, Emery decided to go to the center and pick up his monthly foundation pill. On the way, he encountered Magus Ramora, who encouraged him to try harder.

"If you fight 3 more and win, you will reach the top 5. You can do it!"

It was not only an encouragement, but it was also a reminder of the incentives and rewards he would get from being in such a high rank.

[Rank 1-5 receives Divine Art - Rank A]

[Rank 6-10 receives Divine Art - Rank B]

[Rank 11-30 receives Divine Art - Rank C]

Emery vividly remembered how expensive and powerful his [Aegis of the Void] was while being only a rank C divine spell. Therefore, the prospect of obtaining a Rank A managed to give him a lot more motivation to try harder.

That Divine Art could be a great graduation present for him.

Afterward, Emery and Klea, together with Magus Shena, returned to the spirit cave for their training.

Emery thought of the experience he managed to acquire from the two fights and started training.

Chapter 1066 Training

With swords in hand, two figures of youth dashed from opposite sides, shooting towards a beautiful woman wielding a crystal spear at breakneck speed. Dirt scattered into the air as their steps stomped the earth.

Swisssh! CLANK!

A loud piercing sound echoed through the clearing as the woman wielding the spear swung the weapon in her hand, parrying the attacks aimed at her perfectly. However, she couldn't relax yet as the pair who attacked her – young man and woman – swiftly struck again in a threatening position.

One charged in as fast as wind, yet the attacks soft as if it was a feather. The other was slow – if compared, but their strikes felt as heavy as a mountain. As they worked together weaving their attacks in harmony, the one they attacked was gradually overwhelmed and cornered.

Realizing the situation she was in, the woman tried to use her battle art to escape.

"Not yet! Emery! North Mountain Variation!" shouted the girl. In the next instant, a series of multi-colored sword slashes rained down on the spear-wielding woman. The latter tried her best, but the attack was simply too much.

In the end, the pair's joint attack broke through her defense. Before she could recover, a dark sword struck her spear from above. The powerful force of the sword shook her body, causing her to involuntarily fall on one knee.

Seeing that, the pair did not continue their attack. They quickly jumped back and did nothing, just staring at the kneeling woman with smiles on their faces.

A few moments later, the woman finally got to her feet and sent the tip of her spear into the ground before saying, "Good job, you two... Nicely done!"

The pair, beaming smiles on their faces, slightly bowed at the woman's compliment. Afterwards, one of them opened her mouth, "Thank you, Magus Shena, for your compliment. But it's still 8 to 1... we should do more."

Hearing such words, Magus Shena exploded into boisterous laughter. "Hahaha! Do you plan to embarrass me further, young lass?"

Two days ago, after the monthly arena battle, Emery and Klea returned to the former's spirit cave and resumed their individual training. Then, just this morning, Klea managed to make a breakthrough in her cultivation of [Divine Dao Technique], elevating her mastery to the stage 6.

With that, the two of them immediately practiced their [Hexagram Technique] with Magus Shena.

The result was much better than they had expected. The cooperation between the two of them improved tremendously, incomparable to their previous efforts.

Apparently, the fact Klea's body had undergone the body tempering service was of great help in this matter, as the thirty percent increase in strength it provided helped her bridge the gap she had with Emery. Moreover, it also turned out to be the last spark she needed to break through the fifth stage of Immortal Gate, which she had been unable to break through for three years.

With their battle power being more equal and deeper understanding of the Dao, Klea and Emery were finally able to bring out the extraordinary prowess of the hexagram formation.

Now that Emery had seen the level of attainment she had reached in the Dao, he decided it was time for him to teach her the Way of the Sword, as Magus Atika had taught him. The first thing he would teach her were the six basic movements; slash, strike, thrust, parry, block and dodge.

Emery taught Klea the basics for a day, explaining the depths of each and answering any questions she had, before starting to show her the [36 Dao Sword Technique]. After that, the two of them made their way to the training center, using the combat puppets to put the theory she had learned into practice.

Besides practicing what Emery had demonstrated, Klea also came with the goal of defeating the level 7 sword combat puppets. As for Emery, knowing what kind of place he was going to harvest Master Dulin's ingredients next, he wanted to further hone his claw technique so that he would be prepared to handle any challenge.

[Combat puppets level 6 - claws]

As soon as he stepped into the arena, Emery transformed with his [Fey Transformation]. Just as he was about to lunge at the combat puppet before his eyes, he suddenly heard a shout from across the arena.

"Let's have a bet on who will beat their opponent first! You know... for motivation," said Klea cheekily.

Emery smiled at her words. She was indeed always fun to be around.

Nodding his head, he asked, "What's the bet?"

"I want a gift from you! Preferably, something nice."

Emery agreed to the demand but offered a retort. "But what if I win?"

"That's impossible," he said curtly, so quickly and confidently that Emery was dumbfounded to hear it. A bell-like giggle escaped her mouth when she saw his reaction. "But... just for your motivation, I will make an exception."

"Hmm, let's see... What should I give?" she said, glancing mischievously at Emery, to which he responded with a wry smile. "Aha! I know! I will... let you do anything you want with me."

Klea said such words accompanied by provocative gestures that instantly made Emery worried that others would see. She laughed at his reaction and announced their bet started now.

Evidently, Klea's action did not help Emery's motivation in the slightest. Instead, it bothered his mind and stayed there for quite some time, causing him to fail several times against the combat puppets.

It took him some time before his focus finally returned, which was where he started to gain on the combat puppets with his claw fighting technique.

From the techniques he had acquired from defeating level 1 to 5 combat puppets, Emery realized that not all techniques were suitable to be directly applied to his fighting style due to how the claws differed from one another. He needed to adjust the techniques to suit the shape and length of his blade claws before incorporating them into his repertoire.

Thinking of the increase in strength he would receive, Emery was driven to further refine his claw technique until it perfectly manifested his essence.

Half a day later, after numerous failures, the level 6 combat puppet was finally defeated.

[You have defeated combat puppet level 6]

"I did it!" Emery shouted happily. But before he could do anything, another piece of information appeared in his mind.

[You are rewarded with one claw battle art. Please choose from the options]

[Rake Strike]

Powerful claw strike that focuses on penetrating deep into the opponent's flesh.

[Bloody Reap]

Continuous claw bombardment toward the target. it came in 40 variations.

In an instant, Emery focused his gaze on the translucent screen in front of his eyes. He had been wanting a skill that would allow him to do multiple attacks like the one Taylor Haze used on him. Despite being tempted by it, Emery chooses the [Rake Strike] skill instead. He needed a way to devour his target successfully.

When he finished selecting his reward, Emery realized that Klea was already waiting outside the arena.

She looked at him with a cheeky smile on her face.

"I'll be waiting for my gift."

Chapter 1067 Frozen

After successfully defeating the combat puppets, the two were ready for their next task:

The second harvesting task for the tempering facility given by Master Dulin.

Just like last month, along with Klea and Magus Shena, Emery also had Twik and the five Chizpur brothers come along with him. However, their destination this time was a different restricted floating island, a frozen island.

An island that even without any supporting weather from the planet's atmosphere had been frozen for over 10,000 years.

Like before, they were quickly stopped by a magus guard and had to follow the procedure. After their credentials were cleared, the magus guard gave them the necessary data about the island before they were finally allowed to enter.

"OK gives me a few minutes to study the data"

The three were still hovering in the sky when Emery opened the notes given by Master Dulin and read the task given.

[Mintweed - Tier 3 x 3,000]

[Hydrangea - Tier 4 x 200]

[Taumatagoria - Tier 5 x 100].

Emery studied the data given on the thousand-mile island and compared it to the characteristics of the three plants. After careful analysis, he found three areas where the plants could possibly be found.

The tier 3 Mintweed plant in the southern forest where mid-level magical beasts resided.

Hydrangea, tier 4 should be found on the bottom of the 300-mile frozen lake filled with high-level magical beasts and low-tier legendary underwater creatures.

The crystal Taumatagoria flower grew on the Misty mountain, guarded by low and mid-level legendary beasts.

Fortunately, the condition was rather similar to his previous harvesting task. Hence its should be a task with a similar risk to the last one.

Realizing the matter, Magus Shena once again distanced herself to allow Emery to train himself, leaving him with Klea, Twik, and the five Chizpur brothers.

"So, where are we going to start?" Klea asked after listening to Emery's analysis.

Emery was particularly interested in the information he read about Misty mountain, but he should start with the simple one first.

"Let's check out the southern forest first."

"All right."

Upon arriving at the snow forest, Emery was able to quickly locate the magical beast that resided there with his spirit reading.

[Lagombi]

[Magical Beast - Level 33]

[Battle Power - 95]

The magical beast was in the form of a white rabbit with tusks and fangs. It jumps between trees and fights in groups. However, these magical beasts were not much of a threat to the group.

After taking care of several of them, Emery went ahead to check the designated plant. To his convenience, it didn't require any special treatment in order to be harvested.

Thus, Emery gave the responsibility of harvesting the Mintweed to the five Chizpur brothers once again.

"Kuang kuang! Ku ku ku!"

"You guys, help me harvest this around here, all right? Beware of the rabbits, and..." Emery paused to think for a moment. "Get me a thousand extra."

As Emery planned to create his own body-tempering formulas, he also needed some of these unique plants.

In the meantime, while the five Chizpur brothers scattered to harvest the Mintweed, Emery, Klea, and Twik went toward the frozen lake.

"Yes, we get to have some fun!" Klea exclaimed. The thought of swimming for hours in this sparkling frozen water filled her with excitement. She didn't even care about the underwater creatures that resided within.

To Emery's surprise, the girl immediately took off her clothes, revealing her exquisite figure as she just casually changed into more comfortable swimwear.

After watching a short beautiful scenery, Emery swiftly created a hole in the frozen lake for them to enter. However, just as he was about to enter the lake, Klea quickly stepped in front of him to stop him.

"Not just yet!"

Under Emery's curious gaze, Klea cast a protection spell that made their bodies more resistant to the cold. Moreover, she also created a bubble that then stuck to their noses, which would allow them to breathe underwater indefinitely.

Emery thanked her with a smile. Although he didn't think he needed the protection, Klea's care still made him feel warm.

As for Twik, the plant creature didn't need any of those as he once again crawled into Emery's shoulder, forming into a padded shoulder armor.

The cold of the frozen lake was definitely something that would kill any normal person below rank 6. However, Emery had an enhanced physique and Klea was highly proficient in the ice element. Added with Klea's previous spell enveloping the two, the freezing cold didn't bother them much at all.

It was certainly a beautiful lake that was filled with a few colorful species of plants that glows.

"This is beautiful Emery"

The Egyptian Queen once again surprised him with her power, telepathy. While she didn't have the ability to read minds like Jinkan did, as a talented spirit reader, telepathy was quite a basic skill for her. Hence the two could communicate, even underwater.

Soon enough, they both found the beasts that resided in the water.

[Angst Eel]

[Magical Beast - Level 90]

[Battle Power - 145]

For the most part, these Angst Eels looked just like normal electric eels. However, each of them was two meters long and had sharp teeth very much akin to a shark's.

Still, these particular sea creatures were nothing for them to worry about. What they needed to be careful of was the second sea creature that also resided there.

[Adoulinr]

[Legendary Beast - Level 35]

[Battle Power - 275]

These Adoulinrs were ten-meter crystal rock crabs that had two immensely powerful pincers.

Between the two, Emery could only devour the latter. However, doing so would be extremely difficult. Not only was the Adoulinr's body exceedingly hard, but the underwater condition would make the fight very ineffective.

It would definitely waste too much of their time, simply wasn't worth the effort.

In the end, Emery decided to just focus on harvesting the tier 4 plants. They both used spells that would hinder their presence from the beasts and the two took a fun swimming day together.

Being underwater together just gathering ingredients while communicating telepathically was quite a relaxing experience.

They were forced to fight a few times, but it was not really a troubling fight.

50..

100..

200..

250..

When Emery was finally sure that they had collected enough, the two returned to the surface.

But before heading toward the misty mountain, to collect the last ingredients, Emery decided to have a few hours of rest while cooking a fish to enjoy together.

It really felt more like a vacation for them both.

Chapter 1068 Misty Mountain

There were five mountains on the floating island, but only the misty mountain matched the habitat where the tier 5 plant Taumatagoria could be found.

Both Emery and Klea took one of the known mountain cave entrances. There, they found an entire blue stalactitic cave with dozens of ponds and hundreds of small caves.

Emery had learned about the type of beasts they would find inside the misty mountain, which was why he chose not to waste too much time at the frozen lake.

Soon enough, they spotted six of the beasts near one of the ponds.

[Lizalfos]

[Legendary Beast - Level 10]

[Battle Power - 195]

The beast was in the form of a somewhat humanoid water lizard. It stood with two feet, showing its bulky two-and-a-half-meter body. At just a glance, it was apparent that its limbs and tail were extremely strong, and these low-level legendary creatures came in packs.

As soon as he confirmed that the figures in the distance were indeed the beasts he thought they were, Emery's eyes lit up. He couldn't contain himself from smiling, which brought confusion to the girl next to him.

"You're in an awfully good mood all of a sudden. What happened?"

Emery didn't explain. Instead, to allow the Egyptian Queen to understand better and faster, he directly cast a spell on the area in front of him.

[Mineralized Warriors]

A hundred figures made of solid minerals in his form stiffly rose. Following Emery's orders, the earth summons rushed forward together to fight against the Lizalfos.

It was practically a ten-on-one fight. The Mineralized Warriors were clearly superior in terms of sheer number, but the legendary beasts were able to match the earth summons with ease.

The whole situation was a complete likeness to the fight with Jai Strider's metallic figures. Upon noticing this, Klea's face immediately beamed with anticipation as she started cheering for the Mineralized Warriors, albeit in a somewhat suppressed voice.

"Come on! Beat up those slimy lizards!!"

However, the excitement on her face didn't stay for long. In less than 10 minutes, all 100 of the earth summons were brutally massacred by the six legendary creatures.

Klea couldn't help but look at the scene in front of her with disappointment. What used to be a small army of golems had turned into rubble scattered on the ground.

She then glanced at Emery.

"Seriously...? Come on, I'm sure you can do better..."

Emery returned her gaze with a slightly awkward smile, but he thought so as well. Thus, after focusing more on creating them one by one, Emery created a total of 50 type one Mineralized Warriors and 50 type two Mineralized Warriors to fight against the six Lizalfos a distance in front of them.

However, this attempt didn't go as well as they imagined either.

The 100 Mineralized Warriors had absolutely no synergy with each other. The soldier units were quickly wiped out, and soon after, the wolf units followed.

It was a complete disaster.

Both Emery and Klea let out a deep sigh at the same time. Emery was thinking about what he could do to make the Mineralized Warriors stronger when they saw another pack of four Lizalfos arrive.

Things just got more difficult.

"We should probably finish things fast. If more of them come, we might need to retreat." Klea's expression quickly turned serious.

Emery slightly frowned. He certainly didn't like the idea of retreat.

This time, he created 300 Mineralized Warriors at once, the maximum number he could, and summoned them all to charge together against the 10 Lizalfos.

The number of Mineralized Warriors Emery created this time was enough to injure and weaken the water lizards. However, within 10 minutes, most of his 300 summons were already destroyed while they were only able to kill four Lizalfos and heavily wound two others.

The result was indeed much better than the previous ones, but it was still disappointing.

In the end, Emery still had to do it personally.

"Let's go, Klea."

[Fey Transformation]

At his signal, Emery instantly charged toward the two heavily injured Lizalfos while Klea cast a spell to prevent the remaining four from advancing and interrupting him.

[Spirit Devour]

Emery's claws pierced the two injured creatures, with one hand each piercing straight at the two Lizalfos's chest. It took him a few seconds to devour the legendary creatures before he rushed back to Klea's side to help finish the last four.

After making sure that they had taken care of all the Lizalfos, Emery took one of the [Spirit Regeneration Pills] he had to refresh his spirit pool. Casting those hundreds of summons was quite consuming, after all.

When they found another pack of Lizalfos, Emery would once again summon the same number of Mineralized Warriors. Following the previous process, he quickly overwhelmed the Lizalfos and devoured their spirit one by one.

Although they were able to win each battle, the process was quite disorderly. It took Emery too much spirit energy to create and maintain the hundreds of summons, yet they could easily be destroyed by the lizard beasts. The way it went, it was much faster for him to fight these beasts without the summons at all.

All this practice wasted a lot of time. A day passed, but he had only harvested 30 out of the required 300 frozen flowers. Most of this time was spent training his summons.

However, Emery's intention was to train his control, to sharpen his ability to influence all the Mineralized Golems. It was also a chance for him to devour more creatures. Moreover, they were also able to gain dozens of yellow spirit stones from it.

Two days passed. When Emery and Klea went deeper into the caves, the two noticed an increase in the number of Lizalfos coming out to attack them.

"Emery, a few are coming from the back."

"I can sense them too, there are also some a bit further from our right."

"Does this mean...?" Klea asked a little anxiously.

"Yes, I think so."

After saying those words, Emery told Twik to stay close to Klea before swiftly using his [Twilight Transformation].

Soon enough, more Lizalfos came and surrounded them, 18 in number.

The Lizard beast themselves weren't the problem. Even if there were more of them, Emery could still take care of them without much difficulty, and he would be more than happy to devour them all.

However, what made them both anxious was the creature that could bring these creatures together, one that was stated as highly dangerous in the data they received.

At this moment, a four-meter-tall creature slithered out of the chilling pond. The blue scales covering its body faintly gleamed in the cave depths as its eyes sharply looked in the two trespassers' direction.

A high-level legendary beast, A Naga.

Chapter 1069 Summons

[Naga]

[Legendary Beast - Level 95]

[Battle Power - 375]

Looking at the towering figure standing before his eyes, Emery subconsciously swallowed his own saliva. The blue slithering giant should be included in the list of the strongest creatures that Emery had to face, as it was comparable in strength, if not stronger, to the Beholder.

Krieeekkk!!!

Thanks to the data he read before traveling to this island, Emery knew that the beast was intelligent and possessed an ability that allowed it to possess command over other lizard-type creatures weaker than it. On top of that, it also had one annoying special ability that was emphasized in the data time and time again.

Magic resistance.

If what was written in the data wasn't wrong, the magic resistance the Naga possessed innately could nullify up to eighty percent of the magic thrown at it, rendering magic attacks almost meaningless. Therefore, the most optimal way to take it down was using physical-based attacks; and luckily, Emery had plenty of such attacks.

Even though his current situation was really not a suitable time to think about training, Emery still cast [Mineralized Warrior] and summoned an army of Mineralized Soldiers. He decided on this decision after considering things through.

With the tremendous boost provided by his [Twilight Transformation], Emery could empower the output of his spell and break through his limit, creating a total of 400 Mineralized Warriors at once while reserving some of his spirit pool for his own use.

This massive army would then help Klea fight the other 18 legendary creatures, while he focused his attention on the Naga, aiming to defeat it as quickly as possible.

"Leave them to me! Go kill that slimy goo!" said the girl excited to fight her own battle.

As Emery's figure shot towards the Naga, three sharp blades shot out from his two clenched hands, ready to be used as weapons and tore apart anything they touched.

Swish!

Emery arrived in front of the Naga and swiftly swept his bared claws towards it, but they only hit empty air. Surprisingly, the legendary beast possessed agility that did not correspond with its massive body. It dodged the attack by leaning its body to the side and slithering on the ground at high speed.

After gaining some distance, the Naga then retaliated against Emery by lashing its long, large tail at him. Knowing that he would not be unscathed receiving such an attack, Emery quickly cast [Blink] then cast another spell soon after.

[Jade Root]

The ground around the beast suddenly erupted, dozens of green roots the size of an arm emerging from within. They quickly crept onto the Naga's long body, restricting its movement enough to lower its speed.

Krrieeekkk!!

Seeing it being restrained by the spell, Emery quickly went in as he knew the restraint would not last long. Luminous lights revolved around his body as he employed his new battle art [Rake Strike].

Splat!

KRRRIIEEEKKK!!!

In the next second, a piercing loud shriek resounded in the area as the Naga was stabbed in its spine just below its neck. Driving his claws deeper into the beast's flesh, Emery quickly used his innate skill.

[Spirit Devour]

A stream of energy flowed into his body as soon as the skill was activated, but Emery could tell that the rate of his devouring this time slowed down significantly. Apparently, the beast's magic resistance worked the same on his [Spirit Devour] skill as well.

Feeling its own essence being sucked out, the Naga exploded in anger and went berserk. It broke free from the roots that bound it and swung its tail violently, hitting Emery on the side and sending his body flying a dozen meters.

Emery quickly tried to regain control of his body that was flung through the air, spinning his body to discharge the remaining momentum. But as soon as his feet landed on the ground, blood spurted out of his mouth.

He stared at the Naga with a grim expression, thinking that the beast indeed had a battle power comparable to him. Therefore, any mistake even if it was small could be extremely fatal.

On the other hand, a wisp of smoke appeared on the Naga's body, at the exact spot where Emery had just inflicted a wound. When it dissipated, the three holes made by his claws no longer existed, as if nothing had happened at all.

In an instant, Emery's gloomy expression grew even grimmer at that. It was apparent that the beast possessed self-regeneration ability as well. Once again, the Naga solidified its position in Emery's mind as a troublesome foe to deal with.

Emery was unable to effectively use all his offensive magic at the beast, so the battle just became another brawl.

After the short bout where they hurt each other, the fight between Emery and the Naga continued for a few more minutes.

By this time, the former's situation didn't look too good. Not only were more than half of his 400 summons already destroyed, but two more packs of lizards also arrived upon the Naga's summon and joined the fray.

The scale quickly tipped in the creatures' favor and before they got overwhelmed, Emery decided it was time for them to retreat. He cast [Blink], appearing next to Klea and Twik, and grabbed the two of them before creating [Spatial Gate].

"Let's go, Klea. We are still not ready to fight them yet," said Emery calmly, noticing her gaze at him. Even though she still wanted to fight, Klea nodded her head in response.

The two of them escaped from the cave and appeared at the safe spot they had scouted earlier. The moment the Spatial Gate closed, Emery sat down and assumed the lotus position, using his [Spirit Absorption] to absorb all the energy he had devoured.

[Spirit force has increased]

[Spirit force has increased]

Emery had managed to devour at least 70 of those creatures, but he had only gained two points of spirit power. He couldn't help but heave a sigh at such an outcome, knowing that now he was at the peak of his mid-stage Rank 9, progress became even more difficult.

At this moment, Klea opened her mouth.

"So what do you want to do now?"

Turning to her and erasing his disappointment, Emery replied, "We'll try again of course, but not now. Give me a few hours to prepare."

When he closed his eyes, what came into his mind was the fight he had with Jai, against his powerful metallic humanoids.

Inspired to improve his summons, over the past few days Emery had been constantly pushing his [Mineralized Warrior] spell to its limit. Thanks to that, he had now gained a certain, newfound understanding of the spell; he believed now was the time to give it a try.

Chapter 1070 New Warriors

Closing his eyes, Emery delved into his body and focused his mind on how [Mineralized Warrior] was a combination spell formed from earth and darkness element. Now that he was completely comfortable combining the two elements, it was time to bring the whole nature element into the fray.

A few hours later, Emery opened his eyes. He then extended his hand and touched the ground in front of him, materializing the concept he had and gradually built the new summon of his [Mineralized Warrior] spell.

A chunk of gleaming green jade rose from the ground and began to form a humanoid figure. However, as soon as it seemed that it would finally be perfect, it crumbled into pieces and fell to the ground.

It was a failure.

Klea, who observed the process from the start, encouraged Emery to try again. However, it turned out that the latter didn't need any encouragement as he was so determined to see this through.

Emery mulled over what went wrong, before arriving at a possible conclusion.

"There's not enough spirit force!"

Without further ado, Emery attempted to create another one. This time, he funneled double the spirit energy he used earlier into the spell. Unfortunately, again, it was destroyed at the last moment before success.

Emery was dumbfounded. Even with twice and then three times the amount of energy, it was evidently still not enough. There seemed to be something missing. He knew that he had figured out 99% of the spell, and only lacked that single but crucial equation.

It was at this time that Klea gave her opinion. "I think the power is more than enough.. The thing is, instead of a summon, it felt as if a lump of spirit energy was being infused merely for the sake of it."

Hearing Klea's words made Emery realize where he had gone wrong. He finally knew what was missing – what he had forgotten.

The inherent nature of the summoning spell was about adding some sort of will, or consciousness, into the spell to make it over. Hence Emery needed 'life' into the equation. Fortunately, he had one that could help him.

After rectifying his mistake, Emery took a deep breath and attempted the spell one more time. This time, he put a strong emphasis on his newfound Light Pillar to add the last touch needed for the spell to be completed.

This time, unlike the two earlier attempts, the humanoid figure went past the moment where it failed. A bright smile crept onto Emery's face as he saw the gleaming, green humanoid figure without features standing in front of him – a sign that he had managed to upgrade his spell.

[Jade Warrior]

[Jade Soldier - Type 1]

[Battle Power - 135]

It was a success!

Striking while the iron was still hot, Emery swiftly made use of what he had just learned from the creation of the spell to design the second type of the spell. One that focused on agility.

When he once again roused the spirit energy within his core, he put his hands on the ground and willed for the concepts within his mind to come into existence. Slowly but surely, the rough shape of the green jade chunk disappeared as it changed shape.

A few moments later, a gleaming green figure that was different from the humanoid emerged from the ground – a wolf. He picked the same form as his [Mineralized Warrior] spell for the second type, for obvious reasons.

[Jade Soldier - Type 2]

[Battle Power - 155]

Both summons were, technically, the enhanced version of his Rank A spell [Mineralized Warrior]. Hence he couldn't help but wonder whether this new spell of his could be considered a Divine Spell or not.

On the other hand, Klea got excited seeing the two summons. In fact, she seemed even more excited than Emery. Seeing her cute reaction, a fond smile couldn't help but appear on Emery's face.

"Let's go back now! It's payback time!" said Klea passionately. However, Emery stopped her.

"Wait, Klea. I'm not done yet."

Before they went back to the caves and took revenge on the Naga, Emery wanted to test his summons first.

Due to the fact that [Jade Warrior] was superior to [Mineralized Warrior], the spirit energy needed to cast the spell also increased. With the amount of spirit energy that could summon 100 Mineralized Warriors at once, he could only create 30 Jade Warriors.

However, a Jade Warrior had three times the defense power of a Mineralized Warrior and easily triumphed over the latter with its speed and strength being twice as strong.

On paper, this might seem like a loss. But reality proved otherwise.

To better know the difference between the two, Emery ordered the two forces to clash with each other. And as a result, the 30 Jade Warriors were able to defeat all 100 Mineralized Warriors, only losing a third of their number.

It was from this experiment that Emery was once again able to see the glaring flaws of the Mineralized Warrior against stronger summons.

To put it simply, no matter how strong and skilled his Mineralized Warrior would be, if their structure could be destroyed in one hit, they couldn't really give and bring many benefits to the battles.

Klea entered the arena and walked around the 20 surviving Jade Warriors, observing them from top to bottom. Having seen the battle earlier, a look of fascination could be seen on his face.

"Honestly, I'm impressed"

Emery smiled at her complement. Now he was ready to venture into the caves once more.

As the two of them appeared in front of the entrance, Emery cast [Jade Warrior]. 100 Jade Warriors was the maximum number he could make at once and not completely cripple his personal fighting ability.

Entering the caves, they didn't make a beeline towards where the Naga was. As a warm-up, they searched for a group of Lizard beasts, and upon finding one, Emery immediately ordered his army to charge forward.

Watching the ongoing fight made Emery realize one other benefit of the Jade Warriors. With fewer numbers, it took less concentration on his part to control them which in turn allowed him to do other things if necessary.

As the army of green figures was fighting the pack of Lizards, Klea suddenly exclaimed, causing Emery to turn his head with a questioning look.

"Emery, hear me out! Now that you have a few summons to control, you can try getting them to fight in formation! That would definitely increase their fighting force tremendously"

An interested look appeared on Emery's face.

"What kind of formation?"