

Earths GMagus 1101

Chapter 1101 Another Fight

Without further ado, Emery was once again involved in a brawl with the Dragon protege.

Realizing from his previous bouts that he was unable to defeat Zach with his strength alone, this time Emery tried a different approach to tackle this foe of his. As the ground in front of him was illuminated by a large circle of runes, dozens of green figures rose up from within.

Casting one of the newest additions to his spell repertoire, Emery called upon an army of Jade Warriors – to fight the Dragon protege and overwhelm him with sheer numbers.

Sixty-four Jade Warriors immediately raced forward and surrounded the half-blood Dragon in their profound Dao formation. Their steps on the ground created a rhythmic momentum, deterring those who saw them.

Emery sent his army of summons in two; the Sky and Mountain Array attacked from two sides yet supported each other. However, just like the occasion where he fought Anzi the Inhuman, these Jade Warriors were proven to be not strong enough to stop the half-blood Dragon's overwhelming power.

Each swing of the other party's sword strike or kick would shatter them to pieces in an instant, forcing Emery to quickly summon another wave of replacement to fill in the number. In all honesty, the Jade Warriors looked like a colony of ants fighting against a mighty elephant.

Before long, the full offensive formation this summons adopted changed as Emery realized the futility of such an approach towards his opponent. The Jade Warriors swiftly weaved among each other, forming a zone defense formation with eight groups of eight attacking in waves.

The sole order Emery gave to his summons was to focus on suppressing and restricting the Dragon protege's movement. And in order to further the effectiveness of the formation, Emery quickly joined the fray.

In response to the aggression, the Dragon protege breathed in the surrounding air while unleashing his [Draconic Flame]. As his entire figure was engulfed by blazing, smoldering flames, the illusionary figure of dragon flame roared indignantly followed by the powerful [Mega Flare] that swiftly burned all the Jade Warriors in the area.

These Jade Warriors were like moths attracted to a bright bonfire, one by one being incinerated into ashes.

"Bad strategy." Emery said as he clicked his tongue, blaming his lapses of judgment for attempting to use such strategy against the Dragon protege.

Even though his summons were all basically taken care of by his opponent's two moves, the word of give up never once crossed Emery's mind. Once again, he brandished his Savage Sword and spells to try to defeat Zach through his skills.

Multiple exact copies of himself, created through the spell [Void Mist], worked in harmonious unison as they unleashed an onslaught of sword strikes. Each and every one of those strikes was suffused with the extremity of the [36 Dao Divine Sword], able to keep the Dragon protege at bay.

Emery even attempted to be more creative in his assault by using his newly learned light spell [Blind] into the mix. Surprisingly, Emery's erratic timing of bright flashes managed to keep Zach distracted.

But of course, fighting against a powerhouse such as the Dragon protege was still a mounting task. In fact, there were many occasions throughout the battle where Emery was forced to use his [Aegis of Void] to block attacks that could incapacitate him.

Still, although not overwhelmingly, Emery was able to keep his ground and push Zach back.

Throughout the fierce battle, the female grand magus continued to sit and watch in silence. Even when Emery and Zach were seriously injured from their clash, she did nothing and just watched as their bodies regenerated and healed the wounds it sustained.

Time went on and hours had passed without realizing. At this point, the two weapons in Emery and Zach's hands had clashed more than a thousand times. The two of them had lost count of how many wounds they inflicted and healed from.

Emery was starting to feel tired. Despite being battered to a whole new height, his body was still fine and good for a few more laps. However, the fierce battle that he was fighting began to weigh on his mind.

Nevertheless, the entire battle did give him a chance to experiment and find ways to effectively utilize all the spells he had in real battle.

Seeing that his opponent was still capable of continuing, Emery gritted his teeth and persisted on. He fought fiercely and was able to corner Zach a few times throughout the battle. However, the longer they fought the more difficult he found himself in. He could feel how Zach's sword only got faster and stronger as the battle went on.

"What's going on?!!"

Emery was confused by what he was feeling. It was either because the fatigue had finally caught up or that Zach had simply become stronger. Unfortunately, the question had to remain unanswered as the counterattacks from the Dragon protégé came like a tidal wave.

Desperately driven by Zach's powerful blows, Emery took out his Lightsaber and started to fight using dual swords. With Savage Sword on his right and Lightsaber on his left, Emery mounted a retaliation against his opponent.

The decision naturally caused several missing, unnatural steps in the execution of his sword techniques, but it bestowed Emery a more powerful strike in return which allowed him to deal with the Dragon protege's heavy strikes.

It helped him to hold off against Zach's relentless bombardment. But on the other hand, it also created much more opening in Emery's moves, and once again he was pushed to a corner and wounded all over.

The [Undecaying Flesh] went into an overdrive to heal all the wounds he received. Thanks to that, Emery managed to resist for an hour against the seemingly unstoppable wave of attacks Zach pulled off.

But in the end, he was completely overwhelmed and badly defeated.

Seeing Emery unable to wield his swords anymore, the Dragon protégé quickly halted his movements. Looking straight into the former's eyes, with a disappointed look on his face Zach said,

"Is this all you got? I guess I judged you too quickly."

Normally, Emery wouldn't be easily provoked by words like that. But somehow, in this particular moment, when it was said by this particular figure, he could feel his emotions churn violently and his primal urge once again come into the surface.

With his badly injured body and turbulent emotions, Emery had neither the ability nor the will to stop the feelings that were threatening to explode into the world. He let out a deafening howl, shouting out the emotions in his heart.

HOWWLLLL—!!!

Unknowingly, Emery took out his [Blade Claw] revealing the pair of deadly weapons in his possession. From the looks on their faces, the sight seemed to take Zach and the female grand magus by surprise.

In the previous duel with Zach that took place before the mid-test, Emery never really got to use this weapon against him. He also had no plan to use it this time since he knew the Dragon protege was a fire elemental acolyte.

However, now that he had shown his innate ability, he might as well use it.

His feet kicked the ground and his figure disappeared, shooting towards Zach at breakneck speed. His claws were stopped by Zach's heavy sword, but Emery wasn't done yet.

HOOWWLLL!!

Letting out another howl, Emery launched a series of ferocious attacks that completely disregarded his own defenses. Retaliation and counter-attacks were swiftly delivered by the Dragon protégé, but he continued to press on.

Finally, at the cost of receiving several slashes to his body, Emery managed to create an opening. Unwilling to waste the golden opportunity, he acted nimbly and directly used his claw battle art technique.

[Rake Strike]

Swish!

Spllaattt!!

Crimson liquid flew into the air as Emery's three blade of claws managed to pierce through Zach's dragon scales and embedded deep into the Dragon protege's chest. It was not enough to incapacitate Zach, but sufficient for his ability to kick in.

[Spirit Devour]

A wild grin appeared on Emery's face as he managed to draw out a portion of Zach's spirit force. This action of his earned him an instinctive smash from Zach's fist to send him away, but the current crazed Emery grabbed hard and held on tight.

"Arrghh!! Get lost!!" Zach shouted as he felt his energy leaving his body.

Knowing he was in a precarious situation, the Dragon protege used his battle art technique [Hellraiser] to forcibly make Emery off his body. The attack landed squarely, inflicting a long deep gash on the latter's chest which threw and knocked him down to the ground.

It was certainly a reckless move that Emery had just committed. However, he was rewarded by the blood and the annoyed expression of the Dragon protege.

"You!! It's a devouring ability!" Zach shouted realizing what Emery did.

Emery just smiled widely in response. Even though a pool of blood was forming underneath his body, the injuries on his body were severe, and his spirit core was in chaos thanks to Zach's fire elemental spirit energy, all of that didn't seem to have any effect on his broad smile.

Realizing the trouble with his spirit core, Emery quickly tried to sit in lotus position. He closed his eyes and swiftly tried to expel the fire spirit energy he absorbed from Zach as it could cause some complications if left unattended.

In the process, however, Emery discovered something surprising about the Dragon protégé. In the spirit energy he had devoured, he discovered another element he was very familiar with amidst the abundance of the fire element.

The darkness element, which was surprising as it was something that Zach had never shown before.

On the other hand, the annoyed Zach was calling out for another round of fight when finally the female grand magus stood up.

"I've seen enough!"

Chapter 1102 Assesment

Emery and Zach were called by the female grand magus, beckoning them to come over. When they arrived before her, she first looked towards Emery and without saying anything, put her right palm on his chest.

A confused look naturally appeared on Emery's face, but it quickly changed when he suddenly felt a foreign energy entering his body, probing through his meridians and also healing the injury caused by the fire spirit energy he recklessly devoured.

The process lasted for a minute, during which the three of them said nothing.

"Thank you, elder." Emery quickly said after his healing was complete.

"Hmm..." The grand magus looked at him, a thoughtful look on her face before saying, "Not only do you have the Devour ability, but you also have a messed up core... I am not sure whether its a fortune or a curse.."

Emery only nodded silently in response to the grand magus's words, as he already knew very well his condition. In fact, those words were arguably one of the best he had ever heard from those who analyzed his condition.

The grand magus looked at Zach and said calmly. "There is nothing to be proud of from beating up a wolf." She didn't say anything else, but from the look on Zach's face, it was clear that her point had been conveyed across.

Finishing what she first wanted to do, the female grand magus finally started to review Emery and Zach's fights.

Even though Zach won the fights, the grand magus apparently was not impressed with his performance. Gazing at the Dragon protégé, she shared what she thought as she watched his fights.

"All you do is familiarize yourself with the wolf's skills. Nothing more..." The grand magus said dryly, causing Zach's eyebrows to twitch. Regardless of his reaction, she continued her words. "...If it weren't for your bloodline upgrade, you would have lost to him in a few minutes."

Much to Emery's surprise, even though his body couldn't help but show various minor reactions to the criticism given by the grand magus, Zach still maintained his cool as he lowered his head and said, "Yes Master"

Then, without a pause, the female grand magus started to compare the strength they showed her to that of the Sword Saint and the monk whose now place number one. Her detailed explanation of the latter two shocked Emery as he heard them. It was as if she was there watching their duel in person.

The Sword Saint who had control over the elusive time, making him not only the fastest but also the one with the best techniques among them. The monk, on the other hand, possessed an limitless amount of energy to use.

As for Zach, the Dragon protege had the strongest raw power among the three of them. However, in the grand magus's eyes, sheer strength alone wasn't sufficient to face the monstrosity of those two standing at the top.

"You won't be able to beat any of them with your current state," she said matter-of-factly to Zach.

Afterwards, the grand magus turned her head and looked at Emery saying, "As for you.. You are second-rate in all of them. Second in raw power, second in technique, and second in spirit pool.."

Emery offered no rebuttal and accepted the assessment gladly as it was indeed the truth.

Due to the number of elemental affinity he had, Emery found himself brooding over many branches of the discipline throughout his journey, which eventually led him to his current situation where he could do anything but a master of none.

But then, with a faint smile on her face, the female magus spoke words that surprised Emery.

"Fortunately, young wolf, unlike this dragon which has almost reached its full potential, I see that you still have a lot to improve." She paused for a second to glance at Zach before continuing her conversation with Emery.

"I'll help you get stronger, and if Zach doesn't progress from this point on, I'm sure you'll beat him before two months' time has passed."

Those words of course made Emery happy inside. But on the other hand, once again Emery realized that there was no response from Zach. The Dragon protege still remained silent despite hearing such words from his own master.

Unfortunately, he didn't have the chance to ponder the oddity as the grand magus' voice sounded again.

"Now follow me."

The three walked out of the cave and upon returning to the open plain where Zach and Emery first fought, she jumped on top of the red Salamander. Seeing its master return, the dragon let out a welcoming roar.

However, the roar sent Emery over the edge as he subconsciously recalled the incident that happened in his first year where he witnessed firsthand how a similar-looking dragon chewed on the fat acolyte.

The grand magus quickly noticed Emery's unusual behavior and asked about it. "You had a bad experience with dragons, young wolf?"

Nodding his head slightly, Emery said, "I'm sorry, elder. It's just this particular kind.. I have seen a similar one in my first year at the academy."

The grand magus stilled for a moment before she realized what he meant and said, "Ah yes, you were there didn't you..? You saw the salamander belonging to the red demon.. Hahaha, I can't wait for the time to fight that elf again!"

Afterwards, the three of them flew into the air and headed in a certain direction. Contrary to expectations, the grand magus didn't lead the two of them out of the floating island. Instead, heading towards the center of it.

It took several minutes for them to arrive at their destination, where Emery could clearly see a huge dark pitfall that protruded deep within. Surprisingly, just flying above it was enough for Emery to feel pressure all over.

"Let's go in," said the grand magus before she dove in first, which was swiftly followed by the Dragon protege who was still silent.

Seeing the two were gone, Emery quickly jumped down and followed suit. His body descended into the pitfall and his vision was swiftly taken over by darkness. The fall continued on until what he thought was at least five miles deep, where he started to feel strange energy that made his landing much heavier than expected.

The dark cave they fell into has apparently a force that is five times stronger than outside, making any movement much more rigid and cumbersome.

With a quick sweep of Spirit Reading, Emery could also tell that the underground cave was filled to the brim with creatures. Dozens of ear-piercing shrieks resounded in the air, followed by many pairs of yellow eyes that shone eerily in the darkness.

A few seconds later, as his eyes somewhat adapted to the lack of light in this place, Emery was finally able to see what it was. They were giant black spiders with four pairs of razor-sharp blade-like legs. Every one of them were a powerful Legendary beast.

As if he couldn't see the hordes of bloodthirsty creatures around them, the grand magus said in a calm voice. "This place will help both of you, especially you young wolf." Turning to Emery who vaguely saw her figure in this lightless environment, she added her words.

"I will leave you two here for a week, after which I want to see another duel.. and please don't kill each other.. i don't want to waste my time"

It was as if the dozen creatures in this place knew about the grand magus's strength; as soon as she left, each and every one of them let out a deafening shriek before rumbling were heard as they all charged towards the two half-bloods.

Chapter 1103 Spider Creature

[Apex Spider]

[Legendary Beast - Level 15]

[Battle Power - 195]

With Spirit reading, even though he couldn't see them directly with his eyes, Emery could sense that there were three dozen of those spider-like creatures. On top of that, more were coming into the edge of his detection, crawling from every corner of the dark dreary underground cave.

On the other hand, Zach began taking the form of his transformation in a nonchalant manner.

The moment his transformation completed, he began to create purgatory by unleashing fire element spells that swiftly incinerated a few Apex Spiders into ashes while blasting a dozen of them away.

Visibility returned to this place, as the blazing flames provided some much-needed light.

While the Legendary creatures were burning and emitting deafening screams, Zach turned his head and looked at Emery saying "You can do whatever you want. Just make sure you don't get in my way!"

Immediately after he said those words, the Dragon protege's feet firmly stomped on the ground and his form shot forth, charging towards the corner of the underground cave that was infested with the most spiders.

The air seemed to be cut apart as he fiercely swung the huge sword in his hand, slicing through every Apex Spider standing in front of him. Following right after was a blast of scorching flames that quickly turned all the creatures it hit into piles of ashes.

Zach's figure continued to advance as he obliterated any creature in his path, moving deeper into the underground cave without looking back.

Seeing this, Emery couldn't help but heave a sigh of helplessness. The proud Dragon was certainly not one easily to talk to. He could feel the number of headaches he would be experiencing throughout his one week stay here.

Still, in order to ensure their time in this god-forsaken place remained civilized, he decided to follow the Dragon protege within an acceptable distance, which allowed him to cover the latter's back while also slowly understanding the opponents they had to face in this place.

From his initial observations, Emery concluded that these creatures named Apex Spider possessed similar strength to the Lizard he fought on the restricted floating island where he collected Master Dulin's ingredients.

However, the difficulty against these creatures was completely different from fighting the Lizards thanks to one important factor.

Environment.

The underground caverns where these creatures lived exerted a stronger pressure than the surface, which substantially affected his movement and subsequently the power he could exert. The extent of the weakening went as far as a quarter of his usual strength!

Luckily, thanks to the fact he was using his Twilight Transformation, the innate magic resistance it provided helped him reduce the negative effects by half, turning it somewhat manageable.

With the penalty of the unfavorable environment taken care of, Emery also took out his sword and started cutting down all the creatures that were following them.

Spllaatt Spalltt!

Loud, ear-splitting shrieks resounded in the underground cave as Emery performed a massacre upon these Legendary creatures.

After careful observations and several experiments, Emery discovered that the most optimal way to kill these creatures was to first separate their legs from their body to completely immobilize them before delivering the decisive blow by stabbing them in the head.

However, even though he had killed many to the point of losing their count, the underground cave was still swarmed by these Apex Spiders. At glance, it was as if he didn't kill any of them at all.

The Legendary creatures seemed completely unaffected by the cave's pressure as Emery saw they could easily crawl up to the cave's ceiling, where they started shooting their spider strings at him.

Emery accidentally received one in his arms due to the sheer number of creatures he had to deal with. He felt a tugging and strange sensation at the part where the string was stuck, and when he looked at it, he saw that most of his [Jade Skin] had melted with the furs covering his skin coming next. If it weren't for his [Undecaying Flesh], Emery was sure he wouldn't be able to withstand these strings.

Roarrrrr!!!

Emery spun his head when he heard a deafening roar reverberate within the cave. Up ahead, he could see that Zach seemed to be using his [Draconic Flame] as the entire cave suddenly lit up brightly with draconic flames that surged and engulfed all creatures. A rain of Apex Spiders fell from the cave ceiling, quirming and swaying as their entire bodies shrouded in blazing red cloaks “suffering through a terrible fiery death.

Seeing so many corpses of Legendary creatures lying on the ground, the impulse within him reacted and Emery couldn't help but take out his [Blade Claw], then he stabbed one of them and started using [Spirit Devour].

Moments later, a pained shout escaped his mouth.

"Ahh! Fire and darkness!"

These burnt bodies of Apex Spiders were apparently not ideal targets for his [Spirit Devour]. However, as long as he controlled his devour well, he could still obtain half, the dark side of these Legendary creatures' spirit energy.

Without further ado, Emery's figure quickly jumped between the Apex Spider's corpses as he fervently started devouring their spirit energy one by one. This deed of his was naturally noticed by the dragon half-blood.

"Lest not waste such spirit energy" Emery said casually to the Dragon protege with a smile.

The expression on Zach's face was cold as usual, but Emery couldn't care less when he saw there was so much he could devour. As far as he knew, this was what the grand magus meant by this place would bring him many benefits.

Without saying anything, the Dragon protege continued to dash his way deeper into the caves.

Not wanting to become a leecher between the two of them, yet still desiring to have time to devour all these Apex Spider's corpses, Emery decided to cast [Jade Warrior] and summoned thirty-two Stage 2 Jade Warrior " the wolf form summons.

Ever since his successful attempt with the Stage 1 Jade Warrior, Emery had been trying to incorporate the Hexagram Formation into the wolf-form Jade Warrior. Unfortunately, he hasn't made it.

Now, knowing that the Stage 1 soldier-form was not strong enough to deal with the much faster Apex Spider, this was the best time to give the idea another try.

With one half-blood dragon fiercely opening up the way with his flaming sword, a squad of thirty-two dark-green wolf summons ran right behind and guarded the rear against any ambushes. On the other hand, the figure of one-half wolf has been blinking over the spider corpse one by one.

These activities went on for an entire day before the dragon finally stopped and said, "We need a place to hide and recover."

"Great idea!" Emery replied quickly and pointed toward a particular tunnel that would lead to a small cave.

The two entered the place and Emery cast [Jade Wall], raising a green wall to close the entrance to the tunnel, leaving only two of them inside the 5 by 5 meters cave.

"Two hours break, not a minute more," Zach said as he quickly sat in lotus position.

Emery himself only smiles with such an awkward situation between them, however as the dragon said he only has two hours and he needs to swiftly absorb the full laid of dark energy he has been devouring all day.

[Spirit Absorption]

[Spirit force has increased]

[Spirit force has increased]

A few hundred legendary creatures do give him quite a lot of energy as within just one day he could get 2 points.

[Spirit force: 1627]

With this situation, Emery might be able to break through into the next rank within a month. He can't wait to see if he could take down the arrogant dragon by that time.

Chapter 1104 Risk

Two hours were up, and without wasting any time, Zach already stood up ready to go a second after.

Without saying anything, he casually put his arm on Emery's jade wall and within seconds, it melted and disintegrated as soon as he touched it, while Emery only gave him a straight look on Zach's back which started to move away as he walked ahead him.

The next day repeated just like the first day, with a few hundreds of spider creatures to kill, a few dozen miles of endless cave to be explored, and zero words to talk between the two.

Couldn't be bothered to break the ice, Emery just continued devouring all day long while controlling his summons. As for Zach, he chose to ignore Emery on his own business. Both of them were in the same place, but it looked like they were in a different world as none of them were willing to bring up any interactions.

By the end of the day, they once again found a cave to rest in. This time Zach chose a bigger cave than before, and Emery just followed him. The awkwardness between the two was still there making the cave that should be a high temperature cave felt a bit colder.

Since they had found a place to settle temporarily, Emery once again concentrated on the spirit energy he devoured from the spiders. There were a lot more spiders killed today than yesterday and he felt as if his spirit core were blotted with the mist of dark energy.

[Spirit absorption]

Emery closed his eyes, slowly and steadily the spirit energy was absorbed into his dark core and strengthened it, which then followed with the appearance of two successful notifications.

[Spirit force has increased]

[Spirit force has increased]

After the second spirit force upgrade, Emery felt a tingle of new taste within the dark energy he devour. That feeling flashed for a moment and it made Emery wonder about it for a second. However, that tingle of feeling was so tiny that Emery decided to ignore about the matter.

Emery continued to strengthen his dark core until he came up to a realization upon something. Since there was still more to absorb, he suddenly thought about eating one of his spirit pill foundations to give him the extra boost and he thought correctly as it was exactly what he needed.

[Spirit force has increased]

It resulted in another successful boost, making Emery instantly smile in satisfaction as he had managed to get 3 points to increase within that one day.

The third day passed, the fourth day and the fifth day. They had been living in the cave and doing the same routine for almost a week and by that, they were one step closer to the moment where they should face a duel. All went on without trouble and Emery had managed to increase 15 more spirit force during this time.

[Spirit force: 1645]

On the seventh day as planned, the two then headed toward the main entrance and saw the salamander dragon descend into the pit hole as the grand magus once again stood before them.

"Now let me see your progress," said the grand magus.

Other than his 20 points of increased spirit force, Emery also had the new learn formation for his second stage wolf summons.

Hence, he did just that for this duel.

Right after he did the summon, 32 jade wolves dashed around in speed and charged the dragon from 8 directions in 4 multiple layers.

"Huh, child's play," Zach said sarcastically as he thought Emery was showing off his skills.

The dragon spouted fire when almost three dozen of those fanged beasts came charging at its body in different directions. When the dragon's flame came out this time, only the wolf in the first layer died while the other 24 were fast enough to escape.

Emery was quite satisfied that his summon strategy turned out to be quite successful. Realizing it's worked better than the jade soldier, Emery quickly came in to join the fights.

However, just a few minutes after the two clashed, the female grand magus immediately shouted, interrupted the fight.

"Enough!!"

The two stopped attacking each other immediately. The magus' expression was filled with disappointment as she said, "Both of you still don't get why I left you two here"

The remark from the magus only left a confusion on Emery and Zach's face. The grand magus cursed a few words, took a deep breath, and tried her best to maintain her composure before she finally said,

"I guess without risk, there will be no reward... Now follow me!"

The grand magus left the salamander behind and flew deep into the caves. The two followed her from the back and headed forward to another pit hole with dark smokes coming out of it.

When Emery closed in on the pit, he was aware right away that this pit ran deep into the restricted area, the core of the Hyperion planet that was forbidden to be entered by acolytes. Not even magus were allowed to come to the area without permission.

"Let's go!"

The grand magus jumped into the hole right after she said it. Zach quickly followed her without any hesitations, leaving Emery no other choice and started to jump in afterwards.

They kept falling deep and it seemed like the hole took them so far that it felt like it had no end. Five mile, ten miles, they kept going until they finally entered a thick smoke of mist.

The smoke wasn't the end of this endless fall, and they kept falling, but this time Emery was unable to sense anything inside with spirit reading. They were falling blind for a few more miles before finally, all three came out into a huge open space.

They arrive in a strange place, at least for Emery. He could see mountains made of dark sands, gray trees, and glittering clouds that brought light to a palace like a real sky.

The grand magus flew slowly, hovering before landing while Emery and Zach both were pulled hard to the ground and crashed, creating a crater on the ground. Both of them groaned in pain as a result.

Fortunately, the pain was bearable for Emery. However, the loud bang was followed by hundreds shrieking sounds from a distance, making Emery prompted to ask,

"Elder, what kind of place is this?"

The grand magus, still maintaining her calm expression, unbotheredly answered, "This is the core of the Hyperion, the real surface behind the gas giant."

Chapter 1105 Danger

Loud shrieks and rumbling resounded vividly along the range of gray sandy hills.

Unfortunately, this place seemed to have the ability to disrupt any kind of Spirit Reading. At the moment, Emery felt a sensation akin to a blind man, finding it hard to 'see' anything other than what was within his direct sights.

It also didn't help that there was also a formless pressure bearing down upon him in this place. It was about twice as strong as the one he experienced in the previous cave, causing him to be left with only 60% of his usual strength.

The grand magus most likely didn't have such a problem in this place however. Emery watched a wicked smile appear on her face as she said, "I have something else to check, so you two just need to stay alive until I return. Simple, right?"

Emery actually wished to ask what it was that she really wanted him and Zach to learn in this wretched place. But before he could do so, the female Dragon bloodline already took off to the air and flew away to the distant horizon, leaving the two of them in the open free sand plains.

Seeing the figure of the grand magus was no more, Emery glanced at Zach and attempted his question upon the Dragon protege instead.

"Do you know what she wants us to learn here?"

Without turning his face, Zach said, "I know what I need to learn."

Emery couldn't help but sigh inwardly seeing such a response. The Dragon protege was truly stingy in his words and hard to talk with.

Once again, Zach transformed to his Crimson Dark Dragon form. Pulling out the huge sword he always used, his eyes gazed towards the hill range in front of them and he said,

"Prepare to fight."

As if adhering to the words of the Dragon protege, soon enough Emery saw the abundance of gray sand in the hills shifting as if an earthquake struck. From within, several creatures emerged and revealed their appearances..

At first, Emery thought it would be the same spider creature as he looked at the creature's multiple legs and body shape. However, the creature was not only twice as large as the Apex Spider, a long sharp tail and two huge pincers were also visible on its body.

A giant, scorpion-like creature with a gray body that was nearly 10 meters in length.

[Shirke]

[Legendary Beast - Level 85]

[Battle Power - 325]

The creature was a high-level Legendary Beast, which should be comparable to the Naga that took all of Emery's strength to defeat. But in this place, here came a group of them as if they were just ordinary creatures.

Without further ado, Emery used his [Immortal Gate] and [Twilight Transformation] to greatly increase his battle power for the approaching creatures, and at the same time relieve half of the penalty caused by the pressure in this place.

"There's five- Six... seven!!"

Comparing their strength and the obvious difference in numbers, Emery knew they were in trouble. Hence he turned towards the Dragon protégé and spoke in urgency.

"What's the plan now?!"

It seemed that these Shirkes really weren't an easy opponent as the previously calm Zach even looked a little tense as he said, "Just cover my back!" After saying that, the Dragon protege let out a loud warcry and shot forth towards one of the closest.

Raising his sword high to the sky, Zach brought it down and unleashed a strike fueled by powerful battle art. However, instead of the sound of weapons cutting through flesh, a loud sound was heard as his huge sword was blocked by the creature's huge pincers.

CRACCKK!!!

A web of cracks could be seen in the Shirke's pincer, but it was able to stop Zach's attack. Emery's eyes widened when he saw that as it was a sight that was rarely seen before, which meant the creature possessed an overwhelmingly strong defense.

While its pincers stopped Zach's attempt to take its life, the Shrike's long tail curled up like a bow before darting swiftly at him. A streak of gray headed towards Zach's body at breakneck speed.

Clankk!!

Unfortunately for the creature, its retaliation was still not fast enough and the Dragon protege managed to stop the tail. However, at the same time, from a different direction, another creature closed in and attacked.

Shrreeiikkkk!!

It was at this moment that multiple dark green plants burst out from the ground, holding down the creature's feet and body. The next instant, a dozen dark spheres hit the creature like a torrential rain.

[Seed Bomb]

Bam!! Bam! Bam!! Bam!!

Emery came into the fray and supported the Dragon protege with his spells. It wasn't enough to kill the other Shrike, but enough to give Zach time to unleash his other battle arts on the first Shrike, forcibly splitting the creature into two pieces.

Shriek!!!

Hearing its kin's death throes, the six Shrike caught up in the entanglement of Emery's spell struggled violently. They broke free and immediately charged toward the two of them accompanied by furious shrieks.

"Back off!!" Zach said.

Hearing the urgency in his voice, Emery did as asked and teleported away using [Blink]. As for Zach, he kicked the ground with his feet and shot backward. At the same time, he cast his signature spell [Mega Flare].

A moment later, a wave of ferocious flames surged forward and swallowed the charging scorpion horde. Ear-splitting shrieks could be heard from the sea of blazing red. However, these legendary creatures had not died yet.

To Emery's surprise, these creatures managed to dart through the flames that previously could incinerate the Apex Spiders. Nevertheless, they were not unscathed. Most of the shells that protect their bodies were melted by the extreme temperatures.

With Zach standing at the front clashing head-on with the creatures, Emery decided to use his ranged skills to make his contribution. Channeling dark spirit energy into his Savage Sword, he swung the sword and released a wave of dark energy.

[Shadow Edge]

"One more! Another one!" the Dragon protege shouted. "Quick!"

As Zach was occupied with the Shirkes coming from the front, Emery focused his attacks on the two on the far left. The attack struck its target squarely, sending the creatures tumbling back a few meters. However, it was still not enough to inflict heavy injuries.

Zach, on the other hand, began struggling to contain the four high-level Legendary creatures at the same time. The task turned out to be still very difficult for him, and as a result, he started to take a beating.

Despite the fact that wounds were starting to accumulate on his body, the Dragon protege stood bravely undaunted by the storm of attack. As he shouted another warcry, his sword strikes became faster and faster. A certain glow appeared on the blade of his sword, as if he was about to unleash a decisive attack.

However, instead of doing that, he was overwhelmed without mercy and received multiple wounds from the group of Shrikes. Seeing the precarious situation the Dragon protégé was in, Emery shouted loudly.

"We can't fight them like this! We should back off, for now, Zach!"

"No! Never!"

The proud dragon half-blood kept swinging the sword in his hand and eventually managed to kill another creature. But at this moment, a huge tremor suddenly occurred on the ground. The gray hills in the distance seemed to split apart, and from within a gigantic creature emerged.

"Mythical Creature!"

Chapter 1106 Mythical

It was a similar gray-skinned scorpion creature that attacked Emery and Zach in droves, but had a humanoid upper part with a disfigured face and two large, pincer-like hands that looked ominous.

It was at least three times bigger than its Legendary counterparts, the length of its body reaching up to thirty meters. Its huge feet raised a huge cloud of dust as it moved. It was a gigantic beast.

[Scorpius Titan]

[Mythical Beast - Level 35]

[Battle Power - Undefined]

This Mythical Beast possessing power comparable to the Bone Dragon Emery had to fight during the Magus Academy's Game. At that time, it took the cooperation of two dozen powerful acolytes to barely kill the Dragon, and unlike before, what standing in front of him was not mere simulation.

Emery was not the same person as he was nine months ago, and he certainly stood with one of the strongest acolytes of his generation. However, the enemy they needed to face was not the Mythical creature alone. There were still five other high-level Legendary creatures which were currently surrounding them at the moment.

Knowing it was nigh time for them to retreat, Emery roared as loudly as he could. "Zach! Time to retreat!!"

Alas, the proud Dragon protege didn't budge from where he was standing. He just smiled at the incoming creature as he said, "You don't need my permission to run."

Zach kept his ground against the group of Shrikes and continued to swing his sword relentlessly despite Emery's urge. He received another round of wounds to his body but managed to break through another Shrike's defense and kill it.

Realizing that the Dragon was being stubborn, Emery thought for a moment before clenching his fists and charging forward.

In moments like this, the best way for Emery to help was to hold down the Mystical creature as long as possible, giving the much-needed time to the Dragon protege to finish off its Legendary counterparts.

Making up his decision, Emery dashed past Zach who was still embroiled with the four remaining Shrikes. He stopped meters from the approaching Scorpius Titan and began to cast spells in succession.

[Jade Root] [Jade Wall]

Dozens of green roots burst out and slithered across the giant creature's body, trying to hold its body in its current location. On the other hand, all of its legs were quickly trapped within a green dome that rose from the ground beneath.

Immediately after, Emery cast [Jade Warrior] and summoned a pack of thirty-two Jade Wolves. These wolves charged forward and surrounded the Mythical creature before attacking in unison.

The wolves were unable to leave even a dent on the creature's body, but with the Hexagram formation, they launched multiple layers of coordinated attacks that were enough to stall and keep it busy.

They did what Emery planned to accomplish – buying time, and the only thing he had to do now was to maintain the status quo by summoning the wolves' replacement when they were destroyed, which occurred every few seconds.

Coupled with [Void Mist] and [Shadow Edge] he threw from the distance, Emery was able to successfully distract the Scorpius Titan. This action of his bought the Dragon protege quite some time until the creature suddenly let out a deafening shriek.

SHRIIEEKKK!!!

As the shriek echoed through the air, Emery instantly felt the formless pressure bearing down on his entire body doubled in intensity. A web of cracks appeared on the ground his feet were standing on, while all his clones and wolf summons were crushed by the sudden increase in pressure.

Numerous gray stones, both big and small, that were in the vicinity of half a mile rose into the air as they were affected by the creature's ability. It suddenly became clear to Emery that the creature and this place has one thing in common – the ability to affect the planet's gravity.

'Gravity spell!'

Shrrieekkk!!!

Emery saw the Scorpius Titan shrieked once more and turned its head towards him. It was apparent that the Mythical creature had finally set its target, and the next moment the hundreds of stones floating in the sky shot in his direction.

Bam!! Bam!! Bam!! Bam!!

Loud dull sounds were heard in rapid succession as Emery swung his swords in quick motions, dealing with the stones that would hit him if left unattended. However, while he was busy doing so, his vision suddenly darkened as he found the giant creature already arriving next to him.

Before he could do anything, the Scorpius Titan's pincers shot forth and grabbed his body in deadly lockdown. In an instant, Emery felt such a powerful force on his body that threatened to cut him in half.

Realizing that he was in grave danger, Emery immediately cast his strongest protective spell [Aegis of Void]. However, he couldn't afford to breathe yet as he could see the creature's terrifying tail heading toward him.

He saw the menacing tip of the tail approaching by second. Alas, there was nothing he could do but hope his defensive spell would be enough to stop the attack.

Splatt!!

Arrghhh!!

Blood splattered in the air as the tail pierced Emery's body. It was so powerful that it tore through the barrier of space the latter created.

A gaping hole was seen on Emery as the tail proceeded to smash him hard, inflicting even more wounds. His body was sent flying through the air dozens of meters before eventually crashing to the ground with a loud thud.

The Mythical creature shrieked loudly once more as it was raring to finish its prey.

With his body drenched with his own blood, Emery tried to get away from the creature. Unfortunately, the formless pressure currently pressing on his body greatly affected his speed.

As if that wasn't bad enough, his ability to manipulate space was also disrupted by the creature's gravity ability, causing him unable to cast [Blink] to escape.

Knowing full well he couldn't flee fast enough with his current state, Emery gritted his teeth and let go of all his inhibitions as he prepared his most powerful attack. The dual core within his body rotated rapidly as spirit energy flowed under Emery's command.

His right hand emitted an ominous dark color as dark spirit energy converged there, while his left arm emitted a refreshing green brilliance as nature spirit energy congregated in abundant amounts.

Seeing the gigantic figure rushing towards him with bloodlust, he unhesitatingly fused the two spirit energies together and released them.

[Dao Matter]

BOOOOMMMMMMMM!!!

The earth rumbled violently as the rotating two-colored ball slammed into the Mythical creature. A massive explosion ensued, causing a blast of dust and debris that swept over Emery and sent him tumbling backwards.

He was flung to the air and fell to the ground once more, spitting a mouthful of blood. An excruciating pain ran through his body, but Emery could feel the pain lessen when he saw that the creature had not been left unharmed by the attack.

Cracks were visible all over its body, while a large hole dripping pitch black liquid could be seen where the Dao Matter had landed. Experiencing excruciating pain, the Scorpius Titan shrieked in pain as it struggled to move its body.

It was at this exact moment that out of the corner of his eye he caught the figure of Zach charging towards the defenseless creature.

The Dragon protege's body and sword were shrouded in brilliant light as he unleashed a series of attacks upon the Mythical creature.

Bamm! Bamm! Bam!!

Emery's eyes widened before quickly focusing as he saw Zach use a technique that he hadn't seen him use before.

Akin to an unstoppable force of nature, Zach bombarded the Scorpius Titan with attacks in a crazed manner, forcing the Mythical creature to stay on the ground. What Emery was currently seeing was probably one of the strongest blade attacks he had ever seen from his peers.

There must be at least fifty powerful strikes the Dragon protege did, which were done in continuous manner without a pause. The attack cracked open the shell of the Mythical creature, causing it to squirm in pain as its body bled profusely.

However, the Dragon protege still didn't stop his assault. Instead, he headed to the creature's upper body next.

One .. two.. Three strikes all straight to its head.

If this continued, Zach might be able to crack apart the creature's head and finally kill it. However, to Emery's shock, the Dragon protege suddenly shouted in pain. A stabbing sensation appeared in his hand that was holding the sword, causing the weapon to be flung away.

"Arrghhh!"

Zach fell to his knees right in front of the Mythical creature as he wailed in pain, unable to get up.

"just a few more!!"

Shrrieekkk!!

In this decisive moment, not caring about his critical condition, Emery stood up and ran towards the two. Brandishing his pair of [Blade Claw], he charged straight towards the creature's cracked head.

The Mythical creature went into a frenzy when Emery's claws stabbed deep within its head. Its rampage hit both Zach and Emery, but the latter gritted through the pain and kept his claws embedded in the creature, unwilling to let go.

[Spirit Devour]

The struggle and hysteria of the Scorpius Titan intensified when it felt its life slipping away. Alas, there was nothing it could do as Emery held onto its body with his dear life.

It took more than a minute before the Mythical creature stopped struggling and fell helplessly to the ground.

Limping, the Dragon protege slowly approached the creature before dealing the final blow by smashing its head. With that, the Mythical creature Scorpius Titan was killed by the two acolytes.

Emery and Zach finally managed to kill the Mythical creature. However, their peril hadn't ended yet as at the same time more Shrikes emerged from the ground. Seeing the Legendary beasts that came in droves, Emery looked at the Dragon protege and said.

"I am leaving now... Feel free to stay if you want."

Chapter 1107 Cooperation

The fights with the mythical creature didn't fully break them, but still they needed the extra energy to escape this situation as dozens of legendary creatures chased them after.

Both of them used the orbiter to fly into the sky and scout the place that the grand magus had brought them into.

The more they see, the more they become anxious.

Within just 50 miles of flying, they had spotted two identical mythical creatures and about a hundred of the legendary ones lying beyond the sands. Fortunately, it seemed like these creatures had no flying capabilities. But getting too close to the mythical creatures could be dangerous as it could affect the gravity and pull them down.

One thing for sure, there's an obvious reason why this place was forbidden to be visited by anyone without permission as it was definitely not safe for acolytes, not even for magus.

After an hour of flying, Emery stopped and pointed toward one rocky mountain that looked like multiple humongous rocks placed on top of one another.

"We can stop and rest there," Emery said, Zach who looked tired agreed.

As they sat next to each other on a narrow rock to recover from their wound, Emery remembered something and he could not help but ask.

"Erm.. that's an awesome sword technique you just showed there, what was that?" Emery let out his curiosity.

Zach was silent for a second. Still, with his cold expression and unpredictable demeanor, he then said, "Even if I told you, you won't be able to learn it."

Emery heaved a sigh, if anyone in this world asked what's the hardest thing to do, then the answer is to make Zach open up. Emery didn't stop there as he continued to say,

"Seriously man, I am asking because of the obvious damage it did to your health while on the other hand, it might be the way for us to survive this place."

The dragon protege once again turned silent, took him a few minutes before he finally gave the answer that Emery had been waiting for. He said, "It's part of my bloodline innate skill, it can be used for any weapon, and yes once used it would drain all my spirit energy.. I need more practice to control it"

Emery slightly nodded. "I see... Is there any way to prevent the backlash?" he asked again.

"Nothing you can do."

"Alright then," Emery responded perfunctorily.

The man definitely did not wish to chat, hence Emery decided to leave Zach alone and return to his training.

When Emery used his innate skill with the mythical creature, it gave him the ability to devour a high amount of darkness energy and partial earth, hence he could fully take it all into his spirit core.

Emery was elated to know that with only devouring one mythical creature, he could feel that his spirit core was already almost filled with the mist of energy ready to be absorbed

[Spirit Absorb]

It took Emery 15 minutes to fully absorb it all and when he finished it, once again a notification came into his mind.

[Spirit energy has increased]

Emery inhaled and let out a sigh of relief that he had once again managed to increase his spirit energy. Zach, who had been sitting quietly watching him while also trying to recover from his wound finally stood up and said, "No time to sit around."

However, Emery won't follow the dragon bloodline blindly anymore.

Hanging around Zach did give Emery benefit as he could get more corpses to devour. However, with the way they were doing it, it was only a matter of time before things could get really wrong.

"Wait, Zach if you want me to help you.. I need better coordination.." said Emery but this was not responded to by Zach. However, the dragon protege didn't give a refusal either.

Emery knew Zach was not stupid, and realized the situation they were facing. It's just the protege's arrogance that made their cooperation become much hard.

Knowing it's important to build a cooperative relationship with Zach so that they could survive and get out of this place alive. Emery decide to keep his ego aside and added,

"Just tell me what I should do.. And I will do it."

These words were enough to make Zach hold his step and turn around.

Later that day, the plains were filled with dust of gray sand flying into the air as dozens of legendary scorpion creatures were chasing after a man figure.

That figure ran with all his might from the chase of the wilds. However, when the figure was surrounded by those scorpions and have no way to run, it suddenly dissipated into energy.

The figure was no other than Emery's jade summons.

Multiple similar jade figures, human and wolf running through the plains directing the hordes of scorpion creatures, the Shrike away from a particular spot where the crimson half-blood dragon was fighting fiercely one on one with the mythical creature.

Emery stood in ready behind Zach while directing any incoming Scorpio away not to bother the fights, while attentively watching the dragon bloodline fighting the gigantic creature.

Previously Zach had revealed to him the nature of his skill which required a high amount of charge by doing multiple strikes and when the time came, the dragon gave Emery the signal.

"My turn!" Emery quickly said after getting the cue from that signal.

Emery dashed in with his [Void Mist] to close in safely and then used multiple offensive spells from his [Shadow Edge] and [Seed Bombs] to get the mythical creature's full attention towards him. Once he did, Zach would swoop in and use his special skill right after.

Bam! Bam! Bam! Bam!

The creatures were bombarded with multiple powerful strikes, limb cut-offs, the body's cracked all over. When the skill started to slow down, Zach abruptly stopped to prevent injury.

"Switch!!"

Emery swiftly jumped in once again, this time with his blade claw and pierced the heavily injured creature, and took what was left of the creature's life.

[Spirit Devour]

For the first time, the two of them were able to work together to defeat an opponent. It was perfect coordination and the two managed to successfully kill a mythical creature without taking even one scratch.

They were gasping for air after that kill. Both of them now took a few minutes break, for Zach to recover from his skill, while Emery absorbed the spirit energy. After that short break, their spirits were rekindled and ready to hunt more creatures.

"Let's go for the next one!"

Chapter 1108 Comprehension

Five days had passed since Emery and Zach fought and survived together in the atrocious place that Grand Magus Lilith had left them in.

After hundreds of miles of journey towards one single direction, they had finally reached the end of the seemingly endless expanse of gray, and much to their surprise, that end was a shore that stretched through the distant horizon.

Instead of blue clean water that of an ocean, the shore of this island was filled with gooey black liquids that instinctively made one remain a distance away from it.

Seeing the shore, Emery and Zach tried to roam in search of another piece of land. They went flying for a few hours and when they still couldn't find anything in their endeavor, they decided to turn back towards the gray plain and continued their training in the hellish place.

As for what they had been doing in the past five days, Zach put and focused his entire attention on mastering and perfecting his innate skill – the outburst attack that consumed all of his spirit energy which ended the life of a Mythical creature.

He hoped to get used to the skill so that he wouldn't fall at critical moments like the previous time, and in his quest to achieve that attainment the Dragon protege chose to pursue the path that was most practical in his mind – by constantly engaging in fights and using the skill over and over again.

As for Emery, he had been doing his best and diligently devouring everything out of the gigantic scorpion's corpse.

With the Mythical creature being both darkness and earth element, Emery managed to obtain a tremendous gain of increase in his spirit force. Coupled with the supplement of the Foundation Spirit Pill he still had, he managed to get an average of 4 points every day.

On the sixth day, Emery reached a new height of spirit force.

[Spirit force 1645 (1670)]

With his Devour Pillar finally fixed, his spirit force had also returned to what it used to be. Emery was confident that he would form his 13th pillar when his spirit force reached 1700 points and he couldn't wait until it happened.

However, the rapid increase of his spirit force wasn't the only exciting thing Emery found the last few days.

Due to his 'intimate' interactions with the creatures they had killed, he discovered that both the spider creature and the scorpion apparently had similar comprehension in one of the special derivations of Darkness Element.

The Law of Gravity.

Emery had seen this kind of power when he fought the Maniac Lodos and the Nephilim Hades. He of course wanted to possess such an oppressive ability since he had an affinity with the darkness element, but unfortunately, he never had the talent for it.

The fact was such, that even after devouring dozens of those two creatures Emery was still unable to make an inkling of a breakthrough in the law. However, there was something that he found gradually changing with each creature he successfully absorbed.

His ability to resist the gravity pressure of the planet.

If previously the pressure applied a penalty that reduced forty percent of his strength, it now only reduced thirty percent, causing him to gradually regain some of his mobility, alleviate the restriction imposed on the vicinity space, as well as smoothing his ability to use spatial magic.

This change was also noticed by Zach, as Emery seemed able to perfectly dodge all the legendary and Mythical creature's attacks better each day.

The next day, after Emery finished completely absorbing another round of spirit energy, the taciturn Dragon protege seemed unable to hold on anymore as he finally voiced out his curiosity to the former.

"So.. devour... tell me... how much spirit force you have managed to devour these last two weeks?"

Emery was caught off guard by the sudden interest Zach showed to him. Still, it didn't take him long to respond to the Dragon protege's inquiry. "The last two weeks? Since our training together... It's about fifty points."

Silence fell between the two of them for a few seconds before Zach finally spoke again.

"It's such a fortune isn't it...? Devour... I mean ...to be born with such a gift.."

This particular sentence spoken by the Dragon protege fully grasped Emery's attention, but he calmly answered. "Yes, it is... I guess... It's as fortunate as to be born with the Dragon bloodline."

"Fair enough," Zach replied, understanding what Emery was implying.

At this moment, Emery could swear he saw a small smile appear within the man's cold expression before disappearing the next moment. He couldn't help but be stunned as it was something he didn't expect to see from the other party.

After satiating the curiosity of the Dragon protege, Emery saw the latter fight even more fierce than before, making him couldn't help but think that something he had said must have affected the man.

Pumped by his company's passion, Emery joined the fray and the two fought fiercely where they managed to kill dozens more creatures till the end of that day.

All of a sudden, both Emery and Zach turned to each other in unison as they felt something was going to happen. Looking at their eyes, they both knew the two of them felt a certain change occurring in the surrounding air.

"What is going on?" Emery said, voicing what the two of them are currently thinking.

The dozens of legendary creatures that had been chasing after his summons suddenly halted their pursuit altogether, and even the Mythical creature stopped its rampage and submerged back into the ground.

"I don't like this." Emery spoke again, seeing the eerie situation.

As the two of them looked warily around their surroundings for the source of this peculiarity, something finally caught their attention. From the east, Emery could see a huge cloud of black sand rising and covering the vast blue expanse on the horizon. Zach, however, has a different opinion.

"That's not a cloud!"

Hearing such words, Emery took a look at the cloud once more, this time focusing his eyes, and what he saw startled him.

The black cloud was small creatures as big as his finger, flying in millions like a swarm of locusts about to ravage farmlands. But in this case, they were heading rapidly in their direction.

There was no hiding place for them, hence Zach floated into the sky and started preparing his most powerful fire spell. Emery knew it was time to pull their strength together, therefore he also quickly began preparing his own offensive spells.

"It's coming!!"

In an instant, Zach cast both of his [Draconic Flame] and [Mega Flare], unleashing a torrent of fiery flame towards the swarm of creatures. However, the flame only managed to erase a small chunk of the cloud, killing only hundreds when there were still millions.

On the other hand, the [Seed Bomb] Emery also cast was unable to deal much damage to the horde of flying creatures.

The two looked upon each other.

"RUN!!"

Chapter 1109 Swarm

Seeing their most powerful spells had basically no effect upon the cloud of unknown creatures, Emery and Zach immediately turned their tails and ran as far as they could using their respective orbiter.

Alas, the ominous black cloud is still constantly gaining distance between them.

They were bat-like creatures that ranged in size from a finger to the size of a palm, with sharp fangs and tails like that of a bee.

[Vesps]

[Legendary Creatures - Rank 10]

[Battle power 150]

The information that entered Emery's brain was something unbelievable. He couldn't believe that there were millions of such creatures.

"They are all legendary beasts!"

The two of them flew swiftly through the air in search of safety, but the black cloud chasing right behind them was vehement. Soon enough, the latter caught up to Emery and Zach, forcing them to cast offensive magic spells to escape being swarmed upon.

Zach's fire spells and Emery's darkness spells colored the sky with their presence, bombarding the massive black cloud and culling down hundreds of those creatures from the skies. However, things were not looking good for the duo.

To their dismay, these creatures were apparently very resilient. Most of the ones that were burned and injured by the attacks of the two appeared to be able to regenerate themselves.

This was very bad news for Emery and Zach, as coupled with their numbers of million, it was only a matter of time before the escaping duo ran spirit pool emptied.

At this point, the black cloud had already dawned upon the two acolytes. Being attacked from every direction from which they were fleeing, Emery and Zach began to be overwhelmed by the creatures.

They tried their best, but the sheer number of Vesps they had to deal with was simply impossible to take care of flawlessly. As a result, a few of those creatures managed to slip through the gaps and squeeze in their attacks. Their razor-sharp fangs tore a chunk of the flesh of both of them.

Swisshh– Splaatt!!

Arrghh!!

"Dammit! Those fangs are lethal!!"

It was only a few minutes of fighting, and the two realized they could see neither the ground nor the sky anymore. Everything around them was filled with black as they were completely surrounded by the swarm of flying creatures.

Zach, who was out of breath after releasing [Mega Flare] non-stop since their escape, turned to Emery and said, "your teleportation spell!? can you cast it!? do it now!"

Emery realized that was probably the only thing that could help them escape from their current predicament. Without further ado, he concentrated upon the spatial element in his surroundings as it was needed for one to utilize space magic.

Thanks to his unexpected gain upon the Law of Gravity from his continuous streak of devouring, Emery managed to break through the invisible veil that interfered with his Spirit Reading and sensed the closest land to them.

"I can sense it! just a few miles away!"

An immediate response came from Zach.

"Just do it! Anywhere is better than here!!"

Receiving the approval of the Dragon protege, Emery's right hand immediately made a circular motion and a swirling portal swiftly manifested in front of him.

Seeing their pathway to escape, Zach unleashed one last [Mega Flare] before shooting for the portal. Emery also did the same to stop the swarm for a moment, but the two were still being attacked by the other creatures as they went into the portal.

When they reached the other side, both Emery and Zach were stupefied by what they were seeing.

Instead of a piece of land filled, they were greeted by another identical swarm of Vasps, albeit smaller.

"Dammit!"

"They are everywhere!!"

Even though he was exhausted, Zach once again fired his [Draconic Flame] and cast his [Mega Flare] to clear the many Vasps around them. The dragon-shaped flame soared and swallowed a sizable chunk of the swarm, giving the two of them space to breathe.

However, not until a minute later, the sky was covered again by an even thicker swarm of the flying creatures. They both received several painful bites every few seconds. They were bitten all over their bodies until they were covered in their own blood.

At this crucial moment, Emery realized that not all of these creatures were focused on them. Most of them were just passing by, and only a few thousand in the vicinity attacked them.

An idea to survive this peril immediately popped into his mind as Emery swiftly closed in on Zach shouting, "Stay close!!"

Right after Emery started to cast his strongest defensive spell.

[Aegis of Void]

In a split second, a distortion appeared in space and a bubble-like protective zone was created around the two of them taking in the form of a translucent barrier of darkness energy that materialized into reality.

The spell was strong enough to stop the hundreds of Vasps charging at them from all directions.

Just a minute after they were in the clear, Zach was trying to do more offensive spells but Emery quickly stopped him.

"No, save your energy! I will be depending on you when mine runs out."

Zach looked at him with a mixed feelings before eventually nodding his head and agreeing to the plan.

While the Dragon protege conserved his remaining spirit pool and replenished those he spent, Emery focused his attention fully on this divine spell of his, giving his best to maintain it as long as possible.

Five minutes...

Ten minutes...

Fifteen minutes had passed since Emery and Zach were trapped and tossed around in the black cloud of millions of Vasps. However, their surroundings were still dark as the swarm was still passing through.

There must be at least several millions of these creatures flying through the land.

When the wait reached half an hour mark, Emery began to feel a strain on his spirit core. Maintaining this Divine rank protection spell was indeed dozens of times harder than maintaining the [Spatial Gate] spell.

Noticing the situation from the expression on Emery's face, Zach who had been recuperating prepared his sword once again. He waited for the moment Emery couldn't hold on anymore and the barrier protecting them disappeared.

Suddenly, when Emery was about to force himself to maintain the spell a bit longer, he sensed foreign energy gradually affecting his spell without his control. He was about to expel the energy when he realized what it was.

'It's the gravitational pressure.'

The exact energy that had been pushing him into this place now started to interact with his space magic, enhancing it. Taking advantage of the unforeseen golden opportunity, instead of resisting, Emery let the gravitational force enter the space bubble he created, and surprisingly it made him able to hold the barrier with much less energy. Making him require much less effort to maintain the spell.

"What happened?" Zach asked in confusion as he watched the barrier that had started to destabilize earlier return to normal once again.

Emery only smiled wryly in response to the Dragon protege's inquiry, as it could be answered later. They were, after all, still not out of harm's way yet.

However, thanks to the unexpected boon, Emery could now definitely maintain his [Aegis of Void] spell for another hour. And thankfully, before it went that long the swarm had finally passed through, only leaving a few hundred who were still attacking the barrier.

Seeing that great danger had passed, the two moved in unison. The moment Emery dispelled his spell, Zach immediately released his flames once more, turning what remained of the large swarm into charred corpses.

With that, the two searched for a place to rest as they were truly exhausted by the disaster that had befallen them today. Moreover, Emery needed to figure out what it was that he had just comprehended today.

Chapter 1110 Cooperation

Four day had passed since the attack by the swarm of Vasps. After surviving its first encounter, there were no more traces of the flying swarm ever again.

Emery could only assume that the swarm just acted like a horde of birds transmigrating during certain seasons and would return to their true habitat someday. But for now, he had to make do with the current situation.

After the last battle with the swarm, Emery had gained a much deeper understanding of the planet's gravitational pressure. Since then, he had been experimenting with the gravitational force during his hunts, using multiple spatial magic that distorted the fabric of space.

He was hungry for more comprehension, hence he diligently hunted for more creatures to be devoured.

[Spirit force has increased]

[Spirit force: 1670 (1686)]

Thanks to that, Emery only needed a few days to finally reach his bottleneck. This was something monumental for him, as it hadn't been long since he achieved a breakthrough in his cultivation.

Other than the tremendous increase in his spirit force, the last few days Emery also attempted to increase his cooperation with the Dragon protege. The start was rough due to their differences, but gradually they managed to peel off the ice that had been separating them.

They began to interact with each other more, starting from small conversations up to discussing techniques and skills of one another. Slowly but surely, the two of them bridged the invisible distance.

For one, Zach had been focusing on finding ways to defeat Mahinder, who he believed to be the most powerful among the three standing above him.

"I have been practicing my innate skill in order to defeat him." the Dragon protege said, informing the reason for the skill Emery had never seen before.

Apparently, Zach believed that the way to break through the monk's infinite spirit pool was to attack the latter with a quick burst of powerful attack instead of a long one. With that the monk will not be able to fully utilize his ability. Hence the reason for his continuation of mastering the innate skill.

The Dragon protege even shared his thoughts on ways to defeat Eeshoo's long range attacks and Olivier's time based attacks, which was something Emery inwardly appreciated when he heard it.

Later, Emery realized the reason as to why the Dragon protege was willing to share his thoughts. All along, the man had always put himself above him. Never in his mind did he thought Emery as a threat who would be able to beat him.

But of course, Emery just smiled wryly when he found out this fact. He had no intention of bringing this up to the Dragon protégés, as there was no point at all for them to argue about it. He just needed to find the opportune moment to prove the other party wrong, after all.

This particular day, Emery was caught off guard by Zach who had interestingly asked a different matter – a more personal one.

"Emery.. Tell me what you will do after graduating from the academy? Are you going to go for further studies, or enter military duty?"

Naturally, Emery knew about the two choices. The former would keep him tied in service of the Magus Academy, while the latter – as it directly implied – would enlist him straight to the military, being part of the magus alliance fighting forces.

However, unlike what the Dragon protege expected, Emery would not choose both options. As for someone who was from a lower realm like him, there was another choice that was different from the two.

"Neither." Emery replied, causing Zach to raise his eyebrows at him. "I will be returning home." He added, a sincere longing for home was apparent in his voice and facial expression.

But then, he saw Zach's expression change that startled him. To his surprise, the Dragon half-blood unexpectedly lost his cool and exclaimed in a raised tone. It was as if he couldn't believe what he had just heard.

"Going home! Are you kidding me!?"

Before Emery could say anything, the young dragon beat him to it.

"Emery, we are at war! Especially us half-bloods on two fronts with those humans that hate us! Why the hell did you choose to return home!?"

Without giving Emery an opportunity to speak, the Dragon protege began to speak a long and thorough explanation about the honor of heading to the frontline, as he himself would be joining the military after graduation.

At this moment, Emery couldn't help but recall what Annara had told him about Zach. The fact that the Dragon half-blood aimed to bring his father's honor back by obtaining numerous merits at the frontline.

It kind of explained the reason as to why his reaction was extreme, but it didn't mean Emery would have to accept it as truth. Still, Emery chose to convey his point across in a non-aggressive approach.

"Sorry if I let you down, Zach. but there's too much going on in my home that I can't leave for anything else just yet."

It was truly unfortunate that when a lower realm acolyte like Emery decided to return home, he won't be able to return back and forth to the Magus Universe until he became a magus. For individuals like Zach who really valued power, they would certainly find his choice of returning home a mistake.

After his long rant, Zach took a deep breath. Apparently, he himself was surprised by how emotional he was. There was a moment of silence until Zach finally spoke once more.

"You're only wasting your time and talent if you choose to return home."

He stood up and looked away as he added, "It seems I was wrong in choosing you.. You are wasting my time as well!"

Emery saw the glint of disappointment in his eyes as he walked away saying, "Don't follow me" and flew into the sky leaving him to hunt by himself.

It seemed that their newly formed corporation had ended. It was such a short one.

Emery heaved a sigh. He understood what Zach meant. Unfortunately, unlike the latter who was born in a high realm and had a king and leader of a powerful faction as uncle, Emery had no one else he could depend on.

There was no way he could fight in a distant war when he didn't know an inkling about the fate of the people he cared about. Once again, he heaved a long sigh of helplessness.

Now that the Dragon had left, it was time for him to find a new way to devour more creatures and break through to the next stage.