

Earths GMagus 801

Chapter 801 - Shopping

Both of them walked around the lower part of Alfa City with leisure, taking in the sights all around them.

The place was crowded and messy. The voices of many people muttering and talking to each other made the area seem unbearable, but the place was also full of wonder and the two were having an enjoyable time.

After a while, they arrived in one of the stores with the symbol of a huge sword in front of it. Under the symbol, the text [Sword Shop] could be seen.

"We might find a good one here!" Silva exclaimed.

Without waiting for him to respond, Silva pulled him in and asked for a tier 5 sword with a price of less than 50,000 spirit stones.

From the corner of her eyes, she saw Emery frown slightly and the girl changed the budget to 20,000 spirit stones.

"Let's see if we can find you a more worthy sword," Silva said with a teasing lilt in her voice.

At first, Emery was skeptical, but his expression changed to one of surprise when he saw the shopkeeper return with three piles of swords. From the pile of broken and rusty ones, he pulled a sword shining in dark red.

[Blood Devouring Sword]

[Long Sword - Tier 5]

[Length : 1.2 meter, Weight : 62 kilograms]

The sword looked intimidating, and the name was promising. However, his expression changed when he read the description.

[This sword will consume the user's blood in exchange for power. The stronger the attack, the more blood needed]

"... what the hell"

Apparently, it was the user's blood taken, not the other way around, a suicidal sword.

With it, Emery hurriedly placed the sword back into the pile.

"What about this one?"

Silva pulled out a bright, shiny sword decorated with jewels and carvings of vines. Emery had to admit it was one of the most beautiful swords he had ever seen just a level below the Excalibur.

[Fairy Knight sword]

[Long Sword - Tier 5]

[Length : 0.9 meter, Weight : 14 kilograms]

This time, Emery decided to read the description with less expectations.

[This sword has the soul of an ancient 5000 year old fairy sealed within - can only be used by a male.]

[The sword will bring out the sealed femininity within.]

"..."

Emery didn't even have the energy to respond, he simply stared at Silva.

In response, the girl chuckled and said. "Could be useful, you know, someone needs to understand women better."

Silva used the chance to explain that tier 5 swords or higher tier had the capability to be infused with a soul. Just like Caliburnus that could speak to him and give him a massive boost of power

The stronger the soul, the more powerful the sword. However, this sword was infused by a useless one and, considering the effects, no one wanted it, thus the price flunked.

They continued looking at the other two piles, but they found nothing else slightly interesting.

Emery wished he could find a lucky diamond in the rough pile of junk. Unfortunately, life does not work that way. This is afterall not a fantasy story.

Emery decided to not get himself a sword at the moment. He had a pretty good tier 4 sword along with a few tier 3 swords from his master. Trying to find a good sword with his current budget would just be a waste of time.

Not far from the shop, Emery saw an apothecary shop and was quickly interested to enter.

However, just like before, he couldn't be bothered to buy overpriced high-tier ingredients. Instead, he checked on all tier one and tier twos that caught his interest.

Healing herbs, strength enhancer herbs and poisonous herbs. He needed all of those to upgrade his research for his [Strength Paste], [Cleansing Potion], [Gaia Serum] and the poison needed to progress on his future fey gene project.

When Silva saw what Emery had gotten, she raised her eyebrows and asked. "Why not get something useful for a fight?"

She walked to a particular corner of the room and gestured at a range of ingredients that were volatile and could turn into fire or explode. These ingredients, potions and recipes were sorted based on their overall tier.

"I think you could use more firepower. As nature element users, we really are lacking in that category."

Emery thought about it and realized it could be the start of a new line of research. The ingredients looked a bit different; instead of leaves and plants, most looked like sand in varying colors.

Silva also picked up two sheets of recipes for him. "You should start with these two, they're pretty good. Especially the second one."

Both were basic recipes, one was a recipe to create a liquid that could continuously burn even while submerged in water, while the other was a powder mixture that created an instant explosion.

Silva looked at him and said with a smile. "You will thank me later for that." The girl seemed to have a hidden purpose in choosing them.

Emery decided to take all the rare ingredients he could find, specifically the ingredients that could only be gathered from the three neutral realms. He bought more than a hundred kinds of ingredients, but he only took a handful each, just barely enough to cover his research. In addition, the recipes chosen by Silva all cost him 15,000 spirit stones

Although Emery didn't have that many spirit stones, he believed these herbs were not easy to find, unlike the artifacts and spells that he could buy in the Magus Academy.

Emery was using his spirit stones very cautiously, so the next place Silva took him was the main reason they came here. The clone facility shop.

He didn't even need to look at the options, as he only had one specific clone frame to buy.

[Rank 9 clone frame]

[Male] [Human] [Halfblood]

[50,000 spirit stones]

It was just a pile of gooey form, an artificial body with bones and organs crafted for a specific purpose. Just with this one purchase was enough to drain all his spirit stones.

After he paid for the clone, he was asked to step into a device that looked like a massive cylinder.

Light shone all over his body, scanning him from top to bottom with a whirring sound. Right as he stepped away from the cylinder, a clone frame was shaped with his exact specifications, his height, his hair color, etc.

When it's done, Emery now had a copy of himself that he placed into his spatial space.

After he left the shop, Silva asked. "What should we go shopping for next? A spell maybe? We might find rare spells in this places, you know?" She said with a grin on her face.

Emery quickly shook his head. "N-no, no more shopping until after the auction."

Chapter 802 - Reason

In reality, Emery didn't care that much about artifacts. However, the same couldn't be said for the favorite field he learnt during his time at the Magus Academy, apothecary.

Each time they walked past shops that displayed anything related to apothecary, his entire being was screaming to enter. He was eager to know what kind of herbs and new ingredients he could find and take home to experiment. Emery had to give his all to resist and not fall into temptation.

"No, no, no..." Emery muttered in an attempt to resist the urge, a sight that made the white haired girl walking next to him unable to hold back her chuckle.

"It's been quite some time since we started, yeah? Let's take a break." Silva said with a smile, to which Emery nodded.

The white-haired girl took him to one side of the city, a park-like area spanning across the city that separated it from the huge reinforced transparent barrier facing outer space.

The two proceeded to sit down on the deep green grass, which was apparently artificial. They didn't say anything and just stared absentmindedly at the outer space, beyond the transparent barrier.

Looking at the multiple ships flying in and out of Alfa's space station, Emery couldn't help but still feel some awe in his heart. It was definitely something he would remember for the rest of his life.

Moments later, the two of them saw another marvelous sight, as Alfa flew past a gas giant that glowed with a multitude of colors. The sight reminded Emery of a rainbow he had seen on Earth, but much more beautiful and mesmerizing.

"It's a nebula," Silva said, while Emery stared on in amazement.

For a moment, Emery remembered a dream a certain princess had told him about. A dream to travel and see myriad kinds of marvels existed on Earth. But now, here he was, traveling not just earth, but the galaxy.

Without realizing it, Emery smiled faintly.

Unbeknownst to him, Silva saw the smile on his face. She looked at her with a gentle gaze.

"You know.... this could all be your life forever if you wanted to..."

Emery was silent as he understood what the girl was talking about - the offer to join Ouroboros.

Upon further contemplation, Silva might have only said a few words to convince him to accept the offer, but what she didn't do with words she did with actions. He realized that over the past few days she had been showing what it was like to be in the Ouroboros faction.

With a smile on his face, Emery spoke in a nonchalant tone. "Is this why you showed me all those things?"

"Well..." The girl smiled sheepishly. "It depends, I guess? Is it working?"

Even though she was smiling, Emery could faintly feel the worry in her expression.

It was at a moment like this that one needed to be truthful. Of course Emery knew how important this question was - both for him and her. Therefore, it took him quite a bit of time, before mustering a response.

Emery leaned his body back, while placing his hands on the ground and looked up at the barrier again. Rather, the beautiful nebula.

"It is working. Honestly, I like everything I see so far..."

Emery stopped abruptly in his words, as if something got his tongue.

Even though she was very excited to hear his affirmation, the girl quickly controlled her overflowing emotions. She knew he hadn't finished yet.

"Then, will you tell me why you are still hesitating?" Silva said in a calm voice.

In response, Emery took a deep breath. He then began explaining to Silva again about the Nephilim and the responsibility being asked of him.

From Lord Izta, from the Aboot, from the High Priestess of Gaia and of course himself. As long as the Nephilim faction was the caretaker of Earth, he could not commit to a faction and leave his home in jeopardy.

Silva seemed ready for such an answer as her reply reflected that.

"We might not have the solution to your caretaker problem, but we also wouldn't mind giving much freedom and time until your problem is solved."

Emery fell silent when he heard that. He took his eyes off the space and looked at her. "Will the queen really agree with that?"

Seeing the serious look on his face, Silva nodded and showed a confident look. "Yeah. I'm sure she will."

However, she also knew there was something else that bothered him, therefore she quickly added, "You know... what my mother promised you, all those support, artifacts, spirit stones, training, all will definitely be of great help to your journey in the academy and subsequently against the Nephilims."

What Silva said was somewhat true, it certainly tempted him to accept the offer, but there was something that still bothered him.

Seeing Emery was silent, Silva asked again. "Will you tell me what you think about this?"

Emery fell into deep thought. Moments later, he looked up towards the nebula and said, "I might not be the brightest person, but I am aware there are many things about factions and planets that I still don't understand. However, one thing I know for sure is that when one joins a faction, they will have responsibilities to fulfill."

He stopped his words and turned to Silva, staring at her eyes. "Silva, the thing is, if I have to choose between Ouroboros or Earth, my planet will always come first. Now, I ask you, will your faction be willing to accept that?"

Silva was silent, as this was certainly a difficult matter to answer. Being in a faction, however high one's position was, they would still have to follow and obey the order coming from the faction. Therefore, Emery's words said he would prioritize Earth over the faction that directly broke the main rules of the faction in the first place.

Still, it was clear Silva didn't want to give up yet.

"I'm sure both can be aligned, the Ouroboros and your planet. Earth's problem could become our problem too."

"How can you be sure?" asked Emery. "How can the two align when you don't even know where my planet is? When you don't know the people who live on it."

Silva looked at him with conviction before saying, "Emery, we can adapt. Once you join, you can gradually show us your planet and its people. I'm sure we'll discover that we have a lot of things in common."

It was only at this point that Emery seemed satisfied with the answer Silva gave. His facial expression looked as if all the doubts in him had finally been lifted.

The truth was, Emery had always been bothered with people who wanted him to join their faction just for him, not because of his home. From all of the figures, he could only find the answer within Lord Izta. However, now Silva's answer seemed to have successfully made him want to give the Ouroboros the benefit of the doubt.

After all, such an arrangement was surely beneficial for him and his planet. Simply put, he had nothing to lose but all to gain.

Seeing Emery's expression, the girl seemed to decide not to hold back her emotions anymore.

"So you agree, Emery?"

Emery thought it would be better if his friends knew about this issue and wished he could share the decision with them. However, he knew that in the end, this was a decision he had to personally make.

Emery looked at her and said, "If the queen thinks the same way, yes. I agree."

"We should quickly head back." Silva said. "We need to tell this to my mother."

Emery quickly grabbed the excited girl's hand. "Did you forget? We still have an auction to go to"

Chapter 803 - Auction

As the wise man once said: with patience, results would come.

Being patient was not in her nature, however, for him, she would do anything.

To make him believe her good intentions, then so be it, she needs to be patient.

When the boy finally opened up, she knew her efforts were bare fruit.

Before, she hoped to prolong their stay on Alfa Station as long as possible. The 48 hours waiting for the auction was shorter than expected. She actually was prepared to stay for a full 7 days for the weekly auction.

But now that her task was done, and the boy had agreed, she couldn't wait to return home.

However, once again, she needed to be patient.

In a few hours, the auction would start, and like the ones before it, all guests were allowed to see a preview of all the things that would be auctioned today.

There were many strange things shown, that even she had never heard of.

[Soul Butterfly]

[Rank A soul]

[A rare butterfly found in the valley of the souls]

[Special ability to remove abnormal status]

[Open bid : 90,000]

It was a high-rank soul that can be filled into an empty tier 5 artifact or more.

[Haden Moon's Necklace]

[Artifact - Tier 5]

[A necklace that belonged to the prophet Haden Moon. It is said that his magic power reflects the moon itself]

[Increase magic force under the light of a moon]

[Open bid : 210,000]

This particular necklace gave similar power to his [moon dagger]

On the corner Emery surprised to see, the auction doesn't just sell artifacts, but also a living being

[Succubus]

[Demonic Race]

[Special ability - charm]

[Open bid : 450,000]

It was a female figure, a creature with purple skin, two horns, and a pair of wings. It was able to give a certain attraction, and when their eyes met, Emery suddenly felt his heart racing. Until Silva finally distracts him.

"That's enough let's go to our seats"

There were a total of 108 items put on auction, but Emery didn't get the chance to see all of them. They were all amazing and his eyes couldn't help but sparkle as he read through some of them. However, Emery quickly stopped as he refused to delude himself. He knew that the current him has no chance to get any of these items, no matter how great they are.

His main objective was still to secure the Day Wolf gene, and if he managed to get any extra spirit stones, he would prefer to buy more herbs and ingredients to aid his research and apothecary development.

After all, only when his research was improved would he gain a way of gaining wealth. At that time, when he finally had some spirit stones he could spend freely, then perhaps he could start participating in future auctions.

For now, he only came for the experience and to satisfy his curiosity. Of course, there was also the matter of his item being sold. As someone who really needed some money, he naturally hoped that the selling price of his goods would be as high as possible.

When the auction started, an attendant directed Emery and Silva to a set of seats placed in a circular formation around the stage. As he took his seat, Emery glanced up and saw there were a few private rooms with its own balcony on the second floor. At first glance, it was obvious those rooms were reserved for those who purchased a VIP seat.

Silva was surprised for a moment that she wasn't offered a VIP room, but another quick look at the second floor confirmed her suspicion.

"Oh, this will be interesting." Noticing the confusion on Emery's face, she explained. "This could only mean that there are many big spenders coming today."

Emery watched the seats be filled bit by bit by people from different worlds, from those that looked human just like him, to humans with horns, scales, or even fur growing on their body.

As soon as most of the seats were occupied, the auction began.

A blue-skinned man walked onto the stage with flair, accompanied by two women with pink skin. They welcomed the patrons with a short speech and explanation about the upcoming auction.

The overall structure of the event was not too hard to understand even for Emery who was a first timer.

The first item was shown, and a tablet provided on his seat showed the details of the item. Underneath the picture, there is a short description of the item along with an option to bid. If he was interested, he just needed to place a higher offer and press the bid button.

The first item was a pair of gloves that started at [120.000]. Three bidders competed for it and, after back and forth tug-of-war, it was finally sold at [418.000].

The second item was the Succubus. A woman with a pair of horns and a spaded tail was quickly dragged to the main stage. Her ankles and wrists were bound by glowing chains.

This time, the bidding war was more intense and more people participated. After all, the succubus is considered an exotic and very rare breed - a symbol of extravagance. Hence, having one usually indicated how much status and wealth one had.

In the end, a bidder wearing a feathered cloak was able to get it at [812.000] price point.

A few more items were shown, and suddenly, as the next item was shown, the situation turned tense.

"This is one of the featured items. I'm sure some people came to this city knowing this item will be auctioned here." said Silva

The host opened up a red cover. There was a black box containing a small tube made of crystal. Inside the tube, a blue smoke slithered around as if it was alive.

Emery checked the information in his tablet, and the name item detail shown,

[Djinn Soul]

[Divine rank soul]

[A race-bred as a divine soul.]

[Special ability granted divine skill]

[Open bid : 500,000]

Silva nodded and explained to Emery that they were auctioning a divine soul, the best kind of soul to lock in an artifact.

The opening bid was so high, and everyone on the first floor could only watch as the item became the target for those sitting on the VIP floor. In the end, it was sold for as high as 8 million spirit stones.

It was certainly a tense situation. Emery couldn't help but feel that this whole thing was just the VIP people trying to one-up each other.

The next item was a tier 7 spear without a soul in it. Silva helped to explain that a tier 7 was considered a very rare item that is usually used by a grand magus. This weapon was sold for as many as 3 million spirit stones.

When she saw the final price, Silva narrowed her eyes. From her expression, it seems she thought that it was a good deal for the one who bought it.

After multiple high-value items in a row, the host started taking out a bunch of lesser items, just like a snack between full meals.

Emery knew that his Gaia Serum would come out soon, and so he waited anxiously. He became even tenser when he saw one of the items, which was a kind of potion coming out but without anyone actually interested in buying.

Finally, the pink skinned woman dragged out the next item. Emery couldn't help but lean to take a closer look as if he wanted to see if it was actually his turn.

"Next item will be a few boxes of spirit potion! This will be perfect for your young ones, and these boxes contain 50 potions in total. Starting price will be 30.000 spirit stones!"

The man waved his hand in a bombastic flair and shouted, "Can I hear 35.000?!"

Chapter 804 - Auction 2

A box of 50 tier 2 Spirit potion [Gaia Serum] was placed on the table and was set to be auctioned off right away.

When it started with 30,000, the screen showed that there were at least two dozen guests who appeared to be interested. It was predictable that a number of people would bid on this valuable spirit potion box as it was believed to be a highly demanded item, just like what Silva had stated previously.

Everyone placed their best bids, and the total amount of bids kept rising. However, by the time it reached the threshold of 50,000, the number of people who wanted to bid on it had significantly decreased. Up until there were only two people who were interested in bidding on it.

It finally fell to the first person for 60,000 spirit stones. The second and third boxes of serum were bought by the same person for the same price, and finally, the last two boxes were bought by the second person for 65,000 each.

As a result of this, Emery ended up with 310,000 spirit stones. However, while the price wasn't exactly what he was hoping for, it was still 50 percent higher than the amount he would have received if he had sold it in the black market.

On the other hand, the potion wasn't really a rare item. Rather, it was in high demand, and as a result, people were not willing to pay too much a difference for it.

The bid continued for another hour before finally, his other item which was the [Twilight Fey Booster] was on the stand.

"Today we have a very unique item," said the blue skin host explaining about the intricate ranked 8 mutated bloodline.

As the next bid was about to be placed, Emery took a look at some data analysis of the booster in the tablet.

The host started the bid with a very low price, "We shall start with 20,000."

Given the fact that it was a ranked 8 item, Emery had a quite huge expectation for this one. He hoped to get at least 500,000 spirit stones or more from it in order to be able to buy a few of the Day Wolf genes from it.

However, the reality did not turn out to be what he had expected. There were only a total of three people competing for this ranked 8 mutated bloodline.

"25,000"

"36,000"

"42,500"

The winning amount of 50,000 spirit stones went to an old man who was not even a VIP guest at the event.

It was a very disappointing result. In fact, if he had known it would only fall for that amount, he would have preferred not to sell it at all. He considered the object to be so precious that he would not even consider selling it for twice that number.

Silva, on the other hand, swiftly informed him that he was in fact allowed to cancel a transaction. He just needed to make sure that he would do it as soon as possible.

With this information, the two hurriedly leave the auction area, made their way to the back room and asked to cancel the sale of the serum. They were hoping that they would still be able to do it before the old man secured the item.

However, when he reached the back room, he realized that the old man had already been there and was trying to settle the transaction even before the auction ended.

The two were a little taken aback, yet they quickly intercepted the transaction. With this, Emery expressed his regret to the old man for deciding not to sell the serum.

Along with his simple robes and wrinkly skins, the old man who was approached by Emery to cancel the transaction appeared to be a little befuddled. In spite of this, he stated, with a full smile on his face,

"Aahh.. I actually really need it. Please young man, how much do you want for it?" The elderly man inquired.

Emery was a little reluctant to increase the price by multiple times of the current amount to such a simple old man after seeing how the old man attempted to pitch him another price.

Silva, on the other hand, approached the elderly gentleman and straightly asked him, without hesitation,

"How much do you have on you?!"

The girl looked at the old man with a stare as if she would not mind robbing him blind which made the old man naturally check what he had in hand.

The old man didn't even have a storage ring; instead, he simply took out a leather purse where he took out the five red spirit stones plus one yellow stone out of it. That brought them to a total of 50,100.

"..."

Seeing this Silva who has been holding out her emotion quickly explodes.

"Go away, old man!!"

Emery could only grab Silva to calm down and immediately apologize once more.

Now that the decision had been made final, the attendant was ready to give Emery back his [Twilight Fey Gene] as well as his money.

He got [310,000] from the Gaia Serum, but he needed to pay the auction place a 10 percent commission. He should have a total of [279,000] spirit stones in hand.

However, Emery was also required to pay commission for the supposed to be sold gene booster as the penalty for canceling. That was a total of 5000. In the end, it gave him a return of [274,000] spirit stones.

It was at this moment that he realized that the old man was still standing in the same spot as before. It appeared that he still wanted to try to get the serum. Expectantly, he walked up to Emery and said,

"Young man, I really need that serum for my research. I don't have many spirit stones, but maybe we can barter with something else."

Seeing the old man's appearance and condition, Silva was doubtful. Emery, on the other hand, politely asked, "What do you have to barter with, Sir?"

The man remarked, "Young man, I don't look much, but I actually am a grandmaster apothecary. If you are interested in herbs and stuff, I have plenty at my place"

Emery's face instantly lit up when he heard the words apothecary and herbs. He looked at Silva and gave her a smile. Apparently, the offer made by the old man just now had successfully attracted their attention.

"Alright", Silva approached the man and said, "You may lead the way, old man."

Chapter 805 - Spectrum Garden

When the three of them walked out of the auction center, a figure suddenly came approaching them and caught Emery off guard.

It was a humanoid life form that at first glance appeared to be made of wood and roots. Emery could also see a greenish glow radiating out from its inside, reminding him of the flame of a lantern.

At first, Emery thought of it as a summon that someone had conjured, Its gestures, however, looked just like a human and made him rethink his assumption.

As soon as the figure stopped in front of the old man, it swiftly bowed its body in a respectful manner. Seeing this, the old man had a soft smile on his face and spoke to it in a gentle tone.

"Ah, yes.. Alba, we will be having guests today. You may go home first, tell the others"

Alba, the wooden humanoid figure, didn't say anything when he heard the old man's words. After performing another respectful bow, his figure slowly sank into the ground starting at his feet, and gradually dissipated to the point where Emery couldn't feel his spirit energy through spirit reading any longer.

The old man turned his head around and smiled when he noticed how both Emery and Silva's attention was still on Alba who had disappeared.

"Come follow me. Let's go," said the old man with a smile.

As the two of them followed the old man walking down the street, Silva seemed to finally be unable to contain her curiosity. She leaned closer to Emery and whispered, "That thing earlier is definitely a plant-type beast and a powerful one indeed. I also have never seen one so tame and human-like."

Along the way, she also told Emery that if the old man was really a grandmaster apothecary, then the other part couldn't possibly be poor as figures with such a title would be able to create products worth tens of thousand spirit stones as easy as turning a hand.

"There's definitely something more about this old man than what meets the eye.." Silva said, closing her explanation.

Silva asked, "Did he tell us his name before?"

"No he didn't," Emery said

The moment the old man stopped his walk, once again, the two were surprised by the supposed location of their destination. It wasn't on the lower nor the middle level. Instead, it was on the upper level of the city.

Feeling that there was something amiss about the entire situation, Silva quickly confronted him. "Old man, there shouldn't be any kind of shop on the upper level. Where are you taking us actually?"

Hearing that, the old man suddenly tapped his forehead with his hand and looked as if he had forgotten something. "Did I say that we are going to a shop? No, no... I don't recall ever saying that." Turning his head around, the old man smiled. "Youngsters, we are actually on our way to my house now."

While Emery had no idea what the old man's words entailed, the suspicious expression on Silva's face changed and became that of sheer curiosity.

The reply by the old man evidently made Silva become even more curious of him, as it was known that only the richest and most powerful people in Alfa City could have a place of residence on the upper level.

Silva was still and once again very surprised when they finally arrived at the place.

It wasn't just her thought, as Emery who was standing next to her had his mouth completely wide open when he saw the place the old man said was his house.

The place wasn't a simple house nor the kind of luxurious villa the Oroboros provided for him. It was much more exaggerated than the latter.

It was a dome that completely covered one of the corners of the upper level of the city, located just next to the dense forest center.

As soon as they arrived, while the two Emery and Silva were still processing what kind of place they were about to step into, the old man casually sauntered his way through the main door.

The moment they woke up from their daze and went inside, both Emery and Silva were immediately greeted by the sight of a dozen wooden figures similar to the one they had seen before greeting and welcoming them in a respectful manner.

These plant beasts were all unable to talk, but through the subtle and small gestures they did with their hands and their bow, it was obvious that they were a highly trained and disciplined bunch.

As the two followed the old man, they saw another extraordinary spectacle. A massive garden that none of them, even Silva, had ever seen before.

At first glance, the place looked very messy and chaotic like a wilderness that has never been touched for generations. However, even with his small background in apothecary Emery could vaguely tell that each plant was grown and arranged in a certain order.

There was a certain sense of harmony between the erratic arrangement, whether in shapes, color, or even smell. There were also at least a hundred life forms that blended in within the garden.

It was at this moment that the old man stopped his steps. He turned around and looked at Emery and Silva with a smile when he noticed the shock in their eyes.

"Welcome, to my home, the Spectrum Garden."

From her expression, Silva seemed to have heard of this name before. However, she couldn't put her mind to it and tried her best to remember.

In the end, she still didn't have a clear idea of what this place was, and was only certain that this place was part of the 100 restricted places within Alfa City.

Emery, on the other hand, wasn't really worried. In his eyes, a person who could create such a wonderful place - a literal paradise for aspiring apothecary - must be kind-hearted and could be trusted.

He nonchalantly strolled his way in, his facial expression clearly told how enjoyable it was.

Since he was small, Emery always found himself really comfortable in such a place surrounded by nature, and this one certainly is the most amazing. Probably even more than the Gaia Shrine itself.

While they passed through the jungle-like garden, green butterflies that were glowing would fly towards them. Two of them landed and clung themselves to Silva's shoulder, while Emery was pretty much covered by dozens of them from head to toe.

Seeing this, especially Emery's state of being completely besieged, the old man nodded slightly and smiled.

A few minutes later, the three of them finally walked through the garden. They arrived in the middle of the garden, where a huge house that was also created from and by nature could be seen.

The old man made his way inside, and the two quickly followed suit. When they entered the place, they were welcomed by a chamber full of vials, cauldrons, and shelves filled with hundreds of plants. The place definitely looked more like a laboratory than a living space.

Emery also saw that the place was full of two dozen wooden humanoid figures similar with its rooted skin and glowing green light in its chest, but this one was only a quarter the size of what they saw outside - roughly the length of an adult human's arm. With larger head, and shorter limbs these little wooden creatures look kinda adorable.

As the group entered, all the figures stopped what they were doing and turned around to greet the old man respectfully before returning to their respective duties. When he walked past and inadvertently took a glance at what these creatures were doing, Emery for a moment couldn't believe what his eyes saw.

These little creatures were actually doing apothecary works, cooking, cutting, mixing while making weird small voices.

"Kuang! Kuang! Kuang!"

Emery was still shocked, processing what he had just seen, when Silva noticed him stop walking and therefore dragged him with her.

Finally, they arrived at a corner that seemed to be the old man's private space as they couldn't see the little creatures here. The old man looked at Emery who had just recovered from his shock and opened his mouth.

"So may I have another look at the booster?"

"Uh? Ah!? Yes, of course." Emery handed the [Twilight Wolf Booster] in the outstretched hand and said, "If I may ask, what is it that attracted you with this booster? Do you, by any chance, have a special interest in the Wolf Bloodline?"

Emery asked the question because he hoped the old man was an expert in this field of study and therefore might be able to help him.

The old man, who was still fascinated with the serum, shook his head and casually said, "No, no. You misunderstood. I'm not interested in the bloodline. Rather, what I find fascinating is this mutation, a mutated gene based on natural elements. Now, that's extremely fascinating."

Chapter 806 - Life

From his words, it appears that the old man had no interest in Emery's Wolf Bloodline gene, and instead in the mutation that had happened within.

While his pair of eyes were still completely fixed at it, the old man spoke.

"Well, I'm sure that the wolf gene still has some part in this wonder of a mutation."

He then tore his gaze off the serum and looked at Emery. "So... young man, are you willing to sell this serum to me? This rank 8 plant-based mutation gene is really hard to find."

Emery was still amazed by the surroundings and things inside the house, this made him wonder if it has some connection with the mutation within his blood gene, hence instead of answering, he asked another question.

"Senior, may I know what you are researching the mutation for?"

Emery was prepared to be replied with a harsh response when that question got out of his mouth. After all, asking about their research was generally offensive to some apothecarist, especially in this case where the other party is, supposedly, a grandmaster.

But the old man didn't seem to be offended by his question as he had an understanding smile on his face. Then he took out a seed from his pocket. It was such an ordinary-looking seed that looked like a small peanut.

"Young man, I know you have excellent proficiency in nature element. So, answer this question of mine." The old man extended his hand towards Emery and said, "Can this seed be considered a lifeform?"

This unexpected question evidently caught Emery and Silva off guard, as both of them simultaneously fell silent. Emery, of course, quickly went into contemplation and tried to give the best possible answer.

It was known that the essence of the plant element is life itself. If there was no life, then the vibrant grasses and lush trees would not grow and would be no more. Therefore, even though it was currently still a mere seed, it certainly had a glint of life in it.

As a result, Emery answered confidently with "Yes".

When he heard Emery's answer, the old man let out a slight smile. He then cast a spell and suddenly small and big cracks appeared on the seed.

From within the cracks, a tiny leaf poked out like a newborn baby, followed by a few more leaves, then stems and roots. Within seconds, the seed had transformed and turned into a small plant.

In that moment, Emery could clearly feel 'life' shining out of the plant. The brilliance it exuded as the seed bloomed into a plant.

The old man, however, was still not finished yet as he continued to speak.

"Now, answer this question: "Now how can plants be considered different from animals in terms of life?"

Emery was once again deep in thought. A moment of silence ensued, but the old man didn't seem to mind it at all. He simply smiled when he saw the contemplating expression on Emery's face and calmly waited for his answer.

Other than a more advanced and complex motoric function that allowed the former to move freely and a better ability to communicate with their kin, animals and plants were actually and essentially still the same - a life.

"They are the same," replied Emery in a confident tone.

The old man's smile widened a little, and this time he cast a stronger spell and the plant began to change again. It grew to double its initial size before slowly but surely turning into a certain shape.

Emery seemed to see the faint images of limbs being created, and within a few minutes, a wooden figure the size of an arm formed on the ground next to the old man.

When he saw this marvelous process of creation, Emery immediately assumed that the spell used was similar to that of Summon Golem or Summon Tree shown by the witch Meave in the past.

The plant-turned-wooden figure was able to move on command just like any other summon; this much Emery understood. However, he also knew that the old man certainly hadn't finished whatever he was doing right now.

The old man this time asked in a serious tone.

"Now, what about humans? What differentiates this plant and humans in general?"

By this point, the question had become harder to answer, and Emery was silent causing Silva to be the one trying to answer.

"The difference lies in intelligence and the higher level of consciousness."

The old man smiled and didn't agree nor refute Silva's answer. It was clear that he was still waiting for an answer from Emery, who was still thinking.

"Do you agree with that, young man?"

Emery knew and understood that Silva's answer was right, but at the same time, he also felt that it was not completely right. He closed his eyes in order to contemplate deeper, then his mind suddenly thought about the essence of [Nature Grasp] and then remembered the warmth he always felt within.

"The higher level, no, should I say a higher state of consciousness is right, but this answer is only half true. In order to be us, humans, one needed to know about what made humans human; ...feelings."

Emery looked the old man in the eye and continued, "Anger, grief, regret, joy, and many other emotions; combined with intelligence, they created choices, a free will. That is what differentiates that plant from humans."

The old man's smile became much wider that it now could clearly be seen. "Good, good answer. It seems you are already halfway through understanding the essence of the soul."

He then did a simple gesture with his hand, and immediately, one of the vials on the table nearby flew into the air and uncorked its cap by itself. The green liquid in the vial floated out and slowly made its way towards the plant-turned-wooden figure.

Then, he raised his finger and a drop of blood shot out of it and merged into the liquid.

As the green liquid seeped into the wooden figure, the old man cast another spell, and within a minute, Emery could feel a certain explosion of life force occurring within the wooden figure.

The next moment, the limbs of the wooden figure twitched and began to move as if awakened from a deep sleep.

Both Emery and Silva could clearly see that the wooden figure looked terrified as it frantically turned its head left and right. Fortunately, the wooden figure began to calm down and looked comfortable when the old man pulled it into his arms.

This entire process brought an inconceivable impact on Emery's mind, and he involuntarily closed his eyes. It was as if at that moment, he just received an epiphany, enlightenment, a newfound understanding.

This assumption was quickly proven when Emery saw a notification appear in his mind.

[Spirit force has increased]

[Spirit force 1000]

Emery felt there was built-up energy within, unfortunately, there was a wall that stopped him to advance. Knowing this is not the time or place to take care of his cultivation development, Emery opened his eyes and what greeted him was an appreciative smile on the old man's face.

"Very good, you managed to learn the basic understanding of the law of nature."

Still amazed by the process, Emery asks "Senior, please tell me what you just did with the plant."

The old man look him in the eye and said

"The majority call it a mutation, but I prefer to call it an evolution, or for this case a metamorph. With the right spell and ingredients, we can enhance and evolve a life even as tiny as a seed. This is what I am currently researching."

The old man looked at Emery and smiled. "So young man, will you sell this serum to me?"

Chapter 807 - Trade

From all the interactions they had so far, Silva knew for a fact that the old man was definitely more than what he was showing. Hence, when she saw Emery was reluctant to answer the other party's question, she quickly jumped into the conversation.

"Mister, I am sure this is very valuable to you..." She said with a smile. "I think two hundred, no, four hundred thousand will be an appropriat-"

Emery, however, interrupted Silva by holding her shoulder and pulling her back. As the two of them locked eyes with each other, Emery shook his head before breaking the eye contact and turning his eye to the old man again.

"You can have it, Senior. The initial price of fifty thousand is more than enough for it."

Emery had bought the [Twilight Fey Booster] for less than 50,000 spirit stones, so in a way, he had not suffered the slightest loss in terms of monetary value. What's more, seeing how amazing the research the other party was doing made him more than happy to have a chance to be able to contribute to the project.

Moreover, just now, the old man had rendered Emery a tremendous assistance, allowing him to understand the nature element better and deeper. Hence, the reasons for his approval.

"Ahh, thank you, young man." The old man smiled warmly. "But I have also promised you some herbs to trade for the booster. So please, if you find anything that you like or need, ask away and I will give them to you. After all, as you can see here, I have many collections."

Hearing that, Emery turned left and right as his eyes roamed around. "All of them look wonderful, Senior, I really don't know where to start." It will probably take hours for him to analyze these thousands of different plants to finally choose the one he wants.

Then, he fell silent for a second, between the fact that Silva was eager to return soon, and how 50,000 more won't help him get another of the day wolf serum he said

"I'm more than happy to give the booster to you, and upon further thought, you can keep the spirit stone as well."

After saying those words, Emery did a moderate bow to the old man and turned his body around, ready to leave. However, Silva grabbed his arm and pulled him slightly to stop him in his tracks.

"Are you an idiot?! Err, umm, I mean, please use your brain a little, will you?" Silva glared at Emery. "That booster is very valuable for your bloodline advancement. You shouldn't give it away freely like that! At least, you should ask for something in return!"

Seeing Silva suddenly becoming agitated, Emery was reminded that she and her clan had helped a lot in the making of the serum. Hence, it was only natural for her to be angry at his act of giving it away carelessly.

"I'm sorry, Silva, I already gave it to him, I will make it up to you later."

Silva seemed to become even more agitated when she heard Emery's words. She looked like she was about to explode and deliver another round of scolding, but she quickly calmed herself down by taking a deep breath.

Even though Emery knew his current action seemed irresponsible, he really wishes to help the old man's research. So, he could only appease the girl's agitation for the moment.

He turned around and walked towards the exit when, this time, the old man stopped him.

"Young man, please wait a moment."

"Is there anything else, Senior?" Emery asked after turning around.

"Did I just hear that this booster was made specifically and meant for you? Is this true?"

Emery nodded his head. "Yes, Senior. It was made based on my bloodline, actually."

When he heard Emery's reply, the old man suddenly looked elated as if he had found a treasure. "Ah, why didn't you say so earlier?" He picked up the [Twilight Fey Booster] that was on the table and, with a small gesture of his hand, flew it back to Emery.

"This item is certainly very important to you then" The old man then continues his words with much anticipation

"Actually, your blood should be enough for my research... if you are willing it will be much help to me if you can stay here for some time and go through some tests."

When he heard this, Emery reflexively glanced at Silva as he knew that the girl wanted to get back as soon as possible. He stared at the old man and said, "I'm afraid that cannot be done, Senior. Actually, we are really in a hurry to get back."

A look of realization appeared on the old man's face. "Ah, a visitor, aren't you? Yes, yes, I understand your concerns. After all, the longer you are in Alfa, the further you will be from your home."

The old man seemed to contemplate something for a moment before he turned to Emery and smiled.

"How about this? If you are willing to stay and help with the research just for a day or two, I will definitely repay you by teaching you some of my skills and expertise. What do you think?"

It was certainly a great offer that made both Emery and Silva startled. To be able to be taught a skill by a grandmaster was definitely a fortune that many only dreamed to achieve. Still, Emery looked towards Silva.

Noticing the gaze, the girl understood and therefore gave him a nod.

"Don't worry. this is a precious opportunity. We can afford to stay a few more days, so you should accept it."

Silva was unexpectedly supportive this time around. It was after all uncommon for a master, even more, a grandmaster to teach their secrets. Nevertheless, Emery didn't waste time and agreed to the offer, which he then quickly jumped into the research and helped the old man.

Before Emery busied himself with the old man, Silva told him that rather than waiting here doing nothing, it will be a better use of her time to prepare other things so that later when Emery's done, they could go straight back to Ouroboros Planet.

Silva also said she will go to the shop and hearing about this Emery gave Silva 200,000 spirit stones to buy one vial of the Day Wolf gene. The two of them then parted ways.

Once she left the dome-like place, Silva immediately went ahead and checked who the old man really was. What she found shocked her.

Just by simply checking the owner of the Spectrum Garden, Silva discovered that the old man was apparently one of the 12 elders of Alfa City and known as The Arbor Master. He was the one who meticulously created the entire ecosystem of the upper level that turned the place into a paradise.

The man, Arbor Master, was apparently never cared much for wealth and only his research, hence why he looked the way he is now.

Realizing that Emery was truly in good hands, Silva was finally convinced and willing to persuade the magus bodyguards to stay a few more days.

This was not exactly how Silva imagined she would spend her last few days with Emery in Alfa City, but the opportunity Emery managed to get was definitely something good for his future nonetheless.

It was actually convenient that Emery was busy doing something else, as Silva also has another plan of her own. When she arrived at the main shop, instead of one she bought all 6 Day Wolf Gene Serum. She knew Emery will not allow her if he was around. Moreover, she also purchased the two swords that caught her fancy, the one she tested with Emery, the black and white swords. Both items took all her savings away but she didnt care.

"Well, he is joining the clan anyway. I'm sure mother will understand."

Chapter 808 - Learned

After agreeing to the offer, Silva left Emery at the Spectrum Garden, so that he could assist the old man with his research. However, just as Emery was about to ask how exactly he would help the old man, the latter called his little army of a dozen wooden figures.

Kuang! Kuang! Kuang!

Constant, rhythmic sounds of the wooden figures walking over resounded in the air.

Emery watched, still in awe, as the dozen figures stopped and lined up in front of him in an orderly manner.

Then all of a sudden, Emery could feel dozens of stares thrown in his direction. Coupled with the old man's words that said he would start with taking a sample of his blood, this certainly unnerved and somehow gave him goosebumps.

Kuang! Kuang! Kuang!

Several transparent tubes were inserted into Emery's body by the army of wooden figures. He could see red liquid flowing through them as his blood was drained. It was only at this moment, when his blood was being drained, did Emery realize he never asked the old man how much blood he actually needed for the research.

For a moment, Emery couldn't help but feel a sense of dread.

After taking a few vials worth of blood and giving them a further inspection, the old man suddenly spoke. "Young man, you have such an amazing regenerative cell. This is great."

He then turned to Emery, beamed a smile, "Young man, you wouldn't mind if I took a few more, won't you?"

Emery couldn't help but feel more goosebumps due to how warm the other party's smile was. Therefore, he stuttered as he spoke his question.

"Erm... how much more exactly do you need..?"

Before the old man even answered the question, the little army of wooden figures already turned their attention towards him again and Emery could vividly feel the determination radiating from their small figures.

Kuang! Kuang! Kuang!

After an hour of multiple pokes on various parts of his body and being drained of blood as if there was no tomorrow, the devilish army of little wooden figures finally let go of Emery and left him alone.

Emery watched as the old man gave various instructions to his little assistants, before turning to him and opened his mouth. "It will take hours before we need the anchor of your blood. So in the meantime, as promised, tell me anything that you want to learn from me."

Emery's thoughts began to whirr into action when he heard those words. To be honest, he was very fascinated and very much willing to learn more about the Metamorph Project the old man did. Understanding that his gene was also a mutation further convinced him of how important the project would be for him.

Therefore, he turned towards one of the little wooden figures and said,

"Will you teach me how to make them, Senior?"

The old man smiled, as if he had expected the request.

"So you're interested, aren't you?"

There was a slight pause, before he continued to speak, "You may have the talent, but I'm going to directly break it up for you and say it is an almost impossible task with the cultivation you currently have. This is especially so, considering the limited amount of time you have. So, are you sure you still want to learn it?"

"Yes, Senior." Determination could be seen on Emery's face. "Please teach me."

Hearing that, the old man took out another similar seed as before and threw it to Emery, "Alright then. Let's see if you can succeed in the first step."

When Emery caught the seed and held it in his hand, the voice of the old man was heard again. "First, try to enhance its growth so that the seed turns into a sapling."

After saying those words, the old man turned and walked away, presumably to check on his research. His attitude clearly showed he didn't seem to believe Emery would succeed, at least not any time soon.

Meanwhile, contrary to the pessimistic view the old man adopted, Emery himself was feeling confident he could do the first step easily. After all, he had already mastered the required spell, a tier one spell named [Accel Growth], three years ago.

However, instead of the expected sight of cracks appearing and small leaves popping out, nothing happened when Emery cast the spell. The seed just continued lying in his hand silently.

Seeing there was no reaction whatsoever, Emery quickly used his apothecary skill.

[Analyze]

[? – Tier ?]

No information was received. To receive information, you require rank 3 [Analyze] skill along with rank 3 [Universal Flora Knowledge].

It was only when Emery saw the analysis of the seed did he realize why his [Accel Growth] posed no effect to the seed.

It wasn't a surprise actually, after all the unidentified result that Emery's [Analyze] got meant the seed was at least a tier 5 item. A category that needed an advanced spell, a minimum of tier 5, which Emery was still unable to cast.

However, Emery would not give up that easily. He focused all of the spirit energy of his nature core and guided it towards the seed in hopes he would be able to create a connection with it, though it might be a slow and gradual process.

Emery was so focused on his endeavor that he didn't even realize six hours had passed on the outside world. The only reason he awakened from his trance-like state was because of a ruckus of sounds occurring around him.

Kuang! Kuang! Kuang!

The small army of devilish wooden figures made their return as they came from another round of his blood. The sound they made as they walked towards him completely took away his concentration.

"Arrrghh!" Emery could only groan in frustration, as he let the small figures take his blood again.

When they finished and left as quickly as they came, it took Emery a few minutes to get back to his former state. He found himself closing his eyes and using his Spirit Reading, Emery once again probed the seed.

Slowly but surely, he felt the hidden yet boisterous energy within the seed. Numerous small green root-like spirit energy came out of Emery's palm, just like when he activated his [Nature Blessing] to heal people, and made their way towards the seed. It was at this moment Emery finally felt a connection.

Crack!

Cracks began to appear on the surface of the seed. Moments later a small leaf showed itself to the world. Emery was overjoyed when he realized this, but quickly reigned down the excitement as he knew this was only his first small step to success.

It took a full hour of continuous casting of the spell, before the seed finally turned into a full-fledged sapling.

When Emery opened his eyes, he found that the old man was already standing in front of him with an interested smile on his face.

"Impressive, what kind of spell did you just use?"

"It's a spell I learned when I spent my time on my planet, Senior."

Emery could clearly see the surprise on the old man's face, when the latter heard his answer. He then proceeded to ask more about his planet. When he learned that Earth was only a lower realm planet, he suddenly said something that confused and also shocked Emery.

"Are you sure you learned it on your planet? The spell has definitely been invented by a higher being. It's a pretty good one, I must say. It should be rank A spell or at least rank B."

Emery was taken aback. "Rank A spell?"

The old man chuckled when he realized Emery had no idea how valuable his spell was.

Chapter 809 - Spell Rank

Emery had heard about how battle art could be separated in various grades from Magus Xion before. Therefore, it certainly wasn't strange to hear there were classifications for spells as well.

"You really are from a lower realm, aren't you? It's amazing how you were able to step foot in Alfa Station." The old man nodded in approval as he spoke those words.

The old man looked around the room and made a beckoning gesture with his hand. Right afterward, a creature that resembled a butterfly was pulled on top of his palm. The butterfly's wings were almost transparent as if it was made from glass, while the creature itself was pitch black. The butterfly looked as if it absorbed light around it.

"Now, try to cast your spells, and we'll see what grade it is."

Hearing that, Emery quickly casted [Nature's Blessing]. It didn't take long for him to see the butterfly react to it. Slowly but surely, the wings of the butterfly changed color, turning into yellow with a slightly bluish color.

Emery immediately turned to the old man, as he had no idea what the color change meant. On the other hand, the old man was seen nodding his head. "It's a rank B spell." He said.

Out of curiosity about this new method of gauging the grade of a spell, Emery asked the old man if he could borrow the butterfly. He wanted to give every spell in his repertoire a try. Fortunately, the old man agreed to the request.

Emery began to cast starting from his most basic spells. These usually could be seen sold in guilds, magic shops, or any typical institutes related to magic.

[Rank D - Stone Skin, Mud Wall, Soften Earth, Stone Golem, Water Breathing, Whip Splash, Steam Lance, Crushing Wave, Hide In Shadow, Black Smoke, Enfeeble Blade]

[Rank C - Granite Skin, Shadow Root Binding, Shadow Mist]

[Rank B - Jade Skin, Jade Wall, Blink, Spatial Gate, Nature Blessing, Nature Sense, Fragmentation]

Emery honestly didn't expect the Spatial magic taught by Kilgragah and Nature magic taught by the High Priestess of Gaia to both be rank B.

To Emery's surprise, he had even owned one powerful rank A spell, which was [Nature Grasp]. This particular spell was also taught by the high priestess of Gaia, Emery remembered how she hoped Emery would be very careful with the spell.

The old man explained briefly that the spells' tiers were largely defined by their strength and complexity, along with their general usefulness in battle.

Emery listened to every word that the old man said, realizing there were still many things he needed to learn.

While Emery had fun with the butterfly, the old man walked towards his table and started to sort through a few stacks of books, dislodging the dust along the way. Right as Emery glanced at him, the old man pulled one book and brought it to him.

"If you want to learn about my research, you need to master this spell first. This is the only copy I have, so let's see how fast you can learn it." The old man gave him the book and Emery opened the old leather tome to the first page.

[Photosynthesis]

Emery skimmed the book and he was instantly amazed by its content. This spell could be seen as an advanced version of [Accel Growth], but with one major difference that was honestly the reason why this spell was an advanced spell.

[Photosynthesis] didn't just accelerate the growth rate of a plant, it could also change the structure, enhancing and upgrading the energy within an object.

It was a rare utility spell similar to [Fragmentation], and it had a wide range of functions for him as a potion master. If he managed to master this spell, Emery could upgrade all his ingredients before brewing the potion, allowing him to create whole, new different mixes of combinations to his array of recipes.

Emery decided to take a seat on the floor and concentrate on reading the book. Soon after, he turned everything out but the book, while the old man had left him to his study when he saw him absorbed in reading the book.

The spell was a utility spell with a lot of possible uses, so it was to be expected that the spell worked like a puzzle.

First, Emery needed to understand the basics of sensing energy flow, discerning its basic structure. Afterward, he would need to connect the knowledge to his spiritual core.

A few hours passed, but Emery still remained glued to his book. Even when the little devilish creature came for his blood, they didn't manage to disrupt him, as Emery didn't even take his eyes off the book page.

"Kuang! Kuang! Kuang!"

It wasn't until the creatures had come to bother him for the fifth time that Emery finally understood the spell's true purpose.

This was definitely the spell that was used to upgrade the saplings as shown by the old man before. In fact, in order for him to perform a successful metamorph, the knowledge of this spell was essential.

Emery decided to test his understanding and channeled the energy within his nature core to flow from his palm towards the saplings he had nurtured before. Slowly but surely, he let his understanding and energy flow into it.

In a way, it felt similar to [Nature's Blessing], but instead of healing, he was directing the saplings to go beyond its limits.

He watched as the sapling didn't just grow, but was also enhanced. Its roots started to dig deeper and its stem became longer, while the leaves turned wider. Every single cell on the sapling was upgraded.

[Photosynthese on Flora Colossi performed successfully]

It was clear that Flora Colossi was the name of the seed he just attempted to upgrade. The notification was also the exact thing he needed to know he was successful.

Even though the plant wasn't yet in a humanoid form, Emery could feel a more intense energy flow from the sapling.

Right after he managed to cast the spell, he glanced at the butterfly and saw that it was glowing in the same color as when he cast [Nature's Grasp], signifying it was a rank A, top of the line spell.

"Congratulations!" The old man said, who had once again unknowingly arrived, with a satisfied smile. "In all my 5000 years of living, I have known only half a dozen people able to learn that spell, it seems you were fated to help my research."

However, at the same time, Silva returned and entered the dome. She seemed to have been waiting for him from afar. She decided to come closer and greet the old man politely before saying. "The Alfa Station is about to cross through the Void River. I'm really sorry, Emery, but we need to leave soon."

"Right now?!"

Chapter 810 - Promise

The realms being filled with void rivers was just like how the Earth was covered with oceans. For the flying Alfa station circling the three realms, entering the void river was a common matter.

"They announced that they will enter in an hour or so, and this time, they will be inside for two weeks," Silva explained.

Having been inside the void river before, Emery understood it would be extremely hard to navigate a ship in it. Moreover, being inside for two weeks would mean a total extension of one month for their travels.

"I'm sorry, Emery, but we must leave as soon as possible," Silva said again.

Emery subtly nodded in response. "I understand. Please just give me a few more minutes to talk to the senior."

Without a word out of her mouth, Silva nodded in understanding and walked away to give the two some space. After Silva left, Emery looked at the old man and gave him a respectful bow.

"It is truly a shame. With your talent, I think you could be a very good assistant," The old man said before pausing for a second. "Why don't you stay here for just one circle? I am sure you will learn many things in three years."

Hearing the old man's offer, Emery gave a much deeper bow and apologized, "Senior, I am really sorry. Although I would love to stay, I currently still have my own responsibilities to deal with."

The old man nodded. "That's too bad...but yes. I understand."

Emery really would have loved to stay. It was not only because of how amazing this place was. At this moment, Emery truly felt indebted to the old man for teaching him such a valuable spell and opening his mind to a new understanding of nature. He truly wished he could help the old man with his research. To bring out life from such tiny plant lifeforms was certainly a noble goal.

Emery looked at the old man and with a serious tone he said, "I promise when I am able, I will return and assist you, senior."

This time, the old man nodded with a smile.

"Good, I will wait for your return."

The old man, however, was not done. Under Emery's curious gaze, the old man took out a scroll which then flew toward Emery.

Emery received the scroll and looked at its contents.

[Metamorph Theory]

Emery's eyes widened. Even with just a glance, he could immediately tell that this was the secret process to create the humanoid plants.

The old man was satisfied when he saw Emery's expression and said.

"That is for you to study. I would like to see how far you can reach with it when we meet again."

Emery closed the scroll and once again gave the old man a deep bow. If the previous one was out of apology, this one was to express his gratitude.

He was indeed very much thankful for the precious gift.

"Senior, I still don't know your name," Emery said

Hearing his words, the old man's smile deepened.

"I am Linnaeus. People call me the Arbor Master, but you can just call me senior. I like it."

"Senior Linnaeus." Emery finally knew how to call his senior, and the old man nodded in satisfaction.

Emery was about to bid farewell to not keep Silva waiting, but suddenly the dozens of little humanoid plants walked past him and gathered around the master. All stood staring at him as if they were all sending him off.

Before he left, Senior Linnaeus told him to take his unfinished sapling as well.

"You take care of this young one."

One of the little plant creatures took the sapling and approached him to hand over the sapling. Emery moved to receive it, but to his surprise, another one actually brought a second plant to him.

It was a beautiful flower.

"Is that for me?!" Emery asked, flabbergasted.

The previously devilish little creature seemed really adorable to him as it nodded. Emery received the little creature's present with gratitude and once again thanked Master Linnaeus before leaving the spectrum garden.

It was such a short meeting, but it was certainly a memorable one.

As he walked outside the door, Emery silently looked at the flower given by the little plant creature. It had yellow and white petals neatly arranged, and its entire body seemed to faintly glow. Curious, he used [Analyze] on the flower.

[Flower of Eternity]

[A flower that blooms forever without water. It can also make the surrounding landscape more fertile.]

While Emery was still observing the flower and reading its data, Silva suddenly approached him. Noticing his gaze, she curiously looked at the object of his attention.

"What's that plant for?" Silva curiously asked. It was only while taking a closer look at it that she realized Emery was holding not just a plant, but also a flower.

Responding to her question, Emery showed her the flower and told her how one of the little creatures gifted it to him before briefly telling her its description.

However, the moment Emery showed the flower to her, Silva's mind was instantly locked on it and unconsciously received it. The girl blushed. "Thank... you... I really like it."

Emery instantly worried when he saw this. He tried to explain that it was from the little plant creature once again, but none of the words he said after got through her. The girl suddenly grabbed his hand and said.

"We'll be late if we don't hurry!"

Silva did not give him any chance to explain, and in front of the girl's enthusiasm, Emery's words got stuck in his throat. With Silva still firmly holding his hand, the two ran on the street near the forest.

Emery deeply sighed. He knew the girl misunderstood, but they needed to hurry to exit the station, hence he decided that he could clear this up later on the journey back.

Soon after, a flying vehicle driven by the magus bodyguard came to pick them up. They flew towards the dock and switched into the spaceship, before slowly detaching themselves from the station.

Emery looked out the glass window. He really wished he could stay longer.

Now that he had learned about the rare spell, the alfa station must have a few rare spells to buy, unfortunately, he has to go so abruptly. He could only hope there would also be some to find in the Academy or Golden City. Perhaps he could also visit the Furia black market.

Just as the ship flew away from the station, Emery saw the humongous space station enter the dark void river and disappear.