

Earths GMagus 881

Chapter 881 Bird of Prey

Today's Arena matches were much faster than usual. From the looks of it, most privileged acolytes were just too busy preparing for the mid-test that they did not want to risk getting injured before it began.

Hence after just half a dozen fights, it had already reached the fight between those in the 30th ranks, and after only a short while of battles, Emery's name was finally called.

[Rank 20 - Emery Ambrose (9)]

Emery was slightly taken aback that someone would aim for his position of rank 20 and it would be his turn so soon.

He turned to look at the name of the challenger displayed on top of the arena.

[Rank 29 - Vida Themary (18)]

The name was familiar to him. This female acolyte was the second most famous half-blood of the year. Her name always shows just behind Zack, the dragon half-blood.

Emery calmly walked into the arena, and in the center of it, the girl with short dark hair was already waiting for him.

"Are you really as strong as people say?" the girl asked while scrutinizing him with fierce-looking eyes.

As soon as she finished speaking, the girl instantly used her bloodline transformation. Powerful energy emerged from within her, and almost immediately after, dark blue feather-like scales came out of her body, forming a pair of wings and sharp, long claws.

"I, Vida, the bird of prey, have just recently reached the peak of my bloodline. You are the perfect person to test my strength!"

Having reached the peak of a legendary bloodline meant that she was now a rank 6, just like Emery who was a fey warlock. While he had two more ranks on top of him, the girl had reached her peak.

Still, this did not mean that the bird half-blood could be underestimated. On the contrary, doing so would be extremely unwise as the bird of prey was a top-tier bloodline on the same level as the tiger, the turtle, and the dragon bloodline.

Without waiting another moment, Emery quickly used his fey transformation stage 1 to match hers.

[Battle Power: 244 (274)]

He was about to complete his battle preparation, but just before he pulled out his sword, Emery's hand stopped mid-movement.

He decided to use his claws to match hers.

[Blade Claws]

This brought him a little concern with his innate ability [Spirit Devour], but it was also precisely because of this that he decided to use his claws in this fight; to be in control of the skill, to fight without activating its devour skill.

Howl—

[Battle Howl]

[Battle power increases by 15.]

[Battle Power: 244 (289)]

"I am ready! Let's start!"

Following Emery's declaration, the two figures of a silver wolf and a dark blue bird directly clashed.

Clankk!! Clankk!!

Vida did not hold back at all. It had only been a few moments since they started, but the bird of prey half-blood had already used various combinations of dark-element spells with her physical attacks.

As she moved to attack, parry, and dodge, a dark aura followed her together with a thick cloud of smoke and several mirages of herself. The usage of those spells to confuse her opponents added with her obviously extreme speed, the girl was indeed worthy to be in the top 30!

Clankk!! Clankk!!

The first stage of fey transformation had its advantage in speed, just not the strength of the night form or the magical capabilities of the day form. Yet despite that advantage of speed Emery held, the girl in front of him was still able to match his speed without much difficulty.

But that was not all. To his surprise, Vida's speed gradually began to increase, and with her wings allowing her to attack in different patterns of various angles, Emery was forced to start using [Blink] to dodge.

Furthermore, his very low proficiency in fighting with his claws put Emery at a further disadvantage, thus allowing the girl to land a hit on him.

Spillaaatttt!

With just one swing of the bird of prey half-blood's claws, Emery's [Jade Skin] was torn apart like paper.

The girl was indeed fierce.

"If you don't show me your second transformation, I will crush you with mine!"

Right after she said those words of challenge, Emery felt a surge of power from the opponent in front of him. Vida's blue feather-like scales grew longer, and in turn, her dark blue wings grew wider. With the blue scales now covering even her face, the girl had turned into a dark blue figure completely covered in dark blades.

Clankk!! Splatt!!

There was not much of an increase in strength, but her speed was much improved.

Emery quickly used his [Immortal Gate].

[Battle power increased by 32.]

[Battle Power: 244 (321)]

With the battle power boost from [Immortal Gate], Emery also received a considerable increase in speed.

But he was still barely able to match her speed.

Added with the darkness spells, Vida's attacks became even more difficult to dodge. This bird of prey, she was definitely the fastest acolyte he had ever fought.

A legendary top-tier bloodline was definitely great, but it was not enough to defeat him.

At this chance, Emery decided to use one of his newly purchased spells, one of the easier rank C spells. Following his concentration, Emery's feet began to glow a light blue shade, and with this tier 4 water spell [Slipstream], he finally managed to outspeed the legendary bird.

Clank!! Clank!!! Splatt!!

One by one, Emery's claws started to lay scratches and wounds on the bird half-blood's body. The girl understood that her best advantage was being outmatched, but it was only after a few minutes that she finally admitted defeat.

She did not have any more ways of catching up while Emery was still on his first transformation.

"Emery Ambrose wins!" the magus referee loudly announced.

After the girl undid her transformation, she walked toward Emery.

"Congratulations on your victory" Vida said as she put out her hand on her chest and gave a little nod as a sign of respect.

Emery accepted the gesture and followed.

"You are definitely stronger than me," the girl briefly admitted before turning away. However, before she headed out of the arena, Vida turned back to look him eye to eye.

"I hope unlike me, you will be able to step out of the dragon's shadow."

Who Vida was referring to was none other than Zack, the privileged acolyte with dragon bloodline who she never succeeded to pass.

Certainly Emery had no plans of being number 2. He had been waiting for the time when he could finally have a rematch with the dragon.

By the time his fight was finished, he realized that a crowd had already filled the stands of the arena as if they all came to watch him fight.

However, that was not all. In the front row standing among the crowd, a figure he immediately recognized was silently watching him.

Zack Talon.

At the same time next match was called upon, this one will not be an easy one either

[Rank 19 - Jinkan Nephilim (15)]

Chapter 882 Threats

The sun was high above in the sky, busy sharing its brilliance, as the fight between the two bloodlines that just took place in the Arena was finally able to get the audience to feel a rush of excitement. Roars of cheers and shouts resounded through the air, coloring the atmosphere with even more excitement.

The two of them had both displayed extraordinary physical strength that far surpassed their peers and even surpassed that of a magus, and thus the reason they were cheered on vehemently by the audience.

Now that the blood-pumping battle was over, it was only normal for the audience's passion and enthusiasm to subside. However, that was not what happened because the next fight was the more anticipated one.

A duel between the rising star known as the Savage Acolyte and one of the famous proteges of the Human Alliance's top factions.

[Rank 19 Jinkan Nephilim (15)]

Emery was supposed to get 15 minutes of rest after the fight, but his opponent didn't seem to mind that as she already walked into the arena.

She was a beautiful short blonde haired girl who exudes an air of nobility.

The smile on her face was extremely enchanting to those who saw her. However, the intense look in her eyes was enough to intimidate and unnerve any man from approaching her, especially knowing the family she came from - not many people dared to stare her in the eye.

The blonde girl approached Emery in a nonchalant manner, and the latter could feel she was not emitting any fighting intent at all.

"We never officially met... I am Jinkan Nephilim. It's nice to finally meet the one renowned as the Savage Acolyte."

Emery remembered what Lord Izta had suggested to him, that he should not be rash and should be really cautious toward this faction.

It was not just because the girl was higher in rank than the other Nephilims acolytes; but with just one gaze, he instinctively knew that this girl was nothing like Armand. He had to be extra careful with her.

Emery hadn't shown any verbal response, but noticing the gestures his body was displaying, the girl seemed to have realized something and she then opened her mouth again.

"Don't worry, I am actually not here to fight. Instead, let's use these short 15 minutes to get to know each other better."

Emery was actually interested to hear what she had to say, however, once again, the words the girl spoke next took him by surprise.

"First, I am curious... if I do decide to fight... will you dare to defeat me?"

That question definitely had a hidden meaning. But before Emery could answer, the girl continued to speak.

"Well, now that I think about it, you did dare to beat up Armand and the others..." Jinkan smiled as if she remembered something funny. Turning to Emery, she continued, "What about me? Do you really dare to beat up a girl like me?"

From the looks of it, the girl seemed to be the type that liked to play mind games. Instead of directly answering what she wanted to hear, Emery decided to respond with a question.

"Why not? Is it because of your family background?"

"Yes of course." Jinkan replied. "Why? Are you not afraid of my family? Most people are..."

Emery replied "It's just a friendly competition. There's nothing to be afraid of."

Hearing Emery's reply, the smile on Jinkan's face grew even wider as she said, "Hahaha... I think you should.. You really should... especially being a native of Earth 1002."

Emery immediately became anxious when he heard 'Earth 1002'. It's because he knew that name was the name Magus Alliance used to refer to his home planet.

And, the fact she suddenly said it out of nowhere, could only mean one thing. She was threatening him with the safety of his home.

"Hahaha! The look of shock on your face right now is priceless!" Jinkan chuckled and slowly continued.

"No wonder... there was definitely something strange going on between you and my family, and with a little check... hahaha... This is good... this is good.. You really should be afraid of us. After all, we are basically your gods."

Various negative thoughts quickly entered Emery's head while his mind pondered what her purpose was by saying all this. Emery then took a deep breath trying to calm himself down.

He then looked at the blonde girl and said, "What do you want?"

Hearing that, Jinkan smiled again. "How unexpected. You are actually smarter than you look, for a savage from a primitive planet."

Exasperation filled him when Emery heard those words. He couldn't help but think that he was better off fighting 100 Armands at once than tackling this one shrewd girl.

His tone became even more forceful as Emery once again asked "What is it that you want?"

The blonde girl suddenly said in a serious manner

"If... if I want you to admit defeat now, surrender and out of this match... will you do that?"

Despite her joking tone, Emery knew that the girl was trying to mess with his mind. Emery had seen some despicable and low acts, but her action had refreshed his worldview as this was just a new level of low.

Emery subconsciously clenched his fists, but he didn't lash out because he knew it was futile. He took a deep breath, pondered for a few seconds, and then looked at the blonde girl. With a confident tone, he answered.

"No, I wouldn't surrender."

Emery scorned and really hated such a bully who shamelessly used their family power for their own benefit. At the moment he was prepared for any possible consequences.

However, contrary to Emery's expectations, the blonde girl nodded her head and looked amused by his response.

"Very good.. I expect nothing less.."

Jinkan showed an even bigger smile and said, "just making sure that you are prepared for the consequences."

Right after that, before Emery could understand the meaning of her words, the girl raised her hand in the air.

"I admit defeat!"

[Rank 19 - Emery Ambrose (9)]

The audience started to get rowdy because they were confused and disappointed by the unforeseen development. The two people in the arena, however, couldn't care less about their reactions.

Emery looked at the girl in bewilderment, while the girl didn't seem to be done with what she wanted to say.

"I know what you and your little group are trying to do... Well, with your strength, you probably able to win against the two titans. That guy, Arcana, however, is not easy at all."

"My advice is... do not defend and keep going on the offensive, that's all."

After saying those words, she turned around and said, "I expect to see you win, we will talk again after" before leaving the arena in the same nonchalant manner.

Chapter 883 Titan Bloodline

The previous encounter did bother him; after all, the Nephilim girl threatened the safety of his home.

While it was true she gave him some tips on how to fight Arcana, who was to say those tips were true and not meant to mislead him? Moreover, even if that was the case, Emery was sure the girl had her own agenda for helping him.

What was she planning?

That short talk had successfully messed with his head.

While Emery was still thinking about what Jinkan was trying to do, a new name appeared on the screen floating above the arena, pulling his attention back to the present.

[Rank 16 - Sigurd (14)]

Similar to the Nephilim girl before, Sigurd, the dark-skinned fighter, walked up to the stage early. Despite the man's straight posture and the large axe in his hand, the way Sigurd approached Emery did not seem threatening at all.

But that was not all. Rather than his relatively friendly demeanor, it was the first words the man said to him that surprised Emery.

"Don't let those threats bother you..."

From his words, it seemed the man with the Titan bloodline heard what Jinkan had said to him.

Under Emery's somewhat questioning gaze, Sigurd continued, "Those nobles and their intricacies... you should just focus on fighting what's in front of you."

The Titan bloodline in front of him appeared to have some issues with nobles.

Emery had heard about those with the Titan bloodline - born with a divine body, individuals with this bloodline were the most sought-after race in the universe to be raised and owned as a fighter.

They were so valuable to the point that factions bought and traded them as if they were no longer considered human. The man in front of him must be one of those who had gotten used to being controlled by the nobles.

Sigurd then raised his large axe and asked, "How experienced are you against an axe user?"

Emery was about to answer Sigurd casually, but at that moment, he realized he had almost no experience at all in the matter. There was that one practice with Lord Izta, but he was not sure if that counted since Lord Izta kept changing weapons. The truth was, most of Emery's opponents so far were sword users. He had never really fought an axe fighter before.

"Not much at all... Why?"

"That's too bad."

Immediately after, the man with the Titan bloodline suddenly dashed and swung the huge axe at him.

Swishhh!

Emery reflexively dodged a step back, but the Titan descendant's axe still managed to inflict a shallow wound on his chest.

"!!!"

With how amiable the man was when he first walked up and even empathized with him, Emery did not expect Sigurd would launch a sneak attack on him like that. Furthermore, despite the size of that axe, the man's swing was much faster than he initially anticipated.

The man calmly said his reason, "That's for being too relaxed in a battle... especially against someone with the Titan bloodline."

Emery shook his head. What was this man trying to do?

The opponent in front of him had not used any spells or skills to buff his battle power, yet just from the attack earlier, Emery could already tell that Sigurd's battle power had, at the very least, reached the 300 mark.

Fighters with the Titan bloodline were indeed frightening individuals.

For an opponent with such a high battle power like Sigurd, Emery did not hesitate to immediately use his [Fey Transformation] and [Immortal Gate] altogether.

[Battle Power: 244 (306)]

This time, however, Sigurd did not continue to attack and instead silently waited until Emery finished his preparation.

Under the Titan bloodline patient look, Emery opened his [Spatial Space], took out his dark [Savage Blade], readying himself for a fight.

"Let's see how good of a swordsman you are!" The large dark-skinned man vigorously said, before dashed towards Emery again, swiftly swinging his axe like it had no weight.

Clank! Clank!

However, compared to how light the man made the axe seem, the weapon was extremely heavy. Added with Sigurd's unexpectedly swift and precise swings, Emery's grip trembled with every clash of their weapons.

The axe had almost no thrust movement at all. On the contrary, all of its attacks consisted of multiple slashes and chopping movements that made full use of the axe's weight, making it just as fast as a slash, but not any less powerful than a strike.

Clank! Clank!

Under the Titan descendant's continuous attacks filled with pressure, Emery was quickly forced to use the [36 Dao Divine Sword Technique] in order to match the man's fighting pace. Although it was now not nearly as apparent, the man currently still had the upper hand.

Emery had seen how fierce Sigurd fought during the game against the Bone Dragon. Ever since that day, he had been wanting to have a match with this Titan descendant. Now that he got the chance to be at the receiving end, Emery finally understood just how strong this man was.

Yet, despite this, Emery knew Sigurd still had not used his full strength. Hence, even though he was at a slight disadvantage at the moment, Emery decided to follow the man's pace and thought of the fight as another chance to get some nice, proper training.

Clank! Clank!

"Good! Now see this!"

Suddenly, Sigurd's attacks started to become even more ferocious. Emery could barely dodge the first few attacks and was forced to block one of them with his sword. However, the moment their weapons came in contact with each other, Sigurd instantly pulled his axe and used it to lock his sword before using his other arm to swing a fist at his face.

Bamm!

The powerful hit was quickly followed by a headbutt just as strong as his surprise punch.

Bamm!

The man's attacks were very simple, yet those simple attacks managed to hurt Emery and even throw him a few steps back.

"That is the axe's hook and locking technique, something a sword doesn't have!"

Once again, Sigurd jumped in and fiercely swung his axe towards Emery.

Clank! Clank!

Unwilling to lose against Sigurd's fighting technique, Emery did not use [Blink] to dodge the man's attacks. Instead, he once again countered the incoming strikes with his sword technique.

He gradually increased his variation from stage 1 of [Dao of Sword] up until stage 6, the more complicated variation of the sword technique, before Sigurd slowly started to feel overwhelmed by the counterattacks.

Of course, there was no way the Titan bloodline would just let Emery have the upper hand. After taking a step back to gain a little distance, the man lifted his axe high in the air. At that moment, Emery felt the air suddenly change, as Sigurd prepared his powerful battle art.

"Now see if you can stop this!"

[Soul Shaker]

Emery had witnessed this skill being used against the Bone Dragon before. It was a powerful outburst of energy slash that brought forth total destruction.

He knew the wise thing to do against such an attack was to dodge, but out of curiosity and respect for the powerful fighter, Emery decided to use his [Day Transformation].

As spirit power started to quickly fill his entire body, Emery channeled his spirit energy into the dark blade in his hand in preparation for using his powerful [Shadow Edges].

Both sides took a few seconds to prepare, the audience watching from the distance started to cheer in anticipation due to the build-up.

Sigurd came charging first like a powerful meteor, while Emery unleashed his powerful [Shadow Edges] enhanced by the day transformation and at close quarters.

BAMMM!!!

The two powerful attacks clashed for a while, before both sides were thrown back half a dozen steps. The impact caused both Emery and Sigurd to spit out blood, both of them simultaneously realized their attacks were equal.

When Emery prepared his stance once again to continue the battle, Sigurd raised his axe and instead looked in the direction of the audience.

"I surrender!"

This surprised not only Emery, but also everyone watching them. However, the moment of surprise quickly ended, as the audience expressed their dissatisfaction. The fight was far from over, yet it ended just like that.

Despite the unsatisfactory ending, the referee finalized the decision, quickly changing Emery's rank as a result.

[Rank 16 - Emery Ambrose (9)]

While Emery was still confused by the Titan descendant's decision, Sigurd calmly approached him with a satisfied expression.

"Zetto, your next opponent, has the Titan bloodline like me. He's stronger and more skilled at wielding the axe, so you'll need all the stamina and spirit pool you have to defeat him. Focus on the fight and take that commander position for us."

The man then walked away from the arena. Following his suggestion, Emery quickly cast [Nature's Blessing] on himself to recover his health as his next opponent's name appeared above the arena.

[Rank 10 - Zetto (9)]

Chapter 884 Berserker

Now that the duel had finally reached the part involving those sitting in the top 10 rankings, the crowd became more enthusiastic. Some of them even stood up from their seats as they were cheering even more passionately.

It also needed to be noted that most of the audience were those that possessed magus realm cultivation, hence only the fights that were considered the most exciting could really move these people.

The next participant calmly made their way to the arena, and apparently, this person was a well-known one as a name began to be shouted by the crowd.

"Zetto the Berserker!"

[Rank 10 - Zetto (9)]

The man whose name was being cried out by the audience was even bigger and more muscular than Sigurd. The dark-skinned bald man wore nothing on his upper body than a large wooden beaded necklace.

At this moment, as he looked at his next opponent, Emery couldn't help but think that the man was the most terrifying acolyte he had ever met. In fact, he couldn't even believe the man was the same age as him.

As his opponent had the same test ranking score as him, Emery decided to start by checking the details of it.

[Mental Score 10310 - Rank 20]

[Physical Score Undefined- Rank 3]

Looking at the other party's physique, Emery knew the man would have a high physical score. What he didn't expect was that the man was the third strongest person in physical quality - two ranks higher than him, but still only rank 10 on the official leaderboard.

This revelation brought him some concern.

The fact that the people in the top 10 had been the same for the last six months, and this terrifying-looking guy has been stuck at rank 10 ever since, made Emery seriously wonder how strong Arcana and the other eight people on the ranking really were.

A few seconds later, Emery shook his head. Enough time was spent thinking and worrying about the other top 10, and Emery won't waste any more time as he knew the most important thing for him right now was to start focusing on the one ahead of him.

After all, it would all be for naught if he was defeated by his current opponent.

Under the passionate shouts of the audience, Zetto walked onto the arena and upon arriving he immediately pointed three of his fingers at Emery and said, "Three minutes!!" It was clear what his words meant, and he didn't even try to hide the disdain in his voice.

After saying that, he took out his battle axe. It was slightly smaller than the one used by Sigurd, but when swung, Emery could see it emitting a certain aura that slightly pricked his skin.

This top ranking fight allowed the participants to use up to Tier 5 weapons, hence Emery assumed that the axe in Zetto's hand should be of the same quality as his Savage Blade.

With all that was presented in front of him, Emery knew that he needed to show his best performance to defeat this opponent. The blood within his body started to boil, as he activated his strongest transformation.

[Night Transformation]

[Battle power increased by 70 points]

[Battle Howl]

[Battle power increased by 15 points]

Howl—

[Immortal Gate - stage 5]

[Battle power increased by 32]

[Battle Power: 244 (361)]

Emery's body swiftly transformed to the half-wolf half-man state, with black fur covering parts of his body. As the [Immortal Gate] took effect and a faint layer of energy engulfed his entire body, Emery brandished his sword forward ready to go all in at any moment.

Seeing Emery's current black, instead of the previous silver fur transformation, made Zetto open his mouth and comment, "It seems you didn't use all your strength against that weak Sigurd." A look of contemplation flashed on his face for a moment, before he raised another finger. "Four minutes!"

Emery was not intimidated by Zetto's actions, definitely not in his Night Wolf form. He chuckled while thinking to himself what the man's expression would look like after he beat him.

"Let's go!"

Saying those words, Emery initiated this duel by casting [Blink], disappearing and reappearing right behind Zetto. The sword in his hand was already moving towards the man's back, coated in the luster of [Heroic Slash].

However, Zetto seemed to have predicted the attack as he immediately turned around, his expression calm. The man moved so fast that Emery didn't even notice when he had swung his battle axe in such a way that it would parry his sword perfectly.

CLANKKK!!

Unfortunately, Emery's attempt was fruitless. His sword was stopped by Zetto's axe, and the clash that ensued between the two managed to make the two of them take a few steps back.

"Again!!"

Emery cast [Blink] once again, this time appearing to the man's right side. In an instant, the [36 Dao Divine Technique] revealed itself and directly jumped into the fifth stage variations. Faint images of mysterious runes began appearing around Emery's body, as waves of sword slashes flooded the Berserker.

Clankk!! Clankk!! Clank!!

Successive loud sounds rang in the air as Zetto dealt with every attack Emery sent over. Despite his large frame, the man was moving very fast and each swing that connected to his sword delivered a force so heavy that it almost blew Emery's feet from the ground.

However, thanks to the tremendous increase of battle power from his transformation, Emery was able to keep up with the other party. In fact, the Berserker seemed to be the one being suppressed.

Clankk!! Clank!! Clank!!

Splatt!

After perhaps dozens or so of exchanges, Emery finally managed to land a hit on Zetto. He was surprised to see that a direct contact with a Tier 5 sword only made such a shallow scratch on the latter's body. Not even a drop of blood was seen spilled.

That was definitely one of the advantages of possessing the Titan's bloodline. Innate super strength and indestructible body; no wonder this race was really sought after by many factions throughout the universe.

[Blink]

Even so, Emery also had his own advantages in mobility and strength, especially the former.

Coupled with how Sigurd had previously helped him get used to fighting someone wielding an axe, Emery knew that now he just needed to be steady and keep this up. One scratch at a time, and eventually, the huge man would fall.

BAAMM!!

A loud dull sound resounded in the air, when Zetto tried to lock Emery's sword with his ax, but knowing better, the latter swiftly countered with a kick before the former proceeded to lay his attempt.

The Berserker's body was pushed backwards, stumbling and almost fell, by Emery's powerful kick.

There was a slight pause in the fierce battle following this exact exchange, and as the two raised their heads to face each other, Emery opened his mouth.

"Four minutes have passed... but you still haven't beaten me."

Unexpectedly, Zetto chuckled when he heard that. Under Emery's confused look, the bald man also opened his mouth.

"Who said anything about defeating you in four minutes?"

Hearing that, Emery was about to laugh at the man's comment because he thought the latter was trying to avoid embarrassment. But then, he realized that he was wrong.

Before Emery could say anything, Zetto suddenly grabbed the wooden bead necklace around his neck and tore it off. In the blink of an eye, tremendous pressure swept over Emery as Zetto's body surged with power; so powerful that many spectators jumped to their feet and started cheering.

"FINALLY! We finally got to see the Berserker Fury today!!!"

A realization dawned upon Emery. It turned out that 'four minutes' Zetto said was the amount of time the man gave Emery to attack and injure him before he displayed his true strength.

Chapter 885 Fury

All of a sudden, Emery felt a sense of suffocation as if the air around was being pulled away towards where his opponent was standing. Turning his head over, he could see white smokes coming out of the latter's body.

The Berserker had finally unleashed his full strength.

Cracking sounds were heard as Zetto moved and stretched his stiff body. He looked at Emery and grinned. "Did you know... that weak Sigurd has never been able to open his ancestral line.. The real Titan strength."

Seeing the expression on his face, the man himself seemed amazed at his own strength. He clenched and unclenched his fists, feeling the seemingly unstoppable force coursing through his veins.

"This is the power of the Gods! We, the Titans, are supposed to be worshiped like Gods!" His eyes fixed on Emery, the grin on Zetto's face widened while a maniacal look appeared on his face. "And you... you now can feel my fury! A God's fury!"

In an instant, Zetto's two black pupils turned into glowing gold before he took out a second axe from his spatial ring, the exact duplicate of the one he was currently holding.

Wielding two Tier 5 axe in his hand, the Berserker gave off a powerful surge of energy as he stared at Emery with a borderline deranged gaze.

Emery's eyes narrowed as his gaze turned serious. His body tensed up as the grip on his sword tightened. He understood that the real fight was about to begin and it was bound to be a ferocious one.

BAM!!

A slight tremor shook the arena as Zetto stomped the ground with his feet, propelling his body towards Emery at breakneck speed. Even though Emery had prepared himself for his opponent's aggression, the other party moved so fast that it shocked him!

CLANK!!!

At the last possible second, Emery managed to move his sword and parry the axe that was descending towards his body. However, the second axe quickly followed behind, coming as a surprise, with such speed that Emery had no way of stopping it. It successfully landed a hit.

Spllaatttt!!!

Emery was hit very hard on the waist. The [Jade Skin] covered that part of his body crumbled apart like sand, and he was blown away by the overwhelming force while his blood splattered across the arena floor.

If not for the protection that [Jade Skin] provided, Emery's life would be in great danger as his body would have been cut in half.

Seeing the fierce exchange between the two, the audience quickly stood up from their seats in excitement and started cheering, fanning more flames into the arena.

"Berserker!! Berserker!!!"

Zetto's moniker was chanted loudly in the arena.

Even though he was in excruciating pain, Emery quickly got up as he was worried about another attack. However, the expected attack didn't come as the Titan bloodline holder just stood there watching him. It seemed he was waiting for him to get ready.

Realizing that his opponent decided to do nothing, Emery proceeded to check his current condition and what he found was not good news. Blood was flowing profusely out of his slashed right waist, and at least one or two of his ribs were broken.

Emery coughed out blood as he tried to cast [Nature Blessing] on his waist. Although his wounds looked serious, he was fortunate that his [Undecaying Flesh] kicked in and did its job of healing superbly.

"Your struggle is futile, Savage Acolyte! You will never win against me!" shouted the Berserker with a smirk on his crazed face.

No response came from Emery, as he was busy analyzing his opponent from what he had gained so far. The man was a real monster of strength. Even the [Night Wolf Transformation] was not enough and was overwhelmed by the latter.

Even so, Emery would certainly not give up just like this.

After analyzing and calculating his chances of winning, Emery realized he wouldn't be able to handle Zetto with his current self. Therefore to deal with the Berserker, even though it was somewhat a pity, he decided to use the strongest transformation he had kept all this time.

[Twilight Transformation]

[Twilight Form has increased your spell power.]

[Twilight Form has increased your magic resistance.]

This was the first time Emery had shown his final transformation in the academy and, although caught off guard, the audience quickly recovered from their shock and another wave of loud cheers swept the arena.

"The Savage is still not yet finished!!"

Even though the twilight form did not give Emery any additional battle power, the spell power enhancement it provided would at least increase the durability of his [Jade Skin] and, hopefully, would work wonders on his new spells.

Emery cast one of those spells, [Slipstream]. He quickly felt his legs becoming lighter as if the weight that had fallen on them had been lifted.

"Are you ready, Savage!?" Zetto shouted again.

There was no verbal response. Instead, Emery took out another blade from his Spatial Space. A Tier 3 plain-looking blade that was given by Magus Xion.

Immediately after, Emery cast the spell he hadn't been using for a while. Dark energy appeared on his hand and crept onto the sword engulfing it entirely, as the spell [Dark Infusion] took effect.

This Tier 1 spell would not have that much of an effect in a fight against Tier 5 weapons, but with his increase in spell power, he could tell the world-difference enchantment the spell gave to the blade. Even though it seemed futile, Emery believed that any additional strength - no matter how small - was what he needed.

With that, Emery's preparations were complete and he turned to Zetto with a serious expression.

"Too long!" shouted the Berserker, before once again charged at Emery with his monstrous speed.

Swiiisshh! Swiisshh!!

In response, Emery immediately moved from where he was standing to evade Zetto's charge. The additional speed from his water spell [Slipstream] and his [36 Dao Divine Sword] helped, but he was only barely able to keep up with the latter.

Clankll!!!

When Emery left with no time to dodge and was forced to block the attack, he could clearly experience the full power of the Berserker. Consequently, once again, he was blown a few steps back.

It was clear that Emery's final form was still not able to overcome the Berserker's strength.

Realizing that it was foolish to continue fighting this monster of strength in its own game, Emery started to showcase his other specialty. He began to incorporate and utilize spells in his repertoire to help him tackle Zetto.

Zetto once again kicked the ground and swiftly shot towards Emery with his axe raised high into the air.

However, just as the axe was about to land on its target, a group of arm-sized green roots emerged from the arena floor and appeared right in Zetto's axe's trajectory, entangling and slowing it down enough to allow him to escape and launch an attack of his own before retreating again.

Thanks to that, Emery managed to avoid another severe injury.

Of course, Zetto immediately tried to follow with another attack. But before he could do so, a huge green wall erupted in front of Emery and stopped his advance prematurely. The [Jade Wall] gave enough time for Emery to recollect himself.

To put it simply, Emery used anything that could help hold off Zetto. In the meantime, he would enter into the openings that appeared and deal more damage to the latter's body.

"Urrgghhhh.."

A grunt escaped Zetto's mouth, as the Titan began to be annoyed by Emery's cockroach-like actions. At the same time, blood was seen dripping from his muscular body, proving that the strategy the latter adopted was effective.

Of course, Emery did not escape his act unscathed. No matter how careful and vigilant he was, there would be moments where simply couldn't determine. As a result, Emery was still hit by Zetto a few times.

Eventually, the Titan had enough of Emery's actions and screamed his frustration out loud. A fiery, devil-like aura rose from Zetto's body. His battle art [Onslaught] took effect as he began to wildly cut everything that was holding back and slowing him down.

The roots that wrapped around his body were torn apart completely, while the green wall that had stopped his steps was chopped into pieces. In the end, there were no more obstructions between him and Emery.

The sight that greeted Zetto as he made his way out was Emery standing there a few meters away, the swords in his hand shining menacingly. The man didn't even have a chance to do anything as his field of vision was instantly engulfed by a massive black streak.

Emery, who had prepared [Shadow Edge], unleashed the deadly attack at the Titan without the slightest hesitation.

BAAAMMMM!!!

Emery's Tier 3 Sword immediately shattered after [Shadow Edge] left them, but their sacrifice was not in vain. The attack landed squarely on Zetto's body, enough to bring the huge monster down to his knees.

Everyone in the stands was excited, loud screams and shouts echoed through the air, when they saw Emery manage to bring down the Titan.

But contrary to expectations, Emery did not smile. He knew that it wasn't over yet.

If there was one thing Emery knew from fighting Zetto, it was the fact that the man was like a beast. And when a wild beast was wounded, it wouldn't tuck its tail and run away; it would only get even more ferocious.

Chapter 886 Relentless

While the half-blood got their unique power from the mixed bloodline of humans with the Primordial Beasts, the Titans were said to originate from the descendants of one of the first humans.

Just like the creation of the ancient divine artifact, God was said to make one group of humans with the same concept.

Born with enhanced physical form that far surpassed any other human capabilities, the Titans were said to be one of the most respected humans. The top echelon of humanity, the king of kings.

Those were considered common sense and infallible facts of that time, until the invention of the Awakening scroll - when normal humans started to discover the key to the illustrious magus realm.

Since then, the era of the Titans began to decline and was replaced by the era of the magus.

Like all normal humans, the Titan had and was also born with a spirit core of their own. However, the innate spirit power that they had was drained by their divine body, causing almost all the descendants of the Titans unable to learn spells.

However a rare small number of them were able to touch and awaken their ancestral gift, allowing them to directly learn the law.

BAM!!!

The power of the [Law of Wrath] took control of Zetto's body and enhanced his capability tremendously. His already powerful physical ability increased even more, raising it to an astonishing degree.

At this time, the advantage Emery worked so hard to obtain gradually disappeared and he began to be pressured by his opponent.

In a matter of minutes, Emery had broken the last Tier 3 sword Magus Xion had given him, meaning that he only had his one savage blade to deal with the Titan's two Tier 5 axes.

As if turning to the personification of ferocity, Zetto seemed not to know mercy anymore as he relentlessly attacked and landed multiple hits on Emery. His blade was unable to hold both ferocious attacks and with it, the number of wounds on Emery's body increased, and blood covered large parts of his body as they bled.

The audience became frenzied to see the situation that unfolded in the arena.

In one corner of the arena stands, a girl with distinct red hair shouted loudly. "Roran! Do you have a Tier 5 sword?! Even a Tier 4 is okay! Just give him a weapon to use!"

On the other hand, the young Harlight who was the target of those words was also panicking. He was trying hard to swiftly search through his massive storage ring, for a weapon that could be used.

"Aaa, Roran, seriously?! Anyone! Anyone have any sword to borrow?!"

BAM! Following the dull sound was the sight of Emery's body once again being flung across the air, as it was too hard to block both axe attacks.

Then suddenly, he thought of something that could possibly help him hold the second axe.

Emery swiftly took out a piece of black scale he got from Killgragah and held it on his left arm, using it like a buckler to stop Zetto's attacks.

BAM! BAM! BAM!

The hand holding the black scale trembled violently as the black scale withstood Zetto's axes and stopped the relentless attacks from reaching Emery's fleshly body.

However, even though the black scale was a very durable item, Emery could sense that it would crack and crumble under pressure if this continued. And because he never really had a chance to properly shape it as a shield, there wasn't a proper part for his hand to hold, causing him not to be able to hold it firmly and possibly accidentally let go.

"Aarrgghh!!"

[Onslaught]

The Titan once again used his battle art, throwing a combination of multiple double axe techniques at him. Knowing that he wouldn't be able to block this one, Emery quickly cast [Blink] and disappeared.

Alas, the enraged Berserker did not seem to recognize the word give up as he just turned and continued charging towards Emery in his frenzied motion.

It was at this moment that Emery suddenly felt something tingling on his left arm. Shifting his gaze, to his complete surprise, he saw Twik start covering the black scale with his wooden body.

"Twik!!!"

Ku.. Ku.. kuangg

Even though he didn't know what his words meant, Emery could understand what the intent Twik wanted to convey.

'Use me', this was what he received from the intelligence creature, and with the current situation he got in hand, though reluctant to involve Twik in this fight, Emery was eventually forced to use his left arm that was covered to block Zetto's relentless, beast-like attacks.

Clankk!! Clankk!!

By the time Zetto's ax clashed against the black scale, Emery saw the little creature had completely covered the black scale.

Now, in his left hand, Emery had a bizarre combination of a shield between Twik's wooden body and Killgragah's black scale. It was a round shield and looked like it was made of plants, and not only was it able to withstand Zetto's attack, it attached firmly to his arm.

Dark sword in one hand and wooden shield in another, Emery began to launch his retaliation.

Clankk! Clankk!!

For the next dozen attacks, with the help, Twik provided, Emery was able to withstand the ferocious attack Zetto sent at him. There were some chips and scratches on the round shield, but it quickly disappeared over time. It turned out that Twik was able to regenerate and slowly regain parts of his body when lost.

Now that Emery finally had a method to block the Titan's secondary weapons, he managed to hold out against most of the attacks Zetto did, and even took advantage of the openings to send attacks with the sword.

The fierce battle between the two continued for more than 30 minutes, but there was still no clear sign of who the victor was.

At the moment, Zetto was akin to a tireless machine, he simply did not stop. Every blow and cut he received seemed to have no effect and only generated an even stronger wave of anger within him.

Emery even faintly felt that the other party's strength was getting stronger as time went on.

On the other hand, similar to his opponent, every part of Emery's body was boiling. All the deadly clashes only fed and gave rise to the primal urge of his transformation.

At this point, Emery had completely forgotten about his next, equally important match. The only thing he cared about was that he had to defeat the opponent standing in front of him no matter the cost.

SpIIIaaatt!! Spallaaattt!!

Sword and axes, both of them constantly finding ways to break through their respective defenses. Bodily flesh was cut open, exposing the muscles beneath and blood began to dye the arena floor a striking color.

With comparable weapons and skills, the fight suddenly turned into a competition between the Berserker's Indestructible Body and the Savage's Undecaying Flesh, the Titan's monstrous stamina against Emery's irregular spirit pool.

The audience were on the edge of their seats, as they continued to watch to see who would eventually triumph over the other.

Finally, after another thirty minutes of magnificent battle spectacle, the victor's shadow could be seen.

The Indestructible Body was hard to cut through, but with enough time, the impact of the dozens of superficial wounds that didn't heal overpowered heavy wounds that healed.

Zetto fell, his knees hitting the floor as his body finally couldn't hold on any longer. Even so, the Titan was still not willing to give up, as seen from his attempt to use his two axes as support to keep him standing.

On the other hand, even though Emery still raised his sword towards the Titan and his arm was still holding the wooden shield, his condition was in reality no better than his opponent's. He was not only gasping for air, his entire body felt it was completely crushed by all the hard blows. Moreover, he could tell his spirit pool was nearly empty.

But in the end, he was the last one standing and everyone in the audience cheered in awe of his victory.

The Berserker didn't admit defeat and only kneel in silence. However, seeing that the man was no longer able to stand up, the referee decided the result.

"Emery Ambrose Win!"

[Rank 10 - Emery Ambrose (9)]

The Savage Acolyte won against the Berserker, and not only that, he beat the latter in such an amazing fight.

Hearing the referee mention his name as the winner, Emery smiled and looked at his left hand.

As if the little wood plant knew that the fight was over, it slowly reformed back into Emery's arm, however, it threw out what was left of the dragon scale, multiple small pieces of the scales and a speck of black dust. It appears Twik consumes the scales and now it's no more.

The little creature sent a little message of remorse and Emery quickly said,

"Dont worry about it, You did good... You did really good"

Chapter 887 Top 10

It would be a blatant lie if Emery said he had it easy. In fact, the previous fight could be considered one of the most difficult duels he had ever fought.

It took Zetto a minute before he was able to get to his feet again. He sharply stared at Emery, as if he was ready for another round. But in the end, he only snorted in anger, before turning around and walking out of the arena.

[Rank 10 Emery Ambrose (9)]

Even though he had somewhat expected it, Emery did not imagine it would be this hard to reach the top ten rankings. After all, his body had undergone such a tremendous upgrade at Ouroboros, while his spirit force had reached rank 9.

Once again, he was reminded that these top 10 were the top talents from ten thousand acolytes selected from thousands of planets. They were the best of the best of the generation.

The crowd cheered and applauded loudly for such a great fight. It was only at this moment that Emery realized the arena stands were actually almost filled to the brim by people. It was quite a rare sight, as Hyperion was after all a restricted place to outsiders.

Among those seen in the stands, Emery once more noticed the Dragon bloodline protege, Zach, who still seemed to be watching him with rapt attention.

Once again, Emery's fighting spirit burned like a blazing fire. Rank 10 was simply not enough. He wanted to climb higher on the leaderboard. At least, he had to defeat that prodigal young dragon.

As soon as the Titan left the arena, Emery quickly sat down and took up the lotus position before starting to focus on healing the wounds on his body. At the same time, he also deactivated his transformation in order to allow his physique to relax, recuperate and subsequently prepare for one more fight.

After fifteen minutes of uninterrupted healing, just as Emery opened his closed eyes, he was caught off guard when he saw a figure already standing in front of him.

Even though Emery previously focused his attention on recuperating his condition, he still divided some portion of his attention to the outside world. However, there was no sound nor any energy he could sense using his Spirit Reading.

It was as if the other party had suddenly appeared like a ghost.

It was as Annara said last night, when she briefed him about the target of their operation. "That guy named Arcana is known to be a powerful enchanter. I heard he usually plays with his opponent's mind. So you must be careful and, most importantly, resist his attempts."

However, now that he had seen firsthand the famous figure with his own two eyes, Emery was a bit shocked, the other party was exactly the polar opposite of the brawny and imposing Zetto.

Despite his black hair that had a streak of blue highlights and his mature facial features, Arcana's figure only looked like a 13 years old kid at most. It was shocking, to say the least.

Was this really the person who had been holding the monstrous Titan at rank 10?

Emery suddenly realized Arcana looked annoyed. He didn't have to think as to why, as the latter swiftly answered the question himself. "Huh! What were you thinking just now? You dare make fun of my size?!"

A shocked expression appeared on Emery's face, as his inner thought was exposed. From the looks of it, the young man named Arcana could also read people's minds.

Emery quickly readied his mind for another possible mind attack, while at the same time he also checked the Arcana's stats

[Rank 9 - Arcana (18)]

[Mental Score undefined Rank 3]

[Physical Score 9210- Rank 29]

The kid-looking acolyte was the third strongest acolyte in the mental faculty, which meant he should be a powerful Spirit Reader that triumphed over most of his peers. Thus, Emery could only hope he had enough spirit energy in his Spirit Pool to fight this one.

Seeing no visible reaction from Emery, Arcana once again opened his mouth. "I was contemplating to take it easy on you, knowing you just had a difficult fight. But now, seeing your attitude, I changed my mind!"

Understanding the duel would soon begin and what kind of opponent he would be facing, Emery didn't dare to hold back and immediately reactivated his [Twilight Transformation].

Loud howl resounded in the arena again as Emery's [Battle Howl] took effect.

"Don't worry. For your sake, I'm definitely gonna make this fast!" Arcana said in a confident tone.

Reminded of what the Nephilim girl had told him, Emery immediately decided to go for the offensive. He planned to overwhelm his opponent with a relentless wave of attacks, so that he couldn't finish his spells.

However, before Emery could even more, he suddenly saw within his line of sight a dark blue smoke appearing on the arena, before covering everything and engulfing himself with its existence.

In an instant, Emery lost sight of his surroundings. But through his Spirit Reading, he quickly realized all of this was not real.

"Damn! I'm in an illusion already?!"

Fortunately for Emery, he could feel his enhanced magic resistance start to work and help him stop the unknown energy that was trying to enter in his mind further. He could feel the illusion that was taking over him diminishing slowly but surely.

Arcana, on the other hand, looked at Emery and seemed to realize what he was doing. As a result, he laughed loudly in an evil manner. "Hahahah! Not bad, not bad at all... Unfortunately, it's not good enough."

The kid looking acolyte placed both of his index fingers on his forehead, and immediately after, Emery felt a powerful surge of energy from his opponent. It was akin to an unstoppable tsunami that threatened to ravage everything in its path.

He could feel the arena floor he was stepping on shaking violently. This time, Emery was not sure and had no idea how to find out if it was an illusion or real.

In the next second, Emery saw the center of Arcana's forehead split vertically and emerge from within, one bluish eye with a golden pupil that exerted tremendous pressure on his body. Following that was the voice of Arcana, echoing throughout his mind.

"You have gazed upon the eye of Mistra, now you shall die."

The moment Emery saw Arcana's third eye, he realized he screwed up. Even trying to close his eyes did not work. His gaze was completely fixed on that mesmerizing eye, as the eye was gazing inside his mind.

It was apparent from this display that Arcana had a powerful skill, even stronger than the one the beholder possessed. Emery was unable to move even an inch of his body and, at the same time, familiar figures started to appear within the blue smoke.

Someone called out to Emery, in a voice he recognized and recalled from his childhood memories.

"Emery... why... my boy... Why didn't you save me..."

It was the figure of his dead father. His expression was distorted greatly, as if he was in excruciating pain. Standing next to it was another familiar figure to Emery, a young boy of fifteen - Lanzo.

"You... Why did you let that old granny kill me?"

Emery knew all this was merely an illusion Arcana conjured. Even so, his heart still couldn't help but feel sad and remorseful.

Next, four more figures arrived. A female and three males that Emery knew too well.

"Klea!" Emery subconsciously shouted her name, when he saw her pale figure. Together with his three close friends Julian, Thrax and Chumo, they all seemed to be no longer alive and just a moving corpse.

"Emery... It's your fault. The Nephilims have killed us. It's your fault!"

The forlorn within Emery's heart instantly disappeared, this time replaced and filled with fear and horror.

Chapter 888 Divine Skill

"Ha ha ha! You're just the same idiot who only has muscles, no brains!"

At that moment, the audience in the stands could only watch as Emery stood motionless and stared into the empty air. It was clear that the Savage Acolyte was entranced by his opponent's divine skill [The Eye of Mistra].

It was one of the powerful Divine skills that would allow a successful enchantment onto someone and beguile them into a realistic illusion. The most important and strongest aspect of this skill was the fact it would still work even if the target was on level higher than the caster's.

Arcana laughed even louder when he saw how helpless Emery was right now. "Ha ha ha! You're doomed! Unless you have 50 soul force, you can never break away from this skill!"

Countless gasps sounded from the audience in the stands when they heard Arcana's words. If what the latter said was true, then this divine skill of his was truly an unstoppable weapon for those below the magus realm.

This was because not only was that Soul Force a measurement that could only be shown in magus realm, 50 soul force meant that the person had already reached at least 5% in their comprehension of law.

"Hahaha, your struggle is meaningless! There's no need to resist anymore!" Arcana said while calmly walking closer to Emery, with the third eye on his forehead still shining brightly.

In truth, many of the spectators already expected such a one-sided result. There were, of course, some who hoped that the new rising star would answer their expectation and once again create a miracle, especially knowing that the latter just rose to rank 9.

However, it was apparent that their expectation was simply too much. He was still in the early stage of rank 9, after all. Meanwhile, many others that had reached the peak stage rank 9 couldn't escape this skill. It was simply impossible for him to escape the powerful divine skill.

It didn't take long for Arcana to arrive and stand right in front of Emery, who was still in his twilight form. He scanned the latter's body which was nearly two meters tall from the ground up and then took out a sharp-looking knife from his spatial ring.

A wicked smile bloomed on Arcana's face, as he began to carve a large cut on Emery's chest - deep enough to shed blood, but not seriously injured. Throughout the entire process, the Savage Acolyte did not even move nor blink an eye.

"Hahaha!!" laughed Arcana as he looked at Emery. Turning his head to the side, he said, "Referee, do we still need to wait five minutes? Everyone here can clearly see who the winner is."

The referee magus just nodded in response, and Arcana looked very annoyed. He snorted and turned his face away saying, "Stupid rule! Well, whatever!"

Arcana was clearly dissatisfied by the referee's reply and he showed it by thrusting the high tier knife into Emery's chest.

SpIIIaattt!

Blood spilled and dripped down to the ground when Arcana pulled the knife out. Irritation could still be seen on his face.

"Let see if the referee would change his mind if I carved some more"

The kid looking acolyte preferred a faster result, as it meant he didn't have to expend more spirit energy than he needed to. So in order to do so, he stabbed Emery's body with the knife once more.

SpIIaattt!!

On the sides, both Annara and Roran were exasperated by his unscrupulous actions.

It seemed that Arcana had noticed their gazes as he turned his head in the direction they were at. Seeing their appearances, he simply smiled evilly and said, "Don't worry. I won't kill him, This rubbish isn't worthy of me receiving punishment from the academy, after all."

After saying those words, Arcana ignored the two and once again turned towards Emery. A smug smirk on his face. "Come on! What are you daydreaming for? Hurt me with that infamous savage skill of yours!!"

It was at this time that an idea entered the mind of the bored Arcana. He suddenly thought of thrusting his knife into a particular sensitive part of his opponent.

"Well.. I mean, why not?" Arcana grinned evilly. "If you want to blame someone, blame yourself for being weak."

Without another word, Arcana gripped the knife and swiftly thrust it forward. However—

Swissshhh!

—the sharp tip of the knife stopped just an inch away, as a dark furry hand firmly gripped his thin skinny arm.

"WHATT?!!"

A gobsmacked expression appeared on Arcana's face as he looked at the hand that was holding his own. He swiftly raised his face, only to see the Savage Acolyte already staring at him with eyes filled with rage.

"Ho...how... co.. could.." Arcana stuttered in his words due to how shocked he was.

Arcana's complexion quickly turned pale as he realized that he was in grave danger. He of course tried to run away. Unfortunately, his efforts were in vain as his arm was locked by the wolf's strong grip.

Without further ado, Emery punched the childlike acolyte straight in the face. The 350 battle power he currently possessed powered his rage-filled punch.

BAM!

One punch was all it needed to make Arcana turn limp and break a few of his teeth, leaving him in a miserable state.

Alas, it was still not over yet for Arcana. Thanks to Emery's other arm still holding his, Arcana could only helplessly watch as his body was pulled closer again for another full knuckle blow to the face.

BAM!

And another.

BAAMM!!

And another.

BAAAMMM!!!

His face quickly became swollen so big that all three of his eyes were covered by it making him unrecognizable, ...except for his kid-like figure.

Arcana still whispered, asking his confusion, "how..." as Emery let go of his arm and therefore allowed him to drop flat to the ground. Despite hearing his question, Emery just silently stared at his opponent.

The truth was, Emery didn't know how he got rid of the illusion either. The illusion did affect his mind. He lost total control of his body and was forced to experience all those negative feelings. At that moment, he was as helpless as a chicken on a cutting board.

However, when Arcana started playing around and stabbing his body with a knife, he found the walls of reality built by the illusion easily began to crumble down, and eventually, without him knowing it, Emery managed to return to the real world.

The sudden turnaround took everyone by surprise, as they wordlessly watched Arcana lay flat on the ground, writhing in pain. In the end, the referee saw that the former was in a state of being unable to fight anymore and decided to announce the winner.

"Emery Ambrose wins!!"

[Rank 9 - Emery Ambrose]

The audience went wild.

Deafening cheers filled the entire arena, as finally, one of the names that was at the top of the rankings changed. People were once again amazed by the surprises that Emery could bring to the table.

"You did it, Emery!" shouted the red-haired girl who was standing beside the Harlight Prince excitedly.

This meant that the deal was final, that Roran would step down from the leadership position for the mid-test.

Emery was still amazed by the many cheers he received and was ready to walk out of the arena when suddenly the crowd fell silent for an instant.

A certain figure was approaching the arena.

Seeing this figure walking closer to him, made Emery's fighting spirit rise once again

The famous figure after all was someone he has been wishing to fight with.

Zach Talon, of the dragon bloodline.

He stopped right in front of Emery, with a sharp gaze he said

"I challenge you, fight me"

Chapter 889 Challenge Zach Talon.

One with the mythical bloodline of a top-tier dragon race, the best and brightest half-blood amongst all of the privileged acolytes in the current generation.

He was an object of admiration for many, but for Emery after his last duel with him, the man was akin to his goal.

"I challenge you, fight me."

For him, the challenge being thrown at him was proof that he had finally obtained the dragon's recognition, something he had been after ever since that day.

Emery's rational thinking was telling him to refuse the challenge. It would be best for him to take his time and not act recklessly as he still had half an academy year to improve. However, the fey blood within that came from his form was burning for another fight.

Even if his chance of defeat was currently greater than his chance of victory, Emery did not feel an ounce of care. At this moment, the only thing he could feel was his passion for more fights.

"I accept!" Emery replied full of determination and enthusiasm.

The brown-haired young man, Zach Talon, showed a glint of a smile upon hearing Emery's answer.

"Good..." Zach gave a nod of approval. "However, not now... not while you're like this."

He examined Emery's condition before looking into his eyes with pity.

"at noon in 3 days."

Just a moment later, Emery received a notification.

[You have been challenged to a duel.]

[Your duel with Zach Talon will be held in 3 days.]

Without waiting for Emery to respond to the postponement, Zach continued, "This arena is too small and too crowded for a proper battle."

After deciding on a place, the man then immediately flew away from the arena, leaving the crowd silently in awe and anticipation.

As soon as they could no longer see the brown-haired man, clamors of excitement once again took over the audience.

"The battle of two half-bloods! Haha, this will be great, I must watch!!"

"A wolf dares to fight a dragon? How amusing."

"You have to admit though, he's pretty good."

"True... let's see how many seconds he will be able to stay standing."

"Haha, wanna bet?"

Most of the onlookers were anticipating his struggle against the dragon half-blood, but some of them were looking forward to what surprises he would bring them next. The chance was small, but that made it all the more exciting.

From the loud, fired-up talks to the silent whispers of the crowd, Emery ignored them all as he returned to his human form.

As Emery thought about his next battle, a few staff members came and picked up the unconscious Arcana. Since there were no more fights scheduled anytime soon, the audience dispersed and the arena battles were finally over.

Meanwhile, Roran, Annara, and Atlas came to congratulate him.

"You really did it!" Roran quickly walked up to him and held Emery's shoulder.

"Roran, you should be more respectful to your new commander," Annara reminded with a teasing smile.

"Of course." Roran let go of his hand and took a step back. "Congratulations, Commander."

Roran was very happy, and understandably so as it was quite a joyful moment. After all, they were finally able to get their commander position.

However, Annara's smile instantly disappeared when she remembered what transpired after Emery's victory.

"What were you thinking, accepting that monster's challenge!? Your health is of my concern as long as we're on the same team! You can die if you want after, but... not on my watch!"

Looking back, Emery was also a little surprised by his decision. Now that he was no longer in his fey form, he realized that it was truly too hot-headed of him to accept Zach's challenge. Even so, like the onlookers around, a part of him was also curious about how he would fare against the dragon half-blood.

"I'm sorry, but this is something I have to do," Emery firmly said.

"Urgh, men and their egotistical brains."

Emery only tried to give a reassuring smile in response.

This time, it was Roran's turn to ask, "Are you confident of winning?"

Emery fell into thought. In truth, having experienced how difficult it was to beat the rank 10 Zetto, he was not confident that he would be able to win against the dragon half-blood at all. With Roran's question in mind, he checked Zach's state according to the privilege bracelets.

[Rank 4 – Zach Talon (4)]

[Mental Score: Undefined Rank 5]

[Physical Score: Undefined Rank 4]

Emery carefully thought about his chance before responding shortly after.

"Probably not, but I will try my best."

The man's score brought him mixed feelings. It stated that Zetto, the man with the Titan bloodline, was actually physically stronger than Zach. If he took that as a reference, Emery could probably match the

dragon half-blood's strength. Still, he knew that a rank 5 mental score was terrifying, something he should not underestimate under any circumstances.

The answer brought a moment of silence when all of a sudden, the quiet Atlas began to speak.

"According to the latest data of the dragon half-blood Zach's battle against the previous rank 4 and the data from the battle I just saw today, you have a pretty good chance of winning."

"Really!?" Roran was the first to react.

They could not believe their ears. Before they knew it, Emery and the others had turned to look at the half-machine for further explanation.

"Wait..." Annara was not convinced. "How big of a chance does he have?"

"A 21% chance."

Hearing this, Emery frowned. "How would that be a good chance?"

"You only had a 28% chance to win against Arcana and you won easily, hence I can say that 21% is a pretty big number."

"..."

It seemed that the robot could make jokes.

"If you can beat Zach, that means the title of number 1 half-blood of the generation will be yours," Annara spoke out with a chuckle.

Curious, Emery checked all the known half-bloods on the list of privileged acolytes.

[Rank 4 – Zach Talon]

[Rank 9 – Emery Ambrose]

[Rank 21 – Vida Temari]

[Rank 42 – Annara Vermont]

[Rank 63 – Rofos Trigeson]

Seeing all these names and numbers that made up the unrealized ranking system effectively made everyone more competitive, including himself.

Emery had three days to prepare for the fight against one of the top 5; he definitely should not waste it. Fortunately, his [Undecaying Flesh] would help him back to his prime condition in no time.

What he needed was to significantly increase his power in these three days. There was one way that would help him improve in such a short time, but he had to start doing it immediately.

Chapter 890 Zero Abyss
With only three days to spare until the day when the fight against the Dragon bloodline protege took place, Emery excused himself from his friends and quickly made his way towards the privilege help center.

There, he saw a female magus with blue hair and silver-rimmed glasses, Magus Ramora. As she was the one who was assigned to be his guide in the past, Emery planned to greet the other party before continuing on his way. However, for some unknown reasons, it seemed the female magus had been waiting for him.

"Hello, acolyte Ambrose. Is there anything I can help you with? Anything at all?"

The female magus looked more cheery and was much more respectful to Emery, a stark contrast from the way she was before. Of course, he knew the reason behind this obvious change in attitude.

At this, Emery could only chuckle inwardly. He understood and, though rather difficult at first, began to learn and accept the certain upgraded level of treatment that came consequently as he continued to climb higher in rank.

The female magus even knew exactly his purpose for coming here to the help center, as she already prepared a wooden box filled with [Spirit Foundation Pill].

As it was the end of the month and the result from the arena battle was final, Emery was finally able to claim his monthly ranking reward. Thanks to his newest ranking of 9th, he was now eligible to receive a total of 35 [Spirit Foundation Pill] bestowed to those ranking 6th to 10th on the leaderboard.

With the addition of 40 pills he received from Bradley, the fire magus, Emery now had a grand total of 75 [Spirit Foundation Pill]. These pills would be the fastest, instant way for Emery to greatly increase his strength in the next 72 hours.

Seeing the other party's thoughtfulness, Emery didn't say anything and just accepted the box with a smile. In return, the magus gave him an even bigger smile. It looked as if she was very grateful for the opportunity to be able to help.

Now that he had received the pills he needed, Emery wanted to quickly proceed to his next plan. He was about to turn around and walk away when he realized that with Magus Ramora just next to him, might as well ask her to confirm his plan.

"Ahh, you wish to do that..?" Surprise was evident in her voice when she heard his question. "Is it possible, you ask? ...yes, that's possible. But personally, I won't recommend anyone to do that," answered Magus Ramora while showing him the location that he was looking for.

Before Emery bid his goodbye and left for his goal, Magus Ramora once again warned him that such places were not advisable for an acolyte. Emery nodded his head as a sign that he understood, but unfortunately for the magus, he wouldn't stop until he saw it for himself.

In order to save time, as soon as he exited the help center, Emery cast [Spatial Gate] and consecutively used it as a means of transportation. Thanks to that, it didn't take long for him to arrive at the place he was looking for – a place where several large black rocks could be seen floating in the air.

"Here it is."

As per what Magus Ramora had told him, Emery looked up and saw hundreds of similar black rocks floating in the air, creating some sort of bridge into a moon-like asteroid in the far sky.

Immediately, Emery followed the trail of floating rocks that seemed to be heading for space with his [Orbiter]. Eventually, as he rose higher into the sky, he could feel the air around him thinning. It gradually became more difficult to breathe, but he forced himself anyway.

Sometime later, Emery finally arrived at his destination. It was a large asteroid with many smaller asteroids surrounding it, a miniature ecosystem of planets of its own floating in the space between the outer atmosphere of Hyperion and the dark outer space.

The Zero Abyss Rock.

Emery controlled the orbiter to land on the asteroid and searched for the entrance to the place he wanted to visit. It was a huge cave where one could see many tunnels intertwined with each other.

The cave exuded a gloomy atmosphere. If it weren't for a certain type of unique moss that was visible on the surface of the cave and emitting a faint green light, there would be literally no visibility inside the cave.

Using his Spirit Reading, Emery discovered that there were at least two magus currently cultivating within the asteroid's interior. Deciding to pay these people no heed, he went ahead and searched for a place of his own. Somewhere filled with more of the unique moss, preferably.

Once he found the place he deemed satisfactory, a dark cave filled with moss all around, Emery sat down and closed his eyes to start cultivating.

The main target he wanted to achieve from secluding himself in the next three days was not just to consume the [Spirit Foundation Pill] and gain more spirit force. But he wishes to master the new addition of darkness-based spells he had. Thus the reason he came to this place.

This exact place, Zero Abyss, came to Emery's mind from the time he researched all the unique places on the Hyperion planet. The place, apparently, had a high concentration of darkness elements and a slight amount of earth and plant elements. Three things that hopefully would help him learn his new spells faster.

Unlike his spirit caves however, this place was unclaimable for one reason. The rocks would occasionally shake, and such volatile conditions make the place unsuitable to stay for a longer period.

However, after all the knowledge he learned from Magus Xion, and Grand Magus Yvere, about the comprehension of the Law of Space and Nature; Emery wanted to start learning about them and crystalize his own understanding. He believed such a place could be a good start.

Currently, Emery had a few spells that were related to such places. The darkness, earth, and plant combine tier 5 spells [Seed Bomb] [Ash Blast] and maybe the space related spells; [Dark Void], and [Void Aegis].

In the next three days, he would put a lot of effort into studying them and if he managed to learn one or two of them to a proficient degree, then it would be three days well spent, not just for his duel with Zach but also his preparation for the mid-test that will start in 6 days.

Without further ado, Emery calmed himself down. After fully adapting to the thin air and the spirit energy around him, he took one [Spirit Foundation Pill] from the wooden box and threw it into his mouth.

...

[Spirit force increases]

[Spirit force increases]