

Extras 501

Chapter 501 Calamity Upon The Capital [Pt 6]

~SPLOOSH!~

Blood gushed out of the Dragon's body as Adonis used his Divine Blade to cut through his barrier and slash his flesh.

The shocked faces of everyone present, especially Phile'emon's were exaggerated beyond measure, as all their bulging eyes focused on the young one in golden light.

The only sounds made were the slash of the blade, the pouring of blood... and the screams that accompanied both.

"ARRRGH!"

Phil'emon's screams came a little too late, however, as just a little more pressure would be enough for Adonis to finish the job.

As one would expect from the Hero, that was exactly what he went for.

But—!

~VWOOOSH!~

A sudden gust of wind—of more like a powerful repulsive blast—sent him flying back right before he could complete the deed.

The result was an explosion at point-blank range, which forced Adonis to use his [Absolute Defense] while also flying away due to the incredible impact.

Thankfully, however, he wasn't harmed.

"Guh..." A bit of sound escaped his lips as he slid closer to his comrades who were still powerlessly kneeling on the ground.

Adonis' golden blond hair flailed about as his determined eyes slightly lost their glow and he was forced to glance at his allies for a moment.

Trisha had lost an ear. Billy seemed fine, but he could tell that the boy was drained of Mana, and he definitely had some fractures.

However, the one who seemed to be in the worst state was Alicia. She seemed the most drained of Mana. Not only that, but the current blank expression on her face made it clear that she had witnessed something traumatic.

'Was it Snow? Did they kill her Familiar?' That was his guess, since the rabbit was no longer by her side.

Also seeing that Clark was now a bloody and burnt up mess, lying powerlessly in a crater behind the Dragons made his heart tense up.

All of his classmates—or at least, the ones here—were at risk. They had lost something, and it appeared as though they were about to lose even more.

Even Adonis...

'Haaa... haaa... I'm nearing my limits.' He heaved, smoke proceeding from his lips.

Not only was his Mana Level at an all-time low, but his Combat Ability wasn't as high as before due to his built-up fatigue and injuries.

Yes, he was passively healing, but it wasn't so fast anymore. There were limits to Skills and biological actions, especially if the user wore them out through overuse.

Right now, Adonis was on dire straits.

'I thought I would kill that one for sure. I didn't expect him to be so fast and sneaky...' His mind trailed as he gazed upon the child-like humanoid Dragon who had the spiky hair.

Unlike Phil'emon, who confidently remained stagnant and relied on his defenses, this Dragon—R'ashu—was too slippery for a proper attack to land.

That frustrated most of Adonis' efforts, especially after his initial strike,

'I don't think his speed Skill is S-Tier, but he must have higher base stats, race advantage, and maybe Class Privileges that allow him to keep up with me.'

The reason why Adonis didn't think R'ashu's speed was S-Tier was due to the display of a Skill that was undoubtedly at that level.

'His Mirror Skill... that thing is dangerous.' Adonis narrowed his eyes as he collected himself.

'I know I'm weakened, and the Divine Blade is not yet fully awakened, but for him to have redirected that attack of mine...'

That was what sent him flying down and crashing so pathetically.

'I was cut off guard.' Gritting his teeth, he swiftly removed his gaze from his comrades and completely focused on his enemies.

'Right now, the situation is terrible. The way I see it, there's only one way out...'

Indeed, he would have to use his Class Privilege—his last card in moments like this.

'I don't want to resort to this, but it looks like I'll have to use [Limit Transcension].'

"Status Window." Whispering under his breath, Adonis took a good look at his current state through the System's lens.

[STATUS WINDOW]

- Name: Adonis Levi.
- Race: Human (Otherworlder) (Regressor)
- Class: The Hero (S-Tier)
- Level: 175 (56.99% EXP)
- Life Force: 500/1,050 (+525)
- Mana Level: 100/1,800 (900)
- Combat Ability: 1,050 / 2,000 (+825)

- Stat Points: 0

- Skills (Exclusive): [Divine Sword Summon]. [Absolute Defense]. [Absolute Light Magic]. [33\$!0n]

- Skills (Non-Exclusive): [Advanced Combat Application]. [Greater Magic Application]. [Greater Mana Recovery]. [Full Sense]. [Life Force Recovery]. [Indomitable Power].

- Alignment: Lawful Good

[Additional Information]

Your desire to save this world has transcended the very bounds of time itself, and now you are once again on the journey to protect those you love.

Good luck!

[End Of Information]

'As expected. It's pretty bad...'

All of Adonis' Enchanted Items had lost their effects, and right now he had no other card to play.

If he didn't use [Limit Transcension], there was no way he would be able to win against three Commanders and one General.

'I can't drag anyone into this anymore. I've caused them enough harm. They look too exhausted too...'

Adonis felt regret creeping into his heart: regret for letting his friends come in this arduous journey with him, or for even deciding to come in the first place.

But, he quickly banished all such thoughts from his mind.

'I came all the way to the past to save everyone. To save as many people as I can...'

It would be catastrophic if the Capital, of all places, was destroyed by the Dragons. f(r)ee

The entirety of humanity would be destabilized once that happened.

'It would be over by then.'

Right now, there was still a glimmer of hope. He had to take the chance while it lasted.

Sure, it was irresponsible.

Yes, it was reckless.

Eric even had a point about the alternative of just running away due to their current weakened state.

But... BUT...!

'I can't just ignore the consequences that follow my negligence.'

As the single person who knew the future, and the horrors that awaited this world, he was the only one who could understand just how important this task was.

His mistake was involving others in this fight.

'I... this time, I will take full responsibility by myself.'

And so, as he clutched his blade and closed his eyes, ready to make his great sacrifice, he prepared his resolve for what would come next.

The Dragons were busy having a conversation amongst themselves, but he let all of that drown away.

Right now, there was only one thing on his mind.

'[Limit Transcension].'

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Chapter 502 Calamity Upon The Capital [Pt 7]

[Moments Earlier]

"Guarghh... arghh..."

Phil'emon growled as he clutched his chest, feeling the seething sensation of pain coursing through his body.

As a Dragon—especially one that had the passive Skill of making barriers to protect himself—he hardly felt anything such as pain.

This foreign sensation made him froth in the mouth as saliva dropped from his lips while his body spasmed.

"It hurt... it hurts so much! Argh... arghh...!" He yelled, losing all his composure.

"I'll kill that little shit! I'll kill that bastard!"

Phil'emon began moving his body forward, his hateful gaze on the boy with golden hair.

He had a somewhat distracted gaze, so the Dragon thought this was the best time for him to strike.

"Calm yourself, dude." Kar'en said with a sigh, placing a hand on his shoulder to stop him from advancing any further.

"L-Lady Kar—!"

"I won't repeat myself. Calm yourself."

The moment he looked into her crimson eyes, all the rage and boiling hate fizzled out, replaced by a subservient fear that caused him to nod slightly.

"That's much better." She smiled, finally removing her hand from his shoulder. "There's no need to bitch about your injuries. They'll heal in time..."

While Phil'emon knew this, it was still incredibly frustrating feeling the constant pain pending the time that his wounds fully closed.

Since he hardly got hurt, pain was unbearable for him.

While others could take damage and still take it in stride—like how R'ashu, his Junior did—he was different.

Phil'emon was averse to pain.

He didn't like the idea of getting hurt. He didn't want it. He avoided it at all costs.

"Damnit... how did he get past my barrier?!" He growled, feeling the pain lessen as his flesh began merging back together.

"That's what I want to know."

Kar'en's voice caused him to look at her face, and even she appeared troubled. After all, she was well aware of the capabilities of his Defense Skill, so something as absurd as this must have made her cautious as well.

"It must be an effect of that weapon of his. Maybe it ignores defenses, or it has an ability to absorb or break down Skills. The list is endless."

"B-but for it to be able to affect my S-Tier Skill, that means it is of that level. Why would humans have that kind of weapon?!"

Even if, by some miracle, humans were born with special talents and were able to develop their Skills and Classes to the impossible height of S-Tier, there was no way to explain them having weapons of that Tier as well.

'Humans don't have the technology or natural resources necessary to make such Items.' Kar'en narrowed her eyes as she stared at the shimmering weapon that glowed with otherworldly beauty.

'It's just not possible for them to have made such a weapon...'

Humans didn't have the kind of Mana abundance that Elves had, so their Mana Crystals were of subpar quality.

Elves didn't have the means to produce Enchanted Items, so their natural resources remained useless and dormant in their lands.

Fairies were mysterious, and not much was known about them... but they were never associated with weapons.

Dwarves and Giants were the true masters of technology—the former creating items of preservation, while the latter making weapons of destruction.

However, their continent was a wasteland, so it wasn't particularly rich in the appropriate materials.

'No race should be able to have an Item of such quality.'

That was Kar'en's conclusion as she gazed even more particularly on the weapon that he human wielded.

"It makes me curious..." A small smile formed on her face.

Every Dragon around her knew what happened when Kar'en smiled at a particular thing or person.

The three shivered slightly as they watched her narrow her gaze and lick her lips. Their General was known as a brutal hunter... and none of her prey ever met merciful ends.

None had managed to escape her grasp as well.

The moment this human chose defiance, piquing the interest of this cold-blooded Dragon General, it was already too late for him.

He was a goner.

"Ser'ith, things in the Capital seemed to have settled down a bit too much to be considered natural. I suspect that they have allies within the city's walls aiding in rescue of some sort." Kar'en turned to the Commander by her side, who bowed lightly.

"Bring them to me alive. If they try to resist, you can make an example out of one..."

Once she said this, Ser'ith's grin widened like that of a maniac. He perfectly understood the words of his superior.

"Understood, ma'am!"

In a flash of blueish purple light, he vanished from his location, leaving Kar'en with only two of her subordinates left.

—Phil'emon and R'ashu.

"The both of you have tasted the blade of that human, so you know full well that you need to be cautious." She addressed them, though her eyes were still set on the boy before her.

The two Dragon Commanders nodded and responded affirmatively.

'He seems to be almost out of energy. His overall Mana and Combat Ability is definitely inferior to ours.'

Even if her Commanders were at risk to his power, she didn't see how that applied to her.

Kar'en was a Dragon General. That placed her far higher than the likes of Commanders or lesser.

'There's no way he'd even be able to pose a threat to me in his current sta—'

~VWUUUUUOSSSHH!~

All of a sudden, a brilliant energy burst from the human's location, causing immeasurable radiance to ascend to the sky.

'H-huh...?!'

The glorious light that she saw, and the power that she now felt, was indescribable.

'How is this possible...?!' The human that she appraised just moments ago was no longer the one who stood before her.

His hair floated in the air, and his eyes were glowing with brilliant gold. As the air around her vibrated, and the earth beneath her trembled, Kar'en realized something equally disturbing.

... Her own body was also shaking.

'What is this power?'

No... perhaps that wasn't the right question she ought to have been asking.

'What is this human?!'

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Chapter 503 Calamity Upon The Capital [Pt 8]

~VWUUSH!~

An incredible surge of energy rose from Adonis as he braced his blade and glared at his foes.

'Three on one...' His thoughts trailed as he tightened his blade. 'No. There were four... so where did the last one go? He was a Spatial Magic user, so maybe he's going for the ambush tactic...'

Adonis couldn't overhear the conversation of the Dragon back then; whether it was due to his own lack of focus, or the way they spoke amongst each other.

He didn't know about Ser'ith's mission... though knowing would make no real difference.

In the end, he still had to face his opponents.

'Surprise attacks won't work on me in this state.' All of Adonis' senses were heightened to the max, and all his abilities had more than tripled.

Right now, he was overflowing with such overwhelming power that he felt he could do anything—take them on even.

But...

'I have to be careful about the General. For now, I should focus on attacking the Commanders and leaving the General for last.'

With that thought established in his thoughts, he took his stance and rushed forward.

~WHOOOOSH!~

The ground shattered behind him as a blazing trail was left behind him as he charged forward.

Adonis' entire body became a blur, surrounded by light, as he readied his Divine Blade for a powerful swing.

No barrier could stop him.

Two of his adversaries were nowhere near fast enough to properly react to him, and the last one was incredibly stunned by his display of power.

'I have a good chance now...!' His thoughts burst forth as he opened his lips to release some of the power of his Divine Blade.

"[MORGAN]!"

~VWUUUUUM!~

That instant, powerful crackles of multicolored energy began to dance around his blade, shattering the golden shell it previously had. Instead, it became a massive blade of light—one that stretched as high as the heavens.

Adonis held this powerful weapon upward, his goal to simply send it crashing down—destroying the enemies in sight.

[Morgan] was one of the seven forms of the Divine Blade, alongside [Avalon] and five others. These forms allowed the one who wielded them to unlock the weapon's full power. However, since they offered a lot of power, one required power to be able to summon these forms, talkless of controlling them.

Also, only a Hero could release these forms of the Divine Blade.

Back when he fought his first Dragon Commander during the Royal Dungeon Incident, he used [Avalon] to protect himself and everyone from certain doom by purifying everything around and defeating the danger that approached.

This time, with [Morgan], he planned on dealing a heavy assault so swift and powerful that the enemies would perish.

'Even if I can't kill the General... there's no way that those two Commanders will survive this!' Gritting his teeth, Adonis began to bring his blade down once he had charged up enough power.

'This is the end of the line for you!'

~FWIIISH!~

The downward swing seemed to cut through space itself as the layers of multicolored light fell upon the adversaries.

Once the attack connected, only one thing erupted.

~BOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOomm!!!~

A massive pillar of light rose to the air, and a some of multicolored explosions danced all around the area in a brilliant burst of energy.

The ground trembled, almost as if it would collapse in on itself and swallow all in sight. Everything trembled, and even the trees in the forest behind the Dragons were blown away.

The only thing left of the area was charred remains.

Smoke ascended once the lights vanished, and other than the sole human—if he could even be called that at this point—who was shrouded in a golden barrier and was barely breathing as a bloody pulp, everything else in Adonis' line of sight was destroyed.

Clark had been saved by Adonis' [Absolute Defense] at the last minute due to the explosion spreading far beyond the Hero's intended range.

Thankfully, he wasn't affected by the blast at all.

"Haaa... haa..." Adonis heaved with both relief and exhaustion as he gazed at the destruction before him.

'Seems like the Divine Blade's energy recognizes mine, so it didn't bypass the [Absolute Defense] on Clark.'

Despite thinking that, Adonis found himself trembling slightly as he gazed upon the damage that single strike had wrought.

[Morgan] had completely decimated everything within five hundred meters from the point of impact, and the shockwave from the blast also affected everything beyond that range.

It was a stark representation of sheer destruction.

'That blow was a lot more powerful than I thought...' Adonis thought to himself, heaving out more breaths.

Range aside, the intensity was immense as well.

'But, I suppose it's to be expected that it drains too much power. Just one hit, and I already feel this way...'

The more time passed, the more [Limit Transcension] would permanently shave off his Stats. That was why he decided to avoid a drawn-out battle and swiftly end it with the strongest move he could currently conjure.

'Normally, my Stats would need to be over ten thousand before I can properly wield that power, but [Limit Transcension] gives me a way to circumvent that requirement.'

That didn't mean he wouldn't feel some kind of backlash from using power beyond his means, though. Still, with this move being so much stronger than he initially thought, he had no doubt that even a Dragon General would be a goner from that single hit.

... Unfortunately, he was wrong.

"That was a strong move." He heard the voice of the very Dragon General he thought he had beaten from above.

"W-what??!" Instantly, Adonis raised his head and was met with the sight of three humanoid Dragons floating casually in the air.

Not only did they seem completely unscathed, but they were smiling mockingly at him—especially the General.

"I suppose it's time to return the favor."

A sudden red beam appeared from her hands at that moment, and before Adonis could say another word, the burst of energy descended upon him in a mighty blast.

~BOOOOOOOOOM!!!~

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Chapter 504 Calamity Upon The Capital [Pt 9]

~BOOOOOOOOOM!!!~

The rush of crimson energy descended like a fiery tempest, easily capable of devastating all in sight. Adonis instantly recognized this.

If he used [Absolute Defense] to protect all of his friends, and also himself, it would not be sufficient to defend against the mighty assault that was to come—even with the buff of [Limit Transcension].

He could try slicing off the energy in the air, but he had no idea where the sliced-off radiation would depart to. Either way, his friends were still at risk.

"Tch!" Tightly grabbing his blade, he made his choice.

There was only one swift move he could make in such a precocious situation.

"[AVALON]!"

A brilliant burst of multicolored light instantly appeared, bursting from Adonis' raised blade. It instantly rushed to the air, covering everything like a firmament of heaven.

Instantly, this brilliant surge of light clashed with the destructive red energy that descended.

As expected... light prevailed!

~WHUUUSH!~

Adonis ascended high into the air to reach his adversaries within this short window, not wasting a single moment.

'I have no idea how they were able to avoid that blast at point-blank range, but... I have to find out!'

With one powerful swing, he sent his Divine Blade hurtling towards the trio. His intention was to slice them up where they stood, but the instant he did so, they all vanished from his sight and appeared much higher than before.

"Tch! Some kind of Spatial Magic?!" He mumbled to himself in frustration, swiftly twisting his body in the air to propel himself even higher.

Like an inverse meteorite, he rose high into the air, thrusting his blade forward to destroy his foes.

"It's useless." He heard the voice of the Dragon General say, but he ignored her words.

All of his strength was poured into his straight thrust, and he moved so fast that he could not stop even if he wanted to.

The target... that was all that mattered at the moment.

Then—!

~VWOOOOSH!~

He was suddenly blown away by a pulse of blackish red energy, having dark hues of light that flashed within the eruption of power.

'H-huh? This... this is—?!' Adonis' eyes bulged as he felt his indomitable approach completely broken off.

As swiftly as he ascended to the sky, he was sent crashing back down to the ground.

In a flash, his swift descent created a massive crater on the ground—shattering everything around the charred area.

~BOOOOOOOOOM!~

Following the loud echo that rose from his crash, there was silence.

The Otherworlders who watched this fight of his were speechless; seeing Adonis display such incredible power, yet being bested so easily by the enemies that now slowly descended from their glorious height.

Adonis slowly rose from his desolate place, surrounded by nothing but rubble. Gold lights still flashed from him, but their glow seemed a lot duller than before.

The three Dragons floated above him, their condescending gazes directed at his lone figure. Despite all of this, though, he did not express despair.

He only furrowed his brows and made a deep frown.

"So that's it... your Skill..." Adonis growled as he watched the Dragon General smile haughtily at him.

"You're copying other Skills!"

'What a brilliant human.' That was what Kar'en thought once she heard Adonis deduce the nature of her Skill.

Many of her foes never figured it out until they died, yet here she was, confronted with a human who deciphered it after only experiencing it a few times.

'I already guessed as much after watching how he fights and composes himself. This man... is adept to battle.'

Her smile broadened as her gaze narrowed on him.

Just as Adonis predicted, Kar'en had an S-Tier Skill known as [Copy]. It allowed her to mimic the nature of any ability she saw

—though it would be forcibly restricted to the Tier of her Skill.

In essence, S-Tier.

She could only copy up to ten Skills in total, and the mimicry of the Skill wouldn't be perfect. Instead, it would conform to her own abilities and nature.

"The Spatial Magic you used, you copied it from your comrade, didn't you?" Adonis asked, his eyes narrowing on her.

She felt her heart race with excitement somewhat.

'That's right. I indeed copied Ser'ith's Spatial Skill. With my higher Stats and combined with my other Skills, I can use his Skill even better than him.'

That was one of the reasons why her subordinates and even allies feared her. It was one of the things that made her incredibly dangerous.

"What gave it away? Was it that last Skill I used?" Kar'en finally responded to Adonis, her arms folded in absolute confidence.

The last Skill she used to blow Adonis away was one that she just copied from his [AVALON]. She considered it incredibly impressive, so she forfeited one of her copied Skills and added it to her arsenal.

As a defensive Skill, it had a potency that other kinds had.

"Just so you know, I have your [Morgan] ability too." She grinned widely, raising her hand so a massive red blade appeared right in her grasp.

The blade was ten times taller than her, and it rose to the very peak of the heavens.

"I wonder..." She grinned, looking down on the frowning Adonis. "... Just how much more you're willing to show me, human."

From the way things looked like, this was the end of the line.

The human's overflowing energy had dwindled drastically, and he appeared exhausted as well. Besides, even if he could escape the attack, what about the rest of his friends.

Things were looking very bad for him, and Kar'en relished that fact.

"Try surviving this!"

And so, with one casual swing... the blade began its descent.

[STATUS WINDOW]

- Name: Kar'en
- Race: Dragon (Death Species)
- Class: General (A-Tier)
- Level: 290 (56.99% EXP)
- Life Force: 10,900(+5,000)
- Mana Level: 12,700 (+5,000)
- Combat Ability: 15,000 (+5,000)
- Stat Points: 0
- Skills (Exclusive): [Copy].
- Skills (Non-Exclusive): [Absolute Curse Magic]. [Absolute Crimson Ray]. [Grand Mana Recovery]. [Grand Regeneration]. [Greater Claw Attack]. [Dragon Breath: Negative]. [Grand Draconic Flight]. [Grand Draconic Resistance]. [Grand Draconic Power]. [Greater Fear Inducement].
- Alignment: Chaotic Evil

[Additional Information]

One of the most talented Dragon Generals in the current generation, leader of one of the 7 Great Squads of the Dragon Empire, and a potential successor candidate to the Death Dragon Lord.

None of her enemies have ever survived.

[End Of Information]

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Chapter 505 Calamity Upon The Capital [Pt 10]

As Adonis stood, watching the colossal crimson blade approach him and his friends, he had multiple thoughts racing through his mind.

'Damnit... I've lost too many Stats from [Limit Transcension].'

He had intentionally deactivated the ability so he could monitor just how much he had lost. Needless to say, the numbers were atrocious.

'I could choose to use it again, but that would only further place all of us at a disadvantage. Plus, when I consider the grand scheme of things...' Adonis bit his lip as he felt a heavy weight rest on his shoulders.

No matter how he went about this, it was troublesome.

'There's no guarantee that I'll be able to completely ward off that assault without [Limit Transcension].' Staring at his Divine Blade, Adonis could see that it had returned to its original state.

Without the crutch that was his last-ditch ability, he was still too unqualified to use most of his power. As frustrating as it was for Adonis, he knew he had to endure.

'Right now, there's no use thinking about this...'

He felt the winds whipping across his face, and every hair on his body stood as the electrifying aura of the red blade fell even closer.

'There's only one path to save everyone.' Turning back, he could see Billy, Trisha, and Alicia. In front was Clark.

It was all his fault that they found themselves in this situation, and they were all relying on him to survive. There was no way he could let them down.

"I won't let my friends die..." Adonis whispered to himself, steam rising from his lips as he tightly clutched his Divine Blade.

"Never again!"

~VWUUUUUM!~

Energy was instantly built up and released—before anyone could even understand what had just happened—and Adonis once again took on the regalia of golden energy.

Taking his stance, he prepared to swing his arm with his full strength, screaming with all his strength as he leaped to reach the crimson blade before it got any closer to the ground.

'I can't afford to use any new abilities, else she'll just copy it...' Adonis narrowed his eyes as he let the powerful energy coating his blade to simply run rampant.

~WHOOOOSH!~

In one rapid, but incredibly powerful swing, Adonis destroyed the giant blade, sending yet another surge towards Kar'en and her team.

As expected, she used Spatial Magic to change their positions, but Adonis was already prepared for this.

Coating himself in his [Absolute Light Magic], he utilized his [Full Sense] Skill to detect distortions in space right before they appeared. Thanks to his currently heightened state, both physically and mentally, the moment he detected this breach, he strengthened his muscles and did what he had never done before.

Grabbing his blade like a javelin, he launched he aimed it at the target location. Then—

'... DIE!'

~WHOOOSH!~

Like a bolt of lightning, the Divine Blade was sparked in the brilliant evening. It sped through the distance, almost as if it didn't exist at all.

As space bent around it, the power of the blade only magnified more and more as it approached the target.

~SQUELCH!~

In that very instant, the Divine Blade hit Phil'emon at point-blank range, killing him instantly.

That was yet another Dragon Commander who bit the dust.

Adonis smiled at this achievement, the golden light flickering all over his exhausted body. However, before he even had the chance to celebrate...

"Nice aim."

... He heard a voice right behind him.

It came from none other than Kar'en, and in the short moment that he used to blink, she had closed the distance between him and now floated in his rear.

"But this is the end." As Adonis heard this, he gulped quickly.

Yes, his Divine Blade would return to him. No one was capable of properly wielding it except the Hero, and it always sought after the Hero who wielded it. As such, with the weapon already done with its task, it was on its way to Adonis.

However, it was clear to the Hero that his enemy—who had already reached his position—was going to kill him before his Divine Blade returned.

'S-shit! I was careless!'

As Adonis floated on the precipice of death, waiting for the Grim Reaper to cast judgment on him... he began having multiple more thoughts.

'Is this really how it ends? Was I truly being too ambitious...?'

The Capital being attacked, him choosing to save it, his friends choosing to trust and follow him... and now all of this?

All this time, he had tried to convince himself that he did the right thing.

But...

'Did I really?'

If he and his classmates died, humanity was perpetually doomed. The war with the Dragons would only escalate, and once they were done playing around with humans... they would wipe all of them out.

Only the Elves and Fairies had a sizeable amount of people in their ranks in the future that Adonis saw. Humanity was nearly extinct already.

'If we die here... isn't that future guaranteed?'

And without any Otherworlders making the sacrifices, or leading the charge against the Dragons, there would be no way to reach the Sacred Place and return to the past once again.

There would be no way to reset the world.

... No second chance.

'I must have known that, yet I squandered this privilege given to me by those two...' He closed his eyes, expecting the death that he probably deserved.

Dragons were ruthless and merciless. They weren't going to spare such a big threat to their empire. And even if they did, the captive would have to suffer an even worse fate than death.

Knowing all of this, Adonis knew the greatest mercy he could receive at this point was his own death.

But, right as he was about to receive recompense...

"[GRAND EXPLOSION]!"

A sudden voice echoed into the air, and a brilliant blast erupted right behind Adonis.

~BOOOOOOOM!!!~

The shockwave from fiery explosion sent everything flying, including Adonis, who was thankfully able to descend, with his Divine Sword rushing towards his grasp in quick succession.

"Haa..." As Adonis landed and raised his head to look at the explosion in the sky, he couldn't help but leak out a small smile.

'... You came!'

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Chapter 506 Calamity Upon The Capital [Pt 11]

'... You came!'

As Adonis had this thought, he saw two people suddenly appear right beside him, almost as if they had just teleported there that very instant.

"Jeez, man... you okay?" One of them said, his face depicting a wide, optimistic smile.

As for the latter, he was short and more serious in his demeanor, he parted his lips as he adjusted his glasses.

"Be serious, Justin." As he said this, his gaze was focused on the sight above him while Justin laughed a little.

"This is pretty serious."

The air cleared up almost instantly, causing all of the smoke to depart in almost an instant. What it revealed was the Dragon General and her slightly annoyed gaze.

"Not even a scratch, huh? Even though I timed it perfectly..."

"E-Eric... Justin... you two..." Adonis mumbled as he looked at the two of them in surprise. His two classmates, who chose to remain behind, were now standing right beside him.

How? And most importantly... why?

"Now isn't the time to ask questions, Adonis." Eric's troubled tone woke Adonis from his stunned state, and his shocked face slowly began to return to normal.

"The enemy wasn't even affected by my attack. I didn't see her use any defensive Skills either. Which means she either has incredible Stats or a Passive Skill that prevents such damage from affecting her." Eric flexed his glasses once again as he tightly held his wand on his other hand.

Unlike everyone else, whose Enchanted Items had run out of power, Eric still had his wand to assist his own abilities. This was because he usually carried around spares, so even with what happened in the Grand Calamity Dungeon, he didn't run out.

This one he wielded was the last, though.

"Yeah. She's faster than me, even with [Limit Transension]." Adonis muttered as he got his head in the game.

"Hm? What's that?" Justin asked, drawing his face closer to Adonis.

"It's nothing. Nevermind. The point is... she's very strong. I appreciate you two coming, but..."

Adonis stopped himself from saying anything more. Perhaps he didn't want to sound ungrateful, or didn't want to feed them the despair that he was experiencing.

Either way, his negative view on their current position was clear for everyone to see.

The Otherworlders were on the losing end.

As they watched the childlike Dragon Commander rendezvous with the Dragon General, the trio realized they had to do something—and fast!

"Hey, you guys... what the hell are you doing?! Do you expect us to save your butts by ourselves?"

This loud voice was sent forth by Eric, and his gaze rested on the three who knelt in the far distance from Adonis and Justin.

Their expressions made it easy to guess what had happened to them. It was why Adonis didn't bother asking for backup and decided to do everything on his own.

However, with the situation escalating to such a degree, they needed all the help they could get.

In response to Eric's call, two raised their heads while the last one—Alicia—still had the blank, distraught look on her fallen face.

She didn't even budge despite being called.

"Get over here! There's just two enemies left. We can work together to defeat them." Eric yelled, removing his gaze from them as he stared at the two who seemed to be conversing amongst each other.

It was a good thing they weren't rushing for the kill.

"This gives us time to recoup a bit more energy..." Eric muttered as he sighed.

"There's one more."

The words of Adonis caused a surprised expression to leak from both Eric and Justin as they stared at him for more explanation.

"What do you mean by that?"

"There's one more enemy. A Spatial Magic User. I don't know where he vanished or why he hasn't made any appearance, but be wary of him."

"Noted." Eric nodded, sighing even louder.

It was clear that he didn't want to be there. If he had a choice in the matter, he would be anywhere but his current position.

Yet... despite all of that... he found himself standing alongside his comrades, facing the very foe he feared most.

"You've gotten good at concealment, Justin. I didn't even notice you were present until Eric used that Skill." Adonis murmured, slightly looking in his direction.

"Haha! Please don't say it like that. You were focused on the Dragons and they were also focused on you. That's why I was able to sneak around like that."

"Even then..."

"You two! Now is really not the time for that." Eric sighed, his brows creased up in annoyance.

He was risking his life, dreams, prospects, and everything else by coming here. They had to take the current situation as seriously as him.

"S-sorry." The two boys responded almost simultaneously.

"And as for you guys at the back... are you in or not?" Eric cast one more glance behind him before returning his gaze to the enemies.

Before he could count up to five seconds, he heard the howl of wind blow right beside him.

~FWUUSH!~

Billy and Trisha appeared to his left, while Adonis and Justin stood on his right. All five of them, in a straight row, as they all looked at the enemy.

"I'm in...!" Trisha's shaky voice was contrasted with the resolute expression on her face.

"Let's finish this quickly." Billy added, and while his gaze was distracted, the way he wielded the weapon that he summoned showed conviction.

The other three also displayed an equal amount of purpose as they stood to face their enemies.

The only classmates of theirs who were out of commission were Clark—due to his severe injuries—and Alicia.

There was no time to consider them at this point.

Right now, they could only rely on one another. That was all they had the luxury to think about.

"Do you have a plan?" Eric asked, not even turning to look at the person he addressed.

Still, with his auxiliary vision, he could see Adonis shake his head.

"Not really..."

Eric nodded his head as he heard this. "I understand."

Rather than despair, however, his brows furrowed even more, and something strong glistened within his eyes.

"Leave it to me, then!"

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Chapter 507 Calamity Upon The Capital [Pt 12]

[Moments Earlier]

~BOOOOOOOM!~

As Eric closed his eyes and enjoyed the wonderful breeze, just as he said he would, he heard the rumbles that echoed from the Capital.

"...."

He ignored it the first time, instead choosing to focus on his nice rest. Becoming perturbed would ruin the process of recovering his Mana.

How could he properly make his escape if he didn't have sufficient Mana for the journey?

As such, he did his best to shut everything out. He minimized conversations with Justin as they both remained under the canopies of the trees that surrounded them.

None spoke a word, and Eric was grateful for the silence.

But...

~BOOOOOOOOOM!!!~

... The explosions did not stop.

'That one sounded pretty loud.' Eric, with his eyes closed, found his thoughts trailing.

Was he worried? Did he feel concerned for his comrades that chose to head to a place of danger, despite all the warnings he gave?

'M-maybe just a little...' He couldn't help but think about all of them.

It had only been a couple of months, but he truly felt closer to them than all the other friends he ever had. They had gone on so many adventures—from Dungeon exploration, to travels, to training... and many more.

The mere thought that they could die made his heart ache.

But, even though he felt this way, why wouldn't his body move? The answer was pretty obvious to Eric.

The thought that he could die made him immobile.

'I can't risk it. I can't risk it. I can't risk it.'

As these thoughts of his grew louder, so did the explosions. To drown out the sounds and strengthen his resolve to remain, he just kept it going louder.

'I CAN'T RISK IT!'

Before Eric realized it, he was right on his feet, walking close to Justin with a grim expression on his face.

His body trembling, and his lips quivered, yet he stared at his friend with an unblinking, wide gaze.

"Let's go help our friends out."

As Justin heard this, a smile coursed through his face and he slowly opened his eyes, witnessing the face of a boy who, despite being scared, chose to throw it all away for those he deemed his allies.

The very sight was enough to inspire Justin.

"Okay." His smile widened as he jumped to his feet.

"Let's go."

[The Present]

"Do we all understand the plan?" Eric asked, his breaths a little shallow after using Mana to use his [Grand Sound Magic] Skill in order to prevent the enemy from hearing what they were saying.

Prior to this moment, he had heard about the nature of their adversaries, as well as their abilities.

Adonis previously fought the Dragon Commander, so he already knew the nature of his abilities.

"He is almost as fast as I am, even when I'm using [Absolute Light Magic] to buff myself. He can reflect your attack back towards you through troublesome mirrors. He also has Lightning-based Magic. He might have other tricks up his sleeves, but that's pretty much the gist of it." The Hero had said.

As for the Dragon General, Eric and Justin had been present for most of Adonis' conflict with her, but they still listened to his explanations since the fight was too fast for them to properly grasp much.

Her [Copy] Skill was the only real thing she had displayed, and her being a General meant that she had a bunch of other S-Tier Skills apart from that one.

"I don't know how many Skills she can copy and use at the same time. But if there are multiple, then we need to brace ourselves for the possibility that she can use even more S-Tier Skills."

After all that was said and done, the Dragon General was simply an impossible foe to beat.

Even if they found weaknesses to the abilities she displayed, there was always the likelihood that she would just show another one out of nowhere.

Eric had read more than enough books to know how these sorts of characters had the biggest asspulls in their respective series.

There was no real way to strategize and win.

Of course, it went without saying that the two Dragons had immense regenerative abilities—both regarding Mana and Life Force.

Their only disadvantage was that they probably weren't good strategists or combatants, but they far made up for all this with brute force.

If any of the five slipped up, it would be game over.

After processing all of this information, Eric took responsibility and formulated what he considered the most optimal plan—

given their current situation.

They were all incredibly weakened, and they were up against superior foes.

The only thing they had to their benefit was numbers, so it was only fair that they used that to their full potential.

Once Eric saw everyone nod at his question, his stern face became even more serious and he readied himself for what would come next.

Right now, he had taken on the role of the Party Leader—
fulfilling one of his biggest dreams.

But, he wasn't satisfied with just this.

'We are going to win this battle... no matter what!'

"What do you think they're talking about?" R'ashu asked, a deep frown appearing on his face as he stared at his superior.

His buddy, Phil'emon had perished just moments ago, and he was beginning to get a little nervous. Two of the five of them had perished already, which was absurd in its own right, but the humans didn't seem to have given up yet.

Instead, they seemed even more motivated to try harder.

'Lady Kar'en can handle herself, but what about me?' He wondered, shuddering a little as he considered the very unlikely possibility of him dying.

Well, he would have previously deemed it unlikely, but after the death of Phil'emon and Amu'ra—both of whom were his seniors

—he was beginning to lose confidence in his ability to keep up, not to talk of winning.

"There's no need to be so worried, R'ashu." Kar'en's voice echoed in the air as she narrowed her gaze on the five humans.

"I know what their plan is."

Chapter 508 Changing Tides [Pt 1]

"Let's go!"

As the Otherworlders scattered, Adonis launched himself into the sky with [Absolute Light Magic], and Justin flew into the air with his [Mimic] Skill, allowing bird wings to sprout out behind him in an instant.

Trisha and Billy, normally melee warriors, were thrust into the sky and enchanted with [Flight], courtesy of Eric's Magic.

Of course, this [Flight] was not a very advanced kind, but it still did the job and let them float. The mobility and speed they would display afterwards was up to their own abilities.

Thankfully, being combative geniuses and experts, they seemed to quickly adapt to this in no time at all.

Eric was the only one who remained on ground, as he began chanting some powerful Magic.

This appeared like a basic strategy, and indeed it was.

Adonis and Justin went for R'ashu—with Justin readying his [Marionette] Skill to restrain R'ashu's movements while Adonis dealt the finishing strike.

To properly land the Skill, however, he would need to use [Stealth] so R'ashu wouldn't be able to see him. This would severely cut down the Dragon Commander's reaction time, especially if Adonis had his attention from the start.

With this combination of theirs, they could permanently put down the Commander.

The problem, however, was with the Dragon General. There was no way Kar'en would sit still and allow them to eliminate the only support she had left. That was even discounting the fact that they had to deal with her.

It was precisely for this reason that Billy and Trisha were sent in her direction.

Still, what could mere fodder do against someone as powerful as a Dragon General? Not only did they not have any S-Tier Skills, but they were also pretty slow and weak compared to the Dragon General.

Even if they managed to make it close to her... even if they managed to reach her... there was no way they could win against her.

... RIGHT?!

Well, the plan was in full motion.

Adonis and Justin rushed towards R'ashu, whose body was already coated in pure lightning. He readied himself to fight his foes when—

~SHIIING!~

A bright radiance burst from Adonis. He used his Light Flare to blind everyone in the area—even those who had their eyes closed.

Justin would have been affected if not for his ability to completely remove his eyes from the equation through [Mimic].

He used this chance to activate [Stealth], erasing his presence entirely.

"Tch!" R'ashu growled, releasing a torrent of lightning around him so that no one would be able to get close.

He easily got over the stun effect of the Light Flare, and soon set his sights on the approaching Adonis.

R'ashu couldn't see his partner, but what did that matter? He would just generate his strongest offensive attack!

"[Lightning Bolt: Full Degree]"

Appearing in his grasp, ready to be thrust, was condensed energy in the form of a lightning bolt.

This seemed like a long range attack for what would soon be a close-ranged battle. Something didn't seem right, but Adonis marched on, readying his Divine Blade to cleave whatever was being thrown at him.

However...

"Heh!" R'ashu turned away from Adonis, aiming his bolt somewhere else—where there was obviously no one present.

"Gotcha!" At that moment, his eyes narrowed, and his full senses detected the faint presence of an entity sending strings of threads in his direction.

'Just as Lady Kar'en said...'

Justin, who was counting on Adonis to distract the enemy long enough for him to bind him—if only for just a second—so Adonis could thrust his weapon to win, appeared stunned by the attack to come.

"LOOK HERE!" Adonis yelled, but R'ashu ignored him completely, already ready to fire his weapon towards his target.

If he ignored Adonis like this, he was at risk of being killed by the Divine Blade. R'ashu knew that fully well, but he didn't think that would ever happen.

... Not while he was obeying the order of his General.

Speaking of Kar'en, the two brilliant combatants had managed to get near her position through their sheer battle tactics—

something that Dragons lacked.

Interchanging positions and complimenting assaults in order to ward off the bombardments of the enemy had really helped them out.

Combining the effects of their Skills led to a higher Tier outcome, which allowed them to fend off what would normally be beyond their individual means. It was thanks to all of this—the swirling combination of lightning, flames, and a flurry of uncountable blades, that they were able to forge ahead.

Now... It was time for their finishing blow.

"As expected. You humans are truly... predictable." Kar'en grinned as she activated the sole Skill she needed to completely disrupt the formation of the enemies.

'[AVALON]'

A dark scarlet burst was supposed to erupt at that very moment, sending all the enemies flying before they realized what hit them. If they were sturdy enough, they would merely get pushed away, and if they weren't they would vaporize.

Adonis was sure to get pushed away, and even if Justin was not in range due to his distance, [Marionette] would completely break down and R'ashu's [Lightning Bolt: Full Degree] would hit.

That would surely eliminate three out of the five humans. Afterwards, they would deal with the rest.

Eric, who was still chanting, was meant to be their support—

to deliver a massive explosion on both of the targets for final effect.

But, even his own attacks would be warded off.

It was too late for the humans. Against Kar'en's [Eyes Of Inquiry] that saw through all barriers, and her [Ears Of Discovery], that heard whatever was being spoken no matter how obscure, there was no way she could miss the plan they made.

She saw and heard it all; hence, it was the victory of the Dragons.

... Or so it seemed.

"[Absolute Interference]" The voice that rose from the ground was that of Eric, as he poured out all of his Mana to activate his new Spell.

The result was a surging wave that completely turned the tides of the battle.

... An absolute stoppage of Skills within the realm of the Absolute!

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Chapter 509 Changing Tides [Pt 2]

Eric knew full well that Kar'en was an impossible enemy to plan against.

'Even if we create an elaborate plan, we still have to communicate it to one another.'

When it came to 'characters' like the Dragon General, it was possible that she had some special Skill that would allow her to bypass Sound Magic, making it very likely that she would see through whatever strategy they made.

The more complex a plan was, the more important it was to clearly communicate it with allies.

'Even if we speak to each other and use English, there's no guarantee that she won't be able to decipher the plan somehow.' The more Eric thought about it, the more he felt like they were stuck.

... So he found a loophole.

He would communicate only a part of the plan to his allies—

the simplified format of what would happen. Since this meant they would be speaking in English, and he would be using [Grand Sound Magic], there was a chance that the Dragon General wouldn't be able to hear them.

However, still accounting for the small chance that she could, then Eric had to create a follow-up plan that only he could understand and execute.

'I misdirected everyone in order to fool the enemy, but it was necessary.'

By telling everyone he would provide ground support for both offensive and defensive moves, they trusted him and went along with the simplistic plan.

The goal was for Adonis to kill R'ashu, and perhaps wound Kar'en after. If doing the latter was too ambitious, they only had to achieve the first.

All the pieces were on the table, so all he had to do was play his role—something completely different from what he had established.

'In Magic, there are a lot of theories that exist. It's difficult to understand them, much less apply them, without the necessary Skills to back it up.'

Skills like [Magic Mastery] and [Magic Application] certainly made things easier for those who possessed them.

Ultimately, it was a consensus—even among Mages—that one should only practice Magic in the direction of one's Skills. After the formative years of a person, if they developed a Skill in Fire Magic, that had to be their specialty.

In the same vein, if someone was born with an Exclusive Skill in a certain discipline of Magic, then it was better for them to pursue that path.

Anyone could see the merit in this approach. Growth was faster if you trod the path already laid out by your Skill, hence polishing the gem of an aspiring Mage even more.

Only absolute monsters like Lucielle could use all kinds of Magic and diversify into multiple spheres, and that was simply due to her special sets of abilities and Class.

She was an outlier in the world of Magic.

Why was Eric thinking of such things in such a critical moment like this? Well... it was because he disagreed with the current approach of Magic.

The way he saw it, one had to strive in multiple areas of Magic, and so develop Skills in them, which would in turn bolster growth and a more in-depth understanding of the discipline.

Someone whos studied and practiced Fire Magic to gain the [Fire Magic] Skill would be far more skilled than someone who simply used his [Fire Magic] Skill as a template and went on to further build up on it.

Eric knew this philosophy only worked due to his own privileged status. As an Otherworlder, he had the talent and growth rate that the natives of this world didn't.

He was also given a solid Class from the start.

Since he didn't have to work from scratch, the way most people in this world did, it would be hubris to subject them to his ideology.

So, he didn't.

Instead, he subjected only himself!

'I want to have access to many diverse fields of Magic. I want to understand the principles behind them, using Spells that aren't even registered among my set of Skills.'

That way, even if his enemy could appraise him and detect all the Skills he could use, they couldn't possibly detect all the Spells that were available to him.

Eric had spent the last three months in this pursuit. He already had Offense-related Magic Skills, and tons of Miscellaneous-type Skills. However, he was truly lacking in defense.

His teammates already had defensive Skills, and one was also a capable Healer. He wouldn't be doing his Party any favor by learning a Spell that was already part of an ally's arsenal.

No... if he was to dedicate his time on a cause, it had to be something unique.

... Something only he could do.

And so, after working intensely for those three months, he finally did it—he was able to crack the code right before they departed to the Adventurers City.

He thought he would get to use it during the Grand Calamity Dungeon, but every single thing that happened then prevented him from doing so.

Even when they fought the Skeletal Dragon Lord, he could not afford to use the Spell.

Why?

Because it had certain conditions to it that needed to be met.

The first and most important was an ample supply of Mana. The Spell took up an incomprehensible amount of Mana to activate, and even more every second he kept it on.

Even at full power, he couldn't possibly use it for more than ten seconds.

The second was more like a feature than a condition. This Spell affected only Spells and Skills in the Absolute Tier. Nothing more, nothing less.

It also affected both foe and ally.

Only his Magic was left preserved, since the Spell recognized his Mana Signature.

As such, he couldn't possibly use it in situations where his allies actively needed to use Skills, or when teamwork was most relevant.

It was a Spell that painted him as the only player in the game, if only for a brief moment.

"[Absolute Interference]."

With this Spell alone, he shut down all the Skills that the Dragons were using—including the [Lightning Bolt: Full Degree] and [AVALON].

Right now, the only ones who could freely use their Skills were Eric—as the caster of the Spell—and his allies, who were currently not using any Spells or Skills in the Absolute Tier.

Hence, a victory for humanity.

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Chapter 510 Sacrifice [Pt 1]

"Uarghh!"

The way Adonis' blade swiftly sliced through the Dragon Commander caused the latter to yell out in agonizing screams.

In one bold, swift move, he had eliminated yet another Dragon.

~FWUSH!~

The final cut through space and flesh sent the childlike Dragon into the realm of oblivion—completely eliminating him and placing all focus on the sole surviving Dragon in the group.

Unfortunately, not even Trisha and Billy's combined attacks were able to place as much as a scratch on the General.

As Eric watched all of this, he smiled wryly.

'Damn... I guess it was her Stats, after all...' Based on what he was seeing, this would be a really tough last act.

He could feel nearly all of his Mana fade away, causing him to collapse on one knee as he breathed heavily.

Adonis was currently darting towards Kar'en, the Dagon General, while Trisha and Billy were being pushed back through her sheer force.

The result was a powerful shockwave that roared in the air while Eric's weakened body shuddered under all of that impact.

Then—

"That's enough..." A certain voice echoed in the air, feminine but ominous. "Enough messing around."

There was an underlying anger in the tone. A sense of exasperation, mixed with stifled frustration.

Before Eric could properly raise his head and understand what the statement meant, the voice emerged once again; but this time, it had new words to utter.

"[Curse Magic: Degeneration]"

The moment those words echoed in the air, a wave of energy suddenly erupted from the point of origin—the Dragon General—and flew in all directions.

Faster than anyone could react... stronger than anyone could have predicted... the wave encompassed everything around her.

Then—

"Puack!"

Billy and Trisha suddenly coughed out blood, their faces drained of all life nearly instantly. At that very moment, their bodies might have very well been paralyzed as they completely froze up and began their descent to the ground.

By the time Eric raised his head to see his classmates, he saw two completely out of commission while the last one—Adonis

—still charged at the enemy with his Divine Blade in hand.

The Hero had a pale look on his face, but not to the extent of Trisha and Billy. Plus, unlike them, who had agonizing expressions on their blood-stained faces, his eyes still glittered with resolve as he advanced.

'W-what...?!' Eric didn't have the luxury of thought.

He had to protect his classmates from harm, which meant he would have to cast Magic despite his currently precarious state.

'Squeeze it out, Eric... to the last drop!' He told himself, gritting his teeth as he pointed at the descending duo, perfectly calculating the speed of their descent with the amount of Mana he had left.

'I won't be able to completely stop their fall, but I can cushion it so that they don't completely die.'

Eric utilized a Wind Spell, using the long-form chant to save Mana Cost and improve efficiency.

The result... was a soft wind that surrounded the two, covering them and causing them to slow down the closer they got to the ground.

Once they nearly touched the earth safely, though, Eric's Mana ran out, so the two were forced to forcibly hit the surface from a meter or two above ground—not a bad deal, considering the alternative.

And, as for Eric.

"Ack!" He puked out blood, feeling his body throb and hurt like it was on fire.

Tears flowed from his eyes as he felt like passing out almost instantly. He trembled, biting his lip so he could endure the pain, yet it threatened to overwhelm him at every moment.

'It hurts... It hurts!' His thoughts kept echoing as his blurry vision struggled to make out everything around him.

Drool, mixed with traces of blood, dripped from his lips as he tried to move.

Billy and Trisha were safe. They didn't look fine at all, and they seemed to be suffering, so he considered their situation a priority.

Adonis was busy exchanging blows with the Dragon General, their clash causing an impact throughout their immediate vicinity.

But, there was someone else unaccounted for...

'J-Justin? Where's Justin?!'

As soon as he had this thought, Adonis was blown away by an attack from the General, and she instantly reached out her hand to fire another Curse Magic Spell in a seemingly random direction.

The result was a scream that echoed from that position, and Justin appearing right there.

"Arghhhh!"

He too became pale and began his descent as a bloody fountain rushed from his nose and mouth.

Eric watched this, his heart racing as his weak body struggled to keep up.

He didn't have enough Magic to save Justin from the fall. Adonis was still knocked back thanks to the General's strike.

However, that wasn't all.

Eric watched as the Dragon General generated multiple spikes; most likely from the same Curse Magic. The spikes were jagged, and they shone bright red, with rusty aesthetic on each of them.

There were five spikes in total—most likely directed at all five of the parties that participated in the plan. Three were already out of commission, Adonis seemed temporarily stunned, and he was completely drained.

"[Curse Magic: Arrows Of Death]." As she muttered out those words, the spikes became much larger in size, and energy began to build up around them.

No one needed to say any more words for Eric to recognize the kind of Spell this was.

'W-we're all going to die if that hits!' His eyes widened.

The ominous energy rose in intensity, and finally... it exploded in power.

~WHOOSH!~

The five arrows of death were fired at the same time.

They raced towards their target, all of them zooming through space while leaking the forbidden energy that was bound to poison their targets and send them to the cold embrace of death as soon as they hit.

Demise was inevitable... or so it appeared.

'Looks like... this is the end of the road for me...' Eric closed his eyes as a bead of tear fell down his eyes and his lips parted.

"Forced Magic Activation: Absolute Interference."