

Full-Moon 791

Chapter 791 Ninth-Rank Realm Spirit Core

"If you use mind control on Delta, I'm not going to stay put" Rex suddenly said.

Delta was nothing short of very aggressive and hostile towards Calidora earlier, the sudden change in her behavior is concerning, and he suspected that Calidora did something to her and that's definitely not okay.

Upon hearing this, Calidora smiled acutely, "Do you have to threaten me all the time?"

"I'm not using any mind control spell on her. Maybe, she just knows that I have no bad intentions, have you considered that?" She added, stroking Delta's chin with her claws lovingly. "Stop being angry at me all the time, you're making me blush"

Rex can only sigh as he can't quite read what is in Calidora's mind at times.

Out of everything he knows about her, he's quite sure that she really wants to be with him for some unknown reason, that's clear enough for him. Maybe the Eternal Curse is to blame, but he's not quite sure.

"Can I ask you something?" Rex suddenly said, shifting his attention to her.

Calidora's eyes flickered from purple to red when she heard this, "Ask away, I'm right here"

"How did the Eternal Curse got triggered and bind us together? I vaguely remember that day when I tried to kidnap you, and I specifically remember that I gave you my blood. Is that what triggered the Eternal Curse?" Rex said, curious as to how the two of them got to this point.

It still puzzles him from then until now, he still doesn't know why the two of them got linked.

Rex doesn't know the history of Vampires and Werewolves. His understanding of curses is limited, but he does know that Natural Curses like the Eternal Curse can only be bestowed if they break the major law of nature.

Aside from giving Calidora his blood, he didn't remember anything substantial happening.

Upon hearing this, for a moment Calidora's cherry lips quivered, and no words came out of her mouth. Rex inspected her expression with a slight frown until she eventually turns her face to the side, "I don't know..."

'How obvious can she be? She's definitely lying' Rex thought inwardly.

But he has no intention of forcing it out of her.

Out of everything, Rex is already thankful enough that she's not hectic right now. It doesn't seem she would be frantic and maniacal as the last time she saw her, and that'll be best for her so that she didn't disturb his training.

Since he can't let Calidora out of his sight, she has to be here with him.

Even though he learns that Calidora wasn't the one that killed Rosie in the first place, hence she even puts in the effort to stall for time, Rex still doesn't trust her being inside the castle freely as he didn't know her personally that much.

Aside from a maniacal, unhinged Vampire impression that he got, he know nothing about her.

Rex's view of her would probably not change that easily.

Continuing with his training, Rex stands up and stands at the center of the formation. Wiping the blood running down his nose, he takes out Giana's lightning spirit core and lets it levitates in front of with, coursing violent electricity to the entire room.

It's time that he reaches the ninth-rank realm, the realm of the highest for an Awakened.

Devo who was consolidating their spirit core and keeping 100% control over it came out of Rex's body, swallowing the entire room with thick mist and black lightning currents that blitzes here and there.

'Are you ready to do this?' Rex asked inside his head.

Upon hearing this question, Devo then answered, [No, I'm not. It's not going to be pretty]

'Come on old man, does living for thousands of years wiped your youthful ambition? I bet you haven't had anyone in the past that tries to break through this rapidly, so don't you think you should be more excited?'

[If that's the way of you taunting me, you have a long way to go. Let's just get this over with]

Rex smiled inwardly before he puts both of his hands on either side of the lightning spirit core, he then exhale deeply and focus his mind fully on this process. In a moment, his energy started to envelop the lightning spirit core.

Naturally, the lightning spirit core resists his energy strongly, creating massive mana friction.

'System, activate the protection item that I bought if Calidora makes a move when I'm during the crucial part of merging with the lightning spirit core. I don't want her attacking me during my weakened state'

'Also, activate the formation at the door if she tries to go out' Rex thought inside his head.

<Affimative, pinning Calidora's current location...>

<Success!>

<Preventive protocol has been activated!>

Upon seeing the notifications, Rex nodded lightly to himself.

As long as there's a possibility even if it's less than 1% that Calidora might take advantage of his vulnerable state, then he would take an absolute certainty that he needs to have preventive measures to stop her.

It's better to be safe than sorry, she might be being fake and play along for all he knows.

Rex then put his attention back to the lightning spirit core before he started pushing in his energy close to it, he would need to somehow wrap his energy around it before pulling it into his own spirit core.

'Okay, here goes nothing...'

BLITZ!!

"Argghh!" Rex grunted in pain, he was struck as soon as he pushes his energy close.

Naturally, unlike slowly cultivating the spirit core and becoming stronger through that like any other normal Awakened, absorbing spirit core provides a great risk if one doesn't know exactly what they are doing thanks to its absurd process.

Even as of this moment, Rex doesn't know anyone that has ever done this personally.

Rex is sure that somewhere, there's probably an Awakened that has done this. In the face of a huge reward that would propel their powers to a higher realm, there's definitely someone that's willing to take the risk.

But he has never heard of them. It's probably either they kept it a secret or they died.

It's especially riskier if an Awakened tries to absorb the spirit core of a stronger Awakened and that's because their mana would definitely be unable to overpower the mana coming from the spirit core they are trying to absorb.

Without being able to overwhelm it, then absorbing it would be practically suicide.

Just before he started his attempt to absorb Giana's lightning spirit core that's essentially at the highest realm achievable in this current era, he already bought the information from the System and gained a detailed explanation for the process.

Rex learned that the risk comes from an external object communicating with his spirit core.

Any spirit core is fragile no matter how strong the Awakened is, the slightest bit of error can cause the spirit core to fracture and break. It was due to the mana it excludes and the physical body that acts as a shield that an Awakened or Supernaturals can't destroy others' spirit cores from the outside easily.

Since the process involves letting an external object touch the spirit core, it's very risky.

Many would definitely die if they try doing what Rex is doing right now, but his physical body is that of a ninth-rank realm or even beyond, and the problems that others would experience in doing this would not affect him.

Of course, he still needs to be careful lest he makes a mistake.

Rex's body slowly turns into his Werewolf form as he tries to reduce the impact of Giana's lightning spirit core, he then tries again and this time, he's durable enough to resist the backlash of connecting his energy to the spirit core.

Now, the easiest part is finished.

After that is done, he carefully pulls the levitating spirit core toward his chest.

'Devo, circulate the spirit energy inside me faster. I'm going to start fusing this spirit core into my body' Rex instructed in his head, and Devo immediately does as he was told and started rapidly circulating spirit energy like a madman.

Just like that, he hisses through gritted teeth when the spirit core touches his skin.

Clenching his jaw strongly to resist the infiltrating pain that his internal body is experiencing, Rex started to guide a little bit of the spirit energy from Giana's spirit core and let it seep into his body.

It was excruciatingly painful, even though it's only a sliver of spirit energy that gets inside.

But Rex has never been someone that has difficulty dealing with pain, the years of him being trained mentally when he was still a human, and also the new page of pain that he experienced as a Werewolf makes his pain tolerance as high as it can get.

Easing through the pain, he keeps the process going without stopping.

During this process, his job was to control the energy from Giana's spirit core while Devo circulates the spirit energy inside of him and slowly merge it with the spirit energy that seeped into his body.

Like the System's explanation, this will be a perpetual motion.

Only when the spirit energy inside Giana's spirit core was depleted that the process will be finished. It can only be done until then, stopping mid-way will just result in a backlash as the merged spirit energy will be sucked out again by Giana's spirit core.

While this is happening, the energy coming from him started to become rampant.

But the room is built with very strong material, has a regenerative ability, and is also layered with protective barriers, so it would hold despite the rampaging energy being equivalent to an attack of a ninth-rank realm Awakened.

Calidora watches this, around her was a protective barrier that she cast earlier.

Not only does the protective barrier keep her out of the field of the rampaging energy, but it also protects Delta who is also beside her, watching Rex training, howling as if she was trying to root for Rex excitedly.

It was fine for a moment until a squirt of blood burst from Rex's chest.

As soon as that happen and his fresh blood landed on the ground in front of Calidora, her eyes completely changed and the black pattern returns alongside her eyes turning ruby again, signing that she was incited.

Earlier, she was not able to see Rex due to the thick mist, and she also didn't try.

But the moment her Eyes of Terror was activated, her eyes can instantly see the rapid pump of Rex's heart that course the blood throughout his body despite the thick mist coming from Devo's presence.

Calidora gulps at the sight of this, the bloodlust slowly came to her.

On the side, Delta sensed the change in the air around Calidora. She instinctively leaped back and growled at Calidora, baring her fangs menacingly. It seems Delta can sense when the Eyes of Terror was activated.

Just like that, Calidora squeezes her thighs with her hands strongly.

Anyone would realize that she was trying to fight back the bloodlust as she lowers her head and bits her lower lip, her thighs also started to bleed due to her claws stabbing through her skin cleanly.

Not only that, but her breaths started to become heavy and short.

Rex didn't realize this as his mind was fully fixed on the absorbing process, yet the System noticed the changes and activated a protective barrier around Rex's body, the preventive protocol was triggered in anticipation of Calidora doing something.

It went on for minutes, and the condition didn't get any better.

Calidora's blood energy started to seep out of her unwillingly, the bloodlust kept getting stronger and stronger, and the thirst for Rex's blood keeps on burning her throat before slowly spreading and burning her entire body.

Just like dehydration that keeps on amplifying with each second pass.

If anyone was to feel what she was experiencing right now, they would be shocked at how much restraint she have against such a powerful urge that wouldn't be quenched if she didn't taste Rex's blood right now.

But then suddenly, her eyes flickered and she exhales lightly, her breaths turned red.

While still keeping her head down to face the floor, a smile slowly appears on Calidora's face as the black patterns in her eyes slowly dissipated, and her eyes began to shift back to their original purple color.

Chapter 792 Executioners Of Tyro

In a stupor of events that are endless that lasted the entire day, people are in a mess.

Gelmar, Dindora, and Linthia have been taking their time to control the others. Since the attack from the two cursed creatures, Dargena City sustained some damage and has already begun to repair itself.

But the other Supernaturals were in shock, the attack traumatized them.

Many were only complying with the Silverstar Pack thanks to the refuge that they were given. Even Gelmar, Dindora, and Linthia didn't think that hard despite Rex telling his enemies blatantly to them.

Due to that, the attack from the two cursed creatures opened their eyes completely.

Living inside the human territory for years and years, the safety brought by the Great Barricade pulls them away from large-scale battles. In their daily lives, the most they need to be wary of is an Awakened around the fourth to the fifth-rank realm.

An Awakened that they can deal alone as long as they are being careful.

It was the case for years, and they are already accustomed to that. But now, those two cursed creatures are not a joke. None of those two have marginal power that they can handle.

Each of them has an eighth-rank realm of power, rendering them all completely helpless.

Just earlier when the fight was still going, some of them were surprised by the insectoid creature that crashes through buildings at the combined might of Rex and Calidora that overwhelms it.

If not for the insectoid creature to retreat, they would've been butchered by it.

Gelmar and Dindora were the only ones that can still have a clear mind, and those two decided that they would handle the Supernaturals and the damages with more determination. In order to get a part in this place, they would need to work very hard.

Not only the insides, but the attack also impacted the outside of Dargena City.

Adhara, Evelyn, and Flunra sensed the convoy of Elves when they were in the Dark Elf Kingdom. King Jorik told them that the Elves would like to meet with Rex, and they have nothing to worry about.

But it was then, the three of them sensed something odd in the sky.

Flunra was the one that came out in order to check these odd and suppressed energies, yet the two sources of these energies flew past him so fast that he was unable to recognize the energy they were emitting.

It was only when the attack hits that Flunra realized that it was cursed energy.

Just when they were about to come back to aid Rex in fighting the two cursed creatures, Adhara got a telepathy note from Rex telling them to keep on pressing as the situation has already been handled.

Only a few minutes pass, and the battle has already ended.

Clearly, the two cursed creatures are planning to attack hard and fast with serious precision.

As it was an order from Rex directly, the three keeps pressing on and went to the Dwarven Kingdom to address the matter regarding the Amuerus Katana. Of course, the three are on full alert so as to not bump into the two cursed creatures.

Meanwhile, the two cursed creatures that cause this concern already flee to a distance.

Confiding themselves with their cursed energy, the two cursed creatures met up beyond the territory of the Dark Elf, in a small volcanic terrain with a huge mountain at the center that they consider as safe.

Dealkandrax knelt on the ground, its chest area is leaking with cursed energy.

It was clear that Dealkandrax was hurt from the last attack Rex did which is amplified by Calidora's cursed energy, the fact that the cursed energy is leaking out violently undeniably indicates that.

Burrowing out of the ground is the Insectoid Creature, seemingly in a similar condition.

Screech!

"I gained most of the curse for Mother. The remnants left inside her are minuscule, there's no need for us to launch a second attack. Hex is also diminishing, more than this, and Mother will be hurt too" Dealkandrax replied with a low rasping tone.

Upon hearing this, the Insectoid creature reeled and sat down to recuperate.

Since the two of them know that Rex doesn't have any power in the cursed field, there shouldn't be any hiccups in the attack. No matter how strong he is, the two are invulnerable in the state of the Sacrificial Lamb.

Only cursed energy of the same essence and density can hurt them.

But that was all put down the drain when Calidora appeared and intercepted them, she somehow has access to power that matches even them, an unpredictable unfortunate event for them.

Now they were left in this injured state, recuperating before they can continue back.

About a couple of hours later as the two are recuperating silently to recover their strengths back which are slowly coming back thanks to the invasive cursed energy, the Insectoid creature stands up and turns its head around the place.

Compared to Dealkandrax, it sustained lesser yet still grievous injuries.

Screech!

Upon hearing the insectoid creature's bellowing screech, Dealkandrax nodded its head before going back to what it was doing, channeling its own cursed energy to repel Calidora's invasive cursed energy.

With that nod, the Insectoid creature clatters away, searching for something.

In a span of ten minutes of silence with only the sound of rumbling volcanic lava underneath the earth's crust filling the background, Dealkandrax heard the clattering metal sound of the insectoid creature coming back.

Opening its eyes, Dealkandrax saw that the insectoid creature's appearance changed.

Compared to ten minutes ago, the shining metallic appearance that the insectoid creature had are now battered with crimson blood color. The gaps between its scales are red, fresh blood coursing underneath its exoskeleton.

Activating its cursed energy, the fresh blood glowed and rapidly increases its regeneration.

Dealkandrax stretches its hand toward the insectoid creature before its cursed energy merges and Dealkandrax too got the same increase in regeneration. Thanks to that, their recuperation has hastened.

But then, both looks around when they caught a sense of something.

Screech!

Crash!

Unexpectedly, five figures blasted out of the ground and launch an immediate attack, catching both Dealkandrax and the Insectoid creature off guard. It was a precise and synchronized attack that gives them no time to react properly.

In a matter of seconds, Dealkandrax and the Insectoid creature got sent crashing away.

Just like that, the five figures were able to separate the two cursed creatures and stand in between them. Additionally, the timing of the attack was impeccable and immaculate to the point of perfection.

Dealkandrax and the insectoid creature recover, grunting in pain.

Since the attack from Rex and Calidora has wounded them severely, their hex has diminished completely, and now they aren't invulnerable like earlier. It would take some time before they can do that again.

Looking at the attackers, the two realized who they are dealing with.

In their line of sight, brimming with powerful energies that of an early eighth-rank realm power were five figures clad in a similar outfit. But instead of having the same contrast of color, three of them have a combination of ruby and black while the other two were deep blue and black.

Despite the beckoning sunlight, their bodies are shrouded in complete darkness.

Judging from their curvy and thin figures, these five figures should be females, Demoness to be exact as the aura they are emitting definitely belongs to the Demon race. Its hellish and burning sensation clearly showed that.

But instead of the regular scaly appearance of a Demon, these five took a humanoid look.

If not for the aura they are emitting, the ashy white skin, their humanoid form, and long hair that is tied into a ponytail make them easily mistaken as Vampires, especially the ones clad in contrast of red as their eyes are also gleaming red.

Looking at the demonic mark on their faces, Dealkandrax recognized these five.

"Demoness from the Executioner Tyro, First Inner Demon..."

Everyone excluding the modern humans would know and fear the group of Demons and Demoness called the Executioner Tyro, their lethality is renowned, and the ones standing at this place were none other than the First Inner Demon circle.

Only dispatched at the most important and highest difficulty of missions.

Back in the Ancient Era, the Demoness in the First Inner Demon circle was the cause of 11 Princes and Princesses' deaths from numerous races. One feat that stood out was the fact that they also managed to kill a King of the Werewolf race.

Huge names in the field of assassins, and their success rate is nigh perfect.

Even Dealkandrax and the insectoid creature know that they are in trouble. Not only are they in a weakened state, but the two of them know the power that makes the Demoness of the Executioner Tyro dangerous.

It was the fact that each can plead power from the Archdemons of the Seven Sins.

As trained assassins of the highest degree, the Demoness didn't mutter any word before their bodies started to rumble with intense demonic energy. Dealkandrax saw the mark on their faces started to transform.

The Red Demoness' mark covers half of its face while the Blue Demoness is a stripe.

From the looks of it and also the changes happening to their demeanor, the Red Demoness pleads to Valakar, the Archdemon of Wrath while the Blue Demoness pleads to Melphage, the Archdemon of Sloth.

Boom!

Inflicted with the wrath of Valakar, the Red Demoness launches their attacks.

Out of the three, two of them went to the insectoid creature while the other one dashed straight at Dealkandrax with extreme speed, their gleaming red eyes were fueled with anger as their mind degraded to the servitude of berserk.

Crash!

Dealkandrax's protective barrier was hit by a powerful force, leaving a huge crack in it.

Glancing over the shoulder, Dealkandrax saw the Red Demoness charging its demonic energy into her claws, increasing her strength rapidly. Conjuring yet another barrier, Dealkandrax intends to tank it before launching a counter-attack.

But as the claws were about to connect, something happened.

Shatter!

Expecting the protective barrier to be able to block the attack again, Dealkandrax was surprised when the barrier shattered into a million pieces instead. A moment before the claws connected, the speed of her attack suddenly increased.

Shifting its attention away, Dealkandrax realized that it was the Blue Demoness' doings.

As the Blue Demoness pleads the power from Melphage, the Archdemon of Sloth, she has the ability to control time. Instead of slowing down time to force Dealkandrax's movement to be slower, she fastens the Red Demoness attack instead.

It was an easier method as the Red Demoness will not resist her power.

"Cursed Conjour, Haze of Destruction"

With a chant of Dealkandrax, a wave of cursed energy shoot forward from its eyes faster than the realm of eighth-rank realm attacks. Anything that got hit by it will find their bodies contorted into meat paste, and these Demoness are not susceptible to that attack.

Only hyper-powerful entities are capable of restricting that effect, only the ninth-rank realm.

"Now you implode, Demoness..."

Just as the Red Demoness was about to get hit by the wave of cursed energy, her entire being suddenly blurred, dodging the wave of cursed energy easily. It was so fast that in Dealkandrax's perspective, she phases through that wave of cursed energy.

SLASH!

Dealkandrax was hit in the next second in the face, slamming its body to the ground.

Knowing that its current state was not good enough to fight these Demonesses, especially thanks to Calidora's invasive cursed energy that restricted most of Dealkandrax's own cursed energy, there's only one way to respond to this attack.

It's not to insist on fighting and to flee instead, nothing good will come out of this.

Similar to what Dealkandrax was thinking about, the insectoid creature also burrowed itself into the ground after getting cornered by two Red Demonesses and one Blue Demoness. Nothing about this is good for them.

Just like that the two turns tails and ran away, trying to avoid the fight.

Of course, the Demoness didn't let them get away that easily and started pursuing them.

But if there's one thing that Dealkandrax and the insectoid creature can learn from this encounter is that the Demons have realized what they were trying to do, if not then they wouldn't unleash such a destructive force against them.

Five Executioners of Tyro are not a few numbers as the total members are only ten.

And from the looks of it, they are not going to stop until dispatching them all.

Chapter 793 Unstable Source

Dealkandrax and the insectoid creature didn't hesitate and instantly runs away.

If this incident is seen by many, the thought of Dealkandrax and the insectoid creature fleeing from the Demoness out of fear would probably be the main suspect. As the Demonesses possess are notorious, it's quite understandable.

Most entities would probably do the same in their shoes.

But it was not death that they fear, it's something entirely selfless of them.

Since they were entities born through pure cursed energy, the damned child of destruction and blood, their psyche makes them incapable of fearing anything, even death. It's solely impossible for them to fear death.

No matter the exact reason for their actions, it's capable to ignite their survival instinct.

Even the Demonesses were quite intrigued to find that these two were escaping fearsomely, there's no pride in them to fight back, and that is one thing that the Demonesses don't expect from this encounter.

Just like that, an event of pursuit happens without many knowing.

One of the ones that knew is the entity beside a river, it was the Witch of Chaos that somewhat regain back her consciousness again despite still being extremely weakened due to the injury she was inflicted with.

Looking around the place she was in, the Witch didn't find her children anywhere.

Realizing that she had just passed out and potentially concerned her children about her well-being, the Witch clicks her tongue before she tries conjuring cursed energy into her hand. In that attempt, only a speck of cursed energy came out.

With this much-cursed energy, she was unable to do even the simplest cursed spell.

Since there's nothing she can do in this state aside from resting and hoping her children will come back soon, the Witch crawls over to a nearby tree and leans on it, a light moan escapes her mouth as the pain stung her.

"It's so dark... I'm scared...", the Witch utters, hugging both of her legs together.

If anyone was to hear this they would probably laugh and think of this as a joke, the Witch always dwells in the darkness, and even her children are terrifying creatures, there's no chance that the Witch is afraid of the dark.

But even though many would think that her body right now is quivering.

No matter what anyone says, the Witch's bodily reaction, the bead of cold sweat running down the side of her face, and even her eerie eyes that are darting around the place showed that she was not lying.

For some reason, she actually felt fear in the midst of this darkness.

Just as she was trying to protect herself from the darkness, a sudden wave of pain hits her from the front, bringing about the feeling of her entire internal organs crushed in one powerful swoop.

Like being hit by a shockwave, her body got slammed into the tree behind her.

Upon feeling this wave of pain that attacked her from nowhere, the Witch gasped in shock and her eyes widened. Gazing in a particular direction, she can feel the link between her and her children is weakening.

It was a strong sensation that was not possible for her to mistake for anything else.

Following this sudden event, the Witch rolled up her right sleeve to look at a mark the shape of chains that is now leaking with cursed energy. Gritting her teeth, she tries to contain the leakage but her condition is not good enough to do that.

Splash!

"Arrghh!" the Witch groaned in pain, the mark dimmed as the cursed energy came out.

Similar to stabbing a hole in a water container, the cursed energy keeps leaking out endlessly. It changed the color of the air around the Witch, and eventually, the cursed energy started to take shape.

Upon the last strand of the cursed energy coming out, the Witch coughs a couple of times.

Just in front of her, the cursed energy has taken a form of an unconscious man. Each of his limbs was chained tightly, cursed energy is gripping around his body, and the aura the man emitted showed that he was not a regular man.

At the very least, he has the strength of an eighth-rank realm.

Looking at the unconscious man that wasn't supposed to be out during this time, the Witch helplessly leaned back to the tree again as this was caused due to the link between her and her children weakening.

The Witch's source is weakening, making her cursed power unstable for this moment.

"N-No, seal him again... I must... I need to seal him aga-"

Despite fighting her very best to stay conscious of the loss of cursed energy that she experienced, she quickly realizes that it was a losing battle. In the end, she succumbed and fell unconscious once more.

The Witch's body slipped and fell to the ground with an echoing light thudding sound.

But as soon as she fell unconscious, the man's body glowed with a blue hue.

From the looks of it, this subtle blue hue that appeared on the surface of the man's skin comes externally outside of his body. It was then the man's eyes twitched, the blue hue seems to be helping him.

Signs of him regaining his consciousness can be seen.

It was then the man's eyelids began to tremble, his consciousness is coming back to him.

Earlier, the man's consciousness was bound by the cursed energy. But thanks to the unstable source of the Witch, the cursed energy has become more absent which eventually sparks the man awake.

Moments later, the man slowly opens his eyes.

A pair of animalistic deep blue hazy eyes were exposed underneath the man's eyelids.

Groaning lightly due to the soreness and migraine he was feeling, the man tries to adjust to the surroundings with a cloudy vision. As if the man has slept for years without waking up, he needs more than five minutes to actually wake up fully.

"Eugh... my head hurts" the man uttered, he then looks around. "Where am I?"

Just as the man said that out loud, he tries to move but was hit by a clanking sound instead. Looking at his arms, the man finds that he was chained on each of his limbs with cursed chains tightly pinning him in place.

Upon seeing this, the man tries to break free to no avail, the chains are still sturdy.

But then his eyes landed on the unconscious Witch, who lay face-down on the ground a few feet away from him. At the sight of her, his eyes fluttered open completely. Instantly following that, his memories began to return to him.

It was the memory of the man being ambushed when he was on his way back.

Rex would've instantly recognized this man as none other than Kyran, who now finds himself stuck in this situation without knowing how much time has passed. Even though that is the case, his eyes were fixated on the Witch.

A spark of anger can be seen flaring within his glowing blue eyes.

Numerous plans of revenge appeared inside his mind, supplying him with evil thoughts as he glared at the unconscious Witch. Knowing that he can't flee with the chains still on him, Kyran decided to close his eyes again.

Compared to earlier, he now closes his eyes with a smirk on his face.

~

Meanwhile, on the other side of the Supernatural territory.

Another army of humans that are composed of military units, Awakened, and Black Hands can be standing on top of a triumph battlefield. Around them were thousands of Shapeshifter corpses that has already succumbed to their might.

It was a total victory, a city of Shapeshifters has been razed entirely to the ground.

Even though the army of humans suffered a considerable amount of casualties, which definitely amounted to more than half of their force, this is still considered a triumph as they managed to defeat an Alpha Shapeshifter in the process.

Of course, the process was bloody, but it was worth it for them and the cause.

Nearing the center of the battlefield, standing near the deceased Alpha Shapeshifter were a couple of Black Hands and a commander of the military unit. Each one of them is panting heavily, yet a smile is plastered on their faces.

"Okay, our objective is completed," One of the Black Hands said firmly.

Glancing over to the commander of the military unit wearing a full dress uniform, the Black Hand then continues, "Rally and arrange the others, we'll start marching back to the Great Barricade in two minutes. It's a success, and we need to report back to the central compound"

Upon hearing this, the commander nodded his head with a straight face and turns around.

While the commander was doing what he was told, gathering the scattered forces in preparation to retreat, the Black Hands and Awakened sits on anything they can sit on and take a breather.

It was a hard fight, and they are exhausted of their own energies right now.

Just as they were resting, a female Awakened who leans on her sword that is stabbed to the ground catches a glimpse of a figure in the distance. At the sight of this, she immediately alerted the others and pointed at the figure.

Looking a distance away, in the midst of the fiery destruction of the battlefield is a figure.

Due to the distance between them and also the fiery remnants burning the battlefield, the figure's exact shape can't be seen, but it should be humanoid. No energy can be sensed coming from this figure.

As they had finished fighting Shapeshifter, they suspect this figure was a Shapeshifter.

It's quite obvious to them that this Shapeshifter is taking another humanoid form, but the lack of aura it emits signifies that it was probably a weak Shapeshifter that was struck with sorrow at the sight of its own kin massacred.

One of the Black Hands, a tall dark-skinned muscular man then stepped forward.

"No need to worry, lads. I'll deal with this one," the man said nonchalantly.

None of the others rejected the man's offer as the man is highly gifted in strength and endurance, his physical abilities have the power in the seventh-rank realm, and he can also toughen his skin and bones at will.

Even compared to the others, the man doesn't sustain that many injuries.

Jumping through great distance, the tall and muscular man landed right a couple of steps away from the figure, cracking the ground beneath him. Straightening his spine upright, he then walks over to the figure.

Since he was now close, the figure's appearance can be seen clearly and is quite intriguing.

Upon seeing the figure up close, the man was a little bit taken aback when the figure turns out to be taller than him. But the surprise didn't last long, Shapeshifters can turn their bodies into whatever.

Being taller than him doesn't mean anything for a Shapeshifter to be.

Inspecting the figure from the front, the man finds that the figure seems to be wearing navy blue hakama pants and a black hooded cloak that covers his upper bare body. Weird navy blue tattoos poked out of the cloak as the figure keep on striding forward without a care of the man.

Not only that, but the man also finds the figure has four horns on the side of his head.

Two of the black horns are bigger that stretch to the side before curving forward sharply. On the other hand, the other two horns have the same shape but are smaller and lower compared to the other two, nearing the chin.

Whispers in foreign languages can be heard as the figure started to get close to the man.

Although the man was still confused as to what this Shapeshifter has taken the form of, he didn't hesitate and pulled his arm back before throwing a powerful punch with the intent to kill the figure with one hit.

Just as his fist was about to connect, the figure suddenly raises his gaze.

In an instant, the man's punch halted mid-track, stopped by an unknown force. Looking at the figure's eyes, the man was greeted by two deep blue sclera while two slit reptilian pupils stare back at him.

Upon seeing this sight, the man feels insurmountable danger coming from the figure.

But before he could do anything, the figure mutters softly, "Puny human..." he said before he simply exhales lightly, letting out a deep blue breath that upon touching the man's skin, his entire body instantly burn from within.

The man didn't even have the time to scream before his body evaporates into ash.

Chapter 794 New Powerhouse

Like an alerted rabid that saw a predator closing in for the kill, the Black Hands and Awakened that are resting after the fight instantly sprung up and went into their battle stances, holding their weapons tightly in their hands.

It seems they were wrong to be relaxed and lets the man handle the figure on his own.

"Something is not right, Shapeshifters aren't able to use fire elements"

"H-He evaporates just like that..."

"Then what is it? If it's not a Shapeshifter then what the heck is it?!"

Many started to show signs of panic as the dark-skinned man from earlier was the second strongest in their group, his power is practical yet effective and deadly. Out of all of them, he also has one of the strongest durability.

But this unknown figure is somewhat able to evaporate the man in an instant.

Like a scared toddler at the sight of something unknown, the Black Hands and Awakened started backing away, signaling to the others to quickly retreat with a hand gesture while keeping their eyes on the figure.

After killing the man, the unknown figure resumes his walk again.

"Something definitely feels off about that thing. We don't know what it is, so it's best we retreat right now. You! Tell the military to stand down and move their land vehicles away quickly, we're not going to engage"

One of the Awakened said sternly, she tries to be calm and take a rational decision.

Not wasting a single second, the Black Hand quickly does as she said, turning around and started sprinting to the tanks that are already pointing their barrels at the approaching figure.

If it can take down the dark-skin man easily, then tank shells would do nothing to it.

Just as the Awakened look around to see if they are in the clear to retreat, another Awakened beside her gasps and points forward. Even though she was the leader of this campaign and has responsibility, she tries to escape and teleport away.

Despite not looking back, the woman knows that the figure vanishes from its spot.

"G-General Novalie...?"

Looking at their general's body that sublimely blurred for a second before coming back, the other Awakened and Black Hands realized that she tried to teleport away yet she was forced back here.

A sudden pang can be felt in General Novalie's heart when she realized she can't escape.

General Novalie feels her blood run cold under the gazes of the others that were also looking at her in horror. But then suddenly, her eyes bulged and the veins in her eyes exploded as she vanished from her spot.

Crash!

Right in front of the others, General Novalie's body was flung away.

None of them realized what had happened to her, a thick sudden silence envelops the entire place as the Awakened and Black Hands slowly turns their heads to the side and saw General Novalie lying weakly on the ground quite far away from them.

Additionally, a big wooden tree trunk can be seen stabbing through her abdomen.

Even though she trusted her senses that told her to abandon the army and flee almost instantly, she was denied from doing that by an unknown force, capable of taking her down with relative ease.

Shifting their attention back, the other Awakened and Black Hands saw the figure.

In exchange for where General Novalie was standing earlier, the wide frame of the figure is standing there. Just like what the dark-skinned man from earlier saw before his death, the Awakened and Black Hands were exposed to the figure's reptilian deep blue eyes.

A pair of eyes that holds insurmountable power, looking down at them with pride.

Out of nowhere, the figure's eerie energyless body emits a tiny sliver of his deep blue aura.

Nothing happened for a fraction of a second, but in the following instant, a powerful pressure slammed right on the Awakened, Black Hands, and the military's backs, pressing them into the ground with horrendous power.

Clank!

Under the pressure, the military's vehicles were flattened to the ground.

The fact that military land vehicles such as tanks, SUVs, and other auxiliary machines which are made with enhanced metallic alloy that keeps on progressing throughout the years, weighing in tons were flattened like a toy from pressure alone is beyond anyone at this place.

Even the people with seventh-rank realm power were forced to their knees.

One of the Black Hands slowly looks up and saw the air around them is literally trembling due to the figure's pressure, he then gritted his teeth and forced out a question, "What are you, monster?"

"Someone your eyes shouldn't meet" the figure replied with a domineering voice.

Just from the way the figure acted and also his voice alone shows the daunting pride that he possesses, seeing these Awakened and Black Hands no more than insects compared to himself.

"Speak, human, where is the Executor...?"

"As if we're going to te-"

Not even letting the Black Hand finish, the figure's deep blue eyes glisten with a glow.

Splash!

It happened in an instant, the pressure around the Black Hand increases rapidly to the point of his entire body was crushed, and exploded into meat paste. Even the others were surprised, their bodies suddenly drenched with thick blood.

Glancing to the side to see the Black Hand's remains, the others' breaths started to stutter.

Seeing that one of them was killed in a fraction of a second without the figure even needing to lift a finger makes their entire body tremble in horror, they can't believe that there's a lurking powerhouse around them.

Additionally, this powerhouse is an unknown one, he doesn't resemble any of the Kings.

"Where... is the Executor?"

Once again, the figure asked another person. His tone is unchanged from earlier.

Even though the Black Hand he killed earlier tries to mock him, he doesn't seem to be affected judging from his tone. On top of that, there's no change in his facial expression can be seen.

It's clear that the blood in his hands is too much for him to care for the life of a mere human.

General Novalie who somehow survived and gasping for air looks at the scene in front of her and saw the figure is subduing the others with his sheer pressure alone, none of them was able to do anything.

What makes the scene particularly terrifying was the level of control the figure had.

Judging from the way the figure is able to take her and her comrade down rather easily without any sign of struggle shows that this figure is definitely in the ninth-rank realm, and yet he was able to control his power sublimely.

Other than the military vehicles, the normal military personnel are still very much alive.

Normal people that are very fragile for someone of General Novalie's power were pinned down to the ground with enough pressure to immobilize them, it's a feat that she would find hard to do to ten people at the same time.

But the figure was doing it to thousands at the same time on top of his higher strength.

As she thought of that, General Novalie's eyes suddenly widened suspecting what the figure really is. It's been a dozen years or so, and her memory is hazy, but she still recalls a somewhat similar appearance and familiar aura to the figure she was seeing right now.

'Damn it, why did it come when we just managed to be on the offensive...'

Meanwhile, the figure keeps on forcing an answer to his question from the Black Hands and Awakened. Each was given no more than ten seconds before he killed them without any remorse whatsoever.

In the end, the figure gained his answer from one of the terrified Awakened.

Knowing what would've happened as soon as the Awakened told him the answer, General Novalie push her body out of the big wooden tree trunk, hissing in pain through gritted teeth.

Doing one last push, she managed to free herself from the wooden tree trunk.

Looking down at her abdomen which now has a big hole in it, she moans in pain before biting her lower lip to force herself to stand up with the help of the tree. Not even looking back, General Novalie makes her way out of the place slowly.

About half a minute later, she heard screams of agony from the back.

Just like an intimidation display, the screams of agony from the thousands of military personnel, Awakened, and the Black Hands that composed of the army rang inside her ears like a melody from hell.

But it only happened for a brief moment before everything turns silent once again.

General Novalie limps away as she can obviously tell that the figure crushed each one of them as he gained the answer. It's a cruel time they are living in, Supernaturals have little to no mercy for humans, and this one, in particular, has zero tolerance whatsoever.

'It's a Heavenly Dragonman, and he's not even in his Dragon form. We're in trouble!'

~

Katcha!

After a rigorous process of the combined full focus of him and Devo in absorbing Giana's spirit core, he eventually reaches the first threshold and a shattering sound rings inside his head.

It was the sign of his breakthrough to the eighth-rank realm on his lightning element.

Rex can feel an uncomfortable burning sensation in his chest, it also feels like he was being lifted off the ground due to the weird space in his chest. But in the next moment, he was inflicted with a sudden pain.

"Huaarggh!"

Splat!

Like earlier, blood crawled out of his mouth and create a beautiful arc in the air.

Usually, achieving a breakthrough would feel pleasant as the cells of his body rejoice and become stronger. But contrary to that, this breakthrough only brings pain, and his body needs to heal rapidly.

Even before his body adjusted to the new realm, the process keeps on going.

Stopping even for a single second would cause the spirit energy inside Giana's lightning spirit core to be severed briefly, and that would trigger a blowback that would suck back the spirit energy that Rex has already absorbed.

If that happens, then Rex can only expect the worst for him.

'Damn it, this is way more taxing and painful than I thought. But I have to see it through'

Rex is currently in a world of pain, the skin around his chest area also started to break and blood tore its way out. Glancing over to Calidora in worry, due to the immense blood he was bleeding, he surprisingly finds her sitting silently in her spot.

It was surprising to see knowing how much she went crazy for his blood earlier.

But that's the more reason he becomes even more determined, there's no distraction for him.

Under the pretense of absorbing Giana's lightning spirit core, time started to go by, minutes has already turned into hours without anyone entering the room in the process. Rex is fully immersed in the process.

Devo and even Amanir also experienced the same, the pain overwhelms them.

Each one of them is linked to the other, and Rex's spirit core is what binds them together.

None of them are having a good time as Rex's spirit core started to grow bigger and bigger, the coursing spirit energy and mana inside his body was also increasing in density and power as he makes his way to the ninth-rank realm.

Due to the complexity of this process, some of Giana's spirit energy leaked out and vanishes.

Rex feels like it was such a waste for the spirit energy to leak out like this despite him trying his best to sustain it, yet he still has plenty more, and reaching the ninth-rank realm definitely still possible.

At least the early ninth-rank realm is still possible for him.

Similarly, Calidora also has the same focus as Rex, but for a different reason altogether.

Looking at the painful expression Rex is wearing right now as he endured the tearing of his spirit core, she was mesmerized, the elemental aura that is coming out of him was increasing rapidly.

It was so fast that Calidora can't even believe that this is real.

But this makes her eyes sparkle even more in attraction, she now realized that his strength didn't just come from his talent, and he completely deserves the level of strength he has judging from the length he was willing to go to become stronger.

Just then, the spirit energy, mana, and aura vanish in an instant.

Calidora watches this in confusion as the rampaging combined energy coming from Rex earlier disappeared suddenly, the room was calm and silent for a moment, but then in the next second.

BOOM!

Chapter 795 Lord Rex Is Breaking Through Again

Sensing that it's calm before the climax, Calidora is already ready and on edge.

Rex's spirit energy and lightning mana were already reaching the absolute pinnacle of the eighth-rank realm before they disappears and causes this silence, and it was safe for Calidora to assume that he was at the breaking point.

As she thought, his power burst outward, rumbling the entire castle in one go.

In an instant, Calidora intends to protect herself from the burst of energy but she realized that Delta was also beside her and is exposed. Realizing this, she decided to protect Delta first before herself.

Bam!

No matter how much Rex prepared for this breakthrough, it's always not enough.

Every single time that he was breaking through to the next realm, at least in his Awakened side, the spike of power that burst forth always exceeds his expectations and the preparation that he has done.

But due to his dense mana and spirit energy reserves, he should've expected it.

Compared to normal Awakened, Rex's mana and spirit energy reserves easily exceed them by a wide margin. Devo and Amanir are high-rank spirits, both of them directly impacted his body's spirit energy, and the mana he has is also very high thanks to his talent.

Most of the phenomena caused by an Awakened breaking through will not reach his scale.

In a sense, their power can't simply cause that much ruckus.

Rex, on the other hand, his power was overwhelmingly high that each of his breakthroughs from the sixth rank realm and above is destructive to the surroundings. It was as if the world tries to deny his ascension as hard as it can.

Never once has it failed to cause extreme phenomena.

Additionally, Rex has always prepared to contain the energy that might rampage when he was breaking through. But he always fell to the side of underestimating his power, and there's a reason for that.

Most of the time he was using his Werewolf form to fight his enemies.

It's the main source of power given by the System and also the first power that pushes him up to the pinnacle of the world, and thus he somewhat always underestimated his Awakened power.

Considering there's no Awakened that can match him until recently, this is bound to happen.

Like any other breakthroughs that he experienced before this, this one is also no different as the protective barrier inside the room, the castle, and even Dargena City were unable to contain the concentrated climbs of his power.

Due to that, even Calidora got flung back to the wall as she was too late to protect herself.

Crash!

Under the intensive energy that is now circulated by Rex's own spirit core, a thin stream of energy shoots to the roof and breaks anything in its way. It didn't stop until it reaches the bright sky, instantly turning it dark and cloudy.

Gelmar and the others saw this below, yet this kind of thing didn't surprise them anymore.

Living under the shelter of the Silverstar Pack, they had already seen countless catastrophic events that keeps on surprising them. It was to the point that they are already used to seeing this kind of change.

"I think Lord Rex is breaking through again" Gelmar mutters.

Dindora who is gazing up at the cloudy sky frowns, "How did he get strong this fast...?"

"Remember the ninth-rank realm Awakened that was brought in by Lady Adhara and Evelyn? I saw Lord Rex takes both of her spirit cores out without killing her, and he might've somehow used that to achieve this breakthrough" Gelmar replied, remembering that shocking moment.

Just like that, Dindora's eyes slightly widened when she heard this.

'No wonder that woman came out in a worse state, that happened...' Dindora thought.

While they were watching this phenomenon from below, a circle of black clouds spiraled into a whirling vortex before scores of streaks of black lightning met to create a majestic utopia, followed by thunder that rumbled their hearts.

If not for the barrier surrounding Dargena City, they would definitely be struck.

But this phenomenon didn't have mercy to only cover the castle and Dargena City, it reaches wide, covering the sky for miles and miles, turning the day into a bleak one as the lightning energy inside of it keeps on increasing.

Rex realized this from the inside, and he was struggling to deal with it.

'We need to restrain this energy, Devo! Channel it quicker or we'll be advertising ourselves!'

[I know, I'm trying, this is now in any way easier for me too!]

Out of the knowledge he knows about Awakened's power, he's quite sure that reaching the eighth-rank realm of power is very hard which requires one to reach Spirit Unification which will lead the Awakened to gain the power of the spirit fully.

Spirit Gladiator form is the result of this as their bodies merged and multiply their powers.

Many Awakened fail in this step, and that's because their spirit is a low-rank one.

Low-rank spirit has no to little consciousness in them, in a way, they are mindless puppets that only has the sole purpose of strengthening an Awakened. Reaching unification with an unresponsive spirit is clearly the bottleneck for many.

It's very hard to be united, and most Awakened will be stuck there for their whole lives.

Even if an Awakened managed to barely reach the eighth-rank realm, reaching the next realm poses an even harder challenge. In order to reach the ninth-rank realm, one needs to adapt their mana with the spirit associated with them.

Achieving adaptation means an Awakened mana has evolved into Arcane Mana.

But this process is an auxiliary process to achieve greater results when an Awakened reached the ninth-rank realm, the real path to reach the ninth-rank realm is to expand their spirit core and also the media connecting their bodies to the Spirits associated with them.

If an Awakened achieves that, their power will shoot to the roof.

Compared to an eighth-rank realm Awakened, those who are in the ninth-rank realm has a thousand times more mana than the latter, and the expanded media also helps them generate and fuse more power into their spells.

One simple fireball can turn from being able to destroy a small village to a huge city.

Simply, the ninth-rank realm Awakened is incomparable to the eighth-rank realm Awakened.

Rex who is undergoing this process can feel the mana inside of him shifting into an unknown force, the density of energy from Giana's spirit core is potent enough to force his mana to adapt to the lightning element, empowering his mana into arcane mana rapidly.

But the rapid change didn't happen from absorbing Giana's spirit core alone.

In a way, he also needs to thank the Ultimate-grade Lightning Stones he got from the Eye of Elemental that he absorbed. Even though it didn't manage to evolve his mana into arcane mana, it manages to introduce a new height of power.

Due to that, changes were bound to happen as soon as he absorbed Giana's spirit core.

Just like smearing gasoline first before lighting the dry tree branches with fire, his mana rapidly evolved, and it now feels more robust and full while also flowing way faster inside of his body compared to before.

Now he needs to use this overwhelming mana to cultivate his media and spirit core.

Although that is the case Rex's focus started to disperse as if this continues, his enemies would know of his position. It's bad enough that the Witch knows where he is, so he didn't need more to know.

Clenching his jaw tightly, he tries to suppress the energy coming out of him like a maniac.

It was so bad that the blood vessels inside his eyes exploded, turning the white part of his eyes into bloody red. As he was struggling, his pupils then dilated seeing Calidora somehow managed to reach the protective barrier separating them.

Calidora paused for a moment in surprise, putting both of her hands on the barrier.

Seems like she didn't expect that there would be a protective barrier separating them, yet she can't really blame Rex as he's vulnerable in this state. Shaking her head, Calidora then said, "Do what you have to do, don't overthink, I'll handle the excessive energy"

Upon hearing this, Rex looks into her eyes for a brief moment.

Even without being told what he was currently thinking, Calidora seems to be able to know the fact that he was worried and contemplating ways to not expose his position to his enemies right now due to this phenomenon that keeps on getting stronger.

If it reaches wider then the Silverstar Pack would definitely be exposed.

Looking at Calidora's mesmerizing yet convincing purple eyes, he somehow feels that he can trust her just this once. But then again, he doesn't have any choice but to let her try whatever she wanted to try.

Rex gives a confirmation nod before he started expanding his spirit core and media.

Garnering every inch of arcane mana and spirit energy inside of him to supply his spirit core and media, like a torrent of water being forced down to a small container despite already being full.

Seeing that Rex has already started, Calidora quickly makes her move.

Out of nowhere, two black wings sprouted on her back before she quickly flaps them and went through the hole in the roof that was created by the stream of energy that came out of Rex's body earlier.

As soon as she burst out of the castle, her eyes came to view the dark sky.

Just gazing at the sky from the side alone was enough to show how destructive the phenomenon will be if this keeps on going. But right from below it, Calidora was faced with an entirely new view.

The vortex of swirling dark clouds was akin to a worm descending from the sky.

Dozens if not hundreds of black lightning keep on flashing the entire dark sky, almost invisible due to the dark background, yet the thunderous sound it makes were clear enough to indicate that they are there.

Upon flying on top of the castle, Calidora's body started to emit intensive blood energy.

Calidora's eyes glowed with a red hue as the blood energy around her grew stronger, her nostrils flared as she caught the scent of blood in the air that has already turned cold. She then opened her arms to each side, trying to do something difficult judging from her expression.

Immediately after that, blood can be seen floating out of the Humming Damned Forest.

Since the black lightning strikes everything in sight, there are mutated animals and even cursed creatures that are killed. This is the perfect situation for Calidora as she now can draw blood from their deceased carcasses.

Absorbing as much blood as she can, her blood energy grew more and more.

It came to the point that her blood energy started steaming like smoke, and is about 5 feet thick around her body. Knowing that it was still not enough, she then also activated her cursed energy for good measure.

Now her blood energy has become a noticeable presence in the chaotic dark sky.

Gelmar and the others that are watching the sky saw an infiltrating red color coming from above the castle, and they realized that it was Calidora. None of them know what she was thinking.

But Calidora's plan is quite simple, at least to understand not to do.

The plan inside her head is to become an even greater presence than the phenomenon itself.

Achieving this would only make Rex's enemies sense her energy instead of his rampaging energy, and this would give an illusion that it was Calidora who was achieving a breakthrough, not him.

Looking at the sky, Calidora gritted her teeth as she prepared to explode her energy.

"Hrrghh..."

Calidora's eyes bulged wide open as she pulls her blood and cursed energy into her body, condensing them tightly. But it takes a moment to complete. She was closing up her body as she did this.

"Rrrgggh..." She grunted as the energy increasingly grow stronger.

At the peak of her energy, she then screamed powerfully, her voice echoing like an astral entity as she shot both arms to the side alongside the terrifying amount of energy that she managed to amass.

"RAARGGHH!!"

Crack!

Boom!!

In an instant, her blood and cursed energy exploded, dying the air for miles in crimson color.

Chapter 796 Going Beyond The Limit

Many of the onlookers yelped and takes cover when they heard a loud crack in the sky.

It was louder than the cracking of thunder that are filling their ears ever since the phenomenon started, the sound was ear-shattering and some of the weaker Supernaturals got their eardrums exploded.

At the sight of the injured Supernaturals, Dindora went over and tries to heal them.

Linthia also didn't sit still and helped Dindora tend to the other Supernaturals, the loud crack Calidora's burst of energy produced happened within the barrier of Dargena City, and thus it directly affected them.

Casting her powers on the injured ones, Linthia puts them to sleep to not suffer the pain.

Meanwhile, Gelmar is still fixating his eyes on the sky.

Even though he was training day in and day out alongside Linthia and Dindora every single day and progressively becoming stronger, the people around his new Lord were out of his reach and knew that clearly.

Since he was tasked as the Captain of the Guards, he needs to be at least nearing that level.

'But I can't even picture myself nearing that kind of power...'

Gazing up to the sky he saw the combination of blood and cursed energy from Calidora reaching out like tree roots, spreading wider and turning the air and space it touches into crimson color.

In a moment, the entire Dargena City and beyond turned reddish in color.

Calidora appeared to be the Goddess of Blood, daunting her wings and bearing powerfully.

Additionally, her burst of energy managed to cease the phenomenon.

Not that it was dispersed completely by Calidora's burst of energy, but it was more to being matched with her energy slightly stronger which in turn muffled any sound and also energy coming from the phenomenon.

'Can't keep this up, the energy from him is too much' Calidora thought.

Even though she was capable of matching the phenomenon right now, it would definitely not last. Rex's breakthrough is only at the beginning, and as his spirit core and media expanded, the energy would grow stronger to the point of overwhelming Calidora's energy again.

Only one thing can be done, and that is Rex to increase his breakthrough speed.

Rex who is inside the room earlier has been rapidly trying to cultivate his spirit core and media as fast as he can, he knows what he needed to do despite not knowing the condition outside.

In his mind, the faster this process finishes the better.

As of this moment, Rex puts his focus entirely on the media connecting him and his spirits.

Under the constant supply of Giana's spirit core, the media that are the size of a small rock earlier has expanded 2 times their original size and still keep on expanding, giving more leeway for his newly acquired arcane mana.

[Stop, if we keep on expanding the media, they will rupture!] Devo exclaimed.

Rex started loosening his focus on his media when he heard this, 'They are already big enough, at least bigger than the norm, so this should be fine' He thought for a moment before his expression turns grim.

For a brief moment, the time when he and the Executor flashed inside his mind.

During his clash against the Executor, he said that he has fought overwhelming enemies in the past aside from him due to the anger from his sacrifice to gain power mocked. But to tell the truth, there's none quite like the Executor.

The Executor's presence alone makes Rex's legs tremble, a feat nobody has ever achieved.

Upon remembering that encounter when he was rendered helpless inside the Executor's grip, Rex clenched his fists as his expression turns grim. 'No, this is not enough! I'm going to push it to the limit!'

[Are you out of your mind? It's suicide to your power!] Devo replied in aghast again.

Now that he was fueled with the urge to get stronger, Rex's mind becomes clear again despite the condition he was in. But then, he thought of something that might help him right now.

Rex's eyes were slightly open as he thought of a great idea.

Since the process of breaking through involves his lightning elements, most of the focus was solely on Devo. On a wider scale, it only affected him and Devo the most, yet there were not only him and Devo trapped in this situation right now.

'Amanir, put your energy into the media right now!' Rex exclaimed inside his head.

Despite not wanting to do so as he was already inconvenienced enough with the process of breaking through that doesn't have him as the main character, Amanir sighs as the media will actually tear and that would affect him too.

Swish!

With the help of Amanir's energy, the pain in the media alleviates a little.

An extra milestone that Rex would gain in expanding his media more, anything counts at this moment, and this small push past his limit might be the reason for him winning and surviving in the future fight against the Executor.

Expanding the media a little bit more, the media reaches 3 times its original size.

It was a painful and long process yet it was worth it.

Out of the medias that are inside of him, cultivating the heart media was the most painful.

But nevertheless, he managed to do it as pain is never a problem for him. About five minutes later, he finds another bottleneck that capped the size of the media, Rex decided that it was enough and went over to pump his spirit energy to finish the breaking-through process.

Just as he was moving to expand his spirit core, something unexpected happened.

Blitz!

CRACK!

Like the judgment of the Dark God from the sky, the hundreds of black lightning strikes ceased for a few seconds before one gigantic black lightning strike descend down, hitting Dargena City's barrier powerfully.

Calidora looks up and was surprised to see this, "Retribution of Veracious Elemental?"

Despite not being an Awakened herself, her parents and also her personal mentor has taught her numerous knowledge regarding the Awakened and their power. One of them is the Retribution of Veracious Elemental.

It's a world phenomenon that can come at an Awakened that is trying to break through.

Retribution of Veracious Elemental comes in different shapes depending on the elements of the Awakened. It can take a form of a powerful tornado, an explosion of flames, or a lightning strike like this one.

But this kind of world phenomenon didn't come randomly.

It only happens to an Awakened that possesses a true variation of the fundamental elements or advanced elements, and it's also designed to test whether the Awakened is worthy to wield the power of his/her elements.

"I'm quite sure that this is what I think it is, but why is it so big...?" Calidora mutters to herself.

KABOOM!!

Upon the Veracious Black Lightning hitting Dargena City's protective barrier, a crack immediately appeared. Such a world phenomenon has immense penetration power, and can also ignore most of the worldly energies that try to block its way.

Even before the gigantic lightning strike hits, Calidora already moved out of the way.

Nothing in her realm of power can help in blocking the gigantic black lightning strike, she was even surprised when she finds the city's protective barrier was able to withstand it even for a little bit.

Crash!

Blitz!

Rex who was trying to cultivate his spirit core gazes up before his eyes widened.

Gritting his teeth as he saw a gigantic lightning strike heading towards him through the hole in the roof with speed faster than even the full speed of a ninth-rank realm entity, he braced himself for impact.

Kaboom!!

"GRGHHH!!" Rex feels every fiber of his being trembling due to the shock.

It was overwhelmingly powerful, and the pain is visible on his face as the gigantic black lightning strikes tries to evaporate his entire body. But even then, his eyes become even clearer instead of being hazy due to the pain.

Rex was not that fazed, the pain shocks him, but it ends up a help for him instead.

Like a lunatic that doesn't consider the pain he was experiencing anything much at all, he continued the process under the strain of the giant black lightning strike. More gigantic black lightning strikes descend down.

Something of this scale was never heard of, yet Rex is tanking it rather well.

Compared to his overall physical stats, his endurance stat is the highest and he's also the most confident in his endurance. On top of his regeneration ability, he is very resistant and would be considered unkillable by many.

Just like that, his spirit core started expanding rapidly.

It comes to the point where his spirit core grew to the size of a volleyball.

Compared to before that is roughly the size of his fist, this is a great increase in size. But this doesn't represent his increase fully, inside the spirit realm, Devo can see that the size has already reached beyond that.

Now it was quite clear that the arcane mana has done its thing.

But like earlier, Rex doesn't feel quite content with the size and wanted it to be bigger.

Grinning with a tensed body due to the multiple gigantic black lightning strikes hitting him, Rex glared at the sky as his eyes glowed red, 'Is the world trying to prevent me to be stronger or is it giving me an opportunity...?'

'Probably an opportunity right...? I can feel the energy inside these black lightning strikes'

[Madman! How could your endurance be this brutish?] Amanir muttered in shock.

Similar to Devo, he can also hear what Rex is thinking right now, and the thought of it makes him shiver. It was also terrifying that Rex can set his mind and turn this catastrophe into an opportunity, [Nobody should be capable of doing this] he added.

[Well if anyone can do it, he definitely can. So why not give it a try?] Devo added.

Even though he was talking as if he already expected this, the truth is he didn't expect this. Moreover, Devo remembered back when Rex said that he was going to make him glad that he was the Awakened that assimilated with him instead of the other way around.

Of course, Devo didn't think much of it, every Awakened before Rex said that to him.

But now, he realized that Rex was actually doing it, this is the Awakened host that can make other spirits envious. Not only is Rex helping him get stronger, but now he was also going to do the unthinkable.

Rex's body burst with energy as he tries to fight back the gigantic lightning strikes.

Despite him being an Awakened, his power doesn't only revolve around that, he has other more powers that would allow him to resist these gigantic lightning strikes that are trying to evaporate his entire body.

Swish!

Just like that, Rex's body started emitting red steam.

After gaining back his composure thanks to the red force helping him resist, he garner his sky-black lightning prowess and open started sucking the energy out of the gigantic black lightning strikes.

Like a vacuum, his body absorb everything, and his spirit core grew and grew.

Rex finds that the energy from the Veracious Black Lightning is vast and endless, and his spirit core greedily sucks everything. It comes to the point of the gigantic black lightning strikes getting smaller and smaller before eventually disappearing.

Upon the gigantic black lightning strike's disappearance, everything becomes calm again.

Suspecting that the breakthrough was over, Calidora hovered over to the castle before out of nowhere she saw Rex suddenly come out and dash off in a certain direction away from the castle and the city.

It was evident that his body is resonating and pulsating with powerful black lightning.

Calidora can tell that the energy within him is on the verge of exploding.

Just as she thought of that, her thought was instantly proven true when about dozens and dozens of miles to the south of the castle, a huge explosion of energy happened, and the impact reaches even to the castle.

Chapter 797 Strongest Of The Era

A couple of dozen miles away from the Silverstar castle.

Rex is standing at the center of a huge crater that spreads far and wide to the surroundings, he looked tiny in the middle in comparison to the crater, almost as if there was a nuke exploding at the spot where he was standing at.

Naturally, it was him that causes this, he has no other choice.

Upon absorbing the Veracious Black Lightning, his body experienced an overload of energy.

Even though he was quite confident in the strength of the castle's materials, there are still others there. Naela, Delta, and Gistella would've been hurt if he explode right there, and it seems his decision was correct.

Inspecting the huge crater, he let out a sigh before falling to his knees.

'Thankfully I managed to get far and away from the others, it would've been bad if I can't'

Of course, before he explodes, he already checked whether there is anybody around him. It'll be bad if a wandering Dark Elf or even other weak Supernatural races get hit by the explosion and got disintegrated.

Steadying his breathing for a moment, a couple of notifications appeared in his sight.

<Congratulation to the user on reaching the ninth-rank realm in Sky-Black Lightning!>

<All of the user's stats have been increased tremendously!>

<The user has absorbed the Veracious Black Lightning essence, granting the Veracious Lightning Body, a new sign and form of becoming one with the True Lightning which grants the user complete immunity to lightning elements as well as 100% bonus lightning spell power>

<Strongest of the Era achievement has been unlocked!>

<Obtained Parchment of Nigh-Perfect item, 5 million gold, and Symbol of Lightning>

Rex looks at the notifications from the system that notifies him of his achievement, his excited smile can't be hidden as he read these prompts. Out of curiosity, he decided to check the items that he got first before anything.

<Parchment of Nigh-Perfect Lightning>

A tenth-rank one-time-use parchment created from the skin of an ancient Lightning Elemental and also fused with special energy by sacrificing many lightning-based high-ranked spirits. Upon use by a Lightning Elementalist, increase 30% of a Gladiator Form power permanently.

<Symbol of Lightning>

It's an Ultimate Lightning Spell that harnesses the power of True Lightning, creating a temporary second spirit core inside of the caster that would increase lightning-based spells' power output by two times, presence of the lightning spirit as well as a boost in speed.

Judging from Rex's face that is lighting up, it's clear that he was excited by these items.

Not only has his body gained the Veracious Lightning Body constitution, and gaining a permanent increase of his Gladiator Form which is unheard of, but he also gained an Ultimate Spell that from the sounds of it is very powerful. At this moment, his lightning spells should be way stronger than even other ninth-rank realms Awakened.

Gaining a spell that can increase the damage output is quite insane, much less two of them.

Any sane Awakened out there would go crazy for a spell that can increase their spell power output by two times, and Pioneers would definitely pay with all of their fortunes to get their hands on one of these spells.

Seeing the blueprint of such a powerful spell is like a dream come true for them.

Rex smiles in satisfaction with the items he gained from reaching the ninth-rank realm, he then raises his hand and looks at it, trying to feel the changes within his body from achieving a new higher realm.

Putting all of his focus on his mana sense, he instantly felt the changes.

Compared to before when he was still at the peak seventh-rank realm in his lightning elements, the mana coursing inside of him now feels like a thick warm serpent that slithers inside him and he has perfect control over them.

Since his mana has evolved into Arcane Mana, changes are bound to happen.

Unlike before, the presence of his mana becomes more evident.

Arcane Mana is way denser and purer compared to the regular mana, the warm sensation indicates that clearly, and Rex can also feel the sharpness oozing out of his newly acquired Arcane Mana.

It brings the feeling of being able to destroy anything if he unleashed his lightning prowess.

Putting aside the sensation of the Arcane Mana, he also somewhat feels a powerful urge inside of him. Sadistic to say the least, it feels like the lightning inside of him beckons him to unleash the power whenever he can.

Similar to the urge of anger during the Full Moon if Rex needs to compare it.

But not in a chaotic manner, he now feels like a friend with the lightning elements inside.

Yet this is probably due to the huge spirit core that he has amassed, it's easily three or four times the size of a normal spirit core, and also the Veracious Lightning Body effect. The feeling of endless power inside of him is a sign of that.

[When you are accustomed to the power more, the urge will be manageable] Devo mused.

Upon hearing this, Rex nodded his head as his body revert back to normal.

Rex decided to rest for a bit as he was still fatigued from exerting himself so much in breaking through to the ninth-rank realm, even his body is still riddled with unhealed wounds that he sustained earlier.

And thus, while resting, he decided to check his stats that he hasn't opened for a while.

<Rex Silverstar - Human Form>

King Mark: Banished Dark Moon (Inactive) and Blood Moon (Active)

Ascension: Banished Dark Moon (Nil), Blood Moon (First Ascension)

Pack: Silverstar (7/20)

Level: 66 (92,400,250,000/241,500,000,000)

Race: Exalted Royal Black Werewolf

Full-Moon: 6 Days - Storm Moon

Berserk: 61%

Sanity: 37%

Mental: 21,750 (+357)

Strength: 198,115 (+69,514)

Agility: 219,365 (+76,928)

Endurance: 174,990 (+61,663)

Intelligence: 391,340 (+120)

Attributable Stats: 0

Looking at his new stats, he can instantly see the tremendous change in it.

'It more or less doubled, the physical stats that is'

Rex remembered the last time he checked his stats, the agility stat is the lowest thanks to the Countess pulling back her blessing from him. It made him slow, and yet, his agility stat is now the highest among the other physical stats.

Considering he cultivate his lightning elements, this should be expected.

Aside from his physical stats, his mental state also somehow got increased. It must be the natural increase from reaching the ninth-rank realm. But the main show was his intelligence which has experienced the most changes.

Even compared to the ninth-rank realm he met, his intelligence stat almost doubled them.

But out of the increases that happened to his stats, he already put a high expectation on his intelligence stat considering that he worked damn hard to push through his limit, even risking tearing his spirit core in the process.

With this kind of stat, he should fare way better against the Executor.

'I don't know if this is strong enough, but it should be getting there' Rex thought with a nod.

Now that he has become a ninth-rank realm, joining the pinnacle of power in terms of his Awakened power alone, he instantly has one thing in his mind. 'I need to see the Executor myself to see just how strong he is'

During the last encounter, Rex didn't dare to scan the Executor's power.

Just his presence alone can make his entire being tremble, and if he tries to scan the Executor then his mind would be rattled or worse even explode. It was because of that he don't know the exact numbers of the Executor's power.

Since he now has gotten stronger, he could try and find out the Executor's power.

Although that is what he wanted, meeting with the Executor is hard enough considering he was inside the heart of Ratmawati City. It would be reckless to do it alone, but he can think of a couple of ways to bypass this problem.

With Prof. K by his side, he could infiltrate the human territory if he wanted to.

Out of the humans that he can turn into a Werewolf and bring to his side, Prof. K is one of the best he could do considering the fact that he was the one that invented Intra technology that the humans rely on right now.

If he could get into the human territory unnoticed, then Rex could also do the same.

Despite feeling confident that he could bypass the first problem, it's not the only problem to get what he wanted. Scanning the Executor with the system without being noticed is another obstacle.

Rex doesn't know the full extent of the Executor's powers, he had only grazed the surface.

Surely, sneaking near enough so that the System can scan him would be way more difficult than infiltrating the human territory. If he was found by the Executor, then it defeats the purpose of him being there.

'I'll need to make a plan' Rex thought with a frown on his face.

Pondering for a moment, he then glanced to the side with a fierce glint in his eyes.

'But first and foremost, getting Kyran back should be way easier'

As the curse inside of Gistella has been mostly extracted by Dealkandrax, the Witch of Chaos has already got what she wanted. If what Rex was thinking is true, the fact that she was using Kyran to get her hands on the curse, then there should be reason for her to keep Kyran at bay.

Moreover, thinking clearly, Rex is not worried that the Witch would hurt Kyran.

It's true that when he first realized that the Witch was the one that kidnapped Kyran, he was quite angry and frantic, aiming to kill the Witch with all he had. But with a calm mind, there's more to lose for the Witch if she hurt Kyran.

After fighting the Executor and getting injured, the last thing she wanted is another enemy.

Rex has already made it clear multiple times under the gaze of the Witch's underlings that if she so much as to touch the tip of Kyran's body, then she would be gaining another massive enemy.

Even for the Witch, it's an undeniable fact that Rex is one of the strongest in the current era.

Surely if she has the smallest brain capacity inside her cursed head, then she would not do anything to Kyran considering the outcome of doing so would be catastrophic for her, gaining an enemy equivalent if not more dangerous than the Executor.

One of the benefits of possessing an overwhelming power, everybody is wary of him.

Due to that, he was not that worried something would happen to Kyran.

But since during his realization, he got angry and initiated a Berserk Quest, he would need to finish it before the Storm Full Moon arrives in less than a week. If he doesn't, then his berserk stat will be very high during the full moon.

It's bad enough the last time he went berserk when he first become a Werewolf.

Rex at that time almost hurt many people if not for Rosie bringing him away, he also almost hurt her before managing to flee to Emham Forest. Back then he was very weak, now it's going to be completely different.

Just imagining him going berserk right now terrifies him.

Nobody would be able to stop him, at least not until he crosses the Executor or the Witch.

Even then the Executor would probably not engage with him and let him run rampant. Considering that is what Rex would do in the Executor's position, then there's a high chance of that happening as the Executor is also very meticulous and evil.

While he was thinking about these things while resting, a warm air hits his back.

Upon feeling this nudging sensation, Rex glanced back in a particular direction before a frown appeared on his face. In the far distance, somewhere northeast of the castle he can feel a sudden leap of energy.

Rex can feel it subtly through his senses, it's very far away but it's definitely strong.

'Is it a King or Queen...?' Rex thought, trying to guess whom this energy comes from. 'No, I've met most of them. King of Vampires, Werewolves, Succubi, and even Demons yet none of their energies felt like this. And even though I haven't met the Undead King, it should have death energy'

'But this energy is clearly not, it's scorching my skin even through the distance...'

Aside from the sensation the energy brings, the high-rank Supernatural races should still be in hiding and laying low. It must not be them, and it's also not the Witch of Chaos as it's not cursed energy.

Just as he marvels at this power, it suddenly vanished in an instant.

Rex was in complete confusion, the energy comes and goes in an instant. But one thing for sure is that there's another strong entity out there, and it might announce itself in the near future.

Chapter 798 Keep A High Spirit

Sensing this weird concentrated energy that reaches him, Rex slowly gets back to his feet.

Now that he has reached the ninth-rank realm in his lightning elements, he could start being active and deal with the problems at hand. 'I haven't had the time to train Brutal Impulse, but it can't wait. I'll ask the system later'

Intending to get back to the castle, another wave of energy hits his body.

Compared to the one earlier, this one doesn't feel hostile, and Rex recognized it instantly.

Upon sensing this wave of energy that brought along a familiar aroma that he couldn't possibly forget, he glanced in the same direction as before, and his expression depicted the shock he was having right now.

But that shock didn't last long, it was replaced by a smile.

Facing down to the ground for a moment with a smile on his face, a visible tremble can be seen on his hands. It was hard to tell from the tremble alone, but combined with his expression, it should be trembles of excitement.

'I guess it's not going to take long to deal with the first problem...'

A moment later, Rex is currently inside Gistella's room, kneeling by her bed tenderly.

Now that she was freed from the curse hosting inside of her earlier thanks to Dealkandrax, she was already started visibly looking better. As a Werewolf herself, her regeneration ability started to turn her back to normal.

Even her cheeks are now rosy, boasting her beauty once again.

It's been a solid minute now that he stayed in this position, gazing at Gistella's face seemingly in trouble. Not a single word came out of his mouth, he doesn't know how to say this.

Since Gistella is getting better, he should've stayed here and accompanied her.

Aside from the fact that it was the natural thing to do, he was also feeling guilty of leaving her like this when Gistella gives him peace at his worst. Leaving her right now although a must, feels really bad.

Guessing what was on Rex's mind, Gistella smiled gently.

Now that she was looking at Rex's troubled face and inspected it, she chuckled inwardly, finding that Rex has become quite predictable when he was facing her. It's hard to imagine that an Alpha that is like an enigma to her before turns out like this.

But it started ever since that night, what she did seems to really impact Rex internally.

Considering that resting is something of a luxury for Rex who has enemies from every angle of existence, insurmountable problems that are a doorstep away, and also regrets that haunted him every single second, it's natural for him to feel like this.

"I know what you're thinking, and you don't need to feel like that" Gistella suddenly said.

Upon hearing this, Rex tilts his head a little while looking at Gistella's tender eyes before she continues, "I did what I did because I want you to feel at peace, you don't have to feel burdened about it. Do what you have to do, I'll recover quickly and joins you later"

Rex was at a loss for words, he was surprised to find that Gistella reads his mind perfectly.

In response, he can only smile and hold her soft hand.

"Okay, I'm going now. I'll bring Delta here to keep you company" Rex said.

After he finds Gistella nodding in affirmation, he stood back up and turns around intending to leave the room. But as his hand reaches the handle, Gistella called his name and he stopped to look back at her.

Pausing for a moment, a slight blush appeared on Gistella's face.

"I-If you have the time and needed rest, you can come to me at any time. I'll help you sleep..."

Rex widened his eyes slightly for a second before a wide smile appeared on his face, he finds it surprising for Gistella to say something like that considering her pliant nature. "Hmm... that sounds good, I'll do that"

Eventually, he left the room and stands in the hallway for a brief moment.

Glancing to the side in thought, he then heads in the opposite direction of the throne room.

Calidora is currently in the throne room waiting for him as they are about to leave, he can sense her there meditating. But before going there, he needs to do something first, it's what he thought proper anyway.

Arriving at the courtyard, he finds a figure sitting near the stairs with her eyes closed.

It was Naela, and she was stronger than before.

Due to the castle's ability to absorb any energy hovering around it, the Dark Nature energy is thick here. Even though Rex has already set the castle to stop absorbing the Dark Nature energy in concern for thinning the energy for the Dark Elves, the remnant inside the castle is still thick.

For a single Dark Elf, it will take months if they greedily try to absorb them all.

Naela was immersed in her meditation and didn't realize that Rex was approaching her from the side. Standing beside her, he then lightly taps her shoulder which instantly woke her up from her meditation.

"L-Lord Rex!" She exclaimed, quickly standing up and bowing slightly.

Upon seeing her frantic reaction, Rex smiled assuringly to show her that there was no need for her to be like this. "Is it Lady Gistella? I thought she was okay, I'll go and accompany her right away!"

"Stop that, Naela. You're a guest here" Rex replied with a wry smile.

Even though that was the case for Rex, he also understands how it would look from Naela's perspective. Considering that Kyran was not here, she definitely feel that she doesn't belong here, and that was natural.

Rex then added apologetically, "You're not a maid, I'm sorry if I make you feel that way"

"No, no, no, it's okay! I'm glad that I can provide assistance to you and the others" Naela quickly replied with a smile, she seems genuine yet that made Rex feel guilty even more for neglecting her situation.

Walking over to the courtyard, passing Naela, he then takes a deep whiff of fresh air.

Clasping his hands behind his back, he then opens his mouth, "I've walked a path full of blood from the start, I did everything to achieve my vengeance. And along the way, I've made many enemies whether it is directly or indirectly. Each of them poses a threat, and one wrong move will spill my and the others' deaths"

As he said this, there was an air of reverence around him with a tiny tint of sorrow.

"This is the first time that one of us is sick, and in a situation such as mine, there's no room for carelessness. Stopping to care would spill our doom, and thus I can't be with Gistella all the time" he added before he turns around to face Naela.

Giving a slight smile, he then walks over to her.

"Which is why I need your help, not to accompany Gistella, but to become her friend. And if you can, be friends with the others too. As far as I'm concerned, not everyone can handle what I handled, and maybe they need a friend like you" Rex added, he then hold Naela's shoulder gently, "After all, you're going to be one of us"

Upon hearing this, Naela was stunned before she eventually nodded her head.

"I will try my best to honor your trust..."

Even though she was saying that Rex can see that she was trying to hide her troubled face. It's clear that there's something bugging her mind, and he knows exactly what, "Why the long face, Naela? I'm not here to only say that to you"

"Eh...?" Naela looks up at Rex with a confused expression.

Gauging a teasing smile, Naela listened to what Rex had to say as her eyes slowly widened.

At the end of it, she was stunned and didn't know what to say. It was clear that what Rex said completely paralyzed her, and she was only just now seeing the teasing smile starting to form on Rex's face which left her more amused.

It's clear that Rex is oozing with confidence, and what he was saying is a form of guarantee.

"L-Lord Rex, a-are you lying to me?"

"Of course not, you'll see soon enough. But I want you to promise me to keep a high spirit around Gistella, okay? Be happy, both of you, no matter what the situation outside is and what would happen in the future, right now, we are safe and can be happy"

A moment later, Rex and Calidora are walking out of the castle.

Standing at the entrance of the castle were two figures, Naela and Gistella. Compared to earlier, Naela is waving her arm excitedly with a huge smile on her face, bidding the two of them goodbye.

What Rex said earlier clearly lifted her mood up immensely.

Even Gistella who is standing beside her was surprised to find her this excited, she has never been this excited, so she was quite curious as to what made her have this great of a mood despite nothing happening.

"Is that another one of your women?" Calidora asked, eyeing Naela on her back.

Upon hearing this, Rex shakes his head as he didn't even know why Calidora would want to know that, "Of course not, that's the... I guess a 'fiance' of one of my pack members, she's not my woman"

"Pack members? Since when a weak Beta can have a mate?" Calidora replied weirdly.

But Rex didn't answer and yet that answers enough for Calidora, it's clear that Rex is not following the tradition of the Werewolves, he didn't seem to consider himself part of the ancient Werewolves.

Shrugging her shoulders, she then asked, "Where are we going? To meet Aunty Shanaela?"

"Nope, I need to take care of some things before meeting with her. We're going to pay a visit to a certain someone, and I'm not leaving you in the castle. Besides, if it went wrong, I'll probably be going to need your help" Rex replied nonchalantly.

With Calidora around, he's going to force her to come with him no matter where he goes.

In no instance possible that he was going to leave Calidora with Gistella and Naela as it was a fixed recipe for disaster. However, it's not like she was actually forcing her to come considering that she was quite eager to come.

Calidora even hummed excitedly while the two are walking along the bridge.

'System, is there really no other way in gaining a curse source aside from the Eternal Curse?'

<Curse Source is available in the shop, there are countless options that the user can choose from. However, there's no natural curse sold in the system's shop. Gaining a natural curse through effort is possible, there are ways, but it's impossible for the user to meet the requirements>

<Considering the Eternal Curse is a twelfth-epiphany natural curse, it's impossible for the user's current strength to gain another curse equivalent to that>

Upon reading the system's answers, Rex can only sigh.

Rex could settle for a less powerful curse source in exchange for the Eternal Curse with Calidora, but he can't afford that judging from the fight he did with the Witch of Chaos' pets, Dealkandrax, and the insectoid creature.

During that fight, he managed to catch a surprising glimpse of Calidora's fight.

In that fight, despite Calidora having a twelfth-epiphany curse source, her cursed power was at most equal to or slightly stronger than the insectoid creature. Because of that, it was safe to assume that the Witch of Chaos also has a twelfth-epiphany natural curse.

'So I'm going to be stuck with her, huh... this is going to be a headache' Rex exhales roughly.

~

The next day.

Ratmawati City, the SCO Headquarters.

During the busy days of the SCO Headquarters where Black Hands that are now allocated to office works are walking left and right busily, a car stopped at the gate of the building before being inspected by two Black Hands.

But when the window was opened, the two Black Hands immediately salute.

The car went inside and stopped in front of the lobby, and out come from that car is Prof. K still in his regular clothes but his face was covered with green gas. Gazing at the building, he takes a deep breath before striding right inside.

Chapter 799 Trustworthy Person

Prof. K stands in front of the SCO headquarters with cold blood.

As an introvert himself, the fact that he was about to go in with the intention of doing something that would break the regulation of the organization itself makes him extremely nervous to his core.

It's not his usual self to be doing this, but he has no other choice.

On top of that, his nervousness has only been amplified higher as he can hear every single word that the workers are saying, a quick reminder to himself that he was no longer a human anymore but a Werewolf.

Since it happened recently, Prof. K hasn't adapted fully to the changes.

Prof. K struggles to adjust with his senses the most, they were overloading everything that he can catch. It feels like his head is throbbing from a fierce migraine at times, and this forces a frown to his face.

Refocusing back on the task, he darted his eyes left and right, searching for someone.

Striding out of the lobby, his eyes catch sight of a figure.

Judging from her dark blue hair that looks like a waterfall alongside the black and blue tattoo on the left side of her face shaped like tree roots, it doesn't take long for Prof. K to recognize this woman as none other than one of his subordinates.

The captain of the Green Team, Liliya Archie.

Upon catching sight of Prof. K, she walks over to him before bowing slightly in respect.

"You've called for me, Sir?" Liliya asked as she reaches him.

Not even waiting for Prof. K to answer, she then added, "Is it an urgent mission that the team needs to do? " Since it was weird of Prof. K to call her outside, she suspects that there's an important mission that he needs to tell her.

If not then he should've been able to tell her inside.

Prof. K looks around before she pulled her to the side where there are not many people around, this secretive behavior further confirms to Liliya that there's an important mission, and she complies without saying a word.

But contrary to what she expected, Prof. K asked something unrelated to that.

"Is the King inside?"

"King John...? No, I think he's out"

As soon as he heard this, the tension in his body is feeling alleviated and he lets out a sigh of relief. If King John is here, then he would be in big trouble. Despite his attempt to cover his Supernatural scent, it would not be enough to bypass King John's senses.

Ever since the alliance and the invention of Intra, security has become way more relaxed.

Protection started to loosen a bit as the Intra Technology has given great comfort to Ratmawati City and all other cities associated, and this breeds the seduction of relaxation in some departments.

Knowing that everyone around them is a human definitely brings peace of mind.

Compared to when the SCO is still a secretive organization that lies in the dark, the security then is very tight for humans that can enter and even possible infiltrators from the Supernaturals would be caught easily.

Naturally, this can be done thanks to one of his inventions again.

Out of his inventions, the candle that can spot a Supernatural is the most troublesome for his situation right now. Prof. K made it to spot any glimpse of Supernatural energy in the surroundings, and he knows that the candle works quite well.

But thankfully, that candle is not regulated anymore thanks to Intra Technology.

Since the new Intra Technology is more effective and efficient, the higher-ups of the SCO decided that the candle and other items to detect Supernaturals are kept for when they launched an attack on the Supernaturals.

Inside the human territory, it's not regulated anymore.

Although Prof. K voiced out his disapproval of the idea of loosening the security to King John, he was glad that his opinion didn't get through. If it gets through then it would be way harder to enter the headquarter in his situation.

Just as he was thinking, Liliya is looking at him weirdly from the side.

Out of curiosity, she then mustered up the courage to ask, "Sir, where is your mask?"

Upon hearing this Prof. K glanced at her with raised eyebrows, he then remembered that his face was now covered in green smoke instead of his usual mask since it broke from fighting against Adhara, Evelyn, and Flurna.

Nobody is able to see through his face, and that includes Liliya who is standing beside him.

Having no intention to answer that question, Prof. K clears his throat.

"I'll leave you to your day then, I'm going to my office"

Although he's an introvert and doesn't have any real experience of dealing with this kind of nerve-racking situation, he does know that the lesser he says anything the better. More talking would only increase his chances of saying something wrong.

With that, Prof. K tidied his clothes before he went into the building.

Not sparing any time, not that he likes to talk to people, he went straight to the executive lift.

Many of the workers that he passed bowed respectfully at him, they all recognize who he is due to the green smoke he was emitting slightly. Inside the community of the SCO, his name is very well-known and highly revered.

Creating a technology capable of contributing to humanity greatly is no small feat.

Given the inventiveness of his work compared to the other inventors out there, it's not surprising that the black hands treat him with great respect and politeness. After all, he is the great inventor of the SCO.

Stepping into the lift, a hand stopped the door from closing.

Prof. K was so uncomfortable and nervous that his body jolted when he saw the hand, he didn't even realize that it was only Liliya due to how on edge he is right now. "Sir, can I come with you? I have a question that I wanted to ask"

"Can it not wait? I'm busy" Prof. Replied with a slightly shaking voice.

Upon hearing this, the words got stuck in Liliya's throat as she looks down dejectedly. She was about to apologize for wasting his time but seeing her expression like this, Prof. K sighed and decides to cut her some slack.

Gesturing to come inside, he then said, "Get in, we can talk in my office"

Aside from feeling bad as she seems to have something she really wanted to ask, he also needs a report about the team from Liliya. 'I need to gauge which one of them I can trust, making the move myself would draw Jax's attention and that's not good'

With that, Liliya gets on the lift and they walked out three floors below the ground level.

Stepping out of the executive lift, the two walked out into a spacious lab with no one inside. Prof. K turns the light on before his works are revealed to Liliya, numerous kinds of machines, weapons, and even carcasses can be seen around the lab.

It's the first time for her to get into the lab, her authority is not high enough to be here.

Prof. K went to take a couple of materials from a storage room on the side of the room and came back with a block of metal, he then sat at the foremost desk before looking at Liliya who is still unmoving from her spot.

"Come over here, what do you want to ask to me about?" Prof. K gestured to come closer.

Upon hearing this Liliya stuttered for a moment before she quickly went over, she then stood in front of Prof. K's messy desk before she started fidgeting, seemingly uncertain of how she would ask him.

Looking at this, Prof. K then added, "Just let it out, nothing you say will offend me"

"A-Ah, yes..." Liliya mused, she paused for a second before she asked. "I- I was wondering, Sector 2 and 3 were decimated due to King Baralt, right? If that's the case, then why didn't we search for how he managed to get here?" Liliya eventually asked.

Prof. K paused when he heard this, he kept eye contact for a couple of seconds.

In the official news provided by the UWO, the incident that destroyed a huge chunk of Ratmawati City was caused by King Baralt that managed to somehow gets inside their territory and ran havoc.

Just the news alone brought unrest to the entire human population.

But Intra Technology offered a solution to not let something like that happen again. For the regular folks, that is assurance enough to feel safe again, yet for some, more questions appeared inside their heads.

Looking at the suspicion oozing out of Liliya's face, Prof. K can only keep silent.

Upon seeing his reaction, Liliya can't help but gasp in surprise.

At first, she was going to slowly direct the conversation towards the fact that it was not King Baralt that caused the destruction inside Ratmawati City, yet she now gained the answer almost instantly.

Clenching her jaw tightly, she then tries to blurt out her suspicion.

"I-Is it, Rex...?"

"How do you come to that conclusion?"

Prof. K clasped his hands in front of him, gazing intently at Liliya's eyes that are now showing signs of timidity. But even then, she decided to be upfront, "I-I've worked with him, I've met with him more times than most people outside of his group, and I have a fair share of weird encounters with him"

"I've never thought much of it, but now it started to connect together" She added.

Leaning back in his chair with a hawking look, Prof. K kept silent as the tension between them grew. It makes Liliya's hands wet from sweat, she's becoming more nervous and nervous by the second.

Of course, she feared that she made a bad accusation against her friend.

But as if Prof. K can read through her mind clearly, he then replied, "Such a bold claim, that's going to be bad of you if the accusation you gave to Rex is wrong. I mean, he's not here but that doesn't mean he was like that isn't it?"

"Liliya, do you really want to know the answer?" Prof. K finally added.

Upon hearing this, Liliya feels a shiver coursing through her body, turning her blood cold. At this moment, she knows that she would feel guilty if her accusation is wrong. But then, another thought came to mind.

Instead of that outcome, she failed to think about what if her accusation is true.

Compared to the guilt she would be feeling if her accusation is wrong, she was more confused as to what she would do if the accusation is true. 'What am I going to do then? Can I accept that?'

Just while she was dwelling in her thoughts, Prof. K finally blurted out the answer.

"Yes, it was Rex. He was the one that did it"

Deg!

Liliya felt her heart skip a beat when she heard this, the memories of her with Rex who is quite kind and also protective skimmed past her mind. She can't believe that the same person causes that big of destruction.

But remembering their time together, she can't help but bit her lower lip.

Even though the answer comes from Prof. K himself who definitely knows more thanks to his high position, Liliya still doesn't want to believe it. At the very least, she doesn't want to believe that Rex is a bad guy.

'No, he must have his reasons... there's no way he did that voluntarily'

Despite trying to convince herself, the possible fact that he did it on a whim haunted her.

'I want to know how she feels, there's a chance she can be trusted'

Inspecting Liliya's expression closely, Prof. K squinted his eyes before he said, "Rex is the one who caused that destruction, causing countless lives to be lost. What are your thoughts about that, Liliya? Do you hate him for what he did?"

Upon hearing this, Liliya clenched her fists tightly.

"What Rex did is wrong, there's no justification for that..." Liliya finally said.

Prof. K was quite disappointed with the answer, he decided that he would try to check the other black hands in the Green Team that can be trusted. But then he raises his gaze when he heard what Liliya said afterwards.

Although it's hard for her to say this, she can't keep it to herself and decided to let it out.

"However, I don't think he's naturally a bad guy. Rex must have his reasons for doing something that diabolical. As far as he is concerned, for me at least, he's not bad but a broken instead..."

Chapter 800 Pride Of The World

Somewhere in the Supernatural territory.

In a wasteland filled with no sign of life as far as the eyes can see, under the heat of the sun burning in the broken sky was a figure that is walking like a Zombie, steadily and calmly without any sudden movement.

Aside from his hands and chest, the figure's other parts were covered.

Taking a closer look one would find the figure's hands have a red tint to them, like dried-up liquid that smeared his hands a day ago. On top of that, the wasteland should be crowded with mutated animals.

Yet at the sight of the figure, the mutated animals started to back away.

Despite not excluding any particular aura whatsoever, the instincts of the mutated animals shoot danger signal into their brains at the sight of the figure, forcing their bodies to move on their own.

Amongst them, there are some mutated animals that didn't back away.

One such mutated animal is a ten-foot-tall wyvern that flaps its wings and lands right in front of the figure, the scales of its body are dark grey while its underbelly all the way to its neck daunted a bluish color.

Roar!!

In an overbearing manner, the wyvern lets out a mighty roar and spreads its wings.

Upon finding that the wyvern is standing in its way, the figure stopped in his tracks. Slowly raising his gaze up, he made eye contact with the wyvern with his deep blue eyes that contains unspeakable power.

Naturally, under the figure's gaze, the wyvern surprisingly bowed its head.

Bear in mind that mutated animals are savages that have little to no sense other than their animalistic instinct, to make a mighty wyvern bow its head willingly must be an effect that runs deep into its blood and soul.

Looking at the gorgeous wyvern, the figure walks closer and caresses its head gently.

As the figure reaches out his hand, his fingernails which turn out to be thick deep dark blue claws are exposed. Additionally, there are parts of his arm that was covered in scales, showing clearly that despite his appearance, he was not a human.

Just as he was doing this, he then suddenly glanced to the side.

"Are you sent here by Lax'rad and Saruth...?"

Coming out of a dark magical portal were a couple of figures, there are six of them to be exact. Judging from their characteristics, these figures should be powerful Undead and Demons.

Amongst the six, there are two notable figures that are worth mentioning.

Both of them are standing at the center and also at the very front, excluding powers that can frighten most of the dwellers of the world. One of them is an Undead, a lich from the looks of it that emits green death energy with illusionary skulls hovering around it.

Each of those skulls are excluding a very dangerous aura, the souls of the damned dead.

In addition to the powerful green pure death energy and also the black crown of spikes that reaches high, this particular Undead definitely belongs to the upper echelon in the Undead community. A Basilich, the second-most powerful Undead of the era.

While the other one is a monstrous demon, picked from the deepest part of hell itself.

Standing towering as tall as the wyvern, this red demon is enormous with a body that is both muscular and bulky. Its demonic wings are imposing, and the giant flaming saber in its hand along with the fire symbol on its chest mark this Archdemon as one of the leaders of the Demon Kingdom.

One of the demons who hold the power of the seven paragons of sins.

Despite the fact that the figure didn't address their Kings by their title, the Basilich, and the Archdemon don't seem to mind it and in fact, already expected something like this. It's surprising to see them not confronting the figure about that.

Then again, there must be a reason for them being like this.

"Rancaladra, the Heavenly Dragon of Prime. King Lax'rad and King Saruth rejoice at your awakening and they want to meet with you, please, allow us to guide you to meet them" the Basilich said politely with its rasping tone.

It was a voice full of respect, there's no malice in the Basilich's voice.

But Rancaladra can sense a hidden intention from this untimely visit, and that suspicion alone makes him stand in his spot unmoving. "Answer me, which Executor has awakened? I want to know"

"My apology, but I don't have the authority to answer that" the Basilich answered again.

Lucius, the Archdemon standing beside the Basilich then tries to add in order to help, "When you meet with King Lax'rad and King Saruth, they will answer all of your questions. Until then, be patient"

Not getting the answer he wanted, the air around them started trembling visibly.

Rancaladra tilts his head a little as his eyes glowed deeper, the pressure that is completely hidden inside his body slowly burst forth, putting an insurmountable weight on the Demons and Undead's backs.

It was so strong that even the Basilich and Lucius also struggles under the pressure.

Upon feeling the full brunt of Rancaladra's power that shocked them completely, Lucius gritted his teeth with bulging eyes, "How can he be this strong? His pressure is even stronger than King Saruth!"

"Don't be surprised, the Heavenly Dragon has a unique ability" the Basilich replied.

Shifting its gazes back at Rancaladra who is looking at them with a soured yet prideful expression, his chin slightly tilted up, the Basilich then continues, "It's an ability that we call Pride of the World, an ability that would allow him to bypass most of the world-scale changing effect. In other words, despite the world hasn't reached the second awakening yet, he wasn't as affected as much as us"

Lucius widened his eyes when he heard this, now it's clear why the pressure is so strong.

Every single living beings including the Supernatural race is restricted due to the world hasn't achieved the second awakening yet, but Rancaladra has an ability that makes him less affected by this fact.

Considering the scale of effect, being less affected is a really great ability.

"Both of you, tell me, the Executor that has awakened, is it the firstborn?" Rancaladra asked.

Rancaladra squinted his eyes sharply as he inspected the Basilich and Lucius intently, he really wanted to know the answer to his question from them. But it seems they don't have any intention of telling him.

In an instant, the two of them activate their powers and try to resist the suppressing force.

Straightening their backs once again with their energy doing a very intense work to resist the pressure from Rancaladra, the Basilich then said again stubbornly, "If you want the answer, then come with us"

"Or you could try finding out the answer alone, see if you can do it yourself" he added.

Upon hearing this Rancaladra kept his eyes fixed on both of them, the suspension is killing the others as they don't know how this will play out. But surprisingly, the pressure vanished almost instantly in the next second.

Cracking a prideful grin, Rancaladra then replied, "I'll find out myself then"

After saying that, he instantly strides past the Basilich and Lucius without stopping and heads toward his intended destination. Despite not being given an answer to his question, he feels confident that he can find it out himself.

But this catches the Basilich and Lucius in surprise, this is not going according to plan.

Not having any other choice, Lucius clenched his fists before he eventually opens his mouth, "It's the fifth born, the Executor that has awakened is the fifth born. Can you come with us now after knowing that?"

Step!

Upon hearing this, Rancaladra stopped in his track as the other side finally succumb.

In a brief second of pause, a confused expression can be seen on Rancaladra's face. 'Fifth born? If it's not the firstborn, then why would they try to stop me from meeting with the Executor?'

"Lead the way, I'll talk to them" Rancaladra finally said and turns around.

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Meanwhile, Ratmawati City.

Earlier this morning when he was still at the SCO headquarters, King John gained a message from President Sebrot who request a meeting with him at the stroke of ten. It was a meeting that he doesn't expect.

But considering that the duel is tomorrow, this is not out of the ordinary.

King John is curious to hear what President Sebrof has to say to him, heck he might even plead for his life knowing full well that he wouldn't win the duel. With the Executor pulling the strings, there's nothing President Sebrof can do.

Now, he was now standing in front of a building that seems to be a hotel.

"My King, should we secure the area? Even though it's the UWO, we still need to be cautious of them" the White Messenger said while looking around the place warily, he wanted to quickly secure the area before King John gets inside.

Even though that is the case, King John declined confidently, "No need for all of that"

"Go and wait in a nearby cafe or something, I'll meet with President Sebrof alone. Knowing that I have the Executor on my back, he wouldn't try and do anything to hurt me lest evoking the Executor's wrath" he added before striding inside.

Although the White Messenger has some disagreement, he was unable to voice it out.

Upon entering the hotel he was greeted by two Awakened in the seventh-rank realm which then leads him into a less crowded area, he then reaches a big door that leads to an aula reserved solely for their meeting.

In the center, there's a long table covered in white cloth prepared for him.

Sitting at the end of the table was President Sebrof in his pearly white formal suit with a black shirt underneath, he was smoking his cigar nonchalantly as he seems to already be waiting for King John.

Considering that King John is modestly late, it's probably the case.

But him coming modestly late to the scheduled time showed that he was in control, he was the one with power as of this moment, and President Sebrof can only do nothing but deal with it in silence.

"Get straight to the point, Sebrof. I'm busy, as you might know already"

Not even intending to give any amount of respect to President Sebrof, King John sat on the chair opposite of him nonchalantly. Despite the Awakened surrounding the room, he seems to be as relaxed as if there were no Awakened around the room.

President Sebrof smiled even with the obvious mocking words directed at him.

Surely King John is already preparing everything to seat on his throne and replace him completely, and those first words that came out of his mouth clearly directed at that undeniable fact.

If the duel goes as planned then that would definitely happen.

But President Sebrof keeps his calm composure, he didn't react strongly at that remarks.

"As you might be anticipating, our duel is scheduled for tomorrow, yet I suggest that we postponed it until we're definitely ready to do it" President Sebrof said with a straight face, his eyes hawking, inspecting King John's facial changes.

Upon hearing this, King John chuckled, "And why would I give you more time to prepare?"

"No matter how strong your new master can be, that's just it, he's just strong. Changing the seat of power demands more than just strength, there needs to be politics involved and also the public opinions that needed to be handled first" President Sebrof explained.

But this further exposes the mocking look on King John's face.

Listening to what Sebrof has to say makes him chuckle inwardly, he then lifted his chin slightly with pride before he replied cheekily with a slow and collected tone, "President Sebrof, the incompetent leader of the UWO that fails to anticipate an attack that decimated half of Ratmawati City is replaced by the leader of the SCO, whose people invented Intra Technology to avoid anything similar to that tragedy happening again"

"I don't know about you, but I think the public will lean more toward me, no?"