

Full-Moon 941

Chapter 941 Incredible Achievement

Reminiscing the enemies that were defeated throughout Rex's journey, a fundamental lesson was learned. Albeit most of the time, standing on the side as a witness, it doesn't diminish the effect of their deaths that were eerily caused by fundamentally the same mistakes that made her reach this conclusion.

If faced with a serious problem, emotions are the number one enemy.

One needs to win against emotions first before being able to solve the problem at hand.

Just like Adhara, who often stood as a silent observer of their downfalls or arrived too late to lend assistance, Ryze shared a similar role. He primarily lingered in the background, offering little help while relishing the safety and privileges afforded by Rex.

Accompanying Delta is the only helpful thing he does.

Meanwhile, Rex who essentially took him under his wing was constantly in a lot of trouble.

'Without realizing it, I become spoiled. A burden and a leech in his life, giving nothing but disappointment in return' Ryze looks down dejectedly, celebration in its work.? He now realizes that while he complains about the brutality of Rex's ways, he provides no support whatsoever.

In a way, he really has become a spoiled brat who always complains.

Taking a deep breath, he clenched his fists tightly, a flash of determination in his eyes. 'Get it together, Ryze. This is reality, and you have to face it and accept it or else you will always be the same spoiled brat. Even Kyran could do it, and so can I'

Despite still not accepting the brutal ways, he's determined to change.

If he wanted to really understand the right way, he would need to learn about the brutal way.

Conversely, as Ryze grappled with his emotional turmoil and strove for personal growth, Adhara shook her head in recollection. She realized that she, too, hadn't heeded her own advice. Her self-control wavered when she first encountered Giana.

Another massive reason that she respected Rex even more.

Evidently, straying away from emotions is something that is way easier said than done.

Despite the constant wrath he displayed against his enemies, despite the constant pain and suffering he was induced with, when it comes down to it, Rex has always managed to create a plan without any influence of his emotions.

One such he showcased greatly during the fight against the Atkins Family.

"I know that you're going to fail in doing what I said, as it's not something easily learned, but know that I'm also still trying. So don't be disheartened and keep trying, you'll be surprised at how Rex will appreciate your effort when the time comes" Adhara said softly, giving encouragement to the struggling Ryze.

In return, Ryze nodded his head as he gazed back at the testament of might once again.

Meanwhile, Rex drew the last rune of the formation.

Following the completion of the formation, the entire runes he carved glowed, gathering the mana from around the place and turning it into lightning mana. With a touch of his index finger at the center of the formation, it was then connected to the Sky Imprisonment spell, the four lightning dragons in the sky.

Now, the Sky Imprisonment spell is self-sufficient, not needing Rex's mana to maintain.

Rex looked at this and nodded in satisfaction.

Okay, it's done.

But as he was about to do something, a couple of notifications appeared in his vision.

<Sudden Quest completed!>

<Calculating Rastrikan Demons killed...>

<Obtained 200 Billion Exp, 11,312 Rastrikan Demon Cores, Sin of Wrath, and Sin of Envy!>

<For gloating the user's might and bearing as a contender of absolute invincibility using Demon Lord Kirgil who has a notorious reputation amongst the world, the Declaration of Invincibility achievement has been completed!>

<Obtained Quiddity of Invincible, 5 Million Gold, and 10x All-round Stature Crystals>

Upon seeing these notifications, a smile made its way towards his face.

Even though he did what he did to Demon Lord Kirgil in order to not be doubted once again, preventing his forces' morale from always being high for future fights, he wasn't expecting that he would also complete an achievement from the System.

Hmm... Quiddity of Invincible? Is it a skill?

<Quiddity of Invincible>

As an aspiring candidate to reach absolute invincibility, it's the norm to have the bearing worthy of an invincible entity, unable to be blighted by weakening effect. With this passive skill, all weakening effects induced on the user would be weakened by 50%.

Rex read the skill description to the end with his smile gradually widening.

Just when he didn't have much expectation, he was proven dead wrong by the System.

I remember during the fight with the Executor, he used a skill called Crippling Wicked Grasp. A weakening skill for non-humans and the weakening effect is even greater than my Alpha Bearing skill at 40%. Now, with this, it would be reduced to only 20%.

Upon learning about the skill, his mind instantly wanders back to the Executor.

Since the Executor is the entity he would need to defeat, it was natural for him to do this.

While he was excited about the new skill he gained from completing the achievement, his smile stiffened as he remembered something. He quickly gazed at the sky and waved his hand, dispersing a small portion of the dark clouds he summoned.

Right then, the white sphere of the First Breath was exposed for him to see.

Am I feeling this right, System?

<Yes, the Quiddity of Invincible is a very powerful passive skill. It's a skill belonging to the three nearest candidates of the previous race to absolute invincibility, thus able to slightly influence the weakening effect of even the First Breath too>

Just then, Rex's expression, his eyes in particular were shaded as he tilted his head down.

But soon, the corner of his lips curled into a sadistic smile.? Is that so...?

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<Rex Silverstar - Werewolf Form (Weakened)>

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

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

Oustifications: Rastrikan Demons (Minor)

Pack: Silverstar (9/20)

Level: 73 (390,400,250,500/557,250,000,000)

Race: Exalted Royal Black Werewolf

Full-Moon: 3 Days - Hare Moon

Berserk: 27%

Sanity: 45%

Mental: 10,109 (+357)

Strength: 15,160 (+5,480) -> 21,370 (+9,641)

Agility: 18,705 (+6,697) -> 26,500 (+11,925)

Endurance: 13,345 (+5,087) -> 18,880 (+8,562)

Intelligence: 36,855 (+120)

Attributable Stats: 0

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Checking his stats, he could see clearly the increase in his strength.

Previously, he had sensed that his body had gotten somewhat stronger than before, and now he found the explanation. It turns out that the Quiddity of Invincible skill is potent enough to provide partial protection against the weakening effects of the First Breath.

However, he soon frowned when he registered what the System had said.

Is there a race to absolute invincibility before me? Who are these three candidates?

<The information is disclosed for now. The user would need to become stronger than now in order to access this information and gain the answer the user wanted. Please ask again when the user is nearer to absolute invincibility>

Upon hearing this, his eyebrows dipped into a stronger frown.

I expected the answer would cost some gold, however, I didn't expect this. Even I can access the information about the Lunirich Gods, which are essentially Gods in reality for the Werewolves, but how come I don't have access to this?

Despite being curious, Rex wasn't going to probe further forcefully.

Every answer to his problems is becoming stronger, and that is what he will do for now.

Rex shrugged his shoulders and decided to drop the topic, at least he now could assume that these three candidates of absolute invincibility should be the predecessors of the System in ancient times, way before he was even born.

Moving from the subject, he glanced to the far horizon to his right, a fierce glint in his eyes.

Fine, for now, learn the Quakestream Lightning Revelator spell.

<Affirmative.>

Now that the matter about the Rastrikan Demons is finished, he could focus on other things.

One of them is the fact that struck Rex was Elder Tiltrith's odd visit. He sensed that there must be a more important motive for her to personally come. Despite her apparent suspicion about the severity of his actions toward the Demon Lords, Rex had an inkling that she might be using this as a smokescreen to conceal another thing.

It felt like she was here because she was nearby or something.

Albeit faint, I could smell a weird scent and energy around her body that didn't belong to her. The scent and energy also lingers in Elder Rancaladra. I'm sure, both of them came here after going somewhere else, and I need to know.

New information was uploaded into Rex's brain as he learned the new spell instantly.

Pausing for a second, he arranged the information.

Just when Adhara and Ryze who saw that he had finished making the formation wanted to come down, the two of them saw Rex slowly transforming into his Werewolf form which made the two halt their intentions.

At the sight of this, the two instantly became alert.

"Did you sense anything around, Ryze?" Adhara mused, darting her eyes left and right.

Upon hearing this, Ryze shook his head, indicating that he hadn't sensed anything unusual in their vicinity except for the peculiar odor emanating from the corpses of the Rastrikan Demons submerged in water. "No, there doesn't seem to be anything around us. But to make sure, I'll go scout the area"

With his newfound determination, he turned into his draconic form and flew away.

Soaring in the darkened sky, Ryze scanned his reptilian sharp eyes to the ground and found nothing for miles. He then quickly came back and rely upon the findings to Adhara, "Nothing, I don't even see a mutated animal at least in two miles radius"

"Then why did he turn into his Werewolf form?" Adhara muttered in puzzlement.

However, the two could see Rex making his move.

Like visible vibrations, lightning sparks could be seen coursing on the surface of his skin.

Opening his eyes fully, Rex suddenly jumped to the tallest tree branch around the area with his snout facing skywards. More sparks of lightning could be seen gathering around him, the mana he amassed was enormous for the First Breath's standard.

Under the gaze of the onlookers, the sparks of lightning were pulled to his mouth.

It was almost as if there was a magnet that pulled the lightning and created a translucent, black aura seething from this mouth. Following, with one huge breath, Rex unleashed a mighty howl that seemed to shake the entire place.

Aooooouuuu!!

Decorating that howl is a blast of lightning shockwave, blasting to the surroundings.

Adhara and Ryze were surprised when they saw this, but the black lightning shockwave did nothing aside from tickling their skin as it went past them and kept on going, moving faster than the speed of sound and reaching far and beyond.

Ten seconds later, the black lightning shockwave already disappeared in the far distance.

On the other hand, Adhara felt her throat was invaded with a burning sensation.

Just this sensation alone tells her that Rex has used the Silverstar Howl, similar to the ones he did back in the Carabidis Temple and also whenever he won a huge fight. It forced a howl out of her mouth too, a collective requiem of Werewolves.

Meanwhile, countless miles away.

Upon hearing the distant howl, Elder Rancaladra, and Elder Tilrith turned to look back.

Both of them instantly recognized the mighty howl as a howl from Rex, the weight of the howl could even put strains on their bodies thus it was unmistakable that this howl was coming from Rex, not other Werewolves.

"Seemed like he succeeded in taking down the troublemakers" Elder Rancaladra uttered.

Elder Tilrith also nodded in agreement, "I believe so too..."

As they prepared to move on, their instincts kicked in when they detected a rapidly approaching presence. Their eyes locked onto a shockwave of black lightning surging through the ground, moving even faster than their top speeds.

Swoosh!

Blitz!

It went past them, only brushing their skin, seemingly tagging them with a touch.

"Werewolves... In every era, it's the same. A mighty howl to showcase their dominance after winning a fight, very typical" Elder Rancaladra mused with scorn, the Werewolves' pride is an admirable trait, but often times overbearing.

However, Elder Tilrith has a peculiar gaze, pondering about this with squinted eyes.

Chapter 942 Hare Moon Effect

Contrary to what Elder Rancaladra thought, Elder Tilrith suspect a different thing.

'He's trying to gain something through this spell' She pondered, frowning as she reached out her hand, finding that the lightning inside the ground prickled her palm lightly. 'A Royal Black Prince is already bad enough, but he's also an Awakened'

Observing the lightning sparks, she frowned deeply.

Since Rex cast such a large-scale spell, there must be a clear reason for this.

Pausing for a moment, thinking deeply to decipher the purpose of this spell, her eyes eventually widened in revelation. 'Did he find out about Elder Noskear? No... he shouldn't know about it, at least not yet. If he did, then there's no need for this spell. So he must be checking because of his suspicion of me. It's a mistake to tag along Elder Rancaladra, his intuition is very sharp'

Elder Tilrith realized that the spell was a detection spell.

But she was quite surprised to find that Rex possessed a spell that spanned countless miles.

It was not a regular spell, something was enhancing it.

"We'll part our ways here, Elder Tilrith. Your company, I am thankful" Elder Rancaladra snapped her out of her trance, he already prepared himself to fly away as there was no reason for him to linger here anymore.

Upon hearing this, Elder Tilrith nodded her head before he flew away, zooming away.

Gazing at the fading silhouette of the Prime Heavenly Dragonman, Elder Tilrith smiled slyly as she recognized that he was in a bad mood. "Then again, he was utterly rejected by that kid. I don't blame him for being frustrated. Rex getting picked instead of him definitely hurts his pride"

"No matter, I can wait. Next time, I'll make sure to get his life essence" She added softly.

Shifting her eyes away, she then looked into the far distance.

"I was wrong to come, but you are also wrong for being impatient. If I were you, I'd dodge the spell no matter the cost" Elder Tilrith uttered, conveying a silent message to another entity in the far distance.

Meanwhile, similarly, Elder Noskear and her legion of death are marching back home.

As expected, the tension is quite high amongst them.

Elder Noskear faced a double humiliation, first in her defeat against the Royal Black Prince, and now at the hands of Elder Tilrith and Elder Rancaladra, who obstructed her path and rendered this march in vain.

It was obvious that she was losing the respect of her own army.

Her teeth ground together in vexation, a clear indication of her frustration with the situation.

Contrary to what Elder Tilrith and Elder Rancaladra experienced, Elder Noskear didn't hear any howl as she was already quite far away. However, the lightning spell still reaches even to her which was quite surprising.

Since there was no danger coming from the spell, it didn't spike any concern from them.

With a wave of her hand, Elder Noskear created a barrier to block the spell.

Just when the lightning spell, surging through the ground with intense vibrations, was about to strike her and the army of Undead, it halted a mere meter away, releasing a gentle gust of wind that passed through them.

Upon seeing this, Elder Nosekar frowned as she was not expecting this.

Initially, she thought that there was an attack.

But turns out it was not, the spell wasn't even able to reach her and the army of Undead.

Staring in the direction from which the spell originated, Elder Noskear narrowed her eyes and realized that it was coming from roughly the same direction where he met with Elder Tilrith and Elder Rancaladra earlier.

Realizing this, she pondered a series of questions.

"Who conjured such a detection spell? And for what reason?" Her thoughts spilled out, aloud.

Meanwhile, Rex ceased his howl and returned back to his normal form.

The spell is working, I could even sense Elder Rancaladra and Elder Tilrith who were already quite far away. But there's nothing out of the ordinary. Does Elder Tilrith really come here to only tell me that she has done her part?

Despite the result of the detection spell, he was still doubtful.

However, there's nothing he can work with, the detection spell provides him with nothing.

"Rex, what's wrong?" Adhara landed behind him and asked.

Pivoting his body around to face her, he shook his head. "It's Elder Tilrith, she's acting oddly. I couldn't find a reason for her to come here. Yes, she's a Succubus, and there's a chance she might want to get close to Elder Rancaladra for her own motives. But I doubt that's the real reason she came to visit"

"Doesn't it make sense when she came here to check your work?" Adhara asked back.

In response, Rex could only shrug his shoulders and sigh.

Although it made sense that she came to check whether he was dealing with the Rastrikan Demons soundly, she could do it from afar, there was no need for her to come personally and even go out of her way to talk.

Except that is if she's close, but the Demon Kingdom is far away from here.

Abandoning his contemplations, Rex asked, "I have a rune for you, where do you want it?"

"Neck again...?" Finding this natural, Adhara instantly answered.

Rex face-palm his own face as he was already half-expecting her answer to be that, but he was not going to let her neck be filled with runes. "How about somewhere hard to be seen this time? Maybe your stomach would be better"

Even though she feels dejected, she decides to go with the place where Rex proposed.

Stripping the plate armor, she exposes her elegantly toned abdomen.

Upon seeing her bare skin that seemed smooth and supple, Rex was entranced for a few seconds. It seemed Adhara realized this, the atmosphere suddenly turned intense as she turned her face to the side which had already become rosy.

Recovering from his trance, Rex clears his throat awkwardly.

With all the pressure that I've been getting lately, this kind of reaction is natural, I guess.

<Yes, stress can certainly amplify sexual desires. However, the user is experiencing more pronounced effects due to the impending Hare Moon. As the Hare Moon approaches, the libido of Werewolves intensifies until it reaches the extreme when the Full Moon arrives>

It was then that Rex forced out a wry smile.

Seems like the Hare Moon is when Werewolves indulge themselves in sexual fantasies.

Inhaling deeply to maintain his composure, Rex extended his hand, gently resting it on Adhara's waist. He intended to mark her with the Sin of Envy, a perfect rune he had acquired from completing the sudden quest earlier.

Just like the name, the Sin of Envy rune would provide enhancement based on envy.

Due to the fact that Werewolves, at least the ones in the Silverstar Pack could be enhanced through runes, the System seemed to adapt the reward into a rune format. But then again, Rex didn't mind this adjustment as long as it led to increased strength for all of them.

Giving this to Adhara would be the best bet.

Coupled with her fire element, her abilities will become way stronger.

Upon making contact with Adhara's skin, he unconsciously held his breath as an electric surge of lust coursed through his veins violently. Its potency was so overwhelming that Rex felt his own breathing become labored, and his thoughts grew increasingly hazy and wild.

Surprisingly enough, one touch was able to turn his entire mind upside down.

Adhara could instantly notice this change.

She quickly caressed his face before pointing at Ryze who was still on the side with her eyes.

"Ryze, can you scout around the area and make sure that there is nobody around? Also, bring those two with you" Rex commanded. He didn't turn his face towards Ryze, fixing his gaze solely on Adhara.

It was evident to normal people that he was burning with lust, but it was not for Ryze.

Just as Ryze was about to reply, Adhara intervened.

Pulling away from Rex's embrace, she glanced at Ryze sweetly and said, "No, there's no need for you to do that, Ryze. We'll be making our way back to the Dwarven Kingdom after Rex brands a rune on me, so prepare to leave"

"Hmm...? O- Okay" Ryze replied back, puzzled in which one he should follow.

Upon hearing this, Rex looked at Adhara with a frown.

"If you want it, you'll have to wait," She said, teasingly. "For now, brand me with the rune"

Despite his frustration, Rex decided to comply and brand the rune.

For a moment, a subtle, greenish light could be seen before the Sin of Envy rune was engraved underneath her slit-shaped naval. It was dark green in color and took the form of an all-seeing demonic eye.

But in a fleeting moment, the dark green color was corrupted and turned bright violet.

Adhara could feel a change in her body.

However, it was not evident as the rune remained inactive while she was not feeling envious.

Even though it was not intended, the fact that the Sin of Envy rune was engraved directly below Adhara's naval somewhat makes her even sexier. It serves as an increase to Rex's desire to want her right now.

Due to that, his naughty hands started to probe around again but got pushed away.

Rex could only click his tongue in displeasure.

It was torturous now that his mind was already completely fixated on his sexual urges.

"Okay, let's go. I'll take the lead" Adhara said with the brightest smile as she donned her armor once again and strode forward. She left Rex behind, who was left visibly frustrated, wiping his face in exasperation after not getting what he desired.

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Meanwhile, the Dark Elf Kingdom.

"Keep firing, familiar yourself with the way your bow moves!" General Theodas is overseeing the training of the military force who was now perfecting their bowmanship. His face is stern, and his teaching is strict and ruthless.

Dark Elves in general are already an expert in using the bow, their primary weapon.

However, General Theodas doesn't accept anything less than perfect.

Approaching a Dark Elf who missed the bullseye by a mere centimeter, General Theodas slapped him on the back of his head, "If that's a Demon or a Vampire, and you missed its heart, then you're going to die. In battle, it takes only one mistake for you to lose your life, do you understand?!"

"Y- Yes, general! I will not make the same mistake again!" the Dark Elf immediately replied.

Upon hearing this, General Theodas shook his head and walked away, "For dark nature's sake, the advancements are going to be slow if there are no big stimulations. I need to think of a way to make the training more efficient"

Just as he continued watching the training, his eyes were attracted to the side.

A figure in the distance caught his attention.

'Hmm...? Isn't that the Silverstar Pack's Luna, Evelyn? What is she doing here?' He pondered.

Evelyn seemed to be escorted by the emissary back to the entrance.

Contrary to her usual royal outfit, she was covered in a? plain cloak, seemingly in disguise.

Judging from where she comes from, it seems she came from the castle, showing that she had some matters to attend to here. However, what puzzles General Theodas is the fact that he was not informed about her visit.

It was his duty as the General to manage the security of the kingdom.

For such a figure to come to the kingdom without him knowing is definitely a huge blunder.

General Theodas quickly strode over to the exit but was too late, Evelyn had already gone into the caravan before it drove away. Having no other choice, he decided to ask about this to the emissary.

"Why am I not informed about Lady Evelyn's visit?"

"O- Oh?! General Theodas!"

Dismissing the emissary's surprise, General Theodas raised an eyebrow questioningly.

"If something happened to her, if something happened to her in the kingdom, the Luna of the Silverstar Pack, then I'll be the one taking responsibility. A huge responsibility as I have to answer to Lord Rex. So I'm going to ask again, why am I not informed about this?"

Chapter 943 Forgetting The Actual Prize

Despite having the position of an emissary, the Dark Elf is not higher than General Theodas.

In the hierarchical structure of the Dark Elf Kingdom, General Theodas is a noble and also the right-hand man of King Jorik who has taken responsibility for the entire Dark Elf military forces and is also the personal protector of the queen.

A question from his is as heavy as a question from King Jorik himself.

"Well? Aren't you going to answer my question?" General Theodas pressured further.

Bowing his body slightly, showing that he was apologetic about what he was going to say, the emissary then replied, "Forgive me for overstepping, General, but I have not the authority to speak about this matter. I hope you understand. Also, please refrain from speaking about this encounter to anyone else"

General Theodas frowned and squinted his eyes when he heard this.

For the emissary to keep this a secret from him, the matter must be extremely serious.

"Does the King know about this?" General Theodas asked again.

However, instead of answering, the Dark Elf lowered his head a bit more and remained silent.

Seeing this response, General Theodas couldn't conceal his surprise. It was one thing if he had not been informed about this matter, but it was an entirely different matter when King Jorik, the ruler of the kingdom, remained unaware of such a significant event transpiring within his domain.

Pausing for a moment, his mind raced in contemplation.

'Surely, he couldn't tell me because of Lady Evelyn's request. And if she didn't want me and King Jorik to know, then she must be worried that her visit here would be spread. But who is she worried about? A person that me and King Jorik are close to... then it must be Lord Rex'

General Theodas managed to grasp the situation quickly.

Originating as the head of a noble family before becoming the general, he's adept at this.

Raising his gaze, he then turned to look at the castle a determined flicker appeared in his eyes, 'If that's the case, then she must be coming here to meet with someone. She doesn't know many Dark Elves, so it must be easy to figure out who she's meeting. I need to know, not necessarily to poke my nose into her business, but for the safety purposes'

Meanwhile, the Dwarven Kingdom.

It was already some time ago that the battle against the Rastrikan Demons had ended.

At the start of the battle, the Dwarven Kingdom's forces and its reinforcements were having a very low morale as their enemy was the strongest, and the most vicious Demon Lord of the Rastrikan Demons. But that very Demon Lord went on a rampage and killed his own legion.

Under his might, he managed to end the fight one-sidedly.

Just to show that had he not gone berserk, the kingdom might have been destroyed.

But thankfully, they prevail and survive.

Surely, their deceased ancestors looking down at them from the sky had given their blessing and caused the battle to end this way. Even then, the fact that Demon Lord Kirgil escaped from the battlefield still made them worry.

Despite their victory, the fact that someday, these Demons would be back is troubling.

It was this that made fighting the Rastrikan Demons depressing.

Not only were they known to be brutal and very powerful, but no matter how many times the Dwarves won against them, they would come back eventually and launch another attack until the Dwarven Kingdom was razed into the ground.

However, shockingly, their doubt was completely wiped away at the sight of a phenomenon.

Flunra, who had returned from chasing Demon Lord Kirgil, stood atop the wall alongside Lady Lauren, Sir Daniel, a Dwarf Captain, a Tigerman Captain, and a Dark Elf Captain. All of them gazed intently at the horizon, where a magnificent sight unfolded before their eyes.

A horrifying yet beautiful scenery at the same time.

It appeared a couple of hours ago, and the tortured entity was definitely Demon Lord Kirgil.

"With this, the Rastrikan Demons are no more. Tell your people that it's over, you can all relax, the Rastrikan Demons is gone for good" Flunra, casting his eyes to the Dwarf Captain said with confidence in his tone.

Upon hearing this, the Dwarf Captain nodded and left, "I'll bear the good news..."

Subsequently, the Tigerman Captain and the Dark Elf captain excused themselves as they would need to assess the casualties their forces suffered and handle the aftermath of the fight so that they could report it later to their Kings.

"Guess we're still underestimating Lord Rex to an extent" Sir Daniel uttered his thought.

Lady Lauren nodded her head in agreement, "Yes, it appears so"

Even though the two of them were directly a part of Rex's forces, it would be a lie if they didn't feel intimidated at all against the notorious Rastrikan Demons. But turns out, there was no need for them to be worried as their current leader is even fiercer.

It was not even close.

Rex has managed to defeat the entire Rastrikan Demons legions in mere days.

On the other hand, while listening to the two, Flunra nodded in affirmation realizing Rex's intention in doing something like this. 'Great work, my Lord, the effect is instant. I'm sure others would be confident in you even more with this' He praised inwardly.

'Compared to the other Princes, I'm going to say you are more aware' Flunra added.

Due to the incident of him going berserk back home, Flunra had thought that Rex would be going against the Rastrikan Demons to let out some steam like any other Princes would do when they were under a huge amount of stress.

Similarly, the brutal endeavor he did to Demon Lord Kirgil should be because of his wrath.

But turns out, it was not entirely for that.

Even in his frustration, Rex remained level-headed, setting him apart from other Princes that Flunra had served or encountered in the past. Anger is a Werewolf's weakness and strength, and Rex was able to utilize his anger enough to lean more on making it a strength rather than a weakness.

Now, even Lady Lauren and Sir Daniel trusted his power more.

Surely, this wasn't only experienced by the two of them, others should also feel more trust.

But then again, it's hard to not acknowledge Rex's power when the testament, the sight of Demon Lord Kirgil turned into a decoration in the sky, restrained with powerful black lightning dragons and tortured is displayed for everyone to see.

Only a madman would dismiss Rex's power as nothing after seeing this testament.

In addition, it was also not them who witnessed this testament.

Huvuki and the Dwarven Army alongside Hastios and the Elven Army could feel the tremble in the chasm of mana in the surroundings, and eventually saw Demon Lord Kirgil being pinned in the sky, being turned into a living testament.

Many of them wondered why Rex didn't come with them back to the Dwarven Kingdom.

Turns out, he was dealing with the last Demon Lord.

One of the Dwarves Captains strode over and looked at Huvuki with teary eyes.

"M- My King, it's Demon Lord Kirgil... then doesn't it mean..."

"Yes... the Rastrikan Demons are defeated completely"

Upon hearing this, the Dwarf alongside the others who are near enough to catch Huvuki's words began to tear up, unable to contain the emotions swelling within them. Right now marks the end of their haunting terror of the Rastrikan Demons who were responsible for massacring their ancestors and would never let them live in peace.

Some sobbed profusely, their tears wetting their thick mustaches and beards.

Each one of them, a full-grown, burly Dwarf had their stone hearts melted and expressed their emotions openly. It was a genuine moment that the Dwarves shared with each other, a moment when they were finally free from looming danger.

Huvuki watches this with a slight smile, enduring his own emotions as the King.

With determination, he gazed at Demon Lord Kirgil in the sky.

His eyebrows ceased together as this is a favor that would need to be repaid, so he swore to himself in his heart, 'I'll do anything to repay this back, Lord Rex. Mark my words, for rescuing my kingdom, I swear that I will provide any help that I can...'

On the other side, the Elven Army halted their march seeing the Dwarves stopped.

"Should we tell them to keep moving? Demon Lord Kirgil might already be dead, but the fight might still be going" An Elf approaches Huvuki, riding a mythical beast, and asks with concern as the fight might not be finished yet.

In return, Hastios pondered for a second, deliberating his options.

Given the Dwarves' history with the Rastrikan Demons and the immense pain and suffering they had endured, it was only natural for them to be emotional. In fact, it would have been rather unusual if they hadn't experienced a surge of emotions considering the magnitude of their past, painful ordeals.

Recognizing that it's best to not intervene, Hastios shook his head, "Let's leave them be"

"Send our fastest scout to go on ahead and check the Dwarven Kingdom. If the battle is still going, I would inform King Huvuki to keep moving" He added, commanding the Elf with a wave of his hand.

Inside, Hastios hoped that the battle was already over.

Seeing the current state of the Dwarves, it's clear that they needed this time for themselves.

~

Meanwhile, Rex and the others were a minute into their journey to the Dwarven Kingdom.

Adhara is standing at the very front, leading the group while Rex is at the very back, still frustrated from being rejected earlier. I could make do with five minutes, at least it'll satisfy me a bit until we reach back to the Dwarven Kingdom. Why is she acting like this?

Despite his stoic expression, he's still complaining inside his head.

Usually, Adhara has never rejected him as she also wanted to do it with him every time.

But seems like she had a change of traits during his absence.

I already knew that the Hare Full Moon would heighten my and the others' libido. I'm confident in my ability to control my sexual urges, but this is way worse than I expected. It feels almost similar to the first time I was about to do it with Evelyn.

Compared to the usual sexual urges, this one is more extreme.

Rex could feel his mind becoming foggy and it's hard to think of other things aside from that.

<Hare Moon's effect is not a natural reaction of sexual urges, it's a supernatural phenomenon. Compared to the normal sexual urge, the one induced by the Hare Moon is amplified with numerous effects that would get worse through time>

Well, if I indulge in it, would the effect lessen?

<Yes, the Luna would have the most effect in lessening the effect of the Hare Moon. However, other female pack members would also be able to reduce the effect albeit not as potent, and would need to do more>

Nodding his head, he decided to focus on calming himself down for now.

But in the process, his eyes caught sight of Mazel and Aructh still following him from behind.

Just as Rex was about to tell them to go back to their remaining spared legions, his eyes widened realizing something. Damn it, I forgot because of this fog in my mind. Caraptaros, it's still at the center of the lake and is neglected.

Seeing Aructh and Mazel made him remember that he had forgotten about Caraptaros.

Despite its appearance, Rex didn't kill it.

Rex was already planning to make Caraptaros his own the moment he learned it from Aructh and Mazel, it's a unique Demon that was given by the Demon Origin himself! In no circumstances he would let Caraptaros go without making it his.

"Wait, let's go back for a bit. I forgot something" He suddenly said and halted his steps.

Upon hearing this, Adhara turned with a raised brow, "What did you forget?"

"The actual prize of defeating the Rastrikan Demons," He said with an excited smile, pivoting around and starting to make his way back. "It's a gift from the Demon Origin himself, and I'm going to make it mine"

"By mine you mean...?" Adhara asked again.

But this made Rex smile even wider, "Of course, I'm going to turn it into a Werewolf"

Chapter 944 First Failure

Even though the main motivation in coming here was to defeat the Rastrikan Demons and complete the sudden quest, obtaining the massive rewards that couldn't be ignored, there was another thing that piqued Rex's interest.

It's something that doesn't lose out compared to the rewards gained from the sudden quest.

A unique Demon, Caraptaros.

Based on the details provided by Aructh and Mazel from earlier, Caraptaros could serve as both a portal back to the Demon Kingdom if needed and also a site where the Rastrikan Demons would revive when they were killed in a battle.

From the moment he learned about it, Rex couldn't help but wonder an important question.

Can Caraptaros be turned into a Werewolf?

Just imagining the potential of being able to turn Caraptaros into a Werewolf, granting immortality to him and the others, stirred a raging excitement in Rex's veins, a possibility potent enough to drive him to the brink of madness.

Even if there were countless powerful legions standing in his way, he would not stop.

Rex would not stop until he had his hands on Caraptaros.

Granting immortality to the Silverstar Pack is something that he needed the most right now.

At the thought of this massive possibility, a layer of protection that would help him against the Executor, Rex quickened his pace. Reaching back to the lake, he stares intently at the massive dark boulder at the heart of the lake, which stands motionless in the midst of the gently swaying water caused by the breeze.

Caraptaros remained unresponsive, even with the death of the Rastrikan Demons.

It's still exactly in the same place as when Rex left it before.

Unable to contain the excitement, Rex's eyes glistened and scanned Caraptaros.

<Caraptaros the Ward>

Race: Fragmented Red Mordrak

Power: ??? - Inviolable Demonic Aegis

Mental: -

Strength: ???

Agility: 1

Endurance: ???

Intelligence: 0

Rex looked at Caraptaros' stats and frowned, he wasn't expecting something like this.

Most of the physical stats appeared as question marks, signifying their unidentifiable because he was too weak. But what intrigued Rex the most was the Mental stat point, which appeared as a stripe, something he had never encountered before.

System, care to explain this?

<Caraptaros is completely immune to mental attacks, thus the mental stat point is irrelevant>

Immune? Does it not have a consciousness?

<It possesses consciousness and intelligence akin to that of an animal. Yet, it's a creation born from a fragment of the Origin, resulting in an incomplete soul. This peculiar mutation accounts for its underdeveloped consciousness, and as a side effect, grants it immunity to mental attacks>

Upon reading this, Rex nodded, it's not completely mindless.

Approaching Caraptaros with steady steps, his heartbeat began to quicken in response.

Rex would now try and turn Caraptaros into a Werewolf.

However, the confidence he had earlier was nowhere to be seen, it vanished after he saw Caraptaros' stats. More of his confidence was stripped away when the System stated that Caraptaros was made by a fragment of the Demon Origin.

Throughout my days, I've never failed to turn someone into a Werewolf.

As he waded through the deepening water towards Caraptaros at the center of the lake, submerging half of his thighs in water, his mind raced, and cold sweat beaded along the side of his face. Even Demon Lord Arutch and Mazel were easily turned, so there shouldn't be any problem. But why am I feeling nervous right now...?

Despite never failing, Rex feels pressured at this current moment.

It was mainly because this was the first time that he tried to turn something like this.

None of his pack members were turned when they were stronger than Rex himself. But now, Caraptaros had several question marks in its physical stats, making it, in a way, stronger than the current Rex, adding an invisible pressure to turn it into a Werewolf.

Reaching beside Caraptaros, Rex gazed at its colossal body before taking in a deep breath.

Similarly, Adhara and Ryze also held their breaths in response.

Both of them could feel the nervousness coming from Rex which in turn made them also nervous. In addition, they also knew what this would mean if Rex really managed to turn Caraptaros into a Werewolf.

Upon touching the surface of Caraptaros' skin, a pulsating demonic malice could be felt.

A sinister flow of energy from hell itself permeates into Rex's hand.

System, tell me, can I turn Caraptaros into a Werewolf?

<Scanning...>

<Completed!>

<Yes.>

Looking at the last notification, Rex's eyes widened excitedly as this was great news.

However, his excitement didn't last long.

<But there are several factors that reduce the likelihood of the user turning Caraptaros into a Werewolf, as it's a fragment of the Demon Origin and has additional layers for complete transformation. Does the user like to know the probability?>

Tch, I knew it. No, don't tell me the probability, I'll just have to try very hard.

How many chances do I have until I can't try anymore?

<The user has 3 chances before Caraptaros is locked, and would never be turned forever>

Despite the slim odds suggested by the System's response, Rex remained unwavering in his determination. He decided to attempt the transformation without any prior preparations, still holding onto the belief that he would not fail in turning Caraptaros into a Werewolf.

Browsing through the System's shop, he bought a perfect rune for Caraptaros.

It's the Paramount Resistance rune.

A rune that would give Caraptaros the ability to be heavily resistant to energy attacks.

Since Caraptaros is already immune to mental attacks and is probably very sturdy as its endurance stat is a bunch of question marks, Rex thought that the Paramount Resistance rune would make use of its strength, turning it into a literal unmovable object.

Caraptaros would only need to be impossible to kill to utilize its strength effectively.

Placing his hand on the surface of Caraptaros' armor-like skin, Rex closed his eyes to center his mind and body, preparing to commence the process of turning Caraptaros into a Werewolf. After a few moments of profound silence, his eyes suddenly snapped open.

"Brand!" He chanted, initiating the branding process.

Immediately after that, his palm glowed as the rune forced its way to Caraptaros' skin.

However, in contrast to the usual swift branding process, a formidable resistance arose, vehemently pushing against Rex's hand and the rune. Fiery sparks of razor-edged demonic energy erupted from their point of contact, creating violent explosions in the surrounding water that gradually became more violent.

"Is it normal for Rex to struggle this much?" Ryze asked, watching this scene from behind.

Upon hearing this, Adhara shook her head, "No, it's not..."

Moments ago, the two had witnessed him effortlessly transform Aructh and Mazel into Werewolves. He did it with extreme nonchalance, quickly and very easily without a trace of effort as if turning others was merely a mundane task for him.

But it seems Caraptaros is completely different than the others.

Rex holds his right hand with his other hand, trying his best to keep his hand steady.

It's resisting this much when I'm only branding it with a rune...?

Although he was willing to try, he had severely underestimated Caraptaros as the resistance was too strong when it was only the branding process. He couldn't imagine how hard it would be to complete the transformation process using his blood.

Fueled with the desire to gain its power, Rex turned into his Werewolf form again.

In addition, he also activates all the enhancements in his arsenal.

Responding as strong, a surge of demonic energy that was abundant within Caraptaros' colossal frame violently erupted, unleashing a formidable wave of power that compelled Rex to take a step back, revealing the true extent of its might.

Just this rush of energy alone tells Rex that he's not capable of overpowering it right now.

"Adhara, Ryze, come help me!" Rex yelled without looking back.

Upon hearing this surprising cry for help, both of them quickly turned into their respective forms and rushed in, forcing their way through the rush of energy before eventually, after a hazardous attempt, standing beside Rex.

Still resisting the gush of energy, Adhara asked loudly, "What should we do?!"

"Focus your energy on the back of the rune and push until it reaches the skin, don't stop until it's completely engraved on its skin" Rex replied back, the gush of energy made it so that he needed to speak loud too.

Both Adhara and Ryze darted their eyes to Rex's hand and found what he was talking about.

A radiant blue rune can be seen in between Rex's palm and Caraptaros' skin. It was being held back by the relentless pushback of the demonic energy emanating from Caraptaros' impenetrable hide. Gradually, the rune is visibly yielded ground inch by inch.

Not wasting a single second, Ryze and Adhara quickly leaped into action.

Doing as Rex instructed, the two channeled their energies and helped push the rune forward.

Swish...!

Knowing that it still wouldn't be enough, Rex summoned Amanir and Devo to join the fray, adding their combined strength to the relentless push against the surging demonic energy, and only when the five of them combined their might that the demonic energy starts to be overwhelmed.

Bit by bit, it was pushed back, and the blue rune moved forward once again.

Eventually, the rune touched Caraptaros' skin.

Swoosh!

Boom!!

Upon managing to finally make contact with its skin, an explosion of energy happened and hurtled Ryze and Adhara away, crashing through multiple trees. Similarly, Amanir and Devo's physical bodies were extinguished, evaporating into spirit energy.

Rex was the only one left, and he was panting heavily as a notification appeared.

<Branding process completed!>

<Please infuse Caraptaros with the user's blood to finish the transformation process!>

<Unable to proceed! Please overwhelm the target first>

Gulping harshly, exhausted from the struggle, Rex fell to his knees to steady his breaths. He wouldn't continue this process of trying to transform Caraptaros right now. If he did insist and was reckless, he might suffer from this and weaken himself unnecessarily.

Due to that, he decided to end it to end it here.

After he made some preparations with the help of the System, he would try again.

Seems like I couldn't force to turn Caraptaros. It's my first time failing to turn someone, it feels like shit. Whatever, at least if I succeed, then this would be another layer of defense against the Executor.

Rex stood back up again after resting and nodded at the sight of the engraved rune.

While touching Caraptaros, he channeled his black lightning.

"Pneuma Spell, Ether Blink..."

Crack!

Blitz!

From the sky, a thick bolt of black lightning made by mana descended, striking both Rex and Caraptaros simultaneously. Within the electrifying surge, their bodies began to flicker wildly, as if they were transforming into pure lightning essence.

However, when the lightning strike dissipated, Rex and Caraptaros still remained there.

"I still can't use the stronger spells, huh... So how can I move Caraptaros? Is there no other way aside from carrying it?" Rex pondered out loud. He could leave Caraptaros behind, he needs to bring it back to Dargena City.

Conversely, he tries to use his Pneuma Spells but ultimately fails.

Adhara and Ryze came back from the lake and saw Rex rubbing his chin while looking at Caraptaros. Both of them could tell that he failed to turn Caraptaros, and is now thinking of something else entirely.

But under their surprised gaze, the two saw Rex digging his hands into the ground.

Following that, Caraptaros' body moved.

His muscles strained, bulging prominently, and his veins pulsated visibly as Rex heaved Caraptaros from the ground, which proved to be exceptionally heavy. It was a sensation he had long forgotten, for there were very few things he couldn't lift, and this was a rare reminder.

Like Atlas carrying the world, he carries Caraptaros, shaped like a turtle on his back.

Rex's step was now quaking the ground, the sheer weight of Caraptaros caused this.

"Do you need any help? It's going to be hard to carry that while following me from behind, you know?" Adhara teased, obviously making fun of Rex who was not long earlier, was burning with lust.

Clicking his tongue in displeasure, Rex walked past her in frustration, "Shut up"

Chapter 945 A Slip Of The Tongue

<As this is the user's first time turning someone in a sense, stronger, into a Werewolf, the user is not aware of the requirement or procedure needed to be done before initiating the transformation process>

<Turning someone into a Werewolf heavily relies on physical and mental resilience>

<It would be significantly easier to turn others if their physical and mental resilience are weakened, smoothing the transformation process, which could be done through beating the target, external weakening and strengthening items, or forcing the target to accept being transformed>

<For Caraptaros specifically, the second option is the best course of action>

<Determining materials to weaken Caraptaros...>

Rex and the others were making their way slowly through the swamp, heading back to the Dwarven Kingdom. Along the way, he asked the System whether it was normal for him to fail in turning Caraptaros like this. He was still in disbelief as he had never failed before.

But now, the answer has become clear.

It turns out turning others is not absolute, and is influenced by two detrimental factors.

Now that I think about it, the others were turned at the perfect moments. Adhara willingly embraced the change, Kyran, devastated by the loss of his family, was mentally vulnerable, Evelyn was on the brink of death, and both Gistella and Flunra were weakened from their defeat against me before being turned.

Upon reflection, Rex realized that the others already fulfilled the factors before turning.

He turned them without knowing that the factors were fulfilled.

On the other hand, Caraptaros, in addition to not having a full consciousness and not being defeated by him, is also made from a fragment of the Demon Origin. Just these factors alone show that its physical and mental resilience is very strong.

It's not a surprise that Rex found it hard to turn Caraptaros into a Werewolf.

Rex could try to beat it into submission as he did to Flunra back then, but Caraptaros' stats he saw earlier dissuade him from trying the rough route. Out of its physical stats, Caraptaros' endurance is stated in question marks.

Even if he wanted to, he doubted he would be able to do anything to it.

Currently, there were only Adhara and Ryze alongside Rex, walking through the swamp.

Just a few moments earlier, Rex already told Aructh and Mazel to go back to the Demon Kingdom and regroup with the remaining Rastrikan Demons that were spared. Assuming that Elder Tilrith knew already about his deeds, he decided that letting them go back was not a problem as in no way he's going to take care of those two.

Both were turned for display purposes and added bonus stats to himself.

Also, placing them in the outer pack members also helped detach them from the inner pack.

Not stopping at that, Rex also demotes them to the Iota-rank, giving them not spectacular benefits of a Werewolf's physical strengthening and also gave them no Werewolf form, similar to Rex when he was still a Half-Werewolf, and also made them conduits of the Minor Oustification.

It's one of the benefits of unlocking a Minor Oustification.

Fear and Death that were caused by Aructh and Mazel would serve as a boost for Rex.

Due to this specific reason, he intentionally spared some of the Rastrikan Demons, ensuring that Aructh and Mazel would instill terror in them through their forms, subsequently granting Rex a stat boost. However, there was a crucial limitation, the fear and death had to be directly connected to Rex, and the stat boost would only be triggered if the targets were Rastrikan Demons.

Only when the Minor Oustification reached Major Oustification that this effect spread.

<Minor Oustification boosts: +111>

<Minor Oustification boosts: +213>

<... +356>

Seeing the growing increase in the Minor Oustification boosts, Rex smiled elatedly.

When I get back, I'll assign them to the stats I need.

Meanwhile, Adhara glanced to the side and found Ryze walking slightly behind them dejectedly, she smiled wryly at the sight of this. He wanted to help and tried to carry Caraptaros, but he could barely stand on his feet.

Due to that, he was embarrassed before Rex took over again in carrying Caraptaros.

"Rex, I have a question..." Adhara suddenly asked, whisperingly.

Catching the sight of Rex smiling at his own thoughts, Adhara determined that he had already vented out his anger and was already back to his normal mood again. So she decided that this was the perfect time to ask, "Since when did you get your black mark back? I've never seen you use it for a while, and then you started using it again"

"I had a problem with it, but I resolved it and got it back" Rex replied nonchalantly.

However, he decided to leave an important detail.

Telling her that I went there to address the issue with Calidora would not be good, right? Especially considering she now possesses the Sin of Envy, I am not prepared for an argument with her in case it escalates.

Evelyn is very jealous and furious at what he is about to do.

It's understandable, but he wouldn't want to imagine what Adhara would do if she knew.

Upon hearing this, Adhara nodded a few times with her mouth shaping into an O letter. But then, her expression shifted as she posed another question, "Did something happen back at home that I'm not aware of?"

Rex's expression tightened as he remembered what he had done.

But he tries to keep a level head, he has to provide a good enough answer as when he first met with Adhara before departing for the fight against the Rastrikan Demons, he needed comfort from her so it would be easy for her to tell if he tries to lie.

Eventually, he decided to tell the truth as it would come out anyway.

"I was weakened from dealing with the issue surrounding my Banished Dark Moon King Mark. Then, my thoughts drifted to my parents, my real parents, the ones Ruston killed. Before I knew it, I lost control and went berserk" Rex admitted with a hushed tone, his expression clouded with dark emotions.

On the other hand, Adhara gasped as that explains why she was feeling uneasy earlier.

A sudden anger that arose in her heart.

Despite feeling worried for the others as Rex going berserk is not something easily handled, she assumed that the others were fine judging from him still being able to be playful earlier and smiled.

If even one of them is hurt, Rex wouldn't be able to do that. She knows him like that.

Meanwhile, just the mere recollection of that moment weighed on Rex's conscience, he had come dangerously close to causing serious harm to the others. Had he not weakened by the Treaty of Infernal Physique, things could've taken a much darker turn.

"Thankfully," he continued, "Calidora intervened from afar, snapping me out of my berserk state. He must've sensed me going berserk through the Eternal Curse. With her assistance, I managed to give Flunra a Herald Mark, similar to yours, to subdue me until I regained my composure"

"Calidora...?" Adhara uttered with an evident frown.

She was not expecting that name to be brought. And even though it's good that Calidora helped, Adhara feels a signal of doubt from her intuition. 'Rex could sometimes be dense when it comes to women. I don't trust her, she's trying to steal him, I'm sure of it'

"Do you stop to consider that she might have ulterior motives?" Adhara asked in concern.

But this made Rex chuckle, brushing off that comment.

Gazing ahead with a confident air, he responded, "Ulterior motives? Yeah, she wanted me because of the curse. Her assistance could have been a way to get closer to me, but is that really a problem? After all, she didn't harm anyone"

"Moreover, it was purely an accident. Not fabricated" He added firmly.

Adhara's expression twitched when she heard this, it was almost like Rex underestimated anything other than violence even though other things can be as destructive as violence, and he lowered his guard around Calidora.

"What if Calidora's purpose is to win your heart and sabotage us from within?" She asked.

Rex shook his head, a playful glint in his eye. "Impossible. Are you feeling jealous, Adhara? Or perhaps you're concerned because of what you did earlier?" He teased, not entirely serious. But then, his tone grew somber. "However, I will be distancing myself for a while and stay with Calidora. I haven't got the time to thank her, and it's also a precaution to avoid inadvertently harming you or the others while I address the matters with the Executor"

"Don't worry, I won't be with her all the time. But mostly, I wo-"

Just as he was about to finish his sentence, he stopped at a chilling air brushing against him.

It was only then that he realized he got carried away and talked about Calidora.

Ah, I fucked up. Rex pondered as he smiled acutely.

He slowly turned his head to his left and saw Adhara smiling at him. But the bulging veins and the chilling air emanating from her body showed clearly that her smile was a facade to the burning jealousy inside of her.

"Go on, continue what you are saying," Adhara said, cracking her knuckles.

Although he wanted to bring this matter up to Adhara slowly, he was carried away and told her blatantly. Now, he was forced to face the consequences. But before he could say anything, Adhara already beats him to it.

"I don't know about you, but what you're saying sounded like you want to be with Calidora..."

"W- What? Don't be mistaken, I'm doing this because I need her for something"

"Mistaken? You even have the guts to joke around with me when you're actually deliberating to stay with Calidora? Following her motives, underestimating what she can do through this, and lowering your guards...?"

With each passing word, Adhara's body started to gleam with a bright, unusual color.

It was not her violet fire, but a more pinkish, laser-like energy.

Rex could instantly tell that this was the energy from the Sin of Envy that was triggered from her emotions, coupled with her radiant violet flames and Herald Mark, her power reached an insurmountable degree that could even pose a threat.

Yes, a threat, Rex could actually feel threatened by her presence.

...

<Adhara Alpenore - Strengthened>

Race: Anti-Werewolf

Herald Mark: Blood Moon (Active)

Occupation: Female Alpha

Power: Seventh Rank(Peak) - Sin of Envy

Mental: 5,127

Strength: 9,750 (+1,500)

Agility: 14,350 (+500)

Endurance: 5,800 (+1,000)

Intelligence: 7,100

...

Holy... I've never seen her stats get this high, and it's still climbing higher!

Rex was dumbfounded when he saw Adhara's stats. She had not been this strong earlier, the First Breath had suppressed her to the early Seventh-rank realm, barely that is. However, the enhancements from her elements and the Sin of Envy had boosted her stats significantly.

"Calm down, I was only suggesting, it's not like I wil-"

Before he could defend himself, Adhara already swiped her fiery claws at him.

With his quick reflex, Rex threw Caraptaros high into the air and ducked down to dodge the fiery slash that was filled with power. "Why are you attacking me?! Just wait a minute, we can talk this one out!"

Despite his plea, Adhara didn't stop and moved in her assault again.

Knowing that he would need to let her vent first, he jumped and hid behind Caraptaros.

Upon looking at this from the side, Ryze wanted to say something but Adhara already glared at him with her sharp, burning eyes, "Don't say another word, Ryze. Stay there" She said with a commanding tone.

Ryze gulped and stood his ground when he heard this, frozen in his spot.

Following that, Adhara also jumped to the sky and coated her claws with even more spirit energy, forcing the violet fire to burn even brighter, and did another swipe at Caraptaros, wanting to knock it out of the way.

In a second, Rex widened his eyes when Caraptaros suddenly vanished from his front.

Now he was exposed once again.

Glancing to the side, he witnessed Caraptaros being hurled a mile away after Adhara's powerful strike. Rex gasped in astonishment, realizing the significant growth in Adhara's strength. Her body was now adorned with a beautiful spectacle of violet flames, transforming her into a mesmerizing purple Fire Goddess.

"A few hits to the head might knock some sense in you, Rex," she retorted, her voice laced with determination, and her face adorned a savage smile. "So stay put and brace yourself for the blows..."

Chapter 946 Don't Go

At the edge of a lush, swampy forest where vibrant flora of all kinds thrived, the sky that was supposed to be bright veiled by clouds, but the cold weather couldn't diminish the serene ambiance nurtured by the warm grace of Mother Nature herself.

Mutated animals ran around, doing nature's bidding.

However, the calmness of nature was destroyed when the ground at the center exploded.

Splash!

A sky-high towering column of swamp water soared skyward suddenly, only to be engulfed by scorching, purplish flames that defied the elemental disadvantage, instantly reducing the watery behemoth to steaming vapor.

In a fit of envy and anger, Adhara decided that it was best to knock some senses into Rex.

Both of them covered vast grounds, playing a game of cat and mouse.

"Errgghh!"

Adhara descended from the sky, her fists clenched into a blazing hammer and swung it down at Rex, who had been dodging her previous attacks and was soaked. However, as he sensed an incoming attack from above, he quickly leaped to the side.

Boom!

Currently, the Sin of Envy engraved on her waist has its demonic eyes opened.

With the swelling of her jealousy, suspecting Rex's desire to be with Calidora has grown, her Sin of Envy reacted and amplified her powers to unprecedented heights. Her attacks turned deadly, causing the ground she hit to crack open.

Raising her blazing eyes, she glared at Rex and blasted forward again.

Positioning himself in front of Caraptaros, he waited for Adhara to come before dodging.

Bam!

Similar to earlier, Caraptaros got sent rolling away once again under Adhara's strengthened might across the ground which sparks a nod from Rex's head. I'm sorry Adhara, but I'm going to use your anger for a bit. I'm exhausted from fighting all day against those Demon Lords.

Taking advantage of Adhara's resentment, he guided her to hit Caraptaros.

Even though he could've propelled Caraptaros all the way to the Dwarven Kingdom by himself, he felt too drained to attempt it. Defying the First Breath exacted its toll, and he found himself targeted by the suppressing energy from the white sphere in the sky.

Based on the System, it wouldn't last long. At least a couple of hours a day.

Using Adhara is a way to make them reach their destination even faster compared to earlier.

It kept on going, and Adhara still didn't realize that she was being used.

"Although I might've accepted if you wanted to add another woman to our pack and have intimacy with her, I'll never allow Calidora to be that one! Pick another one, she's only going to bring you, and all of us, endless trouble!" Adhara screamed, her frustration pouring out.

On the other hand, Rex was stupified when he heard this.

"Hold on... Wait a minute... Are you actually okay with me having another one? I thought you were not fine because you were upset when I added Evelyn to the pack" He replied, genuinely surprised by Adhara's response.

Adhara halted for a brief moment, "Not that I'm totally fine, but- Ah! That's beside the point!"

"Stop changing the subject, you lunkhead!" She leaped to strike again.

Clash!

Crossing his arms in front of him, Rex ate Adhara's attack and got sent hurtling away.

Rex grunted as he collided with Caraptaros' hard body, the impact knocking the air from his lungs instantly. Before he could regain composure, Adhara was upon him, her body moving at a blazing fast speed as she transformed into a fiery purple serpent and delivered a forceful punch to his face.

Bam!

In an instant, Rex and Caraptaros blasted out into an open snowy field.

Both of them got sent rolling across the snowy ground.

However, compared to Caraptaros who showed signs of stopping thanks to his extremely heavyweight, Rex did not as his body kept rolling across the ground until he crashed like a bullet into a strong column, creating a big crater.

Crash!

Coughing a couple of times, he climbed out of the crater and heard some noises.

"Go to the wall! We're under attack!!"

"Rastrikan Demons! Bring back the weapons quick, fortify the defenses!"

Upon hearing these voices in the background, Rex frowned as he slowly came out and prostrate on the ground tiredly. Then, a voice greeted him, taking him by surprise, "I've never witnessed Lady Adhara that furious. What did you do, Lord Rex?"

Lifting his gaze, he saw Flunra standing in front of him, looking at the distant Adhara.

Rex then realized that he had arrived at the Dwarven Kingdom.

It was so sudden that the Dwarves, coupled with the Elves panicked and scurried to the wall fearing an attack from the Rastrikan Demons again. But all of them could breathe a sigh of relief when they realized that it was Rex who had come back

"Just Calidora things, and she became like that" Rex replied and stood back up.

Pointing at Caraptaros on the side, Flunra asked, "And why did you bring Caraptaros here?"

"I'm going to turn it into a Werewolf, of course, it'll make us immortal like the Demons. What do you think?" Rex replied back, completely nonchalant in his response as he believed that the System could find a way to gain anything.

On the other hand, Flunra snapped his neck towards Rex and gasped.

Despite Caraptaros possessing such abilities, ones that could make the other races' mouths watery, nobody attempted to manipulate it because it was deemed impossible. Caraptaros was created from a fragment of the Demon Origin himself, rendering it completely impervious to external influence.

However, Rex doesn't seem to think of it as impossible.

But then again, Flunra has already seen Rex do the impossible, so he recovered quickly.

"Obviously, if you can, then that would be an enormous step for us" He nodded firmly, excited by the prospect Rex envisioned. "When you turn it into a Werewolf, it will absorb moonlight energy instead of demonic energy, and that would definitely allow us to use it"

"So then, why haven't you turned it?" Flunra asked.

Rex shrugged his shoulders leisurely before stretching his stiff body, riddled with burn marks, "As you might know, a fragment of the Demon Origin is inside of it. I need to do something about it first before I can turn it into a Werewolf and make its power mine"

"Oh, speaking of which, I now know the method to do that" He added with a grin.

<Materials to weaken Caraptaros>

1. Conduit of Aquaheart - It could be found in the domain of the Water Elemental race. Conduit Aquaheart resides within the Primordial Water Elemental, an item that could generate a powerful enough water element that could even put out 11th-rank Hellfire.

2. Vermithrax's Deep Venom - It can be obtained from the venom glands of Vermithrax, a three-thousand-year-old ninth-rank realm mutated snake. Vermithrax's Deep Venom contains a potent energy that can weaken and soften carapaces and flesh.

Upon seeing the materials, Rex frowned as both seemed to be very hard to obtain.

Both seemed to be very hard to get.

First of all, ninth-rank realm mutated animals are extremely rare.

Rex hasn't even seen one until this day, and Vermithrax must be hiding somewhere very desolate for it to be able to survive and not be hunted down for its body parts, good for materials. On the other hand, the Conduit of Aquaheart seemed to be harder.

Elementals? Is there even an elemental race?

Out of his years of learning about Supernaturals, he doesn't know about elementals.

Perhaps the Elemental race is a recently awakened race that Rex was not aware of, that's the only plausible answer. If they had existed prior to the First Breath, the advanced human technologies should have been able to at the very least catch a glimpse of them.

However, even though it's going to be hard, it's not a problem.

Since the outcome is a god-like upgrade, he already expected to achieve it will be hard.

If overpowering the Demon Origin fragment is easy, then the other races should be vying to steal Caraptaros from the Demon race from way before him. But now that they didn't, it was obvious that it would be very hard.

Does the process remain the same after weakening Caraptaros?

<Yes, the process will be the same. However, bear in mind that weakening Caraptaros must come after the user overpowers and suppresses the fragment of the Demon Origin inside of it. Any attempt to weaken it before that would be useless, please be careful. In addition, to overpower the fragment of Origin, the user would need three King Marks or help from another entity with a King Mark>

Rex looked at this and pondered, he then eventually smiled.

I guess lady luck is fully on your side, Ice and Snow Lunirich. You're going to help me.

Snapping out of his daze, he found Adhara striding over to him with hurried steps. It seems she realized that they already arrived at the Dwarven Kingdom, and is still angry at him for his slip of the tongue.

Grabbing him by the collar, she then pinned him to the wall with a dark expression.

Pausing for a second, tilting her head down, she uttered, "Don't go."

Compared to earlier, she is now very serious, even slightly emotional judging by her tone.

"I understand your concerns. I can promise to maintain my distance from Calidora, putting up a wall between her and me, but not going there is not something I can do. As I said earlier, I require her assistance for a specific matter related to the Executor" Rex explained, trying to be as truthful as he could.

Aside from the safer prospect with Calidora, he still needs her.

Just like what the Witch mentioned, being with her is essential if he wants to expedite the development of his cursed source. Time is not on his side, and any further delays could have dire consequences when facing the Executor.

Failing to reach the ninth epiphany is not an option.

Due to that, he would need to stay with Calidora to hasten his cursed source's progress.

Upon hearing this, Adhara fell silent as she was still reluctant to let him leave and stay with Calidora who was obviously scheming. It felt like if she let go of Rex right now, then this would be the last time she saw him.

But in this silence, Rex sighed as he knew how hard this would be for Adhara and Evelyn.

It was even hard for him to see them like this.

However, there's no other choice, he needs to do this, or else his chance of winning lessen.

I may have other options, but I could do something to help them.

While he wouldn't be able to stay, no matter how much Adhara and Evelyn pleaded for him to stay as defeating the Executor is also for their own safety, and Rex needs to prioritize that, he could ease and convince them that he was not going to be swayed from their bond.

Providing a console for them so that they wouldn't be too worried about him.

Rex smiled as he remembered something, there was a way he could do that. It was supposed to be him and Evelyn only, but Adhara tagging along wouldn't cause any harm to them. The Fated Mountain, he could bring them to the Fated Mountain.

Smiling lightly, he caressed Adhara's head gently, "I have just the thing to help you"

"Hmm...?" Adhara raised her puzzled gaze, exposing her teary eyes.

Just as he was about to share the information about the Fated Mountain, a Dwarf suddenly leaped from the wall and rushed towards Flunra. The Dwarf appeared to be delivering urgent news, and a deep furrow appeared on Flunra's brow as he received it.

Upon seeing this, Rex raised an eyebrow in question.

Then, the Dwarf turned to look at Rex with a troubled gaze before Flunra turned around.

"What is it?" Rex asked, slightly feeling troubled.

Flunra took a moment to collect himself, then in a grave tone, he announced, "We've received news from Dargena City, from Gelmar to be exact. A visitor has arrived... It's Edward." He delivered the unsettling news. "We've been found, our location has been compromised. The Executor is aware of the city's whereabouts"

Chapter 947 Exposed Location

A thunderous booming sound resounded inside Rex's head when he heard this.

Even the others who were near to hear what Flunra said had their eyes flared open in absolute shock, the location of Dargena City is secluded and not known by many, it was the safe haven for the entire Silverstar Pack after being kicked out of the human territory.

Moreover, it held a special place, a place that they could call home.

It's a place to rebuild and create a place for them in this world filled with war and chaos.

But that very home was exposed to an enemy, the worst one at that.

"Wait... How did this happen?" Adhara stepped forward, looking at Flunra and the Dwarf that bears the news in utter confusion. "Only a selected few know the exact location of the city, the Dark Elves and the Elves were the ones that know. Who betrayed us and told the Executor?"

Despite her question, everyone was silent, their lips turned mute.

Flunra could only exhale roughly and stiffly glanced at Rex, exactly knowing the answer.

"Someone answer me! How did this happen?!" Adhara exclaimed desperately.

Adhara had spent quite some time dealing with the predicament that was faced by the allied kingdoms. She was not aware of the recent news and events that transpired, leaving her in the absolute dark about the situation.

On the other hand, the ones like Flunra and Evelyn who stayed behind knew already.

In this moment of panic, Rex looked down to the ground with a grim look and processed the information, the gear of his mind was working rapidly. It was not the answer he sought, but he was battling the emotions that were hindering his mind.

Soon enough, he recollected himself and leaned his head on the wall with a troubled look.

Upon seeing this, Adhara inquired demandingly, "What is it, Rex? Talk to me"

"It's Gistella..." Rex finally said. His expression was calm, but the veins bulging on his arms and neck showed that he was struggling against his anger and trying to keep his composure, not wanting to go berserk at the wrong time. "A while ago, the Executor announced that he has Gistella"

At the realization, Adhara's expression stiffens before the color on her face drains away.

Her mind was thrown back to when Gistella was acting weirdly.

Adhara remembered that she said something about dealing with Calidora herself.

Due to that, she suspected that Gistella went to the Executor willingly without the scheme from the Executor, definitely to get rid of Calidora. Had she known that Gistella would do this, then she would've dissuaded her.

However, at that time, her mind was in a mess, and couldn't think properly.

Considering what Rex has done for the other allied kingdoms, the only plausible answer on how the Executor knows of Dargena City's location is through Gistella. Rex couldn't think of a reason for the Dark Elves and the Elves to betray him when they were relying on him for protection from the high-rank Supernaturals.

Moreover, if a traitor was present, King Jorik and Queen Shanaela could snuff them out.

Thus, the only answer is the worst answer, it was Gistella.

But how...? If she's tortured or extracted for information, the System should've notified me.

<Notice! In the race to the pinnacle of absolute invincibility, the System would not be able to notify the state of being of other pack members under the possession of another candidate, meaning, the System couldn't detect what happened to the user's pack member, Gistella>

What...?

Rex's expression froze when he read this notification, he could feel his blood run cold.

If that's the case, the System couldn't be relied on to know what was happening to Gistella, or her condition in general. Additionally, as the Alpha, I should naturally have a connection with her. Even when Edward hurt her, I could feel it. But now, I couldn't sense anything coming from her side, it's highly likely that the Executor has taken deliberate steps to sever the link between us.

Pondering about the unexpected, sudden situation, Rex felt extremely troubled.

It was to the point that his breathing became heavy.

However, he wasn't going to make this situation crumble his composure and quickly breathed himself to calmness. Following that, his eyes glowed with white light. A peculiar color that Adhara and Ryze have seen him do a couple of times throughout the breaks against the Rastrikan Demons.

But then, his body jolted back as his eyes instantly returned to normal.

System? What happened?

<Eyes of the Pack skill has been canceled through an external interference>

<A barrier that could block external energy from coming inside or an aura so dense that it wouldn't allow any external energy from entering might be the cause of this. Please try again at a later time, or investigate closer for further information>

Gistella? Gistella! Can you hear me?!

Despite trying to reach Gistella through telepathy, there was no answer.

It was at that moment that Rex felt extreme unease as he quickly opened his stats and checked the number of pack members he had, thankfully, it remained the same, providing a guarantee that Gistella was not dead.

Had she died, things would've gotten ugly.

Even earlier when he was about to check his stats, his heart almost exploded in worry.

"My Lord, it's best that you come back first and meet with Edward" Flunra, seeing that Rex was sitting on the ground pondering said in concern. It's a matter that needs to be handled quickly lest Edward tries to do something outrageous.

However, Rex shook his head, "Go and help Evelyn stall, I need time to think..."

Nodding firmly, Flunra jumped to the wall and left.

It's so sudden... I could connect with Gistella earlier, and now everything went wrong.

Rex remained silent for a couple of minutes while the others were stressing with each second passed, he was in deep thought as his eyes trained forward to empty space, weighing the moves he would need to make.

Having a rough guess of the enemy's plan is crucial in times like these.

Going in blind would not be ideal, he would have to guess the Executor's move first.

Eventually, Rex rose to his feet after managing his thoughts and turned to Adhara. His gaze bore into hers as he spoke with a commanding tone, "I have a feeling that I will be leaving soon enough.

Adhara, I need you to stay with Evelyn and assume control of the city while I'm away. Put the entire city on high alert, recall all our scattered forces back within the city's walls, the Executor might've had something planned for luring me away"

"I don't want something to happen to the city while I'm gone" He added firmly.

Upon hearing this, Adhara nodded in understanding.

With Rex's absence, only three individuals remained within the city who possessed the equivalent power of the ninth-rank realm, the Witch, Adhara, and Flunra. Even so, the city's robust defensive formations would bolster their ability to repel adversaries of similar strength to Rex.

However, any more than that then the city would fall.

"What about the upcoming full moon? What should we do when you haven't come back?"

Settle yourselves with this until I come back, tell that to Evelyn too"

Knowing that the lust would inflict physical and mental pain if not settled, Rex channeled Amanir's spirit energy and created a copy of himself using the lunar mana. It would move automatically, and identical to him.

Even though it's an illusion, it has the same bodily function as Rex.

"What about you? What are you going to do without me or Evelyn there?" Adhara asked.

Upon hearing this, Rex exhaled roughly, "I'll endure it, don't worry about me"

He then turned and shifted his attention to Ryze who could already feel the tension of the impending problem and gestured to come with him, "Ryze, you will be tailing me. So don't go anywhere and stay close to me"

In return, Ryze nodded seriously, this was a chance for him to become useful.

Glancing at the Dwarf who delivered the dire news, Rex gestured towards Caraptaros, which lay near the kingdom's walls, and issued his directive. "I've fulfilled the Dwarves' request flawlessly, the Rastrikan Demons are no more. Keep that thing concealed and safeguarded, I trust the Dwarves would execute this task without a hitch"

"Yes, please leave it to us, we will do as you say, Lord Rex" the Dwarf bowed and replied.

With that, the Rex and the others went to the teleportation formation and left.

Meanwhile, Dargena City.

Hundreds of city guards were lined up neatly with their Red Prudian armor and weapons, glistening with cutting-edge sharpness, clamped in a square infantry formation right in front of the main gate, they were able to respond to the danger siren in under a minute.

Leading them, standing right at the front is Gelmar, his gaze is serene and sharp.

Standing across him was a man corrupted by darkness.

Cloaked in a dark, armor-like skin from head to toe that appeared to ripple and resonate with each passing breeze, the assailant stood as a solitary figure, exuding an icy aura that caused a reverse effect on those in close proximity.

Instead of feeling a stinging chill, the city guards found their armor was heating up instead.

Upon looking at the formation of city guards, the man nodded in praise.

"You are intruding upon the sovereign territory of Dargena City. Vacate this place immediately, or brace yourself for the consequences!" Gelmar proclaimed, pointing his beautiful red sword forward, his voice resonating with both authority and power.

Additionally, at the command of his voice, the archers on the walls prepare to fire.

However, his eyes flared when the assailant tried to take a step.

Swoosh!

With lightning-quick reflexes, Gelmar brandished his sword and unleashed a slicing gust of wind that intercepted the assailant's advance, halting him in his tracks. His attack left a searing scar on the ground due to the intensified heat generated by the Prudian Sword's rune, strengthening his attack.

"One more step, and it will be your head, next!" Gelmar warned, squinting his eyes.

Pausing for a second, the assailant gazed at Gelmar calmly.

Not intending to heed the warning, the assailant raised his foot to take a step again which made Gelmar launch an attack again. But this time, he bolstered his attack with a spell, "Blessing of Nature!"

Swoosh!

Similar to before, he sent a slicing gust of wind, aiming at the assailant's neck.

Furthermore, the slicing gust of wind accumulated more energy from nature as it grew in size and sped towards its target, attaining astonishing velocity, and reaching the peak of the sixth-rank realm in terms of power.

In response to this, the assailant smiled and kept on walking.

Splash!

Not batting an eye at all, his armor-like skin moved on its own and blocked the attack.

Like a cocoon of darkness, it protected the assailant from the powerful gust of wind that left not even a dent in it. Peeking from the inside, the assailant smiled mockingly and kept on striding forward nonchalantly.

Frowning, Gelmar signaled to the city guards to prepare for a confrontation.

But then, a womanly voice disrupts this heating engagement, "Edward, that's enough!"

Upon hearing a familiar voice, Edward smirked and raised his gaze to meet a woman with fiery red hair that danced with the wind, standing on the wall gracefully. Beside her stood a massive, also recognizable figure, eyeing him with considerable caution.

With a leap, the woman and the figure landed in front of the city guards' formation.

Boom!

"Evelyn! Have I dressed the role of traitor adequately?" Edward quipped sarcastically.

At his words, Evelyn in return looked at him with evident disgust, the form he was taking showed that he was already corrupted beyond comprehension. He has fallen from grace substantially, "Don't think you can come here as you please, this is not a place for you to joke around"

"Hrggh? Ugrok knows you, Edward..." Ugrok commented, evidently surprised at the sight.

Despite not being told, he knows that Rex and Edward are friends.

However, judging from how he looks now, that friendship must've been already long gone.

Chapter 948 Confrontation with the Traitor

Evelyn had gotten back from the Dark Elf Kingdom to handle a personal matter only to receive a notice from Linthia that a hostile visitor had come knocking on the city's gate, and Gelmar was currently confronting this visitor.

It was sudden and caught her off guard.

However, she had enough time to go and ask the Witch to help in confronting this visitor.

One of the strongest entities inside the city was the Witch.

Based on what she had heard, the Witch of Chaos could definitely go toe to toe with Rex if she wanted to. Furthermore, her cursed power is unpredictable and versatile and many opponents would think twice before engaging in a confrontation with her.

Despite the others' absence, in no way that Dargena City is easily breached.

Not to mention, the city also has other rare entities.

Although she was confronting one of the Executor's henchmen, she still had the upper hand.

Standing across the empty space between the city's walls and the edge of the Humming Damned Forest was the traitor himself, Edward with his newly corrupted appearance. He finally showed himself to the eyes of his ex-friends.

It was an understatement to say that he's different.

Edward has grown a few inches, and his body is tightly wrapped in black skin-tight armor.

Observing from a distance, Evelyn initially mistook it for skin-tight black armor sculpting his masculine figure, but she was wrong. Instead of armor, it was a layer of substance that looked like Edward's very skin, containing the malevolent energy of the unknown.

Moreover, this substance ripples like water and emits a swaying black aura.

"How fall have you fallen, Edward..." Evelyn uttered whisperingly, her tone tinted with disdain.

Back then when she was still in the human territory, she had thought that Edward was conflicted in choosing whether to support Rex and bring ruin to Humanity as a whole or not. But now, she realized that he was simply not right in the head.

Since he's willing to be corrupted like this, he's already in a point of no return.

He now has fixed his fate as an enemy.

Despite being able to hear what Evelyn uttered at the sight of his appearance, Edward didn't fret and squinted his deep purple eyes as his power was activated, "I see that you've made a place for

yourselves, Dargena City is the name I heard. Now the Silverstar Pack belongs somewhere, stationed in the middle, perhaps?"

"Where we belong is not your concern. You're not missed here, go" Evelyn replied harshly.

But this instead made Edward smile.

Like an inspector, he walked to the side and nodded his head repeatedly in approval.

He was inspecting Dargena City and couldn't help but marvel at its remarkable architecture and rapid development, reaching this state in a small amount of time. It was as expected from someone like Rex, who found it easy to make the impossible, possible with his magic.

Somehow, the fact that he was sizing the city irked Evelyn to no end.

"What a wonderful city you have built" Edward commented, derision in his tone. He was trying to get under Evelyn's skin, "But you know, you should stop developing it. As you might know already, the world is not big enough for another party. Isn't it a waste to build a city for a pack that doesn't belong anywhere which would eventually fall anyway?"

Despite the comment working, Evelyn exercises her self-control and keeps her composure.

In front of her people, she shouldn't show an embarrassing sight of her.

Putting on an eerily graceful, bright smile, she then responded with the same taunting derision, "Is that a threat? If you are so adamant that the city would fall, why don't you test and see if the city would actually fall?"

Following that, Evelyn tightens her muscles, ready for an attack at a moment's notice.

If the situation escalates and Edward does strike, she is ready to intervene.

Upon hearing this, Edward smiled and remained motionless.

Both of them engaged in a staredown as the tension in the air rose to extreme heights.

While this unyielding standoff persisted, akin to a titanic clash of opposing forces, Evelyn's patience dwindled, and she delivered her warning for the second time, her eyes narrowing further as she spoke sternly, "I won't repeat myself again, leave, or you'll have only yourself to blame for what the forces of the city are going to do to you. Spare us your arrogant display of invincibility granted by your newfound power, it's an unsightly spectacle"

After saying that, there was a long pause, Edward didn't seem to be disturbed.

However, soon his eyes shifted.

It was true that the threat from her doesn't bother him, but he could feel Evelyn's presence now had a bearing.

She had become an important figure in the city in his absence.

Gazing at the city guards in formation who were gripping their weapons and shields firmly, and the archers on the wall stringing their bows, Edward discerned a resolute glint in their eyes. It was not solely a commitment to safeguard the city, but a fierce determination to shield Evelyn.

For them, Evelyn is not only their Lord's woman but also their Queen.

Evelyn is also the reason the founding citizens found a new home and shelter from the horrors.

Rumors of her soft heart and kind demeanor spread to the new citizens.

Coupled with Evelyn's reputation as the eldest daughter of the renowned Luc Family, known for her wits and influence among the human citizens, it was only natural for the entire population of Dargena City to hold her in high and fierce regard.

A profound certainty coursed through Edward, he could feel it in his bones.

If he were to pose any threat to Evelyn, they would willingly interpose themselves in her defense.

"No, you are mistaken, this power doesn't bring arrogance," Edward replied, he turned to look at the swirling dark aura on his hand with a disturbing smile. "It brings clarity. I can now see the weakness that the Executor sees in the likes of you, lesser beings"

Upon hearing this, Evelyn frowned as even his personality had changed.

Seemed to her that the corruption is done to more than appearance alone, also reaching his heart.

Despite her calm appearance, deep down she was worried.

'Where are they? It shouldn't take that long for the others to reach here' Evelyn pondered uneasily.

Just then, her prayer was thankfully answered.

Descending from the brilliant midday sky, comes a silhouette, shadowed by the sun, gracefully alighted before the formation of city guards, right in front of Gelmar. With deliberate and menacing poise, this figure straightened his massive frame and fixed an unwavering, formidable gaze upon Edward.

In a blink of an eye, the figure then blurred and reappeared before Edward.

Even though Edward has grown a couple of inches due to the corruption, he still finds himself dwarfed by the imposing figure who still towers against him. To meet the figure's gaze, Edward had to tilt his head up significantly.

"Hmm...? Who are you again?" Edward retorted with a smile, not intimidated at all.

Upon hearing this, Flunra smiled back and tilted his head menacingly, "Me? I'm your replacement..."

...

A brief pause take place, this answer greatly bothered Edward.

"Really? My replacement...?" Edward's smile grew even wider, his eyes blazing with malevolent, sinister energy. It was evident through his face that this comment annoyed him greatly as the aura around him blasted to the surroundings. "Nobody can replace me"

Not wanting a fight to happen, Evelyn quickly leaped down and intervened.

Having a fight right in front of the city's gate would terrify the citizens, it must be avoided.

"Why have you come here, Edward? I hope it's for a more substantial reason than just flaunting your transformation and causing trouble" Evelyn said, using her Luna energy to signal Flunra to stand down and dissipate the tension in the air.

Upon hearing this, Edward turned to look at her and replied, "Where is Rex? I'm here to see him"

"Before you say anything, yes, I'm here on the orders of the Executor. Consider me his messenger, and know that there will be consequences if you don't heed this warning" He warned, making it clear that he wasn't just a harmless messenger.

Since the Executor cared about his image greatly, this is an ultimatum for Evelyn and the others.

Disrespecting Edward means disrespecting the Executor too.

Furthermore, the Executor held a position of power in this situation. Gistella was still under his control, and any offense could endanger her. This was a concern shared by Evelyn and Flunra, as Gistella was a vital member of their pack.

It would also incite Rex's wrath if they did anything wrong and caused Gistella harm.

"Rex will be here shortly, but you could tell us the message from the Executor" Flunra replied.

Pausing for a moment with a smile, Edward turned his back and looked at the sky with a meaningful smile on his face. "The Executor has request for his presence. Well, I say a request, but it's more like an order compared to a request. I'm sure Rex would understand his position and comply"

Just this alone troubled Flunra and Evelyn inwardly.

Not even worth mentioning, the Executor ordering for Rex's presence worries them greatly.

When regarding the Executor, the chances of uncertainty are very high.

One of the most feared results would be Rex not coming back at all through the Executor's scheme, or worse than that, being corrupted by the Executor's powers and turned into a similar entity like Edward which would spill the end of all of them.

But at the thought of that, Flunra and Evelyn quickly shook their heads.

It was a possibility, however, Rex is not someone who could be bullied easily like that.

"What does the Executor need him for?" Evelyn asked, observing Edward's expression closely.

Edward nodded and turned around, adopting an air of mystery with his hands clasped behind his back. "I wasn't initially going to reveal this, but considering our history, I'll share it with you. There will be a war, and Rex will be the one leading the charge"

"A war...? The Executor is going against the Supernaturals?" Evelyn added in puzzlement.

Although the details were shrouded in uncertainty, Evelyn was aware that Rex had gone to meet with the other Elder Supernaturals to discuss the Executor and the fate of the world. Since then, Rex had conveyed through his actions and gestures that war was imminent.

She thought the war would be between Rex and the Executor.

However, the upcoming war is between the Executor and the Supernatural Elders.

"Yes, the Supernaturals remain a formidable adversary to the Executor. However, your faction is, to put it plainly, inconsequential. The sole individual of significance in this place is Rex, and it's he who will lead the Awakened forces in the battle against the Supernaturals" Edward responded with a sly grin.

Flunra frowned when he heard this, he then smirked in disdain at a realization.

Staring at Edward with a peculiar expression, Flunra responds in mockery, "Irrelevant? Your words don't quite align with the Executor's actions, Edward. Placing Rex at the forefront, leading the charge against the Supernaturals?— it appears as though the Executor intends to once more to pit Rex against the Supernaturals again"

"If anything, the Executor is wary of him and his forces" He added, rebutting Edward's statement.

Upon hearing this, Edward shrugged, "Maybe... Who knows for certain, right?"

Just then, a powerful shockwave blasted from the walls.

Following this, a barrier expanded from the city's walls, casting a lunar light that obscured the sunlight entirely. The entire area was bathed in a bluish hue as the city's walls gleamed with bright light, a surprising turn of events that caught everyone off guard.

Even the city guards and the others were surprised at this sight.

It seemed to be an effect from the city, but nobody has triggered anything to activate this change.

However, it was obvious to them the one who triggered this.

Edward's eyes flashed in delight at this response, realizing the cause of this sudden event.

"Oh, here he comes..."

Despite the bright day and the radiant white sphere in the sky from the First Breath, the barrier expanding from the city's walls obscured everything in a mile radius, saturating the entire area around with intense moonlight energy.

It created an otherworldly domain, tailor-made for Werewolves.

Not stopping at that, the spark of change that happened in the city began to spread.

Undergoing a metamorphosis that comes from an ability unknown by all, the walls began to grow even higher which surprised the archers who were also lifted higher. In addition, at fixed points on the walls, moonlight energy gathered at a rapid pace and manifested into turrets.

Automatically, the turrets turned on themselves and aimed their barrels at Edward.

Several wolf head statues also jutted from the body of the walls.

Each of them wore a vicious expression and bared their fangs, and their gleaming eyes fueled with blue moonlight energy not only made the wall more imposing but also made the wolf head statues look alive.

Usurpers that saw such walls would think twice before attacking.

All of the onlookers gasped at the sight of this chance, none of them knew what this was.

However, even to this current moment, the entirety of the city's prowess and functions are still being explored by them. Most of them are still unknown. For all they know, it might be that this change on the walls, amplifying the city's offense and defensive capabilities, is another defensive mechanism that the city has.

Flunra and Adhara turned their heads around and saw this surprising scene.

It was a sight that caught them off guard.

But both of them instantly knew that it could only happen when a certain figure had arrived.

One of the three crucial formations that the city has is the Kingdom of War.

It has the mechanism to turn the entire city into war mode, enhancing both its defensive and offensive capabilities by harnessing the moonlight energy the city naturally absorbs during the night when the formation is inactive.

Depending on the stored moonlight energy, it could last for days or even years.

At first, Edward marveled at the rapid development of the city, considering the relatively short time it took. However, now, he was captivated by the city's exceptional synergy with the Werewolves, marveling at its remarkable compatibility.

Then again, if Rex was the one who built it, then this all makes sense.

Edward slowly raised his gaze to the peak of the wall and saw a figure, standing proudly.

Looking down at the unexpected visitor coldly, Rex stood motionless.

In contrast to the onlookers who had witnessed Edward's altered visage and reacted with surprise, Rex remained unperturbed, exuding an air of unshakable calm, as if he had previously encountered Edward's transformed appearance. A nonchalance that suggested that Rex was no stranger to such a sight.

This nonchalant demeanor slightly puzzled and made Edward's throat dry.

'Have he seen me before? How come his reaction is lacking...' He pondered in questions.

Having known Rex for an extended period, Edward thought that he would go one of two routes of reaction. Either Rex would be taken aback by his profoundly altered appearance, or he would look upon him with revulsion at the extent of his corruption that was hardly human.

But instead of those two routes, Rex doesn't show any kind of emotion.

Rex looked down at Edward from on top of the wall for a full minute, his lingering gaze somehow dilated and stretched time to feel like an eternity. Suddenly, a dark portal materialized, and from within it, Edward drew a gleaming grey lance.

It was the lance he had gotten from the Executor, the Soulreaver Lance.

Upon summoning the lance, his mind was instantly filled with the whispers of damnation.

Sensing the danger from Rex's presence, his body moved on its own.

On the other hand, the sight of the dark portal that Edward used to draw his weapon contorted Rex's expression into a deepening frown as he pondered. That dark portal he summoned, it's very similar to the System's inventory.

Although he has a question in mind, he knows that Edward got it from the Executor.

"Both of us came from a similar background, and we know better than anyone else that it's forbidden to attack the messenger!" Edward shouted from below with a stiff smile, he was warning Rex to not attack him out of nowhere.

Even in war, there are rules that need to be followed.

Since they were in the military, the rules of war were ingrained in their minds deeply.

A sly grin crept across Rex's face as those words reached his ears. In the past, it might have been an order to abide by and honor the rules of war, but today, he stood as a force of his own. He no longer followed, he was the architect of the rules now.

Essentially, he could do whatever he wanted.

Phoosh!

In an instant, time slowed down as Rex blitzed through the distance between them.

For a fleeting moment there, Edward found himself momentarily unable to react to Rex's descending claws, charged with vicious red force and laced with the crackling elements of his black lightning. Fortunately, his adaptive, layered skin moved instinctively to shield him.

Clang!

Crack!

Rex's claws connected with the black substance that was as hard as a rock.

Despite blocking the attack, Edward could feel the force through the black substance clearly.

It also traveled through his entire body and sunken his feet into the ground.

Upon realizing that he was being attacked despite being a messenger, he quickly retaliated, controlling the black substance to his right arm before brandishing his lance in a horizontal manner, creating a whistling sound.

A sound that was created from the sharp edge of the lance slicing the air cleanly.

Edward's attack was fast, faster than ever, but Rex's reflex was even faster as he blocked the attack using his arm. Not a change in his expression could be seen, he was completely expressionless in his attack.

Following that, the two engaged in fierce, head-on combat.

Just like back then when they were equal in power, now as the First Breath dominated the entire world, shifting the balance in favor of physical prowess, Rex and Edward found themselves locked in an unyielding stalemate.

No matter the calculated strikes Rex threw, he used the perfect defense in return.

Similarly, Edward couldn't land an attack.

Compared to last time, Rex's attack has grown even more ferocious, providing no weakness.

"Are you sure you want to attack me? The Executor is not going to like this at all" Edward mused between his breaths, dodging the attacks that were coming at him in bullet-fast speed, leaving red trails behind.

Ignoring his remarks, Rex pressed on even stronger, overwhelming Edward's defense.

While watching the fight, Evelyn suddenly frowned.

Seeing her seem to be troubled, Flunra asked from the side, "What's wrong, Lady Evelyn?"

"Edward... He has gotten a lot stronger. Last time, his awakened power was barely at the seventh-rank realm. Adhara, elemental power-wise, is stronger than him. But now, he could even keep up with Rex, the corruption effect is greater than I thought" Evelyn replied, pouring her thoughts aloud.

Upon hearing this, Flunra nodded his head, "It's the Executor, he has his own ways"

Before Rex even set foot in Faraday University, Edward had already established himself as an extremely competent figure in hand-to-hand combat skills. His proficiency in this discipline propelled him through the ranks, earning him a fearsome reputation.

Compared to Rex, his hand-to-hand combat skills are equal but polar opposite.

However, the gap between them keeps widening.

It widened so much to the point that their equal combat skills became irrelevant completely.

Rex would always be the victor of the bout due to his physical strength.

Now, Edward has somehow closed that wide gap and is able to make his combat skills relevant again. Evelyn was troubled by this as essentially, the Silverstar Pack would have an opponent that is as horrifying as Rex in terms of combat prowess.

'Just why did he have to accept the Executor's corruption...?' She pondered.

Meanwhile, back to the fight.

Despite being the polar opposite and knowing that it would require a huge amount of effort to take the others down, the battle continues. In the midst of it, Edward realized that he couldn't keep on relying on his turtle-like defense in this confrontation.

'I can't stay on defense, I need to strike back or this fight will never be over until I slip up'

Edward's eyes glistened, he decided to end this fight through force.

Swerving his head to the side to evade an oncoming strike from Rex's claws, he tightened his lance, seizing the opportunity to turn the tables and reclaim the offensive. In an instant, his lance whirled, launching a series of rapid, well-coordinated strikes from various angles.

In return, Rex was being pushed back, yet his expression remained the same.

Leaping back to dodge a circular motion of the lance that threatened to disembowel his stomach, Rex gazed up and saw Edward rotating his body and swinging his lance with two hands, a trap he had set for a perfect blow from above.

During his attacks earlier, he deliberately instilled Rex's mind with rapid singular attacks.

It sets the perfect chance for him to catch him off guard.

Now that Rex had leaped back, expecting a single attack, he was opened for a follow-up attack that was fueled by the momentum of the previous attack. Pulling no strength back, Edward puts his entire weight and power into one swing.

However, as he did that, a smirk appeared on Rex's face. A wide swing.

Bam!

"Krrghhk?!"

Edward was caught off guard when an uppercut kick somehow landed solidly on his jaw.

It propelled him upwards, vanquishing his attack mid-way.

Following that successful attack that wasn't even anticipated by the black substance, Rex jumped and pierced his claws down using the Sharp Lightning spell that bolted the speed of his attack in an abrupt manner.

Slash!

Boom!

Rex executed another flawlessly aimed attack, driving Edward forcefully into the earth below.

Landing on the ground gracefully, he gazed at Edward in contempt.

I'm not the same as back then, Edward. My combat skills have grown way stronger.

Due to the battle that happened within the Blood Moon realm under Kaiser's dominion, during his ascension trial, he found himself locked in combat with multiple of his own blood clones, capable of mirroring his ferocious offensive tactics.

In response, he was compelled to master a more defensive fighting style.

He was overwhelmed at first.

Being on the receiving end against his own aggressive attacks, it was very difficult.

However, like any living being that was pressed into the corner, he found some way to meddle through and quickly grasped a way to defend against aggressive attacks. Since he could defend against himself, his defensive capability is also terrifyingly strong.

Edward, who was not exceptional in offense is nothing compared to his own offense.

Due to that, Rex was capable of countering him.

"Seems like I underestimated your defense too much, I was too hasty there," Edward said as he stabbed his lance on the ground and stood up, emerging from the cloud of dust with an approving smile. "You got me good" He added dejectedly.

Despite his improvement in power, Rex is more adept at fighting, as he always has.

However, Rex doesn't feel elated at all.

I successfully landed an uppercut kick, and it seemed that the black substance didn't intercept that move. However, when I followed up with another attack, despite my swift execution, the black substance managed to react. It appeared to have a selective defensive mechanism, able to discern whether the attack would be fatal for Edward or not.

Yes, the reason Rex decided to attack Edward was not because of anger.

He did it because he wanted to size up Edward's new power and gain some insight into it.

Now, he knows more about his corrupted form and his new ability.

Gazing at Edward with icy eyes, Rex then asked raspingly, "What did you do to Gistella?"

Chapter 950 Leaving for War

Knowledge of Edward's transformation is not foreign to him, the attack on the Dark Elf Kingdom back then made it very clear that Edward had turned to the dark side. He has been turned into something inhuman by the power of the Executor.

A sudden visit from him is an unexpected scenario.

However, Rex decided to use this opportunity to size Edward's new power.

Being turned by the Executor means that his power is of the same source, connected with one another. Thus, Rex assumed that if he knew more about Edward's power, he might as well gain crucial insight into the Executor's power that seemed bottomless.

Now, he couldn't find that insight, but it's definitely a start.

"What did you do to Gistella?" Rex asked gratingly, a hint of threat inside his voice.

Edward grinned in return, "I was only testing if you are connected to her"

"I'm not talking about your petty test. I'm asking, how did you know about the city's location?" Rex quickly intervened with icy eyes, he wanted to know exactly what the Executor did to gain the location of the city.

Forcing Gistella to talk is not an easy feat.

Out of the other pack members, it could be said that she has the most loyalty.

Adhara and Evelyn's affection for him could potentially be manipulated to sow discord within their loyalty to Rex. However, Gistella's situation is entirely different. Having the past of being abused by another Werewolf Prince had become a trauma to her, rendering her exceptionally obedient.

But the showcase of care that Rex had for her slowly changed her perception.

Slowly, he helped her overcome her trauma.

Gistella changed and could even be mad at him not that long ago albeit a misunderstanding.

It's a good sign, showing that she has broken free from her past.

Due to the help from Rex, she became reliant on him way more than the others.

Even the thought of Rex trying to kill himself made her instantly snap into madness, and this made Rex confident that she would never betray him. So the fact that the information of the city was leaked greatly troubled him.

Not because of the exposed city itself, but because it was forced out of Gistella's mouth.

Something atrocious must've happened to her.

Rex doesn't know the method or even dare to imagine, but he could feel his blood boiling.

"Ah, I see... you knew already" Upon realizing that Rex knew already that the information was gained through Gistella, Edward remarked, a casual shrug punctuating his words. "You don't have to worry about her. She's alive and well, at the very least"

At the sound of his teasing words, the air instantly changed around Rex.

Suddenly, it became suffocating.

Gazing at Edward with the same icy gaze from earlier, the veins across his body bulged, showcasing that he was not in the mood for games. "Be careful with your words, Edward" Rex warned in a whispering tone, "If you're not, then you might not see the next five minutes"

Swoosh...

Upon saying that, a sudden chilling wind breezed against Edward's body.

It was a wind that gripped the onlookers' hearts.

Edward knew how blood-lusted Rex could be if he was triggered and put into beast mode, he knew his killing intent accumulated through the killings he had done was nothing to be scoffed at. But right now, he truly understands what Rex's opponent feels.

Being the center of Rex's killing intent, he felt as if he was in a whirlpool.

Moving his muscles has become a chore, and any sign of struggle would only drown him.

If a gaze can kill, Rex's gaze would've annihilated him multiple times already.

"Woah... Hold on there, I'm not here for that" Raising both of his hands into the air, Edward resigned as it was not his intention to come here and fight against Rex. "If you want to know about Gistella, then ask the Executor. I'm here simply to pick you up"

"Pick me up to do what?" Rex asked, squinting his eyes.

Flicking his hand, Edward put his lance away, "To fight, he needs you for the war"

"Don't do anything to Gistella, I'll come with you" Rex replied instantly, a mysterious glint appeared in his eyes before he stood down, pulling his energy and killing intent back. "Give me a minute, I will be out shortly"

Rex turned around and gestured for Flunra and Evelyn to follow him.

Stopping beside Gelmar, he whispers, "Keep an eye on him for a while until I come back"

"Yes, my Lord. I will not stray my eyes away from him" He replied resolutely.

Knowing that Rex would arrange the matters regarding the city and them while he was away, Flunra and Evelyn cast one last look at Edward before the three of them leaped onto the wall and disappeared.

Looking at their fading silhouettes, Gelmar then turns to look at Edward once again.

"Aren't you going to let me inside?" Edward asked playfully.

Gelmar spat to the ground to his side in contempt, his expression turned hideous, "Stay where you are. Lord Rex told you to stay here, so that's what you are going to do. Also, even if Lord Rex allowed you to get inside, I wouldn't let an enemy enter my city"

In return, Edward only chuckled in hubris and waited.

Meanwhile, Rex brought the two to meet up with Ryze and Adhara not far from the walls.

Now, the five of them stood in a circle, their attention on Rex.

Each one of them looked at Rex with anticipation, their gazes were firm. Since the situation escalated, they would need to deal with it with full focus. But even then, there was not a hint of great concern inside their eyes.

As long as Rex is here, as long as Rex is with them, everything will be fine.

For a solid minute, Rex spaces out.

In that silent minute, he was arranging his thoughts and future moves before he eventually broke the silence, "Since Gistella has become a hostage, I already knew that this would happen. I knew that the Executor would use me to advance his own motives, so my leave is not a surprise, it's inevitable"

Upon hearing this, the others wore conflicted expressions.

Evelyn and Adhara specifically, both blamed themselves for Gistella's reckless actions.

"I'm sorry, Rex... It's my fault. Had I not overly shown my discontent with Calidora, Gistella wouldn't gone to the Executor to try and fix the situation herself. It's my fault..." Adhara was the first one to speak, her tone was extremely guilty.

Following this, Evelyn also chimed, "She's not the only one to blame, it's my fault too"

"No need to dwell on that, there's no point" Rex waved his hand, he was not going to blame them for this situation. "I don't know what the Executor might try to do, but all of you would only need to focus on safeguarding the city, don't worry about me. The Executor wouldn't dare to try and do something to me with the Hare Moon so close"

"Even if it's not the Hare Moon, I'm confident that I would not die" He added confidently.

As he was about to leave, he would need to make the others believe in him.

"The Executor and I have a bad blood more than killing each other, it's also a battle of ideals about power. It's not me he's aiming at, he's aiming for all of you. So keep alert, protect the city, and also protect yourselves" Rex continued, telling the others what they need to focus on.

In return, the others nodded their heads determinedly.

Remembering what Rex had done for them, they were determined to not cause any trouble.

Gistella is enough, another one might spell their doom.

Following that, Rex then started assigning their roles while he was away. Adhara would be in charge of the military forces of the city, she had shown to be adept in acuteness in battle and tactics and thus trusted with this position.

On the other hand, Evelyn would be in charge of regulating the city.

Aside from having a reputation, she knew most of them already, a perfect position for her.

Flunra would be doing what he does best, and that is to support the two from the shadows while he worked on the slave mark project that Rex had concocted. It will be his main focus until the fight with the Executor ends.

"Lord Rex, I'm asking permission to learn more about Kirgil's slave mark" Flunra whispered.

Upon hearing this, Rex raised an eyebrow.

He was about to ask Flunra what had happened to Kirgil as he was extremely weakened but was interrupted by the news of Edward's visit, now that he remembered, he decided to ask about it now, "Explain to me briefly what happened at the battle"

"Yes, my Lord" Flunra nodded before he briefly recounted the ordeal with Kirgil.

At the end of the report, Rex had his eyes opened wide.

Rex gazed at Flunra with a questioning look, seemingly asking whether he was lying or not, and Flunra responded by shaking his head. Finding out that the slave mark could make him berserk like that is quite surprising.

If we can find a way to replicate that, it would be even better!

Nodding, Rex then gave the permission, "You can go, but don't take too long"

Lastly, Rex told Ryze that he would be tagging along with him to meet with the Executor.

Although the prospect of meeting the Executor greatly terrifies Ryze who is nothing but a kid, the desire to prove himself to Rex is stronger than that fear, so he accepts that role without thinking twice.

From the side, Adhara looked at Rex with a peculiar gaze as he talked with Ryze.

Deep down, she knew why Ryze was dragged along.

It was obvious that Rex was swayed by her words and only accepted Ryze back because of her, thus, he hadn't fully trusted Ryze like she already did. Rex is planning to keep Ryze close to him to keep a close tab, and this moment also serves as an opportunity to confirm whether Ryze was sent here by the Executor or even Edward.

Living in a world full of malice, Adhara understands why Rex is being like this.

"Here are 5,000 Rastrikan Demon Cores," Rex takes out a sizeable sack from his inventory and gently places it in front of him. Extracting one from the sack, a diaphanous crystal adorned with radiant crimson demonic engravings, he continued, "All of you should absorb them until you reach your limits. Adhara, I entrust you with the distribution of the rest of the cores to who you deem worthy"

Upon hearing this, Adhara snapped out of her daze and nodded in understanding.

Now that most of the matters are settled, comes the most difficult one.

Rex scanned his eyes to all of them again before he eventually sighed, knowing that Adhara and Evelyn would not accept his decision. But I have no choice, the war is nearing. The Supernaturals could only hold out for not that long without the intervention of the Elders. I have no choice but to go there.

"I will not be coming back here after I finished the Executor's request" Rex said firmly.

Without even needing to elaborate, the others knew instantly.

Adhara and Evelyn could feel a painful pinch in their hearts knowing that Rex would be going to meet with Calidora, he would be staying with her. "Know that this is not what you think. I really have an important thing to do, essential for my plan against the Executor. Without this, the probability that I would die is very high"

"I could stay, but would you be fine with the consequences?" He added, giving an ultimatum.

In response, the two girls could only grit their teeth and clench their fists.

But then surprisingly, Evelyn raised her face and smiled in understanding, "We understand. Do what you must to win. If Calidora is the only one who could help, then go to her, we are going to keep the city safe while you are gone"

"Evelyn?! Are you really-" Adhara was about to rebut but was stopped by Evelyn.

She grabbed her hand, gesturing to follow her lead.

Upon hearing this, Rex gazed at Evelyn for a second longer before he nodded his head, glad that the two could accept this without too much trouble, "I'm counting on all of you. Ryze, let's go, we're going now"

With that, Rex and Ryze turn around and head to the walls once again.

On the other hand, Adhara quickly freed her hand and looked at Evelyn with a frown.

"What are you doing? I'm not okay with him being with Calidora"

"Stop it, Adhara. It's obvious that Rex really needs to do this for his impending fight against the Executor. If we force him to stay, we would only be a burden in his eyes. Do you want him to perceive us as burdens?"

Evelyn calmly shifted her eyes to look at Adhara, an enigmatic aura swirled inside her pupils.

"But I also don't want Calidora to be anywhere near him!" Adhara argued.

"Do you think I want her to be close with him too?" Evelyn asked back, her eyes sparking maliciously. "I also don't want that to happen, and I'm not saying that we are going to resign against Calidora. All I'm saying is that we need to take a different approach..."

Watching this from the side, Flunra kept his gaze on Evelyn.

A smirk crept onto his face at the sight of the familiar expression, 'Hooh... Yes, that's it, Luna has never been reliant on the Alpha, she has a battle of her own. It requires wits and intuition more than anything. Seems like she's maturing as the Luna, good, I wouldn't be bothered to force another to replace you in this case'

'Now, we'll see who will win...'