

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 61 - 5 Minutes

"Tiny two-headed amber Lion" Malia cried out in shock.

"Tiny?!" Both Jason and Greg shouted.

The red-furred Lion with flames enveloping its mane was at least three-meters high without considering its neck or heads...

While it bent down to spit out flames, Malia formed a thick wall of water to defend against the flames.

Jason had to think for a moment before he remembered the tiny two-headed lion. It was already a magical beast and it looked like Malia was about to use up her whole mana pool to defend against a single usage of flames as the water wall was slowly being evaporated.

Malia sweated heavily and it looked like she was on her limit as the flames suddenly stopped.

The two-headed lion stopped spitting out flames and looked through the hole if its prey was already dead, only to see a small golden-eyed youth taking out a pistol, shooting at it.

But the youth's speed was way too slow for the lion and it closed its eyelid to prevent any injuries to its eyes.

"F**k" Jason cursed and he lamented his speed but his move gave Greg enough time to pull out a mana grade-2 desert eagle (mana) equipped with armor-piercing bullets.

When the tiny two-headed amber lion opened its eye again it was greeted by a batch of bullets, instantly piercing its eye.

Unfortunately, the bullets missed the lion's brain but one head was severely injured which was very fortunate, considering their situation.

Right at the moment, the two-headed lion was about to spit out another batch of flames, Malia cried out with a few fragmentation grenades in her hand.

She was sweating heavily and not a single speck of mana was left inside her.

Considering the ways to injure the tiny two-headed amber lion, she could only think of the fragmentation grenades, she had, as they didn't need mana to detonate.

Jason was frightened and almost peed his pants as he looked at the bunch of grenades flying through the hole between the lions' heads where they exploded, causing a loud stirr within the shopping street.

While the injured head was severed, the other head was now spiked with metal alloy fragments and the tiny two-headed amber lion cried out in pain.

There was only one problem!

Because of the explosion, the gate was almost completely demolished and the two holes made by the lion's flames were their smallest problem.

While the lion seemed to be on its deathbed another few beasts noticed that and a group of evolved ranked hyenas stormed towards the dying lion killing it, while receiving heavy casualties with 10 hyenas getting burned, as they began feasting on the tiny two-headed amber lion that was still hanging on it's life.

Jason, Greg, and Malia knew that they had to remain calm now and not say anything because the more time passed, the better, when one of the middle-graders suddenly cried out in fright after he saw the hyenas killing, and tearing apart the lion carcass.

`S***h**d` the three youth's thought at the same time and Greg who wasn't the smartest even though, that he couldn't be compared to such a low IQ brick head.

There were around 20 evolved thick-skinned hyenas with their specialty having a thick skin in front of them, gobbling down the lion meat.

Jason's normal bullets would be useless and he switched out the magazine to armor-piercing bullets as fast as he could while Greg shot at the hyenas who noticed the human group inside the torn safety room gate.

The Lion corpse wouldn't give them enough food and nutrition for all of them and humans were delicious snacks, causing around 10 hyenas to switch their attention to them.

Malia wasn't scared to fight them and she shot out five water jets which blew apart five hyenas without leaving much of their body in one piece.

But this was the most she was able to do, as her legs gave in from mana overexertion.

The hyenas cried in agony and everything that happened over the last minute attracted more and more attention, which could be considered the worst-case scenario.

They had to hold out slightly less than 4 minutes but Malia's mana pool was completely dried up and she could only use non-mana-operated weapons.

Greg still had some reserves left and his desert eagle was shooting out bullets as if its magazine was infinite, killing one beast after another.

More and more beasts were gathering close to the lion's corpse and Jason could see its core which radiated loads of mana with liquid floating around the inside of the mana core, causing batches of beasts to gather nearby the magical ranked lion corpse.

But fortunately, these beasts were preying on each other, observing the situation, waiting for the first beast to approach the lion's mana core.

Once the first beast approached the core, the others would follow suit.

Instead of attacking the humans, Jason hoped that they would rather prey on each other in order to obtain the magical ranked corpse to improve their strength instead of them.

A minute full of tension passed and Jason could swear that he smelled something fishy, when he turned around to see that there was a small puddle forming below an embarrassed girl.

Throwing out a towel from his storage device, Jason decided to ignore their situation as he looked through the torn gate once again.

Nothing happened in the meantime, but the beasts slowly began to understand that time was running out as they felt powerful humans approaching them slowly.

When the first beast finally began to approach the magical beast core, the long-awaited massacre among them began.

Hyenas, wolves, bison's, lizards, horses, snakes, bufflewumps, foxes and so on tried to catch the magical ranked beast core but not a single one was able to get it, because each beast obstructed one another which also happened within the same race.

Everyone inside the safety room was overjoyed and the tension from the people in the background eased slightly, while the three youths were still completely on guard, attentively looking outside.

Two minutes passed and it wouldn't be long until their rescue would come but suddenly the beasts decided to ignore each other and to rush to the beast core.

While one beast after another was hunted down, a few were thrown away by brute force, and unfortunately for everyone, there was an unblemished beast that was thrown directly into the already torn gate blowing away Jason, Greg and Malia.

Greg's desert eagle was pushed out of his hand and now a tall stepwind wolf was on top of the torn gate that laid on the youths, while their backs hurt from the impact they received.

Jason still had his pistol close to him but it would be useless against the stepwind wolf which was an unblemished ranked beast

Only the torn gate was between the wolf and them.

Malia couldn't do anything because of her not-existent mana reserves, and moving alone was already extremely difficult, while Jason and Greg had nothing to defend themselves...

Jason felt pain in his leg and he knew he was injured but the pain caused him to stay awake.

While the stepwind wolf shook its head around and groaned in pain, Jason looked around searching for the desert eagle, activating his mana eyes.

And a moment later, Jason saw the desert eagle next to Malia who completely lost her composure as the stepwind wolf's head came closer and closer to her with bloodlust filling its eyes.

She tried to use her physical strength to push away the torn gate with the wolf on it, but it was useless as her energy was drained to the last drop.

Right at the moment when the stepwind wolf's mouth was above her face ready to kill Malia by biting off her head, she closed her eyes in fright.

A loud *BANG* caused her eardrums to vibrate violently and liquid streaming on her face.

`I'm not dead?` Malia wondered and his whole body was shaking in fright.

Opening her eyes, she saw the stepwind wolf, with a large hole in its head and the light in its eyes diminishing slowly.

Turning to the right she was Jason with Greg's desert eagle in his hand smiling drily with his ashen face that was completely drained from mana before he groaned in pain

"F****ng heavy..."

Malia was still scared and powerless but she and Greg pushed away from the torn gate, only to see that soldiers arrived at the shopping street.

Jason saw this and tried to get up.

His left leg was injured and it seemed as if a sharp part from the torn gate had penetrated into it.

By pushing away the torn gate, the wound teared up even more and it was difficult to walk without feeling pain but Malia looked worse because of her overuse of mana and including traumatizing situation she was in, a few seconds ago, she looked like a zombie that feasted on humans, with the wolf's blood splattered on her face.

When everyone got up, Greg looked like he was the most uninjured of the three of them and he was already able to smile naively, when he picked up the remaining parts of the "tiny" two-headed amber lion.

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Chapter 62 - Aftermath

When Jason and Malia left the store supporting each other, Jason felt a draft next to him.

Gabriella and Mark appeared in front of Malia scanning her from head to toe.

"Oh, my baby!!! Are you fine? Does it hurt somewhere? Drink this healing reagent and let me take a look" Gabriella was extremely worried and Malia tried to calm down her mother, while Jason felt like an extra.

He walked away because he didn't want to interrupt them while he dragged his injured leg with him.

His body was still filled with adrenaline and his heart thumbed loudly when he helped Greg to pick up the beast corpses they killed.

It was a common rule that the hunters had the right on their prey's corpse and whoever snatched it would be treated as immoral.

This was not a law but most people would stick to this rule, however, there are always desperate people trying to gain some extra credits because of their debt or ignorance.

Jason's leg ached a lot and he decided to drink a grade-1 healing reagent but it was still kinda painful.

When they were almost finished collecting the tiny two-headed amber lion's body parts, Greg saw Jason's leg for the first time and his eyes widened, a shocked expression was apparent on his face.

"Yoo... J-Jason are you fine? You're sure that you won't bleed to death??. Let's go to mom, she can heal you?!?!"

"I'm fi...n" Jason said when a sudden pain caused him to grit his teeth... .. his sight blurred and his legs gave in, darkness enveloping him.

"Jason!!!. MOOOOM!!!" Gabriella was still worried about her daughter when she heard Greg's voice, turning around she saw Greg holding up a blood-drained Jason with a large amount of blood below him creating a small puddle.

"OH no!" Gabriella cried out and she appeared next to Jason while a tiny plant with thick but smooth vines, appeared on her left hand.

Sprouting its smooth vines around Jason's leg, a calming sensation spread through them, and one could smell a herbal aroma spreading from the vines.

If Jason's mana eyes were activated, he would be able to see healing magic for his first time.

Gabriella's first soulbond was a plant-type evolved ranked beast with a strong healing ability, which was rarely seen.

But the effect wasn't strong enough for Jason to regain his lost blood and she took out two different types of bottles.

→Peak Grade-2 Healing reagent to prevent Jason from losing more blood and regaining some vigor.

→ Grade-1 blood formation reagent to strengthen Jason's blood and increase his blood-regeneration.

The blood formation reagent was only a grade-1 potion because Jason couldn't handle the effects of the grade-2 reagent and furthermore, Gabriella and Mark didn't have a grade-2 blood formation reagent, to begin with, because it had to be made out of blood essence from rare beasts.

Jason's face regained some color but he was still not able to regain his consciousness.

Hours later

Jason wasn't sure when he woke up but he felt refreshed and full of vigor when he opened up his eyes.

He could see a large bedroom with expensive furniture around him and wondered where he was.

Sitting up, Jason straightened his back and he felt still slightly exhausted when Artemis appeared in front of him within the familiar white magic circle.

Crying out with worry and joy, she threw herself in his embrace.

The whole beast tide, Jason forced her to stay within the soul world and she was extremely worried about him the whole time, but she would hinder Jason more than helping him during the beast tide, which frustrated her...

Artemis could feel that Jason's injury was fully healed, but she was still slightly worried about his well-being

Jason wanted to stay up while holding Artemis but he felt that his left leg felt slightly numb and was more difficult to move when he remembered his leg injury.

Pulling down his pants, he saw that there wasn't even a scab, where he was previously injured, which wondered him.

There was also no pain anymore but the numb feeling was still uncomfortable.

Jason dragged himself out of the room and he entered the living room where he was greeted by the Fler's.

He was happy to see them fine and even Malia looked completely fine without the wolf blood on her face.

Apparently, only Jason was seriously injured by the gate and pierced by a sharp part of the torn gate.

If Malia or Greg were hit by the sharp part of the gate, they wouldn't be as seriously injured as Jason, because their physique was much tougher and more resistant than Jason's but that wasn't exceptionally hard to accomplish

Even if Jason felt much stronger than two months ago... his strength was still at the bottom of the chain and almost everything could kill him.

Mark heard Jason as first and he looked at him, asking

"Hey little one, are you fine?" before he unwillingly added "You did a good job, thank you for saving my precious daughter"

Malia had told her parents what happened and both were grateful for Jason.

Mark wasn't especially fond of Jason but he made extra points with his action today.

Gabriella, Greg, and Malia stood up simultaneously and surrounded Jason, asking him about his injury, if it hurt, if he felt extremely numb, tired and so on.

Jason answered the questions and sat down with Artemis still in his arm, when he asked the question he was the most curious about.

"How bad is the situation in Jiro-City? Why did the Beast tide occur and how many casualties did we suffer?"

Jason wasn't a pessimist or optimist and facts spoke more words than anything else but he hoped that the situation in Jiro wasn't as bad as he imagined when the beast tide occurred.

Mark opened the news and read the statistics before he answered Jason

"Overall the beast tide was mainly made up by evolved and unblemished beasts while a few hundred magical beasts appeared.

The worst however was the appearance of a small Guardian beast minotaur tribe...they tore down the city wall and devastated the outer districts and we could only stall them.

Not a single one of them were killed and they entered the noble district without caring about our attacks.

Even though a few of our Grandmagus' attacked them, the minotaur's innate magic resistance is exceptional and they pushed us back with their physical strength.

Fortunately for us and Jiro city was that rather than doing a killing-spree, they retreated after getting back what once belonged to them.

It was only then when two of the berserk minotaurs calmed down and left without looking back.

If you want to know the answer to why this beast tide occurred, this should be relatively easy when you know the characteristics of beasts.

There are only two ways to cause a relative intelligent race, minotaurs to be precise, at the Guardian rank to go into its berserk mode where it loses almost all reasonings.

1) Mana overdraft

2) Upcoming annihilation

3) Cub abduction

In my opinion, it's the third reason and one of the nobles in Jiro-City probably stole a cub that was taken back by the Minotaur tribe.

It is already extremely fortunate for these nobles to be still alive but the ones who had to pay the price were the citizens of Jiro-City.

More than one million deaths are already noted ... and there are still many more missing.

About the situation in Jiro-City? The citizens are scared and panicking while the government tries to calm down the masses as well as possible.

Looking at the streets and devastated districts with the destroyed buildings, including reinforced skyscrapers caused by the minotaurs' physical enhanced charges....the materialistic loss is extremely high.

I'm glad that all of you survived and it's fortunate that you only sustained a "small injury".

Considering your weak physique and mana core rank it is already good that you survived the beast tide.

To be honest... it's quite shameful to get informed that over 1 million people died... This beast tide was made up of a few million beasts, but most humans are higher ranked and at least at the Expert rank, and it's illogical that they died without being able to defend themselves...

While these citizens died, the military acted too slow and caused too many flying beasts to enter the city..

Concluding everything... it's dogs**t what happened here....F**k"

Jason listened carefully to Mark and he was rational talking about the whole situation until the end and with his last sentence he erupted and a small sound wave caused everyone's hairs to blowback while their ears hurt.

"HONEY!!!! WHAT DID I TELL YOU? CONTROL YOUR EMOTIONS!!!" Gabriella could only shout because she couldn't hear anything and the whole situation turned quite awkward.

The one who was the most hurt, was Artemis and she cried out and entered Jason's soul world after glaring at Mark.

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Chapter 63 - Persuading To Lose More Money

When Jason could hear something again, he asked where they were, what happened to the fox cubs and the scaled wolf.

Gabriella reassured Jason, that everything was fine with the lesser elemental foxes and that all of them were sold.

Previously Jason thought that Mark would only be able to sell half of the fox cubs but apparently, the beast merchant found quite a lot of middle-school graduates that were in a dire need of elemental beasts for their first contract, and the fox cubs came to the perfect timing, while the scaled wolf was the best of them.

Mark only sold all of the fox cubs to this merchant because he received an additional large tip due to the large number of fox cubs.

Jason hoped the fox cubs were fine and survived the beast tide but even if he knew, there wasn't much he could change now, so he decided to change the subject.

"When are we going to depart? Do we have to wait for something or can we continue our trip to Cyro-City tomorrow?"

"We should be able to continue our trip tomorrow, but we can arrive a lot faster because we can change our vehicle to our high-speed flying shuttle! It will only take four hours with it because we fly almost straight through one- and two-star wild zones without flying beasts in a high altitude without any detours.

Even if they were a few awakened beasts flying through the sky, they would be ripped apart, before they could see us."

Gabriella said confidently with a hunch of pride behind covered in her words.

"But shouldn't you guys do something else first? You guys killed a magical beast and a few other rare beasts.. Even if the two-headed amber lion was ripped apart, the core and other important parts are still sellable and worth quite a lot.

Greg's storage space has an integrated perseverance function and Greg said the liver looked fine..

A few nobles would probably pay a mountain of credits to get the liver of a two-headed amber lion which is said to be one of the best as transplantation.

Not forgetting the beast core... Magical beast cores can be fed to one of your soulbonds and maybe their potential or fire ability can increase."

Greg took out the magical beast core which was red in color and inside one could see a small flame vigorously moving around.

Jason activated his mana eyes and he was overwhelmed by the huge compressed amount of mana inside the core...

`Is that a drop of mana liquid?' Jason thought and he was reminded of the first time he saw the mana core during the beast break-out.

For humans, if they wanted to enter the Magus rank, they had to compress their mana as much as possible before converting it into liquid.

This compression would first purify one's mana core before it would metamorph one's body.

While the mana would be compressed, new space for even more mana would be left inside the mana core and it was said that the more mana was compressed into a liquid the stronger were ones attacks.

Jason found the cultivation system quite weird.

From Novice→ Adept→ Expert→ Master-rank one would increase the size of one's mana core while expelling impurities.

From then on one would convert the gaseous mana into liquid and reach the continuing rank called Magus.

And from Jason's knowledge, it was said that the more drops of mana liquid one possessed the higher was one's level and rank→ To reach the rank of a Grandmagus one would only need 30% of his mana core filled with mana liquid and so on....

Converting mana into liquid was said to be extremely difficult because the focus and accuracy needed was more than most could do while the amount of mana was as much as a mountain, which was also the first point for most humans the first major obstacle→ Reaching the Magus rank.

Before Jason had also wondered why these methods were divided like this and which rank came after Grandmagus, but there was no need for him to think about that now.

The only thing he had to know was, that without resources, his speed would only slow down, and to get more resources, Jason had to enter dangerous wild zones or even forbidden zones, battle zones, and so on.

Greg looked at Malia who gave him a signal with her eyes and Greg threw the Magical beast core to Jason who had a hard time catching the core because he was still deep in thoughts.

"You can take it" Greg said and Malia approved his decision.

Jason was dumbfounded but grateful and he didn't reject the magical beast core.

Asking Artemis if she could come out again, a white magical circle appeared before Jason and Artemis jumped out of it.

Jason thought she would immediately jump to the magical beast core but the complete opposite happened when she distanced herself from the core with disapproval in her face...

"Do you not like this core??..." This was weird... didn't Artemis love mana the most? This magical ranked beast core had much more mana inside than a small mana stone but why did she back off?

A weird kind of feeling was transmitted to his mind and Jason immediately understood.

"Ehh.... is it possible to trade magical beast cores against other elements??" Jason asked with an apologetic expression.

Apparently, Artemis wasn't suitable for the fire elemental magical beast core and she hated this kind of mana... she transmitted Jason a picture of an ice cube and the feeling of it and he understood what she wanted.

"That's possible but a fire magical beast core is one of the most common types and if you want to trade it with a different elemental type, you have to add at least the difference of the wanted core.

But it's more likely that you have to add quite a sum because rare cores are worth quite a lot."

Mark was the first to answer but the answer was satisfying and one could see Jason frowning slightly...

"What core do you need? Maybe we can help somehow... we killed a few magical beasts today and maybe the core you need is among them" Gabriella answered and hope flickered in Jason's eyes, when he nodded with his head subconsciously.

Right now Jason felt really shameful but if he could get an Ice elemental beast core.

Maybe Artemis would even be able to evolve... who knows?' Jason thought already thinking far ahead of the future before he calmed down

"Is among the magical beasts an Ice elemental beast?" Jason asked with a small ray of hope.

They were close to an ice magical zone and the chances that a magical beast with an Ice affinity invaded the city were not small, but beasts with an ice affinity were much rarer than one with a fire affinity so Jason wasn't sure.

"I think there was a fierce glacier bear among the beasts we...."

"REALLY! Can we maybe trade the cores? I'll definitely pay the difference or more once I have the credits.... Please!!" Jason tried his best to make puppy eyes and Gabriella laughed while Mark sighed

"There is no need for you to pay the difference. The ice elemental beast core is a thank you for saving our daughter" Mark said... If a greedy person gifted something, it meant he loves his daughter dearly and Jason smiled at Mark before he gave them the fire elemental beast core...

"Even If I saved Malia, I was also rescued in return... I don't like owing favors..please accept the core and tell me the difference between the two cores price."

Jason was adamant but Mark was also stubborn and in the end, they agreed that Jason didn't have to pay the difference while they exchanged cores.

Mark was astonished about himself...` Did I try to persuade Jason to give him my money??!?!`

The ice elemental core was extremely cold and had the size of a small fist and Artemis jumped at the core and opened up her peak as much as possible squeezing the core down before Jason was able to do something, while everyone's eyes widened in shock

`She wouldn't explode, right?` Was what everyone thought

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Chapter 64 - Evolution?

Artemis' belly bulged and she looked at Jason before a magic circle appeared below her and she appeared in his soul world.

"WAITT! She won't die right??? Why did she gulp down the magical ranked beast core now???!!? How should a three-star wild beast be able to digest such ferocious mana....Let's go to a professional, maybe she can receive some help, before its too late." Malia jumped up and Gabriella followed suit.

After them, Greg also jumped up, following them and even Mark stood up while Jason was still sitting at the table.

"WHAT ARE YOU DOING JASON??? Do you want your soulbond to die??" Malia shouted with anger in her voice and the others looked also concerned.

"That's not needed" Jason said calmly, before looking into his soul world where a white cocoon covered Artemis.

He felt that she was fine and small snowflakes surrounded the white cocoon.

Each step he took closer to her felt a few degrees colder and Jason distances himself once again.

Jason decided to leave his soul world and he smiled, still sitting at the table with four pairs of eyes looking at him with various emotions

"Not needed??" Greg was the first one to come back to his senses

"Yeah..she can take it...I think she is evolving" Jason answered still smiling.

There were a few facts leading Jason to his conclusion.

1st Artemis was wrapped in white shining light.

→ Every evolving beast did that.

2nd She gulped down a magical beast mana core which provided thousands of times the mana Artemis would need to survive and strengthening herself

→A certain amount of mana is needed to force an evolution in the beast's genes without destroying her.

→Jason thought that Artemis could digest as much mana as she wanted.

3rd Artemis cocoon was releasing a terrifying force while cold drafts and snowflakes surrounded it.

→some evolutions caused the creation of an elemental affinity seed.

"HUH?" Everyone was flabbergasted.

'Just like that Jason's soulbond evolved?

His wild beast could withstand such devastating and vigorous mana? Without causing pain to either soulbond or contractor??

"What the hell is your soulbond' s mutation" Malia was the first to ask the obvious question which nobody could answer, not even Jason, and he lifted his arms with a helpless gesture.

"I honestly don't know but apparently she can digest as much mana as she wants to.

And to add on, I can't figure out her potential at all, even my gut feeling is telling me that something is going on.

This wasn't the case with each beast I caught and also not the case when I told Greg to pick his soulbond"

It was better to be safe than dead or betrayed, so Jason told only what he was supposed to.

Jason didn't know that the Fler did already roughly know about his eyes capabilities while Gabriella and Mark already talked to each other about Jason's mana eyes and what exactly they were.

There were many unique things about Jason and now Artemis was added to the collection.

(Special) Mana eyes, Unique soul(weak soul energy), and (Unique) Mutated snowflake owl.

Jason was a mysterious character to them but he was gentle, friendly, loyal as he saved Malia even though he was seriously injured, and a friend of Greg and now apparently even Malia.

They believed Jason wouldn't betray them and the two of them decided to wait for Jason to tell them about his past or his eye's special effect more in detail.

After that the Fler's sat down at the table once again, to discuss their schedule for the next day.

When they dispersed, Jason went into his room to practice the Heaven' Hell technique before he looked at Artemis for some time.

Afterward, Jason watched multiple videos about the dual mastery modification of the Azure feisty Ape technique before he switched to the beaSTARium with its characteristic to look at certain areas with its residing beasts inside.

Jason selected Cyro city as the main spot while the different wild zones were projected.

He could select one and every beast inside this wild zone would be detailed except a few rare and dangerous ones without much information.

Important for Jason was that there was no one-star wild zone which meant the weakest beast Jason could use to practice would be an awakened ranked beast.

This caused Jason to frown deeply and he questioned himself if he would be able to defeat an awakened beast without Artemis as his support. Killing awakened beasts without Artemis' help seemed impossible at the moment as combining his strength with his weapons and combat prowess was not enough.

Today, Jason understood again that his strength had to increase much faster...

Because he had already slept much, Jason decided to absorb mana throughout the night, and his determination to break into the next level as soon as possible was ignited.

Injecting mana into his mana core consisted of simple steps.

Sensing the mana in the surroundings and absorb it, before circling the foreign mana throughout the main mana channels within the body.

Once a large circle was finished, the mana could be annexed and injected into the body

The better one's mana control, sensitivity, surrounding mana density, determination and focus was, the faster one could get stronger.

The whole night passed and Jason only stopped circulating his mana to practice the Heaven's Hell technique.

With Jason's understanding, Artemis would evolve into a low-awakened beast at the worst and the weakest awakened beast had soul energy of at least 11 Units.

One-star beasts needed 1 unit, Two-star→ 2 units, Three-star→ 4 units, Four-star beasts--> 6 units, → Five-star beasts→ 10 units on average, while it varied for each race but a soul power of 11 would be the worst of the worst for an awakened beast to possess.

Right now Jason's soul energy was at around 5.4 while he got around 1.4 shared from Artemis.

This meant his own soul energy was approximately 4 points after breaking through 4 levels of his mana core rank and painstakingly practicing Heaven's Hell techniques first level three times a day for weeks.

Based on the assumption that Artemis would evolve into a low-awakened ranked beast with soul energy of 11 and his shared amount of ?, Jason had to increase his own soul energy by at least 3.5 points.

This was the best outcome not including the fact that Jason didn't know when Artemis would finish her evolution.

And his gut feeling told him that Artemis soul energy wouldn't be 11 and rather higher...

Being in a contract with a soulbond with higher soul energy than oneself could end disastrously because they weren't forced to obey the orders of their contractors.

If a beast were to disregard the contractor's will, everything could be endangered.

A few years ago in the news, there was a report about a beast obtaining exceptionally high soul energy after evolving.

Unfortunately, this beast killed its contractor and one could only say that raising high potential beasts since birth was better than raising a beast with high potential when it had already matured as its instincts were apparent and hard to control.

Controlling beasts with lower soul energy was still possible, even though it could be difficult sometimes under the will of their wild instincts but one was powerless against beasts with higher soul energy.

Nevertheless, Jason was confident, that Artemis wouldn't hurt him, but playing everything save was still better.

Determined to increase his overall capabilities, Jason finished his solidification in the morning, before he practiced the Heaven's Hell technique and went down to eat breakfast.

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Chapter 65 - One Incident After Another

Everyone was already sitting at the table and fortunately, there wasn't a nightgown accident with Malia this time, and the atmosphere was splendid.

After eating breakfast, Jason followed the others outside the apartment, and it seemed as if they were at a big hotel.

Jason didn't have the desire to look where he was the day before, and only now did he notice that they were on a high floor of a skyscraper.

They entered a glass elevator and Jason could see the demolished streets and buildings far away...

Opening his quantum bracelets holographic screen he accessed the news about Jiro-City and the death list that seemed to be endless long....

1.553.356 deaths and less than 1 million injured humans.

Jiro-City had around 40 million citizens and was thus one of the biggest b-grade cities on Astrix while only Cyro- and Bengal-City were larger as A-grade City.

Cyro-City had around 80 to 90 million citizens while Bengal-City had around 75 million citizens.

The Capital of Astrix island was Cyro and this was also where the most prestigious schools were situated.

While many schools were in Cyro city, which was also called the City of Rivalry by many, because not only the students had a deep sense of competition to reach the higher class ranking in order to gain more resources, rather the schools had a fierce rivalry against each other.

While the Vanguard school was seen as one of the big three schools with its 6 affiliated schools, it wasn't the biggest school among the big three and also not the strongest but balancing in-between these factors.

What made up the Vanguard school was its foundation, which was deep and full of theoretical knowledge that was imprinted in the student's mind.

Their motto was "Knowledge is power", but unfortunately for Jason was, that his knowledge wasn't that powerful and he could only curse in his mind about such a stupid motto.

Many humans died over the last 24 hours and Jason felt sad about the incident but this was also one of the reasons his ambition to reach a higher mana core rank was only getting firmer.

`Cowardly dying? F**K you beasts and nobles.. L**k my boots..I won't die!!`

Jason cursed out inwardly and he felt that his mind was getting more and more stable.

Only a few minutes later, they arrived outside and Mark summoned a dark red sporty-looking limousine with a length of more than 6 meters in front of them.

Somehow this limousine looked even more expensive than the hovering truck and Jason saw the mana radiating from the car and he immediately knew that it was made out of magical ranked beast remains at the worst.

While stepping inside Jason was astonished about the futuristic interior and it looked very technologically advanced with a large screen in the front, a fridge at the side, and beverages inside.

It was very spacious inside the limousine and sitting down felt extremely comfortable as Jason wondered if he would sleep in, once he stopped focusing as Jason was pushed inside.

Looking around even Greg and Malia felt very relaxed and Gabriella had to smile when she saw Jason's amazed face.

"Jason, just that you know... this peak grade-2 flying limousine was made out of ourazin-hoarding-metal-beasts which are rare magical beasts. Ourazin alone is already a precious metal but once hoarded by a metal-beast the purity and mana conductivity increased by a large margin.

This causes the limousine to reach a much higher speed..And to be honest this car is our most treasured asset as well as the most expensive one...hehe..."

"OHH...How expensive was it??" Jason listened and he was curious about the price. He knew that the Fler's were rich but he wanted to know how expensive their most expensive asset was and Jason listened impatiently.

"We paid with high-grade mana stones and other magical treasures but converted...It should be around 100 Star notes.."

Jason looked dumbfounded and confused not knowing what Star notes were....

"Ohh..right... you don't know anything about Star notes. Credits are mostly used for smaller businesses while Star notes represent the more expensive currency.

100.000.000 Credits are equivalent to 1 Star note. So we paid 10 trillion Credits for this limousine"

Above Jason, a wormhole opened and his soul vanished into thin air while he looked completely stupified at Gabriella...

"HUH? 10 trillion Credits?????" Jason wasn't able to close his mouth and Gabriella started to chuckle...She wanted to brag a little bit about her baby but she didn't think Jason would react like this

"Let's go, honey!" She said and turned around to Mark who immediately started the engine.

This morning, they applied for a flying permit from the AI which they easily received and now the Limousine began to ascend into the air.

Jason was looking outside the window still dumbfounded when he was pressed into Greg by the sudden acceleration of the flying limousine.

Nausea and the desire to vomit were Jason's smallest problem right now because he was pressed on Greg which wasn't really comfortable.

Malia had formed a small membrane of mana around her and chuckled while Greg pushed Jason gentle away from him while laughing

"Sorry you are not my type, bro"

"YOU ARE ALSO NOT MY TYPE, MUSCLEHEAD!!" Jason shouted because he was embarrassed. HOW should he know that the limousine would reach such a terrifying speed.

Jason wasn't even able to determine where they exactly were as he could only barely made out the landscape outside the window.

The only thing Jason could see was blurry colors of brown, green, white, and red, which wondered Jason..

`How fast is this car that I can't see anything at all with my eyesight??`

But thinking about the price Jason understood the situation completely....The limousine had to be extremely fast but probably it was probably not very durable with this speed because it looked like they made a big detour to avoid four-star zones and most three-star zones with many flying beasts.

After trying to find a nice position to sit in, Jason decided to enter his soul world to run away from the awkward situation with Greg and Malia on each side next to him.

Somehow Jason was always between two of them and it didn't feel bad to be surrounded by friends.

He forgot about the previous situation as fast as he forgot Malia's nightgown incident as entered the soul world.

His soul energy was at 5.4 units while the natural production of the whole energy took around 6 hours which was around four times faster than what most souls innately recovered over a whole day.

Refining his soul energy, Jason felt that his soul world was insignificantly increasing in size and Jason was joyful.

Before leaving, he looked at the white cocoon with snow floating around it with a gentle smile.

Outside the soul world, Jason noticed something blue flying in his direction before he could figure out the situation he was in.

While he was inside the soul world, the limousine made a generous curve which caused Greg and Jason which both entered the soul world to get pressed into Malia who was also in her soul world.

Malia noticed something pressing on her chest and the first thing she saw, was a black-haired youth with closed eyes while her stupid brother was pressing Jason even more on her chest.

Turning red out of shame and anger, two balls of water appeared, while one was big, the other one was slightly smaller.

The big ball of water was shot into Greg's face with a high velocity while the small ball was thrown into Jason's face who opened his eyes right before the ball appeared.

Jason only noticed his position was inappropriate before he was hit by the waterball.

"ARGHHH" Jason and Greg cried out at the same time while holding their wet head.

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 66 - Arrival

The next few hours were awkward and embarrassing and Jason tried to focus on his passive mana replenishing proficiency.

Greg wasn't aware of what happened and he took out a few mana stones to gather mana into his mana core.

Hours passed and the flying car slowed down by a significant amount, which was noticed by everyone.

Looking out of the window, a terrifying huge dome appeared surrounding a wall that was at least 400 meters high....

Jason couldn't see the radiating mana from it as it was still too far away but he didn't think the materials used to build such a glamorous white silver shining wall could be of a low grade.

The materials would have to be at least able to defend against strength-type magical beasts, more probably Guardian-ranked beasts.

Nobody could afford to slack off within a city with at least 80 million citizens and once their car entered the dome various requests were demanded.

Everything was quickly finished by Mark because they were nobles and Jason was registered as one of their employees, making everything less difficult for Jason to enter the city.

The flying cars' speed decelerated even more and they had to use the driving mode once they reached a certain radius because it was not allowed to fly inside the city without special certification due to various reasons.

It was not only shocking for Jason to see the gigantic size of Cyro city that was more than double the size of Jiro-City but every district looked more luxurious than the districts inside the c-grade city, he previously lived in.

Driving on the 30 meters width main road, Jason looked around to see that everything was radiating mana, even the concrete below him.

Mana with some kind of dots was radiated from it and Jason guessed it was a durability reagent inside the concrete, making it long-lasting, which was apparently quite common in higher graded cities.

Jason couldn't sense the mana of the city because they were sitting in the peak grade-2 flying car that hindered mana from leaking out of the car but also prevented mana from getting inside because it could obstruct one in gathering one's mana, but he was able to see the mana streams and his eyes shined in a greedy light.

Upon looking down Jason screamed out as he was forced to deactivate his mana eyes with blood pouring out of them due to the thing he saw.

`OHHH HMY FFF**** LORD` "What is that??"

"What's wrong Jason? Are you not feeling well?" Malia and Greg asked while coming closer and Gabriella who heard Jason's scream and the question turned around in astonishment

"Can you see the natural mana vein below the city, Jason?" She asked not hiding her shock.

"Natural mana vein?" Jason wiped away the bloody tears and looked at Gabriella confused

"Yes... Cyro-city is the Capital of Astrix city mainly because it was built on a natural mana vein which empowers the high-grade mana dome.

This is attractive for humans and beasts at the same time, and normally many high-ranked beasts would attack this city because of its innate high mana density but the specialized high ranked beast repellent which we use on a daily basis, terrifies most higher-ranked beasts, while the beasts below the magical rank can't even sense the mana vein at all.

But even if these beasts aren't scared by the repellent, you don't have to be scared, because of the high mana density, many powerhouses reside here to defend the city with its citizens.

Over the last 100 years since this city exists, there has not been one time where beasts broke through the wall in front of you.

It looks like you can't handle looking directly at the mana vein, which would be a considerable achievement, to begin with. Just try avoiding looking at it for now. Maybe you'll be able to look at it, once you get stronger, but for now don't look at it, ok?"

Gabriella seemed to be concerned about Jason's health, as such he could only nod

"Hmm...ok" Jason looked up and began using his mana eyes again because he was just too curious and without looking through the ground, everything should be fine.

He wanted to know what these weird colors were Jason saw right next to the mana vein but he was too scared to try it again.

But from his shallow experience he gained over the last few weeks, Jason thought that the color had to do something with a living being...

Until now Jason had only seen colors radiating from beasts and the Holy white baruci fruit!

The main problem was that there were even colors among them, Jason had never seen before and goosebumps appeared all over his body while he tried hard to review the situation again.

`Are these beasts or plants?...they weren't moving and the mana looked calm but I couldn't see it for a long time and it was very vague...ughh scary!!`

Sighing, Jason decided to try it later again, when he increased his rank because now it would be comparable to a suicide.

`Nice welcome present, thanks Cyro-City!!!`

They continued driving for more than an hour until they reached the outer area of the noble district that seemed to look oddly `normal`.

Many houses could be seen and they drove for a while along the street until they stopped at a three-story tall house with an unimpressive aura spreading out of it, compared to their previous house and the houses they saw before.

The front yard was around 300 sq.m. large, while the interior looked exquisite but not exactly impressive.

One could say this house was perfectly fit for a family of five with soulbonds because the backyard was 2000 sq.m. large with a big pond, combat area, and enough space for soulbonds to graze.

There was also a large tree spending shadow for one and Jason immediately fell in love with this house.

He didn't like the previous Fler's mansion, but this house looked like a real home to him, without wasting too much space.

Greg was also in the backyard and a large transparent circle appeared in front of him with black outlines and a red hue spreading out of it.

Suddenly a 2 ? meter tall dark brown bull with two thick and vicious-looking longhorns curved to the front appeared within, before charged to the green patch with loud steps.

"It looks unimpressive, rights? Haha...If it wasn't for the professional potential-test I probably would be thinking you were a fraud"

Greg said, laughing lightly, but Jason could see something hidden deep in his eyes as he wondered what happened.

"Well... luckily you believed me... Now you only have to find a way to evolve Taurus and everyone is happy, right buddy?"

Jason smiled brightly and looked at the smiling Greg... There weren't many words needed between them but there was something which annoyed him for quite some time since he got to know that the weakest wild zone in his surrounding had two-stars

"Greg... can you somehow help me increase my combat prowess? Maybe I need another martial art technique or just someone to train with but I don't know how to increase my proficiency with the dual master modification the Azure feisty ape technique.

Greg understood what Jason meant and gave him the signal to follow him.

Jason wasn't sure what was going on but he followed Greg without saying a word.

They entered the small area designated for combat training and Greg got into position without changing his clothes or saying anything at all.

Before Jason could even say anything Greg announced.

"Ready?...3...2...1 GO!"

Greg restricted his strength to Jason's level but his speed seemed extremely fast, as Greg appeared in front of the unguarded Jason within a second.

Evading Greg's straight punch with a jump to the side Jason struggled to stay up fast enough when Greg's kick into his stomach blew him away.

Greg distanced himself from Jason again and stated emotionless

"Stand up!"

Jason stood up while lamenting in his mind

`How can someone change his attitude so fast?!?!`

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 67 - Getting To Know The Soulbonds

Quite some time passed and Jason's face was filled with bumps and bruises when Greg explained his weaknesses.

"To put it simple, your foundation is lacking because you practiced a tierless martial art without properly training your body.

Even if your proficiency with the Azure feisty ape technique reached the third stage also called experienced mastery, once your body can't follow your train of thoughts, you're doomed.

I can see in that your eyes can easily follow my movements and predict where I will hit you but your body is too slow with its more cumbersome movements.

As a recommendation, I would give you the tip to change your martial art technique as the first thing to do.

A modified technique is not as strong as an original, because some important sequences have to be changed to adjust a weaponless martial art into one with weapons.

Later, I can look into our storage, if we have a gradeless basic foundation dual-dagger mastery martial arts technique, if not, we can purchase it.

Furthermore you should use weights while training every muscle in your body!

Try to maximize your workout..it may save your life later!"

Jason was amazed about Greg's seriousness which he hadn't seen before and he nodded full of ambition even if his whole body hurt.

During his spar with Greg, he noticed that he was really weak and his foundation couldn't be considered good.

Wondering how he had killed five-star wild beasts, Jason was thankful for his luck and other advantages.

Furthermore, Jason noted that his body adjusted itself slowly while sparring with Greg and maybe if he continued to spar, he might be getting stronger really fast..

Unfortunately Greg was also behind others in his mana core rank which he had to catch up fast, so he wouldn't have much time for Jason.

"Thank you, GREG!"

Jason said happily full of gratitude when he noticed a few strong mana fluctuations

Turning around, he could see nine magic circles in front of Malia, Greg, and Gabriella

In front of Malia appeared two magic circles, one large dark red flickering and a blue shining magic circle.

Out of the blue shining magic circle appeared a miniature humanoid girl with wings on her back and blue hair, while out of the dark red flickering magic circle jumped a pitch-black colored horse with a dark red fire as its mane and. Above its hooves were also flames enveloping a small part of its legs and when Jason saw it's eyes, he got goosebumps because they were pitchblack.

`This fairy is cute and probably at the peak of the evolved rank but what the h**l is wrong with this horse?? Is that a Nightmare-horse? And it's still at the unblemished rank only slightly apart from entering the magical rank? Not bad.....but still scary!!`

Jason asked himself, shivering slightly when a few beasts jumped out of the magic circles in front of Mark.

Mark had three magic circles in front of him while one was a small light-red one, a large red heat-hazed one, and a small faint green one that was even smaller than Artemis magic circle.

Out of the small magic circle flew a small bat with its miniature stature. While its body was black, the eyes and ears were in a jade color and it looked around, listening to the sounds, before it jumped towards Mark.

The small light-red magic circle summoned a red-colored monkey with a brown belly and a small amber-colored horn in the middle of the forehead, while a ten-meter-long python with a burning tale appeared inside the large red heat-hazed magic circle.

`Mark's first contracted beast was a peak awakened ranked amber horned monkey? And the other two are a magical ranked mutated miniature bad and a magical ranked Inferno-Python? WOAH!` Jason knew that Mark contracted good beasts but that his second soulbond was already a magical beast which was definitely above average on Astrix...

`Maybe he had to wait a long time until he got enough soul power to bind this magical beast! He is really patient...`

But Jason knew that Mark had used up all his slots for his soulbonds and it looked like the potential of his bonds were already used up.

Mark could only increase his strength by increasing his mana core rank and not by contracting another beast.

Jason knew Gabriella was stronger than Mark and the four magic circles in front of her proved him right. There were two purple magic circles enveloped in lightning, while the other two magic circles looked somewhat gentle and nice.

Out of the purple magic circles jumped a 15 meter long python and a large wolf enveloped in lightning.

Jason was more expectant on the other two magic circles and a somehow familiar beast appeared inside the small white green-whitish magic circle.

It was a plant looking like a bell while out of the larger whitish magic circle appeared a calm white curved horned sheep.

Jason had heard about healing beasts and one of the more common ones was a sanctification bellflower which was a late evolved sentient plant that is also categorised into the beast section. The Wolf is also called Vicious Thunderwolf and is a late unblemished beast while the Thunderpython looked somehow similar to the Inferno-Python while both of them are at the magical rank.

But Jason had not heard anything about the sheep he could see but he knew that Gabriella had an affinity to only two elements, healing and thunder.

As such the sheep needed to have something to do with healing and Jason called it

`Unveiling curved horned sheep`.

It looked like this sheep had even the strongest mana core rank and it was most probably at the peak of the magical rank.

While looking at the beasts appearing out of the magic circles and strolling around, Jason concluded one thing

Malia's soul power was extremely huge that she could form a bond with a peak-evolved beast as her first contract which was even a fairy...

This was extremely rare because not only are fairy rare, but also very willful with a high soul energy and great affinity.

Furthermore, it could even reach the unblemished rank according to the color radiating from it.

After that she contracted a second soul beast which was the Nightmare-horse in front of him.

A Nightmare horse is a magical ranked beast and it needed a ton of soul energy to control.

Jason was amazed to see Malia having two strong soulbond at her age.

He wasn't sure how many bonds she could form or how many elements she had as affinity but `Water and Fire` were 100% among them as he already saw the transmuted mana within her.

Jason continued his conclusion with Mark and Gabriella.

Mark's soul had the affinity of fire with two beasts and maybe a physical soul with one beast, which was the miniature jade bat.

Either this was the case or Mark's second affinity had something to do with sound but Jason had never heard of something like that so he thought it might be a double soul-awakening with small-sized souls.

Gabriella had space for four soulbonds and the affinity for thunder and healing that were both rare, while a healing ability was one of the rarest abilities and highly demanded in hospitals, prestigious schools with many combat injuries, and hunting groups even more so.

Mark and Gabriella's soulbonds looked like they were all at their racial limit and Jason wondered if there was a chance for them to evolve as his mana eyes didn't seem to work properly since he thought about his purification theory.

The only thing Jason knew was, that the radiating color he saw, was equivalent or even better than the newest potential tests developed by the best scientists.

Online there were millions of threads about methods to force a evolution for beasts and Jason had also heard about occupations called beast developers or also called Beast Creators because they could force to evolve into a superior race with the right solution and ratio of magical ingredients/materials.

These beast creators had some restrictions while evolving beasts but it was still possible for them to force an evolution while the beast had to stay within its tested potential.

Beast creators were humans that knew a lot about beasts and their possible evolution paths. Someone might say it is easy to know about all that but rather than that it is extremely difficult to know which magical materials are needed to cause an evolution in addition to the ratio in order to prevent damaging the beast temporary or even permanent.

After evaluating a beast's potential, these creators would have to pick a suitable evolution path that was within its potential range.

Concocting a special reagent with the researched magical ingredients could increase the chance for a beast to evolve but there were not many known recipes and only experimenting with beasts could provide more information.

For these experiments, many beasts would be needed and it was easier for low ranked beasts to be experimented with than high ranked beasts.

This was also the reason for the increased price for low-ranked beasts with high potential as some of them would be used by the government to test certain evolution reagents.

These beasts creators had to work within the range of a beast's potential and there was still not a single public known case where a beast broke into a higher rank without having the required potential.

Jason tried to do his own research about these things but his access was limited to only a few online threads which didn't need a special rank for access.

Looking at the families overall soul-awakenings, Jason was amazed.

Greg and Malia seemed to have much better soul awakenings than their parents but even theirs should be at 2 ? or 3 stars, which is a good amount above average.

Each soulbond was happy to be outside and they ran around, played with each other or annoyed one another and everyone was happy looking at them.

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 68 - Dual

It was dinner time and the soulbonds got their various kinds of Mana-based food.

Jason had to wait for the others to finish feeding their soulbonds as such, he entered his soul world to practice the Heaven's Hell technique diligently like every day.

After he finished, the others were also done and the soulbonds stayed outside except the amber horned monkey that also liked to stay by Mark's side.

Eating a delicious meal inside Jason was deep in thought about what martial arts technique he should look for.

Furthermore, he was pondering if he was even able to access a better one than the commonly known ones.

Jason sighed and he didn't notice that Greg was telling his family about Jason's problem with his martial art technique or rather with his non-existent basic knowledge about fighting, except his natural traits like his good eyesight, reaction speed, and comprehension ability.

Greg praised these traits but he was also strict with his lacking ability and fundamental holes Jason had to fill.

If Jason knew more about the basics, he would be able to use many kinds of movements in combination with each other, rather than following the simple sequences from the Azure feisty Ape technique.

The main problem was that Jason's Azure feisty Ape technique was commonly used for close combat without weapons while he looked for the modified version which lacked many important things.

This caused the potential of the technique to be stuck at the experienced mastery which was its limit and Jason didn't know that at all.

He was frustrated that his comprehension was becoming worse and worse because he couldn't improve his proficiency of the modified Azure feisty Ape technique while he already reached the possible limits of it.

Gabriella and Mark had all kinds of Tierless foundational weapon mastery techniques bought before their kids were born because they wanted to be prepared for their tutelage.

But somehow it was useless in the end because Malia wasn't using any weapons and managed to attack with her exquisite control over the fire and water affinity she gained, while Greg was relying on his physique and crude moves, rather than any elegant technique.

They lamented about that for a long time as they purchased these techniques for a fortune but now it seems to come in handy.

Gabriella looked into her large spatial storage when she threw out one book after another.

In the beginning, Jason didn't notice that books appeared on the table but once a small mountain was formed in front of him, he was immediately distracted from his thoughts and looked up.

Looking at the manuals in front of him, he was confused.

But reading their names, he became curious.

'Fundamental dagger guide, Fundamental dual-dagger guide, Fundamental archery guide, Fundamental close combat guide....., Basic body exercises, Basic mana exercise, Basic mana manipulation guide, Basic passive mana gathering guide, Basic combat stance manual, Rookie weapon mastery, Rookie dagger mastery.....`

There were at least 50 books in front of Jason and each of them had interesting titles...

Looking at Gabriella and Mark, Gabriella nodded while Mark grumbled

"Use them"

Mark was still slightly somewhat uncomfortable around Jason but he warmed up slowly and Jason jumped up joyful thanking them sincerely with small tears in his eyes.

"Thank you, Aunt, Uncle!!...Oh...eh.I mea-...n..I'M SORRY!" Jason wasn't aware of what he said in the beginning but noticing that he called the Fler's, aunt, and uncle, he was immediately shocked about his stupidity.

In this Era, it was inappropriate to call someone Uncle or Aunt without being blood relatives, related by marriage or Adopted, and it was seen as very rude by most people.

Even if Jason could only think that it was rude because it was impolite and seen as an even more intimate way to call someone than by one's first name.

More important was that Jason had never called anyone intimately, except his mother as he began cursing himself.

There was a short moment of silence in the whole room until Gabriella smiled brightly, shattering the awkwardness while chuckling heartily before she told Jason

"I've never been called Aunt... It is nice to hear.. Just call me Aunty.. But if you want to do that you've to remember that you are seen as a part of our family!! Since you called us Aunt and Uncle you have to take responsibility" She said while chuckling

Mark was looking slightly frustrated at Jason before he turned to his wife with an odd gaze.

`Can't I also decide something important like that?!?! I'm also a part of this family!!!`

But Mark could only think that when Greg jumped up and hugged Jason...

"Hahahaha I always wanted to have a younger brother!! You are now my younger brother whether you like it or not!"

Even Malia who was still sitting smiled brightly showing him a piece sign as acknowledgment while the only positive thing Mark could think of was

`At least he won't pursue my precious princess! HAHA`

A few tears poured down Jason's cheek and Gabriella got up with a tissue to wipe them away.

After she finished, she turned serious and ordered

"Now that you are a part of our family, even without a proper bond, you have certain responsibilities!! School will start in 9 days and your foundation seems to be unstable.

Today your task is to read through every manual on the table and to imprint them into your mind as well as possible.

Until the end of the week, you have to know the smallest details of these manuals!!

Decide on which weapon you want to master as your main weapon and we'll focus on this weapon to train you properly.

We will prepare a workout for you and enough nutrition so you won't be able to excuse yourself by slacking off.

I heard you are intelligent and your theoretical exam was pretty good.. That's nice but in Cryo-city it is slightly different.

The tested questions were shallow and there were no questions that asked profound knowledge about worldly matters or even a single more in-depth question."

Listening to Gabriella, Jason found it exciting to get a tight schedule because he was slightly at a loss.

It wasn't exactly healthy to gather mana for 24/7, only eating and practicing the Heaven's Hell technique as an exception

Previously Jason didn't know what to do in the remaining 7+ days, because he was too weak to enter the two-star wild-zone alone and unable to improve his martial art skill.

With the books in front of him, Jason knew what he should do.

Storing them inside his bracelet he activated its special feature to scan them and display them at his holographic screen.

Jason almost forgot to thank the Fler's once again as he was too excited to read these 50 books, even if he knew that it was hard to archive.

Gabriella smiled at the youth who ran out of the house into the backyard, while Mark opened his holographic screen

"I'll plan his workout" he said.

Malia and Greg looked at each other and wondered if Jason would be able to read through all 50 books today as each book had at least 50+ sites with difficult technical language.

Only a few minutes later, Jason came back inside with a confused expression.... bombarding the Fler's with questions and Malia decided to help Jason out while she would read her own manuals.

Greg would be bored alone, so he decided to read through the advanced theories of the mana breakout which was the most boring subject in his opinion.

The three of them leaned on a thick tree inside its shadow and silently read their book

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 69 - Strenuous Week

During the following week, Jason found that practicing the pain-full Heaven's Hell technique was one of the most relaxing things he could ever do, as the pain he received from injecting soul energy treads into his soul world core lessened by a large margin.

His soul energy was getting more and more stable while the circulation of it was much easier due to the removed impurities.

With Malia's help, Jason imprinted the knowledge about all foundational and basic books into his mind as well as possible but it was still very difficult.

His head ached almost all the time during the last week because of all the highly technical language inside them but it was still extremely practical.

It was a tough decision but Jason decided to learn dual mastery of daggers as his main weapon for the moment because he was the most proficient with them right now as his combat experience was solely from fighting with daggers as main-weapon.

That didn't mean he neglected to practice knife throwing and archery training, rather than that, it was balanced out.

While he trained them for half an hour each day, his training with the daggers was around two hours long.

But that wasn't even the hardest part through the last week because the most exhausting thing Jason did, was the high-intensity workout prepared by Mark, which allowed every muscle group in his body to be trained and tempered.

He didn't even know that some of these muscle groups existed until he had to train them.

The main problem with that was however that there was not really much time given for Jason or his muscles to relax and regain strength.

Doing the workout twice a day was too much under normal circumstances as it was recommended to be only done one time in two days because the muscles had to take a rest in normal cases.

Eating high-nutrition food and medical baths increased the benefits of working out and decreases the chances of cramps and tearing muscles.

This caused his small stature and feeble build to gain a lot of muscles and his weak body without fat turned into a more healthy state with the appearance of some muscles all over his body.

Luckily Jason didn't look like Greg and his body structure seemed to be more leaned to the athletic shape.

He also grew a few centimeters as eating very nutritious food caused his neglected growing body to absorb the energy like Artemis, with gluttony and unrestrained.

If Jason had to estimate his growth, he was probably around 1.67+ meters tall and the small amount of baby fat in his face was burnt away, leaving an almost chiseled face behind.

Greg was envious of his looks which he showed obviously by beating him up during their spars.

Their fights couldn't be considered long but they were intense for Jason and he noticed huge improvements in his overall combat prowess while he got better in evading Greg's attacks each day passing.

Sometimes, Jason was even able to attack Greg but these attacks were always blocked and Jason was left behind with many bruises

His whole day was scheduled by Gabriella, who he called Aunty Gab sometimes because she liked it.

This however didn't change the cruelty in her timetable

→ 5 am: Waking up

→ Breakfast

→ 3 hours Mana gathering

→ 8 am: Stamina training High-intensity workout

→ 9 am: Reading time including martial art technique manuals for 3 hours

→ Lunch

→ Sparring with Greg ~30 minutes

→ Picking out flaws and training dagger master

→ Practicing dual-dagger mastery 2 hours

→ Knife throwing and Archery 1 hour

→ 5 pm second high-intensity workout

→ 6 pm medical bath

→ Dinner

→ Time for himself to increase his knowledge, flaws, practice Heaven's Hell technique or gather more mana(optional)

Overall this schedule looked really nice for Jason but he had to squeeze in two additional times to practice the Heaven's Hell technique which made his schedule really complicated and annoying but the results Jason could see were obvious.

His soul energy increased to 6.2 while his physique was now truly at the 6th Novice rank.

Previously his physical capabilities were at the 6th Novice rank while Jason's true strength was far below but now it was entirely different.

In addition to that his mana control increased consistently because the high-intensity workout included subconscious training and also an accurate control over mana due to certain exercises with the use of it.

Jason also felt that his combat prowess increased by a lot and at the end of the week, he was even able to fight Greg for a few minutes before he was pushed to the ground.

Taking into account that Greg trained martial art techniques for a few years and Jason only for a few weeks, this was an exciting achievement for him but it hurt Greg's pride a lot as he thought of himself as an extremely good fighter.

In the end, it caused Greg's determination to soar higher, and his motivation to get stronger heightened because he felt that Jason was catching up too fast, even if he was still at the 5th Novice rank.

Jason's mana increased by a lot and his mana core was slowly getting stronger.

It would only be a matter of time before he would reach the 6th Novice rank and Jason felt this wasn't too far away.

He was expectant for the following week and only the weekend was left for him to increase his strength as much as possible.

There were many positive things Jason could think of but rather than being too excited, he was concerned if he would stain the Floors reputation with his weak strength.

This was why Jason gave 150% and each day ended with him falling into a deep slumber due to exhaustion.

One thing Jason could be extremely proud of was the vast increase in his knowledge.

Absorbing the content of each book inside his mind, Jason wondered how far his capabilities could go on.

One could say that his memories and reading ability worked together perfectly fine which allowed him to learn everything faster and easier than others.

Gabriella told him that with each increase in level and rank, the body would change overall which included his brain.

That means the higher his level and rank were, the smarter ones would be.

This however didn't mean each human was equal smart.

Having a theoretical final exam result with full marks, Jason was still only at the 1st Novice rank while the other students at the 8th Novice rank or higher couldn't do that even if they learned for a longer time.

Most students didn't focus on knowledge as much as he did but in his opinion, knowledge was the strongest might on Argos, followed by actual strength.

Tactics, martial art techniques, technology, beast creators, alchemy, blacksmithing, and much more was invented and developed by smart people and not crude muscleheads who used their fists to smash each other's heads.

The weekend passed using the present schedule, and Jason fell into dreamless sleep midnight Sunday.

GOD'S EYES

Chapter 70 - Highschool

Jason's inner clock woke him up at 5 am, which he was already used to after the strenuous week he had gone through.

That was because he wanted to practice the Heaven's Hell technique as early as possible before reading some more.

After everything was finished, he would eat breakfast and go into school for his first day.

With his soul energy reaching 6.5 units, Jason was satisfied as it was increasing faster and faster with each day passing.

Greg had already told him about Vanguard's affiliated school's average strength some time ago but rather than fully trusting him, Jason decided to make his own research in the morning.

This was only possible because Jason received permission to enter the school website this morning where he could access the student's basic profiles.

Each student could enter the school website and set their profile to private causing their Mana core rank, age, and so on to be hidden but Jason would be able to see at least the average strength from some of his future classmates and seniors.

After looking at the profiles of his future classmates, Jason began to frown deeply.

Each of Vanguard's six affiliated schools accepted more than 15.000 Students each year while the Vanguard school accepted at least 10.000 students.

This meant the Vanguard school with its branches accepted 100.000 students which astonished Jason a lot.

But after thinking for a while, Jason understood that each of Cyro's schools accepted only the best students inside Astrix island except the ones who got accepted because of nobility rights or other hidden doors.

Astrix Inhabitat around 300 million humans and each year around 10 million babies are born in the last few years.

Considering the fact that most of them are born into poor families, their education is rather poor and they can't be provided with decent resources to rank up their mana core or at least contract a good soulbond.

These poor youths can be deducted from the 10 million due to their low chance to enter one of the big three schools in Cyro-City or their affiliated schools.

There were always exceptions who fought against their forecast fate and demonstrated incredible results in their exams or awaken a unique soul with 3 stars or more.

While there are many poor people out there, this was not everything as many youths can be raised with high-quality resources in order to establish an extremely high qualitative foundation.

Jason was one of the lucky ones who entered one of the six affiliated schools through a hidden door but it looked like he wasn't the only one.

There were a few who looked like they didn't meet the requirement even if Jason couldn't see their soul-awakening.

it looked like they got either a scholarship because of their soul-awakening or thanks to a noble who decided to support these kids due to whatever possible reason.

Some nobles take in innocent children with great soul-awakenings to nurture them and make them into their slaves with a soul contract.

A soul contract was a tricky subject within society.

Once a soul contract is formed one cannot break it.

If one were to break a soul contract, his/her soul will immediately shatter and one will lose the soul world, soulbonds, and each benefit from it.

After that, you'll be only left with your mana core, without the ability to use affinities every again.

It would be fortunate if one is able to defeat a beast on the same rank as them because the gap between beast and human strength increases once higher ranks are reached,

Only soulbonds could shorten these gaps partially.

With the amplification from soulbonds and the shared affinity, mankind was barely able to fight these beasts head-on.

Only due to the soul-awakening and soulbonds, humanity could survive their whole annihilation more than 300 years ago.

Nevertheless, Jason was still lamenting...

These hidden door students had stronger cultivation than him, even though the gap was not that much apart from him.

He continued to look through the profiles, trying to find someone at his combat power.

After skipping through a few hundred or maybe over thousand profiles later Jason concluded that the average strength was at the 4th or 5th Adept- rank which was the Intermediate-stage for the Adept rank, without anyone weaker than him.

There were still many Adepts at the beginner stage but somehow they were admitted into the 6th affiliated school which was thick underlined by the school forum.

At the Adept rank 1st to 3rd level is the beginner stage, 4th to 6th the Intermediate stage and 7th to 9th the advanced stage which would continue for the following ranks like Beginner Expert, Intermediate Expert and so on, while the smaller hurdles were called 1st Expert rank, 2nd Expert rank and so on.

While most students were at the Intermediate-Adept rank, Jason was still at the 5th-Novice rank, even if he was infinitely close to the 6th Novice rank.

This gap was extremely big and Jason wondered if someone would try to bully him because of that.

He was determined to endure it for the time being because he was sure that there was no way for him to beat Intermediate-Adept ranks with the addition of their soulbonds shared strength.

This frustrated him and Jason pondered if he should use the Holy white baruci fruit for himself or not, which he disregarded after some thought.

Looking at the clock, he noticed that it was already 6:30 am and Jason jumped out of the bed to make a wake-up workout for 20 minutes.

After that, Jason went into the bathroom to take a shower before he changed into his new prescribed school uniform which consisted of a white shirt, a dark blue blazer, a black tie, and dark blue trousers.

The dark blue blazer was outlined with black color and one could see a golden brocaded open book, representing the vanguard symbol, embedded on his right chest.

Above the book were small letters and weapons floating, symbolizing the power of knowledge and its equality to strength, which most schools and people were criticizing.

Even though it was the vanguard school's motto, Jason was sure that most students didn't really care about it, as learning for theoretical things was not something many would want to do in their free time if one could absorb mana, hone martial art skills, or do other more important things at the same time.

Jason wore the perfectly fitting uniform and it was hardly possible to say that he looked hideous, rather than that he looked incredibly handsome right now.

His black hair had grown a little bit longer and he wanted to trim them on the sides a little bit while his hair in the front was already covering his eyes at some spots.

But these golden eyes couldn't really be covered as they shone through the thin hair.

In the end, Jason received his haircut from Gabriella who did it for all her family members as she liked to do it.

Because Gabriella did it, instead of Jason himself, he received a decent haircut and could be shown to the public once again.

Looking into the mirror, Jason himself didn't know what to say and Gabriella shrieked like a little girl seeing Jason.

Mark and Greg were looking at him weirdly while Malia scanned Jason from head to toe thinking in her mind

`Hehe...Finally, I have a handsome brother....Am I allowed to boast with his looks? Kekeke`

Over the last week, Malia had accepted Jason as her family member or rather as her brother.

She completely threw away her fluttering heart, with the chance of getting such a cute and handsome brother.

She found him handsome and all that... But he was too young for her and after making up her mind, she noticed that the incidents that occurred in the past were obviously embarrassing and not only because Jason was it.

Malia convinced herself that she would react like that to every stranger and decided to cut the possibility to catch feelings for Jason completely.

But it was easier said than done, as Jason was not only hardworking but also extremely handsome and smart.

He was younger than her and she would at most generate feelings for him as she had for her brother, at least that was what she told herself.

After eating breakfast everyone went for their own path, while Greg and Malia went to the central district to the Vanguard school, Jason took the path to the 6th affiliated school which was also seen as the weakest.

Even the affiliated schools were classified among each other because there was a way to enter the main school while attending the affiliated schools.

Everyone tried to enter the main school because of various reasons like the yearly tournament among the big three schools which awarded the best 100 with specific treasures.

But that wasn't all, the instructors of the affiliated schools were definitely good, but still a whole level below the ones of the main school, and the whole teaching was also build up differently.

At least that was, what Jason had heard and some even called it "The difference between heaven and earth" which Jason found quite amusing.

But he didn't care about that at all, as the resources in terms of techniques he would receive in addition to knowledge were, what Jason really wanted to receive.

He was additionally already fond of attending the worst affiliated school because it was probably a few million times better than the best C-grade high-schools and probably even B-grade high-schools