## **GODS' IMPACT 101**

## Chapter 101

Of course, jumping in the air from the water was impossible, but Zach couldn't even move his body. It was as though the water had turned solid.

Suddenly, a small hole appeared in the middle of the sea, and the water slowly started getting sucked into it. The more water the hole sucked, the bigger the hole became.

The players who were near the hole were also sucked into it. Eventually, it sucked all the players in, and only Zach, Aria, and Aurora were left.

"I am scared!" Aurora closed her eyes and hugged Zach as tight as she could.

Zach was trying his best to move, but he couldn't. He also tried to control the water around him using his gloves' ability, but it didn't work even though it worked a while ago.

Aria looked at Zach and held his hand but didn't say anything.

'Great...'

Zach watched as the blue hole sucked them into the water.

When Zach glanced around, he saw other players struggling to breathe. He looked at Aria, and she was perfectly fine, but Aurora wasn't.

Zach held Aurora's face in his hands and stared into her eyes.

The air bubbles left Aurora's mouth as she ran out of the oxygen in her body.

Zach pulled her face closer and kissed her on the lips to provide her oxygen.

Zach had mastered breathing techniques which he used to control his body in battles. He could easily hold his breath for 5 minutes, but he had to kiss Aurora every 30 seconds to give her his oxygen. And due to that, his body also ran out of oxygen.

But, he wasn't struggling, nor was he worried about himself; he was worried about Aurora, who was trying her best to breathe slowly.

Zach glanced around to see many players had already died.

Aurora tapped on Zach's shoulders and gestured that she couldn't hold her breath anymore. However, Zach himself didn't have any oxygen left in his body.

Zach looked at Aria and found her staring back at him.

'I have no other choice...'

Zach moved his face close to Aria and kissed her on the lips. Aria was surprised and shocked, but she knew the reason why Zach did that. She kissed him back and passed some oxygen to Zach. However, she felt guilty when she noticed the dejected look on Aurora's face.

Then, Zach turned to Aurora and kissed her until he ran out of oxygen again.

Aria raised her hand and gestured that she was out of oxygen too.

Zach clenched his fists and hugged Aurora in his arms, hoping the water would disappear soon, and it did.

Everyone fell down to the ground with a loud thud, but Zach and Aria landed on their feet.

"What is this place...?" Aria muttered as she glanced around.

They were standing in an underwater arena, where hundreds of sea creatures were standing and sitting, watching in the arena. They all were in a humanoid form, but some of their body parts were still of the sea creatures.

In the middle of the arena, there was a skene at the highest point, where a man was sitting on his throne, and dozens of guards were around him.

"Whalecum to the realm of the sea, Atlantis," the man asserted in a loud voice that echoed in the entire arena. "My name is Aquitius the seventh, and I am the king of this kingdom."

Even though it left a great impact on everyone, Zach paid no attention to the sea king or anyone.

When he looked at Aurora, he noticed her eyes were closed, and she wasn't moving.

Zach placed her on the ground and shook her while calling her name: "Aurora. Aurora!"

Zach kissed her on the lips and pressed his hand on her chest.

#### COUGH! COUGH!

Aurora coughed out water as she opened her eyes and looked at Zach with teary eyes.

Zach sighed in relief and hugged her before kissing her.

"Are you okay?" he asked with an anxious and concerned look on his face.

"Umu..."

Zach frowned at Aquitius and glared into his eyes. And Aquitius did the same.

"Don't you dare glare at me, boy," he said in a raspy voice.

Zach let go of Aurora and helped her stand up.

"I will be right back," he said to her and disappeared from everyone's sight.

The next time he was seen at the skene, with a lightning sword in his hand that was touching Aquitius neck.

Zach could have severed Aquitius' head if he wasn't stopped by his guards.

Aquitius looked at the sword in Zach's hand, then looked into Zach's eyes for a while.

'I see ... so he is ...' Aquitius' eyes widened in surprise as he muttered, "Get back."

Zach frowned even more and uttered, "I will kill you."

Aquitius gazed at his guards and said, "Get back."

"But—" A guard tried to speak, but Aquitius' one gaze stopped him.

All the guards stepped back, leaving Aquitius totally defenseless.

"If you kill me, then you won't be able to go back to the surface," Aquitius uttered in a calm voice.

Zach glared at Aquitius for a while and jumped back into the area where other players were standing with Aria and Aurora.

There were a total of 81 players, including Zach, Aurora, and Aria. However, 30 of them had already died in the blue hole.

"What is this place?" Zach asked in a loud voice.

"As I said, this is the realm of the sea—"

Before Aquitius could answer Zach's question, Zach asked another question.

"Why are we here?"

"You triggered the secret event," Aquitius replied.

"What type of event?"

"This sea realm has three kingdoms. One is Atlantis— the one you are currently standing on. The second is Xavier, and the third is Ribel," Aquitius asserted.

"The other two kingdoms are ruled by Aquitius the fifth and Aquitius that sixth. They are my brothers," he added.

"Are you also transported here from your own world?" Zach asked.

"Not exactly." Aquitius took a deep breath and replied, "The gods came to us. They offered us a new world, so we agreed."

"Now, let me tell you about the event." Aquitius stood up from his throne and conjured a trident in his hand. He tapped the trident on the ground, and a scroll appeared above the arena.

"This scroll is our heirloom which was passed on to us by our ancestors. It contains a powerful magic spell based on the water attribute."

"Great then..." Zach beckoned Aquitius and said, "Give it to me."

Aquitius raised his brows in amusement and asked, "Tell me one reason as to why I should give you my family heirloom?"

Zach conjured a lightning trident similar to the one Aquitius was holding and tapped it on the ground as he said, "Tell me one reason as to why you shouldn't give it to me."

"No one has dared to open the scrolls for decades. Even my stupid brothers can't dare to open it. Nor have we allowed anyone to go near it, let alone touch it." Aquitius frowned his face and continued, "If we can't give it to our people, why would we give it to an outsider?"

Aquitius tapped his trident on the floor and said, "Now tell me your reasoning."

Zach mocked Aquitius by imitating him and said, "If you give it to me nicely, then I will spare yours and your kingdom's life."

"Hah!" Aquitius laughed out loud and said, "Killing me or my kingdom won't get you back to the surface."

"Then how can we go to the surface?" a player asked with a curious look on his face.

Aquitius smirked and said, "Only the spell in the scroll can get you to the surface."

"Then how do we get the scroll? Another player asked.

"That's the wrong question." Aquitius once again tapped his trident on the ground and asserted, "The correct question is— What do we have to do to get the scroll."

"What do we have to do to get the scroll?" yet another player asked.

After a brief silence, Aquitius gazed at Zach and uttered, "The scroll is protected by three seals. And only my brothers and I can undo the seal."

"Just get to the point already!" Zach broke his silence and said, "What do we have to do to get you and your brothers to undo the seals?!"

"A simple task," Aquitius responded in a calm voice.

Zach knitted his brows and asked, "What task?"

Aquitius stared at Zach for a while and sighed before saying, "Argh! What in the fuck am I doing?"

"...." Everyone present there stared at Aquitius in confusion.

"I am not cut out for this shit." Aquitius sat back on his throne and said, "Just go to the other two kings and complete the tasks they give you. I will undo the seal on my part once their tasks are finished."

"However!" Aquitius suddenly shouted. "Those two tasks should be completed by the same person. Otherwise, I won't undo the seal on my part."

Aquitius gazed at all the players and shrugged his shoulders before saying, "First come, first serve, bitches!"

'His personality went from 0 to 180, and now it's minus 180.' Zach thought to himself.

"You all can come to my palace, eat, rest, and do whatever you want. You are very, very whalecum there. But remember, the clock is ticking. Tick Tock, motherfuckers!"

All the players, including Zach, Aurora, and Aria, went to the palace to prepare to leave for the other kingdoms.

Aquitius looked at the dead bodies of the players in the arena and said, "Feed these bodies to the draught fishes. It would work as a fuel for the players to travel to the next kingdoms."

## Chapter 102

There was a banquet at the palace, and all the players, including Zach, Aurora, and Aria, were enjoying the food.

"When are we leaving for the other kingdoms?" Aurora asked as she took a large bite from the dish.

"After we have filled our stomachs," Zach replied with a scoff.

"There is no need to hurry," Aria said without making eye contact with Zach and continued, "The tasks the other kings will give will probably be hard, and Zach is the strongest player."

"But not everything can be done by strength and power," Aurora remarked. "What if the tasks are something like a puzzle where we need to use our minds?"

Zach raised his brows at Aurora and asked, "Are you saying that I am stupid to solve the puzzles?"

Aurora smirked and said, "No, but you get impatient very quickly."

"You are not wrong about that," Zach replied with a grin on his face.

After seeing Zach and Aurora talking and laughing, Aria bit her lips. She felt bad and sad because her suggestion was laughed off.

'He is not even feeling sorry or trying to apologize even though he kissed me without my consent!' Aria uttered to herself.

Zach noticed Aria glaring at him and asked, "What's wrong?"

Aria averted her face in anger and didn't say anything.

"..." Zach raised his brows in confusion and thought, 'What's with her? I am already feeling awkward because we kissed. What's more, she is my aunt!'

'I didn't apologize to her because I thought she would get angry for mentioning it, but I guess she is a little upset.' Zach sighed softly. 'I will talk to her when we are alone.'

"You know... I think you two should stay here," Zach asserted with a serious look on his face.

"What?!" Aurora exclaimed.

"Why?!" Aria exclaimed.

"There is no need for you two to come. I can go and return in one day," Zach responded with a shrug.

Aurora frowned her face and said, "Are you saying that we are a burden to you?"

"What? Of course not." Zach groaned, "I mean, this place is safe. And who knows what tasks the other two kings give us? Like, what if they give a task to duel with other players? I don't want to fight you two even in my dreams."

"Don't worry..." Aquitius approached them and quipped, "We don't do such inhumane acts."

"Although we are not humans! Hah!" Aquitius laughed out loud.

"..." Zach

"..." Aurora

"..." Aria.

"Get it?! Inhumane... human... Come on, bro! That was funny!" Aquitius groaned with a sigh.

Zach glanced at Aria and Aurora, and they nodded at him in response before leaving Zach alone with Aquitius.

"How's the food?" Aquitius asked with a curious look on his face.

"It's good. Although I would have preferred some fish too," Zach sneered.

Mentioning fish or any sea creatures in front of the sea king was, without a doubt, a bad idea. But not for Zach.

Aquitius pointed his gaze at the meat dish on Zach's plate and asked, "How's the meat?"

"Good," Zach responded while eating without caring for his manners.

"It's made from the dead bodies of the players who died," Aquitius asserted.

Zach choked on his bite and looked at Aquitius in disgust.

Aquitius grabbed a glass of water and gave it to Zach after saying, "Don't worry. It was a joke."

Zach drank the water and placed the glass on the table with a loud thud that caused the glass to break.

Aquitius shrugged his shoulders and said, "That's how we feel when humans mention eating fish in front of sea creatures."

Zach glared into Aquitius's eyes but didn't say anything.

Aquitius did the same and said, "No one has ever dared to look me in the eyes, let alone glare at me. But you are the second person to do that."

"I don't like being the second, but okay."

"Hah!" Aquitius laughed out loud and patted Zach's shoulder, and said, "You are a funny kid, boy!"

Zach stared at Aquitius in disbelief and thought, 'Is he really a king? He surely doesn't act like a king. And what's with his crazy vocabulary? He calls me boy, kid, and bro. And why is he suddenly acting all friendly?'

Suddenly, Aquitius' face turned serious as he continued speaking: "Listen, kid, the tasks won't be easy. You have to do what it takes to win, or you will meet despair..."

Zach shrugged Aquitius' hand from his shoulders and walked past him. Then, he stopped and looked at Aquitius from the corners of his eyes without turning back and said, "I know what despair feels like, and that's why I am ready to go all out."

Zach walked away after saying, "I have got someone to protect, after all."

Aquitius watched Zach leave and then scoffed slightly as he muttered, "Spoken like a man."

Aquitius turned around to leave, but his face suddenly turned pale for some reason.

'What is this feeling I am experiencing? It feels like someone is staring deep into my soul...'

Aquitius glanced around to find the source, and his gaze fell on Aria, who was glaring at him like how a hunter glares at its prey.

'...!' Aquitius' face turned even more pale after looking into Aria's eyes. 'What is she doing here?! I couldn't sense her presence before even though she was in front of me. I even talked to her! But her appearance is different, so I couldn't recognize her! And more importantly..."

Aquitius glanced at Zach, who was talking with Aurora with a smile on his face, and wondered, '...Why is she with 'his' son?'

"Well..." Aquitius gulped down and walked away before muttering, "That makes three people who glared at me."

Aurora filled her mouth with juice and nudged Zach.

"What?" Zach asked with a confused look on his face.

Aurora moved her hands to say something, but Zach couldn't understand a thing.

Aurora sighed and kissed Zach on the lips, releasing the juice into Zach's mouth. She savored the taste from Zach's mouth and licked her lips after the kiss.

"How was it?" Aurora asked with a mischievous grin on her face.

"... disgusting..." Zach replied.

After hearing that, Aurora puffed her cheeks and turned her face to the other side.

Zach shook his head and filled his mouth with the juice to do the same thing Aurora did to him.

After the kiss, Zach said with a grin on his face: "Now we both are disgusting."

Aria shook her head in disbelief and thought, 'I feel so irritated after seeing them like this. If I knew this would happen, then I would have never advised Aurora to make moves on him.'

After filling their stomach with food, they went to the palace's lounge and dissed their plans.

"So, which kingdom should we go first?" Zach asked Aria and Aurora. "Xavier or Ribel?"

"I think we should go to Ribel first because it's the closest to Atlantis," Aria suggested in a calm voice.

Zach looked at Aurora to see her glancing around the palace without paying attention to what Zach was saying.

Zach raised his brows and pulled Aurora's ears before saying, "Stop fooling around."

"I am not." Aurora puckered her lips and said, "This palace reminds me of my palace. I always sat on the lounge with my maids and enjoyed the evenings."

Aurora looked sad when she said that, but she didn't show it on her face because she didn't want Zach to worry. However, she was terrible at hiding her emotions.

"We can reminisce as much as we want when we are done with this, but for now, let's focus on what we must do," Zach asserted.

"Yeah..." Aurora nodded with a smile on her face and hugged Zach's arms.

"I think we should go to Xavier." Zach turned to Aria and said, "Because it's the farthest."

"Uhh... you are not making any sense..." Aurora and Aria said in unison.

"Basically, most of the players will be thinking the same. So they all will go to RIbel because it's the closest. So if we go to Xavier first, we can at least get our hands on one task," Zach asserted with a proud face.

"But what about the other task? We will need to complete both tasks to get the scroll," Aurora asked with a confused look on her face.

"I don't know... but there is no guarantee that we won't be able to do the second task on time. Who knows, maybe the second task can only be completed when the first task has been completed?"

"I mean... sure?" Aria shrugged her shoulders and said, "I think it's worth taking that risk."

Zach turned to Aurora to hear her answer, and she said, "As you said, at least we will get our hands on one task."

"Nice!"

Zach, Aurora, and Aria made their way to the gate of the palace. There they saw a bunch of players getting into the carriages that were being driven by the sea horse.

"...."

'I guess the carriage has a spell cast on it that won't allow the water to enter to come near it, and the players will be able to breathe normally.'

"Let's go." Zach was about to get into the carriage with Aurora and Aria, but they were stopped by a voice.

"Stop!"

It was Aquitius.

"What? Do we need to pay to use the carriage or what?!" Zach asked from a distance.

Aquitius pointed his finger at a carriage parked on the other side and said, "You shall go in my carriage."

It was Aquitius' carriage, and it was different from all the other carriages. It was driven by royal sea horses, and the carriage itself was grand and luxurious looking.

Zach, Aurora, and Aria glanced at each other and said, "What's with this special treatment?"

They accepted Aquitius' offer and took his carriage to travel to Xavier.

## Chapter 103

The sea carriage— on which, Zach, Aurora, and Aria were traveling, stopped in front of the gates of Xavier kingdom.

Soon after, many guards gathered at the great, and the king himself— Aquitius the 5th arrived to greet the carriage.

However, they had a major misunderstanding.

After seeing the royal carriage that belonged to none other than the king of Atlantis— Aquitius the seventh, they all thought the king (Aquitius the seventh) had arrived. But their mood and expectations were shattered soon after seeing Zach, Aurora, and Aria come out of the carriage.

The elder guard took out his sword from the sheath and aimed at Zach before saying, "Why is an outsider here?!"

'Judging by their reaction, it seems that no other player has arrived here yet,' Zach uttered to himself.

Zach ignored the guard and looked into the king's eyes without any reluctance.

"Aquitius the seventh had sent us here to complete the task. And in return, you will undo your part of the seal on the scroll," Zach asserted nonchalantly.

Another guard took out his sword and said, "How dare you talk to the king like that!"

The king raised his hand and asked the guards to stop.

"Quiet!" he yelled. "They are our guests."

Aquitius the fifth nodded at Zach and said, "Please, follow us. I will take you to my palace."

Zach, Aurora, and Aria followed the king and went into the palace.

After reading to the lounge, they were given various types of fruits, juices, and desserts to eat.

"What would you like to eat?" the king asked.

"Just tell us the tasks. We will finish this as soon as possible," Zach responded in a calm voice.

The king was treating them kindly because they had arrived in Aquitius' carriage.

'If my little brother sent them in his carriage, that must mean this person is very important and holds a value for the sea realm. I must treat him with all respect and kindness.'

Aquitius the seventh sent Zach in his carriage to pass the signal to Aquitius the fifth. Even though Aquitius the seventh was the youngest brother of all three, he was feared by both Aquitius the fifth and sixth.

He was more powerful and of a higher standard than them, and they couldn't afford to make him angry.

"Very well..." Aquitius the fifth nodded his head and signaled his guards to leave them alone.

"I will tell you my task."

After 1 minute.

"Can't you change the task?" Zach groaned with an annoyed look on his face.

Aquitius the fifth asked Zach to bring back his wife—Rilu, who was kidnapped by his brother, Aquitius the sixth.

Aquitius the fifth raised his brows at Zach and asked him with a judging look on his face: "Does that mean you can't do it?"

"Listen..." Zach let out a weary sigh and said, "If you want your wife so much, then why don't you just go and bring her back by yourself?"

"Unfortunately, when the three sea kingdoms were formed, there was a rule that the king of a lower level kingdom can't enter the higher level kingdom," he asserted. "The same for my guards or anyone that belongs to the army. I can't send them to other kingdoms."

"Great..." Zach groaned and face-palmed himself. "What am I going to do once I get there?"

Zach wasn't worried that he wouldn't be able to complete his first task, but he was worried about not finishing his second quest. If Zach somehow managed to bring Aquitius the fifth's wife back, Zach knew for sure that Aquitius the sixth would be angry, and he would give a challenging task to Zach that he might not be able to complete.

"Is there any other task?" Zach asked the same question he asked a while ago.

"I don't think there is anything else I want. I just want my wife back," he replied with a sad look on his face.

"Alright. I will bring your wife back," Zach uttered.

"Thank you—" the king tried to thank Zach with a smile on his face, but he stopped after looking at Zach's face.

Zach furrowed his brows at the king and said, "However, if your wife doesn't want to come back to you, I won't force her to."

"..."

"And in such a case, my task would be considered as complete, and you would have to undo the seal on your part," Zach asserted. "Do you agree with my condition?"

Aquitius the fifth pondered for a while and said with a nod: "I agree on your terms."

"Good." Zach grabbed Aurora's hand and said, "We are leaving for the Ribel kingdom."

It hadn't even been 10 minutes since they arrived at the Xavier kingdom, and now they were leaving for the Ribel kingdom to complete not one, but two tasks.

Zach, Aurora, and Aria got into the carriage and made their way to the Ribel kingdom.

However, when they arrived there, as expected, all the other 48 players were present there.

The Ribel kingdom was different from Xavier and Atlantis. Unlike there, where the main gate of the kingdom and the palace were secured by the guards and creatures. The Ribel kingdom had no security whatsoever. In fact, there were no guards in sight.

When the royal carriage arrived there, it automatically landed on the open lounge of the palace where some players, citizens, and creatures were enjoying themselves.

'Why are there no guards here?' Zach asked himself.

"Why are there no guards here?" Aurora asked Zach.

"..." Zach shrugged his shoulders and said, "Don't ask me."

"It's so weird that there are no guards. And even the citizens are roaming without a care," Aria uttered. "When I looked from the window, I could see how well developed this kingdom is."

"And a weird one too..." Zach sneered.

## Chapter 104

Zach, Aurora, and Aria made their way into the palace. But Aurora was walking as though she owned the place.

"Why do you look so excited and disappointed at the same time?" Zach asked with a curious look on his face.

"I grew up in a palace, so I know at what spots there should be guards and how powerful one," Aurora asserted. "At the main gate of the palace, there should be at least eight elite or elder guards and 20 normal guards. After that, the power level of the guards should increase the further we go in. But this palace... is defenseless."

Zach let out a soft chuckle after hearing Aurora.

Aurora puffed her cheeks and muttered, "Why are you laughing?"

"You told me the defense system of your palace..." Zach kissed Aurora on the cheek and said, "Now, if your father ever tried to oppose our relationship, I can easily infiltrate the palace and abduct you from there."

Aurora's face flushed after hearing that.

"I will wait for you," she said in a low voice.

Aria sighed in disbelief after seeing Zach and Aurora and remarked, "But first, try to beat the game."

'This is my limit. I can't see them acting like this anymore. It's making me feel annoyed and frustrated,' Aria uttered to herself. 'My heart feels tight, and... it hurts...'

They made their way to the palace's hall to look for the king, but they couldn't find one.

Zach was growing impatient because he hadn't done anything yet, and the time was passing. He didn't want the other players to complete the task before him.

After walking for a while, his gaze fell on a man who was decorating the flowers in the pot. He was wearing ragged clothes, and he looked like he had no awareness of his surroundings.

"Excuse me." Zach called out to the man and said, "Do you know where I can find the king?"

"Yes?"

"Where is he?" Zach asked with a curious yet calm look on his face.

The man placed the last flower in the pot and replied, "I am the king."

"Uhh... you don't look like one..."

"Heh." the man chuckled softly and clapped his hands. Suddenly, his ragged clothes changed into a luxurious golden attire with fur around the neck. And a crown appeared on his head.

"How about now?" he asked with a grin.

'... he is certainly Aquitius' the seventh brother...' Zach sighed. 'The oldest brother, Aquitius the fifth, is by far the most mature.'

"So, you were looking for me?" the king asked.

"I am here to complete a task for you and in return—"

"I will have to undo the sea," the king added. "I am aware of it."

"So, what's your task?" Zach asked with a curious yet calm look on his face.

Zach was worried that if he somehow managed to bring Aquitius the fifth's wife back, Aquitius the sixth would give a challenging task to Zach that he might not be able to complete. That's why he came up with a simple solution: to complete the second task first.

"My task is simple," the king uttered. "The one who fights the strongest warrior of my kingdom, and wins, will complete the task. The event will start at night, so you can rest well until then."

Zach sighed in relief and muttered, 'Now this is simple.'

The king squinted his eyes at Zach and said, "You went to the Xavier kingdom first, right?"

Zach didn't want to lie in case the king had proof, so he asked, "What makes you think that?"

"The water in Xavier is different from here, and you reek of that smell," the king responded. "However, that's not the only reason."

"..."

"You came in the royal carriage, which should be three times faster than the normal carriages. Yet, you came in last. Unless... You went somewhere else first."

"...!" Zach was amazed by the king's perception ability, but he wasn't surprised. But, there was one thing he couldn't understand.

'We are currently in the inner area of the palace, and we didn't see anyone coming this way. So how does he know that we came in the royal carriage?'

'This man is more dangerous than he looks...'

"Now, tell me..." the king looked into Zach's eyes and asked, "What task did my older brother give you?"

Zach's simple solution flopped.

"He asked me to bring Rilu back to him," Zach answered,

The stare in the king's eyes turned into a glare as he yelled with a frowned face, "How dare you!"

Before Zach could even realize it, he, along with Aurora and Aria, were surrounded by hundreds of guards, and they all were pointing their spears at them.

"Well... shit."

Zach thought that the older brother was calm and mature, but it was the opposite.

The truth was the fifth never had a wife named Rilu. He wasn't even married.

Rilu was the sixth's wife. They have been married for 20 years and have a beautiful daughter, the princess of Ribel's kingdom.

The fifth lied about Rilu being his wife and asked Zach to bring her back. He basically asked Zach to kidnap the sixth's wife and bring her to him.

Not only that, but he also lied about the rule of the kingdoms where a low-rank king wasn't allowed to enter a high-ranking kingdom. Furthermore, he had sent many of his elite guards to kidnap Rilu, but all of his attempts failed.

The sixth had once invited the fifth and the seventh to celebrate his daughter's 18th birthday. That was fifth's first time meeting Ruli, and he fell in love with her at first sight.

He tried to woo her, but he failed. Then, he forcefully tried to kidnap her, but the sixth caught him and banished him from stepping foot into his kingdom.

It was completely natural for the sixth to get angry at Zach, because according to him, Zach was with the fifth.

Both the sixth and Zach were deceived by the fifth, and it had caused a misunderstanding between them.

#### Chapter 105

'I hate to admit it, but I did not expect this to happen. Especially when I never saw a guard in the palace,' Zach thought to himself.

There were hundreds of guards, and they had surrounded Zach, Aurora, and Aria from all sides. All the guards were carrying a spear that had the tip of the golden gem.

The guards were in their human form, but they didn't have legs. Instead, they had a pointy tail that was glowing from the tip.

'They somewhat remind me of scorpions,' Zach chuckled.

Aurora and Aria stared at him in disbelief after seeing Zach laugh in such a dire situation.

Aquitius, the sixth, furrowed his brows and said, "My little brother sent you in his favorite carriage. That was the message that you are an important person. Even though I have a higher army than him, I don't want to anger him. He is not only the sea king, but he is a sea god too."

"I am furious right now, but I can't do anything to you. So take your concubines and leave!" he said in a loud voice.

After hearing that, Aurora and Aria yelled, "We are not his concubines!"

Even though they said the same thing, their feelings were different.

Aurora was embarrassed after hearing that, and her face flushed when she said that. While Aria was angry after hearing that. And her face twitched when she said that.

"Oh... I apologize for the misunderstanding," the sixth apologized. "But if you are with him, then you must leave too."

"Daddy!" a girl's voice rang in the hall.

Everyone's attention was diverted to the voice after hearing that. They saw a beautiful blue-haired maiden standing at the entrance of the hall.

"What are you doing here, Aquarius?" the sixth asked in a calm voice.

It was none other than the sixth's daughter, and her beauty certainly defined her as a princess. She had blue hair and blue eyes, and she was a mermaid.

Aurora frowned her face when she noticed Zach was looking at her. So she puffed her cheeks and pulled Zach's sleeve. She nudged him and hugged his arms to get Zach's attention.

"So there is an event in the evening, right?" Aquarius asked.

"Yes, indeed," the sixth nodded.

Aquarius showed him a couple of dresses and asked with a cheerful smile on her face: "Which one do you think looks better on me?"

"I am doing something important, so go ask your mother," the sixth replied.

"But mama told me to ask you!" she groaned.

"You look beautiful in everything you wear, my princess, "the sixth responded in a hurry.

Aquarius puffed her cheeks and yelled, "You are an idiot! I hate you, daddy!"

After saying that, Aquarius ran away, leaving the hall dead silent.

The sixth turned to Zach and said, "I apologize for causing a scene."

"Don't worry about it. I can know how you feel," Zach replied with a sigh.

Watching Aquitius and Aquarius reminded Zach of his little sister Zoe, who also acted like that every time she wore clothes.

"Now, please leave."

"I think there has been some kind of misunderstanding," Zach asserted. "The fifth told us that Rilu was his wife and you had kidnapped her. But after seeing your daughter, I am certain that's not the case."

"That son of a - !" the sixth cursed the fifth and raised his hands.

The guards lowered their spears and left.

"I apologize for such a trivial misunderstanding. I should have known better," the sixth said with a sigh. "And please, don't call my wife by her name. She is the Queen."

"I understand," Zach nodded.

'Now, the sixth seems to be the most mature out of the three brothers. And he doesn't have an ego like a king. He even apologized to me even though he wasn't at fault for the misunderstanding.'

"You all can stay at my palace. And as an apology, I will give you the best room in the palace," the sixth asserted. "Follow me.

He took them to a big room with a pool, a grand-sized bed, a magnificent chandelier on the ceiling, and a soft, furry carpet on the floor.

There were no open windows in the room as it was underwater, but there was a huge glass window which was actually a side of the wall. The window was transparent, and they could see the beautiful scenery underwater. Not only that, but half of the ceiling was also transparent.

"It's so beautiful~!" Aurora awed in amazement.

"More beautiful than your palace?" Zach asked with a grin on his face.

Aurora puckered her lips and said, "Of course not."

"Do you like this room?" the sixth asked in a calm voice.

Zach raised his brows with a curious look on his face and asked, "Can I ask why we are getting special treatment?"

"Because of my brother and as a token of my apology...?" the sixth replied with a slightly confused look on his face.

"I meant to ask, why are we getting special treatment from your brother?" Zach rephrased his question.

"Oh!" the sixth exclaimed and said, "How would I know that? I can never understand what goes in his mind."

"However, I think it's because he likes you," the sixth added. "Did you do something for him that could have made him happy?"

"Uhh...well... I nearly slashed his neck..." Zach replied with an awkward smile on his face.

"What in the... how in the world are you still alive?!" he asked with a baffled expression on his face.

"No one in the realms of the sea, men, women, land, sky, and even Netherrealm, dares to look him in the eyes, and you are saying that you are still in one piece after nearly slashing his neck?"

Zach forced a smile and nodded.

"Do you know why no one dares to look him in the eyes?" the sixth asked.

"Why?"

"Because the moment someone looks him in the eyes, they incinerate into ashes," he asserted.

## Chapter 106

The sixth left the room after saying, "The event will start after three hours. You can do whatever you want, but I would suggest taking a rest because my strongest champion is... strong."

'His vocabulary is also broken.' Zach thought of the seventh and nodded, 'Definitely brothers.'

Aurora walked to the glass window and touched the glass before saying, "This is otherworldly."

"Well, we 'are' in another world," Zach commented.

"I feel like I can see this scenery all day." Aurora turned to Aria and said, "Don't you think so, Ameria?"

However, Aria was lost in her own thoughts.

"Ameria?" Aurora called out to her.

"Huh... yeah?"

"What's wrong? You have been acting strange since last night," Aurora asked with a concerned look on her face.

"Nothing. I am just... missing the real world...' she said with a sad look on her face.

'Wow. I forgot that she is great at acting,' Zach uttered to himself. 'It's like she suddenly changes her persona.'

Aurora hugged Aria and said, "I miss it too."

Zach also thought about his house and wondered, 'I hope mother and Zoe are doing good. Mother might be trying to bring me back to the real world somehow, but she lost her powers a long time ago.'

'I just hope she doesn't do anything reckless and harm herself,' Zach sighed. Then, he looked at Aria and thought, 'And she is my aunt. I still can't believe it.'

Zach face-palmed himself as he remembered how he once ordered Aria to call him daddy. And how he had his finger sucked from which he got excited.'

'Should I tell her the truth?' Zach asked himself.

After pondering for a while, Zach decided, 'I will tell her once we are back to the first realm.'

"You were saying something?" Aria asked Aurora.

"Yes." Aurora pointed her gaze at the scenery and said, "I said, I can look at this scenery all day. What about you?"

"Yeah," Aria nodded. "I can too."

Zach raised his brows after seeing Aurora and Aria getting touchy-touchy. So he hugged Aurora from behind and said, "If you can stare at it all day, then what about at night?"

Aurora turned around and wrapped her arms around Zach's neck. She looked him into the eyes with an alluring gaze and said with a mischievous smile on her face: "I will spend the night staring at you."

Zach asked Aurora as a joke to tease her, but it backfired and hit Zach deep into his heart.

"I... did not expect that comeback..." Zach said with a shocked expression on his face

'She is getting good at these lines. I need to get better too.'

Aurora closed her eyes and puckered her lips as she moved her face closer to Zach.

Zach stared at her for a while before kissing her on the lips.

'I feel like punching them in the face!' Aria's face twitched after seeing them kiss.

SIGH!

She walked to the bed and jumped on top of it to get some rest.

'I should get used to it because I will be seeing this every day now.' Aria bit her lips and thought, 'They will be doing much more than kissing in the future. I might hear their moans at night after a few days.'

Aria fell asleep while thinking that. She was tired, not because of what happened today, but because she couldn't sleep last night after Zach left her room.

Whenever she closed her eyes, Zach's face flashed before her. She couldn't stop thinking about him, no matter how hard she tried to sleep.

When she woke up three hours later, she saw Zach and Aurora sleeping beside her. They were hugging each other while sleeping.

Aria immediately frowned her face and muttered, "This is enough."

She moved her hand towards Aurora and placed it on her neck.

"What are you doing?" Zach asked with his eyes closed.

"Her hair is around her neck, so I was fixing them," Aria replied. "And if you are awake, then don't pretend to be asleep."

"I have been awake the whole time."

"Huh?"

"There is no way I can fall asleep when she is sleeping like that," Zach said with a soft scoff.

Aurora was sleeping while pressing her soft body against Zach. Sure, Zach and Aurora have been sleeping together in the same bed, but they don't sleep while hugging or touching each other like Aurora currently was.

"Hey..."

"Hmm?"

After a brief pause, Aria stared into Zach's eyes and asked, "Do you love her?"

"Is that even a question?" Zach scoffed out loud. "Of course, I do."

"What... what do you like about her?" Aria asked reluctantly.

Zach licked his lips and replied, "Her juicy lips and soft marshmallow-like breasts."

Aria stared at Zach in disbelief with a deadpan expression on her face.

"Come on~ That was obviously a joke," Zach sighed with a groan.

"I am not in the mood for jokes," Aria frowned.

"You know, you should honestly stop getting all serious about everything. Enjoy your life. You have been living the same boring life for tens of thousands of years. So change it," Zach asserted in a solemn voice.

"It's easy for you to say," Aria muttered under her breath.

"I did not want to say this but... You look cute when you smile," Zach added nonchalantly. "Umm, not cute but... Uhhh... Charming... Attractive..."

Aria's face instantly flushed after hearing that. She averted her gaze and said, "Get up now. The event is about to start."

"Yeah..."

Zach woke up Aurora, and they all went to the arena after getting ready.

On their way, they ran into the sixth: "Oh, you are here! I was about to come or send someone to check on you."

"Has the event started yet?" Zach asked with a curious yet calm look on his face. "I hope we are not late."

"Yes. It started 10 minutes ago," the sixth replied. "Just wait for your turn."

Zach looked in the arena and saw a player fighting with a guard.

However, the guard looked different. He was a merman, but his tail was pointy like a scorpion. He had the benefit of the speed and hardness of the scorpion.

"When is my turn?" Zach asked.

"In the end." the sixth shrugged his shoulders and replied, "The order has been set by first come, first serve. You came to this kingdom in the end, so you will get to fight in the end."

"That is... if other players don't defeat my champion first," he added.

# Chapter 107

The match had already started, and all the players were sitting in the front seat of the arena. Seemingly, they were waiting for their turn to fight the champion.

However, Zach. Aurora, and Aria, were sitting on the skene beside Aquitius' the sixth.

The rules of the duel battle were simple: get the opponent to surrender or immobilize them; killing the opponent wasn't an option.

So far, ten players had already fought with the champion, and only 20 minutes had passed since the event started.

The champion was making the player surrender within one to two minutes.

It wasn't as though the players were weak or low level, but the champion was simply more robust than them.

"Hehe!" the sixth laughed. "My champion is the best."

Zach scoffed inwardly and thought, 'If the champion defeats everyone within minutes, then I will have my turn in no time.'

The sixth was sitting in the middle, on a big throne that had shark's heads around the edges. The sixth's wife, Rilu, was sitting on the left, and Aria and Aurora were seated beside her. On the right, the sixth's daughter— Aquarius, was seated, and Zach was sitting beside her.

The champion defeated yet another player as the people watching the battle applauded for the champion.

"Yay!" Aquarius clapped and jumped on the throne.

Zach was surprised to see that, but he didn't care to ask why she was happy.

After the champion won a few more battles, the sixth glanced at Aquarius and asked, "What do you think?

"Yes! I want to marry him!" Aquarius asserted. "He is so strong!"

"..." Zach was speechless, not because of the conversation, but because of seeing Aquarius agreeing to marry the champion just because he was strong.

There was a custom, that the princess of the kingdom must marry the strongest champion.

'So typical...' Zach thought to himself.

In the next 30 minutes, the champion had defeated 12 more players. Making the number 28 wins and 0 loses.

Then, a player wearing shining armor and a glowing sword walked into the arena. Zach couldn't see the player's nickname or level because he was far away.

'I know they say, don't judge a player by their equipment, but he seems to be a high-level player.' Zach sneered and thought, 'Although it's not like— Don't judge a player by their level, since I already fought a level 69 player once, and it was easy as... fuck...'

Zach stopped on his word when he saw the player's fighting style. It was as though the player had a lot of experience with swords. However, that wasn't the only thing he was surprised about.

The sword art the player was using looked awfully familiar to Zach for some reason, but he couldn't remember where he had seen it before.

'Uhh... I think... I have seen Aurora use a similar sword art style...'

Zach glanced at Aurora and noticed she was as shocked as he was.

'Is it someone from her kingdom?' Zach wondered. 'Or perhaps, they were taught by the same masters?'

Zach stopped thinking when he heard a loud clunk noise from the arena.

The player had tried to stab the champion, but the player's sword broke.

'The champion's body is harder than I thought...'

The player retreated as the viewers applauded the champion.

Zach turned to Aquaris and asked, "What's the name of your champion?"

"Uhh..." Aquarius turned to Aquitius and asked, "Daddy, what's his name?"

'She doesn't even know his name, and yet, she wants to marry him?!' Zach exclaimed inwardly.

"His name is... uhh..." Aquitius stroked his beard and tried to remember the champion's name.

"..." Zach face-palmed himself and muttered, "What's wrong with these people?"

"Ah. I remember now!" Aquatius turned to Aquarius and Zach and said, "His name is Starlord."

'He is a sea creature, right? So why the fuck is his name Starlord? I would get it if he was a starfish or something, but he is a mix of merman and a scorpion!'

Zach stopped thinking and caring about the champion and the battles. He quietly watched all the matches and learned as many moves of the champion as he could.

Sure, he was going to fight him in the last, but that also came with an advantage. One of the major advantages was that Starlord would be exhausted by the time he fought Zach. And another was Zach would be familiar with most of the Starlord's attacks.

However, that was if Zach got a chance to fight Starlord.

In the next 30 minutes, Starlord had defeated yet another ten players.

'Starlord's speed is getting slow. Most likely, he is running out of stamina. But there are still nine players left...'

"So..." Aquitius turned to Zach and asked, "Have you decided which one of you three is fighting my champion?"

"Hmm?" Zach was confused as to what Aquiius was trying to say.

"You three are in a party, so only one of you is allowed to take part in the event," Aquitius stated.

"But others ... "

"Yeah. There were a total of 48 players excluding you three, and some of them were in a party of two or three members." Aquitius looked in the arena and said, "This is the last player. After that, any of you three shall go and fight my champion."

'Well... that's actually good.' Zach stood up and cracked his fingers as though he was warming up for the battle.
'Now, I won't have to worry about Aurora getting hurt.'

Zach was happy. However, his smile vanished when he glanced at his left and saw Aurora staring at him with a knowing look on her face.

"..."

"I will go," Aurora demanded.

"There is no need to. I will handle this in no time," Zach reassured.

"I will win in 1 second!" Aurora asserted. "I will use my skill Lyda strike and kill him in..."

Aurora covered her mouth as her face turned pale when she realized what she had just said.

Up until now, Aurora has only been fighting the monsters and killing them mercilessly. However, Starlord was a living creature.

She realized that killing Starlord would mean killing a life. And besides, in this event, killing was against the rules.

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Zach raised his brows at Aurora and asked, "So, do you want to go?"

Aurora shook her head and sat back in her seat.

Zach then glanced at Aria and said, "What about you?"

"I don't really care about all this." Aria shrugged her shoulders and said, "but if you want me to fight, then I will do it."

'As much as I want to see Aria in action, I can't let her fight in my stead. Besides...' Zach looked at his gloves and muttered, "I want to try something."

Sure, Aria had fought alongside Zach and Aurora in the dungeon, but Aria was a ranger, and she always performed the ranged attacks. Zach wanted to see Aria fight like she didn't in her domain. However, it was impossible.

Aria was currently in the game as a player, and she had to follow the player rules to play the game. She couldn't even change her form, unlike she did when Zach had stabbed her to reveal her true identity.

That time, it was Aria's first time changing form in the game, and after that, she was unable to do it.

Currently, Aria's powers were limited to her stats. Just like how Zach's true power was locked behind his stats.

Not only that, unlike Zach, Aria was an elite goddess. When she was in heaven, she could make anything happen by simply wishing for it. She had no need to fight anyone or even bother moving her body.

When she fought Zach in her domain, that was Aria's first time fighting someone in her life. That was one of the reasons why Zach was able to be on par with her regarding her not using her full power.

Zach was trained to fight and be a warrior, but Aria wasn't. She had no prior fighting experience, only the knowledge that she wisely used to surpass both Zach and Aurora in level-ups.

Zach eagerly waited for the match to end so he could finally have a chance to fight with Starlord and see if he was truly a strong champion or if other players were simply weak.

His gloves' special ability had three empty slots, out of which he used one to summon a magic weapon in his right hand. And he also used the second slot for the weapon.

Sure, he could use magic weapons with both hands before, but he couldn't summon two weapons at once.

The third spot was empty, but not anymore.

Zach used the third spot and created an ability that allowed him to absorb the opponent's magic attack and fire them back in the same state. And it was possible because of his class awakening, where he acquired the alchemist class.

However, there was a limit to how many attacks he could absorb. And once the gloves turned purple, he must unleash all the absorbed magic within five minutes.

His gloves were originally black colored, and they would turn purple when enough magic attacks were stored.

Of course, everything was still theoretical as Zach had yet to use the gloves' third and last ability in the battle.

Once the battle ended, Zach jumped into the arena and stood in the middle. He looked at Starlord and said, "I might not be noble, but if you want to take a short break, I will allow it."

"Are you insulting me?" Starlord frowned and swung his double-ended spear with his fingers.

'Oh... so he has a high ego. Well, it's none of my business. But time to play a little...'

Zach sighed and said, "I want our battle to be perfectly equal because if I win, I don't want people to say 'he won because his opponent was exhausted.'."

Now, Zach was teasing him.

Starlord broke the spear in half and wielded it in both hands. He pointed one spear at Zach and said, "So you are the last one."

"And the first one to defeat you," Zach added with an arrogant smirk on his face.

Whenever two egoistic people meet, it never ends well.

Starlord charged the spear with sea magic as the gems on the blades glowed.

"I am going to defeat you and marry princess Aquarius!" he shouted.

'Oh ... so that's why he is acting so ...'

"Yeah! Get him! Win for me!" Aquarius cheered for Starlord.

SIGH!

'You shouldn't have done that, princess,' Zach sighed. 'Now you have fueled his ego.'

"You can do it!" After Aquarius cheered for Starlord, Aurora started to cheer for Zach.

"You can win!" she cheered.

'Well... my ego is also fully charged,' Zach scoffed.

Zach beckoned Starlord and said, "Come."

Starlord launched himself at Zach at full speed and swung his spears back and forth.

Zach, however, blocked Starord's attacks with his hands.

'He is indeed fast, but not as fast as I thought.' When Zach was watching the battles from above, Starlord seemed fast to Zach. However, now that Zach was in the arena and fighting against him, Starlord seemed slow.

Starlord kept attacking Zach in a melee style for the next 5 minutes.

Zach hadn't even used his weapon yet, and Starlord grew impatient because he couldn't land a single hit on Zach.

'Now, he will switch to magic attacks.' Zach prepared himself for the magic attacks. But instead of dodging or blocking them, he was going to absorb them.

Starlord fired water and ice magic at Zach, and at the same time, he dashed at him to attack him.

'Even if he blocks or dodges my magic attacks, he won't be able to stop my physical attack!" Starlord thought. 'Hehe. Princess is mine!'

However, he was left speechless when he saw his magic attacks suddenly disappearing right before his eyes. But he didn't stop and still approached Zach to attack him, only to receive a punch in the face.

Starlord was sent flying to the other side of the arena. He bounced on the ground a couple of times before hitting the arena wall that cracked on impact.

The entire arena that was cheering for Starlord suddenly turned quiet. But Zach could hear one voice.

"Whoo!" It was Aurora.

'I... don't think I hit him that hard...'

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Everyone present in the arena was surprised, including Zach.

Zach thought he hadn't punched Starlord that hard, and he was correct.

Zach punched Starlord just like he punched the monsters so far, but Starlord was dashing at Zach at full speed, resulting in him receiving a powerful punch.

In any case, it was Zach who punched him and left the entire arena silent.

However, Starlord stood up straight just a second after. Moreover, he was unscathed.

"Tch!: Zach clicked his tongue and muttered, "His Scorpio-like hard skin is more troublesome than I thought."

'It literally broke a sword, so why did I expect for my punch to hurt him in any way?' Zach sighed inwardly.

Zach looked at his gloves and muttered, "So the ability is working. But I can absorb more."

Starlord fired more magic attacks, but this time, he didn't move from his spot.

Starlord kept firing spells one after another, but Zach absorbed them all. With every attack, Starlord grew more and more desperate. He was furious, as though he was trying to kill Zach in any way possible.

'How much mana does he save?!' Zach exclaimed inwardly. 'I have been absorbing his attacks for ten minutes straight!'

Zach glanced at his gloves and noticed they were slowly turning purple.

'Not good. If he keeps casting spells like that, my gloves will reach their absorbing limit.'

Now, instead of absorbing the magic attacks, Zach started dodging and blocking them with a shield made from plants and soil.

All the time Zach spent in the dungeon and completing his quests, he had been trying to train and use as many combinations of his magic weapons.

He had learned to summon a fire sword in one hand and a lightning sword in another. Then, he learned to create a water sword and wind sword, which he mixed and made an ice sword. Similarly, he created a water-lightning sword that shot lightning bolts upon swinging.

Of course, he wouldn't be able to do that if he hadn't used the second slot of the gloves as a magic weapon. It was because his first and second slots were used to summon magic weapons, he was able to mix and create new magic.

The shield Zach was holding was made from a mixture of earth magic and water magic. And it was blocking all the magic attacks of Starlord.

"Argh!" Starlord yelled in rage as he swung the spears in both hands and plunged them into the ground

At first, Zach was confused, and he didn't understand what Starlord was trying to do. But he realized everything when he felt water touching his feet.

Starlord had covered the entire ring of the arena in the water.

Zach tried to swim up, but the water level just kept rising. He tried to absorb the water, but he couldn't absorb it.

'It's not made from magic! It's the real seawater!'

Zach took a deep breath and got into the water again. He looked at Starlord and saw his form had changed.

Starlord was no longer in his human form. Instead, his entire body was covered by another hard layer. His head had turned into a Scorpio-like shape, and his teeth had also changed. His already pointy scorpion tail had become more pointy. Not only that, there were small spikes on his body.

Zach could have controlled the water using his gloves using the third ability of the gloves. But he could only control the magic that was one meter around him. And Starlord was still standing at the other side of the ring.

'Should I use lightning attack?' Zach thought to himself. 'But he had another layer protecting him. My sword won't be able to penetrate it.'

'But... if I release all my MP on the sword and use a concentrated-lightning attack, I might be able to stop him.'

However, Zach was also in water, and water could conduct electricity.

'I might survive a mild lightning attack. But concentrated lighting will injure me badly...'

At the same time, Starlord dashed at Zach with both spears aimed at him, and it looked as though he had no intention of leaving Zach alive.

Moreover, now that the Starlord was in his natural habitat, he was moving ten times faster than before.

Zach could barely see him and match his gaze with Starlord.

Zach was in a major dilemma. He couldn't move and dodge underwater as speedily as Starlord. He couldn't use magic attacks because it won't work. He could use a physical attack, but the rigid layer and the spikes on Starlord's body would prevent him from dealing any damage. And most important, Zach couldn't hold his breath for more than five minutes.

Everyone thought Zach was going to lose because he was cornered from everywhere. But Zach, however, had his own plans.

The moment Starlord came near Zach, Zach unleashed all the magic attacks he had absorbed.

Starlord stopped moving as his body floated lifelessly in the water. Soon, the water level decreased, and everything went back to normal.

Zach looked at Starlord and confirmed he was knocked unconscious.

'He managed to push me this far. If I hadn't created the gloves ability, I would be toast...' Zach sighed in relief.

Aquitius the sixth stared at Zach and wondered, '...'

He couldn't think. He was left speechless like all the other people watching the match.

'What just happened?!' the sixth exclaimed inwardly. 'The ring was filled with water, so we couldn't see properly.'

Starlord had purposely done that, so even if he went against the rules and killed Zach, no one would have proof that he killed Zach because no one would have seen it. But sadly, Starlord's plan failed miserably.

The sixth raised his brows and wondered: 'Who is this kid? And why did my little brother forgive him even when he tried to kill him?'

'And I don't know how, but he managed to defeat this kingdom's strongest champion!'

'I have to look into his shadow and see who he truly is...' Aquitius the sixth awakened his magic eyes and looked deep into Zach's shadow, only to close his eyes a second later and cover his face with his hands.

"..." He took a deep breath and yelled inwardly: 'Why?! Why?!'

'Why is the child of atrocity here?!'

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'Why is the child of atrocity here?! Brother, what are you thinking? Did you forget atrocity is the definition of abomination! And his child is... he can be a greater abomination!'

The sixth then remembered his behavior with Zach. And his face turned pale.

'What have I done?! I threatened him and disrespected him! I even treated him harshly! What if he decides to annihilate the kingdom or even the entire sea realm?!'

The sixth couldn't stop freaking out.

'I stared into his shadow for only one second. One mere second, and I was nearly devoured by it.'

The first time someone dared to look into Zach's eyes was Gabriel, who was scared senseless and nearly flew back to heaven. The second time was the lord abomination, and the third time was Malinda Edna, the dragon who was the world boss of the first realm. Then, Aquitius the seventh recognized Zach by simply looking into his eyes. After that, it was Aquitius the sixth.

Out of the five, only Edna was the one who wasn't scared after looking into Zach. Maybe because she had no reason to fear him, or perhaps because she was already dead.

However, Aria looked into Zach's domain, where she saw their real forms. She said she wasn't scared, but she was a little scared. Although the main reason was that they looked disgusting to her.

'Oh, no... what should I do now?' the sixth asked himself. 'Is it too late to apologize? But what should I apologize for? How should I apologize? My apologies need to be honest and sincere, or I will make him angrier.'

The sixth looked at his hand and found them trembling.

'Ah, this fear. My body remembers it. How could it ever forget the battle.' the sixth gulped down in fear and wondered, 'I will beg him to spare Aquarius and Rilu.'

The sixth looked at Zach and noticed he was staring right back at him.

'Is he waiting for my apology?'

Zach was simply waiting for the sixth to announce the match result.

"Did I win?!" Zach asked out loud.

The sixth stood up and cleared his throat before saying, "The winner of the match is—"

"Not yet!" a voice rang into the arena. Starlord stood up and said, "I haven't given up yet!"

"You are badly injured. There is no point of fighting now," the sixth asserted.

"No..." Starlord glared at Zach and said, "I am going to win."

'Just stay put, dude. Why are you making it worse?' Zach wanted to say that, but he didn't care anyway.

"You cannot win against him," the sixth uttered in a loud voice. "Now surrender!"

"I am the strongest champion of this kingdom! And I won't be defeated by some outsider!" he yelled. "And the princess is mine."

'Come on, dude. Even I won't be that stupid to fight someone if I was in your state,' Zach inwardly.

Unfortunately, the sixth couldn't announce the winner unless one of them had won or surrendered.

Starlord was dead serious about fighting Zach while Zach was thinking about what he would eat for dinner tonight.

'What is this fool thinking?!' the sixth yelled inwardly. 'Why doesn't he give up? He has no idea who he is fighting. He should be glad that the child of atrocity hasn't killed him yet!'

Of course, a king could disqualify a contender upon his wish if he wanted to. However, the sixth did not want to do that.

'If I disqualify Starlord, my citizens would think I didn't give him a chance. They might even think I favored an outsider over an insider.'

'Moreover, it would be like an insult towards Starlord, and the citizens might go against me.'

After pondering for a while, the sixth decided, 'I cannot stop him. I can't betray my citizens.'

'It's easy to be a king, but it's hard to stay a king,' the sixth recalled his late father's words, who was killed by Zach's father.

The sixth was yet to announce his decision, but Starlord didn't wait for it. He ate the gems on his spears and started chanting a spell.

'No, you fool! Don't do that!' the sixth yelled inwardly.

Suddenly, Starlord's Scorpio tail started glowing, and its size increased to twice the size of his body.

The sixth's face turned pale after seeing that.

'Has he lost his mind?! That big sting can kill him. And killing is against the rules of the event!'

Starlord jumped in the air and swung his tail at Zach to sting him.

"Stop!" the sixth yelled on top of his lungs.

However, it was too late. Before Starlord could even land a hit on Zach, Zach summoned a concentrated lightning sword and made the sushi out of him.

Starlord's body parts fell to the ground, and a pale green liquid came out of his body.

"I don't know what I am eating for dinner tonight, but I am definitely not eating sushi for a while now," Zach asserted with a sigh in a solemn voice.

The normal lightning sword had yellow color. Its color changed to blue when Zach released 1000 MP on the lightning sword. And its color changed to red when Zach released 5000 MP, which was concentrated lightning.

"Boo!"

The viewers started booing Zach and throwing stuff at him. Zach dodged as much as he could, but they were throwing too much stuff, so Zach started blocking them with a shield and a sword.

'This is bad!' The sixth jumped into the ring and uttered, "Enough!"

Everyone stopped throwing, and the entire arena went silent.

"Starlord went against the rules and tried to kill him. So he had done nothing but protect himself," the sixth glanced around the arena and continued, "If someone disrespects him, it would be equal to disrespecting me and this kingdom."

After that, no one dared to say or do anything.

The sixth turned to Zach and said, "I have no excuses for my champions and the citizens' behavior."

"As long as you give me a nice dinner, I don't care. I am too hungry to give a shit about all this," Zach replied with a shrug.