

GODS' IMPACT 221

Chapter 221 - Rehabilitation Time

"She is fine," Aria said to Zach.

"I know that..." Zach nodded and said, "How much time would it take her to wake up?"

Aria pondered for a while as though she was calculating the time with Aurora's condition.

A few seconds later, she uttered, "It would take her at least 3 days to wake, but she would be paralyzed."

"...!"

"Her entire physique is crippled. And Honestly, it's a miracle that she is still alive. I have never seen someone in a worse condition like this..." Aria stated.

"Well, I have..." Zach muttered in a disdainful tone.

"Unlike the other injuries in this game, such as getting your body parts severed or receiving high damage, it can be easily healed since the damage received in the game doesn't affect the real body outside the game."

"However, Aurora's condition is different. As you might know, using a blessing sucks the life force, so unless you have a high physique, it is not advisable to use them for more than 3 minutes," Aria added.

"..."

"And judging by Aurora's condition, it seems she used it for more than 3 weeks... no, make it around 4 weeks. But..." Aria turned to Zach with a confused look on her face and said, "How is that possible?"

Zach smiled wryly and uttered, "Time is a simple yet complicated concept; it's easy for those who don't understand it, and hard for those who do."

"So I was right..." Aria muttered. "The blessings she received must have increased the time flow in her body."

"How much time would it take her to be able to walk and talk?" Zach asked with a curious yet calm look on his face.

"She should be able to talk properly within a week. But it would take 2 weeks for her to be able to move her body parts. However, she would need a lot of rest. And she should be completely healed in at most 6 weeks," Aria replied with a serious look on her face.

"Are you sure? Can I believe your words?" Zach asked in a solemn voice. "It's okay if you are not sure. But please, don't give me false hope."

Aria looked into Zach's eyes and said, "She would wake up in less than 6 weeks. And I know better than anyone how much Aurora means to you. So can't dare to give you false hope."

Zach smiled wryly at Aria and patted her head as he said, "Thank you."

Aria loved to see Zach's smile, but that smile broke her heart. She could feel how sad Zach was just by looking at his face.

"Say, since her condition is like this because her physique is crippled. What if I help it cultivate?" Zach asked with a curious look on his face.

"That would increase her healing process and she would be healed sooner depending on the cultivation method," Aria responded in a calm voice. "But what would you do?"

"What if I use my essence?"

Aria furrowed her brows and said, "You want to have sex with her in this condition?"

"No. Of course not. I was talking about feeding her through the mouth."

"That still doesn't change anything. I am against you doing anything intimate with her in this condition," Aria responded in a disdainful tone.

SIGH!

Zach sighed and said, "I am talking about pills."

"Huh?"

"I will make pills of my essence and other materials that could work well with it," Zach stated.

"Oh!" Aria exclaimed and asked, "But do you know how to make pills? It is not as easy as it sounds. And there is a different method for creating different pills."

"Yeah, I know."

"And making essence pills is one of the hardest," she added.

"I will be honest, I simply read about it in the book when I was a kid. I fully don't remember the entire process," Zach uttered with a sigh.

"Don't worry about it." Aria patted Zach's back and said, "I will help you out."

"What exactly do you mean by 'I will help you out'?" Zach asked curiously. "Helping me out in making the pills? Or extracting my essence from my body?"

"How about both?" Aria replied with a short grin.

"That would truly help me out."

A few seconds later, Zach asked again: "So how much time would it take?"

"First, I have to know how much the physique is getting cultivated with one mouthful of the essence. And then I—"

"It's 1000 physique points," Zach said instantly without wasting time. "And it resets weekly."

"1000?! That high..." Aria exclaimed.

"Is it? How much is the normal or... average?"

"It should be around 100 points." Aria pondered for a while and said, "I am calculating it based on how it used to work in ancient times. And since nowadays humans have lost the concept of magic and cultivation, it's buried deep dormant in their blood," Aria asserted.

She nodded and said, "It would take around 6-8 hours to make one essence pill. So if you feed her the pill after that... she should wake up once her body starts absorbing it."

"And the rest...?"

"Umm... just half the time it was taking before," Aria sighed. "It would have taken less time, but you said it resets weekly so you can't feed her the essence pill until the weekends."

"Yes..." Zach sighed in relief and said, "So three weeks..."

"Are you okay?" Aria asked with an anxious look on her face. "I wanted to ask this, but..."

"Yeah, I am okay." Zach smiled at Aria and uttered, "You know, when I first saw her in this condition, I thought I wouldn't be able to be with her. But I am glad that she will wake up tomorrow, I would be able to at least talk with her."

"Either she got lucky and stopped using the blessings at the right time, or someone saved her. But yeah, she would be fine."

Zach and Aria could hear the noise of the beginning of the fifth wave.

"The hell is still not stopping?" Zach sighed.

"I think they will keep coming till the hell is emptied and there are no demons left. Or the crack to hell is fixed."

Aria jumped off the throne and said, "I will go seal the crack."

"Can you do that outside your domain?" Zach asked.

"Don't worry about it." Aria waved at Zach and said, "The hell itself should recognize me."

Chapter 222 - The Report

CLACK~ CLACK!

"..."

DRIP~ DRIP!

"..."

BOOM~ BANG!

"..."

CRACK~ THUD!

Various types of noises rang across an unknown place where everything was pitch black.

A few seconds later, the sound of something sharp hitting something hard echoed around. But they suddenly stopped as the sound of the footsteps grew closer every passing second.

Then, with a loud creak, a door opened that illuminated the pitch-dark place.

It was an enormous room that could fit the entire first realm inside it. The door itself was over a thousand meters tall, which took one hour to open fully. And it took over 10000 people to open the door; 5000 on each side.

Once the creak was wide enough for a single person to enter, the lowliest of the demons— an imp, entered the room.

The imp walked and walked, but he couldn't read the other end of the room, that was his destination.

"Kir..." a loud, raspy, and demonic voice called out to the imp from the other side of the room.

As soon as the imp heard the voice, it stopped in its tracks and immediately banged its head on the floor.

"My deepest apologies! I assumed you would be sleeping!" it said as she repeatedly banged its head on the floor.

"I was sleeping. But you woke me up!" the voice yelled. "You better have a reason to awaken me from my slumber. Otherwise, I am going to kill you over and over for the rest of eternity."

"It is important, my lord!"

"That's not for you to decide. Now tell me, what is it?" the voice asked.

"There was a crack in the first hell and many demons broke loose," the imp reported.

After a brief silence, the voice asked, "Where?"

"There is no information about it yet. But the world looked exactly like how the mortal realm was at the beginning of time," the imp replied.

"How in the hell am I supposed to know how the humans were at the beginning of time? I am only 420 years old, not freaking eons!"

"..."

"Now tell me, how did the crack appear suddenly? The hell is supposed to be secluded from the mortal realm as per my promise with the 'him'. So... tell me... who is responsible for this?!" the voice asked furiously.

"There are chances that the place wasn't a mortal realm, but somewhere else where humans are living like old-time," the imp stated. "It could also be another species who looked like mortals."

"Hmm... that is possible, yes. But how is that more important than my sleep?" the voice asked curiously. "Demons have been killing and causing havoc since eons. It is nothing new."

"That's... because none of the demons returned to hell..." the imp said while stuttering as its lips were trembling.

"How many demons were sent?" the voice asked curiously. "And what level?"

"Half of the first hell..."

"Tell me more," the voice asked in an amused tone.

"Five waves of 500,000 demons were sent. And all the waves were annihilated by humans, but among those humans, there was a girl who annihilated the entire second wave within one second," the imp reported.

"That's preposterous! No mortal can single-handedly rival the second wave, let alone the third wave." The voice grew louder as it asked, "Are you sure it was mortal and not someone else?"

"I... am not sure..."

SIGH!

The voice sighed and asked, "What about the other three waves?"

"The third wave was single-handedly wiped out by a single young man."

"...!"

"And..." the imp paused.

"And... what? Say it! You know I don't like suspense!" the voice yelled.

"And that young man also killed the three archdemons of the first hell as if they were the weakest."

"How could... that be..."

"Dominic even groveled before him and asked him for forgiveness, but that young man killed him mercilessly," the imp asserted. "I couldn't tell who the demon was at that moment; the young man or Dominic."

"... Kir...."

"Yes, my lord?"

"Can you describe that so-called young man for me?" the voice asked calmly.

"Uhh... he had a hand made of fire that resembled a Phoenix. And... he had demonic eyes..." the imp responded.

"Kir, raise your head..."

"I could never—"

"I said look up!"

The imp raised its head and looked up in the dark.

Suddenly, a picture appeared on the screen in the dark, which had the face of a man with white hair, red eyes, a charming smile, and an arrogant smirk.

"Was it this man?" the voice asked.

The imp shook its head and said, "He looked similar, but this is not him."

A few seconds later, another screen appeared in the dark that had the picture of a 5-year-old kid. He had black hair, golden eyes, and an innocent grin on his face.

"Was it him?" the voice asked calmly.

"No, my lord. This is a kid."

After a few seconds, the two screens overlapped and the picture looked similar to Zach.

The imp's eyes widened in bafflement and pointed his finger at the picture as it said, "Yes! Yes! It was him!"

A few seconds passed by, but the voice didn't say anything. Then, after a brief silence, the voice asked furiously: "Who ordered the raid?!"

"Nirn— the demon lord of the first hell. Even though the first four waves were massacred, he sent the fifth wave," the imp reported.

"That fool!" the voice yelled furiously and said, "Kir, let me possess your body. I have no other choice but to visit the first hell and talk with Nirn."

"But my lord, your current condition is not suitable for—"

"Do not talk back to me!"

The imp lowered his head to the ground and said, "Please, use my body."

The imp grunted in pain for a few seconds and stopped moving. Then, it raised its head and moved its hand.

"Heh. Imps are like ants." The voice uttered from inside the imp's body.

Then, it walked out of the door after saying, "Nirn, you angered Zach. Now, you should be ready to face consequences."

Chapter 223 - Grandson

The imp, that was possessed by the voice, entered the first hell through a secret portal and made its way in.

On the way, there were hundreds of demons doing their work. It was just like a prison, but the only difference was that demons enjoyed living there.

It was heaven for them.

As the imp was walking, a group of high-rank demons surrounded it and blocked its way.

"Hey, hey. Look at this lowly demon!" one of the 6 demons said.

"What is it doing here?!" the second one asked.

"Aren't all the imp sent to labor work to create a statue for the demon lord Nirn?" the third demon wondered.

"Maybe this one managed to escape?" the fourth demon said.

"Let's grab him and take it to the demon lord Nirn," the fifth demon suggested.

"Yeah, let's do it. We might get a reward," the sixth demon stated.

Two demons grabbed the imp and dragged it to the palace where the demon lord of the first hell, Nirn, ruled the netherworld.

"Open the door. We have brought a loafer imp!" the demon said to the demon guards at the door of the throne room.

After entering the throne room, the six demons saw that Nirn was having an orgy with 20 demonesses, out of which, one was the first demon's lover, one was the second demon's sister, one was the third demon's mother, one was the fourth demon's daughter, one was the fifth demon's wife, and one was the sixth demon's crush.

All the six demons, who came to Nirn, hoping they would get a reward, got a surprise instead.

"What brings you here?! Can't you see I am busy enjoying my time?!" Nirn yelled at the demons without even caring about anything.

The six demons couldn't do anything but watch their loved ones getting pleased by their king.

The third demon walked forward and said, "We have brought an imp, my lord. We caught it slacking."

"Oh?" Nirn raised his brows with an amused look on his face and said, "Where is that lowly scum? I will rip it apart and decorate my statue with its body part."

"Oh? That would make quite a decoration, not going to lie," the imp said as it walked forward.

After seeing that imp, Nirn's face turned pale. He started sweating crazily as he immediately got off the throne and bowed down in front of the imp.

"..."

"..."

All the six demons and the 20 demonesses glanced at each other with confused looks on their bodies. They couldn't comprehend the reason why the demon lord of the first hell would bow down in front of the lowliest of the demons.

"Welcome to my throne room, my lord..." Nirn said without raising his head.

"My lord?" the first demon scoffed out loud. "Why are you calling this imp—"

THUD!

Before the first demon could finish what he was saying, his head was cut off by a strong blow on his face.

It was Nirn, and he used his tail to cleave the first demon's head.

"My apologies for not being able to welcome you at your arrival," Nirn uttered with the utmost respect.

"Do you know how I was welcomed here?" the imp asked Nirn.

"How...?"

"They grabbed me by my head and dragged me all the way here."

SLASH~!

The next moment, the heads of the remaining five demons were also cleaved by Nirn's tail attack.

"I cannot look you in the eyes. I have disappointed you, my lord," Nirn said without raising his head.

"I am not disappointed, Nirn. Raise your head and look at me," the imp ordered.

Nirn raised his head and looked into the imp's eyes.

"My lord? Are you sure you are not angry? Because you look furious," Nirn uttered as he broke eye contact with the imp.

"What did you do... Nirn? Why did you send demons to attack humans?" the imp asked in a calm voice.

"I..."

"Did you forget the peace pact? Hell wasn't supposed to get involved with mortals. And you broke that pact."

"No, my lord. The pact was that hell or the demons wouldn't set a foot in the mortal realm. But the realm where the crack appeared was the mortal realm," Nirn asserted. "So, with no offense, but we haven't broken the peace pact."

"How many humans did you demons kill?" the imp asked curiously.

"I am not sure. But the last reported numbers were over 11000." Nirn replied.

"And how many demons were killed?" the imp asked in a disdainful tone.

"Over 2,500,000..."

"And what did you get from this futile far?" the imp asked with an emotionless voice. "Clearly, as you can see, the demons lost."

"Well, the demons were weak. So of course they would lose. We don't have to worry about those lowly pests. And once the fifth wave is over, I will send the elite demons," Nirn asserted.

"Stop this war... Nirn..."

"May I ask why?"

"You angered the wrong person..."

"Hmm? Who are you talking about?" Nirn wondered. "Oh, I did hear that someone single-handedly massacred the third wave. But there is no need to worry, Strong moves like that can be used only once."

"Do you know who that 'someone' was?" the imp asked with a judging look on its face.

"How would I... know...?"

"That was the son of my daughter. And he is my grand-fucking-son!" the imp yelled.

"But... I thought he had died at birth...." Nirn muttered.

The imp stared at Nirn with a lifeless glare in its eyes and said, "If he comes for you, I am not going to save you."

"No offense, my lord. But why do you think he can win against me? Even if he is your grandson, I won't go easy on him. So please, do not interfere when I stab my sword through his heart," Nirn asserted with a serious look on his face.

The imp walked out of the throne room and made its way to the crack to close.

However, there, it saw something it had never expected.

Aria was standing on the ground, glaring at the crack as though she could see the insides.

".."

The imp quickly closed the crack and muttered, "Well... shit..."

Chapter 224 - Own Goals

Once the crack to hell was closed, Aria took care of the demons who arrived in the fifth wave. Victoria, the guild members, and the other players helped in killing all the demons.

However, even the demons from the first wave had spread across the entire realm, and it was impossible to defeat them all while staying in the capital.

But, only the demons from the first wave spread all over the first realm, since Aurora had annihilated the second wave before it could scatter around. And Zach had taken care of the third wave.

In the fourth wave, the demons were too scared to do anything, thus they didn't scatter. And the fifth wave was the same.

The demons from the first wave weren't strong, but they weren't weak either.

However, a player with level 20 or above could defeat them with minimal effort.

Still, the only way to ascend to the high realms or descend to the lower realm was through the portal. So all the layers in the first realm or any realm had to travel to the capital to access the portal.

Since there were players not in the capital and the other parts of the first realm, they couldn't do anything but either die running and hiding from the demons or die fighting and win against the demons.

Eventually, all the demons were eradicated from the first realm.

It would be strange to say that the demons had gone extinct in Gods' Impact.

Once everything had settled down, Victoria met up with Zach and spent some time with him to comfort him. She was also worried about Aurora, but Aria reassured her and told her the same thing she told Zach.

After that, Victoria left for the guild with her guild members.

After reaching the flying castle, Shay and Victoria were called to Elliott's office.

Upon entering Elliott's office, they saw him sitting on his chair behind the table in a relaxed position.

He first looked at Shay and said, "Get to the side. I will deal with you later. But for now, let me ask Victoria some questions."

Elliott turned to Victoria without getting up from his chair and frowned his face.

"Victoria, how many members did I send with you in a dungeon expedition?" he asked with a knowing look on his face.

"5000," Victoria replied.

"And I heard you brought that narcissist ex-boyfriend of yours as well as one more girl." Elliot frowned his face and said, "Who told you to do that?"

"I don't need to take your permission regarding the raids and the expeditions. I am in charge of them. You don't even know how to properly handle them. So please, keep your mouth shut on this matter," Victoria responded without holding back.

She was going to leave the guild soon, so she didn't care about anything. Moreover, she had been holding back her words ever since she joined the Risen warrior guild, and now that she was leaving, she wanted to take out all her frustrations without holding back.

"That's no way to talk to the guild master!" Elliott yelled furiously.

Victoria simply shrugged her shoulders and said, "What did you call me here for? I highly doubt you want to talk about the guild members who died on the 75th floor. You don't care about them anyway. So what is it?"

"Who said I don't care about them? They were my precious guild members. What about you?" Elliott furrowed his brows and asked, "You seem perfectly fine, even after losing half of the troops. Could it be that they died because of your incompetence in guiding them?"

Victoria frowned her face and asked, "What are you trying to say?"

"Well you invited your ex in the dungeon expedition. And I got a report from the other players that they saw you talking with him all the time. You paid extra attention to him. They also said you used to disappear from time to time and come back with him after a while."

"..."

"So, tell me one reason to not blame you for their deaths?" Elliott asked with a smirk on his face.

"..."

"What's wrong? Did I hit the mark?" Elliott smirked wider.

Shay glanced back and forth at Victoria and Elliott as he thought, 'Elliott is purposely trying to make her angry. But why?'

SIGH!

Victoria sighed and uttered, "If that's what you think, then so be it. No one gives a shit about your opinion anyway. And once I leave this guild, let's see how you manage to keep this guild together."

"Oho?" Elliott scoffed and said, "you give yourself too much credit. Don't forget that I am the one who created this guild, and I am the guild master."

"Yeah, right." Victoria let out a weary sigh and said, "Can I leave the guild now?"

"You cannot," Elliott replied instantly.

"Why not?" Victoria asked with a confused look on her face. "I already submitted my resignation letter. So why can't I leave?"

Elliott looked out a paper from under his table and signed it.

It was Victoria's resignation letter.

After signing it, he threw the paper at Victoria and said, "Did you truly sign it in a hurry and not even read the terms and the policies? It is literally written there that you can't leave the guilds until after 10 days of notice."

Victoria didn't trust a single word that came out of Elliott's mouth, so she read the policies, and sure enough, that was the case.

"You submitted your letter three days ago, so you can't leave for another week," Elliott stated.

"Why does such a rule even exist?!" Victoria retorted.

"Don't blame me. I am not the one who came up with these policies. It's a mutual policy of all the guilds, and it was decided by guild masters of the top 10 guilds of the Gods' Impact," Elliott asserted.

"..."

"And this rule is only for the guild members with high posts, such as the vice-captain, the funder, the leaders of the teams, and... Et cetera Et cetera— because we have to find someone who can replace their posts."

'He doesn't even know the names of all the posts in the guild...' Shay uttered inwardly. 'I want to leave this guild and start my own, but I will stick here and gain the favor of as many strong guild members as I can. Then, I will preach them into joining my guild.'

Chapter 225 - It's Time To Play This Game Seriously Now

Victoria left Elliott's office with the signed resignation letter and made her way to her chamber. The first thing she did after entering her room was to inform Zach about it.

Meanwhile, Shay was waiting for his turn to get called out by Elliott.

Even though he didn't care about anything Elliott said or did, he still had to make sure everything was going alright. He was the funder, so it was natural for him to know where his money was spent.

"Shay, do you know why you are here?" Elliott asked in a calm voice.

"Because I went for a ride in my new aircraft carrier?" Shay replied in a haughty tone.

Elliott slammed his hands on the table and said, "It belonged to the guild, and you had all of them destroyed to save some useless low-level humans!"

Shay furrowed his brows and glared into Elliott's eyes before saying, "Did you just call my friends useless?"

"..."

Elliott was genuinely scared of Shay at that moment.

"Listen, Elliott, you can say and do anything you want. But don't you dare ever say anything about my friends. Otherwise, I—"

"Otherwise what? You will stop funding money?"

"No. Otherwise, I will kill you!" Shay said with a furious glare in his eyes.

"You are... bluffing..."

"Try me. And if you think I won't do it, then know that you are more useless... no, you are the most useless person in this game."

After saying that, Shay left Elliott's office.

"..."

Elliott stared at the closed door of his office for a few seconds before looking down under his table and saying, "I am cumming."

Under the table, Natasha was sucking off Elliott's needle.

"Shoot it in my mouth," Natasha said as she sucked faster.

A few seconds later, Elliott released a drop inside Natasha's mouth and groaned in pleasure.

'This guy is so pathetic...' Natasha thought inwardly.

Natasha got on top of the table and spread her legs in front of Elliott.

"Come," she said with a seductive smile on her face.

"Wait for a few minutes. I just came, so I can't get hard..."

'If he wasn't the guild master, I would be in a pathetic state. His dick is smaller than a fifth-grader, and he comes in one minute. This is why I avoid virgins!'

"What will you do without Victoria?" Natasha asked with a curious look on her face. "You loved her, right?"

"I did." Elliott nodded and said, "But I lost interest in her when I learned that she had a boyfriend, and she is no longer a virgin."

'Ah, yes. This type of people still exists in the world. But mostly, only virgins have this mentality,' Natasha sighed.

"But you said you loved me, and you are loyal to me. So I can't push you away," Elliott said in a calm voice.

'Heh! What an idiot! He believes everything I say. I have him dancing on my fingertips. Just a few more pushes and I will become the leader of this guild!' Natasha thought inwardly.

"Have you decided who you are going to make the next vice-captain once Victoria leaves?" she asked curiously.

"I have."

"Is it Shay...?"

Elliott furrowed his brow and asked, "Why do you think I would choose him?"

"Well, he is basically the sugar grandpa of this guild. So I assumed you would try to keep him happy and satisfied."

"If he asks me directly, then I can't say no to him. But I would never myself choose him as the vice-captain." Elliott kissed Natasha on the lips and said, "I am going to make you the next vice-captain of this guild."

'Bingo! Now I am not far from my main goal. Once I become the vice-captain, I will take control over most of the things. And eventually, this guild will be mine!'

"And once you become the vice-captain— unlike Victoria, I will keep you by my side, so we can have sex whenever we want to," Elliott stated.

'First, learn to hold your shit for more than 1 minute, and then talk about sex...'

"Say, Elliott..." Natasha looked into Elliott's eyes and said, "You are so cool and dashing. You are the guild master of the second strongest guild in Gods' Impact. I am sure there are lots of girls trying to make moves on you."

"Is... that so...?"

"Yes. You are the main character in this story, and the main character always has a harem. So why don't you get one too?" Natasha suggested. "There are a lot of beautiful girls in our guild. Why don't you select a few of them?"

Elliott pondered for a while and said, "Good idea. I will do that tomorrow."

'Phew.' Natasha sighed in relief and thought, 'If he is busy with other girls, I can finally get away from his sigh and find someone with a big dick who can satisfy me.'

A few minutes later, Elliott's pin finally turned into the needle.

"I am ready to go," he said as he inserted his needle inside Natasha's loose hole.

A few seconds later, he released his load inside Natasha and said, "That felt awesome~"

"..."

Meanwhile, Zach was in Aria's domain, staring at Aurora with a smile on his face, as though he was waiting for her to wake up.

Of course, he knew that she wouldn't wake up until one more day had passed, but Zach wanted to be there when Aurora opened her eyes again.

He didn't want Aurora to feel lonely or helpless.

"Zach..." Aria called out to Zach and said, "You should take a rest."

"I am fine," Zach said without looking back. "How are things outside?"

"The players and NPCs want to meet you. They are lining up at the portal," Aria informed.

"Tell them all to gather all the dead bodies of the demons in one place. And bury the bodies of NPCs and players somewhere."

"What... are you planning?" Aria asked in a calm voice.

"It's time to play this game seriously now," Zach asserted in a solemn voice.

Chapter 226 - My Lovely Wife

A few hours later, Aria walked into her domain to look for Zach, but she couldn't see him anywhere.

Normally, she would find him on the throne with Aurora, but the throne was empty.

"..."

She froze for a few seconds, but then came back to her senses.

"I didn't see him leave the portal, so he is still here."

Aria glanced around for a few more seconds, but got tired and grabbed a flying bird.

[Chirp~! (Let me go!)]

"Pipe down, or I will make you disappear," Aria uttered with a furious look on her face.

Of course, she didn't truly meet that, but she was stressed because she couldn't see Zach.

"Do you know where Zach is?" she asked the bird.

[Chirp Chirp~ (I saw him going in the direction of the waterfall with the girl)] the bird informed.

Aria opened her hand and let go of the bird.

She made her way to the waterfall and saw Zach coming back with Aurora in his arms.

She stared at Zach with a weird look in her eyes and asked, "Where did you take her?"

Zach pointed his gaze at the waterfall and said, "Do I need to say it?"

"But... why did you take Aurora with you...?" Aria asked with a puzzled look on her face.

"I... didn't want to leave her alone. What if she woke up and didn't find me in front of her?" Zach uttered in a low voice.

"..."

"You do know that you can't stay here all the time, right?" Aria asked. "You have to get out of here and continue playing the game."

"I know. But..."

"And what happened to that 'It's time to play this game seriously now'?" Aria remarked.

"..."

SIGH!

"Listen." Aria caressed Zach's face and continued, "I know how you feel right now, but you can't stay like this."

"I know..."

"I wouldn't have said this if it was something more serious. Aurora's condition is not as bad as you think. It could have gotten worse, but her body is showing expedient growth in her physique."

After a brief pause, Aria continued, "Just think of it as she has caught minor flu, and she simply needs to rest. She would wake up tomorrow anyway."

"You are... right..." Zach nodded.

"And hey..." Aria kissed Zach on the lips and said, "Aurora wouldn't want you to get all sad and depressed, you know?"

"Yeah..." Zach nodded.

"She would want you to continue your journey. Otherwise, she would feel guilty and responsible for hindering your progress," Aria stated with a gentle smile on her face.

Zach smiled at Aria and commented, "I never thought you would be comforting me like this."

"Well, in Aurora's absence, I am in charge of taking care of you. So... think of me as your caretaker until Aurora gets well," Aria uttered with a grin on her face.

Zach and Aria walked back to the throne while talking and passing comments to each other.

On the way, Zach said to Aria, "I am glad you are here with me."

"It's my pleasure to be with you."

"I wonder what would have happened if we weren't lovers..." Zach muttered with a soft chuckle.

Aria glanced at Zach from the corner of her eye and replied, "Everything would have been the same. I have fallen in love with you after our first meeting."

"No wonder you came chasing after me and even went as far as to put an act. You even agreed to stay as my slave and wife." Zach smiled at Aria and continued, "I still can't believe I landed a hit on the mother of the world."

"As far as my reach can go, I think you would be the most prominent member in my harem," Zach asserted.

A few seconds later, Aria asked, "Just curious, but how and when did you fall in love with me? I just remembered you never mentioned it so..."

Zach stared at Aurora in his arms and pondered for a while before saying, "I am... Not really sure, to be honest."

"Come on~" Aria groaned.

"No, seriously. I was dealing with my feelings for Aurora, and before I knew it, I was charmed by you."

"Oh?"

"I hate to admit this, but when I first saw you in your throne, I thought, 'Man, she is hot'. Of course, I don't usually do that, and the fact that you managed to bring my inner thoughts out like that..."

"You were charmed by me...?" Aria guessed.

Zach nodded and said, "Still, as I have said previously, and many more times: Just because a girl is beautiful from the outside, doesn't mean she would be the same from the inside. And vice versa."

"And you still punched me in the face and slammed me on my throne..." Aria commented with a judging look on her face.

"You did the same. You were trying to kill me so..." Zach stopped and sighed as he remembered what Aria had said after his fight with her.

'I wasn't serious.'

"I guess, you could have killed me there if you wanted to. So..." Zach sent a flying kiss to Aria and said, "Thanks for not killing me and keeping me alive. Because of you, I found many things about me and the world."

"I am the one who is glad that I didn't kill you. Honestly, my life would have remained the same..." Aria hugged herself and muttered, "I still can't believe I spent thousands of years alone like that. Now, I can't imagine a day without you. So thank you for walking into that portal and entering my domain."

"..."

"Thank you for making fun of me. Thank you for angering me. Thank you for fighting me. And thank you, for falling in love with me," Aria said the last part with a bright smile on her face.

"That's the brightest and the happiest smile I have ever seen on your face," Zach remarked. "My lovely wife."

Chapter 227 - Milo || Ninia

Zach and Aria finally reached the throne.

Zach placed Aurora on the throne and looked at her with a smile on his face. She stroked her hair and moved his face closer to kiss her. But he stopped and jumped down from the throne.

"Why didn't you kiss her?" Aria asked with a confused and curious look on her face.

"I thought it wouldn't be a good thing to do...?"

"Don't couples kiss each other even when one of them is sleeping?" Aria wondered. "I am talking about wishing good morning or good night, by the way."

Zach shrugged his shoulders and replied, "Maybe, but I would prefer to kiss her when she wakes up."

Zach looked at nothingness in front of him and uttered, "Can you listen to me?"

[Always, my liege,] Cerberus replied.

"Not you. I am talking about the dragon."

[...]

Cerberus and the dragon lived in Zach's shadow, but they didn't share the same space.

"....?"

[Yes!] the dragon suddenly said.

"Were you sleeping?"

[I am ashamed to admit it. Yes, I was sleeping,] the dragon replied in an apologetic tone.

"Come out," Zach ordered.

The dragon appeared from Zach's shadow and glanced around.

At first, she was shocked and confused. She thought they were in an entirely different place.

[Where did all that lava and the river go?] she asked.

"It's gone." Zach pointed his finger at the throne and said, "I am giving you a task. Watch over Aurora and report everything to me using telepathy. And if she opens her eyes, immediately inform me."

[It would be my pleasure,] the dragon said. [But may I ask something in return?]

"Sure. I will grant your one wish once Aurora is fully healed," Zach stated.

"Also, I have a name for you." Zach looked into the dragon's eyes and said, "From this moment, I hereby name you Milo."

[I will accept any name you would give me. But can I ask why did you name me that?] the dragon asked curiously.

"Aurora once told me about her maids. And the name of her favorite maid was Milo. Since I am assigning you to watch over Aurora, I think it's a suitable name," Zach responded with a distant smile on his face.

[I will gladly accept that name then. Thank you, master.]

Suddenly, a screen popped up in front of Zach that showed Milo's stats.

[Level 1- Milo.]

[HP- 10,000.]

"Hmm~" Zach hummed in wonder after seeing the stats and uttered, "Just like Cerberus. I guess you would also level up depending on what you do."

Zach then turned to Aria and asked, "Say, if I can turn the monsters into leveling up beasts. Does that mean I can turn the NPCs into players?"

Aria's eyes widened as she heard that.

"I am not sure. I don't have knowledge regarding that. Sorry."

"It's fine. We will find out soon enough," Zach uttered with a sigh.

"What do you mean?"

Zach ignored Aria's question and turned to Milo.

"Milo, I am leaving Aurora to you."

[Rest assured master.]

After that, Zach and Aria came out of Aria's domain and glanced around.

The crowd outside the portal was insane. Although most of them were NPCs who had gathered there from not only the capital but the entire first realm.

"What's... going on...?" Zach muttered with a confused look on his face.

"My Lord..." a familiar voice sounded in Zach's ear.

When Zach looked down, he saw the NPC nun kneeling in front of him and looking at him with a resolute expression on her face.

'The nun from...!' Zach raised his brow and asked, "What are you doing?"

"You are my lord. And our savior. Please accept our gratitude..." the nun said without raising her head.

"Raise your head."

The nun raised her head and looked up at Zach, but she didn't make eye contact with him.

Zach placed his hand on the nun's cheeks and grabbed her face. Then, he said, "Look me in the eyes."

The nun looked into Zach's eyes with a flushed face and bit her lips to hide her anxiousness.

"What is your name?" Zach asked in a calm voice.

"Ninia..." the nun replied in a low voice.

"Ninia. I want your help."

"I would do anything you ask for. Just ask me and I will do it even if it costs me my life," the nun uttered with utmost sincerity.

"Those big words are wasted on me..."

Zach glanced around to see a huge pile of bodies of the dead demons in the garden. However, there were still many corpses around.

He turned to the male NPC standing near him and asked, "I asked to gather all the bodies like 10 hours ago. And you have only gathered this much?"

"Since the players and NPCs' bodies were in a severely bad state." The NPC pointed this gaze at Aria and continued, "This young lady asked us to bury them first."

"That's good."

Zach pondered for a while and muttered, "At this rate, it will take days to gather all the bodies from the capital alone."

"Cerberus. Come out. I have a job for you," Zach asserted.

Cerberus immediately jumped out from Zach's shadow and bowed its head to Zach.

[I have been waiting for my turn, my liege.]

Zach pointed his gaze around and uttered, "Gather all the dead bodies of demons and monsters at one place."

Cerberus stared at the pile of the dead demons and said, [Can I eat them?]

"No. Don't you even dare think about eating them! I want you to gather all of them!" Zach ordered in a loud voice.

Cerberus whimpered and started doing its work.

SIGH!

Zach sighed and shook his head in disbelief after realizing how laid-back Cerberus was.

Aria nudged Zach and pointed at her at Zach's hands, which were still caressing Ninia's face.

"Oh... right." Zach stared deep into Ninia's eyes with a serious look on his face and uttered, "Ninia, I want you to create a religion based on me."

"...!"

Chapter 228 - Starting A Religion

"A religion...?" Ninia muttered Zach's words.

"Yes. Don't you want your god to be famous and worshiped?" Zach asked with a slight smile on his face.

"I do but..."

"I am not asking you to preach the players. Only preach the NPCs," Zach asserted with the same look on his face.

"I understand, my lord. I will try my best to gain you as many followers as I can," Ninia said obediently.

"If you manage to bring me 100 followers, I will name my religion. If you manage to get me 500 followers, I will give make it an official religion. If you bring me 1000 followers, I will create a shrine, temple, church, or sect. If you bring me 5000 followers, I will make you the prophet; you can have whatever you want."

"..."

After a brief silence, Zach continued, "If you bring me 10,000 followers, I will turn all the NPCs into players. After that, they all will be able to fight back without anyone needing to protect them. You will also be able to ascend like a normal player."

Of course, Zach himself wasn't sure if he could do that. But since his soul powers would be increasing tremendously after getting 10,000 followers, he might eventually be able to do the impossible.

Neither Zach nor Aria had knowledge on how soul powers worked in Gods' Impact. But Aria provided him information about how they worked in the real world. And since Gods' Impact was based on the real world's laws and logic, there was a high chance that they would work the same.

Ninia grabbed Zach's hand in her hand and kissed it. Then, she rubbed it on her forehead and said, "I can't wait to be your use. Please, rest assured. Your words are my orders. I shall get you followers, for you who is the greatest and the best among all. For you, who shall reign supreme today, tomorrow, and the never-ending eternity."

Zach could feel emotions from Ninia's words, as though she had said everything with her utmost and unyielding loyalty.

That was the sign of how much Ninia trusted Zach and how far she could go for him.

Aria squinted her as she looked at Ninia and wondered, 'She knows about the rule of the first follower— prophet, right? They are considered as father and child. But I don't think Zach knows that.'

'Well, it depends on Zach how he gives her the prophecy. Either way, it's something I look forward to.'

Aria chuckled and thought, 'If Zach truly wants to start a religion and aim to become the high god, then I will support him with all my might. And once everything is over, I will rule the heavens with him.'

After dealing with Ninia, Zach walked around the garden with Aria.

"It's going to take time to gather all the dead demons. They are too much, and I doubt this garden can fill them all," Aria stated.

Zach kicked the demon's head in front of him and sent it flying in the air which went to the other side of the garden and hit the player walking by.

"Most of these demons are rank 1 demons. You can compare them with level 10 goblins," Zach scoffed. "And I still haven't seen a rank 2 demon in a proper condition. I think.... Aurora used the blessings with skill."

Aria pointed her gaze and the dead demons at some distance from them and said, "They are the rank 3 demons, am I right?"

Zach nodded and said, "Yes. And the rest are rank 4 and rank 5."

"Still..." Aria let out a weary sigh and muttered, "This demon invasion was really random..."

"I don't think so..." Zach stopped walking and turned to Aria with a knowing look on his face. "The soul eater on the 75th floor was the sign that the gods don't plan to let the players leave in place. They are furious that the players have learned to adapt and evolve, even in this situation."

"In other words, they are salty." Zach furrowed his brows and uttered, "You can say that the gods are cheating and misusing their authorities like they always have for thousands of years."

"You are not wrong, but I don't think all gods agree on that," Aria said in a calm voice. "As I have already told you before, most decisions are made through voting."

Zach raised his brows with a curious look on his face and asked, "What do you mean by 'most'? I thought all the decisions were made through voting..."

Aria smiled wryly at Zach and said, "But what if there was no voting and the decision was made without other gods knowing about it?"

"That's like mods siding with the cheater in a debate...."

"Since we are talking about gods. May I ask why you suddenly want so many followers?" Aria asked. "You even gave an incentive to the nun. And she seems to have taken a fancy to you. I have never seen such a devoted follower before. It's easy to get the second follower, but the first one is the most loyal."

Zach turned to Aria and asked, "You know that I couldn't use my soul powers before, right?"

Aria nodded in response without saying anything.

"And I awakened my soul powers a few weeks ago. Because of that, my blessings were also activated, and uncle Tis removed the seal from them. Now, I can use the blessings I am worthy for."

Zach smiled at Aria and said, "Of course, first is your blessing. Then the Sea's blessing. But those blessings weren't embedded in me since my birth, they were given to me."

"Yes."

"I acquired the sigil of the Phoenix, which means I can now freely use her powers." Zach touched the demonic sigil on the side of his neck and said, "The same with my demonic powers."

"However, as you should know, using the blessings sucks life force, and in Gods' Impact, life force is similar to soul power. The more my soul powers are, the more and longer, I would be able to use my blessings. Hence, if I have a huge amount of followers, my soul powers would obviously be high all the time," Zach asserted with a shoulder shrug.

"I remember you getting angry and angsty talking about borrowed power. But now you seem to have accepted them," Aria remarked with a judging look on her face.

"Yeah. I don't care how I get stronger, I just want to get stronger; strong enough to crush the gods with my bare hands."

Chapter 229 - Undead Demons

A few hours passed and Cerberus was still gathering the dead demons.

He was truly exhausted, and he was starving. He wanted to eat the demons in front of him, but Zach had ordered him not to.

However, as time passed, Cerberus' sanity decreased. He sniffed the body of a demon and licked it.

He opened his mouth to eat the body, thinking no one would ever know it. But Zach's words rang in his ears and he got back to work again.

The garden was filled with dead demons, but there were still hundreds of thousands of dead demons.

Cerberus walked to the portal under the broken gazebo and tried to enter it, but it was too small for him. So he waited for Zach or Aria to come out of the portal, so he could inform Zach about the progress.

A few minutes later, Aria came out of the portal to buy food for Zach. And Cerberus informed her about the situation.

Aria called out to Zach, and he came out of the portal with a surprised look on his face.

Zach turned to Cerberus and asked, "how many dead demon bodies do you think there are?"

[I am... not sure. I could have counted them, but most of the bodies were severed, and impossible to guess the body count.]

"Well, it doesn't matter since we will know soon."

Zach walked to the pile of the dead demons and placed his hands on the one closest to him.

Then, he uttered, "Arise."

Zach could feel his MP getting sucked at a fast rate and his body heating up for some reason.

[Attempts successful!]

Zach was used to getting his MP sucked since he used it in DT and summoning the magic weapon, but that was nothing compared to what he was currently feeling.

However, that feeling soon stopped when Zach ran out of MP.

'I had nearly 10,000 MP, and this process sucked all of it...' Zach uttered inwardly.

He wasn't truly surprised, he was simply curious as to how many demons he was able to revive with 10,000 MP.

The dead demons' bodies changed their form and turned into the black body with golden cracks all over their bodies. They all knelt in front of Zach and waited for their master's order.

"Stand in the line according to your ranks," Zach ordered.

300 rank 1 demons gathered in one place.

100 rank 2 demons gathered in another place.

50 rank 3 demons gathered on the side.

10 rank 4 demons gathered on the other side.

5 rank 5 demons gathered in the center.

"Hmm~" Zach hummed in wonder as he tried to calculate how much MP was used to revive them according to their ranks.

'So, rank 1 demon used 10 MP each; 3000 MP for 300 demons. Rank 2 used 20 MP each, so 2000 MP for 100 demons. Rank 3 used 50 MP each, so 2500 MP for 50 of them. Rank 4 used 100 Mp each, so 1000 MP for 10 of them. 500 for rank 5 demons, 2500 for five of them.'

"I am not saying they are less, but I want more." Zach pondered for a while and muttered, "But then they will also take a huge amount of MP if I use them in fighting."

Since the demons had no core, there was a limited time to revive them. Once the time had passed, Zach would no longer be able to use them.

"Most of the rank 1 demons are out of time. And there are only 6 hours left for the rest of them." Zach turned to Cerberus and the demons with an amused look on his face.

Then, he turned to the demons and said, "You lots, go into my shadow. I have to save as much MP as I can."

All the demons vanished before Zach's eyes as they went into Zach's shadow.

"Cerberus..." Zach called out to Cerberus.

[Yes, my liege.]

"Did you eat any of the demons?" Zach asked with a curious look on his face.

[No, my liege. I would never go against your orders,] Cerberus replied.

"Good. As a reward, you can eat all the demons in the capital. But you can't eat a single one from the garden. I am going to cultivate more MP, and I will be back after 6 hours."

Zach entered the portal after saying, "I want my army of demons."

SIGH!

Aria sighed and walked around the capital.

"The buildings should automatically get repaired after 24 hours..." Aria muttered as she walked past the broken houses and buildings.

When Zach had used the wrath of the Phoenix in the restaurant, he had blown up the corner room, but it was rebuilt the next day after 24 hours had passed.

"The portal should too, otherwise players wouldn't be able to ascend or descend."

Aria made her way to the restaurant they always went to, knowing well that it could have been destroyed in the war, and it was.

"I guess, we are skipping dinner too..." Aria muttered.

Aria turned around to return to the portal, but some NPC called out to her and gave her some food.

"Please, share it with Lord Zach," they said, "It's the dish he always orders."

"Where did you... get this food?" Aria asked with a puzzled look on her face.

The NPCs were the ones working in the restaurant, so they had gotten familiar with Zach quite well.

"We just need ingredients to make them. So we can cook food anywhere, and the building is only for eating," the restaurant owner said.

Aria thanked them and returned to her domain. There she heard Zach singing a lullaby to Aurora while stroking her hair.

Aria smiled after seeing that, recalled what Aurora had told her when they were in the sea realm. It was when Zach had gone with Aquarius to the sea temple.

"Please take care of Zach in case something happens to me in the near future," Aurora had said.

To which Aria had replied with, "I don't have any reason to do that, and even if I do, I won't take care of him. You better do that yourself."

Of course, Aurora had no idea this would happen to her. But she was ready for anything. After all, they were in a death game.

Chapter 230 - His Life Before

(This happens 10 days before the Gods' Impact came into existence.)

In the real world. It was early in the morning.

"Check. Mr. Droid's order, check. Ms. Jia's order is done. Tir's Order, check."

Zach was in his family shop— the bakery, and confirming all the orders they had to complete today.

"Hmm...." Zach turned to his little sister Zoe and said, "I don't see Mr. Hiem's order."

"Umm... is Mr. Hiem the bald man?" Zoe asked awkwardly.

"Yeah..."

"I think he canceled his order two days ago when you weren't here," Zoe responded.

"I see..." Zach glanced around the shop and said, "I already prepared the dough for it..."

"Oh..."

"It will go to waste if I don't make anything..." Zach sighed.

"Zach, Zach. Can I make shaped bread?" Zoe asked curiously with an excited look on her face.

"I would usually say, 'You shouldn't waste food like that', but I guess you can do that today," Zach replied with a soft chuckle. "Alright. I will fill the shelves in the meantime. You can do whatever you want."

"Yay!" Zoe chirped joyfully.

A few minutes later, Zoe came back with a plate in her hand that was covered with a lid.

"Zach. I made three shaped-breads. And I will ask you to guess them. Are you ready?" she said with a smile on her face.

"Not now, Zoe. I am arranging the shelves," Zach responded without looking back.

Zoe patiently waited until Zach was done, and then asked him the same thing again.

"Are you ready?"

"Yeah."

Zoe placed the plate on the table and took out the first shaped-bread. She showed it to Zach and asked, "What is this?"

Zach looked at the bread for a while and said, "Uhhh... that's a lizard, right?"

Zoe furrowed her brows and said, "It's a western dragon!"

"Oh... but it looks like a lizard..."

The shapes looked similar as they were flat-shaped bread.

"Nevermind." Zoe showed him the second bread and asked, "What's this?"

Zach pondered for a while after looking at the bread and thought of various things.

"Is it a... snake?" Zach wondered with a hesitant smile on his face.

Zoe frowned her face and said, "It's an eastern dragon!"

"Oh, come on~!" Zach groaned and said, "This is so confusing!"

Zoe glared at Zach and said, "You better get the last one right, otherwise..."

"Oh?" Zach raised his brow in amusement and asked, "Otherwise, what?"

"I will..." Zoe stuttered as she thought of something that could scare Zach.

Zach smacked Zoe on the head and said, "It's too early for you to threaten me."

Zoe showed the third bread to Zach and waited for Zach to guess it.

"Heh!" Zach smirked and uttered with a smug look on his face, as though he had recognized the third bread.

"Not bad, Zoe. But there is no way I am getting this one wrong," he uttered with a proud face.

"Haha!" he laughed out loud, seemingly thinking it was too easy to guess. Then, he said, "That's a demon."

"..." Zoe stared at Zach in disbelief and shook her head with a sigh.

"Wait... did I get it wrong...?" Zach asked with an awkward smile on his face.

Zoe puffed her cheeks without answering Zach's question. And that was enough for Zach to realize that he guessed it wrong.

"But how?" Zach asked with a confused look on his face and pointed his finger at the third bread. "No matter how you look at it, it's a face with two horns on the head. And only demons have that..."

Zoe puffed her cheeks even more and muttered, "It's a bunny."

"What in the—!" Face facepalmed himself and said, "The first two were fantasy creatures, so why would you choose the third one as a bunny? No matter what you say, you are the one at the fault here."

"I am not!" Zoe retorted. "It's because you are too stupid to understand!"

Zach furrowed his brows and moved his hand towards Zoe to smack her on the head.

"Ahem!" However, he was interrupted by the customer in the shop.

Zach turned to the customers and his eyes widened as though he knew the customers.

"Hey, Leona...."

It was a middle-aged woman, who was dressed nicely. She was wearing sunglasses and a red scarf to cover her head.

"You two are fighting early in the morning, huh?" Leon asked with a soft scoff.

"Of course not. I was just going to smack some sense to her. Mother has been spoiling her too much, so she needs to be disciplined," Zach responded in a calm voice.

"Kayden and Misha are the exact opposite of you two," Leon stated. "While I do understand they are step-siblings, so there would be a certain limit between them, but it would be nice to see them get along as they used to when they were kids."

Leona was Misha's mother and Kayden's stepmother.

'Well, that's because Kayden has been trying to court her since we started high school,' Zach uttered inwardly. 'I had warned Kayden to not do it, or it would make things awkward between them, and that's what happened.'

"What brings you here, Misha's mother?" Zoe asked with an innocent smile on her face.

"Umm... is Erza awake yet? I am here to call her for the monthly colony meeting," Leon responded in a calm voice.

"Yes, she is awake! I will go call her!" Zoe said as she rushed out of the room.

"Wear your school uniform too!" Zach shouted. "We are getting late."

"Okay!"

A few minutes later, Erza walked into the shop and said, "Zach. Zoe told me you were eating pastries..."

'That little—!' Zach exhaled sharply and said, "She is lying."

"What, did you two fight again?" Ezra asked with a knowing look on her face.

"Of course, not. How could I ever raise my hand or voice against my cute little sister?"

"..."

"Erza. Are you ready?" Leona quipped. "We are already late."

"Ah! Yes. Let me grab my purse."

"So.... mother..." Zach called out to Erza and said, "Should I close the shutter?"

"Just close it half. The meeting should end in an hour or so, so it's alright," Erza answered.

A few seconds later, Zoe came, and then they left for the school.