

## **GODS' IMPACT 281**

### Chapter 281 On Top of Ninia

When Zach fell on top of Ninia, Ninia took all the impact of falling. And Zach felt the softness of Ninia's body. It was softer than he had imagined or ever felt, even more than Aurora, Aria, Victoria, Aquarius, or Ruli.

However, Zach wasn't sure if that was due to his body being stiff, or because of the impact of falling on top of Ninia that he felt more softness since his fall was cushioned by her body.

Either way, Zach wanted to get up immediately because something else was getting up inside him.

"I am sorry...." Zach apologized and tried to get up, but he was too weak to move his body.

"You shouldn't have tried to move," Ninia said. "I applied special healing on your body that would make your body paralyze for an hour. And there are still 5 minutes left for the effect to end."

"What type of healing paralyzes someone!"

"Normally, no one would be able to raise even a finger, and I am surprised that you were able to get up and even walk." Ninia smiled innocently at Zach and said, "As expected of my Lord."

'Stop smiling at me like that!' Zach tried his best to move aside, but it was all in vain. He ended up losing the strength in his hands and his fell dropped on Ninia's marshmallow-like breasts.

"...!"

Normally, Zach would have been delighted after getting his face buried into someone's breasts, but in his current situation, couldn't help but panic.

'She smells so nice, and goddammit! I need to move, otherwise, Ninia would realize I got hard after feeling her body.'

Zach didn't want to be hated by his first follower, so he slowly moved his face up to look at Ninia, only to find her staring at him with a confused look on her face.

"Uhh... can you move my body to the side? This is a rather uncomfortable position..." Zach said in a calm voice and tried his best to act normal.

"I am trying, but you are... a little too heavy for me to rush you back..." Ninia said with a flushed face.

'Why is she blushing? Why is she blushing?! Did she feel my little brother poking her?!' Zach panicked, but then he recalled all his moments with Ninia and calmed down.

'It's okay Zach, she always blushes. There is nothing to worry about.'

Ninia placed her hand on Zach's shoulder and helped him lift his face from her breasts, but when she looked at Zach's face, she smiled at him and started crying.

"What's wrong? Why are you crying?" Zach asked with a concerned look on his face.

'Did she actually realize that my little brother was poking her?' Zach thought to himself and opened his mouth to say something, but Ninia hugged him tightly and pulled him close.

Zach's face was once again buried between Ninia's soft and big breasts, and this time he was unable to move.

"What are you doing?!" Zach asked as he struggled to break free from Ninia's hug, even though deep down, he was enjoying it.

"I was so worried when Aria and Victoria brought you here! I was so scared when I saw your demon sigil and I started doubting my faith..." Ninia said with teary eyes.

"..."

"But then I realized that my faith in you was more than my fear. I don't care who or what you are, you will always be my Lord, no matter what happens."

Zach was genuinely touched by Ninia's words. He wanted to show his appreciation to her because Zach was able to achieve godhood because of her.

"Ninia... let me go..." Zach's voice was muffled because his face was buried under Ninia's breasts.

CREAK!

As soon as Zach heard the sound of the door opening, he felt as though his soul left his body. Without even looking at the door, Zach knew very well what he was going to see.

Still, when he looked at the door and saw Aria and Victoria standing in the doorway with lifeless glares in their eyes, Zach couldn't help but hear boss music in his mind.

He gulped down and said, "I know you are expecting me to say 'It's not what it looks like'. But it's really not what it looks like."

Aria looked at Ninia's hands that were wrapped around Zach's neck and realized he was telling the truth.

"Let him go," Aria uttered in a cold voice.

Ninia let go of Zach and said, "I was simply helping him get up."

Victoria helped Zach to move from the top of Ninia. While Aria stood in front of Ninia and said, "There are more players waiting at the entrance. Go heal them."

Ninia puffed her cheeks and asked in a low voice: "Can't you heal them...?"

"It's your job to heal people!"

"Hmph!" Ninia purposely bumped into Aria's shoulder and walked out of the room.

"Why were you so rude to her? She is such a nice and sweet girl," Zach said to Aria.

"You have no idea how sly she is," Aria sighed and stared at her with a judging look on her face.

"What?"

Aria then moved her gaze down and looked at Zach's crotch. She could clearly see the bulge in Zach's pants.

"..." She shook her head in disbelief and said, "Unbelievable."

Victoria followed Aria's gaze and noticed the same thing. But she didn't look disgusted as Aria was. Instead, she touched Zach's crotch with her leg and felt his hard snake.

"It's really hard..." Victoria muttered with a flushed face.

"Did you seriously get horny after a nun?" Aria asked in disbelief. "She is your first follower, and she is a nun. A nun!"

"Come on, you can't blame me for that." Zach groaned with a sigh. "This is the most normal reaction if a boy gets his face buried in big and soft breasts. And it's not like it's under my control to get hard. It just happens."

"I can counter that with so many comments, but you woke up after three days and I don't want to make a drama, so let's save this talk for later."

Chapter 282 Lovers' Affection

Aria fell to her knees and hugged Zach tightly without saying anything.

"..." Victoria also did the same and hugged Zach.

"I was so worried!" Aria said.

"We are sleeping in the same room from now on!" — Victoria.

Zach hugged Victoria and Aria back with a smile on his face and enjoyed the hug.

"Just letting you girls know that I can feel your boobs hitting on my chest," Zach said with a grin on his face.

"We are doing that on purpose," they both said in unison.

"Then press even more, please..."

After the short hug, Aria and Victoria looked at Zach and jumped on him to kiss him, but Ninia walked into the room and interrupted them.

"What are you two doing?!" she yelled at Aria and Victoria. "My Lord still needs to rest, so stop troubling him!"

Ninia separated Aria and Victoria from Zach and said, "You are not allowed to see him until I give you permission."

"I have had enough!" Aria's face twitched in anger, and she glared at Ninia with a furious look on his face. "Who are you to tell me when to meet him?"

"I am his first follower!"

"I am his wife! You have no right to interfere in our business!"

"Yeah!" Victoria seconded Aria.

"Calm down, you two." Zach quipped. "Ninia is just worried about me. Don't fight like that."

Aria glared at Zach because she thought he was taking Ninia's side in the argument.

"Whoa! What's with that glare? I am just saying that there is no need to fight." Zach turned to Ninia and said, "And Ninia, I am honestly fine. There is no need to worry about me."

Ninia bit her lips and said, "if you say so..."

"Now, can any of you help me to stand up? I still can't move my body fully."

Victoria grabbed Zach's hand and helped him get up, but Zach's legs were still numb, so he had no control over where his body would move.

Victoria glanced at Ninia from the corner of her eyes and smirked at her, before pulling Zach close to her and falling on the bed with him. Just like how Zach had tripped and fallen on Ninia a few minutes ago, he fell on top of Victoria, but on the bed.

Since they fell on the bed, the impact was cushioned and neither of them felt any pain.

"..." Victoria wrapped her arms around Zach's neck and smiled at him before staring into his eyes and saying, "Do you remember the exact same thing that has happened before?"

Zach smiled back at Victoria and kissed her on the lips. Then, he placed his forehead on her forehead and said, "How can I forget that."

Zach and Victoria were referring to the time when they were still dating and decided to have sex for the first time. Since Victoria's parents weren't home, they decided to do it in Victoria's room.

But unlike Zach, Victoria was nervous, and she was having second thoughts. She decided to calm herself down by taking a bath, but Zach thought she was planning to run away, so he grabbed her hand to ask her if she was alright. Due to that, Victoria's leg slipped, and she ended up tripping.

Zach tried to save her from hitting on the ground, so he hugged her and took damage. Of course, it didn't hurt Zach as it was only a normal fall for Zach, but Victoria was scared.

She felt responsible for it and started crying, and while comforting her, one thing led to another, and they did the deed.

"I wonder if it would have turned out differently if we were as honest and open with our feelings as we are now," Victoria asked.

"Maybe..."

Zach kissed Victoria again and moved his hand to her chest.

"Ahem!" Aria cleared her throat and said, "Don't forget that we are still here."

Aria didn't seem bothered by Zach and Victoria's flirting, but Ninia looked upset.

'Even though I was the one who took care of him the most...' she uttered inwardly.

GROWL~!

Zach's stomach suddenly growled.

"Uhh..." Zach turned to Aria and Ninia and said, "I haven't eaten or drank anything in three days, can we go to a restaurant and eat something?"

"Sure," Aria nodded.

Zach glanced around to look for his clothes, but he couldn't find them anywhere.

"Umm... where are my clothes?" he asked Aria and Victoria.

"They should be here in the room..." Aria and Victoria also glanced around to look for Zach's clothes.

"Weird..."

Aria turned to Ninia to ask her if she knew, but Ninia averted her gaze in response, and that was enough for Aria to realize what happened to Zach's clothes.

Ninia had taken Zach's clothes to her chamber, and she used them to sniff, so she could feel Zach was sleeping next to her. No one knew about it, and even she had no idea why she was doing something like that.

'I am seriously worried about Zach and Ninia's relationship. With how things are going right now, it might turn into a taboo relationship between a God and his first follower...' Aria uttered inwardly.

"Well, whatever. Give me a few minutes, I will conjure new clothes."

"Okay."

Aria, Ninia, and Victoria left the room.

Zach was smiling when he was with the girls, but as soon as they left the room, his smile vanished and his face became lifeless again.

He still couldn't get over the nightmarish memory he saw. But he knew he had to move on.



He took a deep breath and slapped himself on the cheeks to get his thoughts straight. He then opened his menu to equip new clothes, but he looked at his notifications and saw he had received over 1000 messages from Aurora.

"...!"

Zach opened them and skimmed through the messages.

"Oh, shit...!"

He immediately opened the portal to Aria's domain and rushed in to meet Aurora.

Chapter 283 Meeting Aurora

Zach opened the portal to Aria's domain and walked in before closing it again. He rushed to the throne and saw that Aurora was on the edge of the throne, as though she was trying to jump down.

"...!"

Zach immediately rushed to the throne, but Aurora slipped and fell down. Luckily, Zach got there in time and caught her in his arms.

"Are you an idiot? What were you trying to do?!" Zach yelled at Aurora. "You know you can't even move your body properly, yet you were trying to jump off the throne! What if something had happened to you?! What if I hadn't come?! What were you even thinking?!"

Aurora stared at Zach with a dumbfounded look on her face, but her eyes suddenly got teary, and she started crying.

"I wanted to see you..." she said while crying.

"How were you planning to see me? You have no power to open the portal!"

"Aria informed me just now that you have woken up, so I knew you would come to meet me..."

"So you wanted to greet me at the portal, yeah?" Zach asked with a knowing look on his face.

"Yes..."

SIGH!

Zach jumped and landed on the throne. He placed Aurora on his lap and said, "You are seriously an idiot..."

"I missed you so so much..." Aurora said as she snuggled on Zach's lap.

After Zach had fallen into slumber and Aria and Victoria took him to church, Aurora sent a message to Zach to ask him where he was coming to meet her. But Zach didn't reply.

She assumed that he must be busy with something, so she waited for a few hours before finally messaging Aria and Victoria.

At first, they didn't know what to respond because they had already decided not to tell her anything as she could freak out, and there was no way to visit her to calm her down as neither of them had access to Aria's domain.

However, they said they would eventually have to reply to her as she would freak out more if she didn't receive any response from any of them.

So Victoria decided to chat with her and slowly revealed everything to her in a way that Aurora wouldn't get anxious.

Aurora asked them a few questions and then asked them to take care of Rudy. She told them that she was alright, but in reality, she wasn't.

Just like they were worried about making Aurora anxious, Aurora was also concerned about the same for them.

While snuggling Zach, Aurora looked into his eyes and bit her lips. They looked lifeless to him as though they had seen tragedies and hiding sadness behind them.'

'His eyes and the expression on his face look the same as they were when I met him for the first time in front of the dungeon, although he said that it wasn't him, I think I am sure it was him...'

"What's wrong? Why are you staring at me like that?" Zach asked with a grin on his face. "Did my handsomeness make you fall in love with me even more?"

Aurora knew Zach was trying to hide his pain behind his smile and acting normally as though nothing had happened. She wanted to know the reason behind Zach's sadness so she could cry together with him, but she didn't want to ask Zach to say it.

"You yelled at me, and now you are flirting with me..." Aurora said in a low voice.

"I only yelled at you because you were trying to do something stupid," Zach stated nonchalantly. "And even if Milo was here on the ground to catch you, that was still a stupid move."

"I already said I wanted to meet you!"

"Right now, the only thing you need to meet is your daily rest quota." Zach stroked Aurora's hair and said, "Sleep."

"Can't we talk for a while?" she asked with puppy eyes.

"What do you want to talk about? There is nothing interesting going on outside, though..."

Aurora turned her face to the side and muttered, "How about telling me why you look so sad..."

"..." Zach looked at Aurora with a surprised look on his face. But he smiled with a soft chuckle and said, "I can't hide anything from you, after all."

"What do you expect? I have known you for the longest than any other girl. I can't tell when you are sad or worried just by having one glance at your face...."

"I will tell you everything... but first, look me in the eyes..." Zach said in a calm voice.

Aurora looked into Zach's eyes and stared at him with a gentle smile on her face.

"So after I fell into the slumber, I woke up... or rather, I saw a memory from a different perspective where..." Zach told Aurora everything.

She quietly listened without interrupting Zach even though she had so many questions to ask.

After a few minutes, Zach finally finished telling everything to Aurora. In the end, he said, "After everything ended, darkness enveloped me, and I woke up."

"So your father knew he would die in the battle, and that's why he wanted you to learn the cause of his death?" Aurora asked with a curious look on her face.

"I think so...?"

"So can I ask why you used to think your father died in a natural disaster all this time even though you witnessed his death with your eyes when you were a kid?"

"I didn't remember what happened that day. The last thing I remembered was that I got angry at my father and went to my room. Then mother came with Zoe to have a talk with me, but I didn't listen to her and took Zoe from her."

"And while talking with Zoe, I fell asleep. Everything was blank after that, and I don't remember anything, so I always thought he died in a natural disaster. My trauma probably erased that memory."

Chapter 284 Future Plan | Zach's Next Move

"As for Zoe, she was only one year old, so she didn't understand what was happening, but she remembered everything. And as she grew up, she realized what had happened that day."

"It seems she is a smart girl."

"She is. Her IQ is probably more than me, and her soul powers are definitely more than me even though she is still ten years old... or maybe 11..."

"Why, though? Aren't you the older one?" Aurora asked curiously.

"Well... she awakened her soul powers when she was not even a year old. So that naturally boosted her growth from the start. And her soul is a reincarnation... or rather, her soul contains a fragment of an ancient being, so... yeah, she is blessed too."

Aurora pondered for a while and then asked, "So let's say she is on the same level of strength as you—"

"Uhh.. no. I am stronger than her. She only has more soul powers, and that's just like having a fancy purse, but there is nothing in it," Zach quipped to defend his dominance.

"Okay... I was just giving an example." Aurora cleared her throat and continued, "If she is so smart and strong at the age of 11, she will become stronger than you when she reaches adulthood, am I right?"

"I am not sure." Zach shrugged and said, "She could be, or maybe not."

Aurora squinted her eyes at Zach and asked with a judging look on her face, "Are you jealous of her?"

"No."

"You replied instantly... almost as if you had already expected me to ask this question..."

"Listen, the thing is... some entities want Zoe to become the pillar of the mortal realm— which is the world we live in." After a brief pause, Zach continued, "Now before you ask 'What are the pillars?', I will answer you myself."

"..."

"Pillars are the protectors of the realm. They make rules and laws that every being has to abide by. Although now it's only applicable to those who are aware of them, such as people like me and others who possess powers."

"What happens if someone breaks the rules?" Aurora asked curiously.

"They get punished, duh!"

"Then wouldn't they purposefully stay oblivious of the laws and the rules? If they don't know them, they can't break them... right?"

Zach nodded and sighed in response.

"So they want your sister to become a pillar to protect the world from... whatever?"

"Yeah. There are 12 pillars in total, and my father was one of them," Zach stated. "Lyda was also one of them, but she retired, and father was selected as one."

"Oh!" Aurora suddenly exclaimed and said, "So they want your sister to take your father's position?"

"Yeah, and I will try my best to stop that. I am not letting my sister end the same fate as fathers and the other pillars..." Zach uttered in a solemn voice as he recalled the promise he made to Zoe 10 days before Gods' Impact occurred.

"But can't they make you one.... I mean... if you are interested... if not..."

"If I become one, I wouldn't be able to spend time with you girls..."

Aurora hugged Zach and said, "I take that back!"

"Heh!" Zach scoffed softly and stroked Aurora's hair as he continued, "I want to free the other 11 pillars too."

"Did they not become a pillar because they wanted to?"

"No.." Zach shook his head and said, "Their predecessor selects them, and they were selected by theirs..."

"This is the same as Aquarius... right? She is forced to become the Sea Goddess, and she has no choice but to accept that..." Aurora uttered in a low voice.

"Yeah. And I plan to change all that. I will free everyone from their roles and let them do whatever they want. I will break the order and make a new one, a better one... Zach uttered in a solemn voice.

"How do you plan to do that?"

"Firstly, I will have to get strong, and for that, I will have to gather more followers. The more the people worship me, the higher my soul powers would become. And I need an abundant amount of soul powers to use my blessings," Zach asserted.

To use his blessings, Zach needed to use soul powers. But it wasn't as though he wouldn't be able to use his blessings without the soul powers. He would still be able to use them, but the blessings would suck out his life source without any soul powers, which was not a great way to use blessings.

The same thing happened with Aurora when she used Lyda's blessings with skills, which drained her life force. Luckily, Lyda managed to save her in the nick of the moment.

"What was that form you manifested when you returned from the dungeon expedition? Your hands and hair were on fire..."

"That was the result of Phoenix's blessings," Zach responded in a calm voice.

"Xie Lua's blessings, am I right?" Aurora grinned and said, "Let's call your form— Phoenix Mode."

"That also reminds me of something I need to ask her."

"Your gloves?"

"That too. But I want to ask her about what exactly happened that day. And why did the sun god attack us? Even if father was planning to attack the heavens, his life wasn't in danger, so why did he interfere?"

Aurora placed her hand on Zach's cheek and said, "You should take it slowly. I don't want you to stress out and make wrong choices."

Zach grabbed Aurora's hand and kissed it before saying, "I have already made plans on what I am going to do next."

"What...?" Aurora asked hesitantly, seemingly afraid of knowing the answer.

"Revenge..."

"On the sun god...?"

"On the hell..."

"Hmmm?"



Zach looked at Aurora's body and smiled wryly as he said, "They are the ones responsible for your current situation."

"But the demon invasion ended already. And you already killed all the demons who invaded this realm..." Aurora uttered in a low voice, seemingly confused.

"Those demons were mere pawns, puppets sent by their leader— the demon king. I am going to find a way to open that crack again and invade hell."

"...!"

"I am going to slay the demon king!"

## Chapter 285 Eating After Three Days

"Slay the demon... king? Aurora stuttered. "You don't have to do that for me!"

Naturally, just like any lover, Aurora didn't want Zach to do something reckless when she didn't even know how strong the demon king was.

"I am not doing this only for you. I have other plans too," Zach stated in a solemn voice.

"And that is...?"

"It's... nevermind," Zach sighed. "That's the only reason."

Zach pulled Aurora's cheek and said, "Okay, I will be leaving now. Aria and the girls are waiting for me."

"Hmm..."

"What's wrong?"

"I want to spend more time with you, but I understand you need to leave. So I will wait for you to come back tomorrow," She said with a gentle smile on her face.

Zach smiled back at her and said, "I will create essence pills tonight and bring them to you tomorrow."

"Hmm.."

Zach placed Aurora on the throne from his lap and prepared to jump, but Aurora grabbed his clothes and looked at him with an alluring gaze in her eyes.

"..."

Zach didn't know what to do. He wanted to spend more time with Aurora, but he was already getting late.

"I will come back early tomorrow," he said calmly.

"That's not it..."

"Hmm?"

"Can you... kiss me...?"

"..."

"Please...?" she said with puppy eyes.

"But your jaw and mouth hurt every time you speak, right? And kissing would just make it worse—"

"Please?"

Zach couldn't refuse Aurora if she was making such a cute and innocent face.

"Fine~" he reluctantly agreed.

Aurora smiled and puckered her lips to receive a kiss from Zach while Zach slowly brought his face close to Aurora and sealed her lips with his lips.

Aurora's eyes widened as Zach kissed her, and she felt the pleasure of satisfaction, but that didn't last long when Zach stopped kissing her a few seconds later.

"Happy?" Zach asked.

"Can you do it once more...?"

Zach once again kissed Aurora on the lips, but he made sure to kiss longer this time so Aurora would feel satisfied.

After a minute-long kiss, their lips parted. Zach looked into Aurora's eyes without saying anything. But Aurora's eyes didn't look satisfied.

"One more..." she said.

Zach kissed her for a few more minutes until Aurora fell asleep in Zach's arms. He then stroked her hair and said, "I love you."

After that, Zach jumped and landed beside Milo.

Zach crouched down in front of Milo and patted her head before saying, "Thank you for always taking care of Aurora. If you ever want to leave this place and go to the outside world, you can let me know."

[But if I do that, who would take care of Lady Aurora?] Milo asked.

"You don't have to worry about that. Aurora's condition has recovered a lot, and I don't think it would be a problem if you left her alone for a few hours. Besides, I will be here with her, so there is no need to worry," he stated in a calm voice.

[...] Milo didn't say anything and simply stared at Zach with her pearl-like eyes.

"I don't want you to feel imprisoned here. You are my companion, not my slave." After a brief pause, he continued, "And I may have acted harshly to you in the past, but that was due to my anxiousness regarding Aurora. I didn't want to lose that. So if you ever felt that I was treating you harshly, then I apologize for that."

[No. Never had I thought that, and I never would. You are my master, and you can order me around to do whatever you want. Please, do not feel guilty because there is no need to.]

Zach patted Milo again, but this time, Milo also rubbed her head against Zach's hand. Seemingly, she was enjoying it.

DING!

Zach received a notification, and he knew who it was from without even opening it.

"Okay, I'm leaving now."

[Ummm... master....] Milo called out to Zach.

"Yes?"

[I... umm....] Milo shook her head and said, [It's nothing. I will tell you when the time is right.]

"Okay."

Zach opened the portal and left Aria's domain.

"Look who is here~!" Aria commented after seeing Zach coming out of the chamber.

"We have been waiting for you for nearly 20 minutes, you know?"

"Let's go now."

Zach, Aria, Victoria, and Ninia left the church to go to Zach's favorite restaurant.

At first, Ninia refused to go with them even though she wanted to go, but Zach forced her to. She was delighted after knowing Zach was so thoughtful of her.

She also expected Aria and Victoria to be upset because Zach invited her too, but they didn't seem to mind. That made Ninia realize that they weren't as selfish as she thought they were.

After visiting the restaurant, Zach sat in the corner seat because he didn't want to catch the other player's attention. He knew he would eat a lot since he hadn't eaten or drank anything in three days.

The NPCs were also delighted to see Zach, and some even followed him, but Ninia told them to visit him tomorrow and drove them all away.

"You need to keep a line between your private life and your life as a God," Ninia said to Zach. "You can't please everyone even when you are a god. So please prioritize your own life before others, as there are also people close to you who want to spend time with you."

Ninia uttered that while shooting a glance at Aria and Victoria.

'She acts so innocently and kind when Zach is around...' Victoria uttered inwardly.

The owner himself approached Zach to take orders, but he only used that as an excuse to talk with Zach. He gave the menu to Zach and said, "It's good to see you are awake again."

"Yes. Thank you for your concern." Zach handed the menu back to the owner without even looking at it and said, "Bring all the dishes on the menu."

"...!" Everyone, including the girls and the owner, was surprised to hear that.

"Sure... thing..." the owner said while stuttering and left in a hurry.

That night, Zach gained the title of 'The gluttonous God' among his worshippers.

## Chapter 286 Ninia's Devotion

Aria and Victoria looked at Zach with a judging look on their faces but didn't say anything.

After noticing they were staring at him, Zach asked, "What?"

"You do know that there are over 180 items served in this restaurant, right?" Victoria asked with a knowing look on her face.

"I do."

"And are you certain that you can eat all of them by yourself?" Aria asked with a judging look on her face.

"Who said I am eating alone? You girls are eating with me, right?"

"No, we already ate a while ago," Victoria responded.

"...!"

"Stop teasing him like that!" Ninia hissed and glared at Aria and Victoria. She turned to Zach and said, "Don't worry, my Lord. They are lying. "

"Thank you, Ninia. You are the best," Zah said with a smile on her face.

Ninia's face flushed after hearing that, and she averted her gaze

"..." Aria shook her head in belief and thought, 'I have no idea whether he is doing this on purpose, or he is simply trying to be kind to her.'

After 10 minutes, once by one, the dishes started to arrive.

Zach suggested the girls to eat a tiny portion of all the dishes so they could taste everything and still fill their stomachs. But after around 30 dishes, Ninia was full. After 50 dishes, Victoria was full. And after 69 dishes, Aria was full.

Zach spent nearly 5 hours eating 180 dishes, and he ordered some of them twice. Not only that, he ordered drinks and asked them to create a dish that wasn't on the menu.

The chefs and the owner were troubled as they had no idea what dish Zach was referring to. But they couldn't dare to tell that to Zach as that would be similar to going against their God's wishes.

They didn't want to disappoint their God, but they had a way to please him, either.

Victoria noticed that and said, "They might not know how to make it. So I will go help them, can I?"

"Don't you want to eat more...?"

"I am already full," she responded.

"Then... sure, I guess?"

Victoria smiled at Zach and said, "I will cook the best dish you have ever had."

'I don't think you can compare it with Aurora's cooking,' Zach uttered inwardly.

Victoria squinted her eyes and asked, "I bet you just compared me with Aurora, didn't you?"

"Out of habit... but don't worry, I might compare, but I will never judge."

Victoria left with the owner, who showed her the way to the kitchen.



'Victoria just stole a spotlight for tonight...' Aria looked conflicted. She also wanted Zach's praise.

After pondering for a few seconds, Aria got up from her seat and said, "I will go help her as well."

"..."

After saying that, she left.

Zach had eaten Aria's cooking many times, and he knew that she was good at cooking. Deep down, he wanted to eat Aurora, Aria, and Victoria's cuisine every day instead of coming to the restaurant.

But he didn't want the girls to feel like he was using them as chefs. He often tried to help them with cooking, but they didn't allow him to enter the kitchen.

'Once Aurora is fully healed, and we all start living together, I will bake a nice cake and get them all to love me ever more!' Zach decided.

Now, Ninia, who was left alone with Zach, began feeling anxious for the same reason as Aria.

'They both have gone to make a dish for him. And as the saying goes, 'The best way to please a man and win his heart is by food'. I have to cook meals for myself every day, so I should be able to help them at least. Even if not, I can contribute and please him.'

Ninia wanted to leave in a way that Zach couldn't feel suspicious of her. She didn't want Zach to doubt her loyalty and mistake her affection even though she hadn't realized that her feelings for Zach had far surpassed any devotion and loyalty.

She wanted to win Zach's heart and get his love and attention, but she thought she wanted it because she yearned to feel special as his first follower. But that wasn't the case as she had constantly been fighting Aria and Victoria for the last three days.

"I will... go check one of them..." she said and left.

"..."

Zach looked at the empty dishes on the table and thought, 'It kind of feels lonely even though they are just in the room next to mine.'

He smiled and muttered, "I have grown so attached to them that I don't think I can survive a day without them now."

A few seconds later, Ninia returned and sat next to Zach while previously she was sitting in front of him.

"What's wrong?" Zach asked curiously.

"It's nothing."

Ninia was on her way to the kitchen, but she turned back. She realized that she was missing a golden opportunity to spend some alone time with him.

Zach glanced at Ninia from the corner of his eyes and couldn't help but move his gaze to her cleavage.

'I should really stop perving after her. It's so wrong and immoral! What's wrong with me?!' he asked himself.

"Say, my Lord..."

"Hmm?"

"Did you.... Umm..." After a brief pause, she looked into Zach's eyes with a flushed face and asked, "Do you like my body?"

"...!"

'What does she mean by that? Did she realize I have been staring at her boobs all this time, even when I was eating?!' Zach panicked.

While Ninia hadn't realized that, Aria had caught Zach a long time ago, and so did Victoria,

"Why... are you asking that...?" he asked nervously.

"I... I personally think my body looks better than Aria and Victoria..."

"Huh?"

"I am talking about my... beauty...."

"Oh! But why are you comparing yourself with them?" Zach asked curiously.

"..."

"Listen, I don't know about girls, and maybe it's common for girls to compare themselves with other girls. But you shouldn't do that. Every girl has their own beauty and specialty, and I respect that deeply. If I ever start comparing them and judging them, I would never be able to look at them with the same thoughts again."

"But..." Ninia turned to Zach and asked with teary eyes: "What else can I do to get your attention?"

Zach was confused at first as he couldn't understand why Ninia was saying all that. But then he realized that Ninia was always alone in the church with only injured players to visit her.

'I guess she is sensitive about that....' Zach smiled at Ninia and patted her head.

'Although I won't be able to meet her for some time once I ascend...'

Ninia took that opportunity to make a move on Zach and hugged him tightly.

".....!"

Zach assumed his kind words made her emotional, but that wasn't the only case.

All this time, Ninia has been comparing herself to Aria and Victoria and trying to be better than them, but now Zach's words made her realize that there was no need to do that.

She used to think she would never be able to win against them, but now she learned that there was no competition between them in the first place.

Chapter 287 Empty Streets | Surprise Attack

After Aria and Victoria came back from the kitchen, they saw Ninia getting touchy with Zach, so they tried to separate her from him.

"Hey! That's my seat! Get off!" Aria yelled at Ninia.

"Your name is not written here, so anyone can sit whenever they want," Ninia commented.

"..." Aria pondered for a while to retort Ninia's comment. "So what? That doesn't change anything. As his wife, I belong to sit beside Zach."

"But you left your seat, so you lose your chance too," Ninia remarked.

"You...!" Aria glared at Ninia and gritted her teeth, but she couldn't say anything to retort Ninia.

She turned to Victoria, hoping she would help her get her seat back, but Victoria couldn't care enough as she didn't lose her seat.

"..."

SIGH!

Aria had no chance but to look at Zach with puppy eyes.

"Well... let her sit for tonight. We are leaving once I finish eating anyway," Zach uttered awkwardly, making Aria more frustrated.

Aria reluctantly sat beside Victoria, where Ninia sat before. She glared at Ninia, only to see her smirking at her from the corner of her lips.

'This nun...! I don't like her. If Zach's religion becomes big, she will become big too. But Zach needs to grow her religion to increase his soul powers, so I have no choice but to accept her.'

Aria and Victoria had left the dish on the stove and instructed the chefs on how to handle it.

"We still haven't found the person who cursed you. But now that you are awake, should we still look for them?" Victoria asked Zach with a curious look on her face.

"Oh, there is no need for that. I know who marked me," Zach responded.

"Who?!" Aria, Victoria, and Ninia asked in unison with the same curious expressions on their faces.

"It was my father. He wanted me to see a memory of the day of the third impact."

"Oh..."

"But why did it activate so randomly?" Aria wondered. "Something must have triggered it."

"I think I know that too.."

"What?!" the girls asked with the same expression on their faces.

"It was time-triggered," Zach responded.

"So.. what was that memory? If you don't mind me asking..." Aria asked.

"So..."

Zach told them everything until the food arrived, but the three girls were too sad and sentimental to eat even though they wanted to taste the dish they made.

Victoria and Aria were curious about the taste and to check how it differed from the real world, while for Ninia, it was her first time seeing that dish.

"Why are you girls crying? Eat some food and relax."

After eating the dish, Zach got up and walked to the counter, and the girls followed him.

There were still a few players in the restaurant eating and talking about their day and life in the game.

"How much for tonight?" Zach asked the owner.

Normally, they would bring the bill to the table, but ever since Zach became their God, they were too afraid to do so.

"There is no need to pay. It's on the house..." the owner replied awkwardly.

"Just tell the amount, please."

"There is no need—"

"If you don't tell, I will stop coming here and go to the other restaurant," Zach threatened, although he only did that so the owner could charge him.

Zach didn't want their business to suffer because of him.

"6969 coins..." the owner responded.

"You better not be adding discounts that can damage your economy, right?"

"No, I am not. I don't want you to stop coming here, so I would never do something you don't want."

Zach opened his menu and sent 7000 coins.

"My Lord... you sent more..." the owner uttered with a confused look on his face.

Since Zach paid through the menu, he could send any amount he wanted, but he sent more.

"You can keep the change." After saying that, Zach left with his girls.

On their way, Aria hugged Zach's arm and asked, "Why are we going back to the church?"

"Hmm?"

"You have recovered now, so we can stay at the inn now," she said.

"Right..." Zach glanced at Ninia, who clearly looked upset about that. "Well... we can stay at the church too, right? It will save us money, and it's closer to the portal too. I also have something to take care of tomorrow morning, so..."

Zach turned to Ninia and asked, "Is there any problem if we stay in the church?"

"No! You are very welcome there!" Ninia replied in a cheerful voice with a wide smile on her face.

Zach glanced at Aria and Victoria and saw them staring at him in disbelief.

"What?"

"Nothing."

Exhausted, they began walking towards the church.

'We didn't see anyone on the streets...' Zach uttered inwardly. 'Well, it's past 2 AM, so no wonder the streets are empty.'

'Still, the empty streets at night without much light other than the moonlight is scary. Come to think of it, I have never been out this late at night.'

Zach looked up at the sky and the moon, which immediately reminded him of Aurora.

'She would have loved to see the stars...'

After walking for a few minutes, they finally reached the church.



Ninia had left the door open, so anyone could come and wait to get healed.

'I wonder if the players still come to the church to get healed at night,' Zach thought. 'But then again, most players are sleeping at this time, so I don't think so. But maybe the players who were in the dungeon or the tower?'

YAWN~

Aria yawned out loud and covered her mouth with her hands, but it was too late.

YAWN~

Ninia and Victoria also yawned after seeing Aria yawn. Zach, however, woke up a few hours ago after a three-day-long slumber, so he wasn't sleepy at all.

Ninia smiled at Zach and said, "I will rest for a while."

"Don't worry, take a long—!"

Zach immediately equipped a sword and cut the fire -arrow launched at Ninia. He glared in the dark corner of the church and yelled furiously:

"Come out, and I will give you a painless death!"

Chapter 288 Forbidden Players

After Zach and the girls reached the church and bid each other good night, someone shot a fire-arrow at Ninia, but fortunately, Zach managed to cut it down and stop it from hitting Ninia.

"Come out before I chop you into pieces!" Zach yelled furiously.

However, instead of surrendering, the attacker started firing more arrows at Zah and Ninia. But, the arrow wasn't as powerful as Zach thought.

Even if it had hit Ninia, she would have barely lost any HP.

'Why would someone try to attack like this if they are so weak?' he thought. 'Or maybe because they are weak, they are using such cowardly ways to attack?'

Zach couldn't care less about any of that. He rushed to the corner and swung his sword, but he stopped when he saw blood on the floor.

"..."

He lit a fire on his finger and saw a male teenager standing there with a bow and arrow in his hand. And there was an injured girl who looked around the same age as the boy.'

"Stay away! I will kill you!" the boy said.

Zach turned to Ninia and said, "Can you heal the girl while I deal with this boy?" Ninia nodded in response.

Zach grabbed the boy from his collar and dragged him out of the church.

"Stop! Let me go!" the boy yelled.

Zach threw the boy to the ground and asked, "What were you doing? And how did that girl get injured?"

"Shut up! That has nothing to do with you!" the boy yelled.

Zach swung his sword and barely missed the boy's head, but of course, he only did that to scare the boy.

"Next time, I won't miss it. So you better start speaking if you don't want to see your head rolling on the ground," he threatened the boy, although what he said didn't make sense.

"My friend and I were sleeping in the garden, but we were attacked by a player. My friend was able to save me in time, but she got injured. So we decided to head towards the church, and when the attacker realized it, he stopped chasing after us."

'An attacker? It's not surprising as this happens a lot in the real world too, but seriously..?' Zach was in utter disbelief.

"My friend was constantly bleeding, and her HP was going down rapidly. But we were worried as we were just a few steps away from the church," the boy uttered with tears in his eyes.

"...."

A few seconds later, the boy started crying and continued, "But when we got here, no one was there. I called out for the nun, but no one responded. My friend also passed out due to excessive blood loss, and I had no idea what to do."

Zach pondered for a while and asked, "And you assumed we were attackers, so you started shooting arrows?"

The boy nodded while wiping his tears.

'Ninia wasn't wearing her nun outfit, so he must have thought we were...'

"Why were you sleeping in the garden?" Zach asked with a curious yet calm look on his face.

"We... don't have enough money to rent a room in the inn..." the boy uttered in a low voice as though he was ashamed to say that.

"Why... do you not have money? Naturally, you should have enough money by now since you are in the first realm..." Zach raised his brow with an amused look on his face and asked, "Wait a minute. How old are you?"

"I am seventeen, and my friend is eighteen..." the boy replied while averting his gaze.

Zach raised his sword and said, "Don't lie!"

The boy gulped down and said, "I am 13, and my friend is... 14..."

"What in the actual fuck are you doing in this game?!"

The minimum legal age to play a VR game was fifteen, which also varied from country to country, and the VR games were limited too, as most of them were R-17. So a 13-year-old shouldn't even be near a VR game.

Even if Zach had never played a VR game before, he still knew the basic things, and VR games were also a daily debate in the news, so that was inevitable.

'13 year old?!' Zach exclaimed inwardly. 'He is just a kid. A kid!'

Zach was furious, not at the kids but at their irresponsible parents, who allowed them to play the game.

"How did you get your hands on a VR set and game?"

'Even if somehow they managed to get in the VR headset, they still shouldn't be able to play any game. The VR headsets use biometric authentication to log into the games. So if they did get access to the VR game, they would need a new account to play, and most of the games ask for real-life identity information. I also had to submit them to the counter when I entered the VR center.'

'Could it be that the gods even pulled the souls of the players who were only wearing the VR headset? That's just stupid and... and a dick move!'

Zach glared at the boy and asked, "Answer me. How did you get your hands on the game?"

"My... cousin had a VR set. And my friend's sister had one too. We both go to the same school, so we decided to play a game together since our exams had ended and the summer holidays had started. We didn't know anything about the games, so we did what we saw in the video on the internet. And then... we were here," the boy responded with a dejected look on his face.

Zach crouched down and moved his head to pat the boy, but he stopped midway and pulled his hand back.

"Don't worry, your friend is safe," he said in a calm voice.

"Really?!"

"Yes."

"Thank you! Thank you so much!" the boy chirped with a smile on his face, but his smile soon vanished as he averted his gaze and muttered, "But I don't have money..."

"It's okay."

'While they might not have logged in to any game, I doubt they had money in their bank accounts or, better yet, whether they have linked it to the game or not.'

Chapter 289 Bamboozled

Zach heard a sniffing sound, so he glanced at the boy, only to see him crying again.

"Why are you crying now? Everything is alright."

"We have nowhere to go. We have no money, and we can't even fight.." the boy cried.

"Just curious, but how did you manage to ascend to the first realm?" Zach asked calmly.

"We completed quests that gave us EXP and coins. And then we trained our physique by clearing the first five floors of the dungeon over and over again for weeks," the boy replied in a calm voice.

Even though his voice was calm, Zach could feel the pain and the suffering the boy, and the girl must have experienced.

"How many times did you clear the first five floors of the dungeon?"

"More than ten thousand times..."

"Building physique is the toughest thing in this game. And it's very challenging, especially for a kid like you."

Zach patted the boy's head and said, "You should be proud of yourself. You were able to survive so far alone with no one's help. That's admirable, you know?"

"And the first five floors of the dungeon are subjectively hard. I myself have struggled on the fifth floor, and you are just a kid," Zach then continued.

"Really?" the boy asked with teary eyes.

"Yeah, you are awesome."

"But aren't you super strong? I saw you fighting in the garden the other day. Even though your opponents were higher level than you and had overpowered skills, you easily defeated them!" the boy said with respect in his eyes for Zach.

"Yeah..."

"Can I become like you one day?" he asked curiously.

Zach stroked the boy's hair and said, "Of course, you can."

"Can you tell me what to do to become strong like you?!"

"You just have to—" Zach stopped his words after seeing his reflection in the boy's eyes.

The conversation reminded him of his argument with Munbeta and Cindy in the dungeon expedition, where he said he wasn't someone lucky or strong from the start. He claimed to have worked hard and also said that anyone could become like him if they worked hard enough.

But now, Zach was doubting his words; he was having second thoughts.

Sure, he was trained to death by his father when he was a kid, and that played an important role in his life. However, that wasn't the only thing.

There were chances that he would have never met Aria if he hadn't gone beyond the fifth floor. If he hadn't met Aria, he wouldn't have gotten her blessing, which would have resulted in his slow growth.

There would have been another player who reached floor ten and entered Aria's domain, and maybe that player would have gotten her blessings.

With the series of events, one after another, Zach became what he was today, or so he used to think. But he knew that no one would be able to become like him, even if they tried.

'What if I lie to the kid and give him false hope? What if he ends up doing something stupid that could endanger his life? I don't want to see more people dying on me. Even if I didn't know them personally or had any connection with them, no one deserves to die without reason. But is a reason enough to die? Is it more important than a person's life?'

"Please tell me! What do I have to do to become like you?!" the boy asked again with his utmost sincerity.

Zach smiled wryly at the boy and said, "First, you take care of yourself and your friends. Second, you think of the consequences before making any action. And third, it's okay to lose sometimes, and it's also okay to run away sometimes. Always remember, what matters the most is staying alive. Losing or running away might make you smaller, and you might even lose respect from some people, but at least you would be alive to earn their respect again."

"Wow~" The boy's eyes glittered with respect for Zach. He smiled at him and said, "Thank you, master Zach!"

"Don't call me master..."

The boy knew Zach's name because he had already heard it many times, and he could also see the name in Zach's nametag.

"What's your name?" Zach asked the boy.

The boy had a nickname set to 'Hero of Light', so Zach could only see that, not his name.

"My name is Noah! Noah Astafolio!"

"Astafolo...?" Zach muttered and thought, 'Is it coincidence?'

"What's your father's name?"

"Reed Astafolo."

"What's your mother's name?"



"Hannah..."

Zach pondered for a while and asked, "Do you have any siblings?"

"No," Noah shook his head.

"Can you show me your profile?" Zach asked in a calm voice.

"Sure!"

The boy opened his menu and showed his stats to Zach.

[Level 10]

Zach read Noah's stats and thought, 'Nothing extraordinary. Just what you would expect from a level10 player.'

"How are my stats?! Are they good?!"

"..." Zach raised his brows after looking at Noah's coins and asked, "You said you received coins after completing the quests, right?"

"Yes."

"Why do you not have any coins? Did you use them on your gear or something?"

"Well..." Noah averted his gaze and refused to talk.

"What is it?"

"After... Elina and I ascended, we knew that we wouldn't be able to get strong, so we decided to join a party, but everyone turned us down. Then, a party of 7 members approached us and asked us to join their party."

'I can already guess where this is going.' Zach facepalmed himself after already predicting the story and rubbed his face in frustration.

"We were desperate to join a party, so we agreed, but they said there was a charge to join their party, and they asked us to give all the money we had. We didn't have much choice since no one was taking us to their party, so we gave them all our money, and they took us to the dungeon raid."

After a brief pause, Noah continued, "But then they said they forgot something and will be back in a few minutes. We waited for them, but they never returned."

Chapter 290 Sense of Justice

"Did you tell them or give them anything else?" Zach asked with a gentle smile on his face, but he was hiding his anger behind his smile.

"They asked to check our equipment, but we only had the default ones. And... we also told them that we were 13 and 14 years old..."

'So they robbed them even after knowing their age?' Zach thought, 'The attack on them earlier also might be one of them.'

"We purposely skipped meals sometimes and slept outside to save the coins to buy a good weapon..."

Zach patted Noah and said, "It's late. Let's go inside the church. I will arrange a place for you to sleep."

Zach took Noah inside the church where the girls were waiting for him.

As soon as they both entered the church, Zach made eye contact with Ninia and asked her in a gesture, to which Ninia responded with a nod and a smile on her face.

'I can't imagine how a 14-year-old would feel after getting stabbed and then running to escape the attack. That's straight-up thriller shit.'

"How is Elina?! Is she okay?!" Noah asked with a concerned look on his face.

"Yes, she is okay, but it seems she hasn't slept for days, so she is sleeping right now," Ninia replied calmly.

"You should sleep too," Zach said to Noah.

"I won't sleep until Elina wakes up..." Noah muttered.

Zach sat beside Victoria, and Noah sat beside Zach.

'Didn't Victoria say she was feeling sleepy? And yet, she is still awake because the others are too.'

Victoria leaned and placed her hand on Zach's shoulder. She rubbed her head on Zach's shoulder and slipped onto Zach's lap. She looked at Zach and smiled at her before yawning and closing her eyes.

Zach stroked Victoria's hair and glanced at Aria, only to see her staring back and forth at him and Victoria.

'She wants to sleep on my lap too?' Zach wondered.

Aria puffed her cheeks and leaned her back on the bench before folding her arms and closing her eyes.

'I was planning to visit the magic shop tonight, but I guess I will do that tomorrow.'

Eventually, everyone fell asleep except Zach since he had been in a slumber for three days straight.

He glanced at Noah, who was also fast asleep and smiled at him.

'Great. Now I am missing Zoe...'

"Umm..." Victoria moaned faintly as she turned to the side.

'Back when we were dating in the real world, we never spent such moments together. And we were embarrassed too. And here we are, casually giving a lap pillow to her.'

A few hours passed, and the first one to wake up was Ninia, even though she was the last one to fall asleep. Following her, Aria woke up, and Victoria afterward.

Victoria felt bad because she was sleeping on Zach's lap and didn't give him a chance to sleep, but Zach reassured her after telling her that he wasn't feeling sleepy at all.

"I don't think they will be waking up any time soon," Ninia uttered after looking at Noah and Elina.

"Yeah. Let them sleep until they wake up. I will visit the magic shop in the meantime."

Victoria pulled Zach's sleeve and asked, "Do you want to eat breakfast?"

"Well... I ate a lot last night, so I don't feel hungry. But I do want you girls to prepare breakfast for yourself," Zach replied with a grin.

After that, Zach went to his chamber and opened the portal to the Magic shop dimension using the token Xie Lua had given him.

Zach casually passed through the portal and glanced around.

'No matter how many times I come here, the scenery always gets me. I honestly wouldn't mind staring at the sky and enjoying the scene for hours. Maybe that's why Xie Lua never gets bored?'

Zach walked to the booth, but much to his surprise, it was empty.

"Where did she go?"

Zach looked around the area, but Xie Lua was nowhere to be seen.

SIGH!

"She had to be absent just when I needed her. Wow ~" Zach groaned out loud with a soft sigh.

Zach wasn't angry or upset, as it was totally understandable for Xie Lua to be absent. She couldn't possibly stay at the booth at all times. While in truth, no player could summon the magic shop dimension when Xie Lua was absent. But Zach had special access through the token.

"Should I come later?" Zach asked himself. "But I am not sure if I will get time again. I am planning to hunt down that party who scammed Noah. Who knows how many innocents they robbed so far."

"But it's not the robbery that made me angry, it's the attempt to kill them. How could they rob or even try to kill kids? That's just inhumane. I am not trying to be a hero of justice or anything, but there has to be a limit to how low one can fall."

'Fortunately, I have many followers now, so I can get any information easily. I will ask about the party members' appearance from Noah when he wakes up. But I think I may already know about them.'

When Zach was fighting the ten battles in the garden, he had noticed a party of seven members that looked shady.

"I also recall seeing them in the restaurant, although they left before us."

While Zach was lost in his thoughts, Xie Lua approached him from behind and tapped on his shoulder.

"I see, you also have a habit of talking to yourself," she remarked with a grin.

"And you have a weird habit of suddenly popping out of nowhere," Zach scoffed softly.

Xie Lua walked to her booth, and Zach followed her.

"So, What brings you here?" she asked.

"I have a lot to talk about, but first, I want to know something." Zach pointed his finger at his chest and uttered, "When you revealed to me that you are the Phoenix who blessed me, you poked my chest."

"..."

"Was it your checking whether the mark had activated or not?" he asked with a judging look on his face.