

## Great Mage 401

### Season 2 Chapter 101

Sedi looked at the strange girl that was reflected by the broken mirror in front of her.

On the outside, she appeared to be no more than 15 years old, and her hair was so long that it stretched down to the floor.

That wasn't all.

There was a hint of redness on her normally pale skin, and her characteristic gloomy aura seemed to have disappeared.

The reason for these changes was obvious.

It was because Sedi had lost her external force and the demonic energy that she had as an Absolute.

"This is me? Hahaha..."

Sedi burst into hysterical laughter as though she'd lost her mind.

The ear-splitting laughter resounded horrifically in the air for a while.

Lukas understood her feelings to some extent.

After all, she'd demoted from an Absolute to a mortal.

It was worse than if a bird, who flew high in the sky, had been turned into a worm, who crawled on the ground.

Nevertheless, Sedi was the only person who could truly understand the shock and loss that she was currently experiencing.

After laughing for a while, she finally spoke in a bitter tone.

"I am now a native of this universe."

It was true.

After being downgraded to a mortal, Sedi's soul was automatically bound to this universe.

It was now impossible for her to travel to other universes as she had in the past, and after her death, she would either go to this universe's afterlife and be judged or she would be reincarnated as an entirely different being.

This process would probably be repeated dozens of times. This meant that the Absolute, Sedi Glaston, would disappear completely.

No matter how one looked at it, it was a terrible end for a being who had once been one of the strongest in existence.

Lukas looked at Sedi.

She looked miserable, and it wasn't just because her physique was smaller.

Nevertheless, Lukas didn't have any intention of sympathising with her.

In the first place, Sedi and Lukas had nothing to do with each other. They weren't enemies, but they weren't companions either; they just knew each other.

In his opinion, she had simply paid the price for the choices she made.

So what he had to say next was not because he felt pity for her.

"Sedi."

Sedi looked up at Lukas with dead eyes.

Staring into those eyes, Lukas spoke.

“I have an offer for you.”

\* \* \*

“Sedi Glaston, what do you want to do now?”

“I want to...”

Even if he asked, she couldn't give him an answer.

Sedi spoke in a weak voice.

“...fight the Demon King again.”

“...”

“So that I can take back what he stole from me and take everything he has as well.”

“Do you think you can do it?”

“Are you serious?”

Sedi spoke in an angry tone.

“I lost everything. My external force is gone, and my demonic energy has been robbed. I can’t even summon my soul weapon anymore. What the hell can I do now?”

“Lost everything? Are you sure about that?”

“You... What the hell do you know?”

As she said this, Sedi shot a glare at Lukas.

And she immediately regretted it. The moment she saw the look in Lukas’ eyes, her pride was wounded even more.

“...you think I’m pitiful.”

“Why do you say that?”

“Because you’re looking at me like that.”

“I don’t pity you.”

Lukas' voice became cold.

"It's just the fact that you're acting so ridiculous, pitiful, miserable, and weak that it makes me speechless."

"What the hell did you just say?"

Just as Sedi was about to explode in anger.

"-have arms."

When she heard those words, she shuddered subconsciously.

She could clearly hear the anger hidden beneath the quiet voice.

"You still have feet. You have eyes. You have your ears, nose, and mouth. Your entire body is still intact. It's not like you were crippled or imprisoned. And yet, you say that you don't have anything? That you lost everything? It's so ridiculous that I can't even laugh at you. Do you really think that?"

"Then are you telling me to face an Absolute with this fragile body?"

"Can't you do it?"

“It’s suicide.”

“Don’t be so hasty. It’s an act that might be infinitely close to it, but it’s not suicide.”

“...you.”

Sedi looked at Lukas with a complicated expression.

It couldn’t be helped.

This... wasn’t just advice. For some reason, she felt like she could see Lukas’ path. His bitter memories floated in his words like a mirage.

...What the hell kind of life had this man lived?

“You don’t need to give up. Even if it’s thinner than a thread, the fact remains that it is still possible. Nevertheless, if you are afraid to fight alone, I will help you.”

“...help me? How?”

“I will make you my incarnation.”

“Incarnation...?!”

Sedi uttered this word in a startled voice.

A being who could borrow the external force of an Absolute.

“You... From what I can tell, you have been in this universe for quite some time. But you haven’t found an incarnation yet?”

“I never found anyone who would be able to completely withstand my external force.”

Kran, whom he’d met recently, was able to barely meet the threshold, but even he was still lacking.

However, a vessel like Sedi would be completely different. She would be able to perfectly digest his external force.

“If you become my incarnation, I will fully support you so that you can become an Absolute again.”

“...it’ll be a path wrought with extreme difficulties.”

“Right. It would be several times harder than in the past. Think carefully. Becoming my incarnation means to completely sever your ties with the Black Horned Demon God.”



Those words made Sedi hesitate for a moment.

The Black Horned Demon God.

The Ruler she'd followed wholeheartedly.

In all honesty, she hadn't thought about betraying him. Even if the Demon God chose Kasajin over her, she still wanted to follow him like a fool.

That was what a Ruler was.

From the moment they were born, they were destined to rule over all things. Truly cosmic beings.

However... Sedi still had her pride. That lofty pride did not easily allow her to continue following someone that had thrown her away once.

She looked at Lukas.

The man in front of her was the only Absolute who dared to stand opposed to all of the Rulers.

Madman.

She was now certain that there was no better word to describe this man. Lukas was probably the only person who continued to have a conflict with the Rulers for so long.

It was at that moment when a thought appeared in her head.

What if there were five Rulers, not four, and Lukas was one of them...?

“Hahaha.”

Sedi let out a loud laugh.

She realised that at some point, she'd become attracted to this being named Lukas.

“Fine. Lukas Trowman, I'll be your incarnation. However... there's one condition I'd like you to agree to first.”

“What is it?”

“...”

Sedi's expression became serious.

As a result, Lukas' expression also became serious.

Once she became an Absolute, she would become the subordinate of Lukas, who wasn't even a Ruler. Whether she was just an incarnation or something else, no matter how nicely it was wrapped, that was the truth. This would be an extremely difficult decision for a being as prideful as Sedi was, so it was understandable that she would have reservations.

However, the words that came out of Sedi's mouth next took him by surprise.

"Father."

"...What?"

"I want to call you Father."

For the first time, Lukas' expressionless facade cracked.

Not caring about that, Sedi continued.

"I want to be your daughter."

In all honesty, in terms of how shocking it was, what Sedi had just said was greater than anything they said before.

“...what do you...”

Lukas stuttered helplessly.

Sedi, on the other hand, remained expressionless to the point of innocence. When he saw that, Lukas realised that she hadn't said it out of malice or mischief.

That's why it felt even weirder.

If she wasn't playing a joke on him, did this mean that she was serious?

“If I become your incarnation, then, in a way, I will become your blood relative. Which means I'd become your daughter.”

“No. That's not...”

Lukas paused.

This was because he had some idea of the reason behind her startling request.

Some Absolutes tended to call their Rulers Father or Mother.

Of course, Sedi was no longer an Absolute, and Lukas was not yet capable of accepting another Absolute.

When she saw Lukas' troubled expression, Sedi's expression changed as well.

To his surprise, she muttered in a soft tone.

"...you don't have to if you don't like it."

"..."

Seeing her slightly pale face, Lukas understood Sedi's feelings to an extent.

She had only just been abandoned by the Black Horned Demon God.

And just by following a Ruler, an Absolute was able to feel fullness and a sense of belonging.

As strangers in every universe they entered, it was the sweetest fruit for the Absolutes who spent their lives in solitude. Sedi must have also enjoyed this sweetness while following the Demon God.

But now, Sedi had been deprived of her external force and demonic energy and had become a mere mortal. So naturally, she could no longer feel the fullness and sense of belonging from a Ruler.

In this state, she could only be able to embrace her loneliness like she was alone in this universe.

She might have looked fine, but mentally, she was in a very precarious situation.

Perhaps the thing she needed the most now was a home to rely on and a barrier to protect her.

'That's why she accepted my offer so easily.'

It seemed to show the role she expected him to fill.

After a moment of silence, Lukas nodded slowly.

"...no. I don't mind it."

"Huh? Then you'll allow me to?"

"If that's what you really want."

Sedi's eyes lit up.

Perhaps it was because of the loss of her external force and demonic energy and had lost her gloomy aura. Or perhaps it was because she was no longer an Absolute.

But Lukas was getting a completely different impression from Sedi.

“So I can call you father?”

“...”

Lukas couldn't muster the courage to open his mouth, so he simply nodded.

Sedi's face became noticeably brighter at the confirmation.

“Great. Then, please take care of me. Father!”

Lukas didn't have any children, but he felt that this wasn't the way one would usually talk to their father.

With that thought, he looked down at Sedi, who tilted her head at him.

“Why do you look like you just ate a bug?”

“...I'm just not used to hearing that term.”

“Liar... Father should have lived for at least tens of thousands of years by now. I’m sure you met a lot of women in that time and mercilessly sowed your seed.”

“No. I never did.”

“You should still have a few chi-”

“I don’t.”

When Lukas said these words firmly, Sedi stopped talking and looked at him with an incredulous expression.

“Really?”

“Why would I lie about something like that?”

“...But, even if Father doesn’t want children, that doesn’t mean you wouldn’t have any, right? Things can happen even if you don’t intend for them to, so you might have at least one child.”

“It’s not possible. Because I never did that.”

“...”



The silence that fell this time could not be compared to before.

After staying silent for a long time, Sedi finally spoke slowly.

“I’m sorry.”

“You don’t have to apologise.”

“No. I-, I’m really sorry. I didn’t know.”

“...”

Lukas wasn’t sure how to feel at that moment.

## **Season 2 Chapter 102**

“Lucian’ is a former mercenary. So I can speak confidently about his skills. Few hunters in North America are more versatile than him. Lucian’s extensive experience and composure would be a great help in the event of an emergency.”

“...”

“Lena’ is a Spirit Lord. She can control spirits of ice and fire. The spirit that she is especially... Min Ha-rin, are you listening to me?”

“Huh? Yeah. Sorry.”

Min Ha-rin, who came to her senses, bowed apologetically.

“You don’t have to overdo it. Comparing the personal information of dozens of people at once can be exhausting. Especially if you have no experience doing it. If you’re having a hard time, I can shorten the list for you.”

“No. It’s fine.”

Vincent was not a man with much free time. In fact, he was probably the busiest person currently in the North America Headquarters. There were still a lot of things that needed to be done, so he couldn’t spend too much time with her.

Realising this, Min Ha-rin looked at the list and asked.

“How much time do I have?”

“Considering the fact that we’ll have to contact the hunters and explain the situation to them... I think the earliest you could leave is by dawn tomorrow.”

It was currently past 11pm. Considering the time it would take them to prepare, it was much sooner than she thought.

Min Ha-rin nodded.

“I’ll tell you in an hour. You can go back to your work.”

“...are you sure?”

“Yeah.”

“Thank you for your help. Excuse me.”

After saying that, Vincent left in a hurry. As she expected, although he didn’t show it, there were still many things that he had to do.

Min Ha-rin sipped on her cold coffee as she was left alone in the room. Even though her eyes were currently focused on the list, her thoughts were elsewhere.

‘...I’m probably the only person who knows who Frey really is.’

She recalled her conversation with Joanna.

For all the anticipation that her words had built up, what she said next had honestly been a bit disappointing.

Lukas, or 'Frey Blake', as she called him, seemed to be an extremely talented Wizard. Maybe even stronger than the President of the Wizard Association. The strongest Wizard she'd ever met...

But that was natural.

After all, Min Ha-rin's Master could be called magical science in itself. There was no one in this world who knew more about magic than Lukas did.

Joanna had then gone on to say that she believed Lukas might have been chosen by the Great Mage.

When she heard that, Min Ha-rin had to do her best to not let out a laugh.

The Great Mage. A legendary being who was also called the God of Magic. Min Ha-rin knew that this being was, in fact, her Master.

Not a 'chosen', instead, her Master was the main character of the legend.

Nevertheless, it was Joanna's next words that threw her for a loop.

'Like me'.

'...like you?'

When she'd asked this, Joanna's expression had become filled with pride.

'Yeah. I was also chosen by the Great Mage.'

She then went on to briefly explain to Min Ha-rin what had transpired in Africa. About the fact that she'd heard a voice while surrounded by Demon Beasts.

The voice of the Great Mage.

It was only after hearing those words when Min Ha-rin realised what happened. Lukas had helped Joanna.

Thanks to his voice, Joanna was able to develop her skills and progress further from the 7 star rank.

And it was only then that Min Ha-rin understood her change of attitude.

It was what Lukas had taught her. Not just magic but also character.

'Why me?'

This question had never left her mind.

The world was large, and there were many talented people. Of course, this didn't mean that she didn't think she was talented. It was just that she was certain some people were far more talented than her.

Just look at Joanna, for instance.

Click-

Suddenly, the door to the room opened and Lukas walked in. Seeing him, Min Ha-rin suppressed a sigh and stood.

"Master, are you finished with your business?"

For some reason, she couldn't help but feel that Lukas appeared tired.

"Right... What are those documents?"

"It's the personal information of the hunters Vincent selected. I'm looking for someone who can go to Korea with us."

"You don't need to look anymore."

"Huh?"

“I found someone who can help us.”

It was only then when Min Ha-rin noticed the slim figure who stood behind Lukas like a shadow. It was a young girl, who looked at her with a slightly sour expression.

The young girl was quite pretty, with black hair that seemed darker than ink, and bright red eyes, which contrasted nicely with it.

“Who is this child?”

“Child? Ha.”

The girl snorted.

Lukas glanced down at her and muttered.

“This girl is my...”

He paused, wondering how to explain it.

As Lukas hesitated, thinking about how to properly structure his sentence, the girl, Sedi, spoke.

\* \* \*

“Daughter.”

“...?”

“Isn’t that right, Father?”

“...!”

Lukas let out a sigh as Min Ha-rin’s eyes grew wide with astonishment.

He’d told her to not make a fuss when they got here. How was this not making a fuss?

It felt like she had misunderstood his intentions.

“M-, Master. Is that true?”

Min Ha-rin stuttered like a broken record, and after thinking for a while, Lukas nodded.

Gulping slightly, Min Ha-rin opened her mouth,



“I-, it might be rude to ask, but...”

“What is it?”

“Then, who is your wife...?”

At that moment, Min Ha-rin thought about Joanna for some reason.

Two hunters who went alone to a dangerous foreign country and encountered various hardships and difficulties before finally making a mistake one night due to their frustration...

Of course, considering Sedi’s age, the probability of there being any connection was zero, but Min Ha-rin didn’t seem to realise that.

“...my adopted daughter.”

“Ah.”

When she heard Lukas’ answer, she nodded in understanding.

In truth, she couldn’t imagine what kind of woman her Master would like. (TL: The kind that betrays the world for him)

“S-, still, why did you suddenly adopt a daughter?”

“Because you guys are too weak.”

It was Sedi, not Lukas, who answered with a smug grin.

Her venomous remark made Min Ha-rin’s expression harden. She was putting up with it because it was her Master’s daughter, but she realised that this girl in front of her was very rude. Nevertheless, she simply glared at her without saying anything.

“Hmph.”

Even after receiving Min Ha-rin’s glare, Sedi simply snorted.

Then, she walked up to the table and snatched the documents that Min Ha-rin had been perusing.

“What are you do-”

“Let’s see here... Hmm. None of these guys are useful. I think they would only be a burden if we took them with us.”

Sedi flipped through the documents in an instant before giving her review. Then, her bright red eyes turned towards Min Ha-rin.

“Including you.”

For some reason, Min Ha-rin felt like those words pierced into her heart like a dagger.

She flinched like someone who had been backed into a corner before speaking in a heavy tone.

“What did you say?”

“Father, why are you teaching someone like this?”

Sedi turned to look at Lukas with clear confusion on her face. She still had the insight of an Absolute, so she was naturally able to see through Min Ha-rin with a single glance.

From what she could tell, Min Ha-rin’s talent was only above average. Of course, if she was taught in earnest, she would certainly become strong enough to stand above most mortals. She didn’t seem enough to be taught by someone like Lukas.

“...I-, listen here. Even if you’re Master’s daughter, you still have to be polite.”

Min Ha-rin could no longer endure it when she heard those harsh words coming from the mouth of a girl who seemed to be the same age as her little sister. Sedi, on the other hand, simply smiled coldly.

“Do you really want to talk to me about politeness? Brat?”

“I think you should look in the mirror. Then you’ll see who the brat really is. You’re the size of a water flea.”

“A water flea? Ha.”

Sedi snorted before pointing at the papers.

“I was just telling the truth. None of those guys would be useful. They’re all weak. Even if they all worked together, they wouldn’t be able to touch my fingertips.”

“I can’t listen to you say that.”

It was at that moment when a displeased voice came from the side.

It belonged to a woman who was standing in front of the open door.

It was Joanna.

She entered the room before casting a disapproving glare at Sedi.

“The people in those documents are all top-class hunters in North America.”

“Top class? Those guys? I guess your country is only on that level.”

“...who are you to be so rude?”

“That’s my father.”

Joanna’s expression hardened when Sedi pointed at Lukas.

“...huh?”

“Are you deaf? I’m his daughter.”

“F-, Frey. You... I... I can’t believe you had a daughter this big... h-, how old were you when you got her?”  
(TL: fun fact, she basically called sedi ‘an accident’ but it was hard to structure properly in english)

“...she’s my adopted daughter.”

Lukas couldn’t help but wonder for a moment why he had to say this every time he was asked that question as if it was an excuse.

Sedi, on the other hand, glanced at Joanna with a curious gaze.

“You’re pretty good. You barely meet the requirements. But the rest won’t do. They would only hold us back if they went with us.”

“...even if you’re Frey’s daughter, I can’t stand here and let you say that. Can you take responsibility for your words?”

“Of course.”

“Fine.”

Joanna glanced down at her watch before continuing.

“I’ll get those hunters to come here. Please prove your words in front of our eyes.”

### **Season 2 Chapter 103**

After a while, Joanna brought a group of hunters.

There were 11 people in the group, all of whom were included in the documents.

They were all filled with enthusiasm to take part in this mission. In fact, if the number of persons was limited, they all would have participated.

After all, it was a mission with Neil Prand's life at stake. Most of them had the thought that they wanted to help even if they could only do a little.

"What's going on? Who's this kid?"

"Is this our opponent?"

"Don't let your guards down."

Joanna, who stood at the front of the group, reminded them.

She couldn't feel any traces from Sedi. However, she was well aware of Lukas' power.

'It wouldn't be strange if Frey's adopted daughter has special powers as well.'

Therefore, even though she'd gathered 11 hunters this time, she'd told them to remain vigilant and do their best.

"Hmm. Then I'll go first."

When Lucian, the former mercenary, stepped forward, most of the others made sour expressions. Most of them knew how skilled he was, so they felt that if he went first, they wouldn't have a chance after. They were certain.

But Sedi frowned when she saw Lucian step forward alone.

“What are you doing?”

“Is something wrong? Kid.”

“Why are you coming forward on your own? It’s best if you all came at the same time.”

Lucian had a daughter who was around the same age as Sedi. Therefore, he could see that her rudeness went beyond simply acting cute.

Nevertheless, using such a tone before a battle could only be described as trampling on their pride as hunters.

“It seems I’ll have to knock you down a peg fir-... Kuk!”

Lucian didn’t get to finish his sentence.

Before he could, Sedi had appeared in front of him and hit his jaw with her palm. Lucian felt a terrible pain and belatedly realised that several of his teeth had been crushed.

With blood dripping from his mouth, he was unable to bear the pain and fell backward with his eyes rolling up into his head.



“ ... ”

While silence filled the room, Sedi swung her right arm with a discontented expression on her face.

She still hadn't fully adapted to having a mortal body. Luckily, she would be able to use this chance to properly get used to her new body.

“What are you waiting for? Come on.”

“ ... ”

The hunters' expression finally grew serious.

\* \* \*

“ ... ”

Joanna stared at the training ground, speechless.

After Lucian's defeat, the hunters had all raised their guards.

None of them had even seen exactly what Sedi had done, they only knew that she'd defeated him with a single blow.

Nevertheless, two other hunters still stepped out for a one-on-one fight. It was only after three consecutive defeats that the hunters decided to work together.

8 elite hunters.

The results of this battle to regain their pride were disastrous.

It couldn't even be called a proper fight.

"Mm."

Sedi was standing alone in the center of the training ground, and the prone figures of the hunters could be seen around her.

It was a complete victory. And yet, Sedi didn't appear pleased. Instead, she frowned in clear displeasure.

The reason for this was the small cut on her palm. Even if she hadn't fully adapted to her new body, she never thought that she'd be injured by a human.

Then, a voice sounded.

"This should prove her power."

It was Lukas.

It was a bit harsh, but he had no choice.

After all, this was the best way to prove Sedi's power.

As Vincent said, they didn't have any time to waste.

"Who the hell is this girl..."

Joanna stared at Sedi in disbelief. A girl who looked no older than 15 had single-handedly defeated a group of North America's best hunters? Without even showing her true strength?

"..."

But Joanna didn't try to pry any further.

There was only one thing that was important now. Sedi had proved that her words weren't simple arrogance.

The futility of the group's attacks against her made that clear.

This girl was the strongest among all of the individuals they could mobilise at the moment.

“...I’ll tell Vincent. All of the people going on the mission have been selected. But is it going to be just the three of you?”

When Joanna asked this question, Lukas spoke.

“Joanna, can you really not come with us?”

“Ah. Yeah. I’m busy too. Unfortunately.”

Joanna felt a little pleasure at the fact that Lukas wanted her to go with him.

Unfortunately, she was probably the one person who had a busier schedule than Vincent.

“The Rose Duke’s attack on Canada has terrified the civilians all over America. So I will be traveling all across the region. I plan to help ease their anxiety as much as I can.”

Joanna was one of the most well known and well liked hunters for the people living in North America.

So she would be touring the entire region to cheer up the anxious citizens. There was probably no one more suited for this role than Joanna.

Lukas felt that it was unfortunate.

In his opinion, Joanna was a talented individual. Although he didn't intend to accept her as a disciple, he honestly felt that it would be good if he could recruit her into <Argento Spell>.

He had been thinking of raising the idea to her if she joined them on this mission.

'It can't be helped.'

Joanna's mission was important as well. It would be rude of him to insist.

"I'll call the medical team first. Did you say her name was Sedi? I'll inform Vincent about this girl. Ah, and since the portal should be ready soon... Miss Ha-rin."

"Yeah?"

Min Ha-rin had not yet escaped the shock that Sedi's power had induced, but she raised her head as her name was called.

"Shouldn't you send a message to Korea soon?"

"Oh."

“I’ll take you to the communication equipment, so follow me.”

“All right.”

Min Ha-rin dejectedly followed Joanna out of the training room as medical staff rushed in and took all the hunters away.

Sedi walked over to Lukas, who looked down at her.

“Wasn’t that a bit too heavy-handed?”

“I didn’t kill them... Rather than that, Father.”

“What is it?”

Lukas’s eyebrows furrowed slightly as he answered, still not used to the form of address.

Sedi tilted her head to the side.

“What does Father intend to do from now on?”

“I plan to save Neil Prand, the President of the Hunter Association. We’re going to meet the Saint who might be able to heal him.”

“Not that.”

Sedi shook her head. Her soft hair flowing like a curtain in the wind.

“What are you going to do next? Now that you don’t have a pact with me, you don’t need to spare Demons anymore.”

“That’s true. And thanks to you, the power limit has also increased,”

“Huh? What do you mean?”

Chch.

Lukas lifted his hand, and divine power began swirling in his palm.

“By being demoted to a mortal and becoming part of this universe, the level of the entire universe has risen a little.”

“Ah.”

Sedi nodded after realising what he meant.

She also knew that the level of this universe was terribly low. If it had been allowed to progress normally, it would probably take hundreds of millions of years before someone could reach the level of Absolute.

With the appearance of the Demons and Lukas' support, the level had been raised, but it was still below average.

And then, a being like Sedi had become part of the universe.

Although she had been demoted to a mortal, she had once been an Absolute.

As a result of a being who would be unparalleled among mortals becoming part of the universe, the level of the universe increased. This meant that the amount of power it could tolerate also increased.

With the power he could use now, Lukas could probably wipe out all of the Demons without putting any strain on the universe. And with Sedi's help, it would be much easier.

And yet, he was still not making his move...

"Is it because of Nodiesop and the Demon King?"

"Right. I can't move recklessly until I drive them out completely."



“True. And there’s still no telling what Letip is really thinking.”

“...”

“Then what will you do?”

“Do you remember the hints we got from God?”

“About the way to deceive the laws of the universe?”

“Right.”

Lukas nodded.

“One of the Top Three, a man named Kran. I think he might be a clue.”

“What kind of clue?”

“I’m not entirely sure about the details yet. I didn’t notice anything even when I met him in person. For the time being, I intend to wait and see.”

“Then wouldn’t it be better to keep an eye on him? Where’s that Kran guy right now?”

“Well...”

Sedi frowned at Lukas’ soft murmur.

“Isn’t that too risky? What if the Demon King or Nodiesop get their hands on him first?”

“Kran is no pushover. They’d have to use more power than they thought to capture him. That way, regardless of where it is, I’d know the location immediately.”

“...even when taking that into account, I feel like you are relying on something else.”

Sedi narrowed her eyes as she observed Lukas.

“Father, you’re planning something, aren’t you? I don’t know what it is, but it is definitely something that will turn the tables, right?”

“Right.”

Lukas calmly admitted it.

Sedi was immature in many ways, but she still had the sharp intellect that came with being an Absolute.

“What is it?”

“It’s not the right time to reveal it yet. It is literally the last resort... It’s a gamble. And I don’t want to use it if I don’t have to.”

“...Hmm.”

So the best option would be to learn how to trick the laws of the universe.

Of course, if that method failed... then it couldn’t be helped.

He would have no choice but to gamble.

\* \* \*

Kran opened his eyes.

Babump-

At the same time, he felt a strong pulse from his heart. He could feel a stronger power swirling inside of him. This newly acquired power rushed wildly through his blood vessels, as though it was desperate to show off its strength.

Kran got up from his seat, put on his clothes, and glanced at the crystal ball.

“I think this was a lot stronger than the soul crystals I used before.”

[That’s good news. That means it’s getting more efficient.]

“Doesn’t that mean I’m becoming more of a monster?”

[...]

Ringo paused for a moment before speaking in a cautious tone.

[...should we stop now? I will always respect your wishes, Kran.]

Kran put on his cloak and chuckled.

“It’s too late to turn back now. I’ll see this through to the end.”

[...]

“Tell me about the next target. Where is it?”

[Aren't you going to take a break?]

"I don't need it. My body has already recovered."

There was a brief silence before the voice came from the crystal ball again.

[The Korean Peninsula. That's where the next target is.]

"...the Korean Peninsula."

Kran slowly closed his eyes.

"Help me prepare, Ringo. I want to leave right away."

#### **Season 2 Chapter 104**

The Communications room.

Min Ha-rin operated the communications equipment while sitting across from Joanna.

It was nothing special. All she had to do was enter the password for the confidential communications line that she knew and wait for a response.

“When was the last time you were in Korea?”

“About three years ago? I think it’s been about that long.”

“That’s longer than I thought.”

“Yeah. The damage to Korea wasn’t that great. As my performance improved, I was dispatched to China more often. Later, I moved to stay there.”

“Hmmm.”

Joanna nodded slowly before asking in a slightly cautious tone.

“What about your family?”

“I have two younger siblings in Korea.”

“I guess they’re not hunters.”

“Yeah.”

Joanna smiled softly.

“That’s good. Having a family, I mean.”

“...what about you, Miss Joanna?”

“You can just call me Joanna.”

Perhaps it was because she was American, but Joanna was much more open than she expected.

While having that thought, Min Ha-rin repeated herself.

“What about your family...”

“I don’t have one. I’m an orphan.”

“Ah.”

That was a bit surprising.

From her attitude, Min Ha-rin had thought that she was born and raised in a wealthy, or at least a well-off family, but that wasn’t the case. In other words, she felt and behaved like a scioness of some major ‘family’ or ‘force’.

Joanna seemed familiar with this reaction.

“That’s why I call the Association President my father. Because he brought me up as a child and showed me my path.”

A tender light shined in Joanna’s eyes as she said that.

Min Ha-rin could understand her feelings to an extent. Perhaps the same respect and admiration that she now had for Lukas, Joanna had for Neil Prand.

Joanna’s expression became earnest as she met Min Ha-rin’s gaze.

“So... please. Please save the Association President.”

“...yes.”

Just as Min Ha-rin’s determination was renewed, she finally got a response from the screen in front of her.

“I think the line has been connected.”

“Yeah. Wait a moment.”



Pit-

Suddenly, the screen lit up.

“...”

Min Ha-rin blinked.

The person on the screen was obviously someone she knew, but it took her a moment to realise that.

No. She still wasn't sure even though she was looking at them with her own eyes. She licked her lips a few times before hesitantly opening her mouth.

“...Uncle Min-chul?”

[As expected, it's Ha-rin.]

The man behind the screen smiled brightly. Min Ha-rin couldn't help but feel a hint of disbelief as she saw this.

“Why is it you, uncle...? What about big brother Sung-hyun?”

[He's dead.]

“Huh?”

Min Ha-rin's eyes widened.

[A lot has happened. There is so much that I want to talk to you about. Since you contacted this communication line, it should mean that you're coming back to Korea, right? When will you return?]

Those words made Min Ha-rin speechless for a few moments.

She did intend to go back to Korea, and she was confident that they would let her in, but she thought it would take some time to persuade them.

But Kim Min-chul's attitude made her hesitate.

It felt like he wanted her to return to Korea as soon as possible.

\* \* \*

He took a deep breath and clenched his fists.

The doctor's words floated in his mind in a loop. There was nothing wrong with his body.

In truth, he knew it better than anyone.

"Hup."

He took another deep breath and prepared his mind. Then, he closed his eyes and relaxed his body as much as he could.

It wasn't hard for him to remember 'that time'.

In only a few moments, the image of a woman appeared in his mind. A woman with hair as red as blood.

A being who was so fearsome that her harmless appearance made her all the more frightening.

Duke Rose.

Rattle.

Just imagining her face caused his entire body to quiver violently. If he hadn't been lying on his bed, his feet would have given out and he would have collapsed.

He'd no longer feared the Demons as he had in the past.

He was certain that he had overcome that to an extent.

If the first Demon he encountered hadn't been one of the Five Dukes...

He shook his head.

All of those thoughts were just excuses.

In the end, all of this came down to the fact that he was too weak.

He wanted to overcome it. He wanted to move on. He wanted to say goodbye to his weak, pathetic self and fight the Demons confidently. This was the future that he'd shed tears of blood to achieve.

He'd thought that he would reach it if he pushed a little further, but now, that goal that he thought was in his grasp was even further than before.

No. He was the one who had run away from it.

In the end, he was not a man who was able to overcome his trauma. He was still a weak, young, English boy, who could not get over his fear of Demons.

“Dammit...!”

Crack!

Unable to contain his anger towards himself, Leo Freeman smashed his fist into the table beside his bed. This was the first time he’d ever acted in such an emotional manner. And yet, the sense of shame didn’t disappear. On the contrary, his negative emotions grew stranger as he felt that his patheticness was even clearer now.

“Dammit... dammit...”

Blood gushed from his lip as he bit down on it.

“Stop hurting yourself.”

“...!”

Leo turned his head quickly. Without him realising, Lukas had entered his room and was standing beside his bed.

“Master...”

Without a word, Lukas walked over to him and handed him a tissue. Leo accepted it and pressed it to his lips. The white tissue became stained red.

Lukas looked down at Leo for a moment before taking a seat in the chair beside the bed.

For some reason, the ticking sound of the clock's second hand became exceptionally clear at that moment.

"I'm sorry."

Even after he said that, Lukas didn't say anything.

"I know this is an opportunity that I'll probably never receive again, and I really wanted to do well this time... But it didn't work out..."

"..."

Leo's voice was strained and hoarse. He felt that if he continued talking, he would begin to cry. He knew that he already looked pathetic, but he didn't want to embarrass himself any more than he already had.

Nevertheless, since he'd started, he would have to finish.

Because the subdued silence was urging him to continue.

“I saw a video of what happened in the training ground.”

A group of some of the best hunters in North America had faced a girl no older than he was. And yet, this girl, whose hair flowed down to her feet, had defeated them with ease.

It was such a beautiful fight that he didn't even feel jealous. It was clear to Leo that he would have to work hard his entire life. But he wasn't sure he could reach that level with just his talent and hard work.

There was only one thing that Leo was certain of. He wouldn't be able to reach even half of that level even after ten years had passed.

It took a lot of determination for him to open his mouth again.

“I-”

“Why are you apologising?”

Lukas interrupted him.

“I feel like I disappointed Master.”

“Did I ever tell you that or show such an attitude?”

“No. But...”

“Then why are you making your own assumptions and judgements?”

The words were filled with blame, but the tone they were said in was soft.

Leo fell silent for a moment, speechless.

“That...”

“You’re doing great.”

“...huh?”

“You’re doing great. You haven’t done anything wrong.”

“...”

Lukas’ eyes were shining so brightly that it hurt to look at them. The brilliance in his eyes was so dazzling that it felt like he wanted to drive away the dark clouds in his mind.

“It’s as I said. You are always trying to face your fears head-on. That is not an easy task.”



“Anyone can just think about it...!”

Leo’s voice grew louder at the end. His face became contorted.

“I’ll try harder next time. Tomorrow will be different from today. Those easy thoughts are things that everyone repeats to themselves in bed before they sleep... Right. It just keeps repeating. I feel like my resolution has faded and I’ve become self-indulgent.”

What really mattered was to not lose the drive.

But Leo felt like he couldn’t do that.

“Everyone has their time.”

“Time...?”

“Right. People usually call it fate, but I personally call it the ‘time of blooming’.”

“...the time of... blooming...”

“It’s just a difference of timing. Just because a flower blooms later doesn’t mean it’s any less beautiful. And I...”

Lukas smiled.

When Leo saw this smile, he felt his heart swell and his throat close.

He could feel it just from looking at this smile.

Just how much this person in front of him believed in him. And just how high his expectations for him were.

“I believe that you will bloom into a flower that is more brilliant than any other flower.”

Gulp.

Leo was unable to stop his hot tears from pouring out. There had never been someone who had so much faith in him in his entire life.

He was someone who couldn't even lift a finger in front of a Demon. How ridiculous was this for someone who wanted to become a hunter? Someone who would risk their life on every mission.

“...why do you have so much faith in me?”

“Because I am your master.”

Lukas' smile widened.

"Do you trust me?"

"...yeah."

"Then trust in my eyes too. The Leo Freeman I have seen and judged is by no means a man who would bow down to this level of frustration."

"...Master."

"I look forward to the flower you will bloom into."

\* \* \*

When Lukas stepped out of the hospital room, he encountered a black-haired girl with a sour expression.

Sedi Glaston.

...No. It should be Sedi Trowman now. She had become strangely attached to Lukas since becoming a mortal.

Sedi pointed at the hospital room, her expression still sullen.

“Is he your disciple as well, Father?”

“Right.”

“He’s really weak.”

Lukas looked down at Sedi for a moment.

“What?”

“Sedi, what do you think a father should be?”

“Someone bigger and stronger enough than me?”

“...then you call me Father because I am stronger than you?”

“Right. There are only four people in this universe right now that are stronger than me.”

She was referring to the four Absolutes.

Nodiesop, Letip, Lukas. And Kasajin.

Naturally, Lukas was the only one among them who was kind to Sedi.

There was no need to mention Nodiesop, who she seemed to have a bad relationship with, and Kasajin, who made her the way she was. Letip, who appeared to be neutral, was a wild card, and no one knew what he was thinking.

“I’ve never had a daughter.”

“I know. You never did it.”

“...right. That’s not really the point right now, but anyway, I know that you and I don’t have a normal father-daughter relationship.”

“A normal father-daughter relationship?”

Sedi tilted her head to the side.

It had probably not been intentional, but her action was filled with innocence that matched her apparent age.

“What does that mean?”

“I don’t know.”

“...what are you talking about? Are you trying to crack a joke?”

“No. As I said, I’ve never had a daughter.”

He knew about the bonds between friends, masters, and parents.

Just recently, he’d learned how to treat a disciple.

This was Lukas’ first time having a child. Though the origin of the relationship was a bit strange, he did not want to treat this bond carelessly now that it had been formed.

Even if she wasn’t his child by blood, he still wanted to treat their bond seriously and form the most desirable relationship for the both of them.

As he had this thought, Lukas looked down at Sedi.

“So I’ll think about it from now on.”

“Think about what?”

“How a father should treat his daughter. What I can do for you. And what an ideal father-daughter relationship should be like.”

“...”

Sedi looked at Lukas with a blank expression for a moment.

She felt strange.

She didn't know why, but Lukas' words touched her heart deeply. For the first time, Sedi felt like that missing part of her was being temporarily filled.

“So you should also think about it seriously... about what you want from a father.”

For some reason, she could no longer look at Lukas.

Sedi turned her head away and said.

“I, I see.”

She didn't know why, but her face was burning. Unable to contain her nervousness, Sedi tapped her foot on the ground.

## Season 2 Chapter 105

The Korea Branch connected the Warp Portal much more easily than they expected.

Min Ha-rin couldn't help but wonder how Kim Min-chul, who had been an ordinary civilian just a few years ago, had obtained that much authority. She was a bit skeptical about the fact that he accepted her words without asking about the particular circumstances, but she couldn't ask that at the moment.

One of the reasons was that they were using an emergency communication line, which meant that they couldn't talk for a long time.

"The portal will be open for one day, so please come over before it closes."

Kim Min-chul had said these words with a smile.

That meant that they could go to Korea as soon as they were ready.

Now, they just needed to step into the portal, and with the push of a button, they would immediately be sent over to the Korea Branch.

Vincent looked at the three people who would be embarking on the mission.

Lukas, Min Ha-rin, and Sedi. They all stood in front of the Warp Portal, looking at him.



“Are you going to be okay?”

“Yes, it seems Nodiesop’s influence hasn’t reached there yet.”

This wasn’t necessarily good news.

Regardless of whether it was Nodiesop or not, the atmosphere of the Korea Branch that they had seen through the monitor was different from before. Unfortunately, they would only be able to learn the details by going through the portal.

“Are you sure you don’t need more pe—”

“It’s fine, Vincent. You saw the video from the training ground, right?”

“...right.”

Vincent’s gaze subconsciously shifted to the side, to Sedi, who was yawning with a bored expression on her face.

He wouldn’t have believed it if he hadn’t seen the video of the fight with his own eyes. That this thin, young girl was able to single-handedly overwhelm a group of the North America Headquarters’ best hunters.

'She's stronger than a Branch President.'

It was possible she might have been much older than she looked.

The higher the level of a being, the slower their body aged. And if they went a step further and reached a certain level, their entire body could be reconstructed.

Of course, these were only conjectures that had been written in martial arts manuals for centuries, but he'd heard that some Warriors had experienced this phenomenon.

'This girl should be a member of <Argento Spell> as well.'

Vincent felt a brief hint of admiration.

Following the defeat of one of the Five Dukes, if this mission was a success and they went on to save the President of the Hunter Association, there would be no hunters who didn't know their name.

"There's no time to waste. Please activate the Portal."

Vincent nodded at Lukas' words.

"...I wish you good luck."

Paht-

Then, a bright light enveloped the area around the portal.

\* \* \*

The feeling of weightlessness gradually disappeared and she became aware of the fact that she was now standing on the ground.

The Warp had been successful.

“...cough, cough.”

Before the bright light that surrounded her body had even fully dissipated, Min Ha-rin began to cough.

The quality of the air was horrible. It was like she had just breathed a bunch of dust into her lungs. Was it because she had just come from a place with incredibly clean air?

No. The air in Busan shouldn't have been this bad.

After a short while, the light completely disappeared and the surroundings became visible.

“Mm...”

Like North America, the Warp Portals were installed outside in an open area, not in a building or underground.

But the landscape they saw was a perfect contrast to the beautiful North America.

Busan.

It was once one of the port cities that represented East Asia.

Of course, the appearance of the Demons caused some damage, but it hadn't been as bad as in other regions. That's why the Korea Branch was established in this city.

However, the view of the city that she could see now made Min Ha-rin speechless.

Collapsed buildings, hazy smoke, and utter silence created an image similar to that of a world on the brink of destruction.

Lukas also took a breath of the air. The air wasn't bad because it had been contaminated by demonic energy. Instead, the air itself had been contaminated by several harmful gases.

"Welcome to the Korea Branch."

A man standing beside the portal smiled and spoke to them.

Min Ha-rin immediately recognised him as Kim Min-chul, whom she had known since childhood, but at the same time, she didn't recognise him.

This was probably because of the clothes he was wearing.

His clothes were similar to those worn by clerics of the church. But instead of black, they were bright, pristine white.

It was a strange sight. Almost as though the dust that circulated in the air avoided him.

“Uncle?”

“You look even prettier in person. You grew up so beautifully. I'm glad you're okay, Ha-rin.”

Kim Min-chul smiled gently.

It was the same warm smile that she often saw in the past, but there was a strange feeling hidden behind it that made Min Ha-rin speechless.

Kim Min-chul's eyes turned to Lukas and Sedi at the back.

“And who might you be?”

“I’m Frey Blake. A European Hunter. Min Ha-rin and I are in the same sect.”

“Ah. I see.”

For a moment, Kim Min-chul was puzzled by what he meant by being in the same sect, but he quickly hid his expression and bowed politely with her unique, gentle smile.

“I’m Kim Min-chul. I’m just an old man who watched Ha-rin grow up. I knew her since she was just a kid with dreams of becoming a hunter, and now, she’s all grown up... Time is a scary thing. Hahaha.”

“I see.”

It seemed that he was trying to lighten the mood, but Lukas only nodded his head in a businesslike manner.

This attitude made Kim Min-chul a bit embarrassed, and he scratched his head with an awkward expression.

“By the way... Why are you here in Korea?”

“We heard that the Saint is here.”

Lukas spoke in a blunt tone.

Min Ha-rin looked at her Master with a slightly startled expression. They hadn't talked about this before coming.

Kim Min-chul looked at Lukas with a strange, indecipherable gaze before nodding.

"That's right."

"Excuse me. Mr. Kim Min-chul, do you know the Saint?"

"Huhu."

Kim Min-chul chuckled and shook his head.

"I don't think there is anyone in this city who doesn't know him."

"..."

He smiled, turning around.

"For now, follow me."

The group nodded and followed Kim Min-chul.

It seemed that it had rained a short while ago as there were small puddles scattered across the street.

As they walked down the muddy street, only the patter of their feet could be heard. This street had probably been something of a shopping center in the past, but now, the only proof of this was the slanted, flickering neon lights attached to bent poles.

“Uncle.”

“Hmm?”

“Did you hear anything from China?”

“Ah. Do you mean the man named Nodiesop who became the new President?”

“Yeah.”

“He contacted the Branch President a few times.”

“What did the Branch President say?”

“He said no.”



“How did he respond to that? I’m sure he must have pressured you.”

Kim Min-chul smiled at that.

“We do not have to be wary of the Asia Headquarters anymore. Not to mention Asia, even the Demons won’t come to this place anymore.”

“Huh?”

“You’ll find out soon enough.”

After saying that, Kim Min-chul increased his pace, leading them further into the city. Lukas and Sedi, who were walking at the back of the group, exchanged glances.

[Father, this guy is suspicious.]

Sedi’s voice rang in Lukas’ head. He nodded slightly.

[I could get this guy to tell us everything he knows. It would only take me a minute.]

This time, he shook his head.

If they were to use Sedi's method, Kim Min-chul's mind would be destroyed and his body wouldn't be left in much better shape. However, as he was Min Ha-rin's acquaintance, they couldn't do that without any confirmation.

Sedi turned her head away and pouted in dissatisfaction at Lukas' refusal.

"Is big brother Sung-hyun..."

Min Ha-rin deliberately trailed off at the end of her sentence.

"It was about 2 years ago. He fought bravely, but in the end, he could not escape death."

"..."

Kim Sung-hyun was Kim Min-chul's only son and a hunter. Unfortunately, his talent was only ordinary. So, unlike Min Ha-rin, who traveled throughout Asia, Kim Sung-hyun served as a security guard for the Korea Branch.

Korea had not been directly exposed to the threat of the Demons yet. That's why she hadn't thought that Kim Sung-hyun would lose his life.

Min Ha-rin looked at Kim Min-chul's back.

She could imagine how terrible it must have felt when he lost his son.

His wife had died shortly after giving birth, so Kim Min-chul gave Kim Sung-hyun all of the affection that was meant for his wife. If it was the Kim Min-chul she knew, it wouldn't be strange if he collapsed after the death of his son and become a wastrel.

That was why Min Ha-rin's doubts deepened.

Suddenly, Kim Min-chul stopped.

"We're here."

"...here."

It was a place that Min Ha-rin knew well.

It was the entrance to the Korea Branch of the Hunter Association, which was a renovated underground shopping mall in the center of Busan.

But it felt completely different from back then.

First of all, the people guarding the hideout weren't Korean. Also, instead of clothes that normal hunters wore, their clothing was similar to Kim Min-chul's.

The skyscraper that sat above the shopping mall had originally been used only as a decoy, but now, the entire building was lit.

Above all, flags and banners covered the building. Each of these flags, which fluttered in the wind, had the symbol of two eyes on a pure white background.

When the guards spotted them, they bowed politely.

“Father, you’ve returned.” (TL: Like the way one would address a priest of the church)

“The people behind you...?”

“They are the guests I mentioned before.”

“Ah... I see.”

One of the guards looked over to the group and bowed slightly.

“Welcome to the Church of Eternal Life.”

**Season 2 Chapter 106**

“...Church of Eternal Life? Isn’t this the Korea Branch Headquarters?”

When he heard this, the expression on the guard's face became a bit strange.

"I'll explain in a little bit. Let's go inside first."

Kim Min-chul stepped forward, cutting off the conversation. The guards bowed once more before opening the doors.

After going inside the building, they went into an elevator and went up.

When they stopped at the 5th floor, Kim Min-chul guided them to a room.

"Please wait here for a moment."

"Ah, uncle. Wait a minute."

"What is it?"

"Where are my younger siblings now?"

"..."

Min Ha-rin's face was a bit flushed when she said this.

Although she didn't want to admit it in front of Lukas, the main reason why she agreed to come to Korea this time was because she was worried about her younger siblings.

Of course, she knew that they were older now and she didn't need to baby them, but it had been a few years since she'd last seen them, and she was a bit worried.

It would also be a lie to say that she didn't miss them.

Kim Min-chul's expression darkened slightly. He stood there for a moment before muttering briefly.

"...I'll bring them to you. Wait here."

After saying that, Kim Min-chul left the room. As soon as he was gone, Sedi sat on the well-made bed and shook her hips a little before frowning.

"This place is unpleasant."

Her gaze then turned to where Kim Min-chul had been standing before.

"Especially that guy. I have a bad feeling about him."

“Uncle Min-chul is not a bad person.”

“Who said he was a bad person? I just have a bad feeling. More importantly...”

Sedi turned to Min Ha-rin.

“You... Why do you keep talking informally to me?”

“I should be the one asking you that.”

Strangely, Min Ha-rin felt that she didn't want to lose to Sedi. She'd felt this way the moment she learned that she was Lukas' daughter. In other words, from the very beginning.

Although this little girl was probably strong enough to survive being hit by a truck, she didn't intend to lower her head.

“I'm older than you.”

“You bare-faced liar. You look younger than my younger siblings.”

“You cheeky mortal...”

Lukas ignored the two bickering women and opened the window.

He blocked the dirty air from entering the room with a barrier and looked at the landscape outside.

The streets below were so hazy that it was hard to believe it was only midday.

In all honesty, Lukas felt quite frustrated at that moment.

The streets were narrow and seemed to have not been built with any consideration for the locations of the buildings. The sizes were also different, so there was no uniformity even if one squinted one's eyes. It was completely different from the sophisticated streets and skyscrapers that he saw in North America. It also felt even worse because of how close together they were. (TL: If Lukas thinks *Korea* is bad, he should never come to my country.)

To make matters worse. Most of the streets were built on a mountainside, and there were many side streets, which seemed much more complicated than even the worst slums.

'It's a country with a small territory compared to its population.'

When he recalled the characteristics of Korea, Lukas understood to an extent.

Click.

Then the door opened again. Kim Min-chul had returned.



“It’s too late for today, so I’ll arrange for a meeting with the Saint tomorrow morning. Is that all right?”

When Lukas nodded, Kim Min-chul smiled.

“And Ha-rin, I brought your younger siblings.”

He then turned around and beckoned.

“Ha-min, Ha-yun, come here.”

Min Ha-rin turned to look behind Kim Min-chul.

But when she saw her younger siblings for the first time in quite a few years, her heart sank.

\* \* \*

In confirmation of Min Ha-rin’s earlier words, although they were clearly teenagers, they both looked older than Sedi.

But it wasn’t their age that Min Ha-rin noticed.

She hadn’t seen them in years.

But there was one reason why her heart sank instead of becoming filled with pleasure at their reunion.

Both of them were covered in injuries. Of course, they couldn't be called serious injuries, but they both had scars all over their bodies. Some of them appeared new, some looked like they were almost finished healing, and some were completely healed.

Min Ha-rin had never seen these scars before.

“...you guys...”

For the first time in a long while, she called out to her younger siblings.

Her call caused them to flinch back before slowly raising their heads to see who was calling them.

Their eyes, which were half-filled with doubt, grew wider before becoming filled with tears.

“...Big sis.”

“B-, big sis!”

Then they rushed over to Min Ha-rin and hugged her.

“Big sis!”

“H-, huk.”

As she wrapped her arms around her crying brother and sister, Min Ha-rin felt like crying as well. Forcibly suppressing the tightness of her throat, Min Ha-rin spoke slowly.

“I’m sorry I wasn’t able to contact you. Why are you guys so injured? What happened to you?”

Now that she could see them up close, Min Ha-rin was in a rush to find out what happened.

The pain she felt at that moment was much greater than when she suffered from serious injuries.

When she mentioned their wounds, the two flinched and exchanged glances.

“Th-, these wounds...”

“They are...”

“They are medals.”

This answer came from Kim Min-chul.

He was watching the reunion of the three siblings with a pleased expression.

“...medals?”

“Your younger siblings are currently undergoing trials to enter the Church of Eternal Life. Originally, they wouldn’t have been able to contact outsiders while undergoing their trials, but we made a special exception for you, Ha-rin. After all, you haven’t seen your younger siblings in years.”

Min Ha-rin’s gaze became sharp.

She slowly turned to Kim Min-chul and asked in a pointed tone.

“These trials... are they taking them voluntarily?”

“Of course.”

“...that’s impossible.”

Unlike herself, her two younger siblings had never dared to undergo any hardships. They were naturally gentle and timid, and they had never even fought against others when they were younger, let alone Demons.

She knew that better than anyone.

She had raised them by herself since they were babies.

She would never believe that her younger siblings would willingly undergo any kind of painful trial.

Min Ha-rin looked down at Ha-min and Ha-yun. Their lips twitched slightly as though they wanted to say something, but in the end, they both lowered their heads, remaining silent.

This sight made her stomach churn.

Min Ha-rin's eyes turned to Kim Min-chul once again.

"I will never forgive anyone who dares to touch my family."

"I know. You've always loved your younger siblings dearly."

"...What the hell is the Church of Eternal Life?"

"It is the light, the only hope that we can get through these desperate times."

After saying this, Kim Min-chul's calm expression became serious.

“Ha-rin, you should join our church as well. I’m sure the Saint and the Bishop would accept you with open arms. At your level, you wouldn’t even have to undergo the trials.”

“I’m sorry, but I don’t intend to follow some kind of mysterious religion like that.”

Kim Min-chul’s expression became one of displeasure.

“...are you insulting our Church of Eternal Life?”

“With the things you did to my-”

“We have no intention of doing that. Ha-rin is just overreacting a little.”

It was Lukas who interrupted Min Ha-rin before her tirade could begin. Then, Min Ha-rin’s aura, which had begun to rise, slowly settled back down.

Kim Min-chul watched this with a slightly surprised expression.

‘Ha-rin listened to him so easily.’

The Min Ha-rin he knew, while not rude, was very independent and stubborn at the same time as being extremely hot-headed.

She was the type who would never back down if she thought something was wrong, so she was often called 'the child who grew up too quickly to be cute' by the adults.

That was why Kim Min-chul found it strange that Min Ha-rin listened to Lukas' words so easily.

Lukas walked over to Min Ha-rin's siblings, kneeled, and looked them in the eyes.

Min Ha-min, and Min Ha-yun.

Both of them looked very similar to Min Ha-rin. The boy appeared to be a few years older.

"Hello."

"Ah, hello."

"Hi... who are you, oppa?"

"I'm Ha-rin's Master."

"Her Master?"

“Right.”

Lukas smiled gently after saying that, and one of the eyebrows of Sedi, who was standing behind him, twitched slightly.

Suddenly, Kim Min-chul coughed in his hand.

“It’s getting late, and you must be tired after a long-distance teleportation, so we’ll get going. Now, children. It was nice to see her again after a long time, wasn’t it? It’s time to go back now.”

The warm atmosphere, which had just formed, was destroyed by his voice.

Min Ha-min and Min Ha-yun lowered their heads, not daring to refute him.

“W-, we’ll see you later, big sis.”

Min Ha-min turned around first. But Min Ha-yun hesitated a bit before looking up at Min Ha-rin and opening her mouth.

“H-, hey, big sis. By chance...”

Min Ha-rin realised what her little sister wanted to say, and spoke in a firm tone.



“I’m not going anywhere.”

“Ah.”

“Don’t worry, just trust me. Everything is going to be all right.”

“M-, mhm.”

It was only then when Min Ha-min and Min Ha-yun’s expressions brightened for the first time.

Kim Min-chul sent them away first, but he didn’t leave immediately.

“Ha-rin.”

“Yeah.”

There was a big change.

There was no longer any affection in their voices.

“The Leader and the Branch President want to meet you. Can you meet them right now?”

“...the Branch President.”

The person he referred to as Leader should have been the head of the Church of Eternal Life. In all honesty, she wasn't fond of the offer.

'However...'

She had to meet the President of the Korea Branch.

If she met him, she would be able to find out what the hell happened here.

“Understood.”

“Good. Let's go right away... why don't the two of you wait here for a while?”

Kim Min-chul looked over to Lukas and Sedi as he said the last part.

In an unexpected display of cooperation, Lukas nodded.

“No problem.”

“Thank you for your understanding. Let's go Ha-rin.”

“Yeah.”

Min Ha-rin made eye contact with Lukas before following Kim Min-chul. Lukas simply nodded without saying anything, but that alone was enough to fill Min Ha-rin with confidence.

She didn't know what the Church of Eternal Life was or what was going on there. However, she didn't think they would be a threat to her with her Master here.

Min Ha-rin clenched her fist and walked confidently behind Kim Min-chul.

Tak.

The door closed.

Sedi looked at it for a while before muttering softly.

“That was unexpected.”

“What was?”

“That girl. Min Ha-rin or whatever. I feel like she's different when she's with you. I think I just saw an expression I never saw her make before.”

She saw an unexpected side.

Lukas nodded.

“That’s because you’ve only seen her rely on me. But there are things that Min Ha-rin has to protect as well.”

When he protected those weaker than himself, he grew stronger.

Min Ha-rin appeared to be the same. Without even giving herself enough time to grieve after losing their parents, she steeled herself to raise her two younger siblings who were more frightened and anxious than she was.

“Perhaps what you’re seeing now is Min Ha-rin’s true form.”

“That’s enough of your human anthem. In any case, this place is suspicious. The <Church of Eternal Life>.”

A condescending smirk spread across Sedi’s lips.

“That’s not a concept mortals should talk about.”

“ ... ”

“So what are you going to do? Are you going to stay here?”

“No. I need to go for now.”

Lukas was silent for a moment before looking up.

“There’s something that concerns me.”

### **Season 2 Chapter 107**

Tap-

They walked down a dark hallway.

The only sound that could be heard was their soft footsteps, and the lights above them flashed as though they hadn’t been maintained for a long time.

The people they encountered as they walked all bowed deeply to Kim Min-chul. To Min Ha-rin, they were more like puppets than people.

Unable to bear the silence, Min Ha-rin opened her mouth.

“Are we going to see the Branch President?”

“Huh? Ah.”

Kim Min-chul answered without looking back.

“We’re going to the Bishop first.”

“...”

They went down to the basement.

Not by elevator but by stairs.

They descended down a spiral staircase that had clearly not been there before. The deeper they went, the darker it became and the more unsettled Min Ha-rin became.

It felt that not just her body but also her mind was being buried beneath the ground.

After an unknown amount of time passed, they reached the end of the spiral staircase, which felt like it led down into a bottomless abyss.

Several candles placed in a straight line along the hallway subtly illuminated their path. Kim Min-chul walked down this hallway without hesitation, as though he was very familiar with it.

'...was there such a place in the Korea Branch?'

Suppressing her doubts, Min Ha-rin continued to follow Kim Min-chul.

Eventually, they arrived at a door at the end of the hallway, and when it opened, they saw a person in the room.

At first, Min Ha-rin thought that the figure sitting in the middle of the room was a corpse.

He was so old that she couldn't help but think that.

The skin on his entire body was severely wrinkled to the point where he appeared shriveled. His thin cheeks and wrist were reminiscent of an old tree.

The old man wore a priestly robe similar to what Kim Min-chul was wearing, but his robes were embroidered and were much more colorful.

Of course, with his thin body, he looked more like a scarecrow wearing a sack than a religious leader.

Looking at this old man, Min Ha-rin couldn't help but feel that it wouldn't be strange if he died at any moment. She'd met people who were around 80 or 90 years old. But this old man in front of her looked much older than them. It was as though he was the embodiment of the concept of aging.

Nevertheless, there was one thing that stood out.

His eyes were sharp. Like a nocturnal animal's or a predator's, they stood out in the dimly lit room.

"You must be Min Ha-rin."

His voice was as rough as his appearance. A terrible sound similar to when one scratched their nails on an old tree.

However, Kim Min-chul bowed his head reverently when he heard this voice as if he'd heard the voice of God.

"I heard a lot about you from your younger siblings. I'm Slei Paprostin. The Bishop of the Church of Eternal Life."

"Min Ha-rin."

"Right... Hmm."

Slei smiled slightly as he looked Min Ha-rin over with his bright eyes.

"I heard you were a swordsman, but that doesn't seem to be the case. Are you a Wizard?"



“That’s right.”

“A Swordsman became a Wizard? That’s not a simple process...”

Slei did not hide his interest in Min Ha-rin as he pointed upwards.

“Was it your Master upstairs who did that for you?”

“Yes.”

“Right. As we expected, he is a great being.”

Min Ha-rin narrowed her eyes at those words.

“...do you know my Master?”

“Right.”

Slei chuckled.

“We’ve been waiting for him.”

“ ... ”

“Come and have a seat, Min Ha-rin. We have so much to talk about. I’ll use this chance to explain to you. The doctrine of our Church of Eternal Life.”

\* \* \*

Lukas used Ghost to look around the base.

After becoming an Absolute, he no longer needed to distinguish between his body and soul, but this time, he made an effort to leave his body in the room.

This was because he thought someone might stop by to check on the room while he was roaming around the base. If that were to happen, it would be very suspicious if Lukas wasn’t present.

Of course, the most important reason for this decision was the fact that he had a reliable bodyguard now.

Lukas thought about Sedi for a moment before resuming his search.

Few of the people there appeared to be hunters. Instead, most of them wore priestly robes like Kim Min-chul. Of course, there were some differences from the robes worn by Catholic priests.

What concerned him was the heavy atmosphere that seemed to cover the entire branch. Instead of going underground, Lukas headed up. To the very top of this large skyscraper.

That was where the thing that 'concerned him' was.

Shuk-

At the very top of the building was a large room from which one could overlook the entirety of Busan. In this room, which was so bright that one could forget the darkness of the city, stood a single figure.

This figure suddenly turned around.

This figure had a strangely neutral appearance. There were no traits or indicators of gender among this figure's neat facial features.

Above all, it was their white eyes that truly drew Lukas' attention. These eyes, with no pupil or iris, shined brightly, even in the brightly lit room. In fact, it felt like the brightness in the room was actually light that was 'pouring' from their eyes.

They looked towards Lukas.

At first, Lukas thought it was a coincidence. After all, it was impossible for even a Great Wizard who had reached 9 stars to see Lukas when he was in his Ghost state. But after this person's gaze turned to Lukas, it didn't turn away.

Instead, as more time passed, the certainty that they were looking at him increased.

“Ah! Hello!”

Finally, they smiled softly, their expression a mixture of purity and naivety.

“How can I help you, soul?”

**Season 2 Chapter 108**

“What did you think when you first heard the name Church of Eternal Life?”

“That it’s a cult.”

Min Ha-rin spoke in a blunt tone, and Kim Min-chul’s eyes widened.

“Min Ha-rin!”

“Ahaha!”

Slei, on the other hand, burst into laughter. Min Ha-rin wondered briefly where that thin body found the energy to let out such a loud laugh.

This old man in front of her was the Bishop, the highest authority in the Church of Eternal Life. So she wanted to see how he would react if she insulted his religion in front of him.

It was very rude, but she couldn't think of any other way. For Min Ha-rin, it was more important than anything else to figure out exactly what this mysterious religion was and how to get her younger siblings out of it.

"Actually, there was a cult that carried this name in the past. However, we are very different from them, and so is our path. Immortality is not something mortals can hope to achieve."

"Then why do you call yourselves the Church of Eternal Life?"

"Eternal life, everlasting life... What do you think it means to have such a life? Does it end when your body dies? It doesn't. As long as the soul doesn't disappear, the being will not disappear. The same goes for the path we walk on. Everything will be reincarnated."

"..."

Reincarnation was a religious term that was mainly used in Buddhism.

So when this old man in priestly robes said this word, it felt a bit strange.

"It seems to me that the Church of Eternal Life took concepts that belong to other religions and interpreted them as they please."

“It’s natural for us to take from them. After all, we are latecomers. Religions that were created before we were knowledge worthy of their age. If the things that they say are the truth, it’s not unreasonable for us to say it as well.”

The old man’s stiff lips twisted slightly.

“But do you know the crucial difference between us and them?”

“I don’t.”

“Out of all religions, the Church of Eternal Life is the only one able to prove the existence of souls and the afterlife.”

“...huh?”

Unable to understand, Min Ha-rin blinked for a while. Then, she shook her head and responded.

“Isn’t it just ‘if you believe in the God we believe in, you’ll go to heaven’ or something like that? I don’t see how that makes you different from other religions.”

“There are a lot of differences. Because we don’t have the gods that most religions believe in.”

Slei chuckled.

“There are many religions in this world, but the holy power that they use doesn’t come from the God they believe in. Instead, it comes from their own faith and belief... In other words, their own willpower.”

“...and you are different?”

“That’s right. Because we borrow the power of the God we believe in.”

Slei once more before gesturing to Kim Min-chul behind him.

“Would you mind giving us a minute? I would like to speak to Min Ha-rin alone.”

“But Bishop...”

“Pfft, don’t worry. No matter how old I am, I can still deal with this child.”

“...understood.”

Kim Min-chul was reluctant, but he dared not disobey a direct order from the Bishop. With heavy steps, he left the room.

Tak-

The door closed, and silence fell once again.

Slei let out a soft chuckle.

“What do you think of when you hear the word ‘God’?”

“...God, the Creator, the being who made all things.”

She didn't believe in God.

Min Ha-rin swallowed her words before she could say them, but Slei was able to pick up on what she was thinking.

“Hmm. You're an atheist. There used to be a lot of atheists in Korea.”

“Is that so?”

Nowadays, there were often crosses and other religious symbols wherever one looked, so she wasn't aware of it.

However, before the advent of the Demons, the percentage of atheists in Korea was among the highest in the world.



“Omniscience and omnipotence. These are traits that only God is qualified to possess. In that sense, there can only be one being who can be called God in all universes. Most beings don’t know that fact, but we were able to recognise it.”

All universes.

These words sounded strange to her, but Min Ha-rin chose not to point it out.

“The absolute being. The one true God. You’re not trying to say that’s you, are you?”

Most cult leaders tended to refer to themselves as God or claimed to be the sons of God who had inherited their blood.

The world was already broken. Crowds of wounded and desperate people wailed in the streets, their hearts and wills shattering at the slightest touch.

Ironically, this was the best time for religions to flourish.

Those who were injured, sick, or had lost their loved ones instinctively sought something to rely on.

Min Ha-rin never thought that religion was a bad thing. After all, she was happy that the wounded and ill could find shelter.

What she really hated were those who used the weak for their own means.

People who treated faith like a business, who were no better than trash.

“Huhu.”

Despite Min Ha-rin’s harsh tone and rude attitude, Slei remained calm.

“Of course not. I’m nothing more than a mortal who was lucky enough to sit on this seat through the hand of fate.”

“...”

His attitude took Min Ha-rin by surprise.

She could tell from his expression. This man wasn’t trying to be humble, nor was he pretentious. He genuinely thought so.

“Let’s get back to the main topic. The soul is our source, a repository of our memories, of our path so far. Generally, no being has the right to extinguish the soul, so it can be said to have some degree of immortality. So as long as our souls don’t disappear, our lives won’t disappear. Couldn’t that, then, be called eternal life?”

Slei stood up, his face slightly flushed and his breathing noticeably quicker.

It seemed that he was so excited that he could no longer contain it.

“But eternal life is also a poisoned holy grail. How long would it take for the blessing of eternal life to instead feel like a curse of eternal torture? A hundred years? A thousand? I don’t know because I haven’t lived that long... But I’m certain that it would be much shorter than I thought. So I thought, pondered, agonised about it before finally finding the answer. In order to live an eternal life, one must be accompanied by those one truly loves.”

“...huh?”

Min Ha-rin’s eyes widened at the unexpected remark.

Slei let out a low laugh.

“Whether it’s your family, siblings, friends, or lovers, anyone will do. As long as there is someone to accompany you through the eons, the blessing will never become a curse.”

Slei’s expression changed as he muttered in a low voice.

“[Everlasting Life together with the ones you love]. That is the doctrine of our Church of Eternal Life.”

“...are you trying to say that if I entered the Church of Eternal Life, my siblings and I could be together forever?”

“It’s not just that. Didn’t I say earlier? We have proven the existence of souls and the afterlife.”

“...!”

Min Ha-rin’s eyes suddenly went wide at those words.

“There’s no way...”

“We can also revive the dead.”

Min Ha-rin took a deep, heavy breath.

At that moment, the faces of Kim Min-chul, who had seemed strangely calm all this time, and Kim Sung-hyun, whom she’d loved dearly, appeared in Min Ha-rin’s mind.

“I didn’t force any of your younger siblings to join us. I simply told them one thing. In return for joining the Church of Eternal Life, you will be able to see your parents again.”

“...those kids have no memory of our parents.”

“That doesn’t mean they wouldn’t want to meet them.”

“...”

Min Ha-rin belatedly realised that the defiance in her voice had become dull.

Perhaps Slei noticed it too.

He fixed his expression before speaking in a low, heavy tone.

“Ha-rin, don’t you want to see your dead parents again?”

\* \* \*

Lukas realised that the person in front of him had the most powerful ‘soul eyes’ that he’d ever seen before.

‘No.’

It wasn’t just soul eyes. The power that he could feel from those eyes could not be described with just one term.

A white glow appeared in Lukas’ eyes. He started to examine the person’s eyes with Clairvoyance.

And soon, he received a startling result.

To Lukas' surprise, even his Clairvoyance was unable to see through their eyes. Lukas looked at them properly once again.

Pure white eyes without even the slightest blemish stared back at him unblinkingly.

'Soul... they called me a soul.'

It seemed that this person had mistaken him for a soul.

Lukas decided to use this misunderstanding to his benefit.

[I want to know your name.]

The person smiled and answered this absurd question without any hesitation.

"My name is Arid."

**Season 2 Chapter 109**

[...Arid, you can see souls?]

Of course, it wasn't the fact that he could see souls in itself that was terrifying.

When one achieved a certain level of holy power, one could accumulate soul energy in one's eyes. The resulting soul eyes allowed one to look beyond the material world and get a glimpse of the mystical world.

What Lukas paid attention to was the fact that Arid had 'accurately' pinpointed his location although he was using Ghost.

There were probably no more than 10 humans in this world who could notice him when he was in this state. And even if they did notice him, it would still be almost impossible for them to look at him.

Now that Lukas had separated his body and soul, his soul was now in an unfiltered and unsuppressed state. This meant that if an ordinary mortal were to look at him, their brain would probably become fried.

But this human named Arid was different.

He didn't seem to be burdened at all despite looking directly at Lukas' face. Nor did he seem to perceive him as anything other than a soul.

This was proof that he had formidable talent.

"But I've never seen a soul as large as you."

Arid smiled innocently.

An indescribable admiration flashed in their eyes.

“Really... You’re so big that it’s hard to see all of you with a glance. This is my first time seeing a soul like you. I’m not sure I’d succeed.”

[Succeed?]

“Yeah! I send souls to the <Happy Country>.”

[...]

The Happy Country. There was no country with such a name in this world, and it seemed that the name was referring to something else.

“Ahem.”

Arid suddenly cleared his throat and spoke with a reverent expression.

“Now, then, Mr. Soul. Tell me what troubles you have that prevent you from finding peace and make you wander around the world. I will help you.”

[I have no troubles.]



“Huh?”

[...?]

Arid seemed to have not expected such a response and lost their persona for a moment. But with a soft cough, they quickly reformed their expression.

“...ahem. Excuse me. Um, are you saying that nothing is troubling you?”

That wasn't possible.

Arid tilted their head to the side.

It was very difficult to become a soul without troubles, regrets, or anguish.

[Well, I do. But I don't think you would be able to solve them.]

“Ahh. I'm sure that a soul as large as you are would have quite a few troubles.”

Arid said this in a solemn tone as they patted their chest.

“Nevertheless, you have troubles. I can assure you that you will feel much lighter after confiding in me. I will gladly listen.”

[...]

Troubles.

Of course, Lukas had countless troubles.

If he were to talk about the thing that was troubling him the most lately, it would definitely be Kasajin.

But Lukas shook his head and asked instead.

[What about you?]

“Huh?”

[You seem to have a lot of troubles as well.]

A look of surprise crossed Arid’s face.

“Ahaha... you’re quite sharp. You’re different from other souls! This is the first time I’ve been asked something like that.”

[...]

“It’s all right, though. My troubles are insignificant.”

[There is no such thing as insignificant trouble. That’s a contradiction.]

If it was insignificant, then it wouldn’t be a problem.

Lukas looked carefully at Arid. After looking at them for a moment, he opened his mouth.

[You were born with a very rare gift.]

“It must be God’s will.”

[...a long time ago, I met someone like you.]

“Huh?”

Arid’s eyes widened at those words.

It was as though they’d never heard those words before.

But Lukas wasn't lying.

While he hadn't been able to completely see through their soul's eyes with his Clairvoyance, he was still able to see its essence. And the image of a woman immediately appeared in his mind.

A woman who came from an island country.

The name of the country was <Hitume Ikar>, and that woman held the title 'Great Medium' in that country.

And the being 'Dawns' that was worshipped in that country... turned out to be God.

The one and only creator, who created all of the three thousand worlds.\*

The Great Medium had probably been the only one in that universe who could hear the voice of God.

Arid was probably the same.

[Can you hear God's voice as well?]

"...!"

Lukas looked at Arid's surprised expression.

He was certain at that moment.

This person with a neutral appearance was the Saint of Salvation, one of the Top Three.

\* \* \*

"Wow!"

Arid's voice was filled with genuine admiration.

"How did you know?"

[Your eyes told me so.]

"Ah. These?"

Arid touched their eyes. Then, they suddenly turned to the table beside them and picked up the white strip of cloth that lay there.

“I usually cover my eyes with this.”

There was no need for them to explain.

There were only two reactions an ordinary person would have upon seeing Arid’s eyes.

Awe or fear.

It wasn’t necessary to mention the latter, but the former was also not very good for Arid. After all, there was no feeling more one-sided than awe.

“But Mr. Soul wasn’t very surprised when you saw my eyes. Is it perhaps because you met people like me before?”

[...]

“The person who’s like me. Is it possible for me to meet them too?”

[It’s impossible.]

“Ah... I see.”

Arid scratched their cheek as they muttered this.

[Can you heal the injured?]

“Wow, you even know about that.”

Arid shrugged and muttered in a slightly smug voice.

“Not to brag or anything, but it is one of my best talents.”

[What about the dead?]

“Huh?”

[Can you bring the dead back to life?]

This was to verify the authenticity of the rumours he'd heard about the Saint before coming here.

“That...”

Arid paused for a moment at those words. They seemed to seriously ponder about something before finally opening their mouths.

“Ah. Is this question related to Mr. Soul’s troubles?”

[You could say that.]

In truth, his immediate goal was to heal Neil Prand.

The second question about resurrecting the dead was only his personal curiosity.

After thinking for a while, Arid finally shook their head slowly.

“I can’t resurrect them.”

[...]

That was natural.

Resurrecting someone who had already died was something that was difficult for Lukas even if he were to use all of his power.

Of course, it was possible to forcefully pull a soul from the afterlife and place it in an artificial body, but that couldn’t be called resurrection in the true sense of the word.

But Arid then said something strange.



“However, I can let you meet them.”

[Let me meet them?]

“Yeah. I can. If there is anyone you want to meet, then I can help you meet them. Even if they are already dead or if their soul has crossed over to the other side.”

[...]

Arid smiled naively and said.

“That’s my ability.”

Was that the truth or a lie?

Lukas looked Arid in the eyes.

This was a habitual action when he was trying to see through the other, but it didn’t have much of an effect against Arid. Their soul eyes perfectly countered his Clairvoyance.

[Then...]

Just as Lukas was about to respond.

Chichik-

“Ugh...”

Sparks began flying off his body, and Arid stumbled backward, covering their eyes.

“Wh, what’s going on?”

Lukas couldn’t maintain the Ghost state for much longer. If he continued to roam around without a vessel like his body, his soul would gradually return to its original form. In other words, his full power as an Absolute would be unleashed.

That was the reason for the sparks. Lukas’ aura was gradually beginning to swell.

‘I can’t keep this up for much longer.’

No matter how amazing Arid’s soul eyes were, it was still a difficult task for them to look at his true essence. So he had to return to his body to regulate and suppress his soul once again.

[I have to leave now.]

“Ah...”

A strange look of regret appeared on Arid’s face.

They twiddled their fingers for a little bit before finally opening their mouth.

“Hey, Mr. Soul.”

[What is it?]

“Mr. Soul said that you don’t need me to bother with your troubles, but... it would be better for a soul to go where it belongs instead of wandering the world. So...”

Seeing them stutter like that, Lukas realised what they were trying to say.

He nodded.

[I’ll be back.]

“Ah...”

Arid smiled brightly.

“Yeah.”

## **Season 2 Chapter 110**

When Lukas returned to the room, he found Sedi fiddling with his body. The expression on her face was so serious that one would think she was conducting some extremely important research.

[What are you doing?]

“Mm!”

Sedi didn't seem to be surprised by Lukas' voice and instead raised her hand to her chin contemplatively.

“I'm just checking exactly what you are.”

[...]

“As I expected, you're an Absolute who was once a human. Nevertheless, Father's body is pretty high quality. From what I can see, you were probably the best among humans.”

Shaking his head at Sedi's strange praise, Lukas returned to his body.

But even after entering his body, she didn't let go of him. In fact, she actually began to act more aggressively.

With her two small hands, she stretched Lukas' cheeks to their maximum.

This was the first time he had ever experienced something like this, so Lukas was speechless for a while.

"Wow. Amazing."

"...what is?"

"Father's face got warmer when your soul returned. By the way, how can you separate your body and soul? Is that one of your Lord abilities?"

"..."

Forcefully moving Sedi's hands away, Lukas rose from his seat.

Sedi pouted slightly but obediently backed away.

"Did you have any harvest?"

“Right. I met the Saint.”

“Oh? How was it?”

“They are certainly a strange person. I couldn’t fully see through them.” (TL: Still using ‘they’ since there hasn’t been any gender confirmation)

“You coul-?”

Just as Sedi asked back in surprise, the door opened and Min Ha-rin appeared. Kim Min-chul was nowhere to be found.

However, Min Ha-rin’s attitude was a bit strange. She staggered around as though she was broken.

“What’s wrong with you? You look like you’ve seen a ghost.”

“...!”

Those words caused Min Ha-rin to subconsciously shiver.

Lukas walked up to the small refrigerator in a corner of the room, took out a small plastic bottle, and handed it over to Min Ha-rin.

Min Ha-rin lowered her head as she received the bottle of water.

“...thank you.”

“What happened?”

“...”

Min Ha-rin’s face was extremely pale. Not only that, but her lips were also as white as snow.

She hesitated for a moment before finally lifting her head and speaking for a moment.

“Master, there is something I’d like to ask you.”

“What is it?”

“Is it possible to bring the dead back to life?”

“...”

Lukas was silent for a moment.

“No, it’s not.”

As far as Lukas knew, only God and the Rulers, as well as very few Absolutes, who had powers relating to life or creation, were able to resurrect the dead.

And there was no Absolute with that power currently in this universe.

“I just met the Bishop of the Church of Eternal Life. He said he would let me meet my parents.”

He already knew that Min Ha-rin’s parents were dead.

Min Ha-rin continued with a heavy expression.

“...then I met my parents.”

At that moment, Sedi opened her mouth to say something, but Lukas discreetly shook his head at her.

Min Ha-rin shook her head for a moment before taking a deep breath. It seemed as though she was steeling her resolve and determination.

“Master, I would like to make a request.”



“What is it?”

“For the time being...”

Min Ha-rin hesitated one last time. Lukas could feel that this was because she was preparing herself to make an incredibly difficult choice.

Nevertheless, it seemed that she'd already made up her mind. She wouldn't back down now.

Since she had already come this far, she might as well go all the way.

Forcibly suppressing her hesitation, Min Ha-rin spoke in a clear voice.

“For the time being, I would like to move around on my own.”

\* \* \*

After Lukas agreed to her request, Min Ha-rin went to stay in a completely different room. Fortunately, her room wasn't very far. It was only a few doors down from this room.

But that wasn't the point.

The point was that for whatever reason, Min Ha-rin had voluntarily chosen to walk out from Lukas' shadow.

"I didn't expect you to accept her request."

"Why's that?"

"It could be that she fell for the Bishop's schemes. After all, it usually isn't hard for cult leaders to rope others in."

"That's a narrow-minded way of thinking. I have faith in Ha-rin."

"Ah. I see."

Sedi looked at Lukas with a blatantly unbelieving expression.

"Nevertheless, why do you look so happy?"

"Of course I'm happy. My disciple is already preparing to stand on her own."

Although it was earlier than he expected, it was natural for a teacher to feel happy when their student became more self-reliant.

That was why a smile was currently stretched across Lukas' lips.

"That child will certainly become stronger. The experience she gains from this place will be fertilizer for her growth."

Sedi, who looked at him with a slightly displeased expression, muttered under her breath.

"...you know. You're supposed to be closer to your daughter than your disciple, aren't you?"

"That should normally be the case, yes. But why are you asking that all of a sudden?"

"...no reason. Does Father have anything else to say? I'm sleepy, so I don't want to talk anymore."

"..."

Now that he thought about it since she now had a human body, Sedi probably needed to sleep. This was probably incredibly inconvenient and annoying for Sedi, who had still been an Absolute just a few days ago.

Thinking about that, Lukas ended the conversation, allowing her to go to sleep. Instead, he sat down and closed his eyes.

Then, he became immersed in his thoughts about their 'mission'.

There was a time limit to saving Neil. To put it bluntly, it was probably a week, or it might even be shorter than that.

This meant that he had to persuade the Saint, who resided at the top of the building, within that time.

It would probably not be an easy task, but it would certainly be impossible if he were to act hastily.

Lukas decided it was best not to rush.

\* \* \*

The next morning, Kim Min-chul came to them.

“Mr. Frey, the Saint has accepted your request. They said they would be available in the evening four days from now.”

Four days from now.

Considering the length of time, it was a bit tight, but Frey wasn't in a rush since he had already found a way to contact the Saint separately.

“Then I will meet them then.”

“Ah... By the way.”

Then, he spoke as though he'd suddenly remembered something.

“Would Mr. Frey also be willing to become a member of our Church of Eternal Life?”

“Sorry, but I am an atheist.”

“Ah. Come to think of it, you did mention that you were a Wizard.”

Kim Min-chul nodded with a disappointed expression.

At that moment, Sedi, who was lazily sprawled on the bed, suddenly spoke up.

“Can we get a tour or something like that?”

Kim Min-chul didn't seem to mind the attitude of this girl who was young enough to be his daughter and instead smiled.

“Of course you can.”

“Then I’d like to take a look around to pass the time. Is that alright, Father?”

Lukas nodded his head without much thought.

Since it was Sedi, there naturally wasn’t any reason for him to worry.

“Just come back before evening.”

This was because he had decided to meet with Arid that evening. Sedi simply nodded before leaving the room with Kim Min-chul.

Lukas sat on the bed and meditated.

—By the time Lukas awoke from his meditation, the sky was already dark, and Sedi had already returned.

“How was your tour?”

“It was boring and annoying.”

Sedi grumbled for a moment before looking at Lukas.

“Are you going to visit the Saint tonight?”

“Right?”

The expression of Sedi, which had been depressed until now, immediately brightened.

She smiled slyly and waved her hand.

“Go have fun, Father. Daughter will protect your body.”

“...don't do anything weird.”

“I won't. I won't.”

Lukas tried his best to erase the strange feeling of anxiety that welled up in him at that moment before he once again headed to the top floor of the building with Ghost.

Just like the day before, Arid was calmly overlooking the city below. However, as though they felt Lukas' presence, they suddenly lifted their heads and turned around.

“Ah! Mr. Soul! You're back.”

[As I promised.]

“Hehehe.”

Arid chuckled.

“I’ve been thinking about it since yesterday! Is there anyone that Mr. Soul would like to meet?”

[...someone I’d like to meet?”

“Yeah! That’s what I’m best at! Helping others meet those that they want to meet.”

Now that he mentioned it, Lukas did recall hearing something like that the day before.

...Someone he wanted to meet.

Of course, there was. But it was impossible for the human in front of him to fulfill his wish. After all, it was qualitatively different from contacting souls that had already passed to the afterlife or who were still wandering around the world.

Nevertheless, Lukas wouldn’t easily reveal that. After all, his priority was to build a good relationship with Arid.

[There is.]



