

LOA Nobody 141

Chapter 141 The Birthday Event End - Part 3 - Healing

While the Royal Palace was celebrating the birthday of the princess and now the awakening of their princess, far away from them a black car glided through the silent streets of the city. Its sleek form cutting through the darkness like a shadow in the night.

The city, usually bustling with life, was now quiet and empty. Some dazzling decorations and colorful fireworks would paint the sky with bright bursts of light from time to time.

The car's windows were tinted, concealing the identity of those within. Yet the faint sound of the loud music outside could still be heard inside.

Myra, who was silently looking outside, glancing at the scenery that passed them by, was startled as she felt the device in her hands light up.

Looking at the message she received, she glanced at the boy sleeping by her side, as she thought if she should wake him up or not. But knowing the importance of the message, she still did.

"There's news from the palace."

Getting no reply in response, she continued "Princess Rebecca had her awakening just now."

"How did it go?" He said, without opening his eyes.

"She awakened the element of water successfully. She even got her first blessing."

Her words caused Esme to look back with a surprised expression, while Myra nodded her head, confirming that all she said was the truth.

"Are we going back to the palace?" Esme asked.

"No, continue driving." Rio said, with his eyes still closed.

Unlike the 2 of them he wasn't surprised. He had already anticipated it. There was no need for him to go back and waste time on babysitting her, while she slept.

"But, it's _"

"We'll meet her tomorrow. Now just keep driving." Esme was saying something, when he cut her off.

Following his wishes Esme started the car again, and kept moving towards their mansion. They would've reached the Blake mansion by now, but the main roads were all crowded by people who were still celebrating the birthday.

After all, most of the things today were free for everyone in the Haven, so people were happy to enjoy them.

That's why she had to take the longer route and go even slower, cause her master sitting behind was trying to sleep.

—

Rio, in his thoughts glanced at the new notification he just received

[Goddess of night wishes you to go back.]

[She feels curious about your partner's progress]

'She's not my partner.'

'And you already know which goddess she followed.'

'Is she fine now?' He asked her, just to be sure.

[She is.]

After reading that, Rio closed the panel with his thoughts.

With Nyx's reaction, he was certain that things went just like what was written, and some new gods or different variables didn't pop up to change things.

—

As the silence lingered in his mind again, his thoughts drafted back to what was supposed to happen next in the novel.

After their failed awakenings both Rebecca and Leon were seriously injured, and wouldn't wake up for 2-3 days.

Leon was taken back to his family, and no one found out someone intentionally halted his awakening.

Rebecca lay in her room, where different healers and priests came to check her condition, almost every few hours. But nothing seemed to work.

Giving up on normal methods, when there was still no change in her situation after 3 days, king Maximus decided to take her to one of the best Medical Association of Arcadia, widely known as 'The Circle of Renewals'.

The CIRCLE OF RENEWALS, an organization entirely devoted to the line of healing and restoration. Healers and priests from all around the world want to join and learn the art of healing here.

But they couldn't since the association followed very strict rules and requirements for outsiders entry.

They hold a respectable position in the world of humans. Yet they remain neutral from all factions. Not interfering in any way.

The healers from there managed to fully cure Rebecca's broken veins, and made her as good as new.

While leaving from the association, Rebecca's eyes fall on the comatose Leon who along with his father were currently waiting outside the gates.

Then the same dog blood routine of cliché followed, as after learning the truth and seeing the sad look on protagonist's dad, who could do nothing but watch both his wife and son unconscious, she agreed to help.

Rebecca ran back to her daddy and asked another favor. Reluctantly the King agreed, and left the place before her dumb daughter decided to ask him to have everyone waiting in line outside cured.

What happened next was even more clichéd shit, as Leon who was more badly wounded than Rebecca, was fully healed in only a few days.

In those few days, somehow the protagonist halo did its magic, and he managed to act pitiful and got in the good graces of an elder there.

As one can guess, that old elder also had a little grand daughter same as Leon's age, who somehow became friends with him.

After a few days, Leon had to leave, but he promised in his usual protagonist tone, that he'll always remember their help, and come meet his new friend if he ever could.

Obviously the girl he met at that time was another heroine. Whom he will meet again at the academy and then everyone knows what's next.

Yupp, she joins the harem too. I think you should take a look at

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It was then that Leon also learned, it was the princess who saved him, otherwise his father and he wouldn't even be allowed entry inside the organization for quite a while. And would have to wait in line for weeks probably.

Going back home, he also saw the princess's poster the next day, which talked about the engagement between Blake family and royal family.

With that he learned that the one who saved him from the bullies, helped him get treated, and the one who helped his mother, are all same girl, and she's the princess.

He also learned that keeping his promise king Maximus really sent healers to help his mother.

After learning everything, Leon again swore in his protagonist voice, that he'll pay back all his favors, and protect her at all cost if he ever got the chance.

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A smile came to Rio's face, when he remembered how the same protagonist who swore to protect her, ended up being the one who killed her.

The irony of that scene was hilarious, as he remembered the cringe lines protagonist swore in the novel at the beginning, and the righteous words he said before he ended up killing her.

—Hun hahaa—

A small chuckle escaped his lips as he remembered both scenes simultaneously. It really was funny.

Seeing him smile out of nowhere, made Esme and Myra confused. But before they could ask him, he composed himself back and started acting like he was sleeping again.

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Rio wondered what kind of effects the changes he brought would bring.

Since the princess is all okay now, who would be the one, who'll save the protagonist.

Will some new character or backing pop up to save him, or will he keep waiting in line for days until those geezers in charge of the circle took notice of him.

He could also go ahead and have Artemis recommend Leon to be treated. With her status, it wouldn't be hard. That way he could have the protagonist feel even more indebted to him.

But then he shook his head again. There was no need for him to do anything.

He already planned to save his mother, that should be goodwill enough.

And besides, learning how the fate of the protagonist worked, would only help him better.

Because from all the novels he read on earth, he was sure, that even if he became friends with protagonist, always helped him and saved him - these righteous hypocrites would always leave him to die and run away with all the heroines, if ever shit hit the fan and bad situations arose.

Hell, he even remembered some novels where the protagonist lets his subordinates die, and then goes to 'comfort' their sisters and wives.

A shudder ran through Rio's back at the thought of that.

'Yeah, not happening.'

'If I let Ria get close to him, who knows what horrific death would she get.'

Protagonist's halo always ends up bringing doom to those close to him, just so he can come to their rescue and shine.

Or if they died, then he'll kill all their rich enemies in the name of revenge, and loot everything they had. After that he'll enjoy his life, while those who died will never be mentioned again.

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Deciding to just let the protagonist be, for a while, Rio turned his attention back to other things he planned for today.

The heroine he was planning to meet was, the very heroine whom Leon uses the Pura Corpus potion to fool.

The future no.1 alchemist of Arcadia, the brightest bookworm of the academy arcs, and another member of Leon's harem - Ayla Mizerpitt.

Just about now, she's going through the worst phase of her life. And this time, HE was going to be the one giving her a helping hand.

Her single support, her ray of hope in this damned world of darkness- would she still fall for the protagonist after he changed her everything, her whole routine.

With her talent in alchemy, and his knowledge of all the recipes written in the novel - the duo of them had zero chance of failure and the profits would be legendary.

He could make half the potions himself, but the more important ones would obviously be more complicated for him to make easily.

To create them, he might just need years of practice in Alchemy, and even then, he might have some chances of failure.

But she, the daughter of destiny, the chosen heroine, well, there was no way she could fail right.

Maybe she would, but at least he has an idea about her talent and ways to help her improve it. While he himself is new to all this.

She can make him potions, & he could leave selling them to his family. That way, he would have more time to deal with other people, instead of wasting it in some lab.

'She will be my first recruit in my fight against my fate.'

Rio thought, and watched as the car stopped moving.

He opened his eyes and a smile came to his face as he looked at a little girl, sitting down and crying in the middle of the road.

Chapter 142 Meeting Another Heroine

The smooth ride of the car came to a halt, when Esme hit the brakes suddenly.

The instant halt jolted Rio and Myra who were silently resting on the backseat.

"What happened?" Myra asked, looking at Esme.

"Someone's blocking the road?" Esme said, pointing forward, while meeting Myra's gaze in the rearview mirror.

Myra looked through the front glass and saw a young girl bent down and crawled into a ball, sitting there in the middle of the road.

"Do I ?" Esme asked, looking back at her.

Myra nodded her head, giving her permission to go out and check.

"Be careful." She added.

The roads were empty and the surroundings deserted. At this time when all of Haven was celebrating free food and drinks, someone stopping their way could be a coincidence, or an ambush.

Though the chances of an attack were low, but it's always better to be careful and brave, then to be dumb and in a grave.

Esme opened the door slowly, her senses heightened with the use of mana, as she scanned the surroundings for any other movement. Her eyes darted from one corner to another, looking for anything suspicious.

After ensuring there was no one else present in near range, or no immediate threat, she stepped out.

Her hand resting near the concealed dagger on her belt, as she started approaching the child slowly.

Rio, who had been resting in the back seat, sensed the change in the atmosphere and opened his eyes.

A smile lit up his face when he saw the girl, confirming his thoughts about where he'd find her.

It was just a wild guess as she was supposed to live around here and had an accident today.

That's all he knew, he didn't know the exact time or place, he was even planning to tell Esme to come back to palace instantly, if he didn't come across her this time.

'Well it would've been doubtful if I kept coming and going through this road, but guess there's no need for that now.' Rio thought.

Without waiting for Myra's permission or response, he opened the door and stepped out.

Esme turned to look back at the sound, as her hand pulled out her dagger, but Rio shook his head and kept walking towards the girl, who was still crying while keeping her head low.

Her slow sobbing was a stark contrast to the silence of the night, or beauty of the celebration he's just been to.

She was the same height as Amelia, but skinny. It was like someone just laminated a skeleton with a plastic skin. Her messy Brunette (dark brown) hair were hanging over her head, covering her face, adding an eerie touch to the scene.

'She's like those ghost kids from movies, with her looks and that sobbing noise.' Rio thought.

If he didn't know any better, he might have just turned back and ran away.

'Looks like the author forgot to mention that huh' he said to himself, trying to cheer himself up.

"master" Esme whispered to him, calling him to stay back. But since he didn't hear, she shouted a little.

"Master"

—Ahhhhhh—

Rio shouted, as he felt someone pulling his shoulders slowly. Feeling like it really is some damn ghost out to haunt him. His scream echoing through the empty streets. Without looking back he started running.

He only took 2 steps further, when he felt a firm grip on his hand. He was about to scream again, but then he heard Esme's voice, "Master, it's me."

Slowly, Rio turned around, his eyes still showing signs of some fear and confusion.

"It's just me, why are you running away?" Esme said, trying to hide the amusement in her voice. His reaction really was funny.

"Why are you acting like some ghost?" Rio asked, glaring at her, while trying to regain his composure back.

He would've laughed at pranks like these on earth, saying ghosts aren't real.

But in Arcadia, they were as real as him. After all, ghosts are just wandering souls of the remnant dead.

That's why he was scared, since he had no way to deal with ghosts, yupp, definitely, that's the only reason.

Though his glaring eyes and angry words did little to scare his shadow, who just chuckled and said, "I didn't mean to scare you. I called you, but you didn't respond. You were just walking lost in thoughts, so I thought I'd bring you back to reality."

"It's not her fault, who knew, the genius young master can't even handle a little pat on his shoulders." Myra came near them and said. Unlike Esme she didn't even try to hide her smiles.

Her words, making Esme laugh at him too.

'These two. They don't even take me seriously.'

'Just wait until I grow up. I'll have my revenge for all the beatings I got in the name of training, and kicks in the name of waking up.'

He thought remembering how these two are just always doing what they want.

'Especially Myra. She's taking advantage of the freedom Artemis gave her.' I think you should take a look at

Knowing telling them anything, won't change a thing, he ignored them and turned his attention back towards the little girl, who had stopped crying and was now looking at them curiously.

He walked up to her "Hey there, Are you okay?" he asked in a kind tone, as he held out his hand with a warm smile.

The girl looked back down at the ground, seemingly unsure of how to answer

"I'm Rio," he introduced himself, crouching down to be at eye level with her. "What's your name?"

The girl sniffled, wiping away her tears with her free hand. "A_Ayla" she whispered softly with a stammering tone.

"Ayla, that's a nice name," Rio said warmly. "Why are you out here all alone? Did you get lost?" He asked, as he brought out a water bottle from his ring.

Ayla glanced at the empty surroundings nearby, struggling to find the words to explain her distress. While seeing if she should trust these strangers or not.

"It's okay, Ayla," Esme said gently, as she knelt down beside them. "You don't have to be scared. We're just here to help you."

She took the bottle from Rio's hands and drank the water to show her that it was fine. And then passed it towards her. "Here, it's fine."

Ayla's teary eyes met Esme's, and she hesitated for a moment before reaching out to take the water bottle. Esme's warm smile and genuine concern seemed to ease her fears, as she started drinking water in big gulps.

Myra glanced at the girl and all the surroundings but there was nothing that could identify her, or why she was crying. Her clothes were simple and her expression didn't seem to be lying. So she waited to see what the girl would say.

"Would you tell me, what happened now? Why were you crying?" Esme asked kindly.

Ayla nodded, wiping her face with the back of her hand. "I-I was looking for my father" she stuttered. "I don't know where he went?"

Esme looked at Rio, her eyes clearly saying they should help her. Maybe it was because she had a little sister too, or maybe it was due to her guilt that she still felt for killing Noah, another innocent kid. But she wanted to help her.

And that's exactly why Rio let her take the lead completely.

He nodded his head, and turned to look at Ayla - "We'll find your father. Maybe he went to the celebration of the princess's birthday?" He said.

"N_no. He didn't come home since yesterday." Ayla said, while shaking her head. Her eyes started getting teary again, as she started talking about her father.

"Hey, don't cry. We'll find your father. Why don't you come with us?" Esme said, as she started wiping her tears and caressing her cheeks. "It's already midnight, we'll look for your father tomorrow okay. Is that okay with you."

Her gentle words and actions were working like a charm as little Ayla held her hands and was about to nod his head, when Rio's spoke, distracting her.

"You can tell us where you live. She's Myra. And she's really good at finding people. Maybe we'll find your father early." Rio said, pointing towards Myra, who was standing like a statue with folded hands.

Looking at Rio's action, Myra was about to say something, when Ayla stood up from the ground, running towards her, and pulled her jacket, "Can you really find my father?" She asked excitedly, her eyes shining with hope.

"I_ eh ..." Myra didn't know how to react, at once she was just about to refuse this girl and bring Rio back home.

His safety was her responsibility after all. If anything happened to him, she didn't know how she could face her master again.

"It's fine. Seeing how she looks, she couldn't walk far anyway." Rio said to Myra, while pointing at Ayla's thin body. "She's probably living nearby, so let's just go and take a look.

If you don't find anything, then we can just take her back with us to the mansion." Rio said.

His words felt a little tiny bit hurtful to Ayla, but then she took a look at him. How he looked, and how he was dressed, she never even seen someone so handsome or rich.

Her anger disappeared, as her mind registered the thought that if they're that rich, then maybe they can find her father.

After all, her father always said -"It's only the rich people who hold the power in this world."

Ayla looked at them, her eyes shining with stars in them, as she started shaking Myra's hands. "Please find my father." She begged Myra, since she looked the oldest, and how everyone listened to her.

"Don't worry about her, she'll help. Right Myra." Rio said reassuringly, while smiling at Myra, who was looking around, probably thinking of ways to go around this girl, without wasting time.

If she was driving, she'd probably just skip past her or even if she stopped, she'd just hand the girl to some other guards and give them the job to find her parents.

She wasn't heartless, she just had her priorities straight. In her eyes, some random kid's safety wasn't more important to her than her master's comfort.

"Fine. But I won't promise anything." She said, finally giving up on resisting. There was no point in arguing when Rio already made up his mind. She couldn't change it anyway.

Hearing her agree, Ayla had the brightest smile, as she thanked the Gods who brought these guys here to help her.

"Can you tell us where you live then?"

Myra asked, as Esme went back to the car.

With Ayla coming together, they all returned to the car. Esme drove slowly through the streets, asking Ayla directions, and some other questions to try to figure out where her father might be.

While Esme and Ayla were busy talking to themselves, Myra had probably reported this event to guards at the mansion, or the team of Alphas stationed in the capital, so they might join them for back up. In case something happened.

Rio gave this smart girl a pat in his mind, cause he knew, shit was just about to start and get messy.

Chapter 143 I'll Save Your Father, Promise

As they drove, Rio kept an eye on Ayla, making sure she was feeling safe and comfortable.

She was sitting beside Esme now, eating some snacks Esme gave her.

After a few minutes, Ayla pointed towards a building in the distance. "There, that's my house," she said.

Esme parked the car, and they all got out.

Ayla walked forward, as she led them to the building.

When they reached the main door, their eyes were immediately drawn to the graffiti on the wall. Someone had written curses and threats on the walls.

-House of cursed ones-

-Rejects-

-Pay our money scum-

-Useless duds, just die already-

One look at them, and they all understood the situation. After all, the hate crimes or bullying had always been common for those who could not awaken.

It wasn't anything new, or something they had never come across.

Esme was glaring daggers at the wall, her fists clenched in anger.

It was understandable, as this discrimination of talent and power, is what got her sister sold to slavery and almost killed.

Myra's expressions were unreadable. She probably didn't care. Since she herself had lived through far worse situations than Ayla.

Unlike Ayla, who still had her father to protect her, she had no one and nothing. No home to call her own, no one to call her family or any friends.

If not for Artemis, she didn't even dare to imagine how her life would've turned out.

Unlike them, Rio's focus wasn't on the wall, he already knew about Ayla's past, and truth be told, it wasn't that bad for her yet. He was expecting something even more extreme. But guess that's just his imagination.

He was looking at Ayla, on whose family all these threats and curses were directed at, but her reaction surprised him.

Ayla, walked past that wall and didn't even look at it, and directly went inside.

Looking at her lackluster reaction, a smile came to his face. 'She really is suited for her role as the heroine, who never cared about failures and kept trying till she got what she wanted.' He thought.

"Can't she read them?" Esme asked, as she started following Ayla through the stairs.

"I think she can. She's just ignoring it, cause it probably isn't her first time seeing it." Myra replied, as Rio nodded his head in affirmation.

"Ayla, are you alright?" Rio asked gently, as he increased his pace to catch up to her.

Ayla looked up at him and smiled "Yes, I'm fine," she said softly.

"And that __, on the wall. You're okay."

Rio wanted to ask her how she felt about that, cause he was curious, but he couldn't come up with words that wouldn't just sound rude or insensitive.

Understanding his question, Ayla nodded her head with a smile, but one could see a glimmer of sadness in her eyes. "I'm used to it," she said quietly. "It's those kids from the neighborhood. They do this sometimes for fun." "Father said, I should just ignore them. He also said they would stop doing that once he finished his work. So _ "

She was saying something, but talking about her father, again brought tears in the eyes of the little girl.

"Hey, we'll find him. Okay. Promise." Rio said, as he patted her head slowly. "And besides, he won't like it if he saw you crying, right?"

Hearing him, Ayla wiped her tears and nodded her head, as she tried to compose herself.

"Thank you." She said, her voice barely above a whisper.

She couldn't remember the last time anyone even talked to her like that, or showed some kindness towards her. Those kids around her house, are just bullies who make fun of her and say bad things to her.

Due to her father's busy schedule and work, he never got the time to talk with her much or play with her.

Other than her father, she didn't have anyone else she was close with.

Her mother had left them 3 years ago and never returned. It was only her father who took care of her since then. I think you should take a look at

That's why when she found her father was missing too, she couldn't take it anymore.

Yesterday, he went to work in the morning, but never returned. She waited the whole day, since many times he would keep working all day, and only return home at night.

But she fell asleep while waiting.

Today, when she woke up, she still didn't see him anywhere.

That's why she started looking for him, but she couldn't find him anywhere.

She even asked for help from everyone, but they all just made fun of her and didn't help at all.

Those bullies even locked her in a room, saying they would go and bring her father, and she should wait there.

Remembering those bad bullies she felt angry, but then feeling the gentle touch on her head, and looking at the boy who even came here to help her look for her father, a smile came to her face instead.

Her heart was still too innocent to know or think that something bad happened to her father. She believed she'd find her dad after some time, since they promised him.

She was still too naive. Because her father always protected her and kept her safe from everyone else.

It was only tonight, that she would've first seen the cruel side of this world, and learned how twisted and broken this society really is.

But instead of that, Rio decided to change her beginning.

Instead of growing up hating the world and men, until she met the protagonist. He was going to be her savior, her idol, her hero.

Rio was thinking and walking about what's next, when Myra suddenly appeared in front of him and stopped him.

'So they're here.'

Rio thought, seeing Myra and Esme's reaction, as they took out their weapons.

Esme held her twin daggers in her hands, while Myra had taken out her sword, and the Cord of Schila.

Ayla was surprised to see them suddenly appear out of nowhere, with weapons in hand and that serious expression.

She was about to scream, when Rio, anticipating her reaction, covered her mouth with his hands.

-shhh- He signaled her to stay silent, with his finger.

When she nodded her head in understanding, he removed his hand.

"Why ar_?"

As soon as he let go, she started saying something but stopped as he covered her mouth again.

And this time, to her surprise, he just picked her up and took some steps back, getting away from the door to her house.

"Now. Don't say anything. Okay. I'm removing my hand." He whispered slowly in her ear, as she nodded her head repeatedly.

Ignoring the embarrassed and confused look of the little girl, Rio turned his attention back to Myra, and mouthed his words silently 'be careful'

Taking a deep breath Myra opened the door, and before she could even take a first step inside, a huge fireball came towards her face.

Ayla had her eyes widened at the display of fire and heat, but Rio had a subtle smile on his lips, glad that he wasn't too late, and arrived even earlier than he anticipated.

'Well, it's not a bad thing, as this works even better.'

He said to himself, preparing himself for what is to come.

After all, this would be the first time he's jumping head on, in a situation that he has no prior idea about.

'Let's start the show, shall we?'

Chapter 144 Myra Vs The Goons Of A Gang

Myra pushed the door open slowly while signalling to Esme to be prepared.

She could sense around 7-8 people inside. Since Ayla said she lives alone with her father now, she could guess whoever it was, wasn't someone related to her.

'You thought you could run away huh'

'Did you think it would be that easy.'

'Our money isn't something you can just take and leave.'

The voices inside rang in her ears, as she focused and readied her stance.

But before she could take even one step inside, a fireball landed on the place she was standing.

Her figure blurred and she appeared a few steps back.

"You shouldn't have come here, pretty girl" the masked man sneered, his voice cold and menacing.

When the smoke from the earlier blast cleared Myra could see 3 men standing in front of her. One of them who had his face covered in a black mask came forward to ask her.

"Who are you?"

"Shouldn't I ask that, since you attacked me first?" Myra replied.

"That was just a warning."

"This isn't the time and place for you to snoop around. Leave before this becomes the last thing you see." He said, glancing at Myra who was unscathed.

With a swift movement, the masked man lunged at Myra, his sword aiming for her chest. But she parried the blow with her own sword, the clash of metal ringing through the air.

"I could say the same."

She said, as her figure blurred again, her speed was fast enough that all one could see was just a trail of black fog moving around.

-clank-.

-clank-

The masked man smirked, his sword held firmly in his hand. "You think you can defeat me, pretty girl?" he taunted, his voice dripping with arrogance.

"Deal with the other ones, I'll handle her."

The masked man said, glancing at his partner.

The one clash of sword was enough to tell him the strength of this uninvited guest.

Previously he was haughty because he couldn't sense her rank or power, so thinking it was probably some random dude wandering around or some neighbors.

But he understood that no one with this strength should be living in the slums of the Haven.

'A rank. Boss never said we'll meet one.'

"Let's finish this fast and leave." He said, as his partnees turned to leave.

One of them jumped and left, while the other had his leg bound by a rope, that pulled him back down, crashing him against the floor with a loud thud.

"Did I say you could leave?"

Myra said, as she channeled her mana. As the mana got sucked into the rope, it changed its appearance to a thorny chain that stuck its fangs inside the man. The little thorns leaving deep gashes on his feet, who was trying to take it off.

-ahhhh-

His scream echoed as blood started leaking from his leg.

"Damn bitch, you'll pay for that." He said, and conjured another fireball that he threw towards her.

Myra smiled and backed away, while dragging the cord with a playful pull, eliciting another scream from the man.

With a flick of her wrist, she used her element, as she disappeared from her place, reappearing again from the shadow of the wounded man.

The second masked man looked around in confusion, unable to find Myra. Suddenly feeling a gust of wind behind him, but before he could turn around, Myra hit him in the head with the sword's hilt knocking him unconscious.

'One down two to go.'

She thought, as she heard the sounds of fighting from the upstairs. It was Esme, who was engaged in a battle with the man who ran away from her.

The masked man witnessing his partner getting easily knocked out, slashed his sword at the girl, whose figure turned into smoke again.

He looked around trying to find where she went.

Myra appeared from his shadow again as she swung her sword to his head, but before she could hit him, he blocked it.

"Using the same trick again. It won't work on me."

He said, as he threw a punch at her guts.

His hands were covered in mana, that was enough to push her back.

But despite successfully getting a hit in, he wasn't happy, but his brows were furrowed, as he glanced at his hand.

'Armor' he thought, as he felt his fingers a little numb from the earlier collision.

Looking closely at the girl who appeared to interrupt them, he noticed her clothes. I think you should take a look at

'Someone rich and powerful.' He thought as he caught the whip that was about to hit him.

His hands felt the slight sting, but ignoring it he pulled the whip towards him with all his strength, while swinging his sword in a vertical slash.

Myra blocked it with her sword, but soon a kick came striking towards her from the side. Moving backwards while changing the shape of the whip to a thorny one again.

But noticing the change, the masked man let go of it.

Putting the whip away, Myra brought out another sword.

"Your time's up."

Myra ran towards him, swinging her swords in a swift motion, her moves unreadable by the opponent, as he tried to block them.

The clanking of the swords continued for a while, as both showed their all, finally taking this fight seriously.

For Myra it was because she just noticed something outside, while the masked man had realized the true rank of the girl he was playing around with.

They were both the same rank. He was taking it lightly as he thought he could finish her when he wanted with the power gap between them, but this delusion of his only wasted his time, as he noticed the fight upstairs was coming to an end.

The screams and shouts that he was hearing all this time were getting less and less. And he knew whoever was fighting his other partners would soon come to help this girl.

He already heard some fighting sounds from outside, but he didn't have hopes for them.

The ones outside were just duds he kept to keep a lookout and vehicles ready.

'Useless duds.' He thought, as he tried to sense the scene outside.

'I should leave.'

'This is getting troublesome.' He thought.

"You should focus on your head." Myra mocked, before swinging her sword at his head.

The masked man scoffed and raised his sword to block the attack, but his eyes widened, when instead of the clanking sound he hoped to hear, the sword in the girl's hands started turning into a dagger, slipping past his sword.

Before he could react the shortened dagger slashed his chest, leaving a deep cut that made him wince in pain.

"Ukhhh" He let out a cry of pain, staggering back.

Taking a few steps back, while holding his wounded parts, trying to cover the blood that was gushing out.

Taking a few steps back more, he took out a potion in a hurry and drank it, but unlike the sweet warm sensation of healing, a burning feeling of pain hit his stomach.

Glancing at the wound which had darkened a little, he understood the reason. As sweat started forming on his face.

'Poison'

"Told you, focus on your head." Myra's words rang as she threw the poison dagger at him.

He bent sideways as the dagger missed his head and etched half of its blade in the wall behind.

Engaging in another sword fight, they both continued, but when the man finally thought he found an opening, his sword passed through the figure of the girl, who turned to smoke.

Only to appear behind him, and stabbing him with the same poisoned dagger.

-ahhh-

He moved forwards to remove the dagger, but his screams intensified as the dagger turned to a spear next second, impaling him to the ground.

-urgh ugh Argh

The man gurgled as blood trickled from his mouth, the effects of poison eroding his body.

"Let me go. You have no idea who you're messing with." The masked man said, trying to suppress the pain, by using his mana to stop the blood loss.

But that was another mistake. As the poison Shadow's of Blake family uses, only becomes more potent with mana's reaction.

Myra watched as the masked man's strength waned, his movements growing weaker with each passing moment. Soon his body went limp, and he lay motionless hung on the spear.

"You took your time." Esme said, coming down from the stairs, her clothes still covered in the some blood, so was her face.

'Vampires. Such a nuisance.' Myra thought, while looking at Esme's face.

"Atleast wipe your face. You'll scare the kids." She said.

"I think, we found the father of that girl. He's upstairs. She wasn't lying it seems." Esme replied. As she cleaned the traces of the blood.

"Figured." Myra said.

"You think he can handle it?" Esme asked, walking outside, where the sound of fighting was still ongoing.

"I don't know. Let's go and see."

Myra said as she pulled her spear out, ending the man's misery for good.

Chapter 145 Been A While Since He Did It

While Esme and Myra both went inside to fight, Rio and Ayla were standing outside silently.

"Umm where did those big sisters go?" Ayla asked, still hesitating, if she should speak or not.

She was still shocked and a little scared after she saw that display of magic.

Her shock only intensified when both girls who came here to help her, disappeared and she couldn't find them anywhere.

"They went inside to get your father. Don't worry, okay." Rio said, looking at her with a gentle smile.

She nodded her head, trusting him, as she kept waiting.

Currently they were surrounded by the invisible barrier erected by a defensive artifact Rio used. Just like his "armor of weak", which gave him protection from both physical and magical damage.

This artifact called "Coward's Camp" was a similar artifact, the difference between them is that one acted as an armor, while the other created a barrier around the user, which could even protect other people inside.

The limitation was the drain of mana, as unlike the armor which could use the stored mana within, coward's camp, needed to have constant mana supply.

With Rio's puny amount of mana the best it could do, is just alert him if someone or something entered the barrier.

Obviously it can still last for a while against unawakened people, whose bodies have no mana.

And that's exactly what he wanted.

"Let them be."

He said, knowing if he didn't speak, these little goons coming towards him would be dead ten feet away.

After all, he could already sense the presence of many people around him now.

Since the streets were empty before they came here, and knowing Myra informed the Alphas some time ago, he could guess it was probably them.

Hearing the sound of commotion from the inside, Ayla was looking around nervously, trying to see inside her house, through the door or some windowd.

Seeing her uneasy but still being silent, Rio smiled as he brought out a pair of ear muffs from his storage ring and put it over her head.

After adjustint her hair a little, "Don't worry, everything will be alright." He said. And covered her ears, making sure she doesn't hear the screams that started to get louder every moment.

'Looks like she's angry.'

Rio thought, looking upside, where a man's body was hanging from the window. Until he got dragged back inside.

Esme has always hated the ones who hurt the helpless, it was probably because how it reminded her of how her family treated her sister and others.

This feeling and hatred only increased after her sister's death in the novel.

It was a cliché heroine personality trait, which puts her in the protagonist camp easily, but since he already changed her beginning by saving her sister, all the future prospects of her progress have been greatly changed too.

Ignoring the screams Esme's enemies made before she literally sucked them dry, Rio turned his attention towards the oncoming 3 guys who were coming towards the house currently.

[You sure you want to do this?] Nyx asked, looking amused and a little curious about the actions of her follower.

'Come on. I gotta show off a little to impress you. Don't I ?' Rio replied silently.

[You haven't even managed to learn my first blessing. You sure, your weak body can even handle a second.] She said with a smile.

'Well, then I'll save it for the future.'

Rio said, and closed the floating panel, as the 3 guys now entered through the main door.

'Let's start the show, shall we?'

Rio said to himself, and started walking forward.

"Just stay here for me will ya. Be right back." He said, after crossing the boundary of barrier that now shrunk off by half, cause he reduced the supply of mana into it by half.

It now only surrounded little Ayla and that was it.

"Young master, do you really want to do this? Even though they are unawakened, they still have the numbers. And _ "

One of the Alphas who came on Myra's call, looked at him and said telepathically. It was okay for him if he wanted to fight or test himself, but if by some off chance, something happened to him, Artemis would have their heads hung on the highway. I think you should take a look at

"It's a test from my goddess. Do not interfere. Just keep watch for that girl. Protect her if something happens."

Rio said and his words were enough to stop any further questioning from the guard. After all, they've heard the rumors too,

No way in hell, interfering in a primordial's wishes was a winning thing. But still thinking about his duty, he still insisted - "As you say, young master. But I'll stop this instantly if things get out of hand."

Rio nodded his head, as he started to stretch his hands.

[Using my name to threaten others. Not a nice thing to do.]

"Come on, we both know you don't mind, and I don't matter.

So ignore this fool's foolishness like you always do, oh benevolent goddess of night."

Rio said with a smile.

It had been a while since Nyx started talking with him, well less of talks and more of her suggestions from time to time.

He would've thought of himself as someone special, for getting this special treatment from a primordial goddess, but knowing her real reasons for acting this friendly, he could just bite the bullet and let it be.

It wasn't a question of if he liked it or not, cause he knew the moment Nyx learned that he was not the original Rio, and someone else living his life, he couldn't fathom what kind of hell she'd throw him in.

'Well, not like, being nice to her is gonna cause me any problems. She is generous compared to other gods after all.'

'At least she won't betray me, that's a guarantee. Rest everything can be ignored for a while.'

"Who are you kid? What're you doing here?"

"Does it matter, look at the girl. She's the one we were looking for."

One of the men who came running to the house saw a pair of kids standing outside, he asked. But before he could get an answer his friend pointed towards Ayla, signaling him that she was the daughter of the guy they were searching for.

Her father had run away from their captivity, and when they couldn't find him anywhere, they were asked to look for his daughter, knowing if they kidnapped her, her father would show himself.

They've been searching for this girl for hours now, but she's been missing ever since.

This was because when the group of goons started looking for her, Ayla wasn't anywhere outside. She had been trapped in a room by her bullying neighborhood kids, who forgot about her afterwards, and went to enjoy the feast of celebration.

"Damur, go get the girl." One of the goons, who was silent till now, spoke. Ordering one of his buddies to bring the girl, before the little rat runs, and hides in her rathole again.

"Why is it always me? Fucha's been lazing around for an hour. Why not let him do some work instead."

The man named Damur said. Looking at his slightly chubby partner who's been doing nothing but resting. He's just slowing them down every time and he gets stuck with more work.

"Don't tell me you got scared of little kids, Damor. Or are you thinking, she'll run away like the last one, and you'll have to take the blame." The chubby Fucha said, his tone amused like he just heard or remembered the best joke.

Damur glared at him for bringing up his failures again, but before he could say anything to refute the claims, the one who ordered him earlier, the self appointed leader, Lobo spoke again, "don't make me repeat myself. Just get the girl, and the boy too. Looking at his clothes, we'll get something worthwhile out of him."

Hearing those words Damor smiled, as he looked at the boy again, and noticed the golden accessories he wore.

'These young masters showing off their money in middle of the night.' After walking forward a little, he looked over his shoulders and thought -'They can't see if I slide one or two of his rings, if they're that far back, right.'

"Well, who told them to be lazy. I might as well help myself for my job." He muttered under his breath, reaching near Rio. He wore a happy smile, when he was a few feet away and could see the shiny jewels in the light.

The doubts that they were fake trinkets was removed from his head, as he finally smiled brightly.

Unknown to him, his rich fantasies were about to be put on hold, since a little white haired boy's mind was stressed a little, after getting beatdowns daily for the past month.

Though he didn't like drama or fights, Rio actually missed the adrenaline rush he used to get back on earth.

'Well, I should just enjoy myself for today. From tomorrow, my beatdown routine would continue anyway.'

Rio thought, as he cracked his knuckles, and prepared himself.

Chapter 146

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###

A/N - all those who wanted to see how shiva's anger disappeared and his fighting scenes weren't coming - so before we move to the badass academy entrance and time skip.

I prepared something special for you spartans

--If you like this story, then spend your money and send me gifts. --If not, then don't worry, I'm just like you, so give me 5* reviews, I'll be happy with that too.

--You can also vote me with power stones or golden tickets, if you want. --I'm also happy as long as you guys comment and just appreciate my work a little, that's free, and won't cost you a thing. so do that at least.

Chapter 147 The First Fight - Break Thou Hand

When the guy reached near Rio, his gaze scanned him up, looking through all the jewelry he could slide and steal before those 2 partners notice something.

Rio on the other hand, seeing the greedy look on his face, wanted to smile.

Even if he did nothing, and just stood as a statue, the artifacts on him could do their job and not let any one of them put even a hand on them, now he lowkey wanted to see the reaction of this guy, when he realizes he can't steal anything from him.

"Just follow me and don't try to scream or run, it won't end well for you." Damur said, after fixing the things he would steal.

His target was simple, the golden ring on his hand, though as an unawakened he couldn't feel the mana, so he can't be sure which ring is a normal one and which is inscribed with runes or mana, and is functioning as a storage ring. But looking at the great details and patterns of the ring, he decided to take a gamble on that.

If Rio knew, this guy was eyeing the ring given to him by Artemis herself, which she made by her own hands. He really wouldn't be able to control his amusement and burst out laughing.

But he didn't know that.

While the man was eyeing the accessories, he was busy looking at the man himself. From the way he walked, to the way he carried himself. His way of talking, his confidence or arrogance, his muscles or weight, his speed or strength - his eyes trying to see through everything as best he could.

After training with freaks like Luke or Myra and Esme, he had gotten a little better at reading people by their body language.

His time of earth also played a part in his guesses, as there was a phase where he simply just wanted to beat others and get beaten up, just so he could clear his head from all the things it started thinking up.

Anger and pain - were the best distraction that worked well on a human mind after all.

Rio's thoughts stopped, and his gaze finally met the guy who was now glaring at him, as he said - "Didn't you hear, I said to just follow me."

Damor shouted, looking annoyed at the 2 kids. One of them silently stood there lost in dreams, while the other was even more audacious who had her ears covered by some kind of kids toy. And was just standing there.

"Won't you tell us why?" Rio asked.

His words got the attention of the goon on him "There's no why, just follow me, if you don't want anything bad to happen to you" He said.

"What if I don't want to?" Rio replied, with a nonchalant tone. Clearly showing he either didn't understand his threat, or was not taking him seriously at all.

Damor smiled at his words, like he came across someone stupid.

"Can't you see there's no one around to save you. Hell, even if you scream now, no one would come to rescue you. So stop blabbering and come here."

He said, as he went forward to grab his shoulder and drag him away.

His hands held the collar of Rio's shirt as he tried to move towards Ayla, who finally had her eyes turned towards this direction, instead of looking at the empty house.

The sight confused Ayla about what was happening -who were these people? When did they come? Are they here to help look for her father too? But why is that man holding the nice boy's clothes like that?

Her questions were running wildly in her little head, and she decided to take the earmuffs to hear what that man was shouting, while walking towards her angrily.

"__ This fool. See how she's looking at everything now. Just wait, I'll teach you and your father ____
arghhhh "

Damur, who was cursing the little girl and her father, suddenly stopped speaking and screamed in pain loudly catching everyone off guard.

Ayla had her eyes widened as she looked at Rio twisting the arm of that man. His short stature gave him the advantage where he kept turning around and twisting his hand even more.

"No need to talk like that with little kids, is it?" Rio said, as he took one more turn while twisting his hand even more, making him fall to his knees.

"Argg you bastard, what are you doing? I'll kick your ass you motherfucking moron." Damor shouted loudly, while trying to free his right hand, by cursing and calling his friends and slapping Rio's hands with his free left hand.

Sadly for him, he wasn't a lefty. I think you should take a look at

In simple terms, his left hand was just flailing around him, without any strength behind it.

But still Rio gave his hand another forceful twist, his full sleeve shirt almost getting torn with the force.

-arghhhh- Damor shouted as he now started slapping the ground, unable to take the pain.

Ignoring his painful screams, Rio turned his attention back towards Ayla, who was still looking at him with surprised expression and wide mouth.

"Didn't I say to keep your ears covered. Why'd you take them off?" He said, signaling towards her hands which held the earmuffs he himself gave her, so she wouldn't hear what was happening inside and outside.

"But _"

"No buts, wear them. Or I won't help you look for your father." Rio said, and smiled as he saw Ayla's little face getting pale at his words, while in a hurry she covered her ears again.

"Well, now that that's done, let's focus back on you huh."

Rio said, with a smile turning his focus back on Damor, whose eyes were getting a little red, as his tears started coming out.

Rio looked at the 2 goons who were coming towards him, he turned his face towards them and when they were finally a few feet away from him.

He gave a last twist to Damor's hands with a swift fastness, only stopping when a cracking sound from his shoulders was heard.

Instead of letting go after his hand was dislocated from the shoulder, Rio pulled the hand straight and gave a kick to his elbow, eliciting an even cracking sound, followed by an even louder scream from Damor.

-cccrack-

-arghhaaaaaa

The sound of his bone's breaking was heard by his friends who finally reached near him.

Rio, after kicking his hand, breaking it from both his shoulder and elbow joint, took a few steps back, as he decided to let the friends have their moment first.

Damor looked at his limp hand hanging, while the excruciating pain continuously kept assaulting his mind.

His shoulders started swelling a bit, while his elbow bone sticking out from his skin, as some blood kept trickling down his hands.

'One down, two to go'

Rio thought after incapacitating the first guy.

He was ignoring the notifications from the gods that started coming nonstop again. The constant stream of messages burying the first one notification sent by Nyx.

But Rio didn't even look at the panel, as he turned his attention towards Damur's friends who were now glaring at him.

Chapter 148 The First Fight - Crush Those Balls

Lobo and Fucha, who were engaged in a conversation between them, about what was taking so long to the guys who went inside to catch that girl's father.

They had been waiting for a while, sitting around as a lookout on the silent night, getting bored with every passing moment.

Now suddenly seeing the girl they were looking for since the morning, and one stupid rich kid with her, it looked like lady luck was finally smiling upon them.

Whoever the kid was, they were sure their boss would be happy to see him. They might get some money in exchange for the kid as their boss likes the business of kidnapping and ransom.

What's more easier way to earn money than just kidnapping a weak kid, and forcing their fat fathers to hand over their money.

But their happy discussions, about which gambling house or brothel they'll use their money on, was stopped when they heard a loud scream.

-arghhhhaaa-

They both looked at the sound of scream, thinking maybe it was Damur, who started beating those kids.

That sick bastard had that habit after all. That's how he messed up the last time, and let a boy escape.

"I swear, someday this guy's gonna regret messing around with kids. I'll tell ya." Fucha said to Lobo as he wiped his hands on his chubby fat and turned around.

But when he did see what was happening, he had his eyes widened just like his friend Lobo.

Damur's screams bringing them out of their stupor.

Then without saying anything they both started running towards their friend hoping to help them.

But alas, they were a tad bit late as they noticed the happy smile on the boy's face as he finally twisted Damur's hand once more and breaking his bones.

The sight of their now crying and screaming friend made them halt their steps, as they didn't know what to do next.

Unlike the awakened, who could use mana to suppress their pain, or seal their injuries, or those who had high tolerance or stamina, the 3 of them were just normal goons. Who were just used as cannon fodder by their boss.

All they ever did was some search or recon things, or sometimes drive other important people to their missions. That was their role in the organization and they were happy with it.

It paid well, and they could throw their weight around to do some stuff and get away with it. But sadly, today wasn't a good day for them, and it was only about to get worse from here on out.

-

The self appointed leader, Lobo, composed himself as he glared at the boy and said - "You'll pay for that."

"You asking or demanding? I'm not very good orders, you see. Ruins my image." Rio said, with a smile.

"Stop talking and kill that bastard. I don't care who he is, just kill him." Damur shouted, suppressing his pain, his tears getting dry as his face filled with anger. He looked like a maniac out for blood, blinded by anger.

"Well, this makes things easy then. I've been pissed off since this morning." Fucha said, while moving towards Rio.

"Even though he's a kid, who told him to act arrogant in front of us. And hurting our friend, that's bad for business."

He said, and swung his hands for a slap to the lad's face.

Just looking at the size difference between Rio and him, anyone could say, if that hit landed, it would hurt, like a lot hurt.

But after getting beaten up by Esme for a whole month, Rio's senses were sharpened a little. As he could now see every movement of the chubby fuck.

Dodging the slap by taking a step back at the last moment, Rio looked at the man and waved his hands for a slap on the man's cheek, which was just in range of his hand, due to him missing his mark and losing his balance.

"That's for having a name as funny as Fucha, you fat fuck."

Rio said, with a smile. His words fueling the anger of the guy. As he took a step forward and swung his hands again.

Rio dodged his attacks again easily while he continued to mock him.

"Getting slapped by a kid. Do you have any shame?"

"Stop running around you little rat." The fat man said, while huffing loudly. I think you should take a look at

"But then again, with a name like Fucha, you probably lost your shame years ago." Rio said, as he smiled again.

Rio was toying around, using his speed and short stature to just tire the guy. Though he did manage to sometimes punch or slap the guy, but that fat skin was probably acting as a B grade armor protecting him.

Fucha looked at Rio, easily dodging his hands, knowing he couldn't land a hit on him like this. Untied his leather belt and then started to swing it around.

-swish swish-

The leather cut through the air making the whistling sound, as Rio barely dodged the attack.

"So your fat haven't reached your brain huh. Working smart." Rio said, while dodging the attack, "But that's cheating isn't it."

"Nothing's cheating rat. Just stay still and let me hit you for once. If you have the guts." Fucha said, as he swung his belt again, just for it to miss by a minor degree. He clicked his tongue in annoyance.

"Well, if that's what you want. Why didn't you just say it earlier." Rio said, and simply stopped moving and stood at one place.

Fucha looked at him with surprise thinking what the hell is this kid planning. But seeing that Rio still didn't move when he was almost towering upon him, he finally smiled.

In his eyes, Rio seemed like some rich young master from the stories he heard in those lower dungeon worlds.

He always thought they were just stories, thinking, How can rich guys can be so stupid?

But now looking at this kid who simply stopped moving, cause he said so. He felt like his eyes were opened to a whole new world.

He swung the belt with all his strength he could muster.

Looking at the powerful swing that landed on Rio's body, Damur had a slight smile, seeing the guy who broke his hand getting smashed.

He closed his eyes, as he waited to hear the loud scream of the kid's voice.

But instead of that, what came roaring in his ears was a painful scream that felt like a fat pig's dying oink..

-Onhhahhh

He waited for some time for some other scream, but what followed was the melodious laughter of the kid he hated now.

He opened his eyes looking confused at the scene where Fucha was now lying down on the ground balling his eyes out, his head had an open wound bad enough that some white matter was leaking out along with blood.

Damur's confuses eyes turned to horror as he saw the same evil smile on that kid's face before he broke his hand.

His bad premonition turned true as he watched the kid standing still in some weird pose and then _

Damur closed his eyes, unable to see what was coming next. He even wanted to cover his ears for the scream he knew would be coming next second, but his hand was broken and he couldn't move it.

He waited for a few seconds but the scream he anticipated didn't come. Thinking Lobo probably helped his friend or saved Fucha from the pain, he peeked from his eyes to take a look.

But that was a mistake as he saw Rio's smile at his antics, as he finally dealt the finishing blow to the fat Fucha.

-oarhhh oanghraaa-

Fucha, who was about to lose his consciousness due to blood loss, was jolted awake in a second as he felt the crushing kick to his jewels.

'Goal' Rio thought looking at Fucha who peed his pants for the last time, before passing out.

Rio made a disgusted expression as he watched the piss and blood mixing together forming a puddle underneath the fat guy.

'Last one left' Rio thought as he took a few more steps back, so as to not dirty his new shoes.

Chapter 149 Trickster's Gifts

Some moments ago. Just as Fucha was preparing for his attack, Rio passed his mana into the crystal chain he wore around his neck.

The second, Fucha's attack hit him, the chain shone in a silvery light.

The chain was another simple artifact, nothing fancy or powerful. But something he had Asher bring after cleaning up some local bandit's of Damascus outer areas.

It was called "Feel my Pain".

It was created by the God of trickery from Bushman mythology Kaggen/Cagn.

It was mentioned in the novel. As the bandits used it to terrorize the villagers or townsfolk in the outskirts of Damascus.

It was only effective against unawakened people, as it mapped the effect of damage the user receives, and redirects it back to the attacker, after doubling the damage.

It sounds OP and super useful. But as it was made by a trickster God, one can always expect some stupid conditions or restrictions to use it.

This particular artifact had some of them too

— The artifact only works on the user's luck. So there's a 50-50 chance that after using this artifact either the attacker gets double the damage, or the user will end up with triple.

— It can only work on pure physical attacks.

— Can only be used once a day.

...

This was something that Rio used against Esme in one of their spars, and results weren't very nice. So he never tried it again.

But since he was coming to this birthday event, where a physical beatdown of protagonist was going to happen, he took it as a safe keep. If some random kid dragged him into the drama.

He didn't have to worry about getting the double damage on himself, as today he was wearing enough defensive artifacts that would be triggered instantly and negate all damage.

That's what happened now.

As soon as Fucha's attack landed on him, Rio didn't feel a thing, but this tricky artifact worked and gave twice the damage back to him.

Fucha who was feeling satisfied when he finally managed to hit the boy successfully, couldn't even smile proudly, as next second his head got burst open, like someone hit it with a hammer and he fell down.

Looking at Fucha lying down on the ground crying and screaming in pain, his friend Lobo who was helping Damur, got more angry and decided to kill this boy himself.

"I'll kill you, you bastard. Kid or not, I've been pissed off since this morning and you're just overdoing it."

He shouted as he started walking towards him, while pulling the dagger from his waist.

"Pissed off for a day, I've been pissed off for a whole month, you hobo."

Rio said, as he used his last bit of mana to form a muddle of darkness below Lobo's feet, making them sink in the ground.

This was actually the result of him learning shadow bind from Myra. But him being a newb, he couldn't learn or control the shadows and bind anyone.

That's where the advantage of him being the darkness element awakener came into play.

As he simply turned the shadow of someone into a puddle of murky darkness. Turning the ground they stood upon into a marsh ground, that just drags someone into it.

This was also the inspiration he took, from the first nightmare he had after he came here, where Nashi's clones used something similar to drown him in darkness.

Obviously this muddle's hold was weak as hell, since he lacked both the control and mana to keep anyone in place for long. But it was still enough to catch someone off guard and surprise them.

Lobo, who kept trying to free himself by angrily pulling his leg, stared at the boy in anger.

Seeing him angrily shouting and looking at the notification that popped up on his status, he smiled a little.

Backing away one step, he took the position of someone who was about to kick the penalty in the game of football. I think you should take a look at

'Ready, aim and

After a few seconds came a kick to the balls of the goon lying down, making sure Fucha can never fuck again.

'That's a goal isn't it'

Rio said, as he looked at the notifications and Fucha whose screams got double decibels higher with that soccer kick.

Getting back from the fat Fucha, Rio turned his attention to the last man standing, the man whom he wanted to settle the most.

The reason, why he even came forward to deal with this himself.

Lobo was a character in the novel, which suddenly popped up in the mid sections of the story and actually quite shocked the world.

He appeared in between a war sequence and almost turned the tides of a one side massacre into a battle that almost looked equal on both parties.

Hell, he would've even made his side win, if the other team didn't have the halo of heavens and protagonist on their side.

As all cliché routines go, Lobo, seeing the might of the young hero, decides to join the protagonist camp, saying repeated dialogues like "I'll follow you, until I defeat you one day."

Leon, seeing his prowess in the war and battle, let him join the team.

And that's how the protagonist gets one more capable general for his gang of soldiers.

If anyone's wondering how a weak unawakened roadside thug became strong enough, that he can act as a general in the protagonist's army. It's actually quite simple.

Long story short, after years of acting like a street based goons leader, he finally managed to get the interest of one mighty figure, who took him in as a disciple and taught him everything he knew.

In the novel's mid section, he also had a separate arc, where he helps Leon and Ayla find the real culprit behind Ayla's fathers kidnapping and death.

The culprit behind the scenes, just also happens to be an enemy, our protagonist needed an excuse to kill.

So with Lobo's help and Ayla's revenge as an excuse, Leon kills the guy and gets all the profits.

Knowing all this, if Rio let it slide now, then this Lobo had a chance to become Leon's ally in the future. And that was a no - no for now.

Plus Rio had someone else in mind, whom he wanted to take Lobo's place, and being chosen as the disciple of that guy.

So he had to die.

Now he could've asked his guards, or anyone else to kill this guy, but he decided to do it himself for 2 reasons.

One, he wanted to see for himself, if fate pulls some tricks to stop this death. Or if something else unexpected happens.

Like how when dealing with Chiron, he suddenly appeared just when Rio got his hands on the key to that legacy.

Or how when Esme was dealing with Noah, he suddenly started going through his awakening.

Rio wanted to see if something similar could happen too. He wanted to see if there's some backlash thingy for messing with chosen ones, those villain novels on earth always talked about.

Second reason was that he needed to prepare himself for this world's mentality. The rule of kill or be killed, had always been the go to way of solving anything in Arcadia.

He didn't want a scene where his hands starts shaking, or he starts vomiting at the sight of blood in the middle of some important event.

Nor did he want a repeat of his nightmares from day 1, where the ghost of that bastard starts to haunt him again cause he killed someone.

The more time he had to prepare himself for his fight against the fate written for him, the more he'd be ready to protect himself and the ones close to him.

Chapter 150 Killing The Protagonist's General

By the time Lobo pulled himself from the spell of darkness, Rio had already dealt the final blow to his second companion.

He looked at Rio in anger, never thinking he'd be faced with such humiliation one day. If the rest of his friends and followers learned he couldn't even deal with a kid, who would follow him then.

He lunged forward trying to stab the kid, not even caring for the thought that he wanted to kidnap him or ask for ransom or what consequences could follow. For now, he just wanted to end this bastard who's testing the limits of his patience and laughing at that.

Rio dodged the knife, but as he turned his face left, a punch connected to his face, knocking him back a few steps.

"What happened now? Huh. Where's your smile, you little twerp. If I don't teach you a lesson, my name's not Lobo."

"Something tells me you actually want to change your name, don't you Hobo?" Rio wiped his face, as he rolled sideways, barely dodging the kick that was coming towards his stomach.

"Don't think your tricks and taunts would work on me fucker. I'd kill you here and now."

Lobo spoke, grunting as he looked at Rio.

"Why don't you say that, after you drop that knife. Too scared to fight a kid, bare handed." Rio said, taunting him, before jumping away from his range. "You're pathetic."

Lobo's face contorted with rage at the taunts, but being an experienced man, he knew better than to let his anger get the best of him. He ignored Rio's words and focused on the fight, trying to land a decisive blow.

The outside echoed with the sounds of their fight - the clashing of fists, the grunts of effort, and the taunts that flew back and forth.

Rio was like a little monkey, avoiding Lobo's moves with his agility. His mana was already low, so using that now was just inviting headaches and sleep, so he could only depend on his senses and experience.

Slowly but surely, they were both getting tired with the constant struggles. But both refused to back down.

In their little contact alone, Rio had gotten hit 3 times, though the knife was useless against his defensive artifacts. But the punches and kicks still hurt a little.

"Girls in my house throw better punches than you, is that the best you got?" Rio said, still smiling.

Lobo came forward to punch him again, but this time instead of backing or dodging, Rio started running towards him.

"Let me show you what a real punch is."

Just when they were near, Rio jumped sideways, with a kick to the side wall, he propelled himself to a little height, and clenched his fists tightly, as he came down at Lobo's face, with a superman punch.

"This is how it's done."

Rio said, after he finally managed to land a hit on this fucker.

Lobo staggered a little due to the sudden punch, but before he could recover he felt another hit land on his hands, making him drop his knife.

Rio stood there with a metal staff in hand. He swung it at Lobo's feet next, making him bent down. And then followed with a swing to his face.

His continuous attacks all managed to deal little damage to the big guy, as he staggered backwards, while cursing and coughing.

Just when Rio thought he had a little chance at this fight, he felt a sting of pain on his back, like someone just whipped it, with a burning chain.

The pain bringing back a memory he buried deep in his head, making him angry.

He looked back with cold eyes, that were enough to halt the person who was about to land a second swing on him.

Rio's eyes landed on Damur, who was standing with Fucha's belt in hand.

"You know I was going to let you go. But you are so fucking dead."

Ignoring Lobo who was taking something out from his pockets in a hurry, Rio walked towards Damur, with a cold glint in his eyes.

Another swing of his belt landed on him, but instead of dodging he ignored it, as he prepared to swing his staff on Damur's head.

[To your left]

A sudden notification from Nyx shocked him. Thinking it was Lobo who came to help his friend and she was helping him.

He changed the direction of his swing midway, but instead of getting the sound of a hit, like he expected. The staff passed through air.

[Never trust a God, mortal.]I think you should take a look at

Rio read the notifications and a bad feeling came to his mind, but before he could do anything, an aura coated punch landed on his back sending him crashing into the wall.

'What was that?' He asked, slowly standing up.

[Punishment, for using my name, without any restraint.]

'Damn these Gods' Rio thought, as he dusted his clothes.

Though the defensive armor he had still blocked the damage, it did sent a shockwave throughout his body. For a second, he almost felt like his hearts and kidneys exchanged places, with how fast that shock hit him.

Rio looked ahead, and saw both of the goons, pinned down by some guards.

"Are you okay, young master?"

One of them came forward to ask him. His voice the same he heard in that telepathic message, confirming he was one of the members of Alphas.

"I think I told you to not interfere." He asked, glancing at the swords pointed towards Lobo's head.

Lobo was shivering and sweating, seeing these guys who suddenly appeared out of nowhere.

And looking at how they were all listening to the kid, he was scared out of his wits, thinking who did he mess with.

"Forgive me, young master. But that man was using aura. And that can be dangerous." The guard said, while keeping his head low.

Rio looked at Lobo for some time, thinking if he should restart his fight or not.

But then looking at his own body, he shook his head and said - "Deal with them. I don't want to see them ever again. And not a word about this to my mother."

The guard nodded his head hearing his words. But the last request he said, made him sweat a little. As he stammered "Umh young master, that _ "

"What? You got something to say?" Rio looked at the man, while asking him in a stern tone.

"Nothing, it'll be done." The guard replied, as he bowed his head again.

"Good." Rio said.

Though he knew Artemis would know about it eventually, it still felt nice to see people taking his talk seriously.

Living beside Esme and Myra who are simply used to acting like friends and family with him, and can even beat him up. He actually forgot he can even order them around like this.

'I really need to grow up fast.' He thought again, as the image of a kid really didn't suit the things he planned and wanted to do.

The guard turned back to look at his partners, signaling them to take all these goons away.

Lobo watched as those guys sheathed their swords and picked up Damur and Fucha and dragged them away.

He knew what awaited them now. There was no way they were taking him away from the kids to put into a prison. He could guess that just after turning around that corner he'd be killed and thrown away.

He had lots of regrets now, but only one question -

"Who are you?" He asked, in a slow tone, looking at the boy, because of whom everything happened.

Rio looked at Lobo, whose skin was now turning red, probably as the effects of whatever pill he took to use aura started ending.

Desperate as the guards picked him up and started dragging him. Lobo asked that question again.

He wanted to know?

No. He needed to know, who was responsible for his death at least. He deserved that, right. So he shouted again with all his remaining strength- "WHO ARE YOU?"

"A nobody." Rio said with a smile.

The guards took Lobo away, and after they turned around the corner, his shouts and screams ended too, just like he thought they would.