

Magic System in a Parallel World

Chapter 131: Ancient Magic

"Ancient magic..." Leo muttered with a somewhat dazed look on his face.

"Indeed, ancient magic! Unlike most magic spells out there, ancient magic doesn't belong to any of the magic tiers. Though some people like to call it Tier 0 magic. You're probably wondering the difference between ordinary magic and ancient magic by now, so let me give you a simple explanation."

"Ordinary magic spells all have a limit to their power and growth. Although that limit can be expanded through one's talent and practice, it is not truly unlimited. Ancient magic, on the other hand, has unlimited potential. Not only that, but they can evolve, almost as though they are alive. Because of their uniqueness, they are nearly impossible to grade."

"However, I must warn you, Leo. Remember when I said that you can't use it openly? The reason is not because it's ancient magic, but because this ancient magic was once used by my family. In other words, it's vampire magic."

"And unlike Mana Drain that is only considered vampire magic because they're widely used by vampires, this one is full-fledged vampire magic that has never been in the hands of a human before. In fact, this ancient magic is a family secret."

Leo swallowed nervously after hearing her words, and he couldn't help but ask, "Why are you teaching me something like that? What if your family finds out?"

A bittersweet smile appeared on Lilith's face as she spoke in a low voice, "My family won't find out... because they no longer exist in this world."

"..."

Leo was taken aback by this information.

"I don't know when— if I will ever regain my body, and I don't want this ancient magic to disappear forever, so I am going to give it to you, who is the closest thing to a family to me now."

Leo pondered with a serious expression for a moment before nodding his head, "Alright, I will learn this ancient magic."

"Great!"

Lilith proceeded to create the magic circle for the ancient magic.

Leo's jaw dropped a little when he saw the magic circle. There were 9 rings in this magic circle, but that wasn't what shocked him.

Unlike the other magic circles, this one actually had an aura, almost as if it was alive, and when he sensed its menacing aura, his body froze from fear.

"It's okay, Leo. Calm down and try your best to memorize it. Ancient magic is not easy to learn even for S-Rank Adventurers like Miss Camille, but I have faith in you. This magic circle may seem threatening, but it cannot harm you."

Leo closed his eyes and took a moment to mentally prepare himself. When he opened his eyes, they were filled with focus and determination, almost as though he was studying for a test at the last minute.

Time flowed quickly when he was focused, and before he was aware, an entire day had passed.

"I can't do it. It's too difficult." Leo fell flat on the floor at the end of the day.

"You're giving up too quickly. In case you forgot, it normally takes days, even months for other people to learn ordinary magic spells, much less ancient magic, which could take years depending on their talent. Well, given your monstrous talent when it comes to learning magic spells, it probably won't take you years."

"I guess I've gotten too used to learning magic spells very quickly, hence why I'm a little impatient, not to mention that it seems to be a very powerful magic, so I want to learn it as soon as possible." Leo sighed.

"There are things in life that you cannot rush, and this is simply one of them."

"No, but hard work will eventually pay off! Let's continue!" Leo said after drinking an energy potion to refresh his mind.

Over the next several days, Leo would spend literally all of his time trying to learn the ancient magic.

Three days before the results of the Wilderness Training Course would be announced, Headmistress Eve called him to her office, where Miss Camille was also present.

"Leo, I have some exciting news for you." Eve said to him the moment he sat down.

"What is it?" He asked.

"Take a look at this."

Eve placed a medium-sized box on the table before him and opened it, revealing a weird-looking fruit inside.

This fruit had the shape and size of an apple, but it had weird-looking patterns all over it, and it was bright golden in color. Furthermore, just like a mana core, the exterior of the fruit was translucent while the interior contained some kind of liquid.

"Don't tell me this is the..."

"Fruit of Magic Awakening. It's what's going to allow you to use magic in public." Eve said with a smile on her face.

"..."

Leo stared at this weird fruit with a dazed look on his face.

"Now let's talk about how you're going to consume it and the story behind it." Eve said a moment later.

"The story is that you found this Fruit of Awakening during the training course inside a secret path within the cave where you found the Elder's legacy. Since that cave is now collapsed, we don't have to worry about people snooping around there any more. During the result announcement in three days, you're going to eat this fruit on the stage in front of the whole academy, and then I am going to give you a simple magic affinity test to prove that you can indeed use magic now. Any questions?"

Leo nodded, "I do... several..."

"First of all, if the Fruit of Awakening is supposed to be a legend that nobody has seen before, how could I possibly know that it's a Fruit of Awakening?" He asked the most obvious question.

"Simple. Just say that it was written in the location you found the fruit in." Eve said.

"Will people believe such a simple explanation...? There will definitely be some people who will be skeptical."

"Of course. And there will always be skepticism no matter how much proof we have. We don't need to care about the select few that don't believe you since the majority of them will." Eve nodded.

Chapter 132: Mana Suppression Pills

"Then for my next question— my next concern. You'll be doing a magic affinity test on me afterward, right? I currently have two... no, three different magic affinities. That would definitely raise many eyebrows." Leo said.

"What? Camille told me that you only had two— dark and wind." Eve said to Leo before turning to look at Camille, who had a look of bafflement on her face.

'Since when did he have three magic affinities? Don't tell me it's the Magic System...'
Camille cried inwardly.

Her awe for the Magic System grew every day.

"Did I? I must have forgotten to mention about his third affinity..." Camille said with a stiff smile on her face.

"How do you even forget something this important?! Do you have any idea what having three magic affinity means?! In this entire world with billions of magic users, there are less than ten people with three magic affinities!"

Camille shrugged, "I had other things to be worried about."

"Haaa... Whatever. Anyways, what is your third magic affinity?" Eve asked Leo a moment later.

"Fire." Leo calmly said, not thinking too much about it.

"W-What did you just say...?" Eve, on the other hand, appeared to be shocked by this information.

"Fire magic. My third magic affinity is fire." Leo repeated in a louder voice this time.

"Hahahaha!" Eve suddenly started laughing.

"This is great! It's almost as if you're fated to become my student!"

"..." Leo looked at her with a weird expression on his face, wondering why she was so excited that he had the same magic affinity as her.

"Alright, it's decided! After consuming the fake Fruit of Awakening, you will 'awaken' a fire magic affinity! This way, I can make you my official student without looking suspicious, since it's common for teachers to look after those with the same affinity!" Eve said.

However, Leo quickly said, "Even if you say that, what about my dark and wind magic affinity? How am I going to hide them? If you're going to test my magic affinity, they will definitely appear, especially since my dark magic affinity is S-Rank and my fire magic affinity is only E-Rank."

"Don't worry, naturally we have something to fix that. Camille." Eve said as she turned to look at her.

Camille retrieved two different pills from her spatial storage and said, "Mana Suppression Pills. They have the property to suppress one's mana, and if we adjust the pill properly, we can even suppress specific mana linked to your magic affinities. This will keep the magic affinity device from detecting your dark and wind magic affinity."

"How convenient..." Leo mumbled.

"Actually, these pills are considered poisonous drugs and are meant for prisoners because once you swallow it, you won't be able to use your magic without consuming the antidote. We aren't even supposed to have these, as it's illegal to use them outside of prison since it can easily be abused. If we're caught using this, we could be executed." Eve chuckled in a carefree manner.

"What?! You're willing to do something this risky just so I can use magic publicly?!" Leo was shocked after learning the truth behind the Mana Suppression Pills.

"We'll be fine. You're worrying too much." Eve continued to smile, treating this whole situation as though it was a prank.

Leo turned to look at Camille in hopes that she might try to talk them out of doing something that could potentially have them executed.

"The Headmistress is exaggerating." Camille said.

"So we won't get executed if we're caught?"

"That is true, but we're both S-Rank Adventurers with plenty of influence. We'll be fine even if we're caught. The most they'll do is give us a fine." She calmly said, leaving Leo speechless.

After a moment of silence, Leo asked in a low voice, "This pill isn't harmful to one's body, right? What are the chances it messes with my magic?"

"None. The Mana Suppression Pill is very safe. There have been no incidents of it harming its consumer since its creation many years ago, so you can be at ease," Eve said.

"Alright." Leo nodded.

"By the way, does this mean I will only be able to use fire magic in public?" Leo asked a moment later.

Eve nodded, "That's right. If you really want to use dark magic, I guess we can suppress your wind and fire magic instead. However, you should really consider it, because—"

"Because 'Leon' is still being hunted." Camille suddenly interrupted. "Although the chances of your identity as Leon being exposed is very slim, it's not zero. Are you sure you want to risk it?"

Leo pondered for a moment before speaking, "I'll pick fire magic. I'm already satisfied that I am going to be able to use magic in public. I don't really care about the magic affinity. It's just that I will be much weaker since I only know a single fire magic spell right now, and my fire magic affinity is quite low."

"Don't worry about these kinds of things. In case you forgot, I am the strongest fire magic user in this entire city. Even if you have a trash fire magic affinity, I will turn you into a formidable fire mage as well."

After going through their plan one more time in greater details, Eve said, "After you consume the Fruit of Magic Awakening, you will become the center of attention regardless what magic affinity you decide to use, and your name will be spread throughout the world."

"Our little prank will have an immense effect in the world, whether you might feel the effects or not. There will even be people who will want to experiment on your body to see if they can replicate the effects of the Fruit of Magic Awakening, so you have to be very careful for a while. In fact, no matter where you are in the city, treat it as though you're in the Wilderness because danger will lurk in all corners."

"Well, what I am trying to say is... This is your last chance to change your mind. We can still stop this now if you want."

However, Leo remained resolute and said, "No matter the consequences and danger that may be waiting for me in the future, I have already made up my mind— I want to use magic freely!"

Eve nodded with an approving smile on her face, "Well said! Then I see you in my office in three days right before the result announcement."

"I understand. Thank you for your hard work, Headmistress, Miss Camille." Leo bowed to them before leaving the office.

"Fruit of Magic Awakening... This fake event will send massive waves throughout the world..." Eve said as her gaze was fixated on the golden fruit before her.

"Not just Leo— we'll also need to prepare ourselves to protect him because things will get hectic very quickly."

"I know." Camille nodded with a serious expression on her face.

After leaving the Headmistress' office, Leo went straight back to his room.

"I can't wait. In three days, I will finally be able to use magic as 'Leo'." Leo mumbled with a smile on his face.

Lilith silently stared at him and thought to herself, 'You're severely underestimating the situation, Leo. The moment you swallow that fake Fruit of Awakening, your life will change forever, and your name will be forever engraved into history, but whether it will be a good thing or a bad thing for you— for all of us... only time will tell.'

Chapter 133: Divine Flame Fortification

"Since I will be using fire magic more often, I should increase the rank of my fire magic affinity." Leo suddenly mumbled.

"Are you sure that's a good idea? You already told the Headmistress that your fire magic affinity is E-Rank, right? If your magic affinity suddenly increases, won't that expose you?" Lilith asked.

"No, it'll be fine. I can just tell her that I was mistaken, and they have no proof. It would be more suspicious if they detect my fire magic affinity to be E-Rank and then it becomes A-Rank during the next test."

"Now that you mention it..."

Leo opened up the Magic Shop and proceeded to purchase the upgrade for his fire magic affinity for 500 Magic Points.

<You have purchased 'Improve Magic Affinity(Fire)' for 500 Magic Points>

<Fire Magic Affinity Rank E → D>

However, Leo wasn't satisfied with just D-Rank and wanted to push it further.

He looked at the cost for the next rank.

'2,000 Magic Points, huh? I'll do it!'

<You have purchased 'Improve Magic Affinity(Fire)' for 2,000 Magic Points>

<Fire Magic Affinity Rank D → C>

And in order to increase his fire magic affinity to Rank B, he needed 5,000 Magic Points.

'I have enough to make it Rank B, but I won't have any Magic Points afterward, which isn't a good idea.'

In the end, Leo decided to wait on the next purchase— at least until he can grind out some more Magic Points.

He turned to look at the available quests in the Quest Shop.

[Learn Tier 7 Magic Spell: 5,000 MP]

[Reward: 50,000 Magic Points]

'This is it! I just need to learn a Tier 7 Magic Spell and I'll acquire more than enough Magic Points to upgrade my fire magic affinity!'

He turned to look at Lilith and asked her, "Can you teach me a Tier 7 Magic Spell? I need it for a quest."

"Tier 7, huh... I don't mind, but for which affinity? Do you want more dark magic spells, or do you want fire magic spells since you'll be focusing on your fire magic now?" She asked him.

He pondered for a moment before speaking, "Fire magic."

"Alright. Then what kind of spell do you want? Support? Debuff? Damage?"

Leo started pondering again.

"I'd like one that buffs my defense since I already have enough firepower."

"A defensive buff, right? Let me think for a bit..."

A few moments later, she spoke, "Alright, I got it. It's called Divine Flame Fortification, and it's considered both light and fire magic."

"Huh? You know light magic even though you're a vampire?" Leo asked with raised eyebrows, as light and dark was the polar opposite of each other.

"Even if I cannot use it, I still wanted to learn it— No, I had to." She said with a bittersweet smile on her face.

"You had to learn it?" Leo mumbled in a puzzled manner.

"You said humans have a limit when it comes to learning magic, right? What about vampires? Do they also have a limit? Seeing how you know so many magic spells, even though you can't use most of them, I'm guessing that vampires don't have a limit and can learn as much magic as they want."

"Buuu! Wrong!" Lilith said with her arms made into a cross.

"Just like humans, vampires also have a limit to how many magic spells they can learn, and it's even a little more than what humans are capable of. However, because of this, very few vampires have magic affinities beside dark. I'd say that 99 percent of all vampires only have dark magic affinity."

"Then why are you able to...?"

Lilith showed him a mysterious smile, "That's a secret, but if you agree to become my boyfriend, I don't mind sharing it with you."

"That's..."

"I'm just joking. Here. Good luck memorizing this." Lilith interrupted him and showed him the Tier 7 magic shortly after.

Leo didn't say anything else and proceeded to memorize the magic circle.

Four and a half hours later—

<You have learned the Magic Spell: Divine Flame Fortification>

[Divine Flame Fortification]

[Affinity: Fire/Light]

[Tier: 7]

[Mana: 75,000]

[Mastery Rank: F]

[Description: Bless yourself with divine protection. For the next 30 seconds, the Blessed will have increased light resistance by 100%, increased fire resistance by 100%, increased Damage Mitigation by 30%, and immunity to all fire and dark status effects. Furthermore, the Blessed will acquire the effects of Regeneration and Greater Defense Up while the buff is active.]

[Regeneration: Periodically recovers your injuries]

[Greater Defense Up: Increases your defense by 50%]

Ding!

<You have completed a Quest>

[+50,000 Magic Points]

"Thanks, Lilith!"

Now that he had plenty of Magic Points, he purchased another upgrade for his fire magic affinity for 5,000 Magic Points.

<You have purchased 'Improve Magic Affinity(Fire)' for 5,000 Magic Points>

<Fire Magic Affinity Rank C → B>

And again since he could afford it with ease.

<You have purchased 'Improve Magic Affinity(Fire)' for 20,000 Magic Points>

<Fire Magic Affinity Rank B → A>

Leo wanted to see if he could afford another purchase, but it would cost him another 50,000 Magic Points to do so.

Still, he'd managed to increase his fire magic affinity to Rank E to Rank A in a single day.

"Did I overdo it...?" Leo muttered out loud after realizing that he got a little too excited.

"Overdo what?" Lilith asked him out of curiosity.

"I increased my fire magic affinity to Rank A..." He said with a stiff smile on his face.

"You what?!" Lilith was shocked, but not because of his actions. She was shocked that he was able to increase so many ranks for his magic affinity in such a short time frame.

"So I overdid it..." Leo sighed after seeing her reaction.

"Eh? Oh, no. I think it's fine. In fact, I believe the Headmistress will be happier this way, too." Lilith quickly said.

"Let's hope that's the case." Leo said.

Chapter 134: Nina's Letter

Over the course of the next three days, Leo would spend all of his time trying to memorize the ancient magic as well as train his magic by using Divine Flame Fortification on himself every minute.

<You have completed a Quest>

[+5,000 Magic Points]

<You have a new Quest>

[Quest: Use 250,000,000]

[Reward: 5,000 Magic Points]

[Completed: 1/3]

During the day of the training course ranking announcement, Leo woke up early and headed to the Headmistress' office as planned.

"Here is your Fruit of Awakening. You remember what to do, right?" Eve asked him as she handed him the box.

"Yes, I remember." He nodded.

"Once again, let me ask you— are you prepared to do this? You don't have to give me an answer because you have until the result announcement to change your mind." Eve said to him.

Leo silently nodded. Of course, he was resolved to consume the fake Fruit of Awakening.

"Here are your Mana Suppression Pills. Consume them now. I will give you the antidote after the whole ordeal." Eve handed him the two pills next.

Leo took a deep breath and swallowed them.

The moment he swallowed the pills, he could feel his body getting weaker and his mana 'disappearing' from his body. Of course, his mana was still there. It was just being suppressed by the pills.

"Let's test your magic affinities too just in case." Eve said before turning to look at Camille.

Camille took out the device used to detect one's magic affinity and used it on Leo.

A few moments later—

"W-What?! A-Rank fire magic affinity?!" Eve cried out loud after seeing the results.

She turned to look at Leo and frowned, "You said it was only Rank E!"

Leo chuckled and said, "I wanted to surprise you, so I lied."

"..." Camille narrowed her eyes at Leo, suspecting that it had something to do with the Magic System, but she kept quiet.

"You dare to tease me?! I'll make you regret it during training!" Eve snorted.

Leo could only smile bitterly at her words.

Sometime later, after confirming that everything was working as intended, Eve dismissed Leo.

"Wait! Forgot to tell you something!" Eve suddenly stopped him right as his hand touched the doorknob.

"What is it?"

"It's about Nina," she said.

"Nina? What about her?"

Eve retrieved an envelope and handed it to him.

"Nina has asked me to give this to you before she left the academy."

"What?!" Leo's eyes widened with shock after hearing this.

"Nina left the academy?! When did this happen?!"

"Shortly after you all returned to the academy."

"She's been gone for almost two weeks...? She could've at least told me before she left... I thought we were friends..." Leo muttered in a dazed voice.

"I think she was having second thoughts about leaving, hence why she purposefully avoided seeing you, as it would've made it harder for her to leave." Camille said.

Leo sighed. "Thank you for letting me know. If you'll excuse me now..."

He left the office shortly after.

After leaving the office, Leo found an empty bench nearby and took a seat before opening the envelope.

Inside the envelope was a piece of paper was a letter from Nina.

"I'm sorry for leaving the academy without telling you, Leo. Please don't misunderstand my intentions. Every time I see your face, my desire to leave the academy— your side weakens, so I was left with no choice but to leave without seeing you."

"By the time you read this, I will probably be hundreds if not thousands of miles away from Stellar City. If I am unlucky, I might even be dead. I told you that my new goal was to hunt all of the monsters in the world, right? Well, I have a new goal now. I want to become strong enough to fight by your side without feeling like a burden. After spending a month with you in the Wilderness, I realized how much I enjoyed being with you, but at the same time, I realized how weak I truly was. Hopefully, I will be strong enough to fight A-Rank monsters like the Fiend Warrior when we see each other again."

"I actually have a lot that I want to say to you— tell you, but I will save it for our next meeting when I am worthy enough. Until then, Leo."

The letter ended with Nina's signature.

"That silly girl..." Leo sighed after reading Nina's letter, his heart experiencing many emotions at once, as this was his first time receiving a letter like this.

"I must say, to become a full-time Adventurer and leave the city by herself at her young age, that Nina girl is really bold and resolute. She'll definitely become a powerful Adventurer if she doesn't die an early death." Lilith said.

"Let's not jinx it..." Leo shook his head at her.

"You have her phone number, right? Why don't you call her now?" Lilith suddenly suggested.

"I have a feeling that she won't pick up even if I call her. Also, I will respect her decision and trust in her abilities. I will wait until our next meeting."

Sometime later, Leo stored Nina's letter inside his spatial ring and made his way to the auditorium to get the ranking results.

When he arrived, Leo sat in the same location as he did a month and half ago.

However, there were noticeably fewer students gathered there, especially on the normal students' side. They had three to four times more empty seats than the magic students' side.

"Are you wondering why there are so many empty seats compared to before?" Almost as though she read his mind, Lilith suddenly asked him.

"Kind of." He nodded.

"It's simple. They're dead."

"..." Leo wasn't surprised when he heard her words, as he had a feeling that was the case.

"You don't seem surprised." Lilith noticed this.

"The teachers did warn us that some of us will die before the training course even started. Though, this is more than I'd anticipated. I just counted 123 empty seats. Even if a few of them are late and not actually dead, that is still a lot of deaths." Leo sighed.

"What about their families? Do they receive anything from the academy for their sons and daughters' death?" Leo then asked.

"Unfortunately, they don't, and before you complain, this is common practice in our world. All of the students here willingly attended this academy even though they know that they will be risking their lives to do so."

"I wasn't going to complain." He quickly denied.

In his world, the death of a single student would send shockwaves throughout the school and the community, so it felt really weird to him that nobody seemed to be grieving for these dead students.

Sometime later, the teachers showed up with Headmistress Eve showing up last.

"Before I announce the top 10 teams for this year's Wilderness Training Course, I would like to applaud all of you for your effort, especially the teachers. Without you out there in the Wilderness with the students, the casualties would've been a lot higher. Now, a minute of silence for those that have perished while trying to achieve greatness."

And the auditorium became completely silent.

Chapter 135: Consuming the Fruit of Magic Awakening

After a minute of silence, Headmistress Eve began speaking again, "I will now announce the teams that have achieved top 10 in the Wilderness Training Course."

"Ranked tenth, led by team leader Callum Wolf from Magic Class 3-A, assisted by Dante Tenebris from Magic Class 3-A, Tade Wright from Magic Class 3-A, Helen Trevils from Magic Class 2-A..."

Headmistress Eve started from rank 10 and slowly went up, giving attention to all of the students that have achieved their rank.

Many minutes later.

"Ranked third, led by team leader Helia Barnett—"

Many shocked gasps resounded in the auditorium when Eve announced the team that ranked third for the training course.

"What? Lady Helia's team only ranked third this year?"

"I'm shocked. I was sure they'd come in first place or second place."

"If Helia's team only ranked third, then Valery's team definitely got first place this year."

"Which team could have defeated Helia's team? Besides Valery's team, I cannot think of any other teams with that capability!"

The students there mumbled to each other as Eve named the other students in Helia's team, and all of them turned out to be ordinary magic students, which surprised some people there.

"Helia is the only student from an elite class in their whole team... No wonder why they only got third place. But I cannot imagine why she would agree to help these people that are clearly a burden."

"What are you talking about? She does this all the time and still managed to achieve second place for all of them."

A few moments later, Eve continued to announce the second place, and when the students heard the results, their eyes widened with shock with many of them outright shouting out loud.

"Ranked second, led by team leader Valery—"

"What?!"

"Impossible!"

"Valery's team only placed second?! Then who is first?!"

"Silence!" The teachers there shouted at the students.

The students were in disbelief. How could Valery's team that is fully stacked with elite students be second place?

Meanwhile, Valery and her team tried their best to look as calm as possible while they listened to their name being called, which only made them feel even more embarrassed.

'Who is it?! Which team is first?!' Valery gritted her teeth in frustration.

"Last but not least, the two-man team that has managed to achieve first place in this year's Wilderness Training Course, amassing a total of 66 million points, congratulations to Leo Magnus from Knight Class 2-A and Nina Wraith from Magic Class 2-A for this grand achievement!"

"WHAT?!"

Countless students exclaimed out loud after hearing the results, and the students near Leo immediately turned to look at him with wide eyes.

"It really had been Leo all along..." Kevin mumbled in a dazed voice.

"Unbelievable... How did they acquire 66 million points with just two people? That doesn't make any sense!" Jennifer said.

"This is all because of that Fiend Warrior! Without it, he wouldn't have achieved first place! I'm definitely going to make an official complaint about this!" Erik gritted his teeth, his gaze filled with anger as they stared at Leo.

The entire auditorium was in an uproar after the identity of the first team was revealed to the students.

Although the students there were aware of what Leo was capable of, they still couldn't believe it.

"Quiet down!" Eve suddenly yelled, causing the atmosphere there to tremble.

The students quickly went silent.

"Leo, come to the stage." Eve said to him a moment later.

Leo stood from his seat and quietly walked down to the stage under the watchful gaze of every student and teacher there.

Once he was on the stage, Eve said to him, "I'm sure you have a thing or two to say to everyone here."

He nodded and took her spot behind the microphone a moment later.

After taking a deep breath, Leo spoke into the microphone, "I wanted to share this occasion with my teammate Nina Wraith, who had been a great help throughout the whole training course. Unfortunately, she's busy with other stuff and couldn't make it here. Without her assistance, I wouldn't be in this position right now."

"And in order to celebrate this monumental achievement, I will be doing something special. While we were looking for a place to farm our points, we stumbled upon this mysterious cave with powerful monsters such as Black Wyverns, and deep within this cave we found a secret passage."

"We didn't really expect much when we first found this secret passage, but at the end of this passage was a hidden magic circle that had teleported us to a secret room within the cave."

Although the students were still shocked, they quickly became interested in Leo's story and perked their ears with great focus on their faces.

"Inside this secret cave was some kind of trial that somebody had set up. The trial automatically activated when we entered this room, and we were suddenly surrounded by many powerful A-Rank monsters."

"Nina and I fought with all of our might, and after what felt like an eternity, we finally defeated all of the monsters and cleared the trial, but it was a really close call."

"After clearing the trial, we were rewarded for our effort."

Leo proceeded to retrieve a wooden box and placed it in front of him.

"This was the reward we received. Unfortunately, there was only one reward, so we had to decide who would get it. In the end, out of the kindness in her heart, Nina decided to give the treasure to me because she believed that I needed it more than her."

He opened the box and revealed the golden fruit lying within the box.

The students and teachers there swallowed nervously after seeing this treasure, as this was their first time seeing such a treasure.

"According to the person who left this treasure behind, this treasure is known as the Fruit of Magic Awakening, which will grant anyone who cannot use magic the ability to use magic."

"WHAT?!"

Almost everyone there exclaimed in shock after hearing the name of the treasure from Leo's mouth.

Many of them couldn't believe it, but Leo's story was too convincing, not to mention the unique treasure before their very eyes.

While the spectators were shocked numb, Leo continued to speak, "On this fateful day in this auditorium and before all of you, I am going to consume this Fruit of Magic Awakening and become a sorcerer!"

And before anybody there could even react, Leo grabbed the Fruit of Magic Awakening and brought it towards his mouth without any hesitation.

"NO!"

"STOP!"

"WHAT THE FUCK ARE YOU DOING?!"

"STOOOOP!"

The teachers and students there shouted as their hearts experienced sharp pain due to panic and extreme stress, and some of them even rushed onto the stage to stop Leo.

However, they were all too late, as Leo swiftly stuffed the Fruit of Magic Awakening into his mouth and chewed on it as though he had been starving for weeks.

The Fruit of Magic Awakening disappeared into Leo's mouth within a few bites right before their eyes.

The entire auditorium turned dead silent afterward as everybody there stared at Leo with disbelief on their faces and their bodies frozen like a stone statue.

Chapter 136: Consuming the Fruit of Magic Awakening(2)

After many moments of silence, a middle-aged man on approached the platform while shouting in an angry voice, "Why the fuck did you do that?! Why did you eat it?!"

Leo calmly turned to look at the person who just spoke.

'That's Derek Argent... the vice principal of the academy and the second most powerful individual, being only below Headmistress Eve...' He quickly recognized this middle-aged man who had an enraged face.

"What's wrong? It's my treasure that I'd acquired after risking my life. Why can't I eat it?" Leo pretended to be ignorant about the situation.

"YOU FUCKING IDIOT!" Derek roared, his face bulging with veins.

"That was the Fruit of Magic Awakening! It is a legendary treasure that nobody has been able to acquire! It should've been examined by experts and be protected! That could've been the last one in this world! Yet you consumed it without any hesitation or consideration! I should fucking kill you for your audacious actions!" Derek was shouting so loud that his saliva sprayed all over the place.

Indeed, the reason why so many people there tried to stop Leo from consuming the Fruit of Magic Awakening was because of the treasure's rarity, not because they wanted it for themselves. Of course, they definitely coveted that inwardly, but none of them would dare to actually consume the Fruit of Magic Awakening if it was in their hands.

Most unknown treasures and artifacts are usually examined by experts to further understand them. Furthermore, they might have been able to reproduce the Fruit of Magic Awakening's effects, which would have changed the entire world drastically, as it would allow more people to use magic and fight back against the threats roaming the Wilderness and the vampires.

Unfortunately, that chance is now gone until they find another Fruit of Magic Awakening, all because of a student who was too hasty to consume it. Once news of this event spread, Leo would, without doubt, become the most hated person in the world.

"Settle down, Vice Principal." Headmistress Eve suddenly stepped in between them.

"You want me to calm down after what he just did?! Why aren't you shocked?! Why aren't you angry?! He just screwed humanity over with his reckless actions!"

"First of all, we don't even know if that Fruit of Magic Awakening was real or fake. Countless people have searched for it for hundreds of years but to no avail. And even if it was real, there is nothing we can do about it since he's already consumed it." Eve shook her head.

"Somebody bring me a magic affinity tester!" She demanded in a loud voice.

"I have one with me." Camille suddenly appeared on the platform with the device and handed it over to her.

"If that Fruit of Magic Awakening was real, you should have a magic affinity now." Eve said to Leo as she approached him with the device.

Leo placed his hands on the crystal ball.

Everybody in the auditorium watched with their breaths held and their eyes as wide as saucers.

And before the thousands of witnesses in the auditorium, the crystal ball emanated a crimson light before flames appeared inside the crystal ball and danced wildly.

"I-Impossible..." Many people there mumbled when they saw the results.

"A-Rank fire magic affinity..."

"Leo, who was born without any magic affinity, now has a fire magic affinity! That Fruit of Magic Awakening was real!"

"LEEEEEEOOOO!" The Vice Principal roared, causing the entire building to shake.

"PUKE IT OUT! PUKE OUT THE FRUIT OF MAGIC AWAKENING RIGHT NOW!"

In his mind, even if the Fruit of Magic Awakening has been consumed by Leo, it hasn't been that long since he consumed it, so they should still be able to salvage some of it.

"I will open a hole in your stomach and retrieve the treasure myself if I have to!" The Vice Principal began approaching Leo.

However, a ring of fire suddenly appeared around him, halting his steps.

"He-Headmistress?! What is the meaning of this?! Why are you still protecting him?! The Fruit of Magic Awakening is real! We need to retrieve it before it's too late!"

"Your behavior is unbecoming of your status, Vice Principal Derek. I understand your feelings, but even if the Fruit of Magic Awakening is real, it belongs to Leo, and he has every right to decide what to do with it. If you keep making a commotion, I will have to remove you from the scene."

Vice Principal Derek swallowed nervously when he saw Eve's cold gaze.

"Hmph!" He turned to look at Leo and said in a cold voice, "You're going to regret your actions today very soon! Once news spreads, you will become the most hated person in the world! I would keep a close eye on my back if I were you!"

Eve smiled and said in a loud and clear voice, almost as if she wanted everyone to hear it, "Starting today, Leo is under my protection! Whoever dares to hurt him will face my wrathful flames! And since he now has a fire magic affinity, I am going to train him!"

"What?!" Everyone there exclaimed.

"Are you willing to become my student, Leo? It won't be easy, but I will make you the strongest fire mage in this academy!"

"I am willing!" Leo immediately said.

"Good! I now end the gathering here! All of you are dismissed!" Eve then said.

She turned to look at Camille and said, "Bring Leo to my office and wait for me there."

Camille nodded, "Let's go, Leo."

"Okay." Leo quickly rushed to stand beside Camille, as he felt the safest when around her.

Camille led Leo out of the auditorium shortly after while the rest of the people there were still trying to comprehend what had just occurred.

"Leo can use magic now...?" Valery and her team were speechless.

If Leo is already this powerful with just the sword, how much more powerful will he become when he fully adapts to his new powers? Nobody there could imagine.

Chapter 137: Level 4 Magic System

After Camille led Leo out of the auditorium, Headmistress Eve said to the teachers there, "What's done has already been done. Nothing will change even if you complain. Also, are you going to forget about all the honor Leo brought to our academy because of this incident? I won't. In fact, I am going to turn this accident into a blessing for both Leo and our Four Witches Academy. Just you wait."

After saying this to the teachers, Eve left the auditorium.

The students and teachers also left shortly.

Naturally, news of what happened at the auditorium quickly spread throughout the city.

When the people heard that Leo had managed to find the legendary Fruit of Magic Awakening that has been nothing more than a legend for hundreds of years, they were all hyped up with excitement.

However, when they learned that he'd consumed the legendary treasure, these people immediately became enraged, especially the experts that specialized in studying new artifacts and treasures. They were so angry that they nearly died of a heart attack and having high blood pressure.

"That fucking Leo! How could he consume such a priceless treasure?!"

"Damn it! I swear I am going to beat him up when I see him!"

"Why would he do such a thing?! If he had given the Fruit of Magic Awakening to scientists for research, they could've replicated it! The world could've changed, and those who cannot use magic could've been given a chance!"

Countless people mourned for the wasted Fruit of Magic Awakening, and those that couldn't use magic immediately became spiteful towards Leo, who they now see as someone that stole their chance to use magic— stole their future.

This hatred for Leo would only grow stronger as news spread outside the city and to other places.

Very quickly, exactly as Vice Principal Derek had anticipated, Leo became the most hated person in the world overnight.

Meanwhile, inside Eve's office, Leo was oblivious to the chaos outside.

"I think I have severely underestimated the backlash from this..." He sighed out loud.

"We warned you plenty of times that this will be very risky."

"Was it really worth it? In order to finally be able to use magic freely, I basically made the whole world my enemy. Looks like all Otherworlders are fated to be hated by the people of this world." Leo chuckled with a bittersweet smile on his face.

"What's done is already done. You can only move forward at this point." Camille said.

"At this point, I might as well let the world know that I am actually an Otherworlder. I doubt that would make any difference."

"If you do that, you will really be hunted by the entire world." Camille shook her head.

"Listen, this whole thing will eventually settle down. If you want to quicken that process, you can show people that you didn't waste the 'Fruit of Magic Awakening' by becoming a powerhouse."

"That's right." Eve's voice suddenly resounded.

The door opened, and Eve walked into the room.

"A lot of them are angry because they don't believe that you were worthy to consume the treasure. As long as you prove yourself, their anger will naturally subside. Of course, this is easier said than done. However, you don't need to worry about a thing because we will help you."

"Furthermore, I was the one who convinced you to do it, so I will stick with you until my last breath.

"I will do my best." Leo nodded with a serious look on his face.

"Good. Then for the next 40 days, until the tournament, you will be with me at all times. Even though I have publicly announced that you are under my protection, that won't stop everyone from trying to mess with you, especially when you're alone. Also, you are forbidden from leaving the academy until you finish your training. As long as you are inside this academy, nobody will be able to harm you." Eve said to him with a serious expression on her face.

"I understand." He nodded.

"When I need to go somewhere, Camille will be there for you, so you will have protection around the clock."

"Oh, right, here are the antidotes for the pills." Eve handed him a white pill.

After swallowing the pills, Leo could immediately feel his strength return.

Their conversation continued afterward.

Sometime later, Eve brought Leo to this secluded area within the academy that cannot be accessed by students or teachers, and the only person who could access this area was Eve alone.

"That building over there is my living quarters. You will also be staying there now. I have a few empty guest rooms in there that you can use. That square building behind it is

where you will be spending most of your time— the training area." Eve showed Leo and Camille around this area.

Afterward, she said, "I won't be able to train with you for the first week since I have a lot of work to do, most of them being related to you, Leo."

She turned to look at Camille and continued, "I will leave him in your hands until then. If anything happens, call me immediately."

Camille silently nodded.

"Then I'll be leaving now. Good luck, you two." Eve returned to her office shortly after.

After the incident, every phone in the academy and even her own personal cell phones were ringing constantly with countless people trying to contact her about Leo and the Fruit of Magic Awakening, and this would not stop for an entire week.

Eve wanted to ignore these phone calls, but there were people out there that she couldn't ignore no matter what, such as the Adventurers' Bureau and the government itself.

'The first step to keeping Leo safe is dealing with the people behind these calls...' Eve sighed inwardly as she began working.

Meanwhile, shortly after Eve left them alone, a new notification from the Magic System popped up.

<You have completed a Special Quest>

[+500,000 Magic Experience, +2,500 Magic Points]

Ding!

<Magic System has leveled up>

<Magic Converter has been unlocked>

'Magic Converter?' Leo raised an eyebrow after seeing this new function.

