

## **the monarch Chapter 101 - Sweet illusions**

### **Chapter 101: Sweet illusions**

The first blow came from Kayden at a surreal speed, barely breaking the sound barrier. The boy had never been so fast in his life and a smile spread across his face.

His blow was met squarely by the opponent with the flat part of the axe. He didn't even manage to shake the man in the slightest. Backing away to avoid receiving the counterattack, he returned once again.

Again his blow was met flat, but unfortunately for the fat man, it was a feint. His katana ran through the ax at high speed and came very close to the man's neck before he dodged backward.

"Fight seriously or you will die," Kayden warned in a low voice.

"As you wish, Thomas", a look of sadness crossed the fat man's face, which Kayden ignored as he ran against him again.

The axe countered each blow. Its weight did not match its speed. It was insanely fast. It was very close to Kayden not being cut in two several times. After a few minutes of fighting, he concluded that he wasn't going to win this.

His opponent simply had much more experience than him. His blows were entirely defended with minimum effort and, soon, without any follow-up, came a well-aimed attack.

He decided to use it to train as much as possible. After a few minutes, he decided to use:

"Kill me, please," Kayden smiled internally at his little shame. "I won't be able to control myself", the boy pretended that he was fighting his own body.

"Brother..." The fat man didn't know what to do, his emotions seemed to be in conflict. Finally, Kayden left an opening in his gigantic defense. The man, subconsciously, took the opportunity to bring his ax down at high speed.

A gigantic pain assaulted Kayden's body when he saw his arm being separated from his body. Fortunately, it wasn't his main side.

"Come on!!!", Kayden shouted, making the fat man's courage waver and put the ax to his side. His thoughts were that now that Thomas was missing an arm, it would be easier for him to subdue him and then heal him.

As soon as the fat man got close to Kayden, who was crouched on the ground, he was shocked to see the katana going past his neck. The movement was so quick and hidden by Thomas' gigantic body mass that the fat man couldn't even react.

The boy didn't feel anything when he saw the fat man's body fall to the ground lifeless. This wasn't even a battle. The fat man could have killed him if he wanted to. Once again, Kayden saw what experience did in battle.

Even with only one arm, the boy continued fighting without worrying about anything. Its death count was close to 40 thousand people after another 5 days. His entire body was stained with blood.

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The boy didn't even remember any other sensation other than the rustic leather in his hand. His weapon broke a long time ago and he had to make do with imitations of katana he found on the battlefield.

His killing intent was already at the level of causing paralysis in weak-minded opponents and fear in some stronger ones. The battle had already reduced in size considerably.

A day later, Kayden was simply the only man standing on the battlefield. Standing was too strong a word to describe his state. He was simply missing one of his legs and was leaning on a sword.

"I think it's over, don't you?" Kayden no longer saw any point in continuing this illusion. But still, nothing happened. For a few minutes, he just didn't know what to do. Was he really in an illusion?

He had been fighting for so long that his memories were fuzzy. He hadn't slept in weeks. The only thing he did during this period was kill. Realizing that his life no longer had meaning, he made a decision.

Falling to the ground when he lost his support, he raised his sword and brought it down on his neck, putting an end to his sad life.

As soon as Kayden woke up, he staggered down the stairs and fell face-first on the step. A plethora of memories began to assault his mind. His bloodlust began to exude at a worrying level, making the other participants on the steps below feel sick.

"Boy, contain your killing intent." What woke Kayden was the voice of an officer who conjured a bubble around him. That still didn't stop people from getting a bad feeling when they looked at him, but it was a little less so now.

"Sorry," Kayden soothed. He didn't know what had happened to the boy.

"Don't freak out, kid. You must have killed a few people and died. That was the point of the test. Just fighting a losing battle." His sentence caught Kayden by surprise.

"What the fuck did I do there then?" He certainly understood that his only alternative was to kill himself and that was the purpose of the test. But he shouldn't be the last one left. The other competitors would probably become discouraged by the weather and the environment and end up dying due to carelessness.

But that didn't happen with Kayden. He carried out an insanely large massacre. Again, he needed time to recover. This time, it lasted a little longer, reaching two hours.

He had to organize all his memories of the illusion that were sort of jumbled up on top of each other. In the end, the boy smiled. That had been a ridiculous gain. His technique had a jump of at least three times in quality.

And his killing intent was very strong. When she was released fully against the officer, he was almost attacked by mistake. Fortunately, he apologized and said it was a mistake. Finally, he was ready to move on.

The next illusions were easy and didn't demand much from the boy, in one he simply had to fight against several people who gave him a feeling of family, but that wasn't very difficult.

Another he had to defend a castle that was already doomed to failure and even though he did his best he was still invaded, but at least he held on long enough to pass the test.

After a few minutes he was finally on floor number 80, he remembered that only the violinist managed to reach this level and even so he failed, hardening his determination he stepped on the step.

As soon as he woke up he found himself living a normal life in a world without magic with loving parents and a little sister, without knowing what to do he started living like this for a few days, after 1 week he already had an idea of what he was doing there.

A small feeling was developing for this family, Kayden even thought about killing them so that the test would end, but that didn't seem to be the objective of this test, little by little he began to integrate into this new life.

1 month passed and he simply got used to this normal and boring routine, his parents loved him and his sister was adorable, without him even realizing the idea of getting out of this illusion started to become distant in his head.

In the blink of an eye, 1 year had passed, and Kayden could barely remember his life before this place even his name was different now, answering to Lucas he was thinking about what college he would go to.

## **the monarch Chapter 102 - True omnipotence**

### **Chapter 102: True omnipotence**

Author's note: this is chapter 100, as there was an explanation, but I don't remember where thank you if you got this far, I'll send you the bonus chapter for the 10 crack stones... power up

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His parents were doctors and wanted him to follow the same thinking. Faculty? Because he had the feeling that this wasn't something important like it was just a path at the moment.

Ah, never mind, if he couldn't remember it was because it didn't matter.

With a start, Kayden found himself in front of a huge, gigantic staircase. For a few seconds, he couldn't tell where he was, but slowly his true memories came back to him.

"I lost," the boy accepted this as he was taken out of the stairwell by an officer. He was then taken to some healing magicians to see if he was free from any major psychological trauma caused by the illusions.

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And after quickly answering all the questions, Kayden was released. This time, the boy was alone with his memories and smiled sadly. As much as it was an illusion, this last step left good memories for him.

For the first time, he remembered what it was like to have loving parents and a stable life without major problems. When the boy returned to the tent, he seemed to have aged years, surprising everyone there.

Visibly, he looked the same, but his aura changed. He looked more serious, this was mainly because of Thomas and the family's delusion. One taught him the concept of scavengers and war, and the other showed him something he had wanted since he was little and had never cared about.

Unfortunately, he promised himself in this life: that he would reach the top and there was no way he could take a family with him. He wouldn't waste it, he promised himself.

"Congratulations, Kayden!" All his friends congratulated him for reaching floor number 80. Most of them barely made it to 50. Heimer arrived at 61, Matheus at 59, and Sarah at 70.

Isac and Linus barely reached floor 30, but that was expected considering they were younger. Kayden was truly an exception among those in his age group. Even Han congratulated him when they met.

Kayden could have gone to celebrate, but like most people who reached higher steps, he simply wanted to sleep. A certain mental exhaustion took over the boy as soon as he left the stairs.

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The following day, Kayden announced his withdrawal from the gym. As much as he wanted to penetrate her now, she knew it wasn't the right time. He still needed to hone his skills further, and without a doubt, the competitive environment there would not allow a level 6 to survive for long.

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AN: this sentence was weird ~~~~

As expected, Heimer was called for the third test and made a presentation... of a fight against 100 other apprentice mages. He only asked for an hour to prepare, and when it started, it was a one-sided fight.

Dozens of arrays supported him with constant mana and varied attacks against the mages. It looked like a fortress raining down attacks on its enemies. After the presentation, no one had any doubts that the boy would pass.

Matheus put on a show by using darkness magic and disappearing in the middle of the arena against 5 knight wizards. They couldn't even think before they were knocked out. The difference was not its stealth, but rather how it bordered on perfection.

Sarah simply changed the entire region's climate, causing a wave of blizzards. Her control over the ice element was so great that she could extend her magic to miles.

Even though it wasn't deadly, it was still a bizarre display of power. Kayden doubted he could make even 10 meters around him and have the weather altered by his element.

"Isn't that Apollo?" Kayden asked when he saw his team's healer appear in the arena. Everyone was gathered, this time even the Duke was in Lucius' tent.

"That's the crown prince", Lucius revealed without taking his eyes off the huge television measuring almost 4 meters in the center of the room. "He spent the last four years fighting on the front lines of the war."

"War?" Heimer and Kayden seemed to be the only ones confused. They didn't remember fighting any wars.

"Our country is at war against the water empire. These are just border battles. For some reason, I'm not allowed to explain why this didn't level up." It was the first time Kayden had heard about it.

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But he wasn't that surprised. With magical contracts, it was practically impossible for any information to be leaked, and the government maintained tight control over the media.

"Is he strong, Uncle Lucius?" Kayden asked curiously.

"Strong? He is a monster!" Lucius was speechless for a few seconds. "The water kingdom paid a huge amount just to have him taken out of the war." The man didn't speak anymore, as Apollo's test was beginning.

"I want ten knights condemned to death to fight until the last one standing in front of me." This was Apollo's request inside the arena. Even though it was strange, the ten were placed in front of him.

"I want ten wizards, not apprentice wizards." Again, his request surprised everyone. "Since I am a peak mage." His sentence caused an uproar among everyone watching.

A peak mage at 14? Was this some kind of joke? If he hadn't introduced himself as the crown prince, no one would have believed him. Again, another ten people were placed in front of him.

"Fight." The judge's voice ordered them as if they were puppets, and then everyone began to kill each other. It was the first time Kayden had seen a fight from the next kingdom, and it was... impressive.

His attacks were much faster and seemed to be carried by a small film around him that Kayden couldn't identify. When he asked the adults, he only received the answer that it was a mage-level skill.

The boy made a mental note to study this later. Quickly, all the knights began to be bloodied and with parts of their bodies missing, but even so, their blows remained fast and lethal.

Apollo began to levitate. Lucius recognized what the boy was going to do.

"Now you will find out why the boy is known as the next god of healing," Lucius said to everyone.

"In my domains", Apollo's voice resounded loudly. "I do not allow death to enter." When the teenager finished his sentence, small lines began to come out of his body and create a large circle around him, encompassing everything.

Inexplicably, the knights who were missing limbs had them held in place by the wires, their wounds closing almost instantly after being opened.

After a few minutes, everyone could see each knight at their peak state. Regardless of how much they were hurt, it was simply inexplicable.

"Judge! Please order everyone to attack the one carrying a spear." Apollo asked, and then the judge ordered them, causing nine knights to turn against just one.

The green threads that were coming out of Apollo focused completely on the knight with the spear. The man began to receive dozens of injuries, and even though he managed to defend himself some, there were still many attacks.

But... little by little, minute by minute, he stood upright. No matter how many hits he took, it seemed like the Spearman was immortal. All of his opponents began to suffer different cuts that weighed everyone down.

Finally, the spearman landed a direct blow, cutting off one of his opponents. After that, it was pretty much a battle of attrition. Little by little, he removed one of his opponents from the battle.

## **the monarch Chapter 103 - Fate is a hypocrite**

### **Chapter 103: Fate is a hypocrite**

Author's note: Bonus chapter as promised, I don't know how the chapters will be released this week as I'm in exam time at college

It didn't take long, and within 30 minutes, the battle was over. The prince had simply caused silence throughout the kingdom. He was a genius never seen before in the history of the kingdom.

First, his rank as a peak mage, and then, single-handedly he managed to tip a battle ten against one. It was just bizarre. Kayden was impressed. This was probably the level of true geniuses.

After that, everything went normally. The test results would only come out in a week. Even with the duke's invitation, Han preferred to return to the orphanage. He had been away for a long time.



A week later, Kayden was at the orphanage saying goodbye to Heimer. The old man threw a party to celebrate the boy's passing. Not for a second did Kayden doubt that his friend was capable of passing.

Heimer said he had a little parting gift for Kayden. Even though he was the one leaving, he didn't want to say what it was but said that a letter would arrive in the next few months explaining everything.

Kayden had a feeling Heimer had just forgotten to write the letter, which was why it wouldn't be written now.

The next day, Kayden arranged to go see Shang. He should start his life and death struggles soon. It was a necessary step for his progress. He saw in his illusion the difference that experience made when facing the fat man.

It didn't take long and he was at the club. The boy found Shang drinking at one of the club's random bars.

"Hello, Shang," Kayden's voice made Shang wake up from his drunken state. "I'm ready to fight." The boy didn't need to say anything else for the blonde to understand what he wanted to say.

Shang's eyes glowed red and... Kayden didn't even flinch. This time, his will had been honed by thousands of battles. Probably, the illusion made him fight harder than all the fighters in that place.

Even though it wasn't a direct increase in his battle strength, his experience, and combat awareness had increased exponentially. Even though 70% of his fights were useless, it was still an absurd amount of fighting.

"Congratulations, kid," Shang praised when he saw that he didn't even sway. "I'll look for an opponent today if that's okay with you?" Kayden nodded.

The boy didn't have much money, so the 5 gold coins from his savings were put in and Shang supplemented it with another... 15 coins. That was the minimum to enter that category.

It wasn't long before Shang came back telling Kayden that he had found a perfect opponent. His opponent would be on the same level as him and, even better, Kayden had already faced him once.

No matter how many times the boy asked, Shang refused to talk, saying it would ruin the fun. The prize for this match was to triple the amount of coins they had. This was only possible because the opponent seemed to be desperate.



A few minutes later, Kayden went through the entire ritual to cover up his identity and climbed into the ring. As soon as he entered, he saw who his opponent was.

"Fate is a hypocrite, isn't it?" Muppet said with a smile. Before Kayden could respond, the match narrator commented.

"Muppet, at apprentice level 6, against the famous Reaper who, oddly enough, is also at level 6. And guess what's best?" He paused dramatically. "This is a fight to the death!" With his sentence, the arena caught fire.

Even though a life-and-death battle in the club was not rare, it was still not that common. Normally, one fight in ten was in this category. Kayden understood why Shang didn't say anything to him.

This wasn't a match. It was, in fact, a forced retirement.

"Fate is a complicated thing. Good luck," Kayden said in a friendly manner. Then he assumed a fighting stance. Muppet just waited for the boy's attack.

He knew that at some point the flashbangs would be used and he was waiting for it. Unfortunately for him, Kayden was no longer the same person.

The boy rushed with all his strength against his opponent, he didn't even use any technique. The knight raised his sledgehammer and made a sideways swing at high speed.

Kayden simply made a feint and, using the strength of the sledgehammer, the boy bounced it to the side, unbalancing the knight, and, without mercy, brought his blade down towards his opponent's arm.

Sledgehammer retreated, but not without suffering deep wounds in one of his arms. The old man understood that his opponent was no longer the same as before.

"Come with everything, show me this respect at least", Muppet said with the smile of someone who accepted his death. Kayden decided to show this small act of respect since he wouldn't fight again today.

"Transcendence", with his spell active, he rushed towards Sledgehammer at an insane speed. Before the man could mount a good defense, Kayden's blade came down on his sledgehammer.

The man's base was strong and well crafted and took the impact without flinching, but the next blow came almost instantly. The man's feeling was that he received two different blows.

Kayden's katana looked like a snake, each strike was violent and fast, but the worst thing was that it seemed like they connected. Marreta's defense seemed to be receiving dozens of consecutive blows, without even a break between them.

This was a technique he developed in illusion, it was similar to Astolfo's, but he only used his momentum to land the next blow. His technique was practically polished.

There are two ways to improve something: knowledge or practice. In Kayden's case, there were thousands of battles just trying to improve small things. His technique, from a professional point of view, was strange.

He didn't have fluidity in his movements, it seemed like he was making his attacks subconsciously, almost within the time limit between one and another. After a few more seconds, Muppet destabilized again.

Kayden took this opportunity mercilessly to finish off his opponent's arm. Muppet practically had one of his limbs severed. This time, he simply dropped his weapon.

There was no point in fighting anymore, he couldn't even swing his huge sledgehammer.

"Looks like this is the end, doesn't it?" A sad tone came out of his voice, a fighter who faced dozens of battles, even life and death, was defeated in just a few moves.

"Everything comes to an end," Kayden replied in a neutral tone. And before the man could reason, the katana blade pierced his neck. The speed of the blow combined with the transcendence left half of the neck hanging.

The man fell to his knees and a pool of blood began to grow around him. Kayden, seeing this, felt...nothing. No emotion took over him, it was simply as if he had killed a fly.

The boy retreated amidst the screams of the crowd.

## **the monarch Chapter 104 - New team and surprises**

### **Chapter 104: New team and surprises**

AN:I spent the whole day studying yesterday, I didn't have time to launch caps , /:

3 months later, Kayden finally decided to go back to school. During this period, he faced a total of 10 life and death-struggles, and his wealth had already exceeded a hundred gold coins.

Now, he could buy a nice apartment in a posh area and support himself, but that was a headache that wasn't worth going through yet. All the money he reinvested in companies.

In his previous life, he had read enough books to know the value of compound interest. Currently, his monthly income is 1% per month, plus or minus one gold coin per month.

This was enough for him to retire and live a peaceful life. But what a joke! What would be the fun of that?

Currently, Kayden is trying to learn how to solidify his mana around his sword. This was what he saw and understood from Apollo's battle in the tournament, but unfortunately, he wasn't having any kind of success. Every time mana left his body, it would simply be contaminated by the world's will and become useless.

But his tests weren't completely bad. During this time, he learned to fill his blade with lightning continuously, at a low mana cost. When it met its opponents, its movements would slightly freeze.

The biggest problem was that it wasn't something strong or impactful if the boy wanted it to be. He couldn't keep the spell up for long.

This time he went back to school to see Astolfo. Studying wasn't something he cared about. As soon as he entered the elite students' area, he started looking for the boy. He saw his former teammates but didn't decide to go and greet them. Any bond they had was gone after the betrayal.

"Looking for me?" Astolfo called out to Kayden while lying on one of the sofas in the place. After exchanging some basic greetings, the boy asked his friend about the Sol Academy test.

"I only got to step 40 and in the first test, I was eliminated in the second hour by a wind wizard. I wasn't anything impressive like you. What a fuss you made there, Kayden", the boy smiled.

After talking a little more, Kayden decided to bring up the main topic.

"Are we going to put together a decent team this year? From the beginning of the year until the end, we train together and, ideally, we will catch people who will not betray us again." His proposal was easily accepted by Astolfo.

"We just have to get going soon. The championship was brought forward to the middle of the year, more or less in 3 months", Astolfo shared information that Kayden had no idea about. Luckily he decided to show up at school.

This time, they would screen the candidates and evaluate both their performance and their track record. After a few hours, they had about ten candidates in hand.

These ten were the best of the best and still had a certain background that would not make them weak in front of nobles.

"How are we going to divide them?" Astolfo didn't know who to choose, they were all good options.

"We will choose three mages this time, one or two healers and one attack. Our last team proved that having a bad composition was fatal in battles against strong opponents."

It didn't take long for Astolfo to make the selection based on his memories and the recruitment went smoothly. This time, it was two girls and a boy. The boy was the offensive mage, while the two were support mages.

The funny thing was that they were identical twins. The name of one was Lunar and the other was Solar. Kayden thought it was funny that his parents' broken mood put on this kind of combination.

The two were identical, having a medium height with golden hair reaching down to their waist. With white skin accompanying their coloring, they were spectacular. Kayden did not doubt that they would attract attention wherever they went.

The boy was called Klaus and his main characteristic was his immense body size. Kayden guessed he easily weighed 150 pounds and that was just fat. His other features were green hair and an obscene smile.

"Very well, let's start training", Kayden smiled, sending a shiver down Astolfo's spine and a bad feeling for the others.

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1 month later, Kayden consolidated his team's formation and easily reached the top 5 this time. It didn't take much effort, as the 3 new members had combat experience so they weren't dead weight.

And on top of that, Kayden and Astolfo were on a completely different level than the other students. In 90% of them, Kayden only had to use his low-concentration killing intent and they simply froze.

The boy avoided using any level beyond this minimum, as some adults were very sensitive to this and quickly identified it. His first use in total simply caused the five opponents to black out and him to receive a gigantic lecture from the teacher in charge of the elite team.

He also took another fight with Astolfo and managed to win 40% of them. It was imposing when his technique was only recently developed and not even for someone with extensive experience.

By giving it their all, Kayden lost every fight. Astolfo's family's secret technique was simply too bizarre for him to bear. No matter where he attacked or how Astolfo would simply return the blow in equal measure or stronger.

Meanwhile, he also continued fighting at the club and made a name for himself. He reached the incredible amount of 150 gold coins, but unfortunately, he had to pay 40 of them to a healer, as in one of his fights he came very close to going to his third life.

Fortunately, his contract with Shang obligated him to cover 60% of medical expenses, so it wasn't as much out of the boy's pocket as it could have been. His healing was only this high because one of his arms was destroyed by boulders.

At this moment, he was having to make a somewhat risky decision. Last week, Heimer sent him a letter telling him about a natural mana reservoir in a forest near the orphanage.

According to the boy, she still had 20% of her mana remaining and according to him, it was safe in a way since the only magical beasts in the region were at most at the 7th rank and apprentice. That's why he also made it clear to Kayden not to go there before reaching that rank.

The problem was that Kayden needed something to advance faster and he didn't want to wait that long. Considering all his battle experience, he believed he would be safe.

But why not inform the old man or an adult? This was also something that Heimer explained in the letter, most adults would immediately notify the government, as the government's reward was more tempting than just a cluster of neutral mana.

That's why Kayden had to go there alone, after a few days Kayden made a decision and it took him to a forest a few kilometers away from the orphanage, looking from the outside he simply couldn't differentiate it from a normal forest.

## **the monarch Chapter 105 - A hasty attempt**

### **Chapter 105: A hasty attempt**

Author's note: I have a family member in the hospital, and my head isn't very good for writing, I will release the chapters I have as an emergency, but this week I may have had a bit of a problem with the releases

Normally, the area around the cities was cleared of monsters above the apprentice stage, and most of the beasts left barely reached the 5th rank. But in this case, it was different because of the excess mana in the air.

It was little, but Kayden could tell since he had been warned about it previously. After surrounding the forest for a bit, he found the huge tree that Heimer had mentioned.

The problem... is that it was practically in the center of the forest, about 2 kilometers ahead of where the boy was. Taking courage, Kayden withdrew his katana and moved forward.

Slowly, he covered the distance, being careful not to face any magical beasts. At times, he encountered some beasts, mainly giant boars, but fortunately, he managed to remain hidden.

The boy had read many books to make his mana heart and knew that the beasts were very territorial. Hence, he did not find any high-ranked ones. Most were below rank 5 and couldn't even detect Kayden's presence.

'Shit,' Kayden froze when he saw a lion up ahead. His body was warning him that this beast was dangerous. He couldn't exactly identify his level, but his instinct told him it wasn't low.

Slowly, the boy backed away. There was not a good place for him to fight. Any mistake and he was dead. Even more so when he was surrounded by hundreds of animals. After a few minutes, he managed to retreat a few dozen meters.

It took the boy 20 minutes to have no more adrenaline and no foreboding being discharged insanely into his body. After that, he went around the lion's area. This time, nothing stood in his way.

It took Kayden 2 hours to cover just 2 kilometers, but finally, he found himself in front of the huge tree. Its height easily reached two hundred meters and with numerous branches that covered the entire sky.

According to Heimer, there was an entrance in one of the branches of the tree, more specifically in the third after a mark in the wood. Kayden still wondered how the boy managed to find it there.

And why he was there in the first place. Leaving these thoughts aside, the boy began to climb. As soon as he climbed up, he saw a huge gash in the tree trunk and knew he was in the right direction.

Three branches later, he found himself facing a small hole that could barely fit him standing upright. His torso had to bend over to enter. The inside of the tree was... hollow, completely devoid of vegetation.

The only thing that remained inside was a stone a few meters away. A light shade of green radiated from it, illuminating the place. Kayden felt that he was responsible for the spare mana in the air.

As soon as he got close to it, he felt that he was in an environment with at least three times more mana than outside. Smiling, he would cultivate madly. His expedition to this place was supposed to last a week. Again he used the excuse of going to visit David to convince Han.

But before anything else, he first organized a space using low-level earth magic to shape small things like a bench and a bed. The boy had even brought a pillow with him.

He also used fire to sanitize the small space as best as possible. All of this took an hour because of his low proficiency in any other type of magic besides lightning.

Kayden began cultivating and entered a state of maximum concentration. Quickly, a few hours passed. His only breaks were to eat some basic things he brought, such as dry bread and salted meat.

To drink, he brought a few liters of water and there was a stream nearby with running drinking water. So he didn't need to worry about anything other than progressing in his cultivation.

A week later, Kayden decided his trip was over. He used mana until he no longer wanted it, and even then he only managed to use 3% of the stone's total mana. Kayden had to admit it was impressive how much he was keeping.

Probably, on his next trip, he would be able to advance. This time, he understood how Heimer reached such a high rank without being from the nobility or having many resources.

The next day, Kayden was fighting at the club again, but this time in normal fights. He still needed to consolidate his gains, as a small mistake of putting too much force into a blow could cost him his life in the other category.

The next few days passed in the blink of an eye for Kayden. He had all his time occupied, he was either training with his team or he was fighting at the club. His performance was getting better and better.

His team rose to first place in the school with relative ease, mainly because they were not the same teams from the previous year that were already consolidated. It was new blood that moved up when the old students graduated.

Little by little, the next city championship arrived, and, without Kayden realizing it, there were only 2 weeks left until the middle of the year and he still needed to advance to seventh place before that.



He knew he would be attracting too much attention, but he didn't care. After coming face to face with the best healers in the kingdom and still not being able to differentiate his heart from a common core.

Using the same excuse as before, he went to the mana stone. This time, his path was smooth and he didn't even encounter a magical beast. This was mainly because of his previous care in documenting everything he saw for later use.

The boy decided to use the first few days just to fix all the mistakes he could find. Because his advancement process was very fast, it only took him 7 months to get to the next level.

But what changed his cultivation speed were the illusions he went through, mainly because of his mentality. The prison experience made him accustomed to spending long periods alone.

The war was the main one. It made him develop a level of determination that he didn't have before. It broke the last remnants of ethical limits he had. Mind you, he still had some basic ones, but they were no more than the bare minimum.

If he needed to sacrifice an arm to have more power, he would. If he needed to sacrifice dozens of people, he would do it. This mentality helped a lot in his cultivation, as he didn't let anything get in the way of his focus.

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It took Kayden four days to fix all the errors he could find. In the meantime, he spent another 2% of the stone's total mana. Now there was around 15% left. The boy estimated that he should use another 5% to move forward.

This would be his best breakthrough yet. He had never spent so much time with such good neutral mana conditions to just stabilize his base. Every bug he found was fixed and improved.

In the end, just by arranging his base, he felt a 10% improvement in his general strength and especially in his mana conductivity. This time, it would be a huge breakthrough as well, as he would become a superior mage apprentice.

"Come on," Kayden sighed and gathered all his determination for the process of moving forward. Slowly, he was accumulating an insane amount of mana within him. The minutes began to pass as his body screamed in pain from the overload.

## **the monarch Chapter 106 - Advance**

### **Chapter 106: Advance**

Again, his theory of progress being impeded because of his age proved correct. His body began to bleed from the holes in small amounts. Fortunately, he guarded against this and spent 10 gold coins on a clotting medicine.

His blood became somewhat thicker and unable to flow freely out of his body. Not only that, but his muscles were also relaxed, making involuntary contractions impossible.

10 minutes quickly passed and he continued to accumulate mana. For some reason, he felt like something was wrong with him. It seemed that there was not enough mana needed for this advancement.

Approaching 30 minutes, Kayden was sure that mana was no longer the key to progress this time. He was one step away from the next rank, but he couldn't advance. It looked like it was already full.

His body had a lot of accumulated mana. If he released it back into the environment, he would suffer damage from the recoil of the amount of mana.

"Quality," Kayden knew it was. But he didn't know how to change it into something better. He regretted his hasty decision for the first time in a long time.

The boy kept mana circulating throughout his body. At the moment, she wasn't causing any major damage. But the pain was flooding every inch of his body. Even so, he gritted his teeth and resisted.

Another 30 minutes later, he still had no idea how to raise the quality of his mana. Mana was such an abstract concept that things like buffing it were meaningless.

Again, 30 minutes passed and the boy was still in the same situation. Even though he was in pain, his body was fine to a certain extent. Nothing that a few days of rest wouldn't be enough to restore him to peak condition.

Well... that's if he managed to advance. Thinking was slowly becoming difficult because of the large amount of pain. Fortunately, the boy was not new to this feeling.

Another 30 minutes they were passed.

This time, his body was no longer able to handle the amount of mana. Even though he was no longer absorbing it directly, mana was still entering his body because of the high concentration around him.

It was similar to the process of osmosis. And when the boy realized this, he realized that his time was running out.

Ten minutes later, he still didn't know what to do. Unfortunately, he would have to make a hasty decision.

His first thought was to compact the mana. Controlling every inch of his body, he expressed mana to his chest region and slowly began to pile up and accumulate mana in the same places.

No matter how hard he tried, he still had a lot of mana out of his control. And he was causing damage to his body this time, simply because they were without a steady hand guiding them.

'Fuck everything', burn the boats! That was Kayden's motto and he should always follow it. What the fuck was he thinking so much about? If the mana wasn't under your control, just put it in.

He was the master of his body! In his veins, his will was law. Putting all his effort into compressing his mana, Kayden began to bleed even under the effect of the medicine, little by little all the mana in his body began to gather in his chest.

At first, there were still remnants left in other places on his body, such as his feet and near the palms of his hands, but little by little each piece was forced to go where he wanted.

Five minutes later, all the mana in his body piled up into half of the space. At that moment, he felt like he could just let nature lead and his body would automatically move forward.

Feeling the quality of the mana in his body, he only noticed one difference: it was denser, but even after compressing it twice, it was still not twice the amount for the same space, but about 50% more than before.

His body was begging him to just stop what he was doing, but still, the boy held back his advance, keeping a firm grip on his mana. He felt like something was missing.

'What if I pack it three times?' A strange smile appeared on his face. He knew that if he wanted to maintain his two-level jump, he needed to go beyond the ordinary. His instincts screamed at him to stop.

'Idai ?' Kayden laughed at his body's fear and started pulling mana like crazy into his body. Again, he went through the mana accumulation process, this time it took 30 minutes, as he was just worrying about getting as much mana as possible before feeling saturated.

When it reached its limit, it began to compact again. This time, it was much more difficult to maintain control, there was simply too much mana. A surreal headache began to assault Kayden.

This time, the pain was enough to even stop him from thinking for a few milliseconds. This was almost fatal for the boy. If it took him a little longer to regain control... Kayden didn't even want to think about it.

With the headache throbbing in his mind, he continued packing his mana. This time, the pain came all over his body, his skin was starting to break open in several different spots.

Still, Kayden continued. He felt like he was breaking a barrier that he wouldn't have the opportunity to break again if he let this opportunity pass. Little by little, he felt his consciousness being taken away from him.

Unfortunately, the pain was so much that even that couldn't keep him awake. The only thing keeping him conscious was his relentless will. After 10 minutes in this state, he managed to push the last bit of mana into his chest.

'How about four?...' Kayden simply collapsed to the floor unconscious. This time, the boy didn't even notice before his eyes closed.

While he was not awake, his body began to change. First, his heart went through another phase of improvement. This time, he was more robust. Compared to the previous version, it was at least twice the size. Already his veins have diminished similar to when he started growing them.

But they increased in strength, being able to pass much more mana than before. His body practically prepared itself to receive a smaller volume of mana and, at the same time, a greater density.

Other than that, his flesh and organs also underwent a slight forced improvement to withstand the pressure caused by the new type of mana. Kayden slept for two whole days, missing the deadline he had given Han.

Fortunately for him, the old man trusted the boy and gave him a slightly higher tolerance limit than the boy had told him. When Kayden woke up, he felt confused. When he got up, the memories of everything that happened came back.

Laughing maniacally to himself, he began to check up on his body. First, he wasn't sore at all. Second, his mana reached 100% density, that is, he took up half the size to have the same amount of mana.

## **the monarch Chapter 107 - An unexpected fight**

### **Chapter 107: An unexpected fight**

This time it wasn't like other times, where the density was due to your veins becoming stronger, now it was the mana itself that made a qualitative leap. Testing out some moves, he also noticed that his body was much stronger.

The boy estimated that he could reach the peak of the eighth rank with his body normally and with transcendence in the middle of the ninth rank. If you use the ultimate form of transcendence, you should be able to reach close to the peak of the apprentice realm.

Now he was absurdly strong. The boy doubted that Astolfo would beat him if they were on the same level, even with the boy using his family's technique. Checking the date on his phone, Kayden realized he had been unconscious for two days.

Fortunately, because of the excess mana in the environment, he did not die from lack of nutrients or water. His body could passively absorb mana and convert it into nutrition for his physique.

The boy got ready to leave and headed towards the exit. Everything was normal, well... not so much. The forest was eerily quiet. Because of his momentary happiness, Kayden didn't notice this detail.

ROAR!!!

A huge roar shook Kayden out of his bliss. Adrenaline began to rush through his body as he realized what was happening. A huge golden wolf was looking at him.

Without even thinking twice, the boy assumed a fighting stance. Several hypotheses ran through his head in the last few milliseconds. This region must be dominated by a lion, he was sure of it.

Unfortunately, he didn't have time to confirm anything as the beast was rushing towards him at a surreal speed. Seeing his speed, Kayden knew there was no way he could run away from this fight.

Waiting for the right moment to use concentrated lightning, Kayden stood still with his heart beating like a drum in his chest. It didn't take long for the wolf to jump at him.

At that moment, the boy used a concentrated beam directly on the beast's chest. Hitting home, he continued for a sideways slash of his katana. Or at least that's how he tried, but the animal dodged.

Its body mass was so great that the lightning only managed to slow down its movements minimally. The beast turned its eyes to the boy. You could see she was enraged. How dare a mere biped attack an alpha wolf?

Before she could begin her next move, she found herself blinded by an incredibly bright light emitting from Kayden's hand. The boy took advantage of this moment to approach and give the beast a good blow on the back.

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Unfortunately, the attack only caused a medium-depth wound and was not capable of becoming fatal. This time, the beast roared angrily. She hadn't been injured in a long time. She didn't even remember that feeling.

Running at the boy, the wolf released a huge blast of flames, taking Kayden by surprise, but it was easily dodged by the boy. He's fought enough always to predict the worst-case scenario in a fight.

Performing a feint to the right, he brought his blade down on the wolf's back without mercy. This time, a deep wound opened up on the animal's back before it could dodge.

Roar!

With an even louder roar than before, his fur began to catch fire, healing all his wounds with the naked eye.

'Shit'. Kayden was screwed and he knew it. How was he going to fight a practically immortal beast? Using a pop flash, the boy gained space to think about what to do.

The wolf was furious at having to use his self-healing ability. As he grew in power, he developed a certain intelligence. The beast was at the beginning of the eighth apprentice rank.

When she reached the mage level, she could even begin to speak. But for now, his only ability was to have thoughts that were a little more complex than a five-year-old.

And at that moment, his only thought was hatred for the creature that hurt him. Nothing else mattered other than his revenge. Running after the boy, she prepared herself for any strange movement that could blind him.

This time, there was nothing. With a six-foot jump, she opened her mouth to bite Kayden. Along with that, it also released a burst of flames, preventing the boy from performing any spells.

The boy dodged to the side and a kick followed his movement. The animal's speed was simply absurd and managed to cause a large cut on his left arm.

Putting 30% of all his mana into a concentrated beam, Kayden threw it directly at the beast's chest. At point-blank range, there wasn't much she could do. And, as he had already received this attack before, he decided to just ignore it.

Kayden cracked a smile. When his spell hit the beast's chest, it was left freezing for a relatively long period this time. Taking advantage of this opportunity, the boy thrust his katana into the beast's eyes.

a pop flash head-on, rendering its second eye useless. This time, Kayden was the predator and ran after the animal without giving it a chance to escape.

His first blow went towards the animal's other eye and almost went through her entire skull. The boy had to admit that magical beasts had ridiculous tenacity.

As the boy expected, she tried to use her flame technique to heal herself. Unfortunately for her, Kayden didn't plan on allowing that. Activating transcendence, the boy delivered a vertical blow to the animal's neck.

A dull thud was heard as the completely severed head fell to the ground. Kayden quickly deactivated transcendence. Due to the short period of use, it did not cause any momentary weakness for the boy.

His first action was to look at his hands. He knew he was stronger by compressing his mana three times, but he had no idea he could face an equal beast. Granted, his battle experience played a greater role than his strength itself.

The boy began to burn the animal's body. He had no use for the wolf's organic material. This would barely sell for a few dozen silver coins. Kayden wasn't that poor anymore.

What he was looking for was for the animal to have a mana core, which Kayden was sure was a mana heart after losing its function and ability to keep operating. The chance of something like this coming from a magical beast was low.

But the wolf was a leader among magical beasts, so it was almost certain that he had developed his heart enough for him to be able to survive the erosion of death from his body and become a mana stone.

Beast cores had many uses, but the main one was to obtain the elemental mana that was inside it. That would be enough to sell for dozens of gold coins. It could be in the hundreds if he sold it to the right person.

'Luck smiled on me', the boy thought as he took out a kind of ruby from the ground. It was about the size of a ping-pong ball and gave off a feeling of visible heat, almost as if it promised to burn the entire world.

Returning home, Kayden had to make up some excuse for Han. Fortunately, the man didn't care too much and just told the boy not to do it again.

## **the monarch Chapter 108 - Championship**



## Chapter 108: Championship

In fact, he almost brushed it aside as he watched Kayden's rank increase in shock. It had barely been six months since his last progress, this level of improvement was on par with that of a wealthy noble.

'Damn, the day I labeled him talentless. Maybe this is one of the biggest mistakes of my life.' The old man only congratulated Kayden, but inside he was stunned. Unfortunately, he didn't have time to talk to the boy, as Kayden rushed out as soon as he showed signs of life.

On the same day, Kayden went after Shang to try to sell his stone through unofficial channels that the blonde had access to. The boy asked for a hundred gold coins or a lightning element core.

At this time, Kayden also discovered that the beast he had faced was in the eighth realm, according to Shang, and this made the boy have a small moment of ecstasy. He had leveled up against a magical beast.

This was surreal. At this time, the boy also asked Shang for help to heal his back. As it was something outside the club, the boy had to pay 20 gold coins alone.

If he hadn't found himself as a fighter, he would become a healer and enjoy a life worthy of kings and queens just by doing weekly odd jobs.

After fulfilling all his duties, Kayden returned home. He still needed to stabilize his base fully, and even more so with the recent fight, he had a lot of things to think about.

Quickly, the day of the municipal championship arrived. During this period, Kayden only improved his base and trained with his team. He didn't want to do anything risky during this period.

Once again, he was in the cafeteria with the other students, waiting to go in the government cars to the tournament. At that moment, he took the opportunity to ask Astolfo some questions.

"Did you have to make a quality jump from sixth rank to seventh?" His question caught Astolfo by surprise for a few seconds.

"Yes, this is when we have to compact the mana. I managed to compress it three times." The boy gave an arrogant smile. Kayden had also been researching and knew that the number of compressions directly reflected the magician's strength.

Compression of two times was the minimum to pass the rank, three times was for someone talented, four was for true geniuses, and above that there was nothing documented.

Kayden was certain that if he had done the compression from the beginning, he could have achieved a fourfold increase. His strength would have a ridiculous leap in performance. He would probably be able to beat Astolfo even with the difference in levels between them.

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It didn't take long and the same vehicles from the last championship came to pick them up. This time, his team had the right to go ahead. Being first place, they would receive the first applause from the public.

As soon as they arrived at the huge stadium, a crowd of people welcomed them with screams and applause. This time, Kayden's name was the same height as Astolfo's. The last fight between the two attracted attention.

A few seconds later, they sat in the large room designated for their school. Every possible perk was offered to them and Kayden, logically, denied nothing. He ate and drank the best while waiting for the mayor.

A few minutes later, the mayor floated in the center of the stadium.

Author's Note: Maybe this is a bit rushed in terms of missing details until he gets to the event, but I was too lazy to write useless word count stuff, lol.

"Welcome everyone to our advanced championship. The government asked us to do this because..." The man paused dramatically. "This year, the top 10 teams will advance to the state championship." His sentence took everyone by surprise and drew screams of joy from the crowd.

Many schools now had a chance to enter the best. Five more spots was a lot and everyone was dying to go to the next level of this championship, mainly because of college recruiting.

If they stood out enough, they could be called up without even having to take the test.

"So I hope everyone does their best. We will start soon. Good luck to everyone."

A few minutes later, an official came to guide Kayden's team into one of the bubbles. As soon as they arrived, they found the other team already ready.

Their opponents were another completely unbalanced team, with three knights and two magic swordsmen. Kayden smiled. This shouldn't be a difficult match if they are all average.

"There is only one rule: do not use help from third parties. Other than that, everything is valid. You have five minutes to prepare, but pre-made spells are not allowed." The judge gave instructions for the confrontation.

Kayden's team already had a tactic ready. It boiled down to... well, the three supported Astolfo and Kayden as best they could, both with support magic and the boy was part of the attack.

"Start." The judge's voice started the fight. As soon as it started, the five opponents came rushing at Kayden's team without even thinking twice.

"Speed", with Kayden's command, the two girls cast spells on him and Astolfo. "Wall of flames," his other command was to Klaus, who began throwing a thick, wall-like layer of fire.

Running towards his opponents together with Astolfo, Kayden only needed to exchange a glance with his friend to know what they were going to do. Piercing the wall of fire that separated him from his enemies, the boy blasted a pop flash directly at his opponents.

The surprise factor caused them to be caught off guard and practically blind for a short period. Taking advantage of this opportunity, Astolfo ran towards the nearest opponent.

Kayden did the same in the other direction and, casting a concentrated lightning spell at his opponent and Astolfo's, the boy smiled. As soon as the knight in front of him regained his vision, he saw Kayden bringing his katana down on his neck without mercy.

The boy even tried to dodge, but unfortunately, his body was paralyzed. This situation guaranteed him withdrawal from the tournament. Astolfo's opponent was also subsequently withdrawn.

Two opponents were easily removed from the match without even being able to react. Just one small slip on their part cost them the advantage of the match.

"Back off," Kayden ordered. Klaus unleashed a barrage of spells to stop any of those remaining from getting closer. Even though they received the shock of two members being eliminated, they were still quick to react.

"Strength", Kayden asked and was answered by an earth spell that joined his body and Astolfo's. Now the fight would be simple, it was just a matter of finishing your opponents.

"I'll take the two on the right", Astolfo, with his tendency to show off, soon chose his opponents. Kayden didn't care and just let the boy do whatever he wanted.

Five minutes later, Kayden's team was announced the winner by the judge. This match was ridiculously easy. Kayden didn't even have to use transcendence. Just his natural body was already superior to most of his opponents.

Furthermore, his battle experience had reached a level that most teenagers could not even dream of coming close to. And even adults wouldn't have fought so close to death as many times as he did.

An officer came again to take them to the VIP area of their school. His team was the first to return and received many compliments from the director. They had won the match with frightening ease.

## **the monarch Chapter 109 - Old enemies**

### **Chapter 109: Old enemies**

It wasn't long before they were called again. Having rested a few minutes and being healed by the best of the best, they were ready to fight again without any hindrance.

His second fight was just as easy as the first, mainly because this time Kayden used the Transcendence spell. The burst of strength he obtained was simply too much for others to handle.

His every strike managed to reach his opponents without any problem. The best part was that the time he spent under the spell was minuscule and, added to the healing received after the victory, he wasn't even weakened.

His next few fights were relatively easy as well. The most difficult one had the two supports on their team eliminated, but it was also nothing unusual to the point that they had a chance of being disqualified.

"The next fight will be to qualify for the second day. Are you ready, Kayden?" Astolfo asked the boy with a smile. There was just one more fight left for them to reach the same ranking as the previous one.

It was practically guaranteed that they would qualify, mainly because this time his team wouldn't abandon him in the middle of the match. Before Kayden could respond, the official in charge of his team came to pick them up for their next match.

Once they arrived at the bubble, they had to wait for the other team. This gave Kayden a bad feeling. For some reason, he was feeling a small sense of déjà vu.

A few minutes later, the other team appeared. They were nobles, not just nobles, but some they already knew.

"It seems that our rematch was destined to happen", the same nobleman from the last match said as soon as he saw Kayden's team. This time, his natural arrogance was gone. A five-on-two defeat was more than enough to command respect.

"Perhaps it is our destiny," Kayden replied with a friendly smile, seeing how the nobleman seemed to hold no grudges or be hostile.

"Yes, now I will show the world that the Mudbloods just had a stroke of luck," perhaps Kayden judged the nobleman's character too soon. The boy didn't even bother to answer.

Author's note: I was rereading the story and saw that I didn't describe the third melee fighter. lol.

"No prefabricated mana objects are allowed. In five minutes, we will start the fight", the judge gave instructions and waited. Quickly, five minutes passed. "Begin."

With his order, the first thing Kayden's group did was seal themselves in a bubble. As they couldn't use Astolfo's technique for family reasons, his team had no way of getting to the other side without receiving dozens of pieces of sharp metal.

Within seconds, the bubble began to be bombarded by dozens of different lightning and metal element spells.

"Two minutes, Kayden," Lunar informed. Since the bubble was being supported by the two of them, it was incredibly resilient.

"Just wait, Klaus. I want full strength in the ax user." As soon as he gave the command, the bubble began to be attacked by three different types of weapons: the axe, the dagger, and a giant sword.

"In three seconds, lift the bubble. Astolfo, focus on the dagger user. I want speed spells from Lunas and Solar." Briefly and directly, Kayden organized the counterattack.

Three seconds later, the bubble fell to the surprise of the opponents. The first thing they saw was a sea of gigantic flames coming towards them, more specifically towards the nobleman.

Their first reaction was to retreat. The nobleman and the sword user succeeded, but the assassin found himself paralyzed by a spell he didn't even see coming. To make his situation worse, a spear appeared in his sidevision.

SWISH!!

The wind made a loud noise as it was cut at high speed by Astolfo. His blade was practically in contact with the knight when a wave of black smoke covered the assassin.

His spear cut through this smoke but hit absolutely nothing. It was practically as if his opponent had mysteriously disappeared.

"Argh!" A scream of pain resounded out of the smoke as Kayden's katana struck the dagger user's leg. All this time the boy was waiting for the knight to escape. He knew that the boy would not fight head-on and would have some escape tactic.

Unfortunately, this was not enough to cause any significant damage.

"Commoners fight like cowards," the noble said provocatively. Their taunts fell on deaf ears. The only response was a Pop Flash from Kayden that didn't catch anyone by surprise.

"Do you think the same mediocre tactics will work again?" Another provocation from the nobleman that received no response.

"Strength for me and speed for Astolfo", Kayden ordered without taking his eyes off his opponents. "Klaus, try holding the wizards back for a few seconds." As soon as the boy gave his orders, he charged at the dagger user again.

His intention was clear: to remove the weakest link in the chain. Mainly because he was injured in one of his legs. Seeing Kayden run towards them, the nobleman went to fight directly against the boy.

His hatred and resentment drove him to be the first to arrive. With a shout, he brought the ax down towards Kayden, something the boy didn't even deign to look at.

The sound of metal hitting metal resounded as Astolfo parried the blow aimed at Kayden.

"Your opponent is me, beauty," Astolfo said with a smile that infuriated the nobleman.

His intrusion meant that Kayden could continue running after the dagger user. His only impediment this time was the blond knight wielding the giant sword. Kayden received his first full attack with his katana.

"What the fuck is this?", the blonde was surprised to see himself being pushed back in a struggle of strength. His surprise came from the fact that he was at the seventh rank and still had a cultivation focused on his body.

It was a shame for him that Kayden had his power a rank above him in physical fitness and absurd battle experience. Quickly, using concentrated lightning at close range, Kayden passed him as the boy became defensive.

Using a Pop Flash above his head to hide the concentrated beam, he reached the dagger user quickly. His first attack was on his opponent's injured side. The teenager's only alternative was to try to defend himself with the dagger.

Kayden smiled as his katana descended at high speed on the dagger. First, the killer lost control of the weapon. When he tried to continue holding the weapon, his wrist was broken by the force of the katana.

## **the monarch Chapter 110 - Old Enemies [Bonus]**

### **Chapter 110: Old Enemies [Bonus]**

Before the blade reached the opponent's head, he was removed from the arena. Thanks to the judge's intervention, his only injury was a broken wrist that could be easily healed by any magician healer.

With no time to waste, Kayden turned to watch the battle. Klaus, with the support of the support mages, was holding his own against the two offensive mages of the noble team. Only the nobleman and the blond knight were left.

Kayden quickly turned to the blonde knight who was heading towards Astolfo. Using a concentrated beam with a low mana cost, the boy ran after the blonde. His spell was just to draw attention and take focus away from Astolfo's opponent.

And he did exactly as he intended when the knight turned to Kayden in surprise. He thought his companion would be able to buy a little time, at least enough for him to put pressure on Astolfo in a two-on-one fight.

He no longer had time to be surprised when the katana came like a torpedo into his side, forcing him to use the sword as a shield. When he tried to retreat, the next blow came even faster, forcing him onto the defensive.

Each blow he parried was soon followed by another even faster one. It seemed like the katana didn't need to build up strength for the next strike. That was very true. The technique the boy developed was based on his movements being reused.

Seeing that he would soon be eliminated, the boy decided to use his mana technique. Normally, knights specialized in cultivating the body, but most, at least those who had some talent, practiced some mana technique that could help them.

In the blonde's case, it was a wind technique capable of increasing his speed and reflexes. What demonstrated that he was using this spell were small green breezes surrounding his entire body.



Not only that, but he began to counterattack Kayden's blows. For the first time in a long time, Kayden was enjoying a duel. Without using his strength to end the match, he just took advantage of a fight using his techniques.

Unfortunately, all good things don't last long. Kayden received a small cut on his leg from a piece of metal. This finally made him notice that their fight lasted long enough for the other team's metal mage to get away from Klaus.

Not only that but Lunar was also removed from the fight, leaving this fight a four-on-four.

Sighing, Kayden decided to end their duel. The first thing he did was start putting his eighth rank strength against the blonde. Furthermore, it used several concentrated rays to slow its movement and open gaps in its defenses.

"He was joking," that's what the knight thought as he saw Kayden start to give it his all. His morale completely plummeted, as while he was giving his life to win the duel, Kayden was just taking it easy.

His defense fell in quality along with his morale and, in just a few exchanged blows, he was already full of cuts on his body. Even with the metal mage raining attacks on Kayden, he was still doing well.

Little by little, his blows were getting closer to finishing his opponent. Until a small slip in the blonde's posture caused a fatal attack by Kayden towards his neck.

Simple and easy, another opponent was removed from the match. At that moment, the advantage was completely on Kayden's team. The boy turned around and ran towards the metal mage at high speed.

The problem was that several pieces of metal were coming towards him, making it impossible for him to get closer effectively. Little by little, the boy began to take his fight closer to Klaus.

Without the woman noticing, they were practically next to each other, with Kayden reuniting with her team while on one side was the metal mage and on the other the lightning mage.

"Take care of the metal mage," with a quick command, they switched positions and Kayden found himself facing a new opponent. This time, it was easier to get closer, since there was no spell the mage could cast against him that would keep him away.

Well, there were several beams and balls of electricity being launched at the boy, but they were not able to slow down his movement, mainly because of his large size, making his trajectory predictable.

And while Kayden also threw his lightning, further disrupting the mage's life, finally, after a few seconds, he managed to get close enough to make it a hand-to-hand fight.

When the boy approached, his speed was too great for the girl to keep up. The first blow was horizontal and, even though she retreated, she still suffered a deep wound on her waist.

Without mercy, Kayden conjured a concentrated beam at point-blank range and, when his opponent was paralyzed, he performed a horizontal cut that would have split the girl in two if the judge hadn't removed her from the arena quickly.

When Kayden turned to watch the battle, he was surprised to see that only Astolfo was left, Klaus and Solar managed to eliminate the metal girl alone. The boy smiled to himself.

That was a good team. Even though Kayden and Astolfo did most of the fighting, their team was still able to hold its own when necessary. When he started to interfere in Astolfo's duel, he received a shout from his friend.

"Don't come, Kayden, I'm going to show this trash that he's just a little shit", Astolfo's tone was intoxicated. Kayden did not doubt that he lost himself in the emotions of battle and, oddly enough, this was common for Astolfo.

Astolfo and the noble were dripping with blood. While the nobleman had a ghastly-looking gash on his left leg, Astolfo had a large gash on his chest. Kayden didn't even know how the boy was still breathing.

Their movement was already weakened. Astolfo was barely defending himself while the nobleman wasn't even able to lift his ax properly. After a few minutes, the fight became boring for everyone watching.

It took a while, but finally, a winner had triumphed in this duel. The nobleman smiled victoriously when he saw Astolfo being taken out of the arena. Unfortunately, their happiness was short-lived.

Kayden threw a blow through his blind spot that ended up removing the nobleman from the arena. With the nobleman gone, Kayden's team celebrated their victory. They had entered the placements to receive the prize.

Even Kayden was happy this time. If he correctly utilized the prize, combined with the remaining mana stone, he could reach the eighth rank within six months. His cultivation speed was frightening.

Of course, he couldn't train or do anything else in his free time. It would practically be 16 hours of cultivation a day, but this way he could advance an absurd position for his age.

On this path, even reaching the wizard level before the age of 14 was not out of reality. Then an officer came to them to take them to the VIP area. This time, they no longer needed to fight that day.

Because those who qualified only needed to fight on the second day of the championship and there were only two fights if they were lucky. Otherwise, it would be three matches. The top ten could compete in the state championships against other cities.