

Once Human 291

Chapter 291

A few months passed and after thorough dedication showed by the short girl, the Empress finally managed to locate the exact position of the nameless world . Although many of her loyal guards wanted to accompany her, she flatly refused them and headed to that specified world right after the Fire Region started showing more aggression in their invasion .

After leaving the Water Region and striking a deal with the leader of the Earth Region to be able to use its portals and head straight into the Blood Sea, the Empress finally reached that nameless world within two months .

Just when she appeared in that world, she felt her breathing quicken and her skin corroding at a fast rate . She hastily raised a durable protective barrier and activated the function of the bracelet she was wearing yet even after that, the protection she cast was showing signs of decay and corrosion .

She could see nothing but a grey fog all around her, the air was hot and cold at the same time, her senses became disoriented and instincts repeatedly warned her to leave .

The thing that surprised her, even more, was that she felt something lock onto her, it didn't show any killing intent or hostility but it definitely spotted and was closely watching her .

From the looks of it, her barrier wouldn't hold for more than an hour, so she began exploring the area with all her guard up and an ancient stone in her hand, firmly held in case anything dangerous attacks her she could escape from here .

Not even ten minutes passed before she reached a place where there's land . There was considerably less grey fog in here but her protective barrier was still cracking and dispersing .

As she landed on the ground, for as far as she could see, the ground was littered with bone of all shapes and kinds . It was literally a sea of bones, the death Energy here was terrifyingly dense . Fortunately, it didn't have any effect on her barrier or else she wouldn't have been able to resist it .

After inspecting the bones for a few seconds, the Empress proceeded onwards . She didn't have a clear destination, however, there's a strong chance that the answer she seeks is in this nameless world .

Until now, she didn't meet any danger but when she crossed some distance while seeing no end to this sea of bones, she suddenly halted mid-air as he found herself in an enormous altar with sky-high ancient pillars forming a circling around her .

This was but the beginning as all of her body felt heavy and her knees almost gave up, her body unconsciously trembled from fear when her eyes landed on the thing sitting on the center of the altar .

With a size larger than any dragon she has seen throughout all of her life, this ancient creature was lazily sitting there, motionless and silent . A body made only of bones and although it was sleeping, its height surpassed the hundred meter mark, it was truly gigantic, in every sense of the word .

Besides its domineering appearance, what made the woman tongue-tied and fearful is the pressure it was emitting, albeit it wasn't fixated on her, just by standing next to this dragon, she felt incomparable terror .

She felt completely powerless, her body wouldn't even budge even after she commanded it to escape, the Empress could only gaze at the dragon with wavering eyes, totally different from her usual indifference and arrogance .

'I-it's an Elder Bone Dragon!'

Stupefied and angry due to her unluckiness to meet this ancient being, she could only curse inwardly and think of a way to escape . It is known by all people that dragons possessive creatures and especially hate those who invade their territories, more so for the Elder ones, which were the pinnacle of the Dragon Race, existences that didn't show themselves for far too long .

"This is not a place for you, Mortal . "

Dragons are masters of the tongue thus the Elder Bone Dragon didn't speak using its mouth but transmitted its words directly to the Empress' mind, startling her for a moment as even the creature's voice was deep and somewhat chilling .

She felt the restraints on her body loosen for a bit, allowing her to talk but that didn't mean was gone, in fact, every second she remained here and looked at this dragon, the more afraid she became .

It is a shameful thing for an Empress like her to be this scared but she couldn't help it, an Elder Dragon is not something she could match, much less an undead dragon, the most powerful kind of them all .

After resolving her mind and calming her head, she retorted with a steady tone:

"I have become an Immortal long ago . "

As it heard her, one of the eyes of the dragon were lazily opened . With an eye burning with blue flames and an abyss-like pupil, it stared at the tall woman for a brief second before it closed it again and scoffed at her while saying

"An immortal? I think you're mistaking, little girl . Anything or anyone that can die is nothing but a mortal in my eyes . "

Still keeping her stubbornness even when facing this Elder Dragon, the Empress said:

"As long as you're strong enough, there's nothing you can't kill . A true Immortal that can't die when he's killed does not exist . "

"Oh but there are, many, in fact . It's not because you didn't see any that they do not exist . "

The woman frowned and asked

"Is the Empress of the Star Region an Immortal?"

Several seconds passed yet she heard no answer, she almost believed that the dragon ignored her and resumed its sleep .

"What are you here for, little girl?"

"I came seeking the truth about the foundation of the MoonStar Sect . "

This time, the dragon opened both of its eyes, raised its big head and stared at the blue-haired woman . As if it was peering deep into her soul, the woman shuddered and unconsciously retreated a few steps, she felt exposed to this dragon's gaze as if nothing could escape from it, not even her deepest secrets .

After a while passed, the Elder Bone Dragon closed his eyes, returning to its usual posture .

"A curious one, aren't you? This is a path of no return, it would be for your best to stop whatever you're doing and mind your own business . Personally, I do not care but if the master of this place finds out, you, along with your whole region will be erased from existence and don't think those shabby rules from above or whoever created them would protect you . "

Before she could retort, the tall woman found herself standing in her secret room, back at the Water Region . She stood there, dazed, for several minutes before she snapped out of it when the chubby girl appeared .

Chapter 292

"No, no and NO! This isn't a circus, use your shadow clone first then you attack next, use a feint then send the clone made from the Dark Cloud . You need to distract those stronger than you, even a person with a high concentration will always be startled when three of you appear . "

The copy exclaimed as he held his temples in disappointment . Arthur, who was fighting whitey inside the ARK, tried his best to follow the instructions he was given but no matter how much he tried, how flawless his combat ability became, it never satisfied his copy .

The copy actually became angrier the better he became and it truly frustrated him yet he never retorted, he knew what's best for him and he could never wish for a better teacher .

With the time slower inside the ARK, high regeneration and all his skills available thanks to his copy, he was able to display his full potential but the enemies that are appearing are monstrous in both offense and defense .

"What use is there for your eyes if you don't use them? Don't freeze time when the enemy is attacking, do it after you land a blow so that you can kill the foe when his or her body is destabilized from the shock of the first blow . "

Although he taught Arthur every kind of tactic, how to use his powerful skills, when to use them and how to escape fatal attack from hostile parties, the copy never, even for a second, told Arthur to use the sword or instructed him to train with Makaze .

With all the memories he got along with the Dark Blade's Oath, there's nothing that can be taught . Makaze will leave its sheath when the enemy is worthy and needs to be killed otherwise Arthur needs to find another way to defeat his enemies .

"Enough with your flashy moves, Dark Magic is suited for assassins and not clowns! I need you to kill your enemies before they realize your presence if possible and if you've been found out then use the least bit of time to slit their throat or cut their head! Teleporting is useful but easily predictable, powerful skills that take time to execute are only meant for a big herd of enemies, not a single target, use your brains for god's sake! All your Intelligence for nothing, ahhh! I bet Saly would've done much better in less time . "

.

After what seemed to be an eternity, Arthur left the ARK after his copy was fully satisfied . His body didn't feel sluggish or heavy even after sitting deep in that dark abyss for such a long time .

"A week to reach Spirit Realm, three months to reach the Immortal Realm and Sixty years to Reach Godhood, I've achieved a new miracle!"

Hearing his copy proudly talk like that, Arthur clicked his tongue and retorted

"You mean I achieved it, not you . "

"Well, it was per my orders and if not for spending even more time training your ass, It wouldn't have taken so long . "

More than a hundred years passed inside the ARK, thanks to the copy's partial control over the mysterious cube, he managed to significantly slow the time inside even when in Recovery mode, which helped Arthur cultivate quietly and hone his control and skills .

Not once in one-hundred and ninety-five years did he use a sword . It was a long period of time but for him, it didn't seem that long since it was spent training every second of those two centuries . He missed his wife so much yet he held himself, not wanting to rush things as he did in the past .

His hair has grown so long and his body was covered in dust like an ancient statue that wasn't cleaned for a millennium . Two corpses laid before him, one belonged to the Azure Dragon, which was reduced to a meat paste and the other was of the White Tiger . Its large head was laying next to it, the blood had dried and the stench had long since vanished, leaving nothing but two lifeless bodies accumulating dust over the years .

"Five years and one month to ascend to Godhood, you should be proud . "

The Copy glanced at the date the map was showing and realized how much time passed outside . It was nothing compared to how much time they passed in that endless white space .

"Proud to leave my wife and daughter alone for five years?"

Arthur's retort left his copy speechless, he kept his silence and simply watched from within the ARK, no longer spouting useless remarks .

After spending countless hours listening to his copy's teachings, Arthur knew better than possessing the two bodies in his current state . He made a full recovery and even became unbelievably strong but he shouldn't carelessly possess powerful entities like there's no tomorrow . It's fine to possess anyone below a Sovereign but if it's something like a Divine Beast, albeit a copy, they should be possessed when he's going to break through to the next Realm or Grade, the effect will be better .

Furthermore, he learned a new ability thanks to his training, it allows him to possess corpses or beings without automatically gaining their stats, meaning he can possess the tiger and gain its techniques without burdening his physical body with stats .

Speaking of stats, Arthur took a deep breath and fixed Makaze on his waist then opened his status Window after five whole years .

TITLE: MEAT GRINDER / SEEKER OF KNOWLEDGE / ONE WITH THE SWORD / ARK HOLDER / LIVE WITH HONOR, DIE WITH GLORY / BREAKER OF CHAINS / HOLDER OF THE DARK BLADE'S OATH / MAD DESTROYER/PSYCHOPATH/DAGON RIDER

Level: ??

Class: Dark ARK Parasite

Realm: 1st Grade God

-

Strength: 3 . 06B

Intelligence: 2 . 34B

Agility: 2 . 87B

Wisdom: 1 . 7B

Vitality: 3 . 1B

Dexterity: 2 . 25B

-

Health: 3 . 5B // Health Regen: 12m/s

Please visit freeweaponovel.com

Nether Energy: 1 . 9B // Nether Energy Regen: 885741/s

Mana: 2 . 0B // Mana Regen: 985714/s

Stamina: Infinite /Stamina Regen: ???

Creation: 584

Attack: 2 . 3B (+65% Damage)

Defense: 1 . 9B (+25% Damage Reduction)

Magic Defense: 999 . 9M

Soul Defense: 25,000

--

Enigma abilities : Telekinesis / Ancient Threads / Sixth sense / ARK(Activated)

Mental Power: 10001

Elemental Resistances(+)

Fire: 100%

Darkness: 100%

Wind: 35%

Water: 75%

Earth: 75%

Light/holy: 30%

Shadow: 30(+20)%

Lightning: 100%

Ice: 30%

Death Count: 1 (2 more to obtain 'Unbound')

Possessions (472,012)

Races:

Humans (282,991)

Demons (84,997)

Beasts (+)(101,528)

Unique Beasts (2498)

Mythical beings (1)

Arthur contemplated his stats for a while before he closed the status window and focused on the tiger's headless body . Countless invisible soft threads came out of his fingers as he controlled them and skillfully attached the tiger's head into its body, perfectly fixing it .

"It's a perfect body to fight with, even better than the Silver Wolf . Though even without it, I doubt any Sovereign could injure you, even a God Monarch would have a hard time . "

Arthur collected both bodies of the Divine Beasts and ripped the space, appearing a long distance away . With blue sky above and a calm ocean below, he was gazing at an area with dense fog covering it, some kind of illusion barrier was several meters in front of him, blocking his path .

As the copy gazed at the dense fog and the restless ocean in that area, he sighed and said

"Westia Continent, ahhh what a nostalgic place!"

Chapter 293

"So this is where the forgotten continent is . "

"Technically, it's not forgotten but isolated . A sage from the past cast a powerful illusion barrier around it, separating it from the rest of the world to spare it from the catastrophe that occurred ten thousand years ago . I guess, in a way, that sage knew about the dangers that'll befall on Astria and decided to act early . "

The copy was also amazed by the level of the Illusion spell, it was the first time he saw something of this level, it's definitely not someone any illusion Magic expert could do .

"The great library is the center of the continent, right?"

"It should be, Zodiak's notes are always accurate . "(copy)

Arthur nodded his head and raised his hand, clawing the air with his fingers as soft and thin invisible threads twirled around him .

The threads wrapped around his body, creating a white armor that seemed pretty fragile .

The next step was injecting this armor with a mind-numbing amount of Demonic Lightning .

"Spending twenty years learning about illusions and how to bypass or break them was indeed not a waste of time . At least I don't need to tell you what to do everytime you encounter a hurdle . "

Like [Transcendence], Arthur's body became covered with weird-looking black lightning, it was soundless and calmer than any other form of lightning . As he proceeded forward, the fog several meters around him began dispersing, creating a small path, barely enough for him to pass .

Although he had a speed that's almost unmatched, Arthur slowly proceeded into that illusion spell, not wanting to either break it or raise a huge disturbance .

Those kinds of illusions aren't just to mislead the invaders from outside, they can kill anyone that tries to use brute force to barge in . It has been present from more than ten millenniums .

Around three hours later, a large piece of land entered Arthur's view . It was a desert with high mountains of sand and a hot weather dominating the area .

"The spell is cast only around the continent, so it's fine if you travel faster now . "

In response, Arthur discarded the lightning armor and ripped space with his bare hands and casually entered, appearing millions of miles away . In a world like Astria, where it's not even considered a Low-Realm, space is more fragile thus he can travel long distances this easily .

In comparison, Arthur could only travel for a few thousand miles with each leap in the Green-leaf Word . As for ripping the space of a High-Realm, it's a doable feat but the traveled distance would be meager and using normal lightning to move around would be much more efficient .

With his new map that had enlarged range and his sense, which got a huge boost, that could cover more than half of this continent . Arthur was able to locate his destination .

As he was about to rip space and leap a second time to appear at the center of the continent, Arthur sensed a familiar energy fluctuation not far away from him .

unexpectedly, there was no remark from his copy, who would never shut up when something out of the worm appears . Making use of his sense, Arthur pinpointed the exact location of the source of this familiar energy .

He leaped in space and appeared some distance away from where the sensation from earlier was felt . Upon a closer look, approximately four hundred meters away from him, on the top of a tall mountain that reached the clouds, there was a battle occurring .

One was a Dark Dragon that was a bit weaker than Yamak and the other was a party of five people . From what he's seeing, Arthur guessed that the dragon was winning as one of the five was gravely injured, two of his comrades were protecting him from the AoE attacks the enemy was unleashing .

Arthur inspected the five of them one by one then shifted his attention back to the first target he appraised, it was a dark-haired young man with pale skin and an expressionless face .

He wore a dusty dark-armor and wielded a two-handed sword made from some kind of Black Steel .

'It's definitely him . This energy . . . it's similar to Dark Magic yet much more ominous and unsettling . '

For the first time since reincarnation, Arthur encountered some type of Magic that made him feel uncomfortable and uneasy . It was chilling and threatening despite the fact that the young man was merely Lv198 .

He first thought of ignoring this kid and resume his mission but he was stopped by his copy:

"Stop! I need you to give him something?"

"Give him something? Do you know him?"

As he gazed at the young man through the mirror inside the ARK, the copy chuckled and replied

"Know him? I guess we can be called acquaintances . Now, go save him . "

Arthur was confused as he listened to his copy's words . He felt suspicious about the mysteriousness of his copy and the connection between the youth and the 'thing' inside the ARK .

"It's no big deal, he'll be able to defeat the dark dragon sooner or later . "

Unlike what his copy told him to do, Arthur crossed his arms and patiently waiting, unwilling to move unless he receives a satisfactory answer .

"It's not the time for chitchat, since you're here and he's in danger then according to the intersected timelines, you must save him or he'll perish for sure and believe me when I say it, it's not something that you'll want . "

Although reluctant, Arthur finally made his move, instantly appearing between the two battling parties, surprising them and halting the fierce ongoing fight .

The dark dragon was too slow to react and was beheaded on the spot by Arthur's threads, which sliced its head without meeting any resistance . A dragon of its caliber is nothing compared to the Azure Dragon, which is considered a weak opponent for the current Arthur .

As for the group of five, they all had grim expressions as they stared at him with fear and shock . From their point a view, his sudden appearance and the death of the dark dragon is no mere coincidence, any fool could link these pieces together and figure out who killed the winged lizard .

"W-who're you?"

Please visit freewebnovel.com

A short girl with a long red staff on her hands, spoke with a shaky tone as she said those words .

Arthur didn't look like a normal person, with a scar on his face, a long grey hair and a blood red pupil . He didn't try to look domineering or scare them with his pressure, in fact, thanks to his long training, he became able to skillfully hide his aura, making enemies unable to sense him unless he wishes for it .

As Arthur waited for his copy to take the thing that needs to be given to this youth, dark fog started materializing in front of him until a longsword over two meters long was floating before him .

It was pure black, even its hilt, there were no gems or engravings on them . From every angle you look at it, it seemed to be no more than simple weapon made from the same material, yet this longsword brought Arthur more fear than he should have .

It felt like a simple strike from this thing could kill him even if the wound was small or insignificant . Makaze felt it too as it started vibrated intensely, it was a sword too and it didn't like to be dominated by others, however, it didn't start raging or acting recklessly, it still remained in Arthur's sheath, remaining for the moment he uses it .

"What's this?"

Arthur's eyes never left the longsword since the second it appeared, it brought a heavy feeling to him and just by being close to it, he felt burdened and engulfed in an endless darkness, one that wants to devour him whole .

"It's nothing, just returning the item to its owner . . . and don't touch lest you gain a permanent, irreversible curse, that'll surely be a calamity for you hehehe . "

The longsword slowly flew toward the dark-haired youth, who unconsciously stretched his hands and held it . Some kind of synchronization was formed between the two of them and once he laid hands on that terrifying weapon, the aura around the youth became stronger, deadlier and more overwhelming .

With a still expressionless face, the youth asked:

"Why are you giving it to me?"

Arthur waved his hands in disapproval and retorted

"Giving it? I'm simply returning it . "

Unlike the coldness that can be read in his eyes, the young man did a slight bow toward Arthur and politely said

"Thank you for saving us and for the sword . "

In response to him, Arthur nodded his head while smiling and left that area after leaving those final words

"You can thank me properly when you become stronger, for now, you owe me one . "

Chapter 294

Arthur didn't linger there anylonger, he vanished from the small party's view, disappearing into nothingness, startling them for a few seconds before they calmed down when some time has passed . All they did after was stare at the headless dark dragon with awe and fear . . .

. . .

"I actually don't know what exactly the Great Library is but it's certain that it exists and it's locked here . Knowing how the System does its work, I guess there'll be a few guards at the entrance, however, I'll take care of them you don't need to act . "

The copy transmitted his voice to Arthur, who appeared above the center of the Westia continent .

Below was an eerie forest with fog covering more than half of it, it reeked of death and was unusually quiet and from what Arthur sensed, he discovered no signs of lives nearby .

Using his [Sixth Sense], Arthur carefully inspected the area, the things under the dirt and the clouds on the sky, leaving nothing uninspected yet he was met with naught but failure .

He couldn't find anything abnormal or a barrier that can lead him to the location of the library .

"The System doesn't rely on Barrier and formations like most people, it has its own way of concealing things and it goes beyond what Nether Energy or anything else could do . Leave the rest to me, I'll find it . "

As he said so, the mysterious cube that was floating above Arthur's soul, left his consciousness and started spinning in front of him . It emitted a constant flow of red lights to all directions until a distant noise was heard from the East .

The cube started flying toward that direction with incredible speed, fortunately, Arthur was able to follow it without any effort . After a few minutes, they arrived at a normal mountain range, unlike the forest from before, this area was peaceful and full of life .

The cube froze in mid-air for a second before it dived downwards, crashing into the earth at a random location . From then on, the ARK started changing shapes continuously, from a cube to a sphere, then to a triangle . Each shape had a unique color and a number engraved on it .

Finally, the ARK took the shape of a rectangle, it had purple lines and the number '6' was on its front . The ARK vertically embedded itself into the ground, which caused the latter to start shaking violently for a few seconds before a path appeared before Arthur .

It was a staircase leading below, lights were illuminating from both sides and what surprised him was the type of illumination . It resembled the ones used on Earth, however, these seemed much, much more advanced .

"There's nothing to feel surprised about . The System uses Science and Technology rather than ancient methods like cultivation, this is why it's the biggest universe and the more dominant one . It doesn't have strong entities like the other two Universes but it definitely has the numbers, and in mind-numbing amounts too . "

Arthur descended the stairs while keeping his guard up for any surprise attack . Although his copy told him that the guards here won't be strong, he didn't dare rush in recklessly lest it results in unwanted consequences .

Approximately three-hundred meters underground, the stairs finally stopped and a large, spheric empty room was at the end of Arthur's path .

Apart from countless small pipes and ropes fixated on all the walls and machine sounds that are constant and monotonous, there was nothing dangerous in this place .

There were no signs of life and his map didn't show him any red dots, which means this room is clear and devoid of anything . This made him wonder about the existence of this room and why was it constructed .

"See, the way the System works is totally different from the cultivation world or the Heaven and Hell Universe . It doesn't put a lot of effort into hiding treasures and from the looks of this place, it's not really a location to hide something but rather an 'office' . "

Hearing this, Arthur frowned and asked

"Office?"

"Yes, within its Universe, the System built countless 'Offices' . It designs Artificial intelligence to these 'Offices' . Usually, each world, no matter how small it is, has an office with an AI inside of it, this AI manages the 'small' system in that specific world . "

Seeing the still confused look hanging on Arthur's face, his copy continued:

"It's like a core . It manages the people who have the system in that world, for example, whenever you hear notifications or see a blue window, it's managed by the AI in this place . "

"What if I change worlds or Realms?"

"Good question . In most cases, the job gets shifted to a higher-grade AI, one that manages not a world but a solar system or even a Galaxy for they have larger range . Zodiac was, more or less, right, there's indeed a library here, or more accurately, an old AI that has been shut down . If we can acquire it then there could only be benefits . "

"Why would it be shut down? And why was it not disposed of?"(Arthur)

"They broke rules . Even if it was by mistake, there would be dire consequences, the System is pretty strict regarding its rules and even the main controlling units have to follow them . It's a pretty complicated process so let's forget about it and see what's lurking in this place . "

Arthur nodded in approval and slowly walked toward the end of the room, where there was a closed door that probably leads to the main room of this 'office' .

"It's pretty weird that there are no normal guards here but I guess it's better this way . "

The copy spoke with a regretful tone . Since earlier, he was excited about meeting the System's guards as he narrated to Arthur how he'll capture them and make good use of them inside the ARK, unfortunately, they met no such guards and found nothing abnormal .

Contrary to his expectation, the closed door wasn't locked, in fact, it opened with a small push of his hands . Once the door opened, Arthur a sight that truly astonished him .

Please visit freewebnovel.com

He speculated that he'll see advanced machinery and things like those Sci-Fi movies on Earth but reality was vastly different .

First of all, the room was the definition of the color pink, from the chairs to the bed and paint on the wall . There were six to seven large monitors on the front and dozen of teddy bears on all corners of this place .

Even his copy, who was witnessing this from within the ARK, stood there with mouth agape . No matter how prepared and composed he was, seeing something like this was definitely out of his expectations .

He had seen 'offices' in the past but it wasn't remotely close to this one . The pink room wasn't devoid of life, there was a small girl laying in front of the monitor and eating some snacks as she watched an old movie Arthur remembered watching back in the days .

The little girl didn't seem to notice his entrance to her 'room', she had her eyes glued to the big monitor as her hands automatically shoved all kinds of snacks into her mouth .

The only thing that could be heard was her crunching sounds, a headset bigger than her head was worn and apart from a pink blanket was around her, covering the majority of her body .

"T-this is an office?"

Arthur asked his copy after some observation . At first, he wasn't sure about what he was seeing but after further confirmation, he was sure that this was none other than a small girl's room situated in a random place underground .

"I, I'm not sure . This girl is definitely not an AI, she couldn't be more human!"

Chapter 295

"What's the meaning of this?"

Arthur asked his supposedly knowledgeable copy about the current situation while still keeping an eye on the little girl . He wasn't the type to be fooled by appearances, the kid looked harmless but she could be more deadly than the Divine Beasts .

Appraisal didn't work on her and apart from knowing she was Human, he couldn't inspect her body using his sense or uncover her real strength .

As he received no answer from his usual informer, Arthur called out for the girl a couple of times but to no avail, she was too absorbed in watching the film with the volume set on very high thus being unable to notice his appearance as he was facing her back or even hear his callings .

Arthur casually waved his finger, using his soft and invisible threads to cut the cable of the headphones resulting in a loss of sounds for the startled little girl, who still didn't notice him as she fidgeted with the headphone while complaining

"Ahhh this is the last one! There's no way I can't get it to work today . . . it's either you or me . "

Arthur, who was ready to call out for her again, froze as words couldn't get out of his lips . Her childish voice was oddly familiar, but it wasn't the kind of familiarity he would appreciate, quite the contrary, it was one that rather touched his nerves and made him slightly irritated .

With a memory like his, he needed no effort in remembering past events and linked this voice with the one in the past .

'It's definitely that annoying spoiled brat from before!'

As he gritted his teeth, Arthur glared at the small girl with a weird grimace on his face as if he had just stepped on a pile of shit . The voice of the girl was definitely the same as the one coming from the strange pink system from years ago . Although that girl accompanied him for a short time, she messed up with his System and turned things upside down, furthermore, he couldn't retaliate since the System wasn't a material thing, to begin with .

"Calm down, Arthur . It shouldn't be her since this one is Human but there may a connection between the two . "

At last, his copy spoke, plus, his tone was strange as if he wasn't sure of the words he was spouting . The resemblance in voice was just too close, the behavior she was showing was strongly similar to her stubbornness when she was talking back to Arthur in the past .

Just to be sure, Arthur made use of his threads to immobilize the little girl . He must be cautious even against a weak-looking kid like her and precautions must be set .

The countless threads wrapped themselves around her tender and slim body, binding her legs and arms in a split second . By the time she reacted, only her head wasn't touched so she turned around only for her eyes to open in disbelief and her mouth to open and close several times in surprise .

The look she was showing him was like a kid seeing a ghost for the first time yet not knowing how to react, truly comedic .

"Hello there!"

Arthur walked up to the astonished girl and greeted her in a friendly manner despite the urge to give her beating for what she had done in the past .

The pink room, the behavior, the voice, there's no way it isn't the same person or 'thing' from before . He was clueless about what happened but it is a certainty that she's real and she surely knows how to acquire the Great Library .

"Ah! Stop! I didn't break any rules since I've been assigned here! You can't kill me!"

Arthur raised both of his hands to indicate that he meant no harm, however, the moment he did that, the little girl smirked evilly as the threads around her body dissolved and a strong pushing force assaulted him .

Fortunately, his body was way stronger than what the girl expected, so he was pushed back only half-step before he stood still, motionless and heavy like a mountain .

This was but the beginning as seven humanoid-like machines jumped out of nowhere and leaped straight at Arthur, who just happened to be at the center of the room .

The girl was momentarily dumbfounded when her first attack couldn't make him budge . She felt that his body was unusually heavy, moreover, when her power made contact with his skin, an intense sense of dread surged up inside of her which is why she switched her way of attacking, deciding to use the hidden guards .

Unfortunately, using the guards was futile as Arthur's body blurred for a split second and by the time he reappeared, all the humanoid machines that were going to hit him and were currently mid-air, about to strike their target from many directions, were sent flying until they crashed into the hard walls of the room .

At the same time, a large dark hand grasped the little girl and covered her whole except her small head, the dark hand tightened around the girl's body, causing her to groan painfully . Her trick from before didn't work and she couldn't dissolve the Dark Hand like the threads, which led her to be this easily captured by her 'executioner' .

"You better behave or else you can say goodbye to your arms . "

Arthur's chilling voice rang in her ears, causing her focus to shift from the dark hand around her to him, who was standing a meter away from her . All the guards that attacked him a few seconds ago were embedded into the walls with a large portion of their body bent in an unnatural way .

Some had split ropes inside of them that let out electricity sparks and others were emitting steam continuously while trying to move their bodies, unfortunately, the force that hit them was just too strong and no matter their attempts, they couldn't move even an inch .

"Hmpf! You're going to kill me anyway, so screw you and whatever you say!"

Arthur frowned unhappily and tightened the grip of the Dark Hand but the girl didn't wail in agony, instead, she glared at him and mumbled with a very low voice

"Bunch of dishonest idiots, I didn't break their rules yet they want to silence me . Talk about insecure . . .
."

As he listened to her complain, Arthur weakened the force binding her, letting her breath for some time and when he was sure that he has her full attention, he said:

"I don't know who you think I am but I'm not . Quit jumping to conclusions and appraise me . "

If his speculation is right and she can manipulate the System or some of its functions then she'll know the truth once Appraisal is activated .

The girl remained silent and did as she was told, her grey pupils shone with a blue luster for a split second before they returned to normal .

Her breathing became heavier and faster as she saw the results of [Appraisal], Arthur didn't know what she was thinking so he patiently waited for her to react and say something .

"Y-you're . . . it's YOU! That parasite from before! B-but if you're here, d-does it mean you got rid of the Virus?"

"Virus? Is it the thing you warned me about last time?"

The Loli seemed much more relaxed after she discovered his real identity . As if a weight has been lifted off her shoulders, she let out a long sigh before answering him

"Yes, to be more exact, it's a digital Virus that is assigned to random individuals that have the System . You were about to be one of its victims but with my diligent work, early warnings, loyalty, prettiness, and high, unmatched Intelligence, I managed to switch its target . Though I was discovered and thrown in this barren Office . "

Arthur nodded his head as he listened to the girl's explanation . He pondered about the Virus for a few seconds and was going to ask the girl again when his copy suddenly interrupted him:

"I've seen what this Virus could do in the past . Like Curses and Malevolent Seals exist in The Cloud Sea Universe, there exist Viruses in the X-TR 500 Universe . They aren't physical, meaning they travel through the System itself and can be directed to specific targets or to random ones, jumping from one world to another .

From the way she reacts to this Virus, I assume it's the B-32 Virus . It's an infamous Virus that had gone rogue and isn't controlled by anything or anyone, it chooses its targets randomly and to this date, there never has been someone who managed to survive it, which means it has 100% fatality rate .

The way it kills its victims is pretty simple, your stats would continuously decrease until they all reach zero and you die . The worst thing is the pain that is caused by having your body weakening by this malevolent and ominous thing, it sucks the life out of you and devours your stats . Without a doubt, if it invaded your system back then, no item or person could have saved your life . "

Chapter 296

Several moments passed yet the Loli heard nothing come out of Arthur's mouth so she snapped at him

"What are you waiting for? Release me this instant, I saved your life!"

The girl started speaking endlessly, she didn't even give him the time to speak so all he could do was massage his temples as he waited for a chance but when more than five minutes passed yet this kid was still complaining, Arthur shouted loudly in her face:

"SHUT UP!"

His voice was quite loud and surprising, the girl's face had a dumb expression when she was yelled at . Soon after, she started shedding tears, her face turned red and she started crying like a baby, which only made the situation worse .

Arthur didn't particularly hate kids but he strongly disliked this girl, she was about the same age as Saly yet their attitudes are vastly different .

"*hik* *hik* y-you don't have to be t-this mean . . . I,I saved your l-life . . . *hik*"

Her arrogant behavior vanished in an instant, she turned into a literal crybaby . Witnessing this scene, Arthur started having headaches, he didn't come here to please a kid but to find the AI controlling this office .

"You saved me and I cannot be more grateful but I didn't come all the way here to thank you, I came seeking the AI residing in this office . "

The girl rubbed her watery eyes and her stuffed noise then replied

"I-It's gone . When I was thrown here, they deleted the original AI . "

"Then who's the one controlling the System in this world?"

"It should be a more advanced AI, o-one that controls several outcast worlds close to each other and Astria just happens to be within its range . "

'So Zodiac's notes were right, we just were too late and arrived only after it was 'deleted' . ' Arthur stood there, absent-minded, as he pondered about this situation . With the AI gone, his trip to this place was fruitless and a complete waste of time .

With his current body, traveling to Earth is doable as he could rip space and make use of his Space Magic to create an appropriate tunnel .

It'll take a bit more time since he didn't have Earth's exact coordination, nevertheless, it's feasible . The reason he came here was to find more information about the Primordial Energy and its locations, moreover, he needed specific locations of an Ore called Dark Onyx and Night Crystals . The latter is easier to find since they grow in desolate lands and caves where there's no light but the Dark Onyx is a very rare metal that cannot be found anywhere, even Zodiac's storage didn't have it .

To fix Makaze and transform it back to its original form, he needs those two materials and along with his Maxed Blacksmithing, Enchanting, and Rune Crafting, repairing his partner would be an easy feat .

He so dearly missed his family and wants to meet them right this moment but he learned the hard way that he should never rush things again .

"Wait, Arthur . If she's the same from before then she should be some sort of AI too, although her being Human is incomprehensible, if we could get on her good side and use her knowledge then it's the same as getting a true AI . "(Copy)

Arthur had already thought of such method, it's just that spending most of his time with her accompanying him is very tiresome and he wouldn't want to experience such a thing if possible .

Although unwilling, Arthur forced a friendly smile to this unlikable kid and said

"It's a bit late but what your name?"

as if she was waiting for such a question, the girl replied instantly

"My given name is Lolitta but I prefer the name Meredith . "

"So, Lolittla, what say you leaving this place? I'm thinking about going to EARTH . "

He increased his tone when he said the last word because he knew that she was a fan of the thing from Earth . The headphones, the movie from before and some of the furniture in this room all came from Earth, thinking logically, this girl is definitely loves that planet, or more precisely, its technology .

Lolitta was dumbfounded for a few seconds before she answered with a tone full of excitement

"Earth?! Did you say earth?! I wanna go! Take me there!"

The girl clung into his legs and didn't let go no matter how he tried to push her off . The moment she heard he was planning to visit Earth, she became super glue as he latched herself to his legs and resisted even when he used his hands to push her face, which had saliva all over it from all the drooling .

'As I thought, this was a very bad idea . '

"Hahahah, no need to be so pessimistic, short time losses for long-term gains, hahahaha . "

As he watched what's happening, his copy rolled on the floor and laughed loudly, he was enjoying the look of despair and loss Arthur was showing when the girl was clinging to him and pleading him to take her . It didn't seem she was listening to his words, he already agreed to take her yet she repeated her begging as if she turned deaf, this further annoyed Arthur .

After things calmed down, Arthur came to understand why the girl was so desperate . First, any AI inside an office cannot leave it even if it wants to, not only would it notify the AI presiding over the whole region, it'll also inflict it with a weak Virus that acts like a tracking device, which allows the System to locate it and dispatch troops to kill it .

Secondly, as expected, the girl had long since yearned to travel to Earth . It could be said that the culture of the Humans there attracted her and picked her interest and since the moment of her creation, it was the only planet that was 'fun' .

What came to another surprise is Lolitta's real age, although her act and appearance were that of a kid, she, supposedly, lived for more than one hundred and fifty years .

When he asked why she's this childish, excluding the long phrases she spouted complaining, she explained that from the point of view of the System, an AI which is a century and half old is considered very, very young .

. . . .

Arthur and Lolitta, who only brought a small teddy bear from her room, were at the top of the stairs from earlier, the same ones which led Arthur downward .

They were only a meter away from the surface yet the girl was reluctant to take that final step, she kept saying that she'll die and refused no matter how Arthur insisted .

Finally, the copy decided to house her temporarily inside the ARK . Since she was considered an AI albeit being human, she could be absorbed inside the endless space too .

The second she entered the ARK and saw a person exactly like Arthur but without the scars or the grey hair, the girl was startled but she regained her senses quite quickly and proceeded in praising his current appearance, saying that the him outside was scary looking and resembled those perverted old man lurking in the slums of poor countries on Earth .

Using this method, Lolitta was able to safely bypass the virus and the tracking, not only that, she finally escaped this office, which she came to dislike after spending a long time in here .

She also created a temporary acting AI that resembles her, it was only meant to fool the System for a while until she gets away . At least, if she stays inside the ARK, there's very little chance that she'll be discovered but if she pulls a trick like the one from last time and shifts a virus' target, she'll be immediately discovered .

"Oh ohh, this place is awesome, it's fully customizable . "

Lolitta looked around and only saw white space, she sneaked a glance at the copy then used her powers to change how the world looked . Unfortunately, the second the world started turning pink in color, a strong and suffocating power was unleashed from the floating cube next to the copy .

This power dispelled all of Lolitta's effort, forcing her to her knees and make her pant heavily as she felt that the cube sucked her out of her power, leaving her practically powerless .

"Missy, when invited to someone's home, you must act modest and polite and not create havoc . "

The girl looked at the copy in disbelief then pointed her finger at him whilst exclaiming

"Yyy-you're not Arthur!"

With his right hand placed on his chest, the copy performed a small bow and answered

"Indeed, I am not . You can call me his copy, I reside inside this world and would very much appreciate if you leave this place unchanged . "

Unlike her usual stubbornness, Lolitta silently nodded her head . Although the copy was more than friendly and always had a smile hanging on his face, she felt some kind of unease when confronting him .

With Arthur, she could afford to be unruly but when facing his copy, it's like there are limits she shouldn't cross .

Chapter 297

When the atmosphere started turning a bit awkward, the copy raised one finger and stated:

"I can give you a small space to do whatever you want with but there's a condition attached to it . "

With a casual tone and the same smile on his face, he gazed at Lolitta, who forgot what just happened a second ago and looked at him with expectations as she continuously nodded her head in approval .

The copy had a face similar to the people who just tricked little kids into doing something, he chuckled and resumed:

"Give me the core of the previous AI . I know that the system deleted it but seeing how smart you are, I'm sure you've managed to secure a backup core? Isn't that right, Miss Meredith~~?"

The girl's eyes widened when she heard him . She slowly closed them as she struggled into making a decision, finally, her urge to build a suitable pink room for herself right now won over the so little loyalty she had to the System .

A fingernail-sized bead appeared in the girl's hand, she gently pushed it toward the copy, who happily received it and waved dismissively at the other party, indicating that she could build whatever she wants as long as she doesn't exceed the area he arranged for her .

The bead flew next to the rotating cube and soon merged with it, causing the latter to flash with a white light for several seconds before it resumed its usual and slow rotations .

The copy closed his eyes as he rampaged through the new information that was added to the ARK .

"I see . . . they sure are busy dealing with the Joker . Idiotic if you ask me, a bunch of lifeless robots trying to fight what cannot be killed, they really never learn . . . "

He went over a bunch of details, most of them were about Astria, secret places, hidden creatures, and ancient treasures but they were all useless to the current Arthur .

The AIs would receive updates every three to four months, it's like a newspaper that informs them about what's happening outside . Thanks to this, the copy came to know one or two things, the main thing was about the Joker, also known as the Magician . Apparently, he caused a big ruckus in the central area of the System's Universe, and in retaliation, a lot of machines and systematic weapons were dispatched to kill him, unfortunately, the results were pathetic .

The second and less important piece of news is the Celestial Tribulation that occurred five years ago . This was still a hot topic in all three Universes . There are many potential candidates, those who most likely caused this tribulation to appear . Some denied the claims and others chose to remain silent, there are also those who proudly claimed they were the ones who defied the Heavens and achieved the impossible, unfortunately, they didn't have evidence to back up their claims .

...

Arthur, who just leaped through space and appeared on top of the high tower situated at the center of the MoonStar sect, was in a good mood as all the past hurdles were finally gone .

In a short while, he'll go to Earth and meet his wife, at last, it's been so long, longer than what it seemed to most people .

Although only five years passed, he lived much, much more than that . Excluding the amount he passed training after the 'Divine Fight', he was forced to live inside bears, eagles, and even a Human, and for long periods of time too .

He was mentally exhausted, and he truly needed a small vacation where his mind isn't worried about his wife and daughter or anxious about enemy attacks .

His copy informed him that the System was added to Earth too, which means there's an 'office' hidden there too . Seeing how Earth isn't a place where there's Gods and Divine Beings, the AI will certainly be weak, and lower in grade, lower than even the one which was on Astria, precisely in the Westia Continent .

"Astrith should be able to locate the office with Lolitta's help . "

Arthur talked to his copy as he gazed at the MoonStar sect, which has flourished even more after five years have passed . There were much more buildings and the road was wide and bituminized, it no longer resembled a newly founded sect but a bustling capital city .

The few kilometers around the High Tower was only meant for Core disciples and those affiliated with the sect, as for the rest of the territory, a fifth of it was turned into one of the biggest cities in all of Astria .

With a sturdy defensive wall surrounding the whole territory, three bones dragons guarding the skies and a mutated red minotaur protecting the main gate, nothing could invade this land and remain unscathed unless it's a Divine Being .

"Thanks to the little girl's help, I can make a device that will act up if we're close to an office, it should help in the search . "

The copy stated proudly as he fiddled with the ARK inside the white space and after a few seconds, he pulled a metallic black card .

With a wave of his hand, the black card appeared in front of Arthur, who inspected it and then put it in the storage ring .

With a call from his master, the blue lightning wolf, Astrith, appeared from within Arthur's consciousness .

After absorbing some of the Celestial lightning and hibernating for an extra five years . The wolf no longer had a blue or brown fur, he was now jet black with two blood-colored eyes that emitted small sparks of red lightning every now and then .

....

As Arthur descended the stairs, intending to go meet with Anastassia and co, but from out of nowhere, a dark shadow assaulted him .

The silhouette was shorter than him but it was agile and flexible .

Arthur didn't dodge or block the incoming attack, he stood there, motionless, as he watched what's happening with a smirk on his face .

A dagger was stabbing at his head and all that could be seen was a red shadow, a violet burst of Blood Magic followed right after the dagger, trying to injure vital spots of his legs to immobilize him .

Unfortunately, once the dagger touched his chest, it shattered instantly, like broken glass, it fell on the floor after breaking into countless pieces .

The Blood Magic hit the intended spots but did no damage, not even the clothes were affected, even a breeze of air would cause more of a reaction than this .

Arthur swiftly moved his hand and grabbed the enemy from his legs, turning his body upside down thus leaving him dangling in the air and trying to viciously attack him as he sent small but deadly bursts of Blood Magic at his face, unfortunately, they did no damage as Arthur's defense was impenetrable at this state .

As he had a closer look at this defenseless chicken who has been caught by its leg, Arthur remembered this young face . Although it's been five years, his memory is fresh and it only took him a small glance to know the identity of this person .

This dark-haired young man was Rey, the kid who was about to be killed by Arthur only to be spared when Robin intervened and begged him to spare that little boy, who looked pitiful but was a scheming little bastard in reality .

Apparently, after he got picked up by Robin and properly taken care of, the kid became docile and less aggressive than before . He would still act cute in front of Robin but he no longer did evil things like back then when he was cooperating with the black mages .

"Well, isn't this one small black sheep . "

Since Arthur's appearance was a bit different from their last meeting and with the additional scar on his face and having his head upside down, Rey wasn't able to identify Arthur, only when the latter spoke and the young man had a close look at the invader did he realize who he just attacked .

"Let me down!"

The boy wriggled his body and tried to shake off Arthur's hand but to no avail, Arthur's grip contained more than two billion points in Strength, not even a Sovereign could escape his grasp, much less Rey .

The youth was going to shout again but suddenly froze when he caught sight of Astrith, who just appeared behind Arthur . The size of the wolf decreased to be able to fit inside the stairs but the menacing aura he was emitting and the ferocious eyes were still present .

Rey felt suffocated as his eyes met with wolf's, he ceased any prior movements and patiently waited for Arthur to let him go .

"Would you let that boy down already?"

A voice originated from the end of the stairs . Upon a closer look, it was none other than Robin, who looked exactly the same despite the passing of years .

Still wearing those glasses and the noble clothes that suited her status . Unlike the past, she seemed much more mature and no longer had that childish behavior, she appeared composed and responsible .

She recognized Arthur almost immediately, the news of his survival were already spread when Astrith made a personal trip five years ago to inform them of what happened .

He didn't go in details but he informed Anastassia and co about Arthur's state and that he shouldn't be disturbed . Arthur shrugged his shoulders and let go of Rey thus leading the latter to fall on his head, which brought a type of pain unwanted by anyone .

Arthur ignored Rey and shook hands with Robin who appeared pleased to see him .

"You've been away for quite a while . I thought it'll take you less time . "

"Many things happened, I've done my best to come back early but things could not have been rushed . "

As she accompanied Arthur to the meeting room, they chatted with each other and exchanged information about the current state of Astria .

From what Arthur head, the Eastern and Northern Continents were peaceful . There existed a few skirmishes between Humans and Demons on the North but after the MoonStar intervened and warned the Nobles residing in the Demon Continent, things have calmed down .

As for the Western Continent, as of lately, there are many attempts to covet the sect's lands and eradicate the system they put . To minimize internal battles, Anastassia created a few rules that should never be crossed, even some of the Nobles living here were against it but after she executed some of them, the rest quietened and turned docile .

Apparently, the hidden sects and clans that are living on the Eastern Continent started allying with each other and pressuring the MoonStar sect . They do not pose any threat but they still cause some hindrances, especially in the trades between merchants from a continent to another .

Robin complained about how many expeditions were ruined and how much Gold and resources were lost due to their meddlings .

. . . .

Soon enough, they arrived at the familiar meeting room, where Anastassia, Lissandra, Mary, Jacob, Taliya and Sonia were waiting for them . Surprisingly, there was someone who Arthur didn't expect to meet here .

With an ugly face that resembles nothing, a brown skin and pointy teeth, it was none other than Gutcha .

Just as stepped inside, Arthur received a bear hug from Jakob, who was beaming with smiles . Even Anastassia gave him a light hug and passed him a simple golden ring .

With the threat of the Divine Beast and his return, there was nothing to worry about . Unlike their last meeting where the atmosphere was pretty tense, this time the room was filled with laughter and joy; Even Arthur smiled as it's nice to see his friends after so much time passed, especially for him .

"I say, you look like a warrior with that scar, it really suits you!"

Mary joked around as she stared at his scar . The beastwoman grew even taller and the some 'parts' of her body became more noticeable .

"That's not a good joke, Mary! If it can injure Arthur then it's definitely something dangerous!"

Sonia interjected as she scolded her friend and glanced sneakily at Arthur's scar . The fight between him and the Divine Beasts is something everyone present knows about, to inflict him with a permanent scar, the power of the enemy is nothing to scoff at .

...

An hour and a half later, they finally finished speaking . Arthur stood up and closed his eyes, focusing for a few seconds before he clawed the air in front of him, ripping space . He casually pulled four individuals from the Space Rift then tossed them next to Anastassia, who was dumbfounded by what just happened .

"So this is what you meant by saying you're going to 'fetch' them . . . "

Three of the pulled individuals were old men while the last was a thin white-haired old woman . These were the main leaders of the hidden clans on the Eastern Continent .

They were the strongest within their own clan or sect so Arthur pulled them here so Anastassia could deal with them . They started this and repeatedly caused his sect to suffer big losses so it's time they 'repent' .

Arthur asked Anastassia to come with him but was rejected as she said that she has to prepare for the upcoming wedding .

It didn't come at a surprise that Jakob and Anastassia are getting together, in fact, he thought that Jakob took long then again, it may be Anastassia's fault, whose requirements are set a bit high .

Nonetheless, both of them were in love with each other and the wedding was scheduled to be three weeks from now .

He happily accepted the invitation and promised her that he'll bring Lucy and Saly . Poor old Gutcha was scolded by Arthur but after he told him some good news, he quickly forgot about the matter of the Pigolo coming here and he even rewarded him with a decent sum of Red Spirit Stones .

From Gutcha's mouth, Arthur came to know that, after the catastrophe, things became quite chaotic in the Green-Leaf world . The Pigolo even discovered that a strange woman appeared in the wasteland, she's very secretive and usually resides inside Amidel's city .

Gutcha's net of information is very wide and efficient, although there were some casualties who were unfortunate enough to meet with this woman, the investigation was, nevertheless, fruitful .

By the way Gutcha described this woman, Arthur had an idea about who she was, he wasn't certain but there was some room for speculation . If his guess is correct then he'll definitely give her a nice visit once he meets up with Lucy .

Gutcha was assigned to accompany him to Earth, the pigolo is quite skillful at acquiring useful information and he could use his help to find certain people from the past .

The Demon Maid was also hellbent on following him to Earth, saying that it's her duty and all that nonsense . Arthur had no choice but to accept after her relentless insistence .

Google search freewebnovel.com

Arthur wanted to have a small chat with Lissandra, who hasn't said a word since the beginning but decided against this for the time being .

. . . .

After the meeting, they changed location and moved to the roof, they were all looking at Arthur, who was continuously ripping space and shaping it to his will .

He already obtained Earth's coordinates from the excited and restless Lolitta . All preparation was done and Taliya, Astrith, and Gutcha were standing a few meters behind him, readying themselves .

Lolitta couldn't hold it anymore and left the ARK, jumping around in excitement but that only led to the others feeling surprised and looking at Arthur in a weird way . Only after smacking her head to calm her down and properly explaining who she is, did their strange look disappear .

They didn't do an emotional farewell as Arthur said he'll come back after a few days if things went right, which they should . Astrith and Taliya had the black card that his copy invented, they were tasked to find the office hidden on Earth, as for Gutcha, he was given a special ring that can change his appearance .

The language used on Earth is different from here so he has to learn it from scratch but knowing his talents, Arthur was certain that it shouldn't be a problem for Gutcha .

With the tunnel properly done and set to the right destination, it was pretty stable and there should be no problems so after saying their temporary farewell, Arthur and co departed for Earth .

Chapter 298

Volume 6 : Rise of The Undead

Five years had gone by since Lucy and co landed on Earth .

A few miles above a desert island in the middle of Pacific Ocean, amidst the clustered clouds appeared a small whirlpool approximately the size of a bus .

Arthur, Astrith, Gutcha, Taliya, and Lolitta appeared from within the black whirlpool . The trip merely took a few minutes but even that amount is considered very long as it's supposed to be instantaneous .

This can only be explained by the distance separating Earth and Astria, albeit the fact that both of them are situated in the System's Universe, they were still farther from each other than one might expect .

Moreover, this Universe is much larger than the other two, although it's vastly composed of dark matter and nothingness, it's still immensely big, almost limitless .

As he took a long breath of Earth's fresh air, Arthur felt his stats increase as the Soul Bind took effect, which can only mean Lucy became much stronger than before as he felt that this sudden boost increased his overall prowess but not just a bit .

The link between the two of them will provide him of 80% of her stats while she gains 80% of his .

Arthur didn't bother looking at his status window and immediately stretched his sense to all corners of the Earth .

On Astria, he was almost able to sense everything on it after the five years had passed, so on Earth, also being a planet worse than a low-Realm, it's to be expected to be able to do so .

Actually, any person who reached God Realm should be able to Sense everything on Earth, it wouldn't be as precise as his Arthur's Sixth Sense, nonetheless, it's feasible .

"Disperse, search for it . "

Arthur didn't waste time and immediately instructed Taliya and Astrith to find the hidden office . It would bring unwanted attention from the System if Lolitta were to be spotted by the AI residing on Earth, so it's better to mobilize its office and let Lolitta handle the rest .

Speaking of the little girl, she was about to fly away the second they appeared on Earth, unfortunately, Arthur grabbed her by the top of her head and pulled her closer, not letting her leave his side .

Thanks to the Soul Bind, Lucy definitely knows he arrived at last and as for why she didn't come flying immediately, it had a suitable explanation to it .

Arthur, who pinpointed her location and could 'see' what's going on, smirked and used Space Magic to teleport away .

Gutcha needn't be told what to do, with an enthusiastic laugh, he bowed and disappeared right after, leaving only a black whirlpool that decreased in size until it vanished .

.

It's been a bit more than five years since the world changed . With the appearance of the system and the dungeons, the environment changed but so did the Humans living in it .

Fortunately, they managed to adapt quite fast and organizations were created along with many new inventions that relied on Magic and Science .

Top countries were still fighting a cold war but beginning a full-scale war isn't possible, there will be many powerful forces which will intervene and finish it before it even starts .

Currently, in a large plaza situated at the central area of Seoul, in South Korea, there was a huge crowd of people, mostly journalists, though .

Standing on a large stage in front of the crowd was a voluptuous woman with a microphone on her hand, patiently replying to the questions asked by a few chosen journalists .

Some distance behind the talking woman were a few individuals that were seating and calmly listening without showing any reactions, they didn't even appear interested in being here .

There were exactly three individuals, one was a golden-haired young man with a handsome face and an elegant demeanor . The second was a short girl resembling a Loli, however, she had large breasts, unfitting for her figure .

Last but not least was a woman wearing simple dark clothes and wearing a white mask with nothing but two holes to see through, she had long silver hair .

This woman was, obviously, Lucy, who just received a sudden jolt in her mind which made her blank for a few seconds .

The first thing she sensed was a sweet feeling that enveloped her body, it was none other than the soul bind's effect, which made her stats skyrocket the moment Arthur appeared on Earth .

Lucy wasn't an idiot, she realized that the time had finally come, she spread her sense in all directions and in just a split second, she locked it to him .

Since it was a conference and to not ruin the 'play' she began five years ago, she was forced to wait for a few more minutes, nonetheless, her mind was only thinking about Arthur .

Amidst the crowd, there appeared a man which wore a black robe that covered him from head to toe .

Lucy's eyes were glued to that man, not leaving him, all the surrounding noise seemed to quieten, only focusing on that man, who wouldn't be noticed in normal cases as he was sandwiched inside the large and loud crowd .

A minute after another, with two pairs of eyes staring at each other until Lucy, who couldn't wait anymore once the man turned around and walked away, heading inside an isolated and narrow alley .

Her sudden actions alerted Usui and Claudia but once she waved her hands to indicate that there's nothing, Claudia nodded and continued her conference but the golden-haired young man didn't let go of that matter .

He proceeded to follow Lucy but the second he descended the stairs and went backstage, he couldn't find her despite the fact that she was in his sight a second ago .

.....

Approximately a hundred meters away from the area of the conference, in that dark alley . Arthur took off the hood covering his head and showed a brilliant smile as he faced Lucy, who already removed her mask and gazed at him with a strange look .

For the two of them, no words were needed as a reunion of eternal lovers can only be expressed by actions, only actions .

Faster than ever before, Lucy delved into his warm embrace, hugging him tightly, afraid that he'll disappear again .

The usually expressionless woman, full of indifference and coldness, was now sobbing loudly as she enjoyed the warmth of his arms .

I love you without knowing how, or when, or from where . I love you simply, without problems or pride; I love you in this way because I do not know any other way of loving but this, in which there is no I or you, so intimate that your hand upon my chest is my hand, so intimate that when I fall asleep your eyes close .

Chapter 299

"Heh, it appears you've become quite popular with the boys . "

Arthur joked as he sensed the presence of Usui, who was heading in this direction . In response to his joke, Lucy snorted flirtatiously and went for a kiss, not letting him speak another word .

By the time Usui arrived at the alley, there was nothing but dust remaining there . Arthur teleported himself along with Lucy high-up in the air, where no one can see them or sense their presence .

The kiss continued for a whole minute before Lucy finally let go . She appeared very reluctant to part her lips with his after such a short kiss, however, they still have much time to spend together, so she wasn't absurdly selfish but it's not like Arthur minded such things, he actually liked kissing her, to say the least .

"You've become even more beautiful . "

Arthur ran his fingers through her silky silver hair as she leaned on his chest, enjoying this moment of peacefulness . It was only after a period of time did this quietness stop .

After gazing at her man's face for who knows how long, she caressed the long scar across his face with a bit of guilt and sadness, it's as if it was her fault that this scar appeared .

Seeing her reaction, Arthur chuckled lightly and said:

"It's from the White Tiger . I need special materials to be able to heal it . "

Lucy remained silent for a few more seconds before she spoke her first words, unlike her usually cold and indifferent tone, she let out a worried voice yet you could feel a bit of excitement mixed in it:

"How are you?"

"Don't worry, I'm perfectly fine . "

Lucy shook her head as she heard his reply and added:

"No, I meant how were you in the past five years, you seem . . . different . "

Obviously, Lucy didn't mean it in a bad way, the aura around him was drastically different . This was mainly due to the long time he passed inside the ARK and all the thing he has been through, it kind of changed his character into the better . All of this should be attributed to his copy though, who forced him to experience Hell itself to know what Heaven truly is .

Right now, Arthur couldn't feel happier, to have finally gone to Earth and met his dear wife . To be able to hold her in his arms, listen to her voice and embrace her, those are things he yearned for since the second they separated five years ago .

The soul Bond between them made it even harder to spend his days alone, without being able to see his wife . His copy was right when he was lecturing him, he was too rush in the past, wanting to meet with Lucy and Saly as soon as possible .

He disregarded his own life, which is something Lucy would definitely be angry about if she ever found out . He didn't think of the consequences of losing his own life, the grief and sadness it'll bring to his family .

A widowed wife in an unknown world and a fatherless girl, who already had her share of tragedies .

As he stared at her mesmerizing blood-red eyes, Arthur gave her a sweet kiss on her forehead and said:

"Many, many things happened . Every second of every day I thought about you, I wanted to find you so I made terrible mistakes, I was too rush and inexperienced . The joy I'm feeling right now is simply incomparable, however, coming here was at the cost of a dear partner, that was the greatest mistake I did, sacrificing a comrade . . . "

As he uttered those words, Arthur held Makaze and unsheathed half of it, showing to Lucy how it became broken and lacking its original aura . Its aura was restored thanks to the Oath but it wasn't entirely recovered, it was barely enough for it to not be considered a broken blade that is akin to trash .

Lucy looked at the dark blade and caressed it gently, in response, the blade emitted slight vibrations, barely noticeable . Thanks to the Soul Bond, the blade registered Lucy as an ally . Though it wasn't hostile toward Lucy, only Arthur is able to wield this dark blade, ever since the oath has been sealed, there'll be no second master to this blade .

"We all make mistakes, Arthur . Regret has no medicine, and it's meaningless to dwell on past mistakes even if they cost you dear things, what matters is learning from them and moving on, moving forward . I did many horrible things in the past too, I have killed innocent men just because they touched me or tried to help me but I misunderstood . Until I met you and fell in love with you, I never regretted what I did but after all that happened, I understood how to differentiate between good and evil . You did not lose Makaze forever, furthermore, you have me beside you . With us together, we'll definitely find a way to fix it!"

Arthur wasn't surprised but Lucy said, he knew her character and knew how she thought . Out of nowhere, he wrapped his arms around her and said

"There's no denying it! Hahaha, you're definitely the woman I fell in love with!"

After he fully enjoyed that hug, embracing her warm body and smelling her unique fragrance which somehow calms his heart . Arthur said:

"As for fixing Makaze, there is actually a way but it's not a walk in the park . "

Lucy patted her chest proudly and claimed:

"With you and I together, there's nothing we can't achieve, whether it's fighting armies of Gods or Sovereigns . "

Arthur burst out laughing as he saw her comical act . It's been a long time since he had enjoyed a conversation with her . Knowing her attitude, only with him would she open up and talk however she wants, she would directly voice out her thoughts no matter what they were and in front of other people, strangers mostly, she would remain silent .

Both husband and wife chatted about unimportant stuff for a few dozen minutes before Arthur teleported himself and Lucy to what was supposed to be their house .

With Lucy pinpointing the exact location, both of them appeared inside the house . The first person that met them was Miya, the girl Arthur kidnapped from the granny of the Underworld .

She was taken from her home and thrown on Earth, not a good fate but from Lucy's words, the girl was quite popular here, plus, she managed to adapt quite fast .

The green-haired girl who was in pajamas, had a messy hair and drowsy, froze from shock, even the bottle of milk she was holding fell on the floor, though before it hit the floor, it was stopped by an unknown force and put gently on a nearby table .

"Long time no see, girl . "

The relationship between Arthur and Miya wasn't deep to begin with, moreover, they were enemies so it's expected for the girl, who was usually pretty composed, to become dumbfounded .

After the passing of five years, Miya had no hopes of going back to the Underworld, neither did she imagine Arthur coming back any time soon .

In fact, her memories of him were very little as they met for a short period of time and barely interacted . Contrary to Arthur thought, Miya was on friendly terms with Lucy and she even considered her as a Senior .

Please visit freewebnovel.com

Surprisingly, Miya didn't feel that ominous and malicious aura around Arthur . When he kidnapped her and possessed her last time, the aura was suffocating and made her feel uncomfortable, to say the least .

There was some kind of serenity emitting from him, it was pretty unusual and unexpectedly refreshing . He looked a bit different with the addition of the scar and the longer hair but apart from that, everything else was the same .

"A-aaa"

No matter how she tried, words couldn't leave her mouth . Arthur, as if he remembered something, said with an apologetic tone:

"Now that I think about it, I never introduced myself properly . "

He performed a slight bow and said:

"I'm Lucy's husband and Saly's father, the name is Arthur MoonStar . We've started on bad terms but I do hope you forgive us for our past actions . Kidnapping you was necessary for our survivor, we needed an assurance . "

The drowsiness vanished from Miya's eyes, with her mouth half-open and a shaken expression, she could only stare at the man before her without uttering a word .

Chapter 300

"I, I have been in your care . "

To return the courtesy, Miya bowed and could only say those words . She remained stiff for some time before Lucy waved her hand to calm the girl whilst saying

"No need to be so nervous, he's not going to eat you . Not that I would let him though . "

Miya repeatedly nodded her head and dismissed herself from the room saying that she had work to do . Surprisingly, the second Miya left, a drunk Delia entered the room .

She had a red face and was holding a bottle of expensive wine . She didn't seem to notice Arthur's presence as she dizzily walked to her comfortable sofa and fell on it while letting a long sigh .

Only after Arthur spoke did she snap at out of her drunken state and stare at him with total dumbfoundedness .

"For the Holy Goddess to become like this, it seems Earth affected you more than I had thought . "

To be honest, Arthur expected Delia to remain unchanged, keeping her high and mighty attitude and seclude herself without bothering with the life of mortals but from the way she looked right now, just by the fact that she let herself become drunk albeit being a God, explains many things .

"Y-yyy-you're actually here!"

While staring at him with round eyes and pointing her finger at him, the delirious Delia was in a state of shock too, just like what happened to Miya, however, she didn't seem to accept the fact of his presence even after seeing him .

Arthur chuckled as he witnessed how far the Goddess from the past had fallen .

"Y-you! It's been five years you know? I can't even properly cultivate on this planet! It's only your wife who's benefiting from this life! It's unfair!"

Delia continued rambling and complaining nonstop, only after a lengthy period of time passed did she shrug her shoulders in uninterest .

"Whatever! It's not like you're going to bother explaining anything!"

In response, Arthur retrieved a golden book from his storage and threw it at Delia, who unconsciously caught it but she still gave him a confused look .

"It is useless to me . Perhaps in your hands, it'll bring fruitful results, moreover, you'll surely be busy from now on . "

That golden book was actually something he found in Rozak's storage . It explained many things about Holy Energy and even a few techniques that are only available to high-ranked individuals, for example, the Holy Arts that were used against him in his fight against the Sovereign .

Once she read a couple of pages, Delia cast a healing spell on herself to get rid of the drunken state . She couldn't believe her eyes but once she read it a few more times, she became sure of her assumptions .

With shaking hands caused by her excitement and disbelief, Delia glanced at Arthur and said:

"At least you know how to please a lady . "

Then she engrossed herself in carefully reading what's in the book while totally ignoring Arthur and Lucy, who didn't seem bothered by this .

Lucy led Arthur to her room and from that point on, the couple spent a long period of time chatting . Arthur spoke about his experiences for the past five years, he didn't spare any details and recounted everything, from beginning to end .

Arthur wanted to go bring Saly first but Lucy firmly objected, saying that she barely managed to urge the little girl to go to school and if he were to show up right now, she'll definitely end up skipping for the next couple of days, including this one .

He told her about the fall of the Human Empire, the invasion of the evil race and how he personally visited their world only for it to be destroyed while he barely escaped alive .

The horror he had seen there and how humans were treated less than objects there, the way they were tortured, how they were used as living statues to decorate Bucama's manor .

He then spoke about the Northern Continent, his meeting with the Demon Lord, the appearance of the ARK and how his copy is the one who saved him when he was in the Underworld .

The unbreakable chains which limited his powers, his trip to the Green-Leaf World and how he met several grand personages, had to fight Gods and Sovereigns .

The past of the World Tree, its origins and the oath he made with it, to protect it from any invaders that which to harm it . Of course, he didn't miss the fight with the Reaper, which was unbelievably strong and albeit escaping alive, Arthur was certain he didn't kill it and sooner or later, it'll come back for him .

Once Arthur mentioned the Joker, Lucy had him imprint the latter appearance so she could ascertain of something . After a bit of pondering, she told him that she remembered seeing the Joker in the past .

The memories of her early childhood were blurry but she was certain that she had met him, more than once too . Although it was surprising for the Joker to have a relation with her origins, nevertheless, she managed to find a clue leading to her birth .

Last but not least, Arthur narrated how he experienced the lives of different animals, being imprisoned in Curtis' body and experiencing his life with him . There was also the fight against the Divine Beast, which should have killed him if not for the intervention of the Cthulhu Race, which in an attempt to kill him, ended up helping him .

The more Arthur narrated his story, the paler Lucy's face became . She would clench her hands, which were holding his, or even forget to breathe for a couple of seconds .

More than two hours later, Arthur finished telling her everything, to the very last detail, without missing anything . Matters about Taliya and Gutcha were also told, how the maid wanted to follow him and how he found the human AI in the forgotten continent .

Speaking of Lolitta, Arthur finally let her out of the ARK but that only caused the little girl to start reprimanding him . When she was done, she started praising Lucy and telling her how beautiful she was, however, she insisted that she was way prettier, causing Lucy to chuckle and pat her head gently .

Although she was over a hundred years old, Lolitta acted different from her age, even Saly was more mature than her . Then again, their daughter had suffered a lot when she was a child, whether it was mental or physical torture, she experienced them both .

Lolitta didn't remain there for too long, after letting out her pent-up anger and frustration on Arthur, who jokingly hit her head and caused her to cry for a bit, she darted out of the room . Soon enough, Arthur could hear Delia's screams as she seemed to be quarreling with the little girl, apparently, they didn't have any chemistry between them .

"I'm sorry . . . I couldn't be with you . To help you, provide support, there was a lot of things I could have done . "

Lucy hugged Arthur as she spoke with a sad tone, from the things she heard from him, the life she had on Earth seemed extremely peaceful with no hurdles or life-threatening situations .

Arthur smiled and patted her head:

"Never be sorry, Lucy . I only managed to overcome all of that because I had you and Saly in my mind, I knew that I would meet you and that's what allowed me to move forward and clear everything in my path . "

.

A while later, after Lucy snuggled in Arthur's arms for quite some time until she was fully satisfied, she told him what happened since the moment she appeared . Unlike what happened to him, nothing special was worth mentioning, there was the fight against the Divine Beasts, which went smoothly thanks to Snory, who was way overpowered and defeated them with ease .

Since he asked her cooperation along with Delia, Lucy managed to land the final blow to two out of the four Divine Beasts, which weren't as absurdly strong as the ones which appeared on Astria .

When she mentioned Snory, Lucy told him all the details she had about this lazy old man, who is always sleeping on the surface of the moon . She only knows he works for the System but apart from the time he requested her help against the Divine Beasts, he never appeared again .

Apparently, Delia fought him but was horribly defeated quite easily, from what Lucy heard and saw, Snory is a peak Sovereign, possibly even a God Monarch, which is why she was confused on why he would need her help .

He can use high-level illusions that couldn't be more realistic, plus, the damage the victims receive inside of it isn't an illusion either, his way of attacking is weird but very fatal .

Thanks to a skill named [Mana Convergence], which Lucy got when she reached the Divine Realm . She managed to benefit a lot from the two beasts she killed, they allowed her to jump to the peak of Divine Realm after processing the Mana gotten from them in just a week .

With the changes that appeared on Earth and the appearance of the system and the dungeons, there was a considerable amount of Mana on Earth, unlike Astria, this Mana was very pure and for Lucy, who has a strong affinity to it, it was like Heaven as cultivating for a day gives triple the results with half the effort .

Furthermore, the fusion of the Ice and fire was smoother than the past, its product was way more powerful too . There was another one from Lucy's group who managed to power up a lot, it was none other than Randuin, the bone lizard .

His black flames 'Amaterasu' are even dangerous to Lucy, who reached Half-Sovereign as of now . They cannot be extinguished, they are eternal and would burn the target until there's nothing but ash, which in its turn, will be turned into nothingness .

The lizard is always with Saly, protecting her from the shadows . Every assassination attempt was met with a failure, the attackers were scorched by the dark flames before they could even reveal themselves and attack little Saly .

"Assassinations?"

"En! This all links up to the Hero Organization and your ex-wife, Claudia . . . "