## Once Human 371

### Chapter 371

Eight days after leaving the Wicked Forest, the trio finally arrived at the Imperial Capital . They encountered no trouble and enjoyed a comfortable and safe trip . As flying is prohibited within the city, the three of them had to pass through the gate .

Since Shu Ru was accompanying them, they didn't have to linger at the entrance for a long time . What was kind of surprising is that the guards were either at the Deity Realm or Immortals .

There are above a hundred thousand scattered all over the capital, which was mind-numbingly big. It housed almost all of the strong factions of the Green-Leaf world and in a way, could be considered a small world due to its size. It wouldn't be a lie to say that it'll take you a day or two to see it all if you're flying. However, if you by foot, it'll undoubtedly take days.

Apart from Amidel's city, this was the first civilized place Arthur visited in this world, that is if you excluded the Pigolo tribe, which was a bit barbaric .

What surprised him was the presence of mortals . Literally, low leveled people who are living in here while minding their own business . There was a meager amount of them but they still existed . Upon further thought, it's to be expected since the ruling power of this world consists of mortals .

"You said that all the members of the Imperial Family are mortals?"

Arthur asked Shu Ru, who was guiding them to the blacksmith she was acquainted with . As she heard his sudden question, she nodded and replied

"Yes, however, they are descendants of Tyr, God of Justice . "

To explain more thoroughly, Claud said

"Tyr is the son of Odin and is considered a Minor God though he was influential . "

'Why does it matter if they are his descendants? They don't wield his power and how can they be the descendants of a God when they're humans .'

It didn't seem logical . The Imperial Family is human, however, Tyr belonged to the God Race, for them to be his descendants, they must be at least have the same race as him .

"It's quite easy to explain, actually . The bloodline of the God Race deteriorated due to the Void Era . Even if their ancestor was the God, it isn't impossible for them to transform into a human due to the thin bloodline of Tyr and the environment they were born in . "

'l see . . . '

"Though they are mortals, do not underestimate them . They would surely have extremely powerful protectors . Though since they're Tyr's descendants, I don't think they are bad since he was known as a righteous and brave God . "

'Whether they're good or bad, I don't care . As long as they don't bother us, I won't go out of my way to attack . '

As he heard Arthur's words, Claud burst out in laughter

"Hahahahaha you think it's really that easy to avoid them? Just like you avoided Amidel, the Divine Beasts and so on? Some things that are bound to happen WILL happen no matter how much you try to avoid them . "

Arthur chose not to comment and, along with Lucy, followed Shu Ru, who zigzagged through narrow alleys for a very long time until they reached their destination .

What laid before their sight was a tall building with more than twenty floors . Arthur's skill [The All Seeing Eyes] was automatically activated when he was close enough to the building . A protective formation surrounded the place and it ever-so-slightly shook when he laid his eyes on it .

From the highest floor of the building, he could feel a gaze land on him . Though it remained for only a split second, Arthur could clearly feel it .

'A God Monarch?'

"Alright, don't be an idiot and ruin everything . Oh! And don't get angry at everything, you must learn to endure . Remember, Arthur, if anything major happens here, it'll reach the Divine Planet in a day or two at most . "

Shu Ru turned to look at the couple but found them as expressionless as ever . Even this grandiose building didn't make them surprised .

Honestly, no matter how beautiful and big this building is, it still lacked compared to the ones on Earth . The only thing that the Humans on Earth got right is their focus on Science and Technology .

The only thing that caught Arthur's sight was a massive castle. It was situated in an area where the ground is higher than the rest of the city. To dizzying heights it rises, the gleaming spire, its tip threatening to pierce the blinding canopy.

"This place is like a guild, almost all blacksmiths of the capital are here . If you like anything inside, feel free to tell me . "

Shu Ru took out a purple card and proudly said

"I have a VIP card so I can get a decent discount . "

Unfortunately, neither Arthur nor Lucy reacted to her words . They seemed to be busy thinking about something else .

They both felt the gaze from earlier and were discussing how to deal with any problem that may arise . Their conversation ended rather quickly and the results made Lucy displeased but she agreed nonetheless .

Arthur repeatedly warned her not to act no matter the consequences . Her hair was changed from silver to black and her facial features were slightly changed . If she were discovered this early, it'll be impossible to stop the White Specter Clan, which is why she'll have to lay low .

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Inside the castle of the Imperial Family . In a luxurious study room filled with bookshelves and documents, there were two figures enjoying a hot cup of tea .

One was a young man with long blonde hair and a small beard, he had sky-blue eyes and was very handsome . His height was average and his body looked fragile . This was none other than Isadore Marfront, the Crown Prince .

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Facing him was a middle-aged man with a thick black beard and fierce-looking appearance . As the two were quietly their time in relaxation . The older man suddenly flinched, alerting the prince .

"Wrath, what's wrong?"

The middle-aged man remained unresponsive as he spread his sense as far as he could but couldn't find anything strange or suspicious .

"Nothing, your Highness."

The Crown Prince stared at the middle-aged man with a deep look but didn't speak . Very Soon, he resumed reading the documents that laid before him .

. . .

"Welcome, Miss Shu Ru!"

Just as they stepped inside the building, an energetic young man dashed toward Shu Ru and politely bowed . He had a friendly smile plastered on his face and despite not knowing the identities of Arthur and Lucy, he treated them courteously . Since they came with Shu Ru, they're surely her companions thus it's natural to treat them with respect .

Speaking of Arthur and Lucy, the two of them glanced at displayed weapons and were actually surprised by the quality of the items . Though they weren't extraordinary, they were still decent and would boost anyone's battle power . However, the prices were outrageous, even for such weapons .

Both Arthur and Lucy had weapons and in the near future, Arthur intends to remodel Lucy's saber so it fits her current cultivation . What he's missing are suitable materials .

Zodiak rarely used weapons and he wasn't a blacksmith so despite having a lot of rare materials, none of them were what Arthur needed .

Shu Ru glanced at the couple but noticed no reactions from them . With the young man from before as a guide, they headed upstairs . Their purpose for coming here wasn't to buy weapons but to visit her friend, the blacksmith, and see if Makaze can be fixed .

The higher the floor, the emptier it was, in fact, the last few floors were devoid of people . Arthur saw a couple of weapons that were protected by an unbreakable formation but he didn't pay them too much attention . He didn't come here to sightsee but to find a solution for his partner .

Very soon, the trio was guided to an office at the highest floor of the building . The room was filled with books and scattered weapons, whether it was swords, axes, hammer or even gauntlets . Furthermore, every one of these weapons was Mystic Rank or above .

A carpet covered the whole floor and wide desk was situated at the center of the room . Only one person was in the office prior to their arrival . This person was the blacksmith Shu Ru was talking about as well as the owner of this building . A famous figure in the Imperial Capital and a powerful God Monarch .

Losha Alpenwatcher (Race: Human): Realm : God Monarch ????

Age : 80

Emotion : Interest (Lucy) / Curious

Shot Description : A powerful woman born in the Divine Planet .

Title: Reincarnator

Skills/Techniques (Random) : Star Forging (Lv Max)

Reincarnator : One who used a technique or an artifact to reincarnate after dying once . +50% Stats when in combat .

As he read the results of the appraisal, Arthur couldn't help but feel shocked. It is the first time he encountered a reincarnator like him, though they didn't reincarnate the same way.

Moreover, she was interested in Lucy for some unknown reason which made him a bit restless . It's unlikely that Lucy's identity had been exposed but the probability still exists . In fact, he already started regretting following Shu Ru here .

If it was a normal God Monarch then he wouldn't have reacted like this, however, this woman seemed strange, very strange, in fact .

Although she was a God Monarch, he felt overwhelmed as if she's undefeatable even if she were to go all in .

"Fuck! Out of everyone you could meet, you still manage to stumble upon a reincarnator . It's like you're doing it on purpose, seriously!"

Claud lashed out at Arthur and angrily berated him . The copy didn't seem to be pleased after he read the appraisal . It wouldn't be a lie to say he was more shocked and restless than Arthur .

"Listen very well, once this meeting is over, you have to leave this place, do you hear me? I don't know where you go but don't stay here . "

In response, Arthur said

'Must you react this intensely? While it's true she's strong and a reincarnator, she isn't our enemy .'

Unfortunately, Claud wasn't going to let go of this matter this easily . He loudly retorted

"Are you stupid or what?! Look at yourself, you're a reincarnator and you're this strong when you're only at the God Realm! Do you honestly think that her Realm is her real power? I wouldn't be surprised to see her kill Overgods!"

Arthur, still calm, added:

'So what? It's not like I provoked her . I'm just here asking for help . '

"First, reincarnators can sense each other, meaning that she already knows about you too . Second, more often than not, reincarnators end up killing each other as it'll grant them endless benefits . Though you're weaker than her, that doesn't mean she'll not kill you . "

'You're jumping to conclusions, moreover, I'm positive I can escape with Lucy .'

Hearing this, Claud sighed and stopped talking . It didn't seem that Arthur will heed his warnings . The reason Arthur chose not to listen Claud is because this encounter will surely benefit him .

If he uses his cards right then Makaze will be fixed by her . At first, he doubted Shu Ru's friend will be able to fix Makaze but if this woman is as strong as Claud proclaims, there's a sliver of hope .

To him, the most important thing right now is fixing Makaze because, without his blade, he'll not be able to face what's about to come . In fact, the sooner the dark blade is fixed, the better it is for him .

Lucy, who was beside Arthur, also saw the appraisal but still kept calm . A frown momentarily appeared on her face before vanishing, what made her confused is the interest Losha had for her .

They don't even know each other and she didn't do anything suspicious or special so why would she grab the blacksmith's attention .

"Hi, Aunty!"

Shu Ru walked up to the seated woman and grabbed her heads, shaking them happily . In response, the woman smiled back at Shu Ru and spoke with a pleasant voice

"Little Ru, aren't you going to introduce me to your friends?"

It was only at this time that she directed her gaze toward the couple . She had long black hair and yellowish pupils . Her beauty was exceptional and what made her more stunning is her tanned skin .

"A-ah! Yes! They are friends I met in the Wicked Forest . "

The smile on Losha's face widened as she heard that . She didn't say a word as Arthur and Lucy introduced themselves .

She didn't seem to give too much attention to Arthur despite knowing that he's also a reincarnator .

"Greetings, I am Arthur MoonStar . "

"I am his wife, Lucy MoonStar . "

The two politely bowed then waited for the woman talk . Unfortunately, the blacksmith didn't talk which made it awkward, especially for Shu Ru, who brought them here .

She thought that Losha didn't like having them here so she decided to quickly tell her about why they're here . Shu Ru was about to start talking when Losha, at last, spoke

"Did you get what you need from the Wicked Forest? If not, I can accompany you there . "

Hearing this, Shu Ru softly smiled and called out the Yin Beast, which became extremely small. This was its spiritual form as summoning its real body in this crowded place isn't convenient.

"Oh? A High Sovereign . . . I assume they helped you subdue it?"

Losha obviously meant Lucy and Arthur, who remained silent . Shu Ru nodded her head in confirmation and explained a few things but didn't divulge everything she saw, especially the jaw-dropping power they displayed .

"It's been a very long time since I saw a Pure Yin Physique . "

This statement startled the couple, who warily stared at Losha, waiting to see what she's about to do .

'She doesn't seem hostile but prepare yourself just in case .'

Using [Telepathy], Arthur warned Lucy and urged her to prepare for the worst . They can't gauge Losha's power but if they were to go all out, they have the confidence to escape from the city .

"What about the book?"

This time, Losha's question was directed toward the couple . In response, Arthur raised his left hand, which started glowing with a holy light until a white book appeared .

This phenomenon caused Losha to frown and ponder for a few seconds . After some time, she waved her hand nonchalantly and said:

"Well, whatever . "

No one knew if she was speaking to them or to herself . Shu Ru, who started fidgeting as she didn't know what to do, finally talked

"Actually, I've brought them here because they need help . "

"Hm?"

Losha tilted her head in confusion then said

"Are you talking about that dark katana? It's been eyeing me maliciously since earlier, just like its master ."

"I wouldn't dare . "

Arthur immediately replied but it didn't seem like his words held much value in her eyes as she ignored him and focused her attention on Makaze, who trembled intensely, not from fear but from anger .

Surprisingly, Makaze was very hostile to her for some unknown reason .

Even Losha was curious about this and wanted to know why is an inanimate object angry at her . The reason was finally shown when a sheathed sword that was hanging on Losha's waist, started showing an intense reaction .

'Oh? For Grail to react like this . . . '

Losha's interest reached its peak once her beloved sword was showing signs of fear, for the first time ever .

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This time, even the reaction of the God Monarch was slow as her sword abruptly left its sheath and almost instantaneously appeared before Arthur .

# 'Calm down! Makaze!'

Makaze was going out of control and was about to retaliate only to be held down by Arthur . Unlike the sword name grail, who was about to hit Arthur, Makaze was rather obedient despite the anger it was showing .

Though the sword was unimaginably powerful, it still contained Light Magic, something that Arthur is finally able to use thanks to the book of Eternity. It isn't as powerful as Dark Magic but it still has its uses and cannot be ignored.

The silver tip of the sword was about to impale him only for his hand to meet the sharp edge of the sword and stop it mid-air. A bright white light was emanating from his left hand as it pushed away the sword until it was flung toward its owner, who swiftly caught it and applied pressure to hold it down and calm it .

\*Divine Sword, Grail(Rank : Mysterious 3rd Grade)

Short Description : One of the nine Divine Swords and it can unleash an absurd amount of Light Magic .

Random skill : Holy Blaze (Lv Max) .

"I apologize for the behavior of my sword . "

Losha knew that it was her fault as she didn't restrain Grail . However, she never expected it to attack on its own, it's the first time it happened thus she was a bit startled and confused . The more she looked the sheathed dark blade, the more curious she became . She couldn't wait to personally inspect her, inch by inch .

Despite her rising curiosity, her instincts were warning her about Makaze, telling her to not touch it or even attempt to get close to it. Not only did the dark blade bore ill will toward her, if she were to touch it, there's no telling what the blade will do.

"Is that one of the Cursed Swords?"

While pointing at Makaze, Losha asked . The answer came a few seconds later

"No."

Arthur didn't bother explaining Makaze's origin for it's better kept a secret . He, too, doesn't know everything about the sword but he's still not willing to divulge what he currently knows as it'll endanger him .

A blade that could all sorts of swords and sabers to grow stronger will surely bring unwanted attention . Especially when it can eat an endless amount if there is a large variety of 'dishes' .

Moreover, it was tremendously strengthened by the oath and Dark Magic, it's on another level compared to normal blades . In fact, he was absolutely sure Makaze can demolish the divine sword, Grail, if they were to fight alone, without Losha's interference .

"Although it's difficult, I can repair your blade but only on one condition . "

As she said that, the tall woman smiled seductively then continued

"I've been searching for a disciple for a long time and you caught my eye ."

She wasn't talking to Arthur but Lucy, who remained expressionless . The couple was not surprised when they heard this . The emotion Losha was feeling was strange and once they thought about it, it isn't hard to conclude her true intentions, especially when she continuously glanced at Lucy ever since they entered the room .

While still smiling quite evily, Losha added:

My my, that's not the answer I was expecting . "

'I told you this bitch is crazy, fuck why didn't you listen!'

Claud repeatedly cursed as he saw what's happening through the ARK . Just as her words reverberated across the large room, both Arthur and Lucy felt an overwhelming pressure assault them, rendering them almost immobilized .

Arthur was about to retaliate when Losha's sweet voice entered his voice . She wasn't speaking but her thoughts were conveyed to him .

"I heard that the White Specter Clan lost a girl a dozen years ago . I wonder what will be their reaction when I tell them about your dear wife . "

This made Arthur's mind go blank for a few seconds . Nonetheless, never would he give up just because someone threatened him . When he said he and Lucy had the means to escape, he really meant it .

His pupil shone with a blue light and by the next second, he was in front of Losha . His palm was a few centimeters away from her chest but an illusory golden palm was pressing against her two mountains .

Though this martial technique was smaller in size in comparison to the one seen in the Divine fight, its might was way stronger . Arthur expected to push her some distance for his chains of skills to activate but the woman didn't budge, in fact, she had a ridiculing smile on her face .

Despite failing his attempt and freaking the living hell out of Shu Ru, who never expected a fight to break out . Arthur's Tri-Spirit started its offense . The room transformed into a world of total darkness, even a

God Monarch like Losha was momentarily unable to see nothing but darkness . This startled her but she was still confident about her abilities and knew that Arthur won't be able to hurt her .

Thick chains made out of Dark Magic sprung from the ground and wrapped themselves around Losha, immobilizing her, however, this was nothing but the appetizer as countless thin spikes made from the Earth attribute, appeared all around him, forming some kind of prison.

At the center of the prison, a malicious grey tornado started slowly spinning, literally sucking the life of Losha . The final touch was a certain unique flame that Lucy used, it went through an opening and hit Losha's body, this time clearly dealing damage and causing blood to ooze out .

By the time everything cleared and the skills disappeared, Losha found herself alone in the room, excluding the shocked Shu Ru .

Arthur's skills weren't meant to attack but to slow her down, the only thing that really damaged her was Lucy's flame, which made her momentarily flabbergasted, to the point of even forgetting to chase them

'Now I really want her to become my direct-disciple . I don't even know what that Flame was but it directly broke through my physique .'

. . .

Arthur had already held Lucy in his arms and transformed into a bolt of lightning which traveled with a speed not even Losha could match up to . Though they escaped from the building, they didn't leave the city . Arthur possessed a tiny flower which was as a decoration on Lucy's hair, which yet again changed in color, this time becoming brown .

Her appearance completely changed as she resembled a woman in her forties . She wore a luxurious white robe that was decorated with golden lines . She had the air of a rich madam as she entered a famous restaurant and was given a good spot after handing a generous amount of Spirit Stones to the waiter .

She acted as if nothing happened and slowly ate the delicious food presented to her .

As for Losha, she knew that a couple like them was hard to track. She tried following their trail . . . if only such a thing existed . Shu Ru told her that she saw a bolt of lightning fly across the sky only to disappear in a split second . Then again, how's she able to find a bolt of lightning?

She couldn't see Lucy's real appearance as the skill Arthur used was very unique, moreover, it was max level . However, she encountered White Specter more than one time and they had a unique smell which couldn't fade unless they reach a certain Realm .

. . . .

What neither Arthur nor Losha knew was that, a distance away from Lucy, exactly in the middle of the busy street, a dark-haired middle-aged man was inspecting everyone around him, trying to locate something or someone.

He had an annoying grin on his face as clenched his fist in excitment . He was sure of what he felt and the lingering scent that remains in this street was a confirmation .

He was the same man who was talking with the Prince a while ago . He kept glancing at the passing crowd for half an hour before disappearing into nothingness .

Upon his return, he found the prince looking at him and expecting an answer for his sudden disappearance . To this, Wrath scratched his head in embarrassment and said

"I couldn't control myself hahahaha"

The prince immediately retorted

"To find a whore in the red district? Or to ditch me when I was in the middle of a lecture? Which of the two is it?"

He appeared quite irritated as he frowned and expected a satisfying explanation from Wrath . As his personal guard, he had to accompany him all day every day, no matter what happens . This breach of rules was taken seriously by the prince .

"You don't understand . It's here! In this city?"

The Crown Prince rolled his eyes in displeasure and added:

"Do you understand what an explanation is? It's a statement or account that makes something clear yet all you're doing is babbling . "

"At first, I thought I was imagining it, however, just now, I felt it clearly . It's the scent of the dark blade, Evil Wind!"

"So?"

Isadore didn't appear interested as he sat back on his chair and picked a book . Seeing such a reaction, Wrath continued

"It's the nemesis of the deadly sins . It has even killed Gluttony, how could I let it go? We'll not rest until it's destroyed . "

Hearing this, Isadore retorted with a mocking tone

"And you think you'll be the one destroying it? Really? You're just going to find it and attack it without gauging its strength? How about its owner? What Realm is he? His background, the people accompanying him, his motives, his weakness. What if he knows that you're here and is the hunter instead of the hunted?"

This left Wrath silent for a long while, unable to come up with a good argument . As for Isadore, he forgot about that matter in a few minutes and continued reading the book in his hands .

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Two days quietly passed, neither Lucy nor Arthur did anything that may bring attention . Lucy bought a decent-sized villa on the Eastern side of the capital and passed her time either reading a few books or meditating . Arthur, on the other hand, kept possessing that small flower decorating her hair .

If he returned to his original body, Makaze would surely not calm down like last time which may cause their location to be discovered . Furthermore, they didn't leave the capital for two reasons . First, they need Losha's help, even if they have to force her to fix Makaze .

She knows Lucy's identity which means she can snitch on them whenever she wants . So, fixing Makaze takes full priority as he needs to be ready to fight anyone coming from Lucy's clan . Second, Arthur needs to visit Jian Si and inquire about the prince and princess who had gone missing a few years ago .

They weren't with Mary and the others which means they were abducted by other people . At first, Arthur thought they were taken to Bucama's world then brutally tortured but that was rather unlikely as they seemed to have disappeared just a little bit before the evil race invaded the emperor's castle .

The Mountain Ba Sword Sect isn't located inside the Imperial Capital but outside . You'll have to travel a fair distance to the West before encountering a large mountain range, which the sect's territory .

Infiltrating the sect isn't a difficult thing for Arthur, in fact, he was confident in finding Jian Si within two hours, at most . However, he needs to be certain that she's in her sect and not roaming the world or else his effort would have gone to waste .

"Why don't we trick her? I'll accept her offer and become her disciple and she'll fix Makaze in return . When it's fixed, we'll just leave . "

Arthur, who was still hiding within the flower, replied:

"It will be hard to escape . There's no telling where she'll take you to train . Moreover, what if she brings you to a secluded place and forces you to train for a long time? Don't forget that we promised Saly to return in half a year . "

" . . . . "

Lucy remained silent as she thoroughly checked all their available plans . They can't keep wasting time and idling in this place . It won't too much time for Losha to locate them and force her decisions on them, or so thought the couple .

The reincarnator was overbearing and it was definitely a blessing and a mistake to visit her . The issue is to get her on their side, at least until Makaze is completely repaired .

Arthur was certain that if Makaze is repaired and he's fighting with Lucy, he'll stand a chance against Losha .

'You're really underestimating reincarnators . Moreover, she has one of the Divine Swords . If you want to injure her, use Void Magic . '

Claud calmed down since last time but he still viewed Losha as an enemy and opposed any idea of befriending her .

'So what do you want me to do? Search the whole Universe until I find the necessary materials to fix Makaze? It'll take a long time .'

Claud retorted almost immediately

'Isn't that what you intended when you began this 'adventure' of yours? In a life such as yours, nothing is easy . '

Unfortunately, before the two of them could finish their conversation, another uninvited guest appeared in their new villa . Lucy was just about to get up and leave this place to check the treasure shops in search for Star Iron or Dark Yin Steel only to be started by the appearance of a tall woman .

With a suffocating pressure and seductive smile, she sat opposed of Lucy while waving her hand in innocence, clearly indicating she didn't come to fight .

"I know you're here somewhere, why don't you come out?"

Her words were directed to Arthur . Even someone as powerful as she couldn't sense his presence, who became so minuscule after activating more than twelve passives and three active skills . Who would ever think he's actually the flower on Lucy's hair, it's absurd to even have such a thought .

"He's not here . "

Despite her surprise and a bit of anxiousness, Lucy kept a deadpan face and replied . In response, Losha's smile widened as she leaned on the comfortable sofa and tried to find Arthur herself but to no avail . She could sense nothing but air .

"You're aware that causing a ruckus here will alert everyone in the city, right? I'm sure that's not something either of you wants . "

The reincarnator crossed her arms and resumed talking

"Consider it as an exchange, you let me train you, so you can fully bloom and kick ass, and I repair that dark blade . It's a win-win situation . "

Meanwhile, Arthur and Claud were arguing about how to proceed . Just like Losha said, a destructive skill such as Rizaki would cause immense devastation and both the Royal Guards and the other factions will arrive within seconds . Void Magic could work, however, that's only if it manages to hit its target .

A combined Heavenly Arrow would wound her too but it takes twenty seconds to cast and it needs both Lucy and Arthur in position, meaning that it's not doable with a flower as a body .

"I'm certain a 3rd grade Grey bullet will heavily injure her but Lucy will lose her arm permanently and that's while being optimistic . Furthermore, the radiation will kill everyone within a two hundred kilometers radius within a week at most . "

The special bullet made from Lost Magic . It was the most powerful bullet he created for Lonely Moon . It was way stronger than a nuclear bomb and what's more terrifying are its after-effects . It had a powerful paralyzing poison and astronomical quantities of Uranium 235 .

If it explodes near him, even Arthur won't escape death, let alone the people of this city. This 3rd-grade grey bullet had a power that could only be matched with the 6th wave or above of the skill [Thousand Waves]. Yet even such a deadly attack cannot kill Losha.

'Then, what do you propose?'

Arthur couldn't find a solution to this dire situation . Her persistence in making Lucy her disciple is worrying and suspicious . She must have other motives, some way to use Lucy or earn benefits, it's definitely not out of the goodness of her heart .

"Why do you want to take me as a disciple? I don't get it . "-Lucy

As if she expected such a question, the woman answered within two seconds:

"Obviously because I'm in need of a disciple and you perfectly suit my preferences . "

Her gaze resembled a hunter eyeing its prey and not of a master looking at his disciple . Not a thing about her wasn't suspicious, either it's her background, behavior, motives, etc . . .

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Back on Astria, Saly, who was supposed to go back to the sect, never came back . However, no one seemed to be worried as Astrith was accompanying her and he was strong enough to protect her from any danger on this weak and small world .

The little girl, who was not that fond of meditation, stared at the stone in her hands for three continuous days, making the lightning wolf worried .

But upon closer inspection, he found out that she entered some kind of epiphany and she shouldn't be disturbed so he stayed by her side and guarded her for what seemed like an eternity.

The girl finally woke up after exactly seven days, at first, there was no reaction from her but out of the blue, the stone in her hands crumbled until a smaller circular black stone could be seen .

Just as it was exposed to the light of the sun, the black stone reacted intensely . As if a gigantic mouth appeared from nothingness, it ate both the wolf and the girl, sending to a place none had visited for a long, long time .

A minute or less after they were transported, Astrith was shocked to see himself in a place lacking any kind of illumination. Though it was dark, he was still able to see clearly unlike Saly, who looked around her in a daze.

The two of them were actually inside a manor, precisely at its entrance . An enormous row of stairs laid before them and several rooms could be seen deeper into the hall .

Saly stayed close to Astrith in case someone or something ambushed them but no such thing occurred . None of them was able to enter any of the room downstairs, an invisible force rendered it impossible for them to set a foot inside the gloomy rooms . With no choice but to take the wide stairs, they headed to the second floor and were greeted with other locked rooms . It was only after a while did Astrith feel a presence suddenly appeared behind them .

Like a ghost standing the middle of the hallway, the figure before the wolf was wearing an armor that made him blend with his surroundings. What worried the wolf is that he wasn't able to sense the stranger's presence at all, even gauging his strength wasn't possible.

Unlike the startled wolf, Saly was rather curious . Once she laid her eyes on the mysterious man, she pointed at him and said

"Hey! You feel like the stone from earlier!"

In response, the man walked closer to them and with each step he took, some strange blue flames started appearing, illuminating a part of the hallway.

Astrith, who wanted to advance and block the mysterious man, found himself rooted, unable to lift a finger from fear . It was the kind of bestial fear that rendered him unable to retaliate against the assailant, who wasn't even trying to scare them .

Contrary to the wolf, Saly appeared quite relaxed as she gazed at the face of this stranger . He had pale white skin and was quite young, probably in his twenties .

The young man smiled and said

"Welcome to my humble manor . I am called Leiu . "

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"I don't believe you . "

Lucy replied with a cold voice as she stared back at the relaxed Losha . In response, the blacksmith shrugged her shoulders whilst adding:

"I care not for your opinion . Either you follow me or you'll have to defend against the forces of the White Specter clan . I'm certain that they'll catch up to you before you're able to can escape to a safe place . "

Lucy kept her deadpan face despite being threatened . She didn't care about the White Specter clan and despite the large difference between them and her clan, she's not about to give up .

"Hmpf! Go ahead and call them, it's not like we're stopping you . "

The dark-haired woman crossed her arm and erased the grin from her face before seriously saying

"In the end, why are you so determined to reject my offer? You've literally got nothing to lose . "

Before Lucy could reply, Losha resumed talking

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"We can even sign a Fate Contract . "

Such a term was foreign to Lucy, who furrowed her brow . Seeing this, the other party explained:

"A Fate Contract is made between two or more parties and the conditions set in it cannot be broken or else he'll be punished by death . It's a fairly known method to strike deals, especially when hiring mercenaries or assassins . "

Through Arthur, Claud also confirmed Losha's explanation and gave her a bit more details .

'Once a Fate Contract is made, both parties cannot go against the aforementioned rules . If they are courageous enough to defy the conditions, they'll be killed by Fate itself . Though against some individuals, such a contract is pointless for they cannot be killed by Fate .'

'Is this reincarnator one of those individuals?'

Arthur asked Claud, afraid they'll be tricked by her .

'Definitely not, I can count those individuals on two hands .'

'Then this is the best solution, for now .'

With no choice but to accept this Fate Contract to assure their safety, Lucy nodded her head in approval . In fact, Losha knew that Lucy was talking with Arthur about the contract but she just couldn't sense him at all . There was nothing suspicious in the mansion and her sense could spread for a third of this city yet he seemed to have vanished into thin air .

Seeing Lucy's nod, Losha took out a golden scroll from her storage and presented it to Lucy, who accepted it .

"First, write your conditions then I'll write mine . "

After discussing the conditions with Arthur, Lucy wrote them down and gave back the scroll to Losha, who gazed at the several lines of words .

1: Repair the dark blade within a period of three months or less .

2 : Within this period of time, Losha has to protect Arthur and Lucy from any aggressive outside forces .

3 : Losha cannot harm Lucy or Arthur in any way .

4 : Losha cannot divulge any information about Lucy or Arthur .

"Hah! Isn't that a lot of conditions? Well, whatever . "

Losha swiftly wrote her condition then showed them to Lucy .

1: Lucy will temporarily become Losha's disciple .

With that, both parties were pleased so they each used a drop of Blood Essence to seal the contract, which flashed with a bright light before engraving a white tattoo on both women's abdomen .

Just as the contract was finalized, Losha's was startled to see the flower on Lucy's head suddenly vanish as an expanding black whirlpool appeared for a split second before Arthur was standing next to his wife .

"Every single of you reincarnators is weird . "

Losha complained but didn't inquire about the method he used to hide . Her interest wholly laid on Lucy, of course, she still had to fix the dark blade, Makaze .

Since she was so excited and didn't even try to hide it, Losha quickly brought Arthur and Lucy to the blacksmith building from before . Soon, they found themselves standing in a large arena underground . It was considerably wide and devoid of any people .

There was various foreign equipment that Arthur never saw .

"Now, before I begin to train you, I want to see your current overall strength, what you lack and what you excel at . "

The woman got rid of her long robe, revealing her alluring curves and perfectly shaped body. While it's true Arthur was staring at her, his full attention was elsewhere. His eye shone with a blue light as he tried to see what's she about to do.

A milky-white energy revolved inside her body before transforming into a layer of energy that resembled an armor .

Losha took a punching stance before taking a deep breath and punching the machine in front of her . The machine in question didn't seem to be from the universe as it definitely resembled the technology on Earth quite a bit . However, this one seemed much more advanced .

Despite the destructive force behind that punch, neither the machine broke nor the arena suffered any damage, it seemed as if all the damage was only focused on the machine .

The couple approached Losha and saw a number engraved on the machine . More precisely, it was '2899'

"Now, I want you to try punching this machine with all your force . "

Losha eagerly waited for Lucy to test her strength . If she's going to be her disciple, she needs to know everything about her and only then can she create a suitable and perfect training routine for her(Lucy) . With the knowledge coming from her current and past life, Losha was certain that Lucy's strength will sky-rocket .

Lucy stood before the machine, bent her legs while straightening her back before punching the machine with her strength that surpassed 2 billion points .

Just like Losha's case, Lucy's punch was strong but didn't cause any damage to its surroundings, which is definitely strange for a punch coming from a Sovereign, moreover, one with a Strength that had long since surpassed the limiter.

A four-digit number appeared on the machine, greatly surprising the calm Losha . She didn't know Lucy stats and seeing as her new disciple was a Little Sovereign, she expected the number to at most have three digits .

'2461'

"Good gracious!"

The first thing she did was turn toward Arthur . Even with her Physique and special Race, Lucy couldn't have such strength if not for another factor which boosted her strength .

Heck! Lucy's punch had almost the same power as hers! She never expected to see such a number, this left her curious about Arthur, who seemed to be a melee type, contrary to Lucy, who relies on long-ranged attack despite being quite adept at using a saber .

"Why don't you show us now?"

Losha taunted Arthur as she was curious about his strength . In response, Arthur shrugged and walked to the machine . With the contract protecting him and Lucy, he had nothing to fear .

His figure suddenly blurred as a black whirlpool appeared for a split before a larger silhouette could be seen . Lucy didn't have that much of a reaction, however, Losha's mind shook .

'Is he a druid? No, a druid can't take the form of a flower . Then . . . a devil? No, that's impossible too . '

It is widely known that most reincarnators have a mysterious and strong Race, she's an exception because she purposely wanted to reincarnate into a human. Though it gave her a disadvantage compared to the others, when the time comes, the advantages of being a Human will start showing.

The corpse Arthur took was of a minotaur . Amongst all the corpses he has, excluding the Divine Beast, this one had the strongest strength-related passives .

The moment he possessed it, more than six passives were activated, enhancing his Strength stat . He never uses this body in battle because its inefficient and not as flexible as a human body . Though, if it's testing his strength, this was, without a doubt, his perfect choice .

The body was over three meters in height, he got on all fours and activated the Dark-Star Strengthening technique to create a black layer that envelops his body, slightly increasing attack and greatly boosting defense.

Like a raging bull, he charged at the machine and hit it with his head . Unlike the two others, the machine finally shook from the impact . It wasn't damaged but the blow was strong enough to cause shake it which shows how monstrous Arthur's charge was .

# '3750'

A mind-numbing number was engraved on the machine . For a few seconds, there was nothing but silence . Arthur quickly returned to his original body and walked next to Lucy, who softly smiled at him .

In fact, Arthur could deal much more damage if overpowered skills and techniques were used . There's Eternium and Angel of Death, both which greatly boost his damage and stats . Transcendence is a cheat too, however, it has a drawback which is why it isn't used as often .

"I guess this is the first time I meet a real monster, hahaha . "

Losha burst out in laughter as she walked to the next machine . Each time, she would test it first to show them how it works then let them try, however, she was much more focused on Lucy as she examined every bit of her movements .

Including the first machine, the couple tested their prowess on four machines . The first one tested strength, the second gauged the speed, the third threw countless metal spikes and they had to evade it without going out of the red circle engraved on the ground . The fourth test was simple as all Lucy had to do was touch the machine and the latter will do the job . The fourth machine showed the affinity of the person to certain energies .

The last thing Losha wanted to see from Lucy was her combat ability, which is why she brought the silver-haired woman to the center of the arena .

"We'll spar for a bit . I'll only activate my Diamond Physique and won't use Nether Energy . The battle will last for only two minutes . "

'So it's the Diamond Physique .'

Claud exclaimed in surprise .

'Isn't that one of the 14 King Physiques?'

'Not only is it a King Physique, but it's also the ultimate defense . The strongest defensive Physique and when fully mastered, its power rivals an Emperor Physique . No wonder you weren't even able to budge her last time .'

The first spar was Lucy against Losha . Though it's only a spar, the master insisted that Lucy goes all out or else she won't be able to deal any damage .

The tanned skin of Losha started shining as if it was a diamond . Very soon, the woman started a threatening pressure, she resembled a walking fortress with her tall height and the visual effects of the Diamond Physique .

Lucy didn't engage in a melee battle right away, instead, she rooted herself in a favorable location and started attacking . Losha wasn't going to attack and merely standstill, waiting for Lucy to break her defense .

Lucy didn't bother useless skills and immediately cast one of her strongest skills . Since the terrain was a bit unfavorable as they were underground, the impact from her meteor shower will lessen greatly but it'll still deal a lot of damage .

Though they were in an underground arena, it was still large enough for several thick boulders to appear near the roof .

These boulders were enveloped by purple flames and had bubbling lava inside of them, their speed made them look blurry as they crashed on Losha, one after the other .

Even the sturdy arena was safe after such a destructive meteor shower struck it . The magma spread to all corners, melting the ground and purple fire charred the earth .

Yet, even amidst this destruction, Losha stood tall and motionless, not even slightly injured from Lucy's past attacks . One has to know that such a meteor shower which had Lucy's magma and fire, could easily obliterate a Sovereign yet it couldn't even damage Losha's clothes .

With no other choice but to become more aggressive . The Nine Star Yin Technique was activated and with each step Lucy took, a beautiful Ice lotus appeared above her .

"So it's the Nine Star Yin . I heard it's a secret technique from the Yin Lotus Sect . "

Losha commented as she contemplated the sight in front of her . Before long, four Lotuses were above Lucy . The limit of this technique was 9 Ice Lotuses and one was able to materialize them, they would be able to contend against an Overgod .

As the four lotuses slowly spun around Lucy, she finally started her assault . Three of them flew toward Losha with incredible speed . They appeared before her within a second and instead of hitting her, they halted an inch away from her body and fully bloomed, causing ice to cover freeze the magma around them and extinguish the remaining purple fire .

Even Losha's was unscathed as Ice covered her body and started going upwards. The woman shook her body thus shattering the ice only for it to appear again and freeze her body faster than the last time.

just as she was about to get rid of the ice again, a thick blue beam of light arrived from the front, hitting Losha's chest and even causing her to take a step back, which greatly surprised her .

Upon a closer look, the previous book was shot from the last lotus, which was positioned before Lucy, who channeled a large amount of Mana to fire that blue beam .

Lucy wasn't done even after that attack, the four lotuses once again appeared above her . They slowly started to bloom again while Lucy raised her hands and closed her eyes as she focused her Mana .

Her body started becoming white until an illusory white armor appeared . The armor was crystalline and totally breath-taking . Lucy, clad in this armor . She waved her hand yet such a simple action brought with it terrifying results .

Like the skill [Absolute Zero], the whole arena was frozen. Countless snowflakes fell from above as the machines and even the walls were frozen, the temperature fell by at least several hundred degrees and the only unaffected person was Arthur, who had high resistance.

As for Losha, she turned into a big block of ice . It was only after twenty-second or so passed did the block of ice shatter, revealing Lucy's master, who was grinning as she looked around the arena .

"I must say, you're one terrifying woman . "

In response, Lucy coldly smiled while retorting

"Heh, you have seen nothing . "

"In that case, I'll become a bit serious too . "

This time, real diamond started covering Losha's body and excluding her hands and head, all her body turned into diamond . Coupled with the armor, Lucy took out her white saber . This weapon, albeit rarely used, was a strong weapon that Arthur strengthened using his blacksmith skills .

Though, compared to Makaze, it's still lacking, one should not underestimate its sharpness and power . With Lucy's high Saber Mastery, her physique, and sky-high stats, it should be possible to injure Losha.

By the time Lucy rushed at her opponent, all that was left behind was her dispersing after-image . In this world of ice, where beautiful snowflakes were falling from above and the ground had already become snow, Lucy clashed with Losha, who still did nothing in retaliation .

Using her body alone, she received the full blunt attack of her disciple, who was faster than lightning . Seeing this, Losha could only sigh inwardly, she had high attack and defense compared to Lucy, however, she wasn't as fast as her .

The thin and moderately short white saber stabbed Losha only to be repelled by the impenetrable diamond, nonetheless, Lucy didn't give up as she continuously slashed down her opponent .

Her hands blurred as she performed hundreds of attacks, her figure became blurry as she attacked from all sides, leaving nothing untouched . Unfortunately, it wasn't enough to scratch Losha, let alone injure her .

Seeing this, Lucy decided to change the tactic a bit . She was going to try a method Arthur came up with some time ago but soon gave up on it as she's still not proficient enough .

She jumped backward and sheathed her saber . Losha thought that Lucy gave up but not even a second later, her disciple was holding what seemed to be a gun .

Though such weapons are rare in the Cloud Sea Universe, as a reincarnator, Losha had traveled to the System Universe and knew about guns and whatnot .

'A gun? What could she possibly do with it?'

To be honest, Losha greatly underestimated Lonely Moon as guns have limited power even if they contain magical energy .

Around seventy seconds passed since the fight started . Lucy had managed to push Losha but couldn't injure her which is the only way is either her special flames, which is her absolute trump card, or Lonely Moon .

"If you can block this then I concede . "

Hearing this, Losha frowned and gazed at Lonely Moon yet despite its unique appearance, she couldn't understand why Lucy seemed to sure of her victory .

Lucy decided to use the 3rd-grade bullet . The 4th grade and 5th-grade bullets are to be used in a dire situation and not in a spar, furthermore, firing such strong bullets will temporarily injure her arm, make it unusable, like a cripple .

However, the might of the 3rd-grade bullet is horrifying . When Arthur used it, the damage it had done was unforgettable . Surprisingly, Lucy retrieved a black 3rd-grade bullet, which contained Dark Magic .

She put inside the revolver and calmly aimed at the motionless Losha before taking a deep breathe and channeling Mana from her body all the way to the tip of her fingers, which was automatically transferred to Lonely Moon .

Like a bottomless pit, the revolver absorbed more than a third of Mana Pool before it shone with a silver luster . Losha, who readied herself, was turned momentarily deaf by the sun of the gunshot .

The ringing sound made her feel a bit dizzy but the worse thing is that it was aimed at her! By the time she came back to her senses, the world had already become so dark that she could see nothing, not even her body. Then she could feel her body being sent flying for a few dozen meters before heavily falling on the ground.

Though she was still not injured, some of the diamond on her body showed countless cracks, meaning that the impact from the bullet was almost enough to break her Diamond Physique!

Despite a lot of time passing, she still saw nothing and her vision of the arena only returned when Arthur absorbed the Darkness that covered the area .

Only then did Losha saw Lucy, who had a bloodied hand, staring at her and showing a triumphant expression . Although she did nothing but remain motionless as Lucy attacked, the disciple couldn't help but feel proud .

As for Arthur, he forcefully fed Lucy a Health potion before using his new healing threads and a healing skill to alleviate some of the pain she was feeling.

Chapter 375

"I must say... I greatly underestimated you even after seeing your monstrous strength . "

Losha got up and patted the snow off her clothes whilst smiling . Though she was a bit angry at herself as she was too overconfident, she was still delighted to have a powerful disciple, albeit temporary .

With a talented and powerful disciple, there's only so much you can teach him/her. Moreover, she only has three months at most, which is why no time should be wasted.

Nevertheless, Losha wasn't going to stop before having a little spar with Arthur . Lucy is an inborn genius and has a powerful physique but what about him?

While its true his strength and speed are out of the norm, they still aren't enough to penetrate the Diamond Physique .

Arthur was already in his peak state and Losha wasn't severely injured . Although Lucy's last blow was kind of unexpected and did cause damage, it wasn't enough to weaken the reincarnator .

Very soon, Lucy's bloodied arm returned to normal . It was completely healed within twenty seconds, mainly thanks to the Life Energy can wield . He can barely use it but it was more than enough to heal such a meager injury .

Both parties stood facing each other in this half-destroyed arena, which was, more or less, returned to normal after Losha did something to get rid of the snow and ice in this underground area.

Arthur wasn't planning to reveal all his cards but he won't admit defeat that easily too . With his absolute speed, he can certainly come up with a few tricks to wound her, even for a bit .

"A mistake can only be made once . I'm not going to underestimate you . "

As she said that, Losha's body was covered in Diamond yet again . However, unlike earlier, even her face, arms, and legs, changed and were shining . By no means did she become ugly, in fact, she resembled a beautiful statue .

She wasn't releasing any killing intent or attacking him yet Arthur still felt an invisible pressure that weighed down on him . It was the pressure you feel when you're inferior to an enemy .

Seeing that the enemy is ready to receive some blows, Arthur readied himself by activating [Transmutation] . His body was quickly enveloped by green lightning which greatly boosted his stat, however, this was but the beginning . Two talismans were crushed, one was the Light Talisman which increased his attack speed by 15% and the other was a Lightning Talisman which augmented his movement speed by 10% .

The next skill to be activated was [Eternium], the natural lightning was consumed by the Dark Magic, which turned Arthur into a black and ominous silhouette . Last but not least was [Angel of Death], its active effects are overpowered and the cost wasn't that much as it's almost negated by his extremely high Mana and Nether Energy recovery.

Since it's a spar, Arthur chose not to use [Griffin's Bloody Switch] as it permanently consumed Mental Power . From the appearance of a normal human(while ignoring the grey hair and the scarred eye), Arthur now was truly an angel of death . You could see two massive wings behind his back, the right was one as white as snow and emitted an angelic, almost heavenly aura . As for the right one, it was grey and was composed of creepy bones, it emanated the aura of death and decay .

These supposedly opposite auras were harmoniously living together inside of his body, not causing any backlash . Every now and then, you could see a green lightning spark around Arthur, whose appearance totally made Losha speechless .

## "W-"

Before she could talk, he vanished from her sigh and by the next sect, she was hit from the back and was forced to take two steps to stabilize her body. This assault was only the beginning as Arthur's speed was literally unequaled, he only left after-images as hundreds of blows landed on Losha, who was no different than a sandbag.

Even Her Diamond body showed signs of shattering after a minute passed . She received no less than a thousand blows from him and he showed no signs of stopping .

The reincarnator swallowed the bit of blood that accumulated in her mouth and strengthened her physique even more .

'To demonstrate such speed... this is surely taxing to him .'

Losha's thought was definitely on point . Though it seemed he was faring well, Eternium alone consumed a large amount of Mental Power every second and if you add the other activated skills, it becomes mentally exhausting . However, Arthur can continue fighting in this state for much longer than Losha's predicted .

When only thirty seconds were left for the end of the spar . Arthur stopped his nonstop assault and stood a few meters away from Losha . As he noticed her unusual expression, he grinned and said

# "Shall we end with a big boom?"

His question was left unanswered as he charged again . He deliberately didn't use any of his powerful skills and only relied on his extreme speed and high strength to continuously damage her and it was more than enough to shock her . The skill he's about to use if one of the first skills he had ever gotten, it is called [Dark Burst] and it magnifies the force behind any physical attacks he does . It is better used when using his fists or legs as its effect is greatly weakened when battling with weapons .

Maybe, for some, it may seem idiotic to finish this incredible combo with a punch, and a slow one at that . Yet Arthur was more than confident that it'll incredible damage .

Dark Burst was magnifying the Death Energy in his right hand . His figure vanished as it transformed into a streak of black and white light that made its way toward the prepared Losha .

His form quickly appeared when he was merely inches away from her, his fist was flying straight at her abdomen . The fist, which was supposedly dark due to the effect of [Eternium], was now totally grey as malicious black flames revolved around it .

At first, when he made contact with the diamond body, he felt a momentary pause before his fish went right in, crushing the diamond and sending her flying like a kite .

Her body crashed into the wall and then fell on the ground, leaving a few bloodstains . A bit of blood leaked out of her lips but her expression wasn't of a pained person but a startled one .

"No wonder you were so confident . You can also manipulate Death Energy . "

Death Energy contained decaying properties so it can counter her Diamond Physique though not as much as Void Magic, which is considered one of the strongest if not the strongest Magic .

'See? She isn't so invincible after all .'

Hearing Arthur, Claud scoffed and retorted mockingly

'Ha! You barely scratched the bitch . Don't forget she only relied on her Physique, she didn't even use Nether Energy which can strengthen the Physique . Moreover, she didn't even move or defend herself, she just remained still . Trust me, if it were a real fight, you will survive for no more than five seconds . '

Arthur snorted and didn't try to argue with his copy, who greatly hates Losha for some reason . Losha only needed ten seconds to recover from Arthur's blows . She stretched her body then walked up to the couple, who remained silent and waited for her to talk .

"Now that I've seen what you can do, shall we begin?"

Her speech was directed to Lucy, as for Arthur, she sparred him only because she was curious about his ability and indeed, he didn't disappoint her . Contrary to Lucy, Arthur is fit for continuous and long-lasting battles with powerful opponents . As for her new disciple, Lucy, she's good at dealing high damage to several enemies or one-shot entities stronger than her . Her saber skills are more than enough to kill those annoying flies that may appear every now and then, as for the Gun, it's used for emergency cases, or so speculated Losha .

The only thing that bothered her was Lucy's flame which she used when they first met . She didn't use it in the spar, which left Losha curious about their origin . They are unlike any flames she had seen in her two lives and the damage they did to her was considerable .

•••

Both Lucy and Losha went to the latter's residence, which was actually in the Southern Regions of the Green-Leaf World . Losha managed to build a two-way formation from the blacksmith shop to her residence and vice-versa . Arthur intended to go with them at first but decided to schedule that for later as he planned to visit Jian Si .

As he was left alone in the Imperial City, Arthur decided to lay low for a while before infiltrating Cold Sword's sect .

'It has been around two weeks since we left Astria . It'll take another month or so for Gutcha to hide the first box .'

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With that in mind, Arthur planned to familiarize himself with the factions in this city. There was no better host than the Mirage Era Hall. The couple built a rather friendly relationship with Shu Ru and they even helped her subdue the Yin Beast so she could tame it.

Though she first felt guilty since she caused them troubles by leading them to Losha, once all the problems were solved and explained to Shu Ru, it became possible for them to continue their harmonious friendship.

Every time Arthur remembers the piercing glare Lucy gave him when she warned him not to meddle into a women's problems, he could feel his whole body shiver .

To be honest, Lucy wanted to accompany Arthur, however, he insisted that she follows Losha. The reincarnator may be a bit crazy in the head but she appeared quite competent and with the presence of the Fate Contract, there's nothing to fear.

Makaze was also given to the blacksmith so she can fix it, which means Arthur's prowess decreased by more than 40%. As long as she doesn't piss off any powerful God Monarch, he shouldn't have any problem. Moreover, in case something dire happened, Losha handed him something akin to Life Crystal which will warn her if he's severely injured or on the verge of death.

A few problems still bothered Arthur, such as the Grim Reaper's matter . If he were to appear now, things will become extremely chaotic . The Reaper appears randomly and although he only appeared twice, there's no telling if he'll appear now or next year .

A few hours after his wife and her master departed, Arthur went to the base of the Mirage Era Hall . It was situated North-East of the Imperial Capital and its land was considerably big . The architecture of the buildings inside the sect's territory differentiated from the ones in the capital .

All the buildings in the Mirage Era Hall were white and pleasing to the eye . A tall cathedral that was only second to the castle, stood erect in the middle of this landmass . It was beautifully decorated and truly a sight to the eyes . Even Arthur, who was used to the advanced architecture of Earth, was amazed .

Shu Ru wanted to personally guide him to her sect but he refused her as he wanted to loiter around the capital and visit some shops . She gave him some kind of a badge with a golden lion engraved on it, this object is supposed to allow him free entry inside her sect .

However, who would have thought that the moment Arthur appeared before the gates of the sect, he was blocked by the guard, who eyes him suspiciously .

To be honest, Arthur did look suspicious . Zodiak's black robe looked ominous and his grey hair and the scar were not signs of a person with goodwill, at least for a person who judges based on appearances .

"Where do you think you're going? This the Mirage Era Hall's territory and no one but its disciples are allowed entry . "

While raising a long white lance to block Arthur, the guard spoke with a threatening tone . Arthur looked suspicious but he didn't look weak, the cold aura he involuntarily emits causes anyone close to him uncomfortable . It's one of the effects of Dark Magic, which is circulating inside his body .

Nonetheless, the Tri-Spirit was able to weaken this aura and make it practically disappear, which it did, albeit a bit late . Now, excluding his appearance, Arthur looked like normal, or at least, felt normal .

The guard was also a cultivator but he was only at the Heavenly Realm . He couldn't gauge Arthur's strength so he didn't arrogant and aggressive but he still kept a degree or superiority since he haled from the Mirage Era Hall .

Arthur took out the badge Shu Ru gave him and showed it to the guard, who was going to inspect it only to be interrupted by a displeasing voice .

"What are you doing?"

Both the guard and Arthur turned to the source of the voice and saw a young man with long blue hair and golden pupils . His movements were elegant, his gaze was calm yet contained disdain as he glanced at Arthur .

He didn't seem to recognize Arthur's existence and only addressed the guard .

"S-Senior Visto . "

The guard hurriedly performed a respectful bow, ignoring the stretched hand of Arthur .

"Stop playing around and go back to your post . "

Before the guard could reply, Arthur retorted

"I am showing my badge, is that a problem?"

A frown appeared on the young man's face, apparently, he was displeased by Arthur's sudden intervention and tone . He coldly snorted and added:

"What badge? Do you think this the first time people try to trick us into letting enter out sect?"

Inwardly, Arthur was cursing his luck and calming himself. He could have easily sneaked inside the sect but Shu Ru insisted that he came as an honorary elder. With such a position, no one will bother him and he can participate in huge events without having to pay a large sum of Spirit Stones or sneak around.

'There is never an end to the likes of him . '

"Why don't you look at it first?"

With a deadpan expression, Arthur turned toward the young man and threw the badge at him, which wasn't caught but send flying far away. The young man disregarded the badge and didn't even want to waste his time to ascertain of authenticity.

Despite such an act, Arthur remained calm . He turned toward the guard, who was prepared to ignore him and go back near the gates . His eye was cold and caused the poor guard to momentarily tremble .

He felt as if he fell in a bottomless abyss as he was stared at by that blood-red pupil . The hidden killing intent almost made him piss from fear

"Please go call Shu Ru . "

Like an obedient dog, the guard hastily ran toward the gates, planning to call Shu Ru . He didn't who this individual was but the fear he just felt made him soak with cold sweat, it's like he was facing death itself

Visto, the arrogant young man, became angrier when he heard Arthur mention Shu Ru's name . He waved his hand, wanting to stop the guard but the sudden burst of Energy was so weak that it couldn't even travel a few meters before being consumed by a malevolent yet transparent energy which he couldn't recognize .

"What do you think you're doing?"

Arthur tilted his head in confusion . Visto's glare was akin to the one you give to someone who killed your parents .

As he was ignored by this mysterious man, Visto became more enraged . Not only did this man try to use Shu Ru's man, he wanted to use trickery to trespass into his sect .

Seeing the piercing glare he was getting, Arthur already sealed the young man's fate . An enemy, no matter how weak he is, has to be killed sooner or later, this was his and Lucy's motto .

Whether it's indirectly or directly, this young man will die . A single appraisal informed Arthur of this man's realm .

Visto a 1st Grade God but he was older than Shu Ru. He seemed to be the son of the current leader of the Mirage Era Hall. This explained his haughtiness and arrogance and as the saying goes, one mountain is higher than another mountain, so even with his exceptional status and high Realm compared to his peers, there's always who's better and this person was Arthur, in this case.

Out of nowhere, Visto suddenly disappeared from his initial position and leaped at Arthur . He shone with a golden light as his Godspirit manifested behind him . The God Spirit was a golden bird with a black beak, it emitted a light more intense than the sun and caused unwanted attention from distant bypassers .

Unfortunately, not even with this Godspirit was Visto able to get close to Arthur . Both the young man and his Godspirit crashed into the illusory dark barrier was bounced back suffering enough damage to cause the kid to bleed and the spirit to shake .

Visto's fate was sealed the moment he made contact with the dark barrier . A very small amount of Dark and Death Energy invaded his body and although it's can't do anything for the time being, it'll slowly end this young man's life .

The Dark Magic will consume his energy and corrupt his body and the Death Energy will suck his vitality and weaken his soul, making his body more fragile than a mortal. The thing that'll bring him to death's door is a simple poison, it isn't powerful but to a vulnerable body, it'll kill it within seconds.

It was a cruel fate and not many would dare to do something like this due to a small skirmish, however, Arthur didn't care .

As long as someone considered him as an enemy and even attacked him, then he has to be killed, no matter what . Whether it's a God Monarch or a mortal, both are equal .

Very soon, Shu Ru appeared from within the sect's territory. Her face paled once she saw Visto's miserable state. As she discovered Arthur's presence, she didn't know whether to cry or laugh.

While forcing a smile, she said

"Senior, please excuse us, we have been inconsiderate . "

Then, she guided Arthur inside while ignoring Visto . Since he had a high status, she couldn't reprimand him, neither could she blame Arthur .

### Chapter 376

Many disciples curiously glanced at Arthur as he accompanied Shu Ru. She's the top disciple in the Mirage Era hall and it's rare to see here speak or walk with a man. Seeing the jealous and envious gazes, Arthur inwardly scoffed but didn't say anything.

Contrary to them, the less time he spends with her the better it's for him . They were considered friends but their relationship isn't that deep . They helped her and she helped them, give and take, harmonious and without trickery .

Very soon, Shu Ru entered the big cathedral along with Arthur . The guards around this giant building were much more powerful than the ones roaming the sect .

Shu Ru has to introduce Arthur to her grandfather so he can bestow him the honorary elder status . Even if the rest of the sect isn't pleased with the presence of a strange, they can't go against her grandfather's words .

Moreover, he isn't going to remain here for a long time .

The duo reached a spacious hall which was devoid of people . Arthur glanced around, contemplating the amazing architecture and the unique decoration used . It bore a resemblance to some churches yet this one seemed much more majestic .

Excluding the two of them, there was another figure a distance away from them . The old man wore a simple white robe, he had his hands behind his back as his attention was focused on a large golden stone before him .

The stone was engraved with an unknown language and no one from this sect was able to understand it . It is said that if one gains enlightenment from one of the three stones inside this hall, their cultivation and understanding will increase drastically .

It's a shame only Shu Ru was lucky enough to understand a sliver of this language .

Even when they neared the old man, he kept ignoring them, acting as if they didn't exist . Thanks to Appraisal, Arthur found out that it's a God Monarch, however, he seemed to be way weaker than Losha . He didn't feel the threatening pressure emitted from the reincarnator .

In fact, he had confidence in defeating the elder but killing him is probably impossible without Makaze . Shu Ru didn't call for her grandfather, instead, she patiently waited for him to finish .

Arthur activated [The All Seeing Eyes] and focused on the golden stone . Though it was an inanimate object and didn't seem like it contained any Energy, the reality was different .

The golden stone was actually composed of countless threads of Golden Energy . Such energy is foreign to Arthur . Even with his vast knowledge, Arthur was still unable to fully comprehend the engraved runes .

Nonetheless, he still understood a few words but they weren't enough to understand the whole sentence. This language was learned from one of the countless corpses he possessed in Astria.

Appraisal gave him a bit of information about this ancient language . It belonged to the Buria Empire, a powerful force that dominated a third of the Cloud Sea Universe a long time ago .

'Is the Mirage Era Hall their descendants?'

Arthur didn't dwell too much on the matter . It's not like it concerned him but he was still a bit intrigued by the Buria Empire . For just one empire to control a third of a whole universe, it must have been incredibly powerful . Though the real question is; How did such a mighty empire crumble?

Claud didn't know anything about the Buria Empire so Arthur was left clueless .

After thirty or so minutes passed, the old man's body slightly trembled before he turned toward the two of them . He started rubbing his long white beard as he assessed Arthur with a gentle smile on his face .

"So you're the one Ru'er was talking about . "

Shu Ru didn't tell her grandfather everything about the couple but she still disclosed their strength . Although he was only at the God Realm, Arthur's real power surpassed the Sovereign Realm .

Such cases were extremely rare but not impossible . In fact, most of the people who could leapfrog Realms are usually in possession of extraordinary treasures .

"Yes, I am Arthur . "

"Hm? No last name?"

Arthur friendly smiled back and added

"MoonStar . Arthur MoonStar . "

The old man frowned and asked again

"Ah... I don't think there's any sect or clan with such a name . "

As to confirm the elder's suspicions, Arthur answered

"I came from a low-Realm . "

The girl's grandfather nodded his head while stroking his beard . His gaze was unfathomable yet even someone like him wasn't able to see through Arthur . Though he felt some kind of ominous energy inside of his body, he didn't seem to be using a treasure or anything like that .

Only after a minute or so did the old man turned his head to Shu Ru and said

"Ru'er, show me your new companion . "

In response to his words, a miniature white beast appeared on the girl's shoulder. It wasn't as aggressive as before, it gently rubbed its body on Shu Ru's hand, trying to show its affection.

"Hoho, quite a powerful fellow . "

Despite its hate for anyone but Shu Ru, the Yin Beast didn't lash out at the old man when he tried to hold it . In fact, it obediently remained still .

After inspecting the Yin Beast for a few seconds, the old man gave it back to his granddaughter then added:

"I see that your cultivation rose too... good good!"

Whilst the two family members were conversing with each other, Arthur started a little adventure .

'Don't forget my words! You can steal the corpses but don't possess them .'

One of the reasons he came to the Mirage Era Hall is because of dead ancestors . The sect was proficient at formations, so if he could steal the lifeless bodies of the ancestors and possess them when the time was right .

It wouldn't be easy to sneak inside their ancestral hall and retrieve the corpses, nonetheless, hard doesn't mean impossible . Moreover, being able to build strong formations will greatly strengthen him and would allow him to face against any unforeseen troubles .

Some formation master can kill several Sovereigns with just a single formation . As for Gods, they'll be slaughtered like chicken . However, the degree of difficulty to build such formations is too high, which is why it's better to possess powerful and knowledgeable ancestors .

Using Dark Cloud, the unique skill of Zodiak's robe, the real Arthur disappeared and was replaced by a very real copy . It had the same cultivation and was absolutely flawless .

As long as nothing happens, it shouldn't be discovered . Though it's power is weaker than a God, it shouldn't have a problem dealing with a few Immortals . Then again, if the Dark Cloud were to fight, its true identity may get discovered .

Arthur was unaware of the Ancestral Hall's location but it wasn't difficult to find it . After approximatively three minutes, he was stopped by an unbreakable defensive formation that enveloped a specific area under the cathedral .

To freely travel through the earth without any obstruction, Arthur possessed the body of the bone shark, which had unrivaled speed under the ground .

Thanks to his stealth skills, he wasn't discovered even when he traveled at a high speed. The earth before him would turn into nothingness as the bone shark had a skill that allowed him to drill any ground before him in a very smooth manner. Only when his eyes caught sight of the formation did he halt.

The map showed him an area that was circled by a red line . This indicated the presence of a formation and the redder it was, the more durable and high-level it is .

"What to do now? If I try to get in, it'll alert the whole sect . "

Such a formation isn't simple . Despite his confidence in being able to break it or open a crack big enough to fit him, it'll certainly cause a huge commotion .

Moreover, if such a thing happens at the same time he entered the sect, the blame will fall on him, no doubt .

Arthur pondered for a long time before he came up with a ridiculous plan . It was feasible but very hard, nonetheless, it's worth the try .

He doesn't need to use any extravagant skills, only the power of his eye . No matter how strong a formation is, it won't function if time is stopped, after all, it needs to consume energy to remain active .

Until now, Arthur was never able to stop time, only slow it down by a lot . It's a very helpful ability but it is mentally exhausting, too exhausting, in fact .

Arthur left the shark's body and stood motionless as his eye started shining with a blinding blue light . Fortunately, he was underground so it wasn't noticed . Very soon, he felt the air and energy around him slow down but it didn't freeze yet .

He discarded any unnecessary thoughts and pushed the ability of his eye to the limits . At last, the time was momentarily stopped though Arthur ended up bleeding from his eye and nose .

He ignored the leaking blood and hastily entered the formation . The time stop lasted for no more than two seconds yet Arthur felt a fatigue that made his body numb .

Since he was inside without alerting the formation, he decided to rest until he recovered . Due to overworking himself, Arthur had to rest for a full hour before feeling fresh again .

"Be careful, that formation was but the beginning, I'm sure there are others . "

Claud repeatedly warned him .

•••

Only after twelve hours did Arthur reach his destination . He repeatedly stopped time and rested each time he was blocked by a formation . There were all kinds of formations, moreover, each and every one of them was incredibly dangerous .

Exactly three coffins laid before him, however, there was actually a short old man meditating at the entrance of this ancient tomb . He emitted no aura and just by slightly sensing his presence, Arthur felt the chills .

'He's dangerous... too dangerous .'

Fortunately, Arthur was still a few meters underground and was hiding in the body of a small green sprout, making no different than a simple plant which just so happened to grow in that place .

Arthur's Godly Sense would alert the enemy, however, his Sixth Sense wasn't a technique but an enigma skills thus the old man won't discover him if he used it .

As he activated the skill and tried to probe the old man, he was shocked to see that he couldn't gauge the old man's strength, meaning that his Realm is probably higher than God Monarch.

'Do you think it's possible to escape after retrieving the corpses?'

Arthur asked Claud, who remained silent for a few seconds before replying

'I honestly don't know . Here are the results I got from the ARK . '

\*Probability of retrieving the three bodies and escaping safely: 1.84%\*

\*Probability of retrieving two bodies and escaping safely: 5 . 99%\*

\*Probability of retrieving one body and escaping safely: 11.66%\*

\*Probability of escaping safely without retrieving any body: 87%\*

'Damnit! It's so low...'

Though Arthur was kind of a gambling man, he isn't going to throw his life because was greedy over the body of a few strong ancestors. If he can't retrieve them now, he will do so when he's stronger.

He remained silent and motionless inside the body of the sprout, trying to think of a flawless plan but each time he came up with something, Claud would show him his probability of success, which is always lower than 15%.

'What if I use Rizaki? Wouldn't the destruction buy me some time to escape?'

'No way, the cast time is long, you'll be discovered in a second .'

The dark cloud, which acted as Arthur's copy, was guided to a luxurious room after giving a special badge that showed his status as an honorary elder. As for Arthur, he remained in that hole for four continuous days and it was only at the dawn of the fifth day did he come up with a doable plan.

The plan couldn't be simpler, all he needed to do was act like an ant . Yes, as stupid as it may sound, he'll possess an ant and forcefully weaken himself then roam around the room .

It all depends on the old man, however, he won't bother to kill an ant, after all, this is ancient place and there's bound to be a few insects lurking n the shadows.

With Claud's help, Arthur's stats were significantly lowered . All of them combined didn't surpass a hundred points . In such a state, even a simple breeze of wind can kill him .

Nevertheless, there's nothing to fear, the Tri-Spirit was still active . He's weakened but it can intercept the enemy if anything happens . While it is true that it's weaker than Arthur, it is a very powerful entity .

The plan was set in motion when Arthur possessed a small brown ant . He didn't directly head toward the coffin but randomly roamed the gloomy and cold room .

The old man never opened his eyes or detected him, he remained in that meditative state even when Arthur roamed next to him. This reassured Arthur, who went around the room for about an hour or so before climbing one of the three coffins.

Although these coffins were closed, his body was small enough to fit it . The gap which seemed incredibly small was more than enough for him to fit 10 ants .

Full of excitement, Arthur entered the coffin, which was devoid of light then walked to the center of the corpse . As he reached his first destination, the first step of his plan was successfully done . The second step was to retrieve the body without alarming the guardian outside .

This step relied solely on the Tri-Spirit, which was proficient at using Death Energy. To create a corpse similar to the dead ancestor was impossible, however, to create lingering Death Energy that resembled the formless aura this corpse was emitting, was a feasible feat.

To imitate the aura of death and decay around this corpse, the Tri-Spirit needs ten full hours . Arthur wasn't in a hurry so he calmly waited there, not afraid of the old man to discover anything .

The Tri-Spirit was doing a flawless work, it would absorb some of the corpse's aura then release a similar one . This seemed to be leading to nothing as he was just replacing air with air . However, when the ancestor's corpse, which still had death aura inside of it, was nothing but a mortal's corpse, it would be absorbed and in its place would be the lingering energy the Tri-Spirit created .

Ten hours quietly passed, there was no disturbance whatsoever . When everything was completed, Arthur absorbed the ancestor's corpse into Zodiak's storage ring and moved to the next .

•••

Thirty hours was supposed to be the time it takes to obtain the three corpses, however, the last corpse had some life energy in it, which caused Arthur to abandon any thought of taking it with him .

He could wield Life Energy but to imitate someone's Life Energy isn't an easy thing to do . Just like each person has a unique appearance, they would also have a unique Life Energy which would differentiate them from others .

Merely twenty-two hours after his arrival into this tomb, Arthur entered the hole in the ground and disappeared from this cold place . He distanced himself from the tomb and only when he was sure that he was relatively safe did he make Claud unlock the seal which was lowering his stats .

Calmly and without any rush, Arthur headed toward his clone and soon took its place . He leaned on the comfortable sofa and breathed a sigh of relief .

It was really tiring to bypass the formations and hide from the old man but it was still worth it . He may be a despicable friend since he stole from Shu Ru's sect, however, he couldn't care less .

His goals required him to become stronger and this is one of the ways for that to happen . When the White Specter Clan comes knowing on their doors, he should be fully prepared .

He knew Lucy's attitude toward this whole matter and from the Joker said, the clan will do anything to retrieve her . Especially since she's talented and even have a powerful Physique .

When such a time comes, a war is inevitable. Lucy already gave him the green sign, he would kill anyone who wants to separate them, even if it were her own parents!

\*\*\*\*\*

West of the Imperial Capital of the Green-Leaf World, there existed a humongous gate floating in the air . This gate would allow anyone to travel to higher or lower-Realms, you just need enough Spirit Stones .

Many people with special status can use this gate free of charge . The area around the gate was always bustling with people, some entering it and some leaving .

Just now, two figures appeared from within the transparent space inside the gate . One was a tall old man with a butler attire . He was old enough for all his hair to turn white but he appeared to be full of vigor . The one accompanying him was a girl that had exceptional beauty .

"Young Miss, the opening of the dragon's lair is around the corner . Why would you come here?"

The girl gazed at the majestic city in front of her then replied

"I've heard that Master Losha is here . I want her to craft me a special armor to resist the dragon . "

The butler didn't inquire any further, he merely followed her . His duty was not to ask questions but to protect her from any danger .

Chapter 377

"B-but fathe-"

The voice was interrupted by a middle-aged man who seemed strict and slightly angry. This man was the current Patriarch of the Mirage Era Hall sect. His son came asking for help as he was mistreated and humiliated.

Visto stood before his father with his lowered, the arrogance and haughtiness he usually demonstrates was nowhere to be found .

"Don't think I'm a fool . Witnesses told me exactly what happened and it's your fault for causing trouble . "

Athard Exas, the father of Visto, felt embarrassed by the behavior of his son . In fact, were it not for the elders currently present, he would have beaten Visto half-dead .

He knew that Visto is arrogant because he's the Patriarch's son and thanks to his high Realms, which placed him above his peers, however, he shouldn't have provoked a stranger.

Moreover, this stranger was welcomed as an honorary Elder inside his sect . It wasn't something he could control albeit being the Patriarch as the Grand Elder held more authority than him .

Plus, no matter how much he investigated, he couldn't uncover the guest's background, which made him hesitate and act cautiously .

In fact, he was delighted to see a strong person residing in his sect, however, knowing his son's attitude, he probably won't let this matter slide .

It was speculated that the guest had the cultivation of a peak grade God . It wasn't comparable to the elders but it was still a respectable, especially for someone who seemed to be a lone cultivator .

"Anyway, you're forbidden from leaving the golden hall for the next month . "

The young man wanted to protest but immediately gave up once he saw his father's cold gaze . He could act however he wants in the outside but when facing his father, he could only be obedient and follow orders .

After Visto left, Athard glanced at the elder standing next to him and muttered

"Anything new about our new guest?"

The elder shook his head and replied

"No . The young miss said that he helped her in the Wicked Forest and they became friends . Also, the Grand Elder regards him favorably . "

Athard nodded his head and added:

"Notify the others to not bother him . Anyone who tries anything will be heavily punished . "

•••

After spending a lot of effort to retrieve the two corpses, Arthur rested in his spacious room . He cultivated for a few hours but the results were minimal and disappointing . His speed in cultivating is lackluster, to say the least .

"Aren't I supposed to be a heavenly talent after absorbing so many corpses?"

Arthur asked Claud, wanting to know the reason behind his slow advancement in cultivation . Actually, his talent wasn't that bad, it was decent, however, compared to Lucy or other talents, he was still lacking .

"Actually, what people call talent is DNA . Each person or beast has a unique DNA and since you possessed a large quantity, you have stored all those DNA but unable to access most of them . Yes, your body is extremely tough and strong, but it doesn't necessarily accommodate all kinds of DNA . This DNA can be influenced by certain bloodlines or in some rare cases, Physiques . Currently, you cannot make use of the stored DNA but if we play our cards right, we can force an evolution that'll allow you to access them all . At that time, you'll be able to transform into anything you possessed without requiring a host . "

"And how to force an evolution?"

### After a short silence, Claud answered

"It depends on the circumstances . If, for example, you stay in a poisonous place for a certain amount of time, the System will offer you a choice to evolve . Even I, don't know the requirements for a body that can store all those DNA, I guess we have one more reason to reach the Garden of Words . "

Hearing him, Arthur clicked his tongue and remained silent . Claud refused to say anything about the Garden of Words, even its location, which annoyed him but he couldn't just force it out of his mouth so he can only swallow his anger .

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Late at night, Visto entered the Golden Hall, which is a good place to cultivate as it had thick Nether Energy and it's especially good for those who cultivate the sect's technique.

No one but him was inside this magnificent hall that was decorated with nothing but pure gold . Just as the young man entered meditation and activated his cultivation technique, he felt something was amiss . His bodyfelt numb and he started feeling immense pain from his Dantian .

By circulating his Nether Energy, he accelerated the effect of the lingering Dark Magic inside of him . Like the idiot he is, Visto wanted to expel the malevolent energy inside of him instead of calling for help .

Unfortunately, that didn't go well as he started coughing one mouthful blood after another until his face turned pale and the blood loss caused him to become extremely dizzy.

Only twenty minutes after he sat down, he could be seen laid on a puddle of blood, motionless and lifeless, of course .

Even Arthur didn't expect Visto to be such a fool . Fighting Dark Magic is useless, especially when it invaded every part of your body . Only Arthur was capable of saving him but alas, he literally killed himself .

Visto's death was only discovered the next morning . Athard wanted to talk to his son about Arthur only to find him deader than dead . By the time he called for the Physician to save his kid, it was already too late .

From grief, the Patriarch spat some blood and momentarily fell unconscious, if not for the support of the present elders, he would have collapsed .

At the same day, Athard closed the gates of the sect and allowed no one to enter or leave until the culprit was apprehended .

Shu Ru, who was in her room, playing with the small Yin Beast, was shocked to hear of this terrible news . She rushed to her Grand Elder to know more about this tragedy but even someone as acknowledgeable as her grandfather didn't know the cause of the death .

The Dark Magic had disappeared the moment it killed its target, only the poison was left . However, tracing it back to Arthur isn't possible .

As Arthur was attempting to create Void Talismans, someone gently knocked on the door, which soon opened by itself .

An elegant and beautiful girl entered the room, she had a strange expression as she gazed at the man before her . He seemed to be in a world of his own, not minding all the noise coming from outside .

Shu Ru hesitated for a long time and only after a few minutes passed did she manage to say what's on her mind

"Was it you?"

She knew that Visto attacked Arthur but couldn't reach him and was bounced back . This friend of hers didn't retaliate and didn't even touch Visto yet she was suspicious . He was far stronger than others think so killing Visto is hard but doable .

Hearing her, Arthur feigned ignorance as he replied

"What?"

"The son of the current patriarch was found dead this morning . Everyone is being investigated and no one is allowed to leave until the murderer is found . "

Arthur didn't even glance at the girl as he threw down a broken Talisman and continued with his experiments .

"Is that so?"

His lack of reaction was strange and it slightly irritated Shu Ru, who usually carries herself with a calm demeanor .

"A person was killed, how can you be so nonchalant?"

Only now did Arthur stop and glance at her while retorting

"Tell me, why should I care? It's not like I know him . "

"Hmpf! He was the one who refused to let you inside the sect a few days ago . "

Still expressionless, Arthur stated:

"Oh then he got what he got what he deserved . Arrogant people like him don't usually live long . "

The girl stomped her foot in anger and added:

"Who are you decide if he should live or die?"

Arthur frowned upon hearing her . He calmly leaned on the chair and drank some of the hot tea he prepared for himself while receiving her glare .

"I never decided his life or death, I was merely expressing my opinion . "

Shu Ru didn't say anything as she stormed out of the room . She didn't have any evidence, heck! It may even be someone else's doing . She didn't invite him to her sect for him to kill Visto . While it's true Visto it annoying and had a bad attitude, he didn't deserve to die miserably like that .

### Chapter 378

It has been two weeks since Arthur and Lucy left Astria and, fortunately, things were as peaceful as ever . There was no sighting of the evil race and the MoonStar city is prospering rapidly .

More people started visiting it and even the remote clans were helpless against this rising power so they could only reach out for alliances lest they get destroyed .

Ever since Arthur left, Jackob noticed that every two days, Anastassia will leave the sect and head South only to return a few hours later .

One day, he confronted her to know what's going on . Surprisingly, she didn't hide it from him and even brought him with her .

However, what he saw was something he never expected, even in his wildest dreams. The South of the Western Continent is a dangerous zone where powerful beasts lay dormant. It was surrounded by a thick fog that made it quite hard to see what's around you.

The different thing about this land is that no living beasts remained here, it has become a land of decay and death . With a half-open mouth, Jackob gazed at the sight before him, a sight that made him tremble .

It wouldn't be a problem if there were thousands or tens of thousands, however, the army that stood before him is simply humongous .

Millions upon millions of undead stead next to each other, disciplined and silent. They eye-sockets burned with a dark red flame that made them distinguishable even inside this fog. This undead army covered a lot of land, almost a third of this continent and its size is drastically increasing every day.

The Death Energy was so thick that being around it for a long period of time will cause death . Were it not for the item Arthur gave her, Anastassia wouldn't get so close to the army .

"W-what's this?"

"An incomplete army . "

Still flabbergasted, Jackob asked again

"You made this?"

Anastassia nodded and added:

"Yes but it's not something I can control . Until he comes back, they can do nothing but stand like that . "

He pondered for a short moment and maintained his silence . If Arthur needs such a large army then there's no room to stop him .

Anastassia retrieved an ominous pendant and wore it then immediately activated it

An abyss-like cirlce appeared above the army and soon, countless undead started appearing from within . More than a thousand undead appeared every second, moreover, they weren't normal .

Every ten minutes, three death knights appear and every hour, a bone dragon is summoned. All the normal skeletons were clad in a grey-armor, they either held large shields or sharp swords.

They weren't at the Spirit Realm but their number compensates for their lack of individual power . Even Anastassia doesn't know the reason Arthur needs such an army .

With such an army, there's no force in Anastassia that can resist it, even the MoonStar sect .

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Far East of Astria, the ever-so-silent Word Tree was disturbed after a month of Arthur's departure . The Western Continent resembled a graveyard . The undead covered half of the continent and merely their presence made the World Tree a bit distressed .

"Arthur... Death won't tolerate this, you know that, right?"

Even with its incredible power, it became unable to spread its magic to the Western Continent . The Death Energy, albeit contained not to spread to all corners of the continent, was still extremely lethal to the tree .

•••

Back on the Green-Leaf World, things were getting worse as Athard swore to find the culprit at all costs . It has been five days since the death of his son yet the gates of the sect are still closed .

All the disciples were anxious and not one dared to cause a ruckus lest they suffer the wrath of Patriarch . Shu Ru held into her suspicions but never told anyone . She wasn't sure and even if she were, she couldn't snitch as she thought she may end up like Visto .

She would pester Arthur everyday but get no answer out of him, in fact, it had already became a habit of hers to barge into his room every morning .

"Hey! Aren't you going to confes- oh thank you . "

She stopped mid-sentence and thanked him as he served her some tea . Upon realizing that, her face reddened but she still enjoyed the hot tea .

Though he wasn't talkative, she, more or less, started understanding his character .

"You, who was pampered since you were young, what do you know about having enemies? You must suffer and learn the hard way to understand why all enemies must be killed, no matter how insignificant they are . "

Shu Ru was a little startled by his words but soon snapped out of it and said

"So you admit killing Visto?"

"What if I do? Are you going to run to your grandfather and tell him?"

"..."

The girl silently gazed at him, she had an angry expression .

"Why did you do that?"

Arthur shrugged his shoulders and said

"Why you ask? Because he's an enemy . "

"Enemy? You two barely interacted!"

"Even a small wound can cause death if it's not treated properly . I would rather get rid of a potential enemy then wait for him to grow stronger or try to trap me . "

The girl stomped her foot in anger and retorted

"Still!! That was too excessive, you could have punished him severely, why resort to murder . "

As if he understood something, Arthur smirked and added:

"I see... you've never killed someone . "

Her body slightly trembled upon hearing his words . At first, she tried to deny his words but her expression betrayed her .

"You act calm and composed but you're just a naive girl, after all . In comparison, Jian Si is much better than you in that aspect . "

"Jian Si? Cold Sword?"

Shocked by his swords, Shu Ru looked at him with a strange gaze .

"How do you know her?"

Arthur crossed his arms and replied

"Well, that's my business . "

Again, Shu Ru snorted and darted out of the room, clearly unhappy . Arthur paid her no heed and picked an old journal, carefully reading it .

This one Zodiak's journal, one which was long and covered many things . Although Arthur remembers it all, he still rereads when he has nothing to do .

The reason he's spending his days nonchalantly is because he's waiting for Gutcha . The Pigolo needs some time to find the second place and everything needs to be on place before he starts acting again .

Eleven days passed since he arrived to the Mirage Era Hall sect and trying to leave now would make Athard suspicious . He wasn't afraid of the Patriarch but from the old monster protecting the tombs .

'Dark Magic is not actually real magic nor is it the materialization of an elemental energy . To be more specific, it's emotions, negative ones . Instead of relying on natural attributes, I rely on emotions which are converted into Dark Magic through Dark Mana . Quite strange, I know, however, that's what makes it unique and unstoppable . Through many battles, I concluded that it can resist Void Magic and even Faith Magic . At first, I relied on anger to use Dark Magic but it isn't that easy... I was never explained how such a powerful magic was born...'

How come he didn't know everything about despite being its creator?

Hearing this, Claud laughed and retorted

"The God Race didn't know the full potential of Humans when they created them . Just because you create something, you don't necessarily know everything about it . "

•••

In a secret room deep inside the Golden Hall of the Mirage Era Hall sect . Athard stood before two figures, both wore black clothes that covered their faces and bodies . They looked like assassins and not weak ones at that .

"The payment had been deposited . "

The two individuals nodded while saying

"The target will be found within two days at most . "

They vanished soon after, leaving only Athard in that small room . He unconsciously tapped his finger on the table while pondering about something .

He spent a hefty sum to hire two experts of the most dangerous organization in the three universes combined . It's not the strongest but definitely the most dangerous .

It's composed of only assassins and only filthy rich people can hire them . In fact, the price he had to pay just to locate the culprit is equal to 10% of his sect's yearly income .

He hired them to find him, as for killing him, the price is just too much . He was certain that whoever murdered his son will meet a miserable fate at his hand, it's only a matter of time .

Chapter 379

"Two months from now on, the Space Dragon's realm will open . "

Arthur listened to the talkative Shu Ru while enjoying the view through the window .

"It's one of the few remaining adult dragons . Apparently, it's giving birth so its realm will be weakened thus allowing outsiders to enter . "

He glanced at her excited face and retorted

"And why is that so exciting?"

Seeing such a lack of reaction, Shu Ru pouted and said

"The treasures that were amassed by the dragon will make anyone greedy . "

Arthur scoffed and said

"Do you think it'll let you enter its lair and take its treasures?"

"Hmpf, lots of people will enter and it won't be able to resist them all even with its mighty power . Moreover, everyone's cultivation will be restricted . " "So it wrong to kill people but it's alright to barge in into a mother's home when she's giving birth?"

When she heard that, Shu Ru gave him a strange look and only spoke after a few seconds passed .

"You know... it's a dragon, it doesn't matter what happens to it . "

"Why? Only human lives are precious?"

"N-n"

Before she reply, Shu Ru found herself outside of the room, clearly kicked out by Arthur .

'Despite being one of the strongest races, dragons are regarded as evil . Obviously, such rumors are false and it's impossible to change people opinion about them . Just like they consider devils malevolent beings . Light is Holy and Humans are righteous while darkness is evil and other races are monsters, it's always been like this . Their mentality is rotten . They may show respect to powerful races but humans will always feel superior . '

Claud's voice rang inside Arthur's ears, who gave no comment . The copy paused for a split second before asking

'Do you plan to go there?'

He heard an almost immediate reply from Arthur:

"Why should I? It's dangerous and the probability of being discovered is high . "

Inside the ARK, Claud, who was sitting alone in this endless white space, let out a long sigh after hearing Arthur's answer . Absent-minded, he muttered

"Oh but you will... that's how the prophecy goes . "

•••

"So you're telling me you couldn't find him?"

Inside a gloomy room in a remote inn North-East of the city, there were four figures, three which were standing before a sitting old man .

The elder have a pale skin and wrinkles covered most of his face . A simple breeze may take his life or so it seemed . In fact, the old man was blind and looked so frail with his bent back and short height .

The one who talked just now was this old man, whose tone was strict and cold, frightening the three before him . The leader of this small group of three took one step forward and explained

"The death was peculiar . We couldn't even determine the cause . "

The blind old man leaned on the chair and retorted

"So you're telling me that not only did you have to pay double the price of this mission because you failed to find the culprit in two days but you also had the nerve to come here and tell me about your incompetence?"

Unfortunately, the three couldn't explain themselves as they suddenly fell on the ground, lifeless, each with a clean stab that finished their lives .

Time slowly passed yet the old man ignored the rotting corpses near him . After what seemed to be an eternity, he slowly got up and said to himself

"I guess I'll have to personally act . "

Just like a ghost, he disappeared from the room, taking with him the three bodies .

\*\*\*

The job which was supposed to be easy turned to be troublesome . It's quite rare for the Black Rose organization to fail which why they had a policy which made them return double the promised price in case of failure .

Black Rose wasn't the strongest organization in the multiverse but definitely the most dangerous . They are a bunch of expert assassins and hiring them costs a large sum of money . It doesn't matter if it's a mortal or a God Monarch, as long as they have enough money, they can hire those killers .

They mainly kill targets but in certain cases, they find a hidden person or go to a dangerous place to retrieve a treasure . Because the price they demand is simply outrageous, very few people are willing to employ them .

Athard, Visto's father, is one of those people. Though he was a bit disappointed when he heard nothing from the assassins he hired, on the fourth day, an old man appeared.

"If I don't find the target in three days the price you paid will be paid back tenfold . "

The identities of the top figures in the Black Rose organization are unknown, however, Athard became delighted as he certain the old man will definitely locate the murderer . Even though he was a God Monarch, he couldn't even measure the power of this frail and blind elder, which gave him confidence in the completion of the job .

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Three days later, right outside of the sect's gate, there stood a blind old man . He was like a wooden log, motionless and silent . After a long while, his eyes suddenly opened, showing two white pupils that didn't grant him vision but still showed him more than enough .

He saw Visto talking without the guard and a cloaked figure . He saw the young master attacking then being flung back . The moment he was sent flying, the old man caught a glimpse of a chilling and ominous dark energy that invaded the young man's body .

Even some as experienced as him didn't know what that was but it wasn't easy to conclude the cause of the young man's death .

Arthur didn't retaliate and merely stood still, this made the old man wonder how Visto got infected by that poison and dark energy. Despite his special eyes, he wasn't able to see the Dark Barrier nor could it see the acting Tri-Spirit.

The old man gazed at Arthur for a few more minutes before he closed his eyes again and disappeared from that area .

\*\*\*\*\*

As Arthur was relaxing in his room, as usual, both his senses and his map alerted showed an unusual reaction . A red dot appeared at the edge of the map, however, the dot didn't move toward him .

He could feel a gaze directed at him, though it had some killing intent, it wasn't that threatening . Seeing this, Arthur frowned at first then closed the book in his hand while saying

"Since you're here, why not join me here?"

He seemed to be talking to himself as no one answered him . Only when Arthur turned his head and stared at the source of the gaze did the other party spoke

"Hahaha I don't want to impose . "

Arthur, who was supposed to be smiling, suddenly had a change of expression . He stretched his hand toward the air and grabbed it . Using Space Magic, he grabbed the space around the 'guest', wanting to bring him to this room .

Unfortunately, his attempt was unsuccessful . He wasn't able to get hold of his target, which vanished and reappeared in another place .

"I'm not stupid enough to enter your room . "

"Oh?"

Arthur was momentarily surprised before smirking and adding:

"So you can see it?"

The other voice remained silent before laughing and answering him

"Hahaha being blind has its perks . "

Though blind, he could sense a dangerous energy lurking inside that room . It's like it became Arthur's lair, a foot inside would seal his fate . He was confident in his abilities but to walk into the trap of an enemy with unknown strength is plain stupid and suicidal .

Just as the old mans sensed, Arthur's room was drastically changed . Of course, it looked exactly the same but the amount of Death Energy inside would frighten anyone .

That's while excluding the traps he laid everywhere around him . Inside this room, Arthur was sure of his safety . He spent most of his last few days in leisure but the Tri-Spirit did a good job at protecting him .

Shu Ru could enter since she was harmless but any other person would have to think twice . Using its strong Earth Magic, the Earth Spirit made it hard for a God to even take a step inside . A Sovereign may be able to move but fighting is impossible .

Only a God Monarch will be able to slightly resist it but it'll still weaken him and make him spend an extra effort to get rid of it .

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Both parties refused to move which resulted in a long silence . Arthur saw the visitor was still within the range of his map . As for the blind man, he didn't dare to get close to Arthur's room .

Moreover, his job was to find the murderer and not to kill him so risking his life just to chat isn't worth it . An enigma like Arthur is someone to befriend rather provoke which is why he's here instead of somewhere else, telling Athard the truth .

If possible, he even wanted to rope Arthur to Black Rose . His means are ruthless and fatal, to bring such a dangerous person to the organization would benefit him greatly .

The Black Rose organization didn't need loyal people but to strong ones . If they want to join, they're forced to swallow some kind of mechanical bug that will kill the person if breaks one of the rules . It's dangerous but the rewards are plentiful and generous, unfortunately, they lack capable personnel so they're always seeking candidates such as Arthur .

The old man wasn't confident in convincing Arthur especially after seeing his cautious attitude . After an hour or so passed, the elder decided to back off . He still is unsure about Arthur's strength and wanted to test him so he went to Athard .

•••

"Are you sure?"

Athard's eyes flashed with a murderous glint . He didn't even try to hide his expression as he clenched his fists in rage . As for the blind old man, he soon excused himself without adding a single word .

He successfully completed his job and all that's left is to watch from the sidelines .

The Patriarch didn't waste any second as he went to meet the Grand Elder . Unlike him, Shu Ru's grandfather was rather calm and composed even when he saw Athard unsightly expression .

"I found the bastard!"

Seeing the seriousness of Athard, the Grand Elder glanced at him and answered

"And who is it?"

"It's the man your granddaughter brought . "

The Grand Elder didn't seem particularly surprised as he nodded his head but said nothing . Athard became momentarily confused before glaring at the Grand Elder, clearly demanding an explanation .

"I'm still investigating his background . It's better to remain still for now . "

"Why wait?! He cannot escape as long as he's here . "

The old man frowned and retorted

"Are you sure about that? This time, Ru'er brought a tiger to our den... and not a docile one, at that . "

Athard wasn't pleased with what he heard, he snorted and angrily left the room, clearly not agreeing to what the Grand Elder said .

Unfortunately, just as the Patriarch left, another figure appeared near the old man . He was wearing a dark cloak that covered his whole body, including his face .

He sat next to the old man and removed his hood then said

"I didn't expect you to remember me, hahahaha"

As if he was still a child, the old man cheerfully took out exquisite golden leaves and began preparing tea from himself and the guest .

"Hehehe how can I not? Though you looked a bit different when we first met, I would never forget your Dark Magic . "

The man sitting beside the Grand Elder was the spitting image of Arthur . The only difference is his short grey hair and his healed eye . One more eye-catching thing is the two long black sheaths hanging on his waist .

"Enough with such a boring topic . How are things lately?"

The old man poured some of this calming tea to Arthur while chuckling

"I'm already one foot into the grave . I'm just spending the rest of my days in relaxation . "

After sipping some of the hot tea and enjoying its flavor, Arthur stared at the Grand Elder and said:

"You're as energetic as ever, how can you have one foot in the grave . Back when we first met, you were a crybaby yet here you are trying to be wise hahaha"

The old man coughed a few times in embarrassment and quickly changed the topic . The two talked for a long time before Arthur suddenly looked to the roof and furrowed his brows .

Noticing this, the old man was about to say something when he suddenly felt chills ran down his spines . The colorful room they were in transformed into a mix of black and white as three malevolent things appeared from nothingness .

With transparent bodies and decaying flesh, their appearance was creepy and grotesque as their upper body resembled a rotten corpse and the lower part was similar to a ghost .

"Tsk!"

Arthur clicked his tongue and vanished almost instantaneously . He was left with no choice but to hastily leave this place . The Grand Elder and didn't know what's going on, only when his heart calmed down did he notice that his friend left .

•••

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A few days later, on the base of a sky-high mountain, precisely inside a beautiful courtyard that was usually empty, Losha was scolding Lucy, who was silently meditating .

Five lotuses span around her and every time she tried to form the sixth one, she would fail and receive the berating of her temporary master .

She had advanced in her Nine Star Yin technique in such a short time and her control over her Physique significantly rose but Losha wasn't pleased and continued to train her day and night .

At the top of this mountain which was actually floating above the clouds, there stood a dark-cloaked man who stared at the two women in silence .

He was motionless and shrouded in darkness, unable to be seen .

"Continue to circulate your Mana, first the fingers, hands, arms . Be precise!"

Losha turned around and left the courtyard, leaving Lucy, who never protested and meticulously trained

A few moments later, Losha appeared a distance away from the figure at the peak of the mountain . She looked around her, searching for something .

"I don't know who you are but if you don't scram then I-"

Before she could finish, something occurred a few meters away from her . Ominous darkness appeared out of nowhere and from within it appeared a cloaked man .

Since he had his hood down, Losha recognized him the moment she laid eyes on him .

"You are... Arthur?"

She intensely stared him and although the appearance was similar, the aura was totally different . In fact, she felt threatened by his presence, unlike their last meeting .

"Indeed, you're really strong . "

Commented Arthur as he inspected Losha .

Losha wanted to ask him what's he doing here but her expression drastically changed as she seemed to sense something .

She looked at the grey sky and spoke with a grave tone

"This feeling... it's Time Wraiths! You time traveled?"

"Hahaha you can never fool a reincarnator . "

Arthur smiled and then resumed talked after a momentary pause

"You're doomed . "

Losha said those words as if they were an absolute fact . Her expression became a bit strange as she stared back at him .

"I need you to go somewhere and protect it until I come back . "

Before she could talk, Arthur added:

"No need to argue or refuse, farewell . "

He threw a letter and a scroll at her, the woman unconsciously caught them and only after he disappeared, leaving a bloodied arm on the grand did she snap out of her daze.

He wasn't attacked but intentionally left it as a second later, Time Wraiths appeared and leapt at the bloody arm, sucking everything out of it until it turned into black ash that dispersed soon after .

The thing that dumbfounded her was the scroll which was actually a Fate Contract . Moreover, she signed it herself which means she agreed to follow the conditions .

After thoroughly checking the contract she read the contents of the letter and became more flabbergasted .

•••

Arthur remained inside his room for a few more days before finally leaving it . He transformed the Dark Cloud into a clone identical to him and possessed a rotten corpse of a rat before drilling into the groom and leaving the capital . His destination was the Mountain Ba sword sect .

He needs to meet with Jian Si and inquire about the missing prince and princess. They had to be kidnapped by someone and with her status, finding them shouldn't be that difficult, especially after giving her enough time to do so.

Arthur went unnoticed as he left the Mirage Era Hall Sect and kept traveling underground until he arrived at the mountain range belonging to Cold Sword's sect .

His Stealth skills are unparalleled to the point that even a God Monarch would have difficulties finding him . With the Space Bender title and his maxed Stealth skills, it'll be pretty much impossible to attract attention unless done purposely .