Once Human 381

Chapter 381

Very soon, Arthur to the long mountain range . The security was as tight as the Mirage Era Hall sect, however, he wasn't worried as he continued traveling underground .

He didn't know where exactly Cold Sword could be so he decided to search for a unique mountain where the density of Nether Energy is higher than the rest. She's the top disciple here and she seemed to be the lonely type so if she's not adventuring in the outside world, she must be meticulously training atop her mountain.

Unlike the Mirage Era Hall Sect, the Mountain Ba Sword sect had a larger territory but lesser disciples . Though, all disciples seemed to be decently strong and were all sword-users .

Arthur had long since noticed a central mountain where its peak pierced the clouds yet he didn't approach it . It must be an important place of the sect and he didn't come here to stir trouble .

"I heard that Cold Sword is going to venture inside the dragon's lair that's about to open soon . "

Two disciples were mumbling to each other with a low voice . They were careful as to not let anybody hear them albeit being in a very remote place .

Unfortunately, Arthur was just a couple of meters under their feet and he could perfectly hear them .

"No way, I heard she's stuck in an important bottleneck and hasn't come out of seclusion since last year . "

The two kept talking for a while but most of what said seemed to be rumors . Arthur carefully listened and only departed when the topic was switched .

Many deadly sword formations were laid around the mountain range, however, they weren't able to affect Arthur, who easily avoided them using his eye's ability .

As the sect's territory was considerably big, Arthur spent half a day searching one mountain after another until he found his target .

Jian Si's mountain was actually in a secluded area, almost outside of the sect's territory. The mountain stood alone as its peak was extremely high and the fog around it barred the view of the top.

After making sure no one here except for Jian Si, Arthur cautiously made his way toward her peak . There was no sword formation the mountain so he advanced unhindered .

The girl was silently swinging her sword at the top of the mountain. It was a simple movement yet very efficient. In fact, her sword essence resembled Arthur's. It lacked the dark flames or the ominous aura of the Dark Magic but it still emitted a dangerous pressure, ruthless and full of thick murderous aura.

Her appearance matured since the last time they met . Her dark hair became much longer and she grew a bit taller though her face was a cold and expressionless as ever .

Moreover, she already became a 5th Grade God, which is a very good achievement . She was even stronger than Shu Ru, in terms of cultivation, that is .

If the two girls were to fight, no one would know who would come out victorious . Shu Ru may have a lower cultivation but her Physique can allow her to leapfrog a few grades .

As an experienced killer, Jian Si had a very sensitive Godly Sense and very high awareness but she wasn't able to discover Arthur .

Only when a strange rat appeared next to him did she react . Her swinging sword hastily changed direction and went straight at the rat .

Though it was a rat, the feeling she got from it was familiar yet dangerous so she attacked without hesitation .

Unfortunately, her attack was easily blocked as the rat vanished and was replaced by a tall silver-haired man who held her sword with two fingers .

"Still hot-blooded . "

The girl withdrew her sword and snorted, clearly angry to see her attack fail so miserably . She stared at Arthur and noticed a few changes, for example, the absence of the chains and the scar on his eye .

'He seems to be way stronger than before .'

Though their exchange was short, just from looking at him, Jian Si knew Arthur was several times stronger than five years ago .

"So you finally remembered that you have a student?"

While shrugging, Arthur replied

"I was busy . "

The girl snorted again and resumed swinging her sword, totally ignoring Arthur . Since he still had ample free time, he sat cross-legged a distance away from her and entered meditation .

It has been exactly one month since Lucy started training under Losha . Her cultivation was sealed so that she doesn't advance quickly and ruin herself, or so said her master .

She still wasn't able to create the 6th lotus, however, her control over the Pure Yin Physique significantly increased . She was able to unleash 60% of its power . Furthermore, Losha bestowed her a powerful movement technique perfectly compatible with her .

This movement technique was extremely hard to learn but granted her many benefits . Her soft white saber also received an upgrade and became more powerful and suited for a Sovereign .

It became shorter but sharper, plus, Lucy was given yet another technique . This technique was actually Saber Arts .

It is called The Dancing Flame Saber Arts and the requirements to learn it are very steep . In fact, Even after training for a whole month, coupled with her talent, Lucy was only able to reach minor success in it

Nonetheless, it suited her magma and fire attributes and greatly strengthened them . Her arsenal grew bigger and she was getting stronger by the day .

Losha, who was in her workshop, busy fixing Makaze, was sweating profusely as the temperature of the room was extremely high, moreover, she was mentally and physically tired .

To fix Makaze was no easy feat, in fact, it was much harder than she expected . Fortunately, she had the necessary materials to repair it but the energy needed was humongous, to say the least .

Losha thought it'll take her a week at most but even after one month, she was still not over .

'I'm finally done with this damn blade!'

She was almost done repairing the silent blade, which started acting strange since yesterday. Its sheath was releasing an absurd amount of black flames while Makaze was vibrating intensely as it emanated a strange and ominous dark fog that was forcefully repelled by Losha.

Even someone as strong as her, was starting feeling anxious after feeling the rising pressure of the Dark Blade . She even hesitated a few times and wanted to stop repairing it . Once the final touch is done, she feared something will happen, not her but to the workshop and the whole floating mountain .

The blade was getting restless and a fourth of the workshop was started to get corrupted by the spreading Dark Magic .

The blacksmith's body turned into a diamond, shining as she pressed her hand on the dark blade and banged her hammer on its sharp edges .

Time slowly passed but to Losha's surprise, the hand that was holding down the blade became bloodied and jet black . The darkness inside the diamond was dreadful and wanted to spread to all her body .

Formless Nether Energy appeared from her Dantian to her hand, pushing out the Dark Magic . The process was incredibly slow, startling Losha .

'Just what the hell is this blade?'

Even a Cursed Sword wouldn't make her anxious like this . The combination of the blade and Dark Magic was simply too dangerous . It bypassed her Physique and even injured her just by touching it .

She couldn't even imagine what it'll do if it was wielded by Arthur . The hammer kept banging on the blade for a few more hours before finally stopping .

No more a broken blade, Makaze emitted a loud howl that reverberated to all directions, startling Lucy and Losha . The surroundings of the floating mountain turned into absolute darkness, blocking everyone's view .

In a split second, Losha's world was replaced by encroaching darkness that made someone like her helpless .

"What's going on?"

"You did a good job . "

A cold voice rang in her ears . Just as the voice was heard, the darkness vanished and everything returned to normal . The usually composed Losha was dumbstruck, she even forgot to breathe as she stared at the person standing in front of her .

Her eyes contained shock and fear, even a reincarnator like herself couldn't lift a finger in front of the person in front of her .

He was clad in jet black armor and had a thick black sword on his back . A skin as white as snow and two jet black pupils, even his hair was completely dark . He was the epitome of strength, the most powerful existence in the three universes, the Nameless Knight .

The woman didn't even dare speak, someone of her status obviously knew the Nameless Knight . Not only she knew him, she knew what he's capable of . .

Though she had a Fate Contract with Arthur, she wasn't courageous enough to stop the knight from taking Makaze, if he wished to do so .

Someone like him could finish her before she could make a move, the disparity was just too big . She's feared by many and even Overgods don't dare to anger her yet in this multiverse, none dares to talk back or provoke the Nameless Knight . Whatever he wants, he gets, fortunately, he usually disappears for a long time, whenever he appears, everyone becomes docile .

The strong factions or powerful individuals become obedient like children, like 'X', for example .

"A favor must be paid back . Just like he gave me my blade, I shall hand him his . "

The Nameless Knight uttered those words before grabbing Makaze, which wanted to rebel and attack this man only to become motionless, unable to resist the hand that was grabbing it .

Just like he appeared, the knight vanished without leaving trace, leaving a pale-faced Losha, who fell on her butt as her knees grew weak .

Chapter 382

After conversing with Jian Si for a while, Arthur came to know of the whereabouts of the princess . As he expected, she was abducted by Vyncent's sect, the Golden Earth Sect . They were once a powerful sect but after a fallout with several other sect, they were half-destroyed, dropping to a second-grade power .

They still had powerful individuals but it shouldn't be hard for Arthur to retrieve the girl, who's still alive, fortunately.

The reason several sects ganged up against the Golden Earth Sect is due to its sinister techniques . They require young females, virgins especially, which are sacrificed in some kind of a ritual to strengthen the disciples there . They require an astronomical amount of females so they began hoarding mortal cities and towns, abducting every female . This angered the local powers which forced it to submission .

Right now, the sect secretly sends its disciples to kidnap a few females, any exposure is met with death sentence . No matter the cost, they must not let anyone know of their mission . This explains why Vyncent and his comrades were especially careful .

Speaking of that young man, Arthur was wondering if he's still alive . He's one sly bastard, however, he had to admit that he's an interesting fellow . Last time, he didn't hesitate to turn tail and flee when he saw him .

Since Arthur was busy fighting an elder from the Golden Earth Sect, he couldn't chase after the swift young man .

Vyncent knew when to act and when to be obedient, he only believes in survival and has no loyalty whatsoever .

Furthermore, his special technique is fascinating, to say the least . It allowed him to melt into the ground and travel with insane speed, it even left Arthur in awe .

Syth was still missing and even Cold Sword couldn't locate him, however, his little sister is a servant in the Golden Earth Sect . Servants are literally slaves which follow every order of the disciples . Not only are they forced to do rough labor work, they are forced to satisfy the sexual desires of any of the disciples .

Lisa must have been living miserably ever since she was abducted . Fortunately, she was considered one of the defects so she wasn't sacrificed in the ritual .

"So, why didn't you go retrieve her?"

Arthur coldly stared at Jian Si while expecting an answer . Compared to the Golden Earth Sect, the Mountain Ba Sword sect is a behemoth, even if she were to go knocking at their door and cause trouble, they wouldn't dare attack her or be discourteous .

"The Golden Earth is located far South of the Green-Leaf World, precisely inside of the dangerous zones . Unless you know that place like the back of your hand, you won't be able to enter . "

Arthur remained silent as he pondered about what to do . There's a bit more than two months before Makaze is repaired, or so was the limit as per the conditions of the Fate contract .

Although it's not a powerful sect, there's bound to be a God Monarch or two inside the sect and that's while disregarding the Sovereigns .

If he had Makaze, he would be confident in annihilating it, unfortunately, he doesn't . Moreover, Lucy is training so she can't accompany him .

Nonetheless, Arthur still decided to go . If he wanted to escape, none could stop him . Plus, he had Rizaki and the Heavenly Arrows, which can cause absolute destruction .

He was strong against large masses, especially with his racial abilities, which allowed him to fool the enemy .

Cold Sword noticed Arthur's silence, she frowned and said

"Don't tell me you plan to go?"

Without turning to look at her, Arthur replied

"I may not be a good person but I can keep a promise, at least . "

He truly considered the deceased Human Emperor his friend . He once promised him that he'll take care of his children if something were to happen .

Not only were they kidnapped, Lisa is surely suffering in that sect right now . The ARK showed him that he had 75% chance of retrieving Lisa and leaving alive .

The ARK's calculations took into account all his abilities stats and the speculated cultivation of his enemies .

"I will come with you . "

Seeing her showing a resolute look, Arthur shook his head and mocked

"So now you want to go? I don't need you . "

Truthfully, seeing her character, Arthur thought that she'll diligently look for the two missing people . However, seeing the results, he was really disappointed .

It seems Jian Si only focused on cultivating and only spared a bit of effort to inquire about Lisa and Syth .

"I-it's not like I could barge in and immediately locate the sect . You have to understand that not everyone is like you . "

The girl wanted to argue with him only to receive a retort that made her shut her mouth for good .

"Still, with your sect's power . It wouldn't be that hard to enter that zone and locate the sect . "

What he said was absolutely true . Cold Sword was never a person who relies on her sect's influence so she never considered such an option, which left her momentarily speechless .

Before she could talk again, Arthur had already disappeared, leaving her alone.

After a long while, the girl snorted and mumbled

"Hmpf! Syth or whatever... It's just a kid! I'll find him!"

At first, Arthur wanted to use Athard's anger and rage to trick him into thinking that he belongs to the Golden Earth Sect . However, seeing how far the sect is, the Patriarch won't dispatch a lot of people to track him .

Athard was by no means hot-headed, if he were, he would have attacked him the moment he knew he was the culprit. His patience and quietness were surprising and a bit worrying. He was surely plotting something but since Arthur disappeared from his sect, he could only try to locate him.

The distance between the Imperial Capital and the Golden Earth Sect is quite big . Even with Arthur's speed, it'll take him some time to arrive .

As he was in a bit of a hurry, Arthur avoided flying in the air and transformed into a bolt of lightning which flew in a straight line a few centimeters above ground .

This yellow bolt of lightning had a speed that made practically unnoticeable . He bypassed a lot of traveling cultivators but they never caught wind of him or heard anything .

If he took the speedy Red Spirit Boat in his possession, it would have taken him eight to nine days to arrive . Since Arthur decided to rely on his absolute speed and his special skill which doubled his agility when he's a bolt of lightning, he arrived in only two days .

However, that's only because he used [Griffin's Bloody Switch], temporarily converting all of his Strength into Agility .

The dangerous zone that's situated at the South of the Green-Leaf World is called Red Seismic Volcano . It's the lair of a powerful Snake that lived for thousands of years .

Few dare to trespass into its territory, as for the Golden Earth Sect, it was ignored by the snake, for some unknown reason .

Arthur stared at the humongous mountain which had black smoke coming from a large hole in its peak . It has been a long time since this volcano erupted, however, last time it did, the damage it did, it caused a fierce earthquake that damaged the whole world .

The mountain spanned for a few kilometers and the more you climbed, the higher the temperature . Moreover, Arthur noticed the presence of various monsters that are Fire-oriented . They were dangerous to normal cultivators, especially the few God Beasts that are silently lurking in some cave or underground .

Even when he spread his senses in all directions, Arthur was unable to locate the hidden sect . For that reason, he hid inside a strange marked tree and patiently waited .

This tree is like a sign and since he doesn't know how to enter the sect, he'll find someone who does .

Fortunately, the wait wasn't long at all, a silhouette appeared from the horizon, running straight at the mountain. As he possessed the tree, which has no eyes, Arthur wasn't able to see this person, however, his Sixth Sense allowed him to immediately guess the person's identity.

Although he was handsome, his current state was strange . He looked rugged, dirt-covered his clothes and he even reeked of blood .

This young man was none other than Vyncent .

'It is truly a small world .'

Arthur chuckled as he left the tree and gazed at this familiar face, who turned green then white from fear and surprise . Never did Vyncent think Arthur would suddenly pop in front of him like this .

Of course, he never doubted that he'll come back and raid his sect, however, he never thought it'll be like this, right now .

"S-senior . "

The young man stuttered as he tried his best to greet Arthur with a friendly smile . His expression was ugly to behold, his smile was forced and looked creepy rather than friendly .

"We meet again, Vyncent . "

The young man chuckled and kept a polite attitude as he asked

"W-what brings senior h,here?"

Arthur stared back at the young man, trying to read his expression . He could hear Vyncent's accelerating heartbeat . He was nervous and afraid . He hadn't heard anything from Arthur for five years and despite knowing that, some day, he'll become back, he didn't expect it to be so soon .

Fortunately, he had long since prepared himself and swore to never anger or provoke this dangerous man before him .

"Obviously because I'm searching for a certain someone . "

As if expecting to hear that, Vyncent said:

"Y-yes yes! I know who you're looking for . "

Arthur furrowed his brows when he heard that . Last time he asked, Vyncent said that he didn't know who or where Lisa was .

"Don't get me wrong, Senior! The girl you're looking for was indeed abducted by my sect but I only discovered her after returning . "

"So she's safe?"

Vyncent continuously nodded his head and truthfully answered

"Yes! She's safe and sound . I've taken her as my personal servant and she wasn't the least bit hurt . "

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Vyncent was confused as Arthur kept staring at him .

"What are you waiting for? Lead the way . "

Only then did Vyncent start moving . Unbeknown to him, Arthur, who disappeared, is actually hiding inside his body so he won't be discovered .

The young man followed a very specific path, going in circles and tapping random trees . Only after twenty-minutes did he reach the sect's territory .

The environment changed drastically as Vyncent was transferred from the surface to underground, where a beautiful city made of purely Stones and clay laid before him .

It was majestic, to say the least, and from the design to the sturdiness of the buildings, Arthur was sure that this was a legacy of a past power and not the doing of the Golden Earth Sect .

This underground area was wide and spanned for at least three kilometers . The buildings slightly resembled Earth's . They were tall and transformed this place into a literal golden city .

In fact, this city didn't pale in comparison to the Imperial Capital . Arthur, who thought it's going to be easy feat, started changing his plans and becoming warier .

He doesn't know how the Golden Earth Sect stumbled upon this city or how they set that illusory formation which hid them from the public but one thing is for certain, they aren't merely lunatics that sacrifice virgin females .

Apparently, Vyncent's status was a bit higher than normal disciples for they treated him politely and wish utmost respect .

The young man would glance behind him every now and then, searching for any sign of Arthur, unfortunately, he was met with nothing but air which left him feeling helpless .

His cultivation was low so he couldn't even notice the foreign presence inside his body. Very soon, the young man arrived inside a moderate-sized building. Unlike other top disciples, his residence was empty except of one servant, who wasn't treated like a servant.

As luck would have it, Vyncent, who was expecting to see Lisa, found no one waiting for him, which left him looking around with a sense of foreboding. It is the first time this happens and his reactions were clearly noticed by Arthur, who frowned.

Claud, who was also witnessing this, laughed and mocked Arthur .

"I told you, wherever you go, problems arise . It isn't about luck anymore, it's the machination of Time, Fate, and Death, three of which you tricked . "

Arthur sighed and came out of Vyncent's body, startling the latter . The young man tried to keep a composed face as he

"Where is she?"

Although he knew what the answer is going to be, Arthur still asked, hoping he was wrong .

Truth is always harsh, the words that came out of Vyncent's mouth were like a confirmation of Claud's words .

"Most likely brought to sacrificial altar . The elders asked me to hand over as her Constitution became perfect for a sacrifice but since I refused, they didn't dare to forcefully take it . I still don't think they'll snatch her away like this . The only one capable of doing this is probably the top disciple of our sect . "

"I don't want to hear pointless talk . What's his name and where is he?"

Despite his interest in this city and what it hides, Arthur decided to schedule his search for later . His main priority is getting Lisa .

If he had Makaze with him, he'd have complete confidence and wouldn't act as cautious as now . Vyncent already told him that the leader of the sect is a Peak God Monarch .

He's a powerful existence but compared to the still-living ancestor of the Mirage Era Hall, for example, he's nothing more than an ant .

Vyncent pondered for a few seconds before replying

"I don't think he'll dare to sacrifice her in the sect . He's probably hiding within the mountain as the Earth Energy is extremely pure and thick, benefiting him greatly and facilitating the sacrifice process .

"Isn't the mountain the territory of the flame snake?"

Vyncent nodded while adding

"Yes but our sect has an agreement with that lord . It'll get rid of unwelcome invaders and we'll provide it with Pure Flame Crystals which greatly strengthen it . "

In a place called Fountain of Paradise, where everything is peaceful. Nether Energy was abundant in this place and it was breath-taking, to say the least. It's a small secret Realm that only a few visited over the course of a hundred-thousand year.

No one would be lying if they said this place was akin to Heaven . With the healing and sweet water of the rivers to the nutritious fruits that can allow a Mortal to jump to the Spirit Realm .

Two figures appeared a distance from a large waterfall . One was clad in jet black armor and the other was a dark-haired woman, who looked around in surprise .

"Where are we?"

As she saw the peacefulness and calmness of this place, the woman curiously asked the Nameless Knight, whose gaze was focused under the waterfall, precisely on a silhouette which enjoyed the high pressure of the falling water .

"We're here to pick another variable . "

The silhouette immediately noticed their presence, she stood up and walked up to them . This person was taller than both the knight and the region ruler, she had a perfect body with some apparent muscles . What's distinctive about her is her white tail and fluffy-looking fox ears . Her pupils were blue, just like the sky, adding more points to her exceptional beauty .

The Nameless Knight softly smiled as he said

"I assume you know why I'm here?"

The region ruler stared at this tall woman in amazement . Despite being she's the ruler of death and can't die, she still felt a bit threatened by the other's formless and mythical aura .

Suddenly, the Death Empress looked around in anxiousness as she seemed to sense something . Out of the nothingness, Time Wraiths that were half illusory appeared and flew straight at her with extreme speed .

There were fifteen Time Wraiths, however, they stopped fifty meters away from the region ruler as they slowly circled around her while emitting loud and creepy howls.

They didn't dare get close to the death region ruler with the presence of the Nameless Knight, who glanced at them for a second before raising a finger, causing some kind of black whirlpool to appear and instantaneously suck all the Time Wraiths before they could even retaliate .

The three didn't linger any longer, the Nameless Knight waved his hand, disappearing from that heavenly place and taking with him the two other women .

Inside a dark and gloomy room, there was a thick and almost nauseating smell of blood . This smell originated from a bloody pool in the center of this room . Several strange candles that had white flames were scattered around the pool .

Loud and pitiful cries were coming from a short person that was meditating inside of this pool . Upon a closer look, this short person was actually Saly!

Her body was scarred as she screamed loudly due to the agonizing pain she was feeling . Unfortunately for her, each time she began screaming, an overwhelming pressure that caused her even more unimaginable pain would assault her . This pain was followed by this set of words

"Didn't you say you want to get stronger? Spend the time you're crying and shouting in meditation . Learn the flow of energy, understand the elements and accept the pain because without it, you're nothing but an empty shell!"

A berating voice would resound in this small room, which was devoid of illumination except for the candles, which weren't meant to illuminate but to strengthen the power of the blood inside the pool.

Although she heard him, Saly couldn't help it as she wailed so loud that her voice became hoarse . Never did she feel such a pain, it was excruciating, to say the least .

Even for a tough person like herself, who went through a lot of hardships . This pain was slowly making her crazy .

"To become stronger, first hone the mind then train the body . "

The paled-faced young man who introduced himself as Leiu, sat before the pool, staring at the suffering little girl . Only after a while did he leave the room, heading toward a courtyard where there's nothing but a few jet black trees .

Actually, it could barely be called a courtyard, it resembled a miniature world of darkness that had a sun illuminating it .

Leiu calmly strode toward a large wolf that was made from Blue lightning . Astrith's size grew bigger as red and purple lightning revolved around him, creating a menacing sight .

Unfazed and uninterested by such a sight, Leiu said

"So you managed to find your way here . "

"Who are you and what do you want from Saly?"

Astrith was visibly angry and hostile toward Leiu .

The young man shrugged his shoulder and shifted the topic

"Since you're Arthur's first real bound companion . I shall summon mine . Defeat it and I'll answer your questions . "

Just as he said that, Leiu muttered:

"Heed my call, King of Shadows, Milkan!"

From within the absolute darkness, a creature of shadows appeared . With a body slightly bigger than Astrith and an appearance that would even make Gods pale with fright . With a body like a lion yet different, a broad back and a black skin .

Without even waiting for Astrith to react, Milkan jumped at the wolf and spun his body, hitting him with his tail and sending the lightning wolf flying far, far away. The King of Shadows didn't just wait there, after landing the first hit, he merged with the non-existent shadows of this world and appeared next to Astrith...

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"Master, you must kill that snake!"

The Earth Spirit, who merged with the newborn Spirit, talked for the first time in a long time. Ever since it secured its life and became much stronger by becoming a Tri-Spirit, it became satisfied and no longer tried to cause trouble to Arthur.

In fact, it already acknowledged him as its master . Hearing it talk, Arthur was startled before saying

'Why?'

"If it can rule such a dangerous place then it must be old . It must have lived for more than twenty thousand years . If I can absorb its core, not only would it strengthen me, it can significantly raise your cultivation . "

Arthur remained silent, pondering about to do . It's quite risky to try and kill the snake, if that's even possible . The lord of this place is surely strong, strong enough to make the leader of the Golden Earth Sect offer him crystals for protection .

However, the rewards are enticing, to say the least . He had been stuck in the God Realm for long enough . He needs to rush to Sovereign Realm before doom comes knocking on his door .

Upon becoming a Sovereign, he has two Divine Beasts to possess along with the ancestors of the Mirage Era Hall and that's excluding the other normal corpses laying in his storage .

His power would spike and the probability of defending against the White Specter Clan will increase .

"It is a good opportunity but don't rush your decision . Get the girl first . "

Claud joined the conversation but didn't much . After uttering such words, he went back to being silent . As for Arthur, he thought things through and decided to follow Claud's advice . After all, his main priority should be Lisa .

Once he brings her into a safe place, he'll go back to kill the local snake, hopefully.

"I should be able suppress it with Gravity Magic and Death Storm . However, it'll be up to you to kill it . "

The Earth Spirit already planned everything out . Using its powerful Gravity Magic, it'll limit the snake's movement and weakened periodically with Death Magic . Since it'll be busy doing two things at once, Arthur will have to rely on his arsenal to finish the enemy .

Vyncent, who watched the silent Arthur with a bit of fear and confusion, chose to be quiet and wait for the other party to talk .

"Where do you think this 'top disciple' you spoke of is . "

Vyncent took but a moment to give an answer:

"It should be in the vicinities of the mountain . As I said earlier, the Earth Energy here is pure and thick, going further away will only limit the effects of the sacrifice . "

Arthur nodded his head and added:

"Alright let's go find him . If things get problematic, you'll bring her to the capital and hide their, understood?"

Before Vyncent could reply or react, decaying grey energy emanated from Arthur's hand and entered the young man's body. It felt as if an invisible hand of death that was grasping his heart, ready to burst it at any given moment.

Feeling the presence of Death inside his body, Vyncent's body momentarily trembled and looked at Arthur with a begging expression

"Understood?"

Vyncent is a person who places his own survival above everything else . Arthur had to make sure that Lisa is safe and the only way to do that is to threaten him so that if he dies, he dies with her .

No matter where he is, with but a thought from Arthur, Vyncent die .

Very soon, the two of them left the majestic city and headed toward the big mountain . Thanks to Vyncent, they bypassed the illusion formation and started searching for any signs of life .

Vyncent said that Arthur would feel strong fluctuation of Energy when they're closer to the place of sacrifice . Relying on his Sixth Sense and map, Arthur searched every nook and cranny .

The base of the mountain was wide and the area was big and dangerous even for Divine Beings . The God Beasts hiding there are extremely powerful and threatening .

If not for Arthur accompanying him, Vyncent wouldn't dare tread into this place . In fact, in more than one occasion, they would meet a Fire God Beast which will frighten poor lil' Vyncent .

To his absolute astonishment, before it could even leap at them, the God Beast would either lifelessly fall on the ground or turn into a bloody mist .

He didn't know how Arthur did it, but it was a swift and silent death . After one hour, more or less, the duo climbed half the mountain, which led to their encounters with the God Beasts to drastically increase .

Obviously, they were no threat to Arthur, who finally managed to sense something unusual .

At first, it was just a small feeling, however, the Earth Spirit, which is much more sensitive than him, confirmed his suspicions .

The Earth Spirit described it as a cyclone of Pure Earth Energy rising to the heavens . It was strengthening by the sect and it the place of the sacrifice was concealed by a powerful formation .

Arthur suddenly halted his steps and said

"You hide here . With my signal, you'll take her and immediately run . "

Vyncent nodded his head several times and melted in the ground .

"Be careful, the snake is overseeing the sacrifice too . I think it's beneficial for it too . "

'Tsk!'

Hearing this, Arthur clicked his tongue in annoyance and disappeared into nothingness . Using the Space Bender title, he entered a space dimension and approached the formation .

When he was close enough to see it with the [The All Seeing Eyes], he raised both of his hands, both of which emitted countless black lightning streaks that instantly enveloped the whole formation .

It took the Demonic Lightning fifteen seconds to completely shatter the formation and showing Arthur a marvelous sight .

The cyclone was bigger than the whole mountain, it dispersed the clouds and absorbed the Earth Energy in the surroundings .

The shattering of the formation alerted both the snake and the person who kidnapped Lisa . Arthur didn't waste any second, the moment he got rid of the formation, he flew straight at the disciple, arriving next to him almost instantaneously .

Though this top disciple of Golden Earth Sect was decently strong, being a 1st Grade God, he was no match for Arthur, who was like a reaper .

By the time the top disciple, who was actually a man in his twenties with long and golden hair, turned around to see what's going on, a Dark Spear already impaled him on the ground . He was dead within a second, which frightened the company he had .

Actually, this crafty disciple didn't only kidnap Lisa but also several others who are perfect for a mass sacrifice . If it had succeeded, he would have become a 7th or 8th Grade God, which would make him the strongest youngster in the Green-Leaf Realm .

The energy cyclone, which lost its controller, became chaotic and on the verge of dispersion .

"I think I can absorb it but I can't be disturbed . "

The Earth Spirit stated its intention and began channeling its powers . Like a vacuum, the golden Earth Energy was absorbed inside of Arthur .

The first dose made him breakthrough instantaneously, however, that was only the beginning . The problem was staying still and not disturbing the Earth Spirit, which is something easier said than done .

Arthur already spotted Lise and other girls . Half of them died and the other half were greatly weakened and unable to even lift a finger .

Like a ghost, Vyncent appeared from the ground and held Lisa before disappearing again, all in less than five seconds . As for the other girls, they wanted to beg him but he disappeared too quickly .

Arthur couldn't sacrifice a lot of energy to save each and every one of them but he was still able to give them a slight push .

With a wave of his hand, he mass-teleported them at the base of the mountain . It's up to their luck if they survive this disaster or not .

Literally a second after the girls were teleported away, the whole mountain violently shook . Arthur could feel a pair of venomous eyes stare at him from the peak of the mountain . Despite his immunity to fire, he could feel his body heating up .

A strange cubic was floating right next to him, it madly absorbed the earth energy. This was the Tri-Spirit, who left its master's body. He has to resist the snake and being inside his consciousness while he's fighting isn't optimal.

"I will need a minute, at most!"

The Earth Spirit said as he felt a looming presence cover the whole mountain . A gigantic shadow appeared from within the volcano at the peak of the mountain . With a length of over 200m and a thickness of 30m .

The snake was frightening and imposing, the pressure it emanated was overwhelming, causing Arthur to remember his fight against the Divine Beasts .

His cultivation has reached the 5th grade of God Realm and it showed no signs of stopping . With the absence of Makaze and the support of the Tri-Spirit, Arthur has to rely solely on himself to kill the snake

Escaping from such an entity is possible but he can't just leave the Tri-Spirit, moreover, he has to buy sometime for Vyncent so that he can distance himself from this dangerous zone .

The hundreds of God Beasts hiding in this mountain scattered in all directions, not wanting to suffer from the snake's wrath .

Two wings appeared behind Arthur, one as beautiful as an angel's and the other similar to a bat's . He flew in the air, facing the snake directly .

The two stared at each other for a few seconds before the large beast opened its mouth and spat a sea of flames that covered the whole sky .

Chapter 385

The flames scorched everything but were unable to directly destroy Arthur's Dark Barrier . He crushed two of the support talisman he hand on his sleeve . One boosting his movement speed and the other increasing his attack speed .

Without resorting to useless skills, Arthur immediately attacked with [Dark Rain], which is a combination of a hundred Heavenly Arrows .

Obviously, individually, they're weaker than a normal Heavenly Arrow, however, their might cannot be underestimated when they strike together .

The sea of flames was pierced by countless dark arrows that descended on the snake, hitting its body and causing it to fall from the sky.

Seeing the minimal damage such a powerful skill did, Arthur wasn't fazed . The snake opened its mouth again and spat a weird-looking fireball that was red in color .

Fortunately, its speed was slow, however, its target wasn't Arthur but his spirit . Forced to face head-on, Arthur stretched both of his hands and flapped both of his wings, which started shining with a a white and grey light .

A lance of life and a lance of death appeared in his left and right hand, respectively . He unhesitatingly threw the two of them at the red fireball .

The two flying lances, which had two opposing attributes, rotating in a circle until they fused . Soon, the result of this fusion clashed with the large fireball .

Arthur's Dark Barrier shattered along with his second layer of defense, which was a watery surface . He hastily grabbed the space in front of him and forcefully pulled . It was like pulling a blanket, he diverted the direction of the destruction, which was initially going towards him .

The clash happened too to close him and he can't afford to move for it'll disturb the Earth Spirit . The Dark-Star Strengthening technique boosted his defense and protected him from any serious damage . He received a few injuries which were healed in less than two seconds .

Like a shooting dark star, Arthur flew straight at the snake and viciously punched it . He used the [Heavenly Mountain Fist] and [Dark Burst], causing some of the red and tough scales of the snake to bend and crack . Some blood oozed from the injury and the big body of the snake, which wasn't fast enough to react, was pushed a hundred meters .

The injury wasn't severe and with the big body of the snake, it was like a needle's stab, painful but not threatening.

However, Arthur has just began . [Eternium] and [Transmutation] were activated, boosting his stats . His speed surpassed lightning as he became illusory, circling around the large body of the snake and bombarding it with kicks and punches .

Only after fifteen seconds did the snake retaliate as it coiled it body and loudly hissed . Arthur, who suddenly backed away, felt his body plummeting and his balance lost . The gravity increased by several levels and his speed was greatly reduced .

Not only that, the snake suddenly straightened its long body and dived from the sky, planning to crash into the Tri-Spirit and destroy everything in its way .

Seeing this, Arthur's paled as he wasn't sure if he could forcefully stop the snake . Sure, given enough time, he can slowly kill it, however, to send it flying when it has such a strong defense and large body, it's a bit far-fetched .

As it left a trail of flames behind it, the snake's shadow covered a third of this mountain . With no choice but to rely on pure Strength, Arthur appeared in front of the snake, with only a small distance separating them .

He activated [Griffin's Bloody Switch] more than five times, converting all his Intelligence, Wisdom, Dexterity, Vitality, and Agility to Strength .

As he had to resort to using skills like [Blood for Blood] which ignored a skill's cooldown on the cost of permanent Mental Power, Arthur's cultivation halted for a second before it continued leaping grades .

His right fist started shining with a bright golden light as he opened his hand, showing an illusory golden palm, which was incredibly small compared to the enormous body of the flame snake .

A palm that had over ten billion strength behind it, as one would expect, the might of such an attack wasn't simple .

The impact between the snake and the palm caused a shock wave that traveled for thousands of miles, frightening all the cultivators and even the fleeing Vyncent .

There was a hidden silhouette, which was silently staring at the fight between Arthur and the snake . He was the blind man from Black Rose . The more he witnessed what's happening, the more amazed he became .

Upon seeing the powerful shockwave, which caused someone like him to back away a few steps, he started feeling a bit of fear from Arthur .

"Indeed, I wasn't strong enough when I decided to follow him . "

He had been stalking Arthur for some time now . He couldn't catch up to him when he was traveling to this place but since he kind of guessed his destination, he wasn't worried that he'll lose him .

[Unparalleled Golden Palm] was the strongest martial technique in Arthur's arsenal . Moreover, his mastery in it reached perfection, which made it more domineering .

Unlike the damage done previously, this attack of Arthur's was able to send the snake flying in the air as large volumes of blood gushed out of its body.

Although he managed to cause considerable damage to his enemy, Arthur's palm was shaking ever-so-slightly. Again, he sacrificed Mental Power to convert all his stat points into Intelligence.

With such a mind-numbing amount of intelligence, Arthur activated Rizaki . Its purpose wasn't to injure the snake but to buy some time as there were only a few seconds left before the Earth Spirit is done .

The heat from the snake and the raging volcano suddenly vanished and was replaced by a chilling wind that lasted for a few seconds before the whole mountain turned blue.

Ice covered the trees and the flying Snake, who was frozen-mid air .

The old man, whose attention was focused on the fight, never ceased to be bewildered . Rizaki's effects reached him, causing him to feel an extreme coldness that almost froze his bones .

If not for activating his Nether Energy to drive out this coldness, he would have met the same fate as the snake .

The mountain and the snake remained frozen for exactly six seconds and by the time the ice shattered, the golden cyclone disappeared as it was fully absorbed by the the Tri-Spirit .

"Allow me to assist you . "

Arthur's cultivation reached the Peak of God Realm, only a small step away from becoming a Sovereign .

The spirit entered Arthur's consciousness and immediately initiated its assault . Like Arthur, the enraged snake, which was just about to attack Arthur, felt a sudden heaviness as its body rapidly fell from the sky

The Gravity it was subjugating Arthur to was negated by the Tri-Spirit . As its body heavily crashed into the mountain, an enormous, almost illusory grey tornado that slowly spun, appeared above the snake, causing it to wail in agony as spat large amounts of blood .

Arthur continued the combo by sending a 300m-long Dark Heavenly Arrow, which was the strongest Heavenly Arrow he ever created as it was conjured by using more ten billion points in Intelligence .

The Heavenly Arrow flew straight at the snake, which created some sort of a flame shield that defended its front .

The arrow hit the shield and slowly but surely corrupted it . Arthur didn't remain there to watch, he waved his hand, unleashing countless small Void Mouths that ate the flame shield and allowed the arrow to hit the snake, causing a large and bloody hole to appear in its body .

Desperate and angry at Arthur, the snake ferociously shook its body and hastily slithered to the peak of the mountain and entered the raging volcano .

Arthur didn't follow it but wasn't going to abandon a heavily prey either . If he could obtain its crystal, he'll become a Sovereign .

The whole mountain shook, trees were uprooted or destroyed. The volcano erupted and caused an ear-deafening explosion which caused the earth to track.

From within the volcano, the snake appeared, totally unscathed as its body was covered in boiling magma, it grew bigger as it hissed at Arthur in anger .

Arthur used [Assault of Darkness], entrapping the strengthened snake into a world of darkness and increasing its vulnerability to magic .

After buying himself ten seconds, Arthur's eyes shone with blue light as he slowed time and started casting his skill .

White thunder twirled around him, the thunderclaps were loud and deafening . Slowly but surely, the white thunder started materializing .

Just as the ten seconds passed, a white dragon made of pure white thunder was facing the snake . The Tri-Spirit acted quickly as thick dark chains sprung from the earth and wrapped themselves around the snake, momentarily immobilizing it .

Though the snake tried to use its magma to melt the chains, its attempts were futile . The lightning dragon roared loudly as it dived at the bound snake . It didn't unleash any special attack, it literally used its body to crash into the snake, causing the Godly White Thunder to cause monstrous damage .

Arthur coughed a bit of blood, nonetheless, he continued to attack as he appeared next to the snake and stopped time again .

The snake was severely injured, he just needs to poke where it hurt to end it once and for all . He stretched his left hand which unleashed an absurd amount of death energy .

His hand became creepy and rotten as it fiercely held the scale of the snake . Arthur used one of the deadly properties of Death Magic, withering .

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The hot scales became withered and in a few seconds, it turned into ash . Just like that, the withering was like a festering wound, stretching to all of the snake's body and killing it .

The beast wriggled its body to get rid of Arthur, who remained stubborn and never let go . In less than twenty seconds, the snake lifelessly fell on the ground . Arthur didn't wither its whole body so he can possess it and obtain the life crystal in its head .

Chapter 386

'It's finally dead .'

Arthur stored the corpse in his storage and disappeared from that area, even the nearby old man who watched the whole fight, was startled as he suddenly lost track of Arthur .

No one would expect Arthur to transform into an insignificant sprout deep underground . He spent every last bit of effort to reduce his stats and reduce his presence . Not even the ancestor of the Mirage Era Hall discovered him, so it isn't surprising that the blind man couldn't find him .

Actually, Arthur didn't know that he was being watched, he only did that because the fight attracted too much attention . He could feel several gazes belonging to the elders of the Golden Earth Sect focus on him . They just didn't dare join the fight .

He didn't suffer any serious frontal attack but creating that Thunder Dragon and using the withering effect of the Death Magic exhausted him .

Fortunately, his recovery is abnormally high . Others would need a few days to a week to recover but half a day or less is more than enough for him .

The only thing that'll take a day to recover is his Mental Power . As he hid deep underground while possessing a plant, Arthur instructed the Tri-Spirit to drill the ground and create a concealed cave . The spirit did as told, it quickly transformed the rubbles and dirt into a suitable and neat room that was a kilometer underground . Enveloping this room was a jet black cube that blocked any external energy so

unless someone personally drilled the ground from the surface and found this cube, they won't be able to feel its presence or locate Arthur .

Once he was sure he was absolutely safe . Arthur left the plant and sat cross-legged . His left hand shone with a bright light which traveled to all parts of his body, healing everything in just a few seconds . Exactly one minute later, his body was back to normal, without any sign of injuries .

Life Magic is the strongest Healing Magic, even better than Light Magic . However, it is extremely rare, in fact, only Angels and a few powers in the System Universe can use such a heavenly Magic .

Thanks to the Book of Eternity, Arthur can use Life Magic but he can't fully control it yet . After meditating for an hour or so, Arthur entered the ARK .

He ignored the sitting Claud and started testing his strength . His stats rose significantly as he reached the peak of God Realm .

"My stats are stronger than a God Monarch's so how come they can face me and not lose?"

Curious, Arthur asked the relaxed Claud . The Prophecy Holder tapped a white table as he was absentminded . Only when Arthur's voice rang in his ears did he snap out of his daze and reply

"Pretty simple . God Monarchs or even Sovereigns can strengthen their body using Nether Energy . Of course, they won't be as durable as your body, which is strong even without the use of Energy . If your Dantian is destroyed, although you'll lose your cultivation and a bit of stats, you'll still be extremely strong . The God Monarch Realm is just the first step to acquire a Celestial Body . As for what celestial Bodies are, it's a body that transcends all the limits . Any Overgod will have a Celestial Bodies . Moreover, if one had a Physique, their celestial body will be much, much stronger than normal ones . That's why people with a Physique are looked favorably upon . "

As if he knew what Arthur is going to ask, Claud added:

"Yes, if you obtain a Celestial body then you'll be unrivaled amongst the Overgods . You won't even need to fear 'X' . However, reaching the Overgod Realm is easier said than done . After all, the number of Overgods in the Cloud Sea Universe isn't more than a hundred, or two, at most . "

•••

A few miles away from the destroyed mountain, the blind man, shrouded in a strange grey fog, looked at the mountain peak, which existed no more, and sighed .

"I'm glad I didn't attack him back then . Such a valuable person shouldn't be provoked . "

The blind old man, Krauk, was certain that his boss will be more than pleased to hear about Arthur . Such monstrous strength, deadly attacks and Stealth skills, it was a suitable candidate for one of the three vacant chairs of Black Rose .

•••

In the Imperial Capital, precisely in the crown prince's study, Isadore tapped his finger on the table as he read some documents that were delivered to him just a minute ago . A man in his thirties patiently waited for the prince to give his opinion and tell him what to do about this situation .

Wrath, who always accompanied the prince, was playing with a blood red dagger, uninterested about all the scattered papers .

After thoroughly reading everything, Isadore frowned and said

"The local snake is dead, the mountain is destroyed and the Golden Earth Sect is exposed . "

He paused and closed his eyes for a few seconds before resolutely saying

"It's time for a purge . Furthermore, send an investigation team, I want more information about the man who killed the snake!"

The middle-aged man, who was actually the minister of defense, bowed and hastily left the room .

The golden-haired young man glanced at Wrath and asked

"What do you think? A dragon made of white thunder and powerful Ice Magic . "

The dark-haired man stopped playing with his dagger and replied

"I think it's the Godly Thunder . It's been a long time since I've seen it . As far as I know, only one faction uses this type of Thunder and it hails from the Heaven and Hell Universe . "

"Do you think he came because of the Space Dragon?"

Before Wrath replied, Isadore shook his head and mumbled

"No no, that shouldn't be possible . Moreover, why would he bother killing the flame snake?"

After a short while, the crown prince chuckled and added:

"An interesting variable entered the game . "

He seriously stared at Wrath and warned him

"If you happen to meet this man in the future, no matter what happens, don't make an enemy out of him . "

He knew Wrath's rush character but he was loyal . Isadore was hesitating as he knew that this darkhaired man is a battle freak, nonetheless, he always listens to his orders .

•••

Less than a day passed since the prince's team started investigation Arthur . Isadore listened to the report of a short young man as he flipped through several documents .

"His name is Arthur MoonStar . Apparently, he resided in the Mirage Era Hall for some time . The moment he arrived, the son of the Patriarch died of mysterious causes, however, Athard hired people from Black Rose to find the culprit . Silent Hand Krauk took the job and found the murderer, who is Arthur . Around a week ago, Arthur disappeared from the Mirage Era Hall Sect and it is rumored he traveled South . "

As he listened to the report, Isadore knitted his brow and asked

"Why didn't Krauk act?"

The young man, who investigated everything about Arthur, replied:

"Athard hired him to find the culprit, killing him isn't part of the job . Moreover, Arthur arrived to the capital accompanied by a woman, who disappeared and is nowhere to be found . "

"When did he arrive exactly?"

"28 days ago . He entered the capital with the silver-haired woman and Shu Ru . They went to Miss Losha's weapon shop . "

Isadore nodded his head and waved his hand, dismissing the young man and his comrades . The Crown Prince read the documents about Arthur again and again . Suddenly, he seemed to have figured something as he remembered what Wrath said .

Isadore glanced at the snoring middle-aged man not far away from him and smiled .

'They went to a blacksmith . Arthur didn't have his sword with him when he visited the Mirage Era Hall Sect, so it's probably being fixed by Losha . It's said that Losha Alpenwatcher has one of the nine Divine Swords . The Dark Blade and the Divine Sword are hostile to each other, which caused some friction . What Wrath felt is the outburst of Evil Wind! Nonetheless, the absence of Makaze confirms that the blacksmith and Arthur struck a deal . The mysterious woman who accompanied him is probably with Losha . But why did he go to the Mirage Era Hall and why travel far south just to kill a snake? It's contradictory to your previous actions, why would you purposely attract attention? What is your motive, Arthur MoonStar...'

Chapter 387

Back in Losha's training ground, Lucy, who was currently meditating and pushing the Nine Star Yin Technique to its limits, suddenly opened his eyes .

The sixth lotus was still illusory, however, the moment she opened her eyes, the lotus materialized and became fully material, circling above Lucy along with the other five . Moreover, half of the seventh lotus abruptly appeared, startling both the master and the disciple .

Lucy glanced at her hands then mumbled:

"Arthur broke through..."

The sudden increase in strength was due to the rise of Arthur's stats, which greatly affected hers . Upon checking her Status Window, she was shocked to see her initial stats almost tripled .

Losha, who has been carefully watching Lucy, felt the burst of energy released from the latter's body . Just like Arthur, the sudden increase in stats caused Lucy to breakthrough to a Fusion Sovereign despite her efforts in stopping her speedy advancement .

"With six lotuses and your Physique, I don't think there's any God Monarch that can threaten you but be careful of people with Physique, even if they have a cultivation lower than yours . There are Physiques or techniques that can counter you quite easily, like Soul attacks, for example . "

Losha was aware that Lucy lacked some sort of treasure that can protect her soul . Arthur had Curtis, who can defend against anything that invades his consciousness, however, Lucy was vulnerable to such lethal attacks .

Unfortunately, Losha didn't have any treasure that can protect her disciple's soul but she still informed Lucy about the location of a powerful artifact that can significantly increase the power of her soul.

Arthur initiated his breakthrough only after a day passed since his fight with the snake . It was enough for him to stabilize his foundation . Inside that room, which became cozy and decorated, Arthur took out the large body of the snake and retrieved the crystal in its head .

It was the size of a human head and pretty heavy . It had an astronomical amount of Fire and Earth Energy, enough to make him break through to the Sovereign Realm .

Once he becomes a Sovereign, he can possess the two leaders Divine Beasts and the two ancestor bodies he stole from the Mirage Era Hall Sect . There's also the snake's body and a few others which were stashed in his storage .

The boost in stats he'll receive will be quite significant so Claud advised him to take things slowly and try to get used to his new power instead of heading toward the Imperial Capital .

Lisa should be safe for now as Vyncent is guarding her, however, knowing his dogshit luck, anything can happen .

•••

Arthur put the large crystal in front of him as he sat cross-legged . He stretched both of his hands and activated the Dark Anguish Technique .

From both of his palms, which were a few inches above the red crystal, two black whirlpools appeared . They spun ever-so-slowly yet they caused the calm air in this underground room to become turbulent . The Nether Energy became chaotic as it was forcefully pulled into the two whirlpools .

The crystal was being sucked dry by the two whirlpools as their absorption power only intensified the more time passed . Arthur could feel his Dantian emit a strange dark light that stretched to all parts of Meridians .

Like the sound of shattering glass, the barrier broke and his cultivation rose after ten or so minutes . The crystal also broke into countless little pieces which quickly turned into ash .

Instead of possessing the lifeless corpses, Arthur first entered his consciousness and searched for a blood-red cocoon that emitted a dangerous decaying energy .

Using the strong healing power of the Life Energy, he started emanating a blinding white light which illuminated the dark and starry sky, which is his consciousness .

Despite his extremely sky-high stats, Arthur spent five continuous days doing the same thing, he didn't even stop for a second .

Only when the cocoon cracked, revealing what's inside, did Arthur stop and broke into a soft smile .

"Welcome back . "

A youth with a short red hair who wearing red clothes stepped out of the cocoon and politely bowed whilst saying

"I thank thee for thy help, master . "

Just as Swain appeared, a streak of light flew from afar and materialized itself as a white-haired youth . The new arrival was equally handsome but the moment he started speaking, you could only hear vulgar words

"Fuck! Your little ass finally recovered . Took you long enough, dipshit!"

This was none other than the humanoid form of Midolf .

Swain glanced at Midolf for a second before clicking his tongue in annoyance, obviously displeased by the presence of this creature of life .

"It seems master managed to reunite with Miss Lucy . My sincere congratulations . "

Swain bowed again then waved his hand, to which an illusory large figure appeared next to him . Upon a closer look, you would see a bone lizard with a long tail that burned with black flames . This was Randuin, the final piece which will allow Swain to attain his final form, Radolf .

Midolf didn't seem angry after seeing Swain's reaction . He loudly laughed then proudly stated

"Now we two motherfuckers are back together, we're gonna do a lot of ass-kicking, am I right or am I right? Hahahahahahaha"

Unlike the respectful and non-talkative Swain, Midolf was pretty vulgar and nonchalant even when facing his master, Arthur .

"You came back at the perfect time . Pretty soon, I'm going to need your help, both of you . "

•••

Once Arthur was done healing Swain, he left his consciousness and returned to the room, which was expanded so it could fit the white tiger's body.

The body of the Divine Beast was severely injured and didn't emit the threatening pressure from before, however, it still looked frightening.

After readying himself, Arthur transformed into a black whirlpool which quickly entered the tiger's corpse . Notifications from the System appeared in front of Arthur, informing him of the new changes and additions .

You possessed the White Tiger (Divine Beast)!

You obtained a new title : Holder of the Divine : You deal 25% more damage to any Divine Beast .

You gained a new skill: [White Shadow](Passive): While possessing the body of the White Tiger, your Agility is doubled .

You gained a new skill: [Divine Resistance] : The user gains 50% resistance to all kinds of crowd control skills .

You gained a new skill: [The Golden Eyes]: If the user witnesses any skill or technique, he has a chance of copying it .

The % depends on the stat difference between the user and the target .

The skill [The Golden Eyes] fused with [The All Seeing Eyes]: [Eyes Of Tranquility]: The user can stop or slow time as well as copy skills or techniques .

The user can copy up to five skills or technique : 0/5

If the user copies more than five techniques, the sixth one will replace the first copied ability .

The user can see more information about the target .

The user can see through all kinds of illusion or transformation skills . 99% chance to succeed .

All past effects of [The All Seeing Eyes] are still active .

You obtained a new skill(active):[Barrier of the West]: The user can create a golden barrier that absorb 80% of the incoming damage .

Can only be used when possessing a Divine Beast .

Cost: 100m Nether Energy/s

Warning ; Cooldown cannot be negated by [Blood for Blood]

You gained a new skill (Active): [Superior Dissolving Acid][Max Lv]: The user can use a strong acid that can melt everything in its way .

Anything Energy-based is ineffective against the acid .

Due to the user's abundance of Poison-type skills, [Superior Dissolving Acid] fused with 278 acid-related skills =>[Death Acid][Max Lv](Active): The user spits a lethal acid that can melt everything.

Anything Energy-based is ineffective against the acid .

Range : 200m

Cost: 20m Mana/s. 10m Nether Energy/s. 75 Mental Power/s

You gained a new skill (Active): [Divine Recovery]: White flames will cover the user, recovering all of his Health in five seconds .

Cost : None

Cooldown: 1 month .

Warning ; Cooldown cannot be negated by [Blood for Blood]

You gained a new skill(Active): [White Blur]: The user turn illusory, which will make him bypass any attack (Physical, Magical, Soul, or Mental attack) . Lasts for three seconds

Cost: 2000 Mental Power

Cooldown: 10 days.

Warning ; Cooldown cannot be negated by [Blood for Blood]

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The motionless body of the White Tiger, which was in a rough state, healed almost instantaneously. The Divine Beast woke up from its long slumber, its golden claws grew up, sharper than ever, and its eyes shone with a golden light.

'What a refreshing feeling!'

As he possessed the White Tiger, coupled with his new stats, Arthur could clearly the difference between earlier and now . His sense became much stronger, he even felt several strong presences in the surface .

After a minute or so, Arthur left the body and took out the Vermilion Bird .

You possessed the Vermilion Bird (Divine Beast)!

The title : Holder of the Divine has been upgraded to Divine Herald : You deal 30% more damage to Divine Beast .

+1% Attack / +1% Defense .

Arthur obtained many skills from the bird but only three were outrageously powerful. The first is called [Fire Nirvana] and it allows him to instantly recover to full health if his Health reaches 1% or less. It has a cooldown of two months but it's still a life-saving skill.

The second and third skills are offensives ones, meant to burn his enemies . They are actually a combo, if he used the one, he'll have to use the other right after it to deal more damage .

[Cascading Flames] is an Area of Effect skills that burn the battle area into a world of fire, a pretty classic yet deadly skill . The second skill is [Quiet Flames], it uses the flames unleashed by the first skill to Heal the user(Arthur] and deal massive damage over time to the targets hit by [Cascading Flames], it also raises their vulnerability to fire-based attack, meaning, it decreases their Fire Resistance .

Last but not least, Arthur possessed the Ancestors of the Mirage Era Hall and the other corpses in his storage .

Chapter 388

Although Arthur obtained a bunch of skills and techniques from the ancestors, the only relevant ones are the formations . All of them were helpful, especially for his future plans . They could strengthen armies, set up a defensive and unbreakable barrier and even some high-grade teleportation formations . As he thoroughly checked the formations, he found the perfect one for the Four Divine Beasts . Now, all that's left is finding the Leader Azure Dragon and Leader Black Turtle .

Arthur sat in meditation as he inhaled and exhaled air, he could feel his senses sharpened to an unimaginable degree . If it could be explained in one word it would be comfortable, he felt too comfortable as if nothing could threaten him .

He raised his hand and aimlessly waved it but what seemed like a wave for normal people was actually a hundred waves . The Realm of speed he reached could only be attained by Overgods, especially if he uses the White Tiger body which doubled his agility . Using Yamak's lightning skill which also doubles his agility will allow him to escape from anything or anyone .

TITLE: MEAT GRINDER / SEEKER OF KNOWLEDGE / ONE WITH THE SWORD / ARK HOLDER / LIVE WITH HONOR, DIE WITH GLORY / BREAKER OF CHAINS / HOLDER OF THE DARK BLADE'S OATH / MAD DESTROYER/PSYCHOPATH/DRAGON RIDER / UNSEEN BOND / ONE STALKED BY THE REAPER / DIVINE HERALD

Level: ??

Class: Dark ARK Parasite

Realm: Little Sovereign

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Strength: 8 . 6B

Intelligence: 8.9B

Agility: 9.99B

Wisdom: 6 . 6B

Vitality: 9 . 8B

Dexterity: 2.19B

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Health: 11 . 1B// Health Regen: 20 . 1m/s

Nether Energy: 6B // Nether Energy Regen: 12m/s(+100%)

Mana: 8 . 1B // Mana Regen: 25m/s

Stamina: Infinite /Stamina Regen: ???

Creation: 699

Attack: 7 . 85B (+35% damage [Dark Flame Ring]) (+20% if Dark Magic is used) (+40% if Makaze is used)(+5% [Warrior's Cry[LvMax](Passive)][+2% from Breaker of Chains Title]

Defense: 5 . 7B (+25% Damage Reduction) (+5% [Solid [LvMax](passive)] (+10% [Golem's Wall(LvMax)(Passive)]

Magic Defense: 3.9B

Soul Defense: 29m

Enigma abilities : Telekinesis / [Light Operation/ Righteous Death] / Sixth sense / ARK(Activated)

N

Mental Power: 20500

Elemental Resistances(+)

Fire: 100%

Darkness: 100%

Wind: 35%

Water: 75%

Earth: 75%

Light/holy: 65%

Shadow: 30(+20%)%

Lightning: 100%

Ice: 30%

Death : 10%

Crowd Control : 50%

Life:5%

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

Possessions (472,051)

Races:

Divine Beasts (2)

Humans (283,028) Demons (84,997) Beasts (+)(101,528) Unique Beasts (2498) Mythical beings (1) *****

With only his natural Senses, excluding Sixth Sense of the Sovereign Sense, which are considered basic techniques, Arthur was able to clearly feel the presence of all the people hiding in Golden Earth Sect as well as the sudden invaders. He was even able to gauge their strength, his sense of hearing, smelling, touching, and seeing became so sharp to the point of startling the delighted Arthur.

Claud even commented that Overgod aren't as sensitive as Arthur. It's true they can enhance their sense by their concentrated and powerful energy but it wouldn't be as effective as Arthur's, at most, they'll feel 10% of what he feels right now.

"Even body cultivators will pale in comparison . "

It is said that body cultivators are sparse but extremely powerful . In fact, a Body cultivator with only the cultivation at the God Realm can compete against a God Monarch .

The train their body until it becomes saturated with Nether Energy, every pore will contain a large amount of concentrated Nether Energy. Like that, they'll be able to break formations, arrays, artifacts, and weapons. Arthur could be considered a Body cultivator but he has an advantage over his peers, it's that he's also got powerful long-ranged skills.

As he enjoyed the new feeling, Arthur's ears heard a small sound, almost inaudible . His ears twitched for a moment and when he concentrated and tried to locate the source of this sound, he couldn't .

Arthur activated his Sixth Sense, which had an increased range, and spread to all directions . Ten or so seconds after using his Sixth Sense, he found the anomaly .

To his surprise, it was actually Krauk, the blind old man who watched him from afar when he was in the Mirage Era Hall Sect .

The old man didn't seem hostile, nonetheless, he was dangerous . Arthur didn't know the elder's intentions and he doesn't like to be tailed .

Seeing that the old man is still here, it must mean that he knows Arthur is still hiding somewhere in this area . Arthur decided to wait until the massacre above is finished then he'll come out .

A group of powerful individuals stormed the Golden Earth Sect and massacred everyone, leaving none alive . The beautiful golden city reeked of blood as its roads were dyed red . It was a gruesome sight which will make anyone frightened .

Arthur silently watched this group of individuals which disposed of everyone and left, not even bothering to search for the sect's treasury .

Arthur discovered that this group belonged to the Imperial Family . More precisely, they were part of the Crown Prince's royal guards .

Vyncent is one lucky bastard as the news of his sect will travel reach him very soon . The Golden Earth always used inhuman methods to cultivate so none would pity the fall of such a sect .

Many sects would send people to search the golden city, which wasn't protected by an illusion formation as it broke with the fall of the flame snake .

Arthur had to act fast and finish his matters here before going back to the capital .

Two days after the fall of the flame snake and a day after the destruction of the Golden Earth Sect, Arthur left his room after storing the scattered furniture .

To test his new prowess, there is no better candidate than the blind old man, Krauk . He possessed the body of the White Tiger and used Space Magic to teleported above the surface .

The sudden appearance of a huge White Tiger shocked the silent Krauk, who never expected a Divine Beast to pop out of nowhere .

Before he could react, he saw the White Tiger stare directly at him . With a speed beyond his comprehension, the White Tiger appeared before the frail-looking old man and slashed with its long claws .

Though he was slower, he was still an experienced fighter . Krauk twisted its frail body to barely dodge the long claws and when he thought he succeeded, he was proved wrong as the huge white tiger turned illusory .

'This speed is outrageous!'

What attacked him was merely an after-image and when he processed what just happened, he found himself flying in the air with a deep wound on his shoulder .

Arthur, who easily succeeded in landing a severe first blow, was satisfied . He didn't use any support Talisman, [Transmutation], [Eternium], or [Angel of Death].

Krauk was a Half-God Monarch, however, many God Monarchs died at his hand . Moreover, he was an assassin, front battle was never his forte .

Just as Arthur was about to attack, the old man raised his hand in defeat and said

"Please wait!"

Obviously, Arthur wasn't going to wait . However, he was forced to when he heard the old man's next words

"Arthur MoonStar, I know it's you . Please wait!"

The White Tiger, which appeared in front of the old man in a split second, suddenly stopped, gazing at the injured old man from above .

The pressure Krauk felt was immense, to say the least . Never did he expect Arthur to be hiding so much power .

'He must have known I was watching so he didn't go all out again the snake . '

That was Krauk's speculation, though it was wrong . After all, who would believe that Arthur's strength tripled in just two days .

While it's true his stats were tripled, more or less, it doesn't mean he became three times stronger . He must be at least ten times stronger than his previous self .

Lucy is far away from him but she must have felt the changes too, which can only beneficial for the couple . Moreover, he now has Radolf and Midolf, two ancient creatures which are absurdly powerful, especially if they fight together .

A cold and chilling voice came out of the closed mouth of the White Tiger .

"Give me one good reason to not kill you . "

Krauk, who regained his calm attitude, smiled and said

"I only tailed you for the purpose of recruiting you . I think you're a perfect candidate for one of the vacant seats in the Black Rose organization . "

'Accept!'

Claud's voice was followed right after, urging to him accept .

'Black Rose is a very ancient organization that dates back to before the Void Era .'

Hearing this, Arthur was still not interested as he retorted

'There's never a free meal in this world . I will be given privileges but I'll be forced to do something . It's some kind of restriction . '

'It's doesn't matter! You just have to kill a few people every now and then, no big deal . You do that ALL the time!'

Arthur snorted as he heard that and remained silent for a period of time before glancing at Krauk and saying

"I will think about it and give you my answer in two months . "

The Fate Contract will expire in two more months . He'll get back Makaze and if the offer is still alluring, he'll join Black Rose .

Chapter 389

"What!?"

Wrath angrily banged his fist on the table as he glared at Isadore . He was infuriated after he had been ordered to do something absurd .

Isadore, the Crown Prince, crossed his arms and stared back at the defiant Wrath while frowning .

"What's with your response? I'm not having you accompany me so you can sleep around all day . "

Still enraged, Wrath retorted with a louder tone

"Don't try to use your slick tongue with me! You want me to go and try to bring Makaze's owner to you? Are you out of your mind?"

Unfazed by Wrath's sudden outburst, Isadore smiled and replied:

"Out of my mind? Why? Because I want to befriend a powerful person? What if he is Makaze's owner? He isn't my enemy, nor is he yours . "

"Fuck! How is he not mine? You know how many of the Seven Sins are left? Three! Fucking Three are left and the rest were killed! That evil blade devoured Gluttony!"

Isadore's smile suddenly vanished as he seriously stared at the middle-aged man before him and retorted

"All four sins brought it on themselves . Who told Gluttony to try and devour the Dark Blade . Who told Pride to piss of the Nameless Knight . Same thing for Lust, who tried to seduce the knight only to be hacked into pieces . And let's not talk about Greed who foolishly tried to trick the Joker himself, talk about being stupid!"

After a short pause, the prince resumed:

"Each and every time, it is you guys who provoke the enemy . It's not because you're one of the Seven Deadly Sins that you can beat anyone . Anyway, if you're not going to do as I say, you better leave this place . I certainly do not need incompetent people . "

Wrath clenched his teeth and pondered for a long time before bowing to the prince and saying

"I'll do as you wish . "

He swiftly left the room, leaving a satisfied prince .

Arthur's conversation with Krauk ended rather quickly. The two separated and each went his way, Arthur, still possessing the White Tiger, turned into a lightning bolt, madly flying toward the Imperial Capital.

His speed was inconceivable, the trip that would take a week on a fast Spirit Boat took Arthur only a bit less than a day to arrive .

When he was close to the capital, he dived into the ground and made his way toward the meeting place he arranged with Vyncent .

With his new sharpened senses and long-rang Sixth Sense, Arthur noticed a lot of new arrivals . He guessed that it had to do with the opening of the dragon's realm, which can only be entered through a tropical forest far East of the capital .

Many cultivators hailing from powerful sects started appearing, however, Arthur never paid them any heed as they're not a threat . What surprised him is a familiar and loathsome presence, there was a group of knights that clearly belonged to the Holy Dominion .

Each and every one of them is a God Monarch and they are from the Holy Order .

'They can track Dark Magic pretty well!'

Claud clicked his tongue in annoyance and warned Arthur . Fighting them will only cause more to show up . The only thing that the Holy Dominion doesn't lack is numbers .

'To send so much God Monarchs after me . . . they're overestimating me . '-Arthur

'Quite the contrary, it's because they know how powerful Dark Magic is . They'll spare no effort to capture you, you better be careful, very careful .'

This group of righteous knights of light are composed of 5 God Monarchs and 8 Sovereigns . The leader was an old man clad in a Holy armor . He looked kind and emitted an air of righteousness .

Arthur stored the tiger body and appeared in a small room in a remote inn . Initially, there were only two people in the room, both were nervous, especially the young man, who never stopped pacing around the room while biting his nails .

Lisa's face was a bit pale after hearing the destruction of the Golden Earth Sect and thought that something might have happened to Arthur. Though she was thankful to Vyncent, who kept her safe during all these years, she still wanted to go back to Astria.

Her life changed for the worst ever since she was kidnapped . When Arthur appeared, she saw a ray of hope so she continuously wished for his return .

Just like a ghost, Arthur appeared in the room, frightening both the young man and the girl . Only when they saw Arthur's appearance did they calm down .

"S-sir, is my sect truly destroyed?"

Vyncent showed a worried expression . Besides his sect, he has no true home or family members to go back to, which is why, despite the cruel ways his sects used, he chose to remain there .

"Yes, everyone was killed . "

Arthur's words were like a bomb that fell on Vyncent, who fell on the rough bed as his face turned pale . He didn't know what to do from now on .

As for Lisa, she became a bit excited as she politely bowed toward Arthur and expressing her thanks again and again .

It was apparent that the past arrogant and childish girl was no more, Lisa has matured and behaved like a person of her age . She no longer had that haughtiness and instead, behaved respectfully when Arthur was present .

Without further ado, Arthur waved his hand, opening a Spatial Tunnel that directly led to Astria . After one last bow, the ex-princess stepped into the portal disappearing from Arthur's view and giving him a peace of mind .

Vyncent stared in front of him with hollow eyes, he seemed lost . In fact, he was no different than empty shell, a soulless body .

Arthur knew that even if he asked Vyncent to go to Astria, he wouldn't go so he closed the tunnel and left this place . The enmity between them disappeared as Vyncent helped him protect Lisa . From now on, they are complete strangers, he owes the young man nothing .

Arthur's next stop was the Mountain Ba Sword Sect . Although he didn't high hopes for Jian Si, he still hoped for her to provide him with important information . Some one with her status would've found Lisa much sooner and he wouldn't have needed to go all through the trouble of killing the flame snake .

Unlike last time, when he cautiously bypassed the sword formations protecting each mountain of Cold Sword's sect, Arthur traveled inside the sect as if he was taking a relaxing stroll .

Such formations were nothing to him as he can be considered a formation master . The knowledge and skills he has about formations are unparalleled, in fact, he can obliterate God Monarchs without as much as lifting a finger . He just needs to create offensive formations that will do the job for him, which he will .

He had the knowledge, however, the materials to create such heavenly formations are rare and expensive . Though Zodiak's treasury is vast and contains many things, it still didn't have everything Arthur needed .

Surprisingly, Jian Si wasn't alone this time . A female disciple was talking to her for about 20 minutes . Only when the female disciple left did Arthur show himself, startling the absent-minded Cold Sword .

Chapter 390

Later that day, in the prince's office, there stood the leader of his royal guards. It was a man who appeared to be in his forties, he wore a red armor and had a long saber sheathed on his waist.

"What of the last one?"

Isadore calmly asked his guard while looking outside of the window, admiring the night view . The man bowed and spoke with an apologetic tone

"I am sorry, your highness . Despite being heavily injured, he still managed to escape . "

The prince listened to this but wasn't particularly angry, he waved his hand while saying

"Well, it matters not . I doubt he'll do anything or even show himself in Green-Leaf . "

The person they were talking about was Vyncent, who was attacked and severely injured . Only through pure luck did the young man escape from the capital, which is a miracle considering his weak cultivation and the strength of his pursuers .

Though they were faster than him, his secret technique allowed him to melt into the ground and escape their senses thus buying him sometime to change directions. If Isadore wanted to, he can send countless people to chase after Vyncent but he deemed the later unworthy of spending so much resources.

A fair distance away from the capital, a bloodied young man appeared from the ground . He had a grievous wound on his chest and his face couldn't be paler . He held his chest as he kneeled on the ground and coughed some blood . Despite the pain and fatigue he was feeling, he stared at the sky with clear and resolute eyes that shone with unknown luster . He gripped his fist and took a deep breathe before melting into the ground .

It was from that day that Vyncent disappeared from Green-Leaf, heading toward an unknown place, seeking power and discovering the secrets of the world. Where his feet will lead him is a mystery to everyone, including himself, however, he shan't give up, after all, his tale has not ended yet.

"Huff Huff"

The Water Empress panted heavily as she killed another dozen beasts which were incredibly grotesque . Upon a closer look, they seemed to strongly resemble the White Spawns Arthur faced but they were much stronger and bigger .

The region ruler was injured but thanks to her magic, she repeatedly healed herself. She didn't dare to bring anyone with her to this perilous place as it was indeed as dangerous as she predicted.

This was actually a small world, filled with light, there's no sign of darkness, even shadows didn't exist in this place . Her goal in coming here was to get a certain book which may give her more clues about what happened before the Hour of Creation .

It took her three years to get out of the death region's graveyard . Without Jack's guide, it was much more difficult to navigate that foggy place . She spent another six months investigating the whereabouts of a book written by a very ancient human .

Very little was known about this human, however, he had one particular title, The Prophecy Holder .

This world of light was weird and made her feel very uncomfortable . The abundance of light was harmful and weakened her, which made the fight taxing on her body .

Fortunately, after two whole months venturing in this world and killing the ugly monsters, she stumbled upon a gigantic boss-like creature .

He was over four meters tall, he was incredibly handsome, his facial features were flawless, to say the least . He had a long blond hair and two beautiful wings . This 'man' held a golden lance as he looked at the Water Empress with an expressionless face .

"What brings you to this place?"

The Water Empress readied herself to fight only to stop when she heard him talk .

"I'm looking for a book . "

The man thought for a moment before retrieving a normal-looking book, it was very thick and dusty .

"I believe it is this one . However, my master specifically told me to only hand it to a worthy person . "

"And what are the requirements of a worthy person?"

The Empress's question was answered almost immediately .

"A strong person, a person capable of defeating me . "

'Hmpf! Thought so!'-Empress

Without wasting any more time, she started attacking this man .

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The battle lasted for five continuous days, the victor was apparent from the start yet the losing party remained ferocious and used every last bit of their strength .

Obviously, despite her strength, the Empress was no match for the man who was named Innocence . He would repeatedly get injured by her only to heal himself in a few seconds, recovering to his peak state .

Moreover, he never got tired which left the woman helpless, nevertheless, she still managed to hold on for five long days .

As she laid on the ground, heavily injured and breathing heavily, Innocence walked up to her and stared right into her eyes while saying

"'Twas a pleasure fighting you . It's been so long since I've had some action . Now then, it's time for goodbye, I have completed my mission . "

Confused, the Water Empress tried to raise her head and talk to him but the exhaustion left her motionless, unable to even move her lips .

Innocence faintly smiled as and pointed his finger at her, which caused a bright white light to envelop her and instantly heal her .

Surprised by this turn of events, the woman was about to ask only to hear him the answer

"I lied to you . Although my master told me to hand it to a worthy person, he didn't mean a strong person but a descendant of certain families . Only those who carry a special bloodline are allowed entry to this world . I made it difficult for you only to confirm that you're who you appear to be . Since the moment you entered this place, you became eligible to obtain the book . "

The book appeared from thin air and floated toward the Empress, who caught it and carefully inspected it .

"Now then, it's time to go . You'll be transported out of this place in a few moments . "

Just like Innocence said, the Empress found herself in a valley somewhere in the Wind Region . This valley was the entrance of that world, which existed no more .

Unable to contain her curiosity, she impatiently opened the old book only to see several pictures and thorough details about them .

The monsters in the book were ugly, they had four to eight arms, grotesque faces and burly builds . They looked savage and brought chills down her spine .

Each paragraph described the picture next to it, from the name, origin, abilities and weakness . Moreover, it stated several ways to kill them . Dumbfounded, she flipped one page after another yet the book was only filled with countless types of such monsters .

At the end of this thick book, there were three lines, written in ancient language . Fortunately, the Empress was able to translate it albeit with a bit of difficulty .

'One card to turn the tables

One sword to slay the heavens

One strike to end his brethren . '

The woman tilted her head in confusion, she read those lines multiple times but couldn't understand their meaning. She didn't linger in that place for too long. She soon went back to her region and started thoroughly investigating the contents of the book, especially the three lines at the end.

In a place of absolute darkness, where you can only see the far away stars and planets, there stood two silhouettes . One was the Joker and the other was the Nameless Knight .

They've been waiting for a very long time yet none of them moved or voiced a complaint . In this chaotic place where even an Overgod wouldn't survive a second, the two of them stared at a certain direction .

An unbelievable heat was being emitted from a crack far away. Not only was there suffocating heat, an evil aura was slowly creeping out to them, trying to corrupt their minds and consume their souls, however, they were completely immune to such absurdity.

"It's starting."

The Joker's nonchalant expression disappeared, he gazed at the slowly yet surely expanding crack a long distance away and uttered those words .

Loud and unpleasant monstrous sounds were coming from within that crack .

"It's still a bit early . "

As he, too, was staring at the crack while holding a beautiful green pendant in his hand, the knight's gaze turned melancholic .

The Joker shifted his gaze to the Nameless Knight and stretched his hand to the other's shoulder while saying

"You're my brother, you know that, right?"

The Nameless Knight smiled and copied the Joke, holding the latter's shoulder while answering

"Foolish and misguided as you are, you are not without a charm, brother . "

As he heard that, the Joker laughed and patted the young man's shoulders before getting up .

"You know... there's always a phrase he repeatedly told me . 'Grass grows, birds fly, sun shines, and brother, I hurt people . ' Since then, I knew that his path would be the most tragic out of the three of us . "

"Why don't you go help him then?"

The Joker frowned upon hearing the knight's retort . He shook his head and stated:

"Do you really think he would accept my help? Or yours? We, who lost everything, cannot understand the feelings of a desperate man . Unlike us, he still has a chance . "

The Nameless Knight decided to keep his silence as he stared at the starry sky with an absent-minded look .