Once Human 391

Chapter 391

"I assume the destruction of the Golden Earth Sect is your fault?"

Cold Sword thoroughly investigated the matter of the flame snake and the destruction of Vyncent's sect . There was sightings of Arthur, so it wasn't easy to link his presence there with all that happened .

Arthur remained his silent as he inspected her and casually said

"You seemed to have stopped your training routine, I see no improvement since the last time we met ."

Jian Si crossed her arms and coldly snorted while retorting

"And whose fault do you think that is? I've been busy searching for my 'Senior' . "

Hearing this, Arthur became delighted as she finally began spending some efforts in finding Syth . Arthur sat up on a chair which suddenly appeared behind him and made himself comfortable before listening to the irritated Jian Si, who tried her best to keep a respectful attitude, after all, she still wanted him to teach her a few things .

She wasn't behaving like a student, nonetheless, she wasn't as rude as when he first met her.

"What I've discovered left me totally speechless . "

Cold Sword for a second as she saw Arthur's change in expression, she then resumed:

"The young man you assigned me to search for has been sighted in Green-Leaf around five years ago . Back then, he was living in a mortal village only to be discovered by a powerful Sword Saint that was passing by . This Sword Saint praised Syth's skills and made him into his disciple then brought him to his sect . That Sword Saint is actually Joseph Bolona . "

After saying that, Cold Sword remained silent as she stared at Arthur, trying to read his expression .

Claud grasped this moment of silence to explain to Arthur what's a Sword Saint

'Sword Saints are cultivators that reached the peak of sword mastery . Each Sword Saint is an Overgod and there's actually a Realm beyond Sword Saint, it's called Sword God . As far as I know, only the Nameless Knight reached that Realm and perhaps even surpassed that . Your skills with the Sword reached perfection so without a doubt you have the skills of a sword saint but you can't be called so due to your low Realm . '

"What's the name of the Sword Saint's sect?"

Jian Si expected such a question so she quickly gave him the desired answer

"It's the Sky Whale Sword Sect . It's the strongest sword sect in the Cloud Sea Universe and it's situated in the Divine Planet . "

Arthur listened to her and pondered about what to do . Since Syth didn't seem to be in any danger and is actually getting strong in such a powerful sect, he doesn't need to worry . In the future, they'll surely meet and if Syth wants to go back, he'll take him to Astria .

That boy always loved swords and trained meticulously, no wonder he was picked by a Sword Saint, though his luck played a big part in this .

'Now my mind is at ease .'

With Lisa safe and back on Astria and Syth in the Divine Planet, where he's receiving tutoring from a Sword Saint, he can worry about other things and prepare for the White Specter Clan, 'X', and the rest.

Arthur converted with Jian Si for some time before he beckoned with his hand while saying

"Now, shall we begin?"

Confused, Cold Sword tilted her head with a questioning look . Seeing such a comical reaction, Arthur chuckled and said

"You're my student, it's only natural I pass my knowledge to you . "

He has some free time and despite her rotten attitude, he still considered her as his student . She was a talented Sword cultivator and her dao of sword is a bit similar to his .

The usually cold girl became excited as she unsheathed her sword and took a stance.

"No need to hold back, show me what you're made of . "

The aura around her drastically changed, she became like an unsheathed sword, ready to kill her opponent with one strike. The amount of killing intent she was unleashing with overwhelming and would make any weak-willed person unconscious.

With his hand behind his back, Arthur nodded his head as he inspected her using [Eyes of Tranquility]. He could see a red and bloody energy circulate inside her body, though it was most concentrated in her Dantian.

Like a bolt of lightning, Cold Sword charged at Arthur, appearing before him like a ghost . With nimble and swift movements, she stabbed him, holding nothing back .

Unfortunately, the calm Arthur tilted his body in a weird way, easily dodging the attack while still chuckling. This further incensed the short-tempered girl, who slashed with her sword again, causing the wind to become turbulent.

Arthur never moved his feet, he kept tilting his body and evading all her attacks by a hair's breadth . No matter how much she tried, she couldn't touch him . Only after some time did he raise his hand, which had a formless yet incredibly sharp Sword essence enveloping it, and casually swung it at Jian Si, whose face paled as she raised her sword to block the incoming hand .

She felt as if she was hit by a mountain, moreover, the sword-essence around his hand transformed into countless needles that stabbed her body. The force behind his hand, albeit greatly weakened to not hurt her, still caused her to be sent flying thirty or so meters.

She managed to safely land on her feet but her face was paler .

"You focus too much on your first strike and think it's going to land thus you don't think of a countermeasure. Moreover, your energy becomes chaotic when you're in a disadvantage..."

Arthur carefully told her the flaws he noticed in their last exchange. Jian Si stood there and opened her ears wide. Though the notes he gave her were extremely useful and allowed her to reach the rank of Sword Master earlier than expected, experimental training is always better than a theoretical one.

After talking non-stop for ten minutes, Arthur raised his hand and grabbed the air, which startled Jian Si as the sword in her hand, which was supposed to be her life-time companion, was snatched so easily. The sword flew toward Arthur then disappeared into nothingness.

"Here's your first training . Recreate your sword with purely your energy . If you can't do that, your sword will be trapped in my dimensional space, never to see the light of day again . "

Although she was angry, Cold Sword didn't dare throw a tantrum . She helplessly looked at him and retorted

"How is it even possible to create a sword with just energy?"

What she said was true. Energy was formless and her sword was a material thing, to recreate it using energy is such an absurd idea.

"Oh but it's possible . Your sword needs to be part of you, its energy, shape, height, everything... only then will you understand my meaning . "

In a demonstration, Arthur raised his right hand, from which emitted ominous darkness that enveloped a small area around him . The darkness didn't last long and was soon replaced by a dark blade that burned with black flames .

The illusory dark blade was so sharp that the ground under it suffered a clean slash mark. Witnessing this, Jian Si became momentarily flabbergasted.

The dark blade soon vanished as Arthur sat on a nearby chair, crossed his arms and gazed at the dark-haired girl, expecting him to begin .

Cold Sword closed her eyes and pictured her red sword as energy circulated in her hand . The moment the energy started taking shape, it shattered, causing the girl to feel dizzy .

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Like a statue, Arthur gazed at Jian Si for twelve-hours . The usually cold and indifferent girl was now panting as she laid on the ground . She couldn't even lift a finger as Arthur's task was much harder and exhausting that she initially thought .

As someone in the God Realm, she has a considerable amount of stored Nether Energy yet it was depleted in the four hours . She had to use precious recovery pills that increased her absorption of Nether Energy .

She could feel Arthur's stare, he remained silent and would only throw a few remarks now and then . When he finally told her to go get some rest, Jian Si felt as if she was pardoned . She dragged her heavy body and entered her nearby residence .

Although meditation would help her recover, she was so mentally fatigued that she fell asleep the moment she laid on her bed . It has been so long since she slept as she always spends her time practicing with the sword or cultivating .

Back on the peak of mountain, Arthur was still sitting on the chair and staring at the starry-sky with an absent-minded look.

Very soon, two youths appeared before him, both were bowing respectfully . One was a red-haired youth while the other had a striking resemblance to the former with only difference being the color of the hair .

"I need you two to go to Earth and get something for me . "

"I shall follow thy command . "

"As you wish."

Surprisingly, Midolf didn't dare curse or fight with Radolf as he saw the serious look on Arthur's face . After gazing at them for some time, he explained what needs to be done while the two silently and carefully listened .

After bowing one last time, the two entered a Spatial Tunnel he just created, disappearing from Green-Leaf.

"No one will accept your actions . We're not talking about one or two factions, I fear that all of them will form an alliance to take you down . "

Arthur chuckled and retorted

"Let them try for when I show myself, I shall flip the world upside down . "

Inside the ARK, Claud stared at the endless white space before him while muttering

"So this how the Prophecy begins... but what about its ending?"

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Arthur spent a week with Jian Si and left when she managed to create half of the sword . He trapped her sword in a Spatial Dimension at the peak of her mountain and told her that she'll only be able to retrieve once she recreates the entirety of her partner .

The reason he was about to leave is because he felt the return of Lucy . Thanks to the soul bind, if the distance separating them is short, he can pinpoint her position .

Unfortunately for Arthur, before he could go back to their residence in the capital, Lucy was already coming here! Moreover, with terrifying speed. Such weak formations were nothing for her. Though she lacked any Stealth skills, it wasn't hard to sneak in by relying on her high Agility and Dexterity.

Her speed slowed down by a bit once she entered the Mountain Ba sword sect, nonetheless, she arrived sooner than expected . It has been less than ten minutes since she came back from Losha's mountain yet here she is, facing a nervous Arthur .

Though he told her about Jian Si, he would rather the two never met as Lucy was quite over-protective and get jealous really, really fast. In fact, he can't remember a time she didn't get jealous when he talked to another woman, except Anastassia, Sonia, and Mary.

Without turning back, Arthur could feel a piercing glare land on his back, making him feel itchy and fidgety. He slowly turned his head only to see Lucy standing a distance away from, arms crossed and giving him a strange look. She spared him a quick glance before she shifted her attention to a girl not far away. It was a dark-haired girl who was a beauty but a thick and suffocating killing intent radiated from her.

Jian Si, who was busy manipulating her energy, noticed Arthur's weird actions. She followed his gaze only to see a new guest, it was a silver-haired woman with exceptional beauty and blood-red eyes. The pressure she felt from the woman was by no means inferior to Arthur.

The temperature decreased by a dozen degrees and the ground showed signs of being frozen. Seeing this, Arthur had to interfere lest Lucy really tries something.

He awkwardly laughed and said

"H,haha . . hahaha this is my wife, Lucy . "

He swiftly appeared behind Lucy and held both of her shoulders while saying that, as if he was introducing her. Lucy showed a friendly smile as she said

"I assume you're Jian Si, the student?"

She shook off Arthur's hands and walked up to the startled Jian Si, who politely nodded her head. Unlike with Arthur, she behaved herself as she felt a suffocating pressure emanating from Lucy, like an angry tigress.

The two women shook hands before an awkward silence dominated the atmosphere . Arthur had to butt in again, he instructed Jian Si to continue training while dragging to a secluded side of the mountain

"Hmpf! I thought you were meticulously training yet you're flirting with young girls!"

Arthur innocently waved his hands and tried to explain himself

"I was really training her, honest! I've only been here for a week so I-"

He was interrupted yet again as Lucy lashed out again

"A whole week with her alone? Hmpf!"

She turned her head the other way and walked away, clearly angry . Arthur felt helpless as he couldn't find a way to please his jealous wife of his .

With no other choice, he appeared next to her and before she back away or react, he planted a kiss on her rosy and soft lips. Though it wasn't a normal kiss, his tongue invaded her mouth and sucked everything, which prolonged the duration of the kiss.

Only after a long while did the two lips separate, leaving a red-faced and panting Lucy . Who looked at Arthur with a strange gaze . He thought he bought himself time to explain but she pushed him against and the wall and the following events shall be omitted...

Not to be heard or discovered, Arthur had already hidden himself and Lucy in a separate dimension . After enjoying themselves for several hours without rest thanks to their infinite Stamina, the two talked about what happened when they were separated while cuddling .

Lucy explained to him how the world suddenly turned into absolute darkness as she heard the loud roar of Makaze. She also told him about the Nameless Knight, who took Makaze and left, promising Losha to give it back to Arthur.

Confused, Arthur turned to Claud, who awkwardly scratched his head and said

"So yeah... you remember the youth that you found in the Westia continent? The one whom you gave that sword . That's the Nameless Knight . "

This startled Arthur, never did he think that the strange youth in the Westia Continent.

"Even if you go back now, you won't find him . You met the younger version of the Nameless Knight, before he disappeared both from the game and Earth . "

"Why would he take Makaze from Losha? It is really just to return the favor?"

Claud shook his head in ignorance while answering

"I don't know . "

Although troubled by the missing Makaze, Arthur hoped that he'll get it soon . He can only display half of his power without the dark blade .

Arthur proceeded to speak of his adventures, how he killed Visto . His trip to the South and killing the flame snake while saving Lisa . However, he only got another angry glare from Lucy, who berated him for not bringing her with him .

If she did come, killing the snake wouldn't have been so hard, especially with her Yin powers, which counters any fire beasts .

The two left the secluded cave sometime later, finding a hard-working Jian Si, still trying to create the sword using only her energy .

Fortunately, Lucy calmed down but still looked at Cold Sword unfavorably . It wasn't the girl's fault, it's just that Lucy considers any pretty woman an enemy, a potential rival .

Although the Arthur who appeared in her mountain told her to go this place after Two months, Losha still went earlier than expected . She gave Lucy a training routine and was sure that her disciple will meticulously cultivate .

She was both curious and fearful after all the events that occurred since her first meeting with the weird couple .

From meeting a time-traveler to meeting the Nameless Knight . It became a total cluster fuck . The world she just appeared in was none other than Astria . More precisely, she landed in the Western Continent .

Thanks to her high cultivation, her senses were extremely sharp so the moment she appeared her, she noticed the unnatural death energy lingering in the air.

She turned her head toward the South and furrowed her brows, clearly startled.

"This is a land of death!"

It took her a few minutes to appear South of the Western Continent . Lo and behold, an army of undead with countless bone dragons, death knights and other variants .

Even someone as strong-willed as Losha became pale upon witnessing the humongous army before her . The number of undead surpassed the hundred million, they were all clustered next to each other . The land became corrupted and even breathing became difficult .

This place became that of death, the might of this motionless army wasn't great as they haven't awakened yet, however, one could imagine what they'll do once they're organized and ready.

"Just what the hell is going on!"

As she spread her sense even further, her expression turned uglier as she hastily turned toward the East

"FUCK! So this is what you wanted me to protect!"

A short while later, she was before a tall tree that pierced the sky itself. Its branches stretched to all direction, covering more than half of the Eastern continent.

"ААААААААААНННААН... ААААААН"

Inside the black manor, precisely back in the gloomy room. Saly was holding her head as blood came out of her ears, nose, and eyes. The pain never ceased and it became worse with every passing day.

An expressionless young man was calmly watching her suffer . He showed no sympathy or pity, he crossed his arms and closely watched the changes occurring to Saly .

"Today is the last day, if you fail to overcome it, you're dead . "

He said it so casually yet all Saly could hear was a deafening ringing sound . Her body convulsed inside that pool of blood, which started shining with a white light . Her voice became so loud that it reverberated in all corners of the manor .

At some point, she no longer has the strength to yell, she laid inside the pool as her body wriggled and the brown fur that covered parts of her body started falling.

Seeing this, the young main, Leiu, said with a cold voice

"And now, born from the ashes, she's a warrior in bloodied back . "

Slowly but surely, a new kind of fur started growing on her body. It was a soft and beautiful white fur that shone with a brilliant light, bringing some illumination to this godforsaken room.

Saly was still unconscious as her body started healing itself and strengthening her bones .

Leiu slowly got up from his seat and left the room after throwing one lance glance at the girl .

Outside the manor, Astrith, who turned half illusory as he was on the brink of death after fighting Milkan for a very long time, looked at the pillar of light that rose to the dark sky, piercing it and extinguishing the miniature sun.

A young man clad in dark armor appeared a distance away from Astrith, who viciously stared at him, demanding an explanation .

"Back then, they bound her due to her rapid growth yet she bit off their hand . Now, without their presence, she'll be able to achieve what she couldn't in the past . "

Confused, Astrith retorted

"What are you talking about?"

Leiu softly smiled as he met the wolf's gaze, he put on his dark helmet before answering

"Fenrir."

After which, he disappeared, leaving a dumbfounded Astrith, who was sent flying by Milkan.

Chapter 393

Somewhere on Astria, precisely inside a cave illuminated by the torch of a frail-looking woman . She had a thin body, pale skin, and long hair . She slowly raised her torch to see the nearby walls, which had weird paintings . This woman was none other than Lissandra, who disappeared from The MoonStar Sect without anyone's notice .

With her mortal body and extremely weak physique, she ventured into old places and followed many clues until she reached this strange cave .

She followed the paintings, one by one . Her expressionless face experienced a change as she saw the rise of a sect, a prosperous city . The symbol above the sect indicated that it was Arthur and Lucy's sect .

The woman's eyes narrowed as she shifted her attention to the next painting, which depicted an undying army dominating the land .

Right next to that, there was a big tree that covered the whole wall, however, it was being attacked by winged-creatures. Lissandra quickly came to know the end of this tree, which was burned down until it became ashes.

A frown appeared on her delicate face as she hesitantly turned her head toward the last painting . It showed a man wrapped in darkness, ripping a scroll larger than himself .

'Angels are invading Astria?

The events on the walls were consecutive, apparently, however, only the first one occurred as far as Lissandra is aware . So she still has time to change the course of things .

If the World Tree were to be discovered by the Angels, it would condemn all of Astria . Yes, she sinned in the past and did many evil things . However, she is trying her best to change despite being a mortal . The reason she started this adventure of hers is because she was curious, very curious .

Astria was never mentioned in any records of the Underworld or any other world, it's like it never existed. That is very strange, even if it's a remote or secret world, it's bound to be mentioned at least once yet Astria was like a ghost.

There are some that stumble upon it by chance but that's just luck, or so thought Lissandra.

'Zodiak, the World Tree, Arthur . Why did they end up here? Just what is this place?'

With the torch still in hand, she marched deeper into the cave, planning to get her answers .

West of Astria, in the High Tower of the MoonStar Sect . Delia finally broke through to the Sovereign Realm . The book Arthur handed to her was more than enough to allow her to advance to the next Realm . Her graceful figure left the room as she breathed some fresh air while showing a satisfied smile .

She stretched her limbs and was about to check what the others are doing only for a bright light to envelop her and drag her across time and space .

A few minutes later, Delia found herself in a spacious white hall . The rich amount of Light Energy indicated that it's not a normal place . After careful observation, Delia knew where she were .

It was the Glory Hall situated at the HQ of the Holy Dominion . Her rank wasn't that high so she never got to come here . While gulping some saliva, she slowly turned her head only to see a gentle-looking old man with a long white beard and two women behind him .

"Thanks to your breakthrough, we were able to snatch you from his hands . "

Unable to understand his words, Delia tilted his head in confusion:

"Since the moment you were captured by Zodiak's magic, we were unable to locate you, much less save you . Your breakthrough greatly weakened his Dark Magic thus we were able to snatch you before it automatically retaliates . "

Delia nodded her head as she understood the gist of it but couldn't think straight as things evolved to this stage. The old man before her was one of the high-rankers in the Holy Echelon, meaning he didn't belong to the Dominion's army but he still boasted unimaginable strength.

She bowed respectfully toward the old man and said:

"I thank Cardinal Zeves . "

The old man waved his hand while kindly smiling.

"Although we're sure it's not Zodiak, it's still someone capable of using Dark Magic and this cannot continue any longer . We've located him and sent a small group to hold him before we determine his weakness . This also falls on you, you've been captured by him for a few years so you must know some things about him, yes?"

Delia sucked a deep breath as she heard the old man say that they captured him . She was aware of his abilities and how fast he grows so most likely, the group sent to slow him down will be annihilated shortly . At first, she was enemies with Arthur but they soon became friends, especially her relationship with Lucy, who treated her like a family member .

Nevertheless, if she tried to lie to this Cardinal, she'ss be discovered. Left with no choice, she began telling him about Arthur but she left a lot of things unsaid, like his strong attacks or his ability to possess corpses. Though she talked for some time, she never mentioned Lucy, hoping that when they face Arthur, they won't be able to resist again another powerful foe.

While it's true she still had her beliefs and such, the emotions she currently felt left her conflicted . If not for Arthur, she wouldn't have broken through to the Sovereign Realm so betraying him like this didn't feel right .

"Please let me be part of this attack . "

Delia begged the Cardinal, who was surprised at first but nodded his head as he thought she sought revenge. However, he still decided to send the two deacons behind him to accompany her. Furthermore, the two deacons were no jokes, they were both a God Monarch.

As she was much more talented than Arthur, Lucy decided to guide Jian Si, who was firmly opposed at first only to begrudgingly accept after she was beaten senseless by Lucy's kicks and punches. Cold Sword to believe that she couldn't beat Lucy with her sword in hand so Arthur obediently gave her the sword only for her to become a literal sandbag.

She couldn't even retaliate as Lucy vented her anger on her though she didn't really cause any heavy damage. Still, the girl groaned from pain and only returned to normal when Arthur used his Life magic to instantly heal her.

Whenever Jian Si went out of control when she's creating her sword using her energy, she would receive a whip from a normal stick . Since the stick was strengthened using Lucy's pure Mana, it hurt like hell .

Although it's rough and painful, this kind of trying turned out to be rather effective on Jian Si, who showed good results after merely a day .

As Lucy was busy monitoring the stubborn girl, Arthur who was in deep contemplation, suddenly opened his eye. He sensed something from his storage and after taking a certain crystal out of the ring, it emitted a blinding flash of light before shattering into countless pieces.

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Lucy also noticed this and walked up to Arthur while saying

"That's..."

Arthur bitterly nodded his head . However, Lucy shook her head and softly smiled

"Don't worry about it, I'm sure she wouldn't betray us . "

Despite her reassuring words, Arthur was still hesitating. He didn't know her like Lucy did which part of the reason he couldn't fully trust what she'll do in the future.

"I saw group of knights that belonged to the Holy Order in the capital . I think they picked up my trace .

A cold glint flashed across Lucy's eyes . She pondered for a moment before saying

"I can take care of them . They don't know about me so I'll be able to attack when they drop their guard . "

Arthur showed an instant refusal as he retorted

"No can do . We still don't know their true power, others can be hiding elsewhere . We'll try to lay low and I'll not use Dark Magic... I just hope Makaze won't come back now, if I were to touch the blade; it'll complete its recovery and the burst of Dark Magic it'll unleash will alert the whole capital . "

For now, there is no point going outside and exposing themselves, especially for Arthur, who not only has to worry about the Holy Dominion, but Athard too .

In the Crown Prince's office, Isadore was frowning as he read the new information he just received . This time, it was a mix of Arthur and Lucy . Wrath, who was lazing around like usual, picked up on Isadore's expression and asked

"What's wrong? I rarely see you react like that . "

Isadore remained silent for a few seconds, tapping his finger on the table while deeply pondering about something .

"I never thought it'll be like this . A path is presented before me, make a friend and create an enemy, or stay out of this . "

The middle-aged man rolled his eyes as he didn't know what the prince was talking about . He waved his hand and said

"Just stay out of this, less troubles!"

He was ignored by the blond-haired prince, who was in a dilemma .

"The White Specter Clan, is it? Do I inform them of their lost daughter's location or side with the unknown?"

Isadore closed his eyes and leaned on the chair while thinking to himself

'Ah! Arthur MoonStar, you're shrouded by many secrets . Your wife is just as special as you are, I can't say that you're not a perfect couple . Then again, you're being too cautious, it surely can't be just to not attract the attention of Lucy's clan... then why? What's making you so anxious? . . . wait!'

He abruptly got up from his chair and rampaged through some documents behind him . After a few minutes, he found what he needed . After carefully reading the contents over and over again, he grinned as he discovered something .

'The Holy Dominion isn't interested in the Space Dragon yet they dispatched a group of Holy Knights . 5 years ago, Rozak, a High Priest of the Holy Echelon was killed in the wasteland . The identity of the killer was unknown but the witnesses described the phenomena as ominous and horrifying . 'Encroaching Darkness that devoured all in its way', total annihilation of the area . An ancient magic that forces to the Holy Dominion to act like this... of course! How couldn't I think of it! He can use Dark Magic .'

Isadore turned around and gazed at the half-sleeping Wrath while asking

"In your opinion, what kind of person can wield the dark blade?"

Once he heard 'dark blade', Wrath jumped from his seat and became serious . He took a few seconds to think before replying

"I would say someone with a high affinity with the Darkness attribute . Evil Wind feeds on the emotion of its owner so a certain compatibility must be reached . "

'Bingo!'

Isadore received the answer he was expecting. Everything suddenly became much clearer.

Chapter 394

Two weeks after Lucy left Losha's mountain, things became more chaotic in the capital . Many young talents and powerful individuals clustered in the city, preparing for the opening of the dragon's lair . Their cultivation will be reduced and sealed but those with enough experience will easily be able to overpower the newbies . Some famous youngsters that belonged to the High-Realms appeared in the Imperial Capital, causing a lot of uproars .

Nonetheless, the ones that were more even popular were the initial residents of Green-Leaf, whose fame already stretched to all corners of this world .

For example, the Flame Crown Prince of the Five Phoenix Kingdom or the Sacred Priest of the Holy Academy . Some friction between these young talents started surfacing but it wasn't that big of a deal as the Crown Prince held everyone in check .

Though these young talents hailing from powerful places are arrogant, they still treated the Crown Prince, a mortal, with utmost respect. It is not mere luck that a mortal Royal Family managed to reign Green-Leaf for such a long time. Moreover, the guardians that are protecting the royalty are not something to laugh at. It is rumored that there is at least one Overgod protecting the King.

Fortunately, Jian Si managed to finish the task Arthur had given her. Just by continuously depleting her energy for three continuous weeks, she managed to increase her cultivation by a whole grade. That was, however, nothing compared to her improvements in terms of Sword mastery.

With her sword finally back in her possession, Jian Si became delighted as she caressed the red sword . Almost unconsciously, Nether Energy stretched from her finger and wrapped around her sword, surprising her .

She now understood the meaning behind Arthur's words . This energy was soon replaced by a sharp and formless Sword Essence that boosted her power .

Just like Arthur's illusory Makaze, the ground under her red blase was cut by the formless Sword Essence . As she was rejoicing upon her breakthrough, an Outer Disciple came to her mountain, informing her that she's got a special visitor .

Confused, Jian Si waited for this visitor to be escorted here only for her face to distort once she saw this unwelcome guest .

The visitor received a cold glare from Jian Si, who didn't know why the top disciple of the Mirage Era Hall would pay her a visit, after all, they weren't even friends!

Shu Ru politely cupped her fists in greeting then looked around as if she was expecting to see someone else beside Cold Sword .

Noticing her strange actions, Jian Si said

"What do you want?"

Shu Ru furrowed her brows as she could only sense Cold Sword's presence . After walking toward the visibly irritated girl, Shu Ru showed a friendly smiled as she answered

"I was looking for someone . I was sure that he must be here . "

"What brings the angry miss all the way here?"

A voice came from behind her, startling Shu Ru, who abruptly turned her head only to see both Arthur and Lucy standing some distance away .

Lucy was as expressionless as ever while Arthur was mockingly grinning at her . The girl pouted and puffed her cheeks while retorting

"Who's an angry miss? It's your fault to begin with!"

Her sudden outburst was a surprise for Jian Si, who never saw her act like this . Shu Ru is known to be a calm and kind girl .

'I guess he has a talent for angering women .'

It wasn't just Shu Ru, every women Arthur meets, he will surely anger no matter what he says.

"Me? I certainly did nothing . "

Arthur raised his hands in innocence while quickly changing the topic

"So, you couldn't have come all the way here just to throw a tantrum, right?"

Still incensed, Shu Ru took a deep breath to calm herself down then said

"The opening of the dragon's lair is approaching . I was wondering if you'll go?"

Arthur firmly shook his head and gave her a straight and clear answer

"No, a lot of prying eyes and too much trouble . "

A bit disappointed, the girl's shoulders dropped but she didn't give up yet .

"Everyone entering will have their cultivation reduced and sealed . You don't need to fear them, moreover, the treasures and artifacts laying in that Realm will benefit you greatly . "

Still uninterested, Arthur waved his hand dismissively, clearly indicating his final answer. With no choice but to switch her target to Lucy, who shook her head without saying anything.

In fact, Losha did tell her that a powerful protective talisman that can protect her from soul-attacks in the dragon's lair, however, it's too big of a risk.

Since their last cooperation went to well, Shu Ru wanted to venture inside the dragon's lair with Lucy and Arthur, however, it wasn't possible. Dejected, she could only bid farewell and leave the mountain, after all, she has to prepare a lot of things before going to the secret Realm.

When only the couple and Jian Si were left on the peak of the mountain, Cold Sword looked at Arthur and curiously asked

"You're really not going?"

Arthur nodded his head, not bothering to repeat his words . After a short while, he seemed to remember something as he asked her

"I heard you're going, is that true?"

Jian Sir firmly nodded her head and said:

"There's no better battlefield than that place . There will be a lot of strong fighters . "

'Oh yeah, she's a battle freak .'

He almost forgot that she's a person who goes around fighting and killing people . As she followed a peculiar Sword Dao, it's indeed beneficial for her to venture in such a dangerous place .

. . .

Claud Venis, who was watching what's happening from within the ARK, clicked his tongue and leaned next to a white table in front of him while resting his chin on his hand.

'I wonder for what reason he'll go to the dragon's lair... It's a shame prophecies show only what will happen, not why .'

The dark and gloomy manor was as silent and creepy as ever . The sun that used to hung above was devoured by the bright light that came from the godforsaken room Saly was in .

Astrith was nowhere to be seen, as for Leiu, he came back after a while, exactly when Saly woke up from her long and peaceful slumber .

Without even knowing what happened to her or processing where she is, she was held by the back of her neck and dragged to the unimaginably big courtyard.

She looked at the dark world with astonishment, she could barely see anything . She glanced at the youth clad in dark armor next to her and was about to ask something only for her to see a strand of white hair fall in front of her eyes .

Her hair, which had grown very long, was as white as snow. Moreover, the color of pupils became skyblue, though she didn't notice that. She could feel herself full of vigor and much stronger than before. Unfortunately, Leiu denied her the time to enjoy her newly acquired power.

"Don't start gloating yet . You're still as weak as an ant . "

He paused for a split second after he confirmed that her attention was focused on him .

"Normally, I would train you but I know a very good instructor, the best one, in fact . "

Just as he said those words, the world of darkness was illuminated by a red, white and grey light which descended from above . The light remained for only a few seconds before it was replaced by a white figure .

He wore a weird costume and had tattoos under his eye. His lips were actually violet, either done by a lipstick or something else.

"Hello Hello!"

He cheerfully waved his hand to the dazed Saly . He walked in a swaggy manner as he chuckled to himself .

The Joker hugged his arms in excitement while saying

"Ahhhh I can't believe you called me to train a Fenrir . This make me soooooo moved!"

Leiu's face remained deadpan as he gazed at the Joker. He quickly left after saying

"I leave her in your care . "

The Joker responded with a thumbs-up.

"Don't worry, I will educate her properly . "

Saly got shivers down her spines but she didn't show any signs of fear as she remained motionless, staring at the incoming strange man .

The Nameless Knight left, leaving only the two of them. The Joker squatted to the same level as the little girl and inspected her from head to toe while nodding his head

"Mhmm I see a forced bloodline awakening mixed with some body strengthening, not bad considering how poor he is . "

Saly didn't know what he was rambling about, she bowed her head and said

"Hello I'm S-"

He cut her off before she could even introduce herself

"Saly MoonStar, of course I know you! Now let me introduce myself!"

He stood up and took a comical pose . He inclined his back and raised one leg, one hand on his temple while the other pressed on his hips .

"The Magician 'extraordinaire', Infamous Trickster and Godslayer . I am none other than The Joker himself! Master of all and Jack of none!"

Seeing her try to hold back her laughter, the Joker frowned as he thought that his introduction was the best in history .

"Now, let us not waste our precious time . "

He even backed away a few steps and beckoned her with her hand

"Come now, little sapling . "

Confused, Saly tilted her head only for him to add:

"Attack me . Use all your might . "

Saly hesitated for a few seconds which led him to speak again

"Didn't you say you wanted to get stronger? You've but passed the easiest hurdle . My job is to teach you how to fight . "

Hearing this, Saly mustered her courage and lunged herself at him, her speed was drastically faster and her the strength behind her incoming punch was monstrous too .

Unfortunately, before she could hit him, she was sent flying by a kick that landed on her abdomen . The Joker, still smiling, retaliated against the little girl without holding back .

The little girl held her stomach as she groaned in pain while laying on the dark ground.

"What? Suffering already? Alright, I'll give you one last chance . You can give up and we'll stop . "

He crossed his arms and voiced his thoughts to which Saly slowly got up while gasping for breath . Her eyes showed her strong resolution .

"Are you absolutely sure? This will be not be a walk in the park . I'm not as merciless as Leiu, even though you're the daughter of a brother . "

Still unwilling to give up, Saly slowly made her way toward the Joker . In response, he burst out in laughter while staring at the little girl with a strange gaze

"Very well, let us proceed . "

Chapter 395

In a famous restaurant situated near the large castle belonging to the royalty, Arthur and Lucy were quietly enjoying a delicious meal . Lucy's hair was jet black and some of her facial features were changes . As for Arthur, he was possessing a woman's body, precisely the body he used back when he entered the tomb five years ago .

Though these two women were no kingdom-toppling beauties, they still gathered a few glances from passing youngsters .

There was even a red-haired youth who kept staring at Lucy . She wasn't particularly angry as such things occur frequently, though she was confused about why they were getting this much attention when their appearance was greatly changed .

Lucy forgot to think about their cultivation, they were both Sovereigns and their identity is unknown, so it's pretty normal for normal disciples, who were bored and wanted to make a move on them, to hesitate after sensing the big difference in cultivation.

Only the red-haired youth kept glancing at her and Arthur, who's almost about to flip the table . They came here to investigate the group of Holy Knights, who frequently come to this restaurant .

They'll arrive shortly and the attention they were getting wasn't welcomed. His lips ever-so-slightly shook he was about to use some formless poison to force him into unconsciousness.

Fortunately, the kid's attention transferred to a couple of newcomers . It was an elegant-looking young man wearing a grey robe accompanied by a short girl with a pink and curly hair . There were a few others following them but they seemed like lackeys .

Arthur threw an uninterested glance at them before focusing on his food . His target was the Holy Knights, who are using some strange method to track all the places he had been two the past few weeks . They already visited the Mirage Era Hall and Losha's weapon shop .

He isn't dumb enough to wait for them to ambush him, their intentions weren't good and any enemy must be killer sooner than later. They have five God Monarchs and despite his absolute strength, he must personally inspect them to make sure his plan works flawlessly.

"Brother Artid, Senior Clara."

The red-haired youth cupped his fists in greeting . The grey-robbed young smiled and sat next to his friend, as for the pink-haired girl, she seemed pretty bored as she slouched on the chair .

She scanned all the customers before her eyes momentarily stopped on the two women sitting a distance away . She frowned and focused her sense but still couldn't gauge their strength .

She let out an excited chuckle and kept staring at the two women for a while before shifting her attention to two figures who just entered the restaurant .

Since Arthur was the one facing the door, the moment he saw those who entered, he put all his efforts in creating a very strong dimensional barrier that greatly decreased Lucy's presence.

Startled by his actions, he used telekinesis to warn her

"Our luck is really bad . Don't spread your sense or grab attention . "

He then described to her the two new customers. One was an old man wearing butler clothes, he had a scar on his face and his cultivation was unfathomable. As for the woman, she strongly resembled Lucy.

In fact, one would say they're twins if not for the beauty spot under her left eye, which added to her charm . Unlike the coldness Lucy usually emits, this woman seemed indifferent to everything and everyone .

When she entered, everyone became talking in low tones while glancing at her . Even Clara, Artid and the red-haired youth didn't dare invite her to their table .

The woman quietly sat on an empty table whilst the old man remained standing.

Arthur clicked his tongue as they sat right to next them .

Inside the ARK, Claud mocked him

'Hahahaha told you that you can't escape such encounters . If you're bound to meet then you'll meet, one way or another .'

Arthur only wanted Lucy to remain undiscovered . White Specters had a certain smell on them and some like that old man would definitely smell her the moment he removed the dimensional barrier .

'It is better to deal with the Holy Knights than the White Specter Clan .'

Arthur fingers, which were under the table, released a few illusory dark strings that latched themselves on the surprised Lucy .

Dark Magic started entering her body, consuming the energy within to further decrease her smell. If her body is devoid of energy, the probability of finding her when she's inside this barrier is minimal.

As long as she doesn't purposely activate her skills or abilities, things should be fine.

Inside the ARK, Claud, who was chuckling to himself, suddenly held his head and crouched on the ground . His mind flashed with several images, each worse than the former . His body started sweating profusely as he panted heavily .

He quickly got up and warned Arthur

"Arthur! Quickly get out of that place but don't take Lucy! Quickly!"

What Claud saw was a prophecy about will happen very soon. It wasn't a good sight as things will become complicated if Arthur were to remain in that restaurant.

Although Arthur didn't know what his copy was on about, he still followed his words . He kept the barrier around Lucy and told her to remain here for a while .

Obviously, she knew better than to arouse suspicion about her . She threw a couple of glances at the silver-haired woman, who's supposed to be her sister as she resembled her too much!

Still possessing the body of the woman, Arthur left the restaurant and entered the alley then spread his sense. Just as his Sixth Sense caught the presence of several people, a dignified middle-aged man appeared before him.

With a domineering presence and strong presence, he stood before Arthur and frowned.

"I don't know how you're able to do it, nonetheless, you'll have to follow me!"

This man was none other than Athard . Moreover, the several presences he felt belonged to the damned Holy Knights . He didn't know how but they got a method that led him right to him .

If he stayed at the restaurant, it would've implicated Lucy, who wouldn't have stayed still.

Athard, full of anger, glared at the tall woman in front of him . His heart was beating rapidly as he finally caught the killer of his son .

Although he was surprised to see a woman instead of Arthur, the artifact the Holy Knights were using was genuine and efficient. They visited him a couple of days ago and inquired about his son's incident.

Though it was disrespectful, they still asked to inspect Visto's dead body, promising him that it's the only clue that'll lead them to the culprit.

They used a strange golden device which flashed with a bright light the moment it got closer to Visto . After a while, it started pointing South-West .

The Holy Knights didn't act immediately, they negotiated an alliance with him, which he agreed upon . They needed the culprit alive, if possible, however, he can cripple his cultivation or torture him before they take him .

'Hmpf! A God Monarch, is it?'

As he received the patriarch's glare, Arthur's hand was faster than his enemy's reaction . It was like lightning as it penetrated the man's stomach and unleashed an absurd amount of death energy and Dark Magic .

Athard's complexion paled as he coughed blood and staggered a few steps. Unfortunately, the moment Arthur acted, five golden figures jumped from all direction, all casting a spell on him.

His eye shone with a bright blue light, stopping time for a couple of seconds . He icily glared at all the incoming enemies before his body transformed into a large white Tiger .

He didn't waste any second as he opened his mouth and spat the deadliest acid in his arsenal. The moment he spat he acid, time took its course again.

Athard and another Holy Knight weren't lucky enough to dodge or resist, which bypassed the Nether Energy wrapped around bodies, trying to shake off the acid.

Since the quantity of acid that landed on them wasn't great, it didn't melt their whole bodies, however, Athard's both legs turned into a puddle of melted meat and bones, truly disgusting.

As for that Holy Knight, who was at the peak Sovereign, the acid bypassed a golden shield he created only to land on his stomach, melting the armor and affecting his Dantian.

Even his Dantian wasn't spared by the acid, which melted his whole waist, leaving him wriggling in the ground .

The four other Holy Knights were fast enough to dodge and back away instead of continuing their attack

The five God Monarchs still didn't attack. Athard, who was wailing from pain, suddenly halted his shouting, speechless, he stared at the divine beast before him.

Same thing for the retreating four figures . The White Tiger turned illusory as it disappeared from their view, before they could react, the four Sovereigns turned into four mists of blood, not even knowing how they died .

Such a narrow alley could barely fit the White Tiger, which decreased in size. Once Arthur flew in the air, the body expanded to its original size. He could feel five powerful presences following him and forming a circle around him.

The clear blue sky was quickly replaced by dark and clustered clouds that cast a looming shadow on half of the city .

The leader of the Holy Knights, a gentle-looking old man who wore a thick armor, stared at the White Tiger with wariness .

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He placed his sword vertically in front of his chest and closed his eyes, praying . The other four did the same thing, causing five pillars of light to penetrate the dark clouds and cause a commotion big enough to alert the people below .

• • •

Back at the restaurant, the blinding light that was caused by the five pillars of light caused the customers to get up and leave, wanting to see what's going on .

Though she knew what's going on, Lucy clenched her fists and stared at the gloomy sky, spotting a large White Tiger.

Chapter 396

The red-haired youth, Artid, and even Clara, were dumbfounded upon witnessing the fight above.

"Is that a White Tiger?"

"It appears to be so . "

The two young men conversed with each other before Clara stated

"It's not a Divine Beast . It doesn't emit any divinity, quite the contrary, it seems evil . "

Her eyes were glued on the large White Tiger .

Even the silver-haired woman that resembled Lucy and her butler left the restaurant, gazing at the tiger . The woman gazed at the tiger while remaining silent . As for the butler, he furrowed his brows while inwardly gasping

'What sorcery is this? It is becoming stronger by the second!'

Out of nowhere, two wings, larger than even the beast itself, sprung from its back. One was as beautiful and soothing as angel's, as for the other, it was black and emitted a withering grey fog.

This, however, was but the beginning of the transformation . Loud thunderclaps came from the dark clouds, striking the white tiger and enveloping it in green thunder, except for its wings .

Then, the lightning could only be seen twirling around the big beast the usually majestic beast turned jet black as it was enveloped by ominous dark flames.

'Let's see if you can match my speed .'

The five pillars of light were like a prison, stopping him from leaving it while they attack him . Unfortunately, he didn't care as his body disappeared from their sight before it rammed into one of the God Monarchs, sending him flying far away, leaving only a fountain of blood behind .

Those witnessing this from above could only see four God Monarch disappear from the sky in less than two seconds . Even the old man leading them was flabbergasted as he stared at this creepy tiger which was glaring at him .

The five pillars of light disappeared as he got rid of four yet the feeling he got from this old man was totally different .

The enemy stopped praying and took out a shield from his back while facing the tiger, which turned illusory then appeared behind him, slashing with its claws .

This wasn't even teleportation, his speed was so fast that the enemy couldn't even follow him . The old man raised the shield and successfully blocked the claws but he was still pushed two hundred meters and before he could stabilize his body, the tiger appeared before him again .

Acid was spat from its mouth, landing on the old man's armor and shield, causing its to start melting, slowly but surely .

The elder's face was paler than ever, even with his cultivation, he could do nothing but receive a beating from the tiger, or whatever it was .

As Arthur was going to hit the old man with his body, the latter took out a white pendant which shot out a beam of light . Unfortunately, before it could even hit him, it was stopped by a golden barrier that absorbed up to 80% of the incoming damage .

The remaining 20% were blocked by the following dark barrier. Although surprised again, the old man didn't give up as he shot out an even larger beam only for it to suffer the same fate as the first.

The pendant showed signs of cracking after firing five times, none of them hitting the tiger. The old man raised his shield again to blocked the tiger only for the beast to suddenly appear behind him, its fangs impaling his precious armor and causing blood to ooze out.

The tiger violent shook the old man, which was stuck in its fangs before large quantities of acid landed on the leader of the holy knights, whose faces became transfigured. Nonetheless, he still managed to use some sort of a Holy skill to heal some of his heavy injuries then he slash with his sword, which emitted a dangerous light that forced Arthur to let go of his enemy.

As the old man cast a healing spell on himself, five thick pillars of light appeared a distance away from their fight, however, these pillars were different from the other ones.

After three seconds, blinding spheres of light flew from the horizon and entered the old man's body . Upon seeing this, he knew that his comrades sacrificed themselves to do a ritual that strengthened him .

There are still three Sovereigns hiding, however, they were only tasked to watch as they aren't strong enough to partake in this life-threatening battle.

Immense power surged inside the old man, who's face returned to normal . His armor was fixed and his injured body fully recovered .

•••

"Wanna try fighting it?"

Clara interjected as she smiled while saying those words . The two young men shook their heads while retorting

"I can't even see it . "

"It'll be foolish to make a move . "

The pink-haired girl shook her head as she inwardly mocked their cowardliness. To be honest, she wanted to join the fray and fight but it was apparent that it's out of her league. Even someone like her couldn't follow the tiger's speed, it was just too fast!

...

The fight has been ongoing for a minute at most yet all the nearby powerful sects already arrived . Whether it's the king of the Five Phoenix Kingdom or the Headmaster of the Holy Academy .

They were all at the peak of God Monarchs and showed clear intention of siding with the old man . A man with a long red hair and a long halberd in his hand appeared a few meters away from the old man . He nodded to the old man and faced the tiger .

A similarly kind-looking old man with a golden scepter was behind the leader of the Holy Knights . He waved his hand, causing a light to cover the two in front of him .

Arthur could sense that whatever the old man did, it increased their prowess, nonetheless, it didn't matter .

"I'm ready!"

From within his consciousness, the Tri-Spirit confidently spoke. After Arthur gave it the green sign, the gravity around the three enemies suddenly changed, causing them to love balance.

This was followed by cracking space which freaked the old man at the back, who seemed to be the weaker of the three . From within the cracked space, a 10m long dark arrow appeared, impaling the old man and killing him instantly .

This shocked the two others, the red-haired man waved his halberd, causing flames to cover the sky and land on the tiger, who showed no reaction .

Although it was the phoenix's fire, it was so weak that it wasn't able to damage the strengthened Arthur

Like a bolt of lightning, the tiger flew straight at the two enemies, who close to each other. The leader of the Holy Knight raised his shield, which greatly expanded, reaching 20m in height.

The tiger spat a strange grey orb which was no longer than 50 inches.

However, the moment it touched the shield, it devoured half of it, startling the old man, who let go of it and retreated .

As for the red-haired man, he stabbed with his halberd . A screech could be heard as orange flames twirled around his weapon .

The halberd was yet again blocked as it hit a golden barrier, barely cracking it. Though the barrier did break after a second, it was too late as dark chains sprung from nothingness and wrapped around the man, who was too late to retaliate.

Then, a looming darkness enveloped the panicking king, when the darkness disappeared, there were no signs of the man .

Seeing this, the red-haired youth watching from below, shouted hysterically

"FATHER!"

Unfortunately, his calls were too late as the man was killed so easily . In grief and anger, the youth was about to fly and kill the tiger only for the grey-robbed Artid to hold him back, warning him not to be reckless and get himself killed .

...

A distance away from the big fight, Wrath was accompanying Isadore, who was calm despite the huge commotion . They were on top of a certain building that belonged to their humongous castle .

"So it's the white tiger but it's different . "

Wrath nodded his head and described what he's saying

"Two wings, one white and the other black . Natural lightning around it and its body is jet black with dark flames enveloping it . Quite a weird sight . "

After staring at it for a while, Wrath continued

"Though its speed is inexplicable. It's only at the Sovereign Realm."

Isadore chuckled and said

"Take me there . It's time to end this, fighting is prohibited in my city, whether it's the Holy shitty Dominion or whatever . "

He seemed uninterested and unafraid of the repercussion that'll happen if he stops of the fight . However, in a way, he's saving the old man .

...

The only one left alive was the old man, who still received a beating from the tiger . Arthur refrained from using any powerful skills like Rizaki or Dark Rain as there are too many eyes . Moreover, he didn't switch bodies .

As he was about to finish the old man, an overwhelming pressure caused him to pause and back off.

It was sharp and dangerous . When he raised his head, he found a floating ship . On its deck, there were two figures, a middle-aged man with a slightly long dark hair accompanied by a handsome blond young man .

"Stop this at once, I shall not repeat my words . "

Though he was but a mortal, his words carried indisputable authority. The old man flinched as he heard the crown prince, nevertheless, light energy started condensing around him, preparing to unleash his most powerful attack.

Isadore wasn't able to see what's happening but he wasn't stupid. When he saw the old man ignore him, he signaled for Wrath to act. Unfortunately, before the grinning middle-aged man acted, the white tiger disappeared from their view.

Two seconds passed yet nothing happened, they only understood what happened when the old man crouched in mid-air and started coughing blood. No one but him knew that there was a damn rat that entered its body through a small hole that was caused by the acid.

The rat was merciless as it unleashed Dark Magic that consumed his accumulated Light Energy . Withering energy turned his organs and lungs into dust, his heart burst soon after, clearly caused by a thin, almost unnoticeable vibrating lightning bolt .

The old man's body fell from the sky yet another inexplicable event occurred before the crowd's eyes. The falling old man was enveloped by a medium-sized whirlpool, which was quickly sucked by the cracking space.

Even Wrath didn't know how the tiger, or whatever it was, escaped from under his eyes . He helplessly shook his head to Isadore, who wasn't that displeased .

After one last glance to where Arthur was, he said

"Let's go back . There are a lot of things to do . Moreover, go inform Dan to not let a single person from the Holy Dominion step in my city!"

His tone was resolute and a bit angry . Though the Holy Dominion existed for a long time, they weren't as old as his family . It's not because they're living in a medium-Realm that they should be underestimated .

Chapter 397

The fight that occurred in the Imperial City spread far and wide in just a few days. Many people recorded the fight and it got passed down to countless hands. The strange black tiger that slaughtered five God Monarchs became known by everyone on Green-Leaf. Lots of people of High-Realms started investigated the origin of this strange monster but the results were disappointing.

It came out of nowhere and no matter how much resources they poured, they couldn't find anything about it . The Holy Dominion stated that it'll do everything in its power to catch the evil cultivator .

They didn't call it a tiger but a cultivator which shocked many people . Moreover, there was an even more shocking piece of news, it's the return of the Dark Magic .

The one and only user of Dark Magic after Zodiak . All of the old man's enemies started moving, even his allies started searching for Arthur, who seemed to have disappeared into nothingness .

"I've heard a few things about Zodiak from my grandfather . "

Clara, the pink-haired girl played with her curly hair while talking about Zodiak . Artid was carefully listening to her, the nonchalant expression he had was nowhere to be seen .

As for the Crown Prince of the Five Phoenix Kingdom, he was busier than them after the death of his father. The sect was thrown into chaos as even the old ancestor woke up.

"It is said that he the thorn of the Holy Dominion . There was a time when he barged into their planet and killed countless people . His Dark Magic is dangerous and even if a tiny bit enters your body, you'll be dead within days . Despite using their Holy Magic, they couldn't kill him thus he escaped unscathed . Grandfather also told me that Zodiak fought the Joker and although he lost, he wasn't killed . "

After pausing for a few seconds, the girl leaned closer to the young man and whispered with a very low voice .

"There's also a rumor going around . "

With a hand massaging his temples, Artid glared at her, demanding she continues.

"Zodiak is a close friend of the Whisperer King."

Artid inhaled a breath of fresh yet cold air and closed his eyes, pondering about something.

"It seems our trip here is more interesting than I thought . "

The girl giggled and nodded her head.

"Grandfather, is it really him?"

Shu Ru, who was accompanying her grandfather, curiously asked the calm old man . Despite the miserable and cruel death of Athard, the sect wasn't in chaos like the Five Phoenix Kingdom . Though Athard's position as a Patriarch was solid and no one dared to protest, that doesn't mean there are no candidates to replace him .

Moreover, Athard acted alone and caused his demise by joining hands with the Holy Dominion . His son's tragedy was a big thing but it greatly affected him and made him act without investigating the enemy .

The old man chuckled as he stroked his beard

"Who could it be if it isn't him?"

Confused, the girl tilted her head and asked again

"But aren't you angry that the Patriarch was killed?"

As he looked at the golden stone in front of him, the Grand Elder shook his head and answered

"Not at all, I've already warned him . Moreover, Athard had no right to attack even if his son was killed by him, after all, without 'him', there wouldn't have been a Mirage Era Hall . "

In a remote villa that was bought by Arthur, the couple was enjoying their free time without a care in the world . Although he caused a commotion, it's impossible to find him thanks to Claud, who began helping him create a certain item .

Currently, Lucy was standing behind a seated Arthur, carefully cutting his hair, which grew too long. In twenty or so minutes, he long hair became much shorter but this new look suited him better, or so said Lucy.

After taking caring of that, they went to the basement, where Arthur and Lucy sat facing each other . Lucy was pouring large quantities of Mana into Arthur, who was meticulously creating something .

His hand no longer the same as it was enveloped by the ARK, which no longer was cube but a weird gauntlet .

It had countless numbers engraved on it and it would change shape with but a thought.

He has been creating this for the past five days and today is the day it's finished . The item was a bracelet, though a bit shabby as it was made from wood . However, what was inside the wood was another matter .

This item changes his appearance without having to rely on his racial abilities. Though it'll decrease his cultivation by a tiny bit, his stats would remain the same.

Thanks to this bracelet, even if the Holy Dominion uses their strange object, they won't be able to find him, or so stated Claud in total confidence.

From now on, he'll be Lucy's little brother as he became shorter and looked rather innocent with short dark hair. The only problem was his scarred eye, which was covered by an eye-patch.

"I can feel the old man secretly moving all around the city, he must have picked your scent . "

Arthur said that while clicking his tongue though it looked extremely cute as he resembled a 14 or 15-year-old boy .

Even Lucy chuckled and pulled his cheeks, clearly teasing him . As she saw his worried looked, she tightly hugged him while saying

"There's nothing to worry about . Worst comes to worse, we'll call Master Losha . "

The Fate Contract between them hasn't ended yet, there's still two weeks left, more or less .

...

Later that night, after removing the bracelet and returning to his original appearance, Arthur and Lucy a hot bath together which quickly turned into something else... omitted .

The man was peacefully sleeping on her lap as she was silently meditating, six beautiful lotuses were floating above her head with the seventh being transparent, almost noticeable.

Lucy, who was engrossed in circulating her Mana, suddenly opened her eyes and glared at one direction, where someone appeared .

This figure escaped her sense and was able to get so close yet she only noticed when he was so close.

She saw the dark cloak covering his body and two familiar sheathes, her pupils constricted as she could feel the ever-so-familiar Dark Magic emanating from the man.

He walked closed to her while taking off his hood, making her totally flabbergasted . Her mouth opened and closed several times, wanting to say something but unable to .

"It is great to see you, Lucy . "

He smiled as he stopped three meters away, glancing at himself before returning his gaze to the silver-haired woman. Even after a minute passed, she couldn't understand what happened.

"Y-you time traveled?"

Her voice was soft and strange, completely different from the usual one . She noticed a few different things about this Arthur, his healed eyes, his missing arm, and rugged clothes .

"What I did is a bit different from time-travel... but you can think of it as so . "

Lucy carefully moved the head of the sleeping Arthur and stood up before walking closer to guest . She was sure it was Arthur, the feeling, the Dark Magic, everything was right .

Moreover, the two black sheathes were another assurance.

"I know that you have a lot to ask but time is unforgiving . We only have a few minutes . "

He walked ever-so-closer to her, with only he a few centimeters separating them, he stared deeply into her shaken eyes .

Seeing her anxious expression, he chuckled and replied to her thoughts

"Don't worry, although I'm indeed Arthur, I'm not this Arthur."

After a short silence, Arthur turned around and looked and the starry sky while sighing.

"Destiny is but a word and Fate is but an illusion . Something... despite being dangerous, must be done regardless of their consequences . "

"Listen to me, Lucy, you and Arthur must go to the dragon's lair, no matter what . "

Before Lucy could question him about the reason, he continued:

"Because if you don't, the fate you'll face is worse than you could imagine, much worse."

His tone sounded melancholic and regretful.

"How can you be so sure?"

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Lucy's question caused him to tremble, he turned to face her and said

"Because that's what I did and I'm still regretting it . "

"Arthur won't go even if I try to convince him . He knows we'll be exposed to many dangers there . "

"Nevertheless, he will go . Let's say it's for the sake of the missing Saly . "

Lucy's expression changed drastically upon hearing that

"Saly is missing?!"

He waved his hand as if to calm here and reassured

"Don't worry, she's in a much safer place than anyone in this universe . You don't have to worry about her . "

Though still worried, Lucy still decided to believe in his words . If it's him then she would blindly trust him .

Soon, he put on his hood and stared at her one last time before putting his index in front of his mouth "Shhh"

Then, just like he appeared, he vanished into the darkness, leaving a stupefied and confused Lucy . She spent hours staring at the sky, not knowing what to think or what to do .

Everything just happened so fast so he couldn't process his words properly.

'Does that mean... if we don't go, I'll die?'

'... But what if we go? Will it be him?'

A distance away from the couple's residence, the cloaked Arthur stood on the peak of a short mountain and dazedly stared at the sky, he suddenly crouched and coughed large amounts of blood . Seeing the condition of his body, he clenched his fists and banged them on the bloody ground .

He gritted his teeth and mumbled

'Whatever it costs! I will forge a crossroad and pave the way for a different future .'

Chapter 398

The next morning, although she was told to keep last night's matte a secret, Lucy still recounted everything to the surprised Arthur.

As it was Lucy who told him, he completely believed her words but was confused .

"What do you about this?"

After listening to everything, Arthur asked the silent Claud . His copy clicked his tongue and replied

"Unlike you, I've heard and witnessed everything. It was indeed surprising to see you appear like that. By the look you had, you were aware of the consequences of time travel and already accepted your imminent death, but to resort to something as dangerous as time travel, you must have been very desperate. Then again, it couldn't have been just to force you to go to the dragon's lair. Something is definitely fishy here. Nevertheless, I think we should follow his words."

Arthur frowned, clearly not agreeing Claud but he didn't object and continued to listened.

"I don't think he lied to Lucy . He may be from the future, but a different one, another timeline . Perhaps he decided to not go the dragon's lair which resulted in tragic consequences . One thing is for sure, however, he's from a faraway future . He was Overgod but was extremely weak, surely due to the Time Wraiths . "

"Let's stay."

Lucy interrupted them and voice her opinion . She stared at Arthur with a complicated expression . However, Arthur didn't nod his head but shook it while retorting

"No way, for my future self to travel through time, something must've happened to you . "

"But we don't know what will happen to you or me if we go there . "

While caressing her head, he smiled and said

"Not knowing is better than waiting here and expecting a tragedy to happen . "

"Puhahahahahahaha ain't this a motherfucking surprise!"

A humongous white roc flapped its wings, which cast a large shadow over the land below. Right next to the roc was an equally big lizard, it had two head, one was blood red while the other was jet black. The lizard had a tall tail that unleashed black flames and thick fog of blood wrapped around its body.

"Indeed it is . "

Radolf licked his lips as he and Midolf stared at the beast floating in front of them. With a body just as big them, a majestic aura and a suffocating pressure. It was a blue dragon that glared at them angrily.

"And here I was thinking that it'll be an easy mission!"

Midolf roared in laughter as his body shone with a bright light, indicating his rising excitement . The two ancient beasts gazed at the Azure Dragon, a Divine Beast and apparently, a leader!

A distance away from the three beasts, a small group of robbed individuals was cautiously watching the beasts and discussing their presence among themselves .

"Tsk! To think we'd have to use our trump card so early!"

"What can we do? They appeared out of nowhere and attacked us!"

Hearing this, an old woman who was busy inspecting the white roc and the two-headed lizard, retorted in anger

"Attacked us? Are you dumb? You're the stupid ones who were scared shitless and deactivated the time-freeze!"

None dared to talk back to the old woman, they dropped their head in embarrassment and didn't dare to even glance at the elderly .

...

The Azure Dragon was the one to attack first, it opened its mouth and spat a savage energy accompanied by half illusory red flames . Midolf started flapping its lengthy wings, causing the winds to become turbulent .

Surprisingly, just the raging winds were enough to disperse the illusory flames . As for the savage energy, the lizard opened its mouth, from which an unstoppable absorption power sucked all the energy

This was but the beginning of a bloody fight, which lasted three days .

...

Arthur set up a special formation that needs to be continuously fed with Nether Energy or Mana . It's a two-way tunnel that led him to Astria . As Lucy needed to supply the formation with her Mana, she was forced to stay .

The only reason he came here was to make sure if Saly disappeared or not . As he questioned the surprised Anastassia, his fears became true .

Saly disappeared a bit after he and Lucy left Astria. They searched for her everywhere but neither the little girl nor Astrith could be found.

After making a short trip South of the West Continent to check on the undead, he swiftly traveled to Earth . His trip only stayed there for four hours, at most, nonetheless, he became a professional tomb raider .

He possessed every skeleton in the graveyards . He didn't have much time to possess everyone but he focused on famous doctors and physicians .

He needed to be acknowledgeable about things like that as they are much needed in the near future . He ended up possessing 641 doctors and 89 Physicians . The skills he got were useful and his medical expertise became unparalleled .

"I think this is enough for what you want to do but you have to heal your other eye first . "

Claud stated his opinion while returning to his usual silence, merely watching everything from Arthur's point of view .

Arthur went back to Astria and teleported to where he set up the formation, after a blue flash of light, he found himself standing before Lucy .

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She stopped supplying the formation, which crumbled a few seconds after . Arthur relied on such a disposable formation to not leave any traces . Although he can use his Space Magic to teleport to Astria or Earth, there's a strong chance God Monarchs or Overgods will sense such a strong spatial fluctuation . Moreover, he needs the specific coordinates for this residence so when he teleports back to Green-Leaf, he won't end up in the Wasteland .

"Argh!"

In a world of darkness, a little girl a beautiful white fur that covered some parts of her body, was crouching and holding her stomach . The pain from just a single kick was unimaginable .

The first three days of her training were just a beating from the Joker . She would charge at him to attack only to receive the same kind of kick, even when she dodged to the side .

After three days, she managed to dodge his kick, which made him pleasantly surprised . To congratulate her, he put a blindfold on her eyes and demanded she attacks him .

Unfortunately, this was but the beginning of this hell as the kicks she received when blindfolded were ten times stronger .

She could hear here ribs cracking and taste the bitter blood in her mouth . Though she doesn't see him, she still heard his berating voice

"What? Down after one strike? Isn't that pretty pathetic? If Arthur saw this, he'd truly be disappointed . I bet he would even cast you out of the family . "

His words incensed the groaning Saly, who leaped at him only to be kicked again, however, she managed to shift her body as to receive less damage from the blow.

The Joker forbade her from using her magic or skills, telling her that those are useless . For two weeks straight, she was beaten black and blue . No sane person would be able to do this to a little girl yet the Joker didn't care and never stopped .

He didn't even let her sleep . He'd use some kind of a weird card to restore just enough Stamina for her to get up and get rid of the sleepiness . As for eating, the Joker was actually generous as he'd let her rest

for twenty minutes and provide her with all kinds of extremely delicious dishes, she would often cry both from the pain and the delicious taste of the food .

• • •

"GET UP!"

As Saly cried from the pain as she laid on the ground while holding her broken arm . It is exactly the 48th time her right arm was broken yet the Joker showed no signs of stopping .

"I gave you a chance to give up but you refused . You can only blame yourself . "

He walked up to her and pressed his foot on her stomach, causing her to cough blood . He waved his hand, getting rid of the blindfold .

The little girl glared at the man before her eyes, he was leaning his head close to hers while still pressing his foot on her stomach.

"What? You're angry? You think anger will make you stronger? Come on, then, attack me . "

Saly shook her weak body to free herself from his grasp but the pain was agonizing and the strength behind his foot was monstrous, it was like a mountain.

Seeing her futile and weak efforts, he shook his head and ruthlessly kicked her far away . Her body was on the verge of breaking, her usually stubborn will was nowhere to be seen .

"And you wanted to help your 'mommy' and 'daddy' like this? Don't make me laugh! This is not even pathetic, this is ludicrous! I've never had a student this weak and disobedient . "

He spat on the ground in disgust while turning away and waving his hand

"I'm not going to bother anymore, find someone else . "

Just as he took two steps, a white shadow appeared behind him . He nonchalantly turned around with a speed that seemed extremely slow yet was more than enough for him to see the assailant and block the incoming kick .

His hand turned illusory as it was suddenly holding a small leg that was about to hit him . Just as he was about to throw the petite body, she suddenly twisted her body in a weird manner and disregarded her broken ankle while punching the Joker in the face .

Unfortunately, before her punch reached its target, she was sent flying far away but unlike last time, she didn't even land on the dark ground but transformed into a white shadow that attacked the Magician again...

Chapter 399

After thoroughly thinking about the pros and cons of staying here instead of going to the Secret Realm, Lucy and Arthur decided to go . The only missing was Makaze, which still wasn't returned to its owner . Although Arthur was unaware of the Nameless Knight's motives, he wished Makaze will be back before he enters the dragon's Secret Realm .

His cultivation will be reduced, so will his stats . Having Makaze will increase the probability of surviving in case something happens .

There's also the Holy Dominion which wouldn't give up so easily . There are so many prying eyes and be discovered will cause a lot of troubles to him . His real appearance must never be known as 'X' will come for him and he isn't strong enough to fight an Overgod . Furthermore, 'X' is an Overgod who excels at manipulating Time, so it's even more troublesome to deal with him .

Currently, Arthur was wearing the bracelet he crafted yesterday and accompanying Lucy. They were roaming the Imperial City and checking the artifact shops, seeking a soul-protecting item. Such a thing is usually priceless and hard to find, even Losha didn't have one.

Thought their efforts were bound to be in vain, they still decided to try, at least . Fortunately, no one recognized them, especially Arthur, so they enjoyed their undisturbed time .

"Customer! Here! Look at this recording!"

An excited middle-aged man presented a recording crystal Lucy, who curiously activated it only to a small three seconds clip of a dark white tiger fighting an old man.

"Yeah! It's as you guessed!"

He licked his lips as he proceeded to talk about the legendary fight that occurred a few days ago . However, Lucy wasn't interested so she quickly left, not wanting to continue hearing the man's rambling . The cute boy following her was awfully silent but his eye would sometimes shine with a beautiful blue light . He resembled a timid young man as he held his big sister's hand and followed her hand .

If one would know the person inside that boy, they would piss their pants in fear .

Though more and more people kept coming to the Imperial Capital, the couple's residence was calm and silent. The two would either enjoy their time in cuddling or meditate. No one disturbed them and the opening of the dragon's lair was approaching.

...

At the entrance of the Imperial Capital, a large group of Holy Knights wasn't able to enter as a short middle-aged man who looked like a homeless person was blocking their way . He wore an old straw hat and was nonchalantly eating an apple .

The leader of this group, who was a beautiful woman, angrily glared at the man named Dan, clearly demanding an explanation . This woman was a Deacon and was in charge of this party . Just behind this woman was a blond-woman who had a complicated expression on her face . It was none other than Delia .

"What? You're staring at me so intensely, I can't help but feel loved!"

The middle-aged man hugged his arms and moaned in pleasure, causing the deacon to feel disgusted.

"Will you be able to handle the consequences?"

Her tone was threatening yet the man still didn't care . He spat some of the apple's seeds at the feet of the deacon while shrugging his shoulders

"Go tell that to his Highness . "

Although this group of Holy Knights was strong, they can't force their way with this man's presence. Moreover, even if they could, the prince won't tolerate anyone who dares to act against him.

No matter how influential and strong they are, they can't escape unscathed from the prince's territory.

"We're just here to catch an evil cultivator, in fact, we're doing you a favor . Why are you being difficult?"

Han ignored her as he enjoyed his apple and only after finishing it did he reply

"We never asked you to do us a favor . Evil cultivator or whatnot, you were the guys who caused trouble first when it was clearly known that fighting is prohibited in the capital . Now, bugger off . "

He waved his hand, causing more than thirty people to be pushed back more than fifty meters . The deacon kept glaring at him for a few minutes before turning around and disappearing from the area .

Seeing this, Dan chuckled and mumbled

"What a bunch of annoying flies . "

Around seven years ago, just when 'X' visited the tortured Arthur and proposed that enticing deal to him, another commotion occurred in a place none other than Heaven itself!

The place was turned upside down when merely two individuals brazenly entered it and shortly arrived at where Fate resided .

Fate, which a thing that controls many things and is behind many events, was actually a woman . A woman whose beauty is unmatchable, the very definition of a fairy or a goddess . Yet this woman was currently breathing heavily as she was suffocating .

Her usually pretty face was flushed red and her neck was being held by a pale hand. The person holding her neck and raising her body above ground showed no mercy as he stared at her with cold and chilling eyes. Even someone as powerful as Fate, couldn't do a thing against him.

Her body wriggled but to no avail, she was like a headless chicken who wanted to escape from a tiger .

"You've got two minutes . You either do it or I kill you . "

Hearing this, the woman remained unfazed, she tried chuckling only for an agonizing pain to assault her . A thick black sword impaled her to the wall behind her, piercing her from her upper chest all the way to her stomach, vertically .

"In this world, there's nothing I can't kill . "

Just when the young man said that, several angels appeared out of nowhere, each and every one of them was powerful. There was even one who had four pairs of wings. Unfortunately, before they could move or say anything, their heads fell from their bodies.

Just behind the young man, there appeared a tall man with a weird white costume . He was holding a bloodied card while snickering .

The woman, Fate, continuously coughed mouthfuls of blood yet the young man, who was clad in a black armor, didn't seem he was going to remove the sword.

"I c-can't do... th-that"

The Joker, hearing her say that, laughed and retorted

"Sure you can . You've done it many times, so hurry your ass up . "

Thirty seconds passed yet the woman remained stubborn. Seeing this, The Nameless Knight let go of the sword, which was still impaling the woman and stretched his hand to her face. Seeing the world suddenly turned into complete darkness, the woman's pale face became even paler.

"S-stop... I, I will do i-it."

His hand stopped mid-way then was retracted . The woman closed her eyes and tried her best to abide by their wishes even when she's in such a critical condition .

What they asked of her wasn't a hard thing but for Fate itself to be ordered like that, it's not something she can accept .

She picked the soul of a man who just reincarnated it and threw it in a specific, cast out world. Just as she threw him in that world, she furrowed her brows and was about to investigate something else only for the Joker to appear before her and...

'SLAP'

"AHHHH that felt good . "

He and the Nameless Knight disappeared shortly after, leaving a bloodied Fate, who only got up from that puddle of blood after a long time . She couldn't even remember what happened after throwing that reincarnated soul .

"What did Dan say?"

Isadore asked Wrath, who was lazing around, as usual.

"The woman is a White Specter but her relationship with the White Specter Clan is unknown. As for their whereabouts, the woman is still in the city though her appearance greatly changed. Arthur, however, disappeared. There is a boy following the woman but Dan said that it couldn't be Arthur."

Isadore thought for a moment before asking again

"Do you think they'll go to the Secret Realm?"

Wrath shook his head and replied

"Very unlikely . Changing appearance won't work in that place, they'll be exposed and weakened, pretty disadvantageous . "

Though Wrath said that, lost in a daze, Isadore mumbled

"Nonetheless, such a possibility can't be ruled out . "

The Crown Prince, out of habit, tapped his finger on the table as he pondered.

"What of the Kangs?"

When he heard their name, Wrath suddenly got up and said while gritting his teeth

"They're unusually stubborn . They refused to say anything about Arthur and his wife, Lucy . However, The daughter, Emily, knows a few things about them so why don't you send your sister to investigate, they're good friends, after all . "

While smiling, Isadore leaned on the chair and nodded his head as if he was contemplating Wrath's idea . Only after a while did he grab a piece of paper and started writing .

"So, what did you decide?"

Curious, Wrath asked the prince only to receive a disappointing answer

"It's unnecessary . Everything will unfold itself sooner or later, we just have to wait . "

Chapter 400

Only three days are left before the opening of the Secret Realm . All the visitors who came from different high and medium-Realms headed East . Arthur and Lucy also departed, they didn't tag along with Shu Ru or Jian Si, who went with their respective sects .

They used the red Spirit Boat, the one they got in the Underworld . Its speed was not bad and since they left a while ago, they arrived in six days, more or less .

The Secret Realm opening is situated at the far East of Green-Leaf. The couple saw a sea that stretched as far as the eye could see. Though it a sea, it was actually called the dragon's river. When the time comes, a portal will appear, allowing everyone to enter the dragon's secret Realm. However, the dragon's lair is fraught with danger and peril.

It has countless priceless treasures, whether it's medicinal herbs, artifacts or ancient minerals . The goal of those rogue or weak cultivators is to acquire a decent treasure . Only those from High-Realms or powerful backgrounds are here to get their hands on things much more heaven-defying .

As for Arthur and Lucy, they were seeking an archaic artifact that can protect souls. Losha already informed her disciple of the location of the artifact, all they have to do is go and get it. Honestly, Arthur doesn't know what to do after acquiring that artifact, do they leave? Or wait for something to happen?

Many cultivators were camping on the shore of the river . They were divided into numerous groups, either belonging to a faction, or they're just allying together to make things easier for them once they enter .

There are some notable people that grabbed much more attention than others, particularly the silver-haired woman that strongly resembled Lucy . Though she was only accompanied by the scarred old man, who seemed like a butler, none dared to approach her or even greet her .

It's either they're afraid of her or she doesn't have any friends, though Arthur was sure of the latter guess. The woman was most likely Lucy's sister and knowing his wife's behavior, it's not a surprise that her sister doesn't have any friends.

The woman was indifferent and didn't even spare a glance at the others. She just sat cross-legged and silently meditated. The butler, however, would look around every now and then, causing the talking crowds to stiffen and turn their head away.

One more group was a pink-haired girl, a grey-robbed young man, and the red-haired youth, who recently took the position of the Patriarch in the Five Phoenix Kingdom . Despite his weak cultivation, he still managed to acquire that position .

Moreover, Arthur noticed the youngster's sudden increase in cultivation . Rel Huo, known as the Flame Crown Prince, was now a Fusion Sovereign .

'His sect must've used quite a lot of treasures to raise his cultivation so fast... it's a shame . '

Arthur wasn't going to spare the young man, knowing that his father dared to attack him like that . Furthermore, from the way this kid acted when his father died, it was certain that he harbored malice towards him .

Arthur won't risk getting exposed just to kill Rel, however, it shouldn't be hard to sneak-attack him, especially with how chaotic the Secret Realm is .

From within a clustered crowd of weak cultivators, Arthur, who was possessing an innocent little boy, gazed at the pink-haired girl then at Artid, the young man next to her.

Clara Skatter (Race: Human): Realm: High Sovereign (Peak)

Age: 20

Emotion: Excitement / Impatient.

Skills/Techniques: Feral Judgment / Soul Clutch.

Short Description: The top Disciple of Sacred Lake Sect, she's from a humble background and managed to reach her current status after a lot of hard-work.

Tip: Sacred Lake Sect is in the Crimson Star (High Realm) Ranked 23th amongst all the High Realms.

Artid (Race: Human): Realm: Half God Monarch

Age: 28

Emotion: Curious / Nervous

Skills: Magic Staff Mastery (Lv Max)

Short Description: He has no affiliation with any sect. Part of the Vengeance Mercenary. Good friends with Clara Skatter. He refused joining Black Rose even after receiving an invitation.

Ti-

Arthur's eye shone with blue luster as the notification window suddenly changed from blue to red . The information drastically changed too .

Artid (Race: Human): Half Over God (Celestial Body: 36%)

Age: 25

Emotion: Curious(Arthur MoonStar)

Skills: Magic Staff Mastery (Lv Max) / Assassination (Lv Max)

Title: Unbeatable / Executor

Short Description: He has no affiliation with any sect. Top executive of Black Rose, one of the 9 seats, the green seat of Justice.

'Is that so .'

Arthur smirked as he read Artid's information . He did indeed tell Krauk that he will come up with an answer after two months but he never thought that a top executive will come for him . He didn't seem to be harboring any bad intentions .

If he's really that strong then he'll probably find him on his own, there's no need to expose himself. Even such a well-disguised person was seeing thanks to [Eyes of Tranquility]. What's surprising is that Artid never changed his appearance, this brought a shock to Arthur.

'I'd say it's a clever move . No one would expect him to go around with his appearance so they won't believe it's his real face . '

Claud commented as he also saw the results of the appraisal.

'Anyway, enemy or foe, be careful of him . Although it's only 36%, he must be really strong . '

'It matters not, we'll all be equal once we enter . '

Just as he said that, Arthur's could hear Claud's harsh retort

'What bullshit are you saying? You think an Overgod, even if weakened to a God, won't be able to beat a God? Only their cultivation is weakened, their techniques or skills are still as strong.'

'I am aware of that . '

Arthur decided not to argue with Claud, he just uttered those words and ignored the angry Claud .

Lucy spotted many familiar people like Emily and her brother. Jian Si and Shu Ru were also present. Her gaze suddenly halted on a figure that was alone yet no one bothered him.

His face was covered as he was covered in bandages from head to toe, his appearance was creepy and only his two pupils could be seen from within all those bandages.

The reason for her momentary surprise is this man. It was the exact same person that appeared in the tournament East of Astria, when everything went south at the end. There's no doubt that it's him, the appearance, aura and eccentric behavior.

She nudged Arthur and used Telekinesis to convey her thoughts . Arthur appraised the target only to see surprising results

Unnamed (Race: Ghost): Realm: 3 Star God Monarch

Age: ???

Emotion: Indifferent

Short Description: One of the three top disciples of the Ghost Nation. A silent ghost that is famous in most of the High Realms for going around and hunting treasures. Despite his unwillingness, he had been tasked to come here and search for a person.

It was actually a Ghost and a God Monarch at that! What's confusing is that this ghost wasn't this strong when he came to Astria.

'It's probably due to a restriction put on Astria . Remember when Lissandra came and destroyed the Ma Clan? She was at most at the Divine Realm . All outsiders will be severely weakened when they force their way to Astria . '

Claud explained the reason for the ghost's past weakness.

Actually God Monarchs aren't divided like Sovereigns but with how many stars they have . Once a person reaches the God Monarch, they'll start conjuring stars using their Nether Energy . The more stars appear around the Dantian, the stronger they will become .

Six stars is considered the Peak of God Monarch but if one conjures more, then their future growth and strength will be limitless. There are even some who conjured nine stars.

...

Another commotion broke out once a large group that road on a large white boat appeared from the horizon . There were more than forty people with a beautiful one in a revealing white robe leading them

It was the Deacon that was blocked from entering the Imperial Capital . Once they arrived, they picked an empty spot and patiently waited, however, the woman angrily glared toward a dark-haired middle-aged man .

This man was none other than Wrath, who was accompanying the princess, Isadore's little sister. Emily was also next to the princess, she was as lively as ever.

The princess, however, was very calm as she sat next to Emily and happily chatted with her. Arthur didn't dare appraise her as Wrath was next to her and there's a strong chance that he'll be discovered, or so warned Claud.

Though Appraisal isn't easily noticed, those who have very high sensitivity will immediately notice it . This was also the reason he didn't appraise Lucy's sister or the butler .

Wrath flicked his middle-finger to the deacon, who became even more incensed . The Holy Dominion had many believers in the mortal worlds but its reputation isn't that good .