

Once Human 461

Chapter 461

"Do you think all these excuses allow you to torture someone to death?"

Arthur spat on the ground and mocked:

"In the end, you're just an obsessed psychopath . "

The two leapt at each other, exchanges dozens of punches and kicks, their clashes destroyed the whole place which no more resembled a throne room . Half of the room was gone and what remained either got scorched by the dragonic flames or corrupted by the Dark Magic .

The more Claudia fought, the more savage her attacks became, she was like a lunatic on the loose, letting her accumulating emotions control her .

Fortunately, all the soldiers were ordered to remain outside of the castle lest they get killed by the collateral damage . It is no longer a fight mere mortals like them can join in .

After one final exchange, the two of them were pushed back a few steps . Eternium started wearing off so the black flames covering Arthur slowly but surely started weakening and disappearing .

Claudia, who was holding her chest and screeching from the rage and pain, suddenly roared loudly, causing the whole place to shake violently . More and more scales covered her exponentially growing body and in just a few seconds, she no longer resembled a human .

She was becoming a dragon, a Fire Dragon, to be more exact . Her height surpassed 6 meters and her eyes emitted a dangerous and savage red light .

"See? You're just a monster . "

He snickered while waving his hand, conjuring a Dark Barrier which protected him from the heat and flames surrounding him . He created two daggers made of Dark Magic and lunged himself on her .

Although he no longer had his Mastery skills, it doesn't mean the experience and knowledge gained from all the corpses he possessed had vanished .

Despite becoming stronger and faster, her large size greatly decreased her speed so when she tried to hit him with her long tail, Arthur dodged to the side and slashed a few times with his daggers, leaving black marks on the dragon's body .

The daggers suddenly merged, transforming into two-handed axe which Arthur used to cleave down . His attempt to cut the tail was unsuccessful, however, large amounts of blood gushed out of the fresh and severe injury .

The ground underneath Claudia became jet black and numerous sharp black spikes sprung from it, causing the dragon to flap its wings, trying to getaway .

Expecting such an outcome, Arthur's axe transformed yet again, becoming an ominous longbow . Arthur pulled an invisible thin thread and fired two arrows which flew straight at the dragon's eyes . Though

they did manage to hit their target, they did close no damage and in retaliation, the dragon spat a fireball half of its body .

Due to the cramped place and the short distance between him and Claudia, Arthur couldn't dodge so he conjured a second Dark Barrier and raised the bow high in the air .

The bow became a shield covered in black flames, he slowly advanced while using the shield to resist the huge fireball . Unlike earlier, the flames were much more dangerous as they melted the ground and stopped in his tracks for a moment before sending him flying .

Just one fireball was enough to get rid of the black flames covering him, returning him to his original appearance . He had severe injuries all over his bodies and his vision was dyed red from all the blood covering him .

He couldn't use his ultimate skills, moreover, he didn't have Makaze so his fighting prowess was greatly reduced, nonetheless, Arthur swore to take her down today, no matter the cost .

If it were back then, before meeting Lucy, he wouldn't have cared if he lost his life in the process, however, it is different now . He has a place and a family to return to and he can't afford to lose his life in this foreign world .

The innocent sheep which rose into the air and faced the angry wolf suddenly transformed into a creepy and terrifying monster . Its teeth became sharp and lengthy and its fur was dyed with the color red .

Like a shooting red star, the sheep dived inside the wolf's body and suddenly exploded resulting in the plummeting of the four-tailed beast . It no longer has its majestic aura revolving around it, the parasite whimpered as it tried its best to get up only for three Jokers to appear in front of its face and ruthlessly punch it .

The huge beast was pushed back as blood flowed from its mouth and nostrils, the opponent was just too strong even for a parasite like her .

"To be honest, I expected a better fight... *sigh*"

He cracked his knuckles, patted the dust off his costume then added:

"Let us finish this!"

He took a deep breath, took a weird pose similar to throwing a baseball and mumbled

"Second move of the Trickster Series: Winners above all!"

A ball made of mysterious black light appeared in his hand, he locked his gaze onto the wolf then threw the ball with all his strength . Whatever was thrown was too fast for the injured opponent to block it or dodge, so, before anything could be done, the ball penetrated the wolf's skull and turned into a statue made of dark gold .

While whistling, the Joker walked toward the statue and flashed a blank card it, which in its turn, sucked the whole thing . This resulted in a picture of a beautiful four-tailed fox to appear on the blank card .

"Another one to my collection! Hahahahahahaha"

After laughing for a while, he randomly walking around the circular room then stopped in its center, glued his ears closer to the ground and closed his eyes, seemingly trying to locate something .

His hand took the form of a claw then it hit the ground which had countless cracks on it . The cracks spread to all corners of the room before crumbling, causing large amounts of rubble to fall along with Joker, who elegantly jumped from one boulder to another until he found himself standing at the deepest room in this complex place .

Two pairs of eyes landed on the Trickster, who grinned at the youth clad in dark armor . The enemy, however, was shocked, to say the least, as he didn't expect the female parasite to lose, much less in such a short amount of time .

"Don't mind me, please continue . "

The Joker was really not going to butt in for he knew that Leiu wouldn't want that . His words only alarmed the anxious green-haired man, who was already having trouble dealing with the youth before him .

"Go get rid of the other pests . "

While still smirking, The Joker did a military greeting while sarcastically relying

"Sir yes sir!"

He vanished right after, going after the other parasites which dispersed soon after Leiu slaughtered some of them . From the beginning, not all the parasites were hiding in this room, there were others that were tasked to do other things and they were the Joker's target .

As for why he didn't go help Arthur? It was obviously because the feud between him and Claudia was personal and both his companions knew better than to interfere .

Left alone, yet again, the parasite leader and Leiu glared at each other for a moment before the former stabbed his sword in the air, sending some sort of flying water sharks at the latter .

In retaliation, Leiu slashed his sword at the incoming projectiles, pulverizing them with one sweep . However, the opponent failed to notice that Leiu's attack actually contained two slashes and the second was not invisible and much deadlier than the first .

His instincts warned him so he backed away but it wasn't enough to dodge the invisible strike, which came crashing at him like a mountain, flattening him on the ground and causing a hideous bloody slash mark on his chest .

Just like before, a holy light covered the parasite and healed his new wound only for a dark hand to appear from the dark ground, immobilizing him .

Though he struggled and tried to free himself, he couldn't and by the time he realized it, Leiu's greatsword was already upon him, impaling him and causing him to cough a lot of blood .

With the greatsword going through his chest and penetrating the ground, the parasite could only flail his hand, trying to reach his blue sword .

Unfortunately, Leiu wasn't going to sit around and watch him, he pressed his foot on the enemy's hand and leaned his head closer to the parasite .

"Why do you want to summon your God?"

His cold and chilling voice rang inside the parasite's ears, causing him to slightly shiver .

"You think you won just because you managed to land a few hits on me?"

Despite the blood leaking out of his lips, the parasite flashed a disgusting smile and grabbed Leiu's sword, stabbing it further down his chest .

A few moments, the parasite's body laid on the ground, limp and lifeless . A soft sigh escaped Leiu's mouth, he pulled the sword and was about to get rid of the body only for it flash with a blinding holy light which healed it instantaneously .

The body flew a distance from Leiu before it floated in the air with life coming back to it . The parasite raised his hand toward the blue sword, which flew toward its master .

"We, parasites, are immortals! Inferior lifeforms such as you humans are only here to serve as out stepping stone toward glory!"

Chapter 462

The parasite leader gotten much stronger after his 'rebirth', his speed matched Leiu's and his blue sword started causing cracks on the youth's greatsword .

After a few exchanges, the greatsword was on the verge breaking, no longer able to resist the pressure from the opponent . Leiu let out a sigh and let go of the sword, which turned into dust the moment it touched the ground . It held on until now only because he supplied with his power, nonetheless, it's still a normal greatsword and can only do this much .

"Not only am I a parasite but I'm also a sword saint! You stand no chance!"

The green-haired man flashed a vicious grin at Leiu while raising his blue sword, about to finish his opponent once and for all . The only thing that was troubling him was Leiu's greatsword which causes a tremendous amount of damage . It was like a moving mountain, demolishing everything in its way, it's a wonder how Leiu is able to lift it .

Dozens of flying water sharks leapt at the nearby Leiu, ready to tear him into shreds, however, they reached a few inches away from him before crashing into a mysterious spiraling darkness .

The darkness was revolving around Leiu, creating a pillar of black light that penetrated the broken roof and pierced the sky-high, high above .

The Nameless Knight, still staring at the parasite with a chilling look, stretched his hand and said

"To live by the sword is to die by the sword . There is time enough for regret in the flames of hell . "

With this calling, something traveled through the rivers of time and space, disrupting the laws and splitting the heavens in its way . An existence no weaker than the Nameless Knight, a weapon that has no beginning nor end, the only one of its kind; Anduril, Eternal Darkness .

It was the same greatsword Arthur handed to Leiu in the forgotten continent, the same sword that accompanied the Nameless Knight most of his life and possibly the strongest weapon in the multiverse . Unlike Makaze, Anduril was a non-materialistic blade, meaning that it's literally a part of Leiu . They aren't bound by an oath but are the very same being .

It took him great effort to be able to summon Anduril but he finally succeeded and with his calling came a shadow that cast over the capital, blocking the rays of the sun and splitting the city in two .

From the heavens above, a shooting star came diving down, drilling into the earth and perfectly falling in Leiu's hand .

"Let me show you what the epitome of sword mastery really is . "

Cold sweat running down his back, the parasite slowly backed away . His eyes were staring at the large greatsword in Leiu's hand . It was eerily silent and emitted no pressure whatsoever, however, his instincts repeatedly warned him, even forcing his body to slowly back away .

With Anduril pointed at the green-haired man, Leiu used both of his hand to hold the greatsword before horizontally sweeping the air, sending a blow so devastating it shook the whole castle . A red beam of light faster than the parasite's thoughts flew at the monster, turning it into nothingness .

The red beam didn't stop, it cut the walls and whatever was beyond them, resulting in absolute destruction . Even after obliterating the enemy into nothing but emptiness, Leiu wasn't convinced that he won .

Just like last time, a holy light floated several meters away from him and after a few seconds, the parasite appeared again, unscathed, of course .

"Hahahaha I already tol-"

Leiu's figure turned illusory as he waved Anduril countless times, literally cutting the parasite into countless pieces . Blood and gore spattered in the surroundings as the youth frowned and focused on the numerous body pieces, trying to locate whatever was reviving the parasite .

Somewhere else in this complex labyrinth, the Joker was leisurely checking every room . He already killed three parasites so not many remain alive . However, something was strange, whenever they're caught, they just let themselves be killed . They don't fight back, attempt to flee or beg for mercy, confusing the Magician .

Along with the abundance of Mana Crystals, The Joker noticed other small objects scattered everywhere, even in the cramped halls . They were hanging on walls or hidden beneath the ground . He picked one up, intending to inspect it and see exactly what it is...

'0♥ Masquerade!'

His eyes shone with a golden light as they landed on the strange round object . A few seconds later, he creased his brows, a bit shocked .

"This is advanced stuff compared to the medieval world outside..."

He carefully held the object and entered a spacious room before throwing it at the far corner, resulting in a loud and pretty strong explosion . It wasn't enough to injure him but if there were hundreds of such miniature bombs, it'll not only kill him but also kill everyone in the city .

The quantity of these bombs he stumbled upon was staggering, to say the least . They were hidden in every inch of this place and if they were to explode at the same time, he won't be able to escape, much less live .

"Perhaps they're..."

A dangerous thought sprung in his mind, causing the Joker to frown . He retrieved his deck of cards and randomly picked a card

'Ghost Rat Trail: Activated!'

The Joker started the hunt for real, fearing that the parasites' goal was to blow up this place if their summoning failed, which it will since Leiu will kill their leader .

At first, it was bearable and not risky to remain here, however, ever since Makaze appeared, Gutcha started feeling restless . The Dark Blade was acting strange, very strange, in fact . It wouldn't be a lie to say it was trying to find a way to enter the black box but the object seemed to reject everything around it, including the rotating Evil Wind .

This wasn't enough to alarm the pigolo but it only got worse as Makaze started emitting soul-shaking cries, loud enough for the powerful beasts outside to hear it .

One day, the whole cave started violently shaking and before the pigolo could process what's happening, the roof split in two, revealing a dark and gloomy sky . To Gutcha's shock and amazement, an archaic gate appeared on the sky, facing down, exactly toward him .

The restless Makaze fly like a kite toward the gate, which welcomed the Dark Blade . A cold and suffocating aura came out from whatever was on the other side of the gate, such aura scared the shit out of the nearby beasts, which turned tail and ran .

As for the pigolo, he stood there, flabbergasted and confused on what just happened . The roof, which was split in two, regained its normal form and the place returning to being a calm and gloomy cave .

Back in Riarravar, the fight between Arthur and the Red Dragon, which was, in fact, Claudia, reached its climax with the two of them going all out to kill the enemy .

The place no longer resembled a throne room, actually, the castle was heavily affected by their fight and even the soldiers guarding the outside were alarmed and forced to retreat .

They were more surprised when they saw a red-dragon fly in the air and spit enormous fireballs at one particular man . The enormous fireballs either missed their target or clashed with strange and big waves made of Dark Magic .

After spitting several fireballs, the dragon spent a few seconds to conjure a stronger fireball before spitting it at Arthur .

This fireball was much, much bigger than the rest and the heat coming out of it was suffocating and enough to affect the royal garden way below, which already started showing of being scorched .

As he faced the incoming attack, Arthur held a bow made of Dark Magic and pulled the string countless times, sending a rain of arrows straight at the fireballs . As a last touch, he fired an arrow that had a length of 5 meters, it slightly resembled the Heavenly Arrow but lacked the other attributes .

The clash between the arrow and the fireballs caused a loud and deafening explosion as Dark Magic and dragonic flames scattered to all directions, even hitting some of the soldiers and killing them on the spot .

This fight was being witnessed by most of the citizens and they were unable to choose a side for they knew naught who's siding with the Queen . However, seeing a human and a monster, most of them inwardly cheered for Arthur, who looked more harmless than his counterpart .

Chapter 463

The parasite leader just revived and was about to attack Leiu only for the latter to appear before him and speak with an authoritative voice .

"Kneel down . "

Against his will, the man knelt before the youth and gazing at him with bewilderment . He wasn't shocked by his crushing defeat but how he was defeated . For the first time since the fight started, he stared at the Nameless Knight with hollow eyes .

"Y-you... Pride?"

All he got in response was silence and silence alone, making him uneasy and confused .

"Pride! Can't you recognize me?!"

In the end, Leiu scoffed at the green-haired man and mockingly said:

"Pride? Are you talking about the fool who wanted to subdue me?"

Refusing to believe what he said, the green-haired man hysterically said

"No no no this isn't possible! Pride is one of the strongest beings! How can a meager human defeat him!"

Pride was one of the seven deadly sins but; in the present, Leiu had already killed him and stole his power, just like Makaze devoured Gluttony and obtained the latter ability . Obviously, the Pride the parasite was talking about is still alive and well at this time .

"Kill yourself . "

This cruel order entered the man's ears, making him kill himself only to be revived seconds later . Unlike his earlier arrogance, the parasite seemed confused and unable to process what's happening . Pride's ability cannot be replicated and he was sure that Leiu was currently using it, which means that he defeated one of the seven sins .

If he defeated one of the seven sins then killing him(parasite) shouldn't be impossible, or so thought the green-haired man .

Having enough of this long farce, Leiu vertically raised the black sword, Anduril, ready to finish this once and for all .

'Shredding the Abyss!'

It was then that the parasite realized that he would not escape doom, even with his revival ability . What's about to come is bigger and stronger than what he imagined, his body momentarily shivered and his instincts warned him .

Feeling desperate and accepting his death against this superior human, the man fleshed out a strange object from his pocket and unhesitatingly pressed the one and only button . He expected to hear a series of explosions that will end both him and the enemy but he heard nothing but eerie silence .

It was not because the bombs were disposed of but Leiu's attack was so strong that momentarily broke the space-time continuum . The sky-high above the castle was split in two, startling not only the spectators but Arthur and the Red Dragon .

As if God descended upon this mortal realm to punish the sinners, a black, illusory dragon came flying from behind the clouds, passing through everything in its way . It was purely spiritual but the fear it brought to the citizens was enough to make more than half fall unconscious . Even the Red Dragon, which was in the way, hastily dodged to the side, unwilling to clash with the descending black dragon .

The target of this attack was a green-haired man who instinctively felt the incoming death, he lifted his head but saw nothing but falling rubble . He repeatedly pressed the button and only after a few seconds did the explosions start occurring . Although he doesn't have the main remote control which explodes everything, this one was enough to cause devastation that would bury the Nameless Knight under the castle .

When the illusory black dragon was finally upon him, the man tried to resist only to be swallowed whole, never to appear again . The dragon vanished right after, leaving a tired Leiu, who supported himself using Anduril while glancing at the shaking ground and falling boulders .

This place was about to crumble and the successive occurring explosions are worsening the situation for the youth . The last attack severely exhausted him and the explosions made it almost impossible to escape this place alive .

He removed his black helmet and coughed a bit of blood, his face much paler than usual . Slowly, he started advancing but in just a few steps, he seemed about to fall down only for a hand to wrap around his chest, lifting him off the ground .

"It's going to be rough, hold on . "

The Joker's voice rang in his ears and by the next second, like a shooting white star, the lunatic leapt upwards . His movements were strangely elegant, jumping from one falling rock to another, swiftly and easily dodging the big ones .

Unfortunately, it wasn't going to be an easy ride as countless explosions occurred, flinging both of them left and right, were it not for the Joker's cards, which were sharp enough to cut any falling projectiles, they would have died long ago .

Back at the sky above the castle, which was replaced by an abyssal chasm that violently shook due to the still occurring explosions . The red dragon and the man stared at each other, each having their own thoughts . Unlike him, the red dragon was barely unscathed except for a few minor injuries that were healed thanks to the dragonic fire .

As for Arthur, he over-exhausted himself by using a lot of Dark Magic, especially Eternium, which didn't last long . If this continues, it'll definitely be his end so he needed an alternative, another path...

Distressed, he glanced at the back of his right hand but saw nothing . The oath was absent which rendered him unable to call his partner and blade, Makaze . Were he to get his hands on Evil Wind, it'll make things much, much easier . Even if Claudia is two times stronger, he'll still be able to kill her with the help of the Dark Blade .

Unable to levitate anymore, Arthur descended on a destroyed and dusty field while keeping his focus on the red dragon, which followed him while spitting more of its dangerous flames . Like any other place, this field became scorched due to the spreading fire, leaving Arthur no choice but to repeatedly switch places and try his best to dodge .

He was bidding his time and recovering some of his powers, which need strong emotions to work .

A few minutes later, Arthur was enveloped by black flames, indicating that Eternium was activated again . A black bow appeared on Arthur's hands, he lifted his head and glared at the floating red dragon and fired a few dark arrows which were burned by Claudia's flames . The bow transformed into long and thick chains which were quickly thrown at the enemy .

Arthur successfully wrapped around the dragon's legs so he unhesitatingly pulled it toward him and watched as the big-sized beast fell in his direction . The chains vanished and a long dark spear appeared, he jumped in the air and swept toward the target .

The tip of the sweeping spear let out countless black threads which covered the red dragon and pinned it on the ground . Arthur used the dragon's body to jump higher before pointing his falling body toward the wriggling Claudia, his spear became much lengthier and all the black flames covering him were sucked by his weapon .

A loud roar emanated from the spear as it came flying down at the immobilized red dragon, it perfectly hit its chest, creating a large and gaping black hole . The scales were broken and Dark Magic corrupted the dragon's insides, causing it to cry from the agony .

Panting heavily, Arthur landed next to the dragon, barely able to stand . Unfortunately, his last hit wasn't enough to finish the dragon, which managed to use its tail to hit him, sending him flying toward the bottomless chasm .

Blood-soaked and tired, Arthur gazed at the darkened sky while his body fell like a kite deep into the chasm . For a second, he seemed about to fall unconscious only for his eyes to suddenly open, in those few seconds he was falling, he thought about countless things, mainly his wife and current situation .

Just what does he need to do to win? Does he for his companions help? Then again, he'll be the one dragging them down since he's the only one who wasn't able to get rid of his enemy . Each was given a job and they must complete it, for him to even think about getting help is pathetic, or so he thought .

Google search freewebnovel.com

'Believe in your infinite potential . Your only limitations are those you set upon yourself . It doesn't matter whether your a human, demon, a dwarf... or even a parasite . '

Those were the words Leiu said when they met in the dragon's lair . In his current situation, they carry a deep and unfathomable meaning yet it is also what allowed Arthur to break free from his shackles and call forth his other half .

At the top of his lungs, while still falling, Arthur shouted:

"Oathbinder! Bear witness and see this man kept his word, true to his last breath, full to his blood's last drop! Let his life by the sword be his confession! Let his death by the oath be his absolution!"

Just as he said those words, a large and archaic gate appeared under him, and from within it, a shooting black star came flying at him, supporting him and stopping his falling his body .

As he clutched the handle of the intensely vibrating Dark Blade, Arthur, covered in black flames, loudly laughed and said;

"Come! Let us finish this together!"

Chapter 464

"Then what happened? Did he kill her?"

Lucy was literally on the edge of her seat as she listened to the Joker's story, not noticing the silhouette standing behind the transparent door of her room . Angelica came here to check on her sister only to hear shocking things .

Obviously, the Magician felt her presence but chose to remain silent and continue with his story . He smirked at the no-longer expressionless Lucy and thought

'So she can display such emotions... Hahaha it's like telling a bedtime story to a child . '

He raised one finger and said:

"First, let me explain the types of parasites . "

Four cards appeared on in his hand, each with a picture of a minuscule life form .

"The most basic and weakest parasites are called Minor Parasites, they're basically cannon fodder and unlike Arthur, they can only possess one corpse and stick with it . Though they control it, if the host dies, they die along with it and they only one random skill from the host's arsenal . "

He pointed at the card at the right which showed a picture of a small red parasite, which had a form very similar to a centipede .

"The second type are Calypso Parasites, they're called 'halfies', I believe there existed only three and one was killed by me and Leiu . They're born from a Titan and a parasite and their abilities are like Arthur's, more or less . "

His finger shifted to the second card which showed a fish-like being .

"The third are the ones we fought, they can possess only one host but they get their abilities . However, they get a bonus and that's infinite evolution . In the right circumstances, they can endlessly evolve and become superior to the Calypso Parasites . They were just called Parasites and Claudia was one of them . "

The Joker was about to hide the cards, clearly not going to introduce the fourth type .

Please visit freewebnovel.com

"What about the fourth?"

In response, he chuckled and gave a vague answer:

"We'll get to that later . "

He gulped another cup of tea and resumed:

"That day, Calv-City was no more and 1 . 2 million people were killed . "

This revelation shocked the carefully listening Lucy, who didn't expect him to drop a bomb just like that . His leisurely expression was no more, it shifted to a melancholic one .

"I was never a hero or sage but I also cannot tolerate what the parasites have done to that many people . "

Claudia, who became a red dragon, was still enraged even after 'killing' Arthur . The dragon faced the speechless soldiers, who were either running away or watching it, and opened its mouth, ready to unleash its flames . From the looks of it, a massacre was about to begin .

The dragon's body grew in size and the savage aura emanating from it started affecting the mortals, weakening their soul and knocking them unconscious .

Everyone on a radius of five hundred meters of the dragon was incapacitated and the rest attempted to flee for their lives . Unfortunately, the flames were faster than them and in just a few seconds, a couple of hundred soldiers were burned alive, leaving nothing but black ash .

Before it was able to unleash its second attack, a shooting black star rose sprung from the bottomless chasm, crashing into the dragon .

A deafening and painful cry reverberated across the area, shaking what little remained of the castle . A man covered in black flames and wielding a vibrating dark blade crashed into the dragon and caused a hideous large wound to appear on the monster's back .

Claudia, who no longer was in control of her actions, turned to face the floating Arthur and spat large fireballs, which were easily split in two by Makaze .

Arthur sheathed Makaze, bent his back and with a speed faster than lightning, unleashed a flurry of golden slashes that landed on the dragon's wings, severing them within seconds . Fountains of blood gushed from the dragon's new wounds yet the beast didn't seem too bothered by the pain and its body grew larger in size and another, bigger pair of wings instantaneously grew from its back .

With Leiu under his arm, the Joker was almost out of the chasm, he could feel the violent tremors coming from above . The heat was also unbearable, causing parts of his costume to ignite .

As he was making his way upwards, he happened to catch a glimpse of a ginormous cubic object laying inside a crumbling cave . A heavily injured man was coughing blood as he dragged his body, trying to reach a remote control a few meters away from him .

When he saw that enormous object, which was very similar to the strange bomb found underground, The Joker thought to himself

'No fucking way...'

If that thing were to blow up, never mind him, the whole city would disappear . Just as he was about to make his way toward the man, large boulders fell from above, blocking his way and forcing him to continue jumping from one place to another .

If they were lucky, one of those boulders fell on that dying parasite but the Joker didn't want to bet on that . The best thing they could do is get the hell out of this place, sooner than later .

Some minutes later, The Joker and Leiu finally appeared on the surface only to witness a devastating fight between Arthur and a gigantic red dragon .

"Let me down . "

Leiu shook off his body and supported himself with his sword as he struggled to get up . He raised his head and looked at the two clashing figures, one wielding his blade and the other controlling flames and turning the sky as red as blood .

"The city is about to blow up, I'll help him get rid of the dragon so we can leave . "

The Joker was about to join the fight only for Leiu to stretch his hand and tightly hold his shoulder while shaking his head .

"It's not your fight, stay put . "

"It's not the time for that! The explosion will happen at any time . "

"If you don't want to die, feel free to leave . I'm going to wait until it's done . "

Hearing this, the Joker flinched, gazed back at the pale youth:

"Hmpf!"

He snorted, sat on the scorched ground, crossed his arms and looked at the two fighting parties .

"If we end up in Hell, you better don't regret your choice . "

The Nameless Knight sat next to the Joker and uttered those words, his eyes glued on the red dragon and the man covered in black flames .

"I'm fine with dying, what about you?"

In response, the youth shrugged his shoulders and said:

"Death before dishonor, that is my creed . "

...

High up in the skies, the sky was split in two, one part was a sea of flames and the other was an encroaching and chilling Darkness that barred any form of light .

With Evil Wind in his hand, Arthur glared at the dragon, which suddenly flapped its wings and roared loudly as a large burning tattoo appeared on its chest . This was the mark of the Dark Blade, indicating that Claudia is officially one of Arthur's enemies and is to be killed soon, very soon .

Once someone is marked, it cannot be undone, were they even an entity stronger than real Gods, no one can get rid of the mark for it is caused by the Oath .

'For sworn good or evil, an oath may not be broken and it shall pursue oathkeeper and oathbreaker to the world's end . Devour thy enemies and banish them into oblivion! I call upon thee, Devourer of worlds!'

Arthur let go of the dark blade in his hand, which quickly vanished into nothingness .

...

Something even bigger than the red dragon appeared in the sky, it seemed very ancient, predating everything and everyone .

It was none other than the gate from earlier but much bigger . The closet shut archaic doors opened wide and a large dark blade came out of it . The blade was as swift as darkness and cold as ash as it flew towards its partner .

Makaze's current size didn't match Arthur's body but he still held the incredibly big blade, resulting in an endless supply of power surging to come from Evil Wind .

...

"Now that's a terrifying blade . "

The Joker commented as he gazed at the huge blade, fascinated . As for Leiu, he glanced at Anduril, which was showing an unusual reaction as if, finally, it has met its match .

"I've heard a tale of a blade called 'Devourer of Worlds'... to think it actually existed *sigh*"

All of a sudden, Calv-city and everything around it was covered by an ominous darkness . This unusual darkness lasted for only three seconds before it was absorbed by the Dark Blade .

'First wave, Black as night, Calamity Descends!'

The dragon couldn't handle the pressure, much less defend against the huge dark blade, which sent a malevolent burst of Dark Magic which consumed it within seconds, leaving nothing but a fragile-looking Claudia covered in blood from head to toe .

Unfortunately for her, Arthur's wasn't done with her . Still present, the blade flew from Arthur's hand and used its sharp and pointy tip to hit her chest, devouring her just like any other sword .

Seeing this, Arthur felt a great sense of relief as if he just got rid of a heavy burden . The black flames covering him vanished and Makaze returned to its sheath . His figure fell from the sky, crashing dozens of meters away from his two companions .

With great difficulty, heavy and rapid breathing and veins bulging out of every part of his body, Arthur stood up and glanced around him only to spot two equally tired men coming towards him .

Chapter 465

Just before his two companions reached him, the ground started violently shaking, causing the three of them to glance at the chasm dozens of meters away .

The Joker's face distorted, he threw a card in the air which quickly transformed into a floating card very similar to a flying carpet .

"Hop on!"

He signaled for Arthur to jump while he grabbed Leiu's and leapt on top of the card . Arthur used his last bit of Dark Magic to push himself on the strangely floating card before he collapsed, barely keeping himself conscious .

By the time the card took flight, the explosions coming from the chasm have reached the surface, destroying everything in its way . Whether it's the castle, the city or the fleeing citizens, none survived . The scale of the explosion was so big that it razed Calv-city to the ground, the casualties surpassed one million and only the people miles away from the city managed to live .

As for the trio, the card acted as some sort of a barrier but it was still flung off far away . It was like a nuclear bomb dropped on the capital, leaving nothing but a bottomless abyss .

Fortunately, neither of three died but the card didn't hold on for long so they still suffered a couple of serious injuries, especially the Joker, who was the one directly controlling the flying card .

In fact, the explosions sent them flying dozens of miles, landing only when the previously gained momentum died down . Like three meteors, they crashed on a peaceful green valley, each rolling on the ground a few times before stopping .

A bout of long and uneasy silence flowed between the three of them, who remained motionless . The first to break this atmosphere was the Joker, who suddenly started loudly laughing, uncaring about his wounds or the situation they were in .

Though they did kill the parasites, it only led to this pathetic result yet he laughed like he always has when he survives such a life-threatening ordeal .

"Hahahahahahaha"

Their personalities were vastly different yet when the Joker started laughing, the other two joined him . Their laughter contained many emotions and it continued for a long time... a very strange indeed for they, who survived a disaster but caused the death of millions .

"You laughed?"

As she heard the Joker speak of what happened, so, confused, Lucy asked such a question . The Trickster chuckled and said

"Laugh and the world will laugh with you . What better to do is laugh when you're still alive? It's refreshing! You should do it sometime . Anyway... we laughed for such a long time, so long, in fact, that we ended up losing consciousness . "

Seeing her unusual expression, The Joker added:

"Strange... is it? You would never expect Arthur or Leiu to laugh like that yet they did... we all did . Did you know? Laughter cures sadness, it gets rid of any stress and is the best thing to do when you're stuck in a situation like back then . "

After pondering for a moment, Lucy asked again:

"What happened after?"

The smile on the Joker's face vanished, it was replaced by a melancholic expression as he replied:

"When it rains, it pours! We were sent in a time of strife... one million people died that day but such a number was nothing compared to the ones who died later . The fall of the parasites alerted their allies who immediately initiated their plans and started turning Riarravar upside down . "

He took a sip of another cup of tea, cleared his throat and continued...

Google search *freewebnovel*.com

Due to what happened in the Itas Continent, Robin decided to relocate the HQ of her merchant company in the MoonStar City . The calamities that hit Astria caused it to lose two of its continents while

the remaining two struggled to survive . The threat of the Cthulhu is not completely gone so everyone was on alert, ready to start another war .

The once childish woman became more mature and was always followed by Rey, who benefited greatly from the powers Arthur granted him . Though he's lacking compared to Gutcha, he still managed to become one of the powerhouses of Astria .

While the boy was busy eating some fruits on the side, Robin was playing with baby Ragnar, who was a lovely and silent newborn . It has been one month since he was born and surprisingly, Jakob didn't try to look for Anastassia and instead, took over his position and took care of the MoonStar sect . Sonia became his assistant and the two of them managed to calm down the uneasy citizens and smoothly run the city .

With the loss of his wife, Jakob became much less talkative and sacrificed much of his time in cultivation . He would either play with his son or meditate non-stop, totally ignoring Sonia who repeatedly told him to take it easy .

One day, visitors appeared on the roof of the High Tower of the MoonStar sect . One was Taliya and the other was a blond young man accompanied by a grumpy-looking middle-aged man .

Seeing the prosperous city before his eyes, Isadore was shocked as the architecture and the roads were vastly different from the ones found on any High or middle-Realm .

Using his Lost Magic and relying on a few intelligent people, Arthur brought some of Earth's technology to Astria to facilitate its growth and pave a better path for his sect .

The hierarchy of the sect remained the same but, following Arthur's orders, Jakob set up a separate government that takes care of the people's needs and provides security and order .

Anastassia was quite a ruthless and strict leader, she executed any corrupt higher-up and replaced them with her most-trusted confidants and for this reason, the state of the current MoonStar Sect couldn't be better .

Especially the High Tower, which was a monument of its own as it stood at the center of the city, dwarfing everything around it and piercing the clouds high up in the sky .

The moment the three appeared, a bronze-skinned man with a muscular build, tall height and two weapons on his back appeared before them . This was none other than Jakob, who's hair grew long and his countenance slightly changed, becoming much sharper . Although he was but an Immortal, nothing in front of Wrath, one of the seven deadly sins, he still exuded the aura of a real leader .

Jakob checked the newcomers before staring at the familiar face of the silver-haired demon . Isadore walked a few steps toward the man before slightly bowing his head while introducing himself

"I am Isadore Marfront, King of the Green-Leaf World . "

Jakob didn't reply to the former prince, he glared at Taliya and coldly said

"You know well that strangers aren't allowed here . "

Expecting such words, Taliya replied:

"He's a valuable friend who can help us now and in the future . "

"You're still not allowed to bring anyone to Astria, make them leave . "

Jackob's retort made the demon frown, unable to understand why he's so opposed to her decision .

Clearly angered by the Immortal's disrespectful attitude toward his king, Wrath was about to butt in only for two figures to landed next to Jackob . They had similar appearances except for their hairs, once was a red-haired short youth while the other had a long white hair .

One had a suffocating aura of death while the other was vibrant with life, they were polar opposites but the energies leaking out of their bodies were harmonious .

Moreover, Wrath was about to tell they weren't human and this wasn't their clear form .

"Thy visit is unwelcome, go back . "

"Bitch ass motherfuckers! You think you can come and go whenever you want? Fuck off of here!"

Midolf raised his middle finger at them while using spitting a bunch of vulgar words .

Even for someone as patient and tolerable as Isadore, he felt uncomfortable with their attitudes, however, before he could explain himself, Wrath whispered in his ear .

"We should leave . "

After letting out a sigh, Isadore bowed again before entering a portal, finally disappearing from that place . Taliya chose to stay here and investigate what happened . She didn't expect to see Arthur's confidants here as they were missing for quite a while .

"Thank you for your help . "

Jackob thanked the two youngsters and was about to leave only for Taliya to grab his wrist and saying

"Why are you so opposed to this?"

"No, it's why you're so persistent . "

He shoved her hand away and left the place . The demon turned to face the two silent youngsters and asked

"We should welcome any help we can get, why did you chase him away?"

"Mayhap thy decision is right but we must follow the leader . Following a list of command, in absence of Master, Madam Lucy, and Madam Anastassia, Sir Jackob is who we must obey . "

"Still! It doesn't make sense to kick him out before listening to what he has to offer!"

Despite her protest, the two youngsters turned a deaf ear to the demon and vanished, leaving an angry Taliya alone there .

In a deserted altar of the Pigolo Tribe, both Wrath and Isadore appeared from within the portal, one was absent-minded and the other was unhappy after failing to negotiate with Jakob .

"So, tell me why you wanted to leave . "

The King crossed his arms and talked to his guardian . Wrath snapped out of his daze and explained

"Those two are powerful, very powerful . "

Isadore frowned and retorted:

"Stronger than you?"

"I may be able to defeat them but it'll take much time . One controls death and the other manipulate Life, it'll be a pain in the ass to kill them . Moreover, I'll have to go all-in so I won't be able to protect you . "

"Who said we have to resort to a fight?"

Wrath shrugged his shoulders and answered:

"Those two were ready to start fighting at any time . If we stayed a second longer, they would've attacked . "

Chapter 466

Unbeknownst to Arthur and his two companions, the fall of the kingdom and the end of the parasite's reign reached their allies in less than a day . Such a large scale explosion and the death of more than a million people was a noticeable event which forever is recorded in history, if Riarravar is destined to have one, that is .

One full day after they fell unconscious, the three woke up by an explosion occurring a few hundred meters from that devastated valley . After spending a few moments, they swiftly got up, appearing quite healthy despite their near-death experience yesterday .

Only Leiu seemed a bit tired than the other two, who has an insane recovery power . The first thing the trio noticed was the ominously red sky, vastly different from the usual blue and clear sky .

The temperature rose by a few dozens degrees and an unsettling aura loomed over the whole land, making them feel uneasy and slightly weakened .

"Is it because of the explosion?"

Leiu asked The Joker who was looking at his cards with a serious expression . The Magician shook his head and explained

"No, something more dangerous was summoned here . The heat is from a nearby fire . "

"Must be those dark-skinned monsters . "-Arthur

The three walked for a few minutes only to be met with a sea of dangerous flames which scorched a third of a nearby forest and didn't show any signs of stopping . The fire was red like blood and some of it was dozens of meters tall, threatening to burn even the clouds .

No matter how much they tried, they were unable to find a suitable path to tread as the fire seemed to cover everything . Furthermore, the Joker's magic didn't work on this fire, which seemed to be eternal and inextinguishable .

When they finally found a path that has close to no fire, another obstacle barred their, a rather hostile obstacle...

"It's those fuckers . "

The Joker clicked his tongue and glared at the hideous-looking monsters patrolling the area . They several arms and were taller than any human, their skin ranged from dark brown to black and their faces were uglier than pigolos .

They were none other than the Cthulhu, the same savage and evil race that invaded Astria .

"What the hell are they doing here?"

Dark Magic revolved around Arthur and in an instant, several Dark Spears flew straight at the Cthulhu, impaling them and ending their life once and for all .

They weren't a worthy opponent and were vulnerable to Dark Magic, however, despite their individual weakness, they had an advantage in numbers .

Literally every minute, the trio stumbled upon a group of Cthulhu either chasing after helpless humans or checking the area . They already took control of this whole area and claimed it as their own .

"It'll take forever if we kill every single one of them . "-Leiu

They had no clear destination in mind but they decided on 'visiting' the underground city again .

"Got a better idea?"-Joker

"We can try sneaking through . "-Arthur

His suggestion was quickly rejected as not only the road is too narrow, the numbers of the Cthulhu was simply overwhelming .

"I say we get rid of all the vermin in our way . "-The Joker

"I second that . "-Leiu

"*sigh* Alright . "

To minimize the energy they expend, especially Leiu and Arthur, they decided to only rely on their physical strength and save their special abilities for powerful opponents .

In the course of ten minutes, the three killed 128 Cthulhu and their numbers showed no signs of decline . At some point, they reached a crossroad which had an astronomical number of Cthulhu but that wasn't what made Arthur and his companions stop .

No, it was the small mountain of corpses just next to the Cthulhu . Just like Arthur saw in Bucama's world, the Cthulhu already started creating living statues of the captured humans .

In fact, one of them was a familiar female whose eyes became hollow and full of despair . She was naked and her body had bruises all over it... heck! Even one of her organs was hanging down, a gory and unpleasant sight .

She was on the brink of death while the Cthulhu were enjoying this show, grinning amongst each other and poking the female, causing her to groan from pain .

She was none other than the S-ranked mage who fought the Joker and miserably lost . While it's true she was arrogant, she still didn't deserve to be treated like this, no one deserves to be toyed with in such a cruel and inhuman manner .

The mage wasn't the only one who was put like a statue, there were two other men next to her, each in a disgusting and shameful position .

"So it wasn't just anyone... they 'value' the strong humans like this..."-Arthur mumbled to himself while the other two silently stared at what's happening in the crossroad .

Excluding the hundred or so Cthulhu, there was a tall figure, sitting right at the center of the intersection . From its appearance, it was a Cthulhu but had six arms and a jet black skin, its eyes were tightly closed and legs crossed .

"That one seems to be a bit of a problem . "

The Joker pulled three cards and said

"We'll divide our roles . Whoever draws a blank card will deal with the small fry and the other two will kill the leader . "

Arthur and Leiu didn't object, they complied and each stretched a hand and pulled one of the cards . In the end, the Joker was the one who was left with a blank card and although unsatisfied, he simply grumbled .

Before they showed started their assault, Arthur asked:

"What of the survivors?"

In response, the Joker retorted:

"Survivors? Do they look like people who want to live? Finish them if you have a chance... and if they're used as meatshields then don't hesitate . "

After taking a couple of seconds to regulate their breathings and prepared themselves, the trio initiated their attack .

The first one was Leiu, who swung down Anduril, causing violent tremors that reached the crossroad and caused half of the Cthulhu to fall down but it also alerted the leader, who opened its eyes and stared right at the pale youth .

Still using the thick trees as a cover, the Joker would throw four to five cards a second, each one accurately hitting its target and killing one enemy .

As for Arthur, he joined Leiu and used [Golden Lone Sheath], sending a blinding sword arc at the tall monster, who clutched raised his hand and clutched the flying golden light, disintegrating it so easily .

Unfortunately, this was only the beginning of the joined combo as Anduril was swung down again, splitting the earth and sending a burst of Darkness at the leader .

The Cthulhu retaliated by stretching his hand again, this time releasing a purple miasma which stopped Leiu's strike but only for a split second . The miasma was made of Void Magic, however, even such a powerful attribute wasn't strong enough to resist Anduril, which pushed the enemy and severely wounded the pigolo .

Before it could raise its injured body, a creepy jet black skull came flying down from above, crashing directly into the leader and devouring it in just a few seconds .

Arthur's Heavenly Slash ended the short fight and sealed the Cthulhu's fate . From beginning to end, the fight lasted for eleven seconds but the Joker was able to finish the small fries in merely nine seconds, an amazing feat considering he only used his cards .

Each Cthulhu had a card stuck deep into its skull while their leader served as a meal for the hungry Makaze . The awakened dark blade no longer distinguished between swords and living beings, its ability evolved, allowing it to devour anything it wanted, including souls . The downside, however, is that it'll constantly become hungry hence the need to feed it on a daily basis .

Fortunately, it got to devour all the corpses scattered around except for the lifeless humans . The Joker wasn't as talkative as before, he swiftly ended the lives of the still-living yet suffering humans and buried them using his magic .

Chapter 467

"The thing is, with the sudden change that occurred in Riarravar, the map suffered a drastic change which made us disoriented and lost in that wasteland . "

The Joker continued recounting the story while letting out a sigh . He lifted his head gazed back at the silver-haired woman before him while raising four fingers

"Four years, that's how long it took us to locate the origin of the problem . After one year of continuously fighting the Cthulhu day and night, we started stumbled upon those dark-skinned creatures that slightly resembled Dark Elves . Not only were they more powerful, they heavily relied on teamwork and showed more intelligence than their idiotic and barbaric allies . "

Curious, Lucy asked:

"Were you alone for the whole four years?"

"That's the tragic thing about this... we never, ever managed to save one person . We always arrived too late and by the time we killed the enemies, the survivors had been brutally tortured . "

Three visibly tired figures sat around a small campfire, each biting some roasted meat, however, it wasn't any meat but human meat! Anyone would probably say that cannibalism is immortal but these

three didn't care, not after all that happened . In this world, where anyone around them has become an enemy and all the animals were killed by the still active fire, they had to resort to such means to survive .

For some, especially ancient beings, four years is a small amount of time which would pass in the blink of an eye but for Arthur and the other two, it seemed to be an eternity . The fighting never stopped and the battles grew crueler and harder for them, who suffered a heavy toll on their mental state .

Despite their indisputable prowess, they were still mortals, capable of feeling hunger and fatigue so it's without a doubt that they suffered a few injuries along this hazardous journey .

Bored and with nothing to do in their precious free time, the three, who grew much closer to each other after four years, talked about their past achievements and boasted to each other .

The Joker showed a card to the other two while speaking:

"I killed this beauty a long time ago and it's definitely one of the hardest fights I ever had . "

The card showed a picture of a nine-headed hydra, its size was enormous and each head emitted a different aura .

"Took me six days to kill this beauty . "

After staring at the hydra for a while, Leiu spoke:

"I killed a 11,000 years old Black Dragon . "

"Oh? A Black Dragon? I heard it's the strongest Race of dragons..."

Interested, the Joker listened to Leiu, who briefly talked about that fight . Although he tried to hide, the youth was proud of his feat . Arthur was the last to talk, he cleared his throat and said:

"I fought the four Divine Beasts . "

The Joker and Leiu were very shocked, they stared at Arthur with disbelief .

"Well... they were only copies . "

"Still, I heard they're quite hard to deal with together . "

The three continued chatting for an hour or so before being forced to fight yet again when dozens of silhouettes starting stealthily making their way toward them, clearly wanting to ambush them .

A couple of months later, in a familiar town, the three were inside were sitting around an unscathed table in the middle of a desert road . This was White Raven Town, a checkpoint for them and their presence here indicated that they were closer to their destination .

By sheer luck, Arthur found some ale in possession of one of the 'Dark Elves', it was a real delicacy for the three, who only ate human meat for the past two to three years . Water was provided by The Joker's Magic as none existed due to the red flames .

"This calls for a celebration!"

Arthur grinned while putting the ale on the table, making the two others excited . It was just one bottle but it was enough to quench their thirst for alcohol .

"I believe we'll reach the underground city in no time... It's the perfect time to celebrate an early victory . "

The three couldn't wait to leave this godforsaken place but that doesn't mean that all the time they spent here was for nothing . Their friendship grew with time and they became an unstoppable force . Their teamwork reached perfection and despite their tragic pasts, they learned how to trust each other with their lives .

It didn't a day or two but years for them to reach this result, where they fight with their lives on the line and know that their comrades will protect their blindsides .

A lunatic, a reserved and silent youth, and someone with severe trust problems managed to achieve something many others wouldn't . They survived this hellish place despite the odds and even mastered quite a few unique techniques from each other .

Three transparent cups appeared in front of each of the three . Arthur filled them up and took a deep breath before reaching his hand to the cup, about to gulp it in one go only for the Joker to stop him .

"Wait!"

Both Leiu and Arthur stopped and stared at the man with confusion .

"It's almost the end so If you allow me, I would like to re-introduce myself . "

He got up from his seat and softly bowed, his face containing a serious expression . The atmosphere around him was clearly different from the usual .

"My real name is Wolfram Sakamoto . "

Contrary to his expectation, both Leiu and Arthur showed were flabbergasted which made The Joker crease his brows . The youth and Arthur have heard of this name in one or several occasions .

"You brought Hell Gate to Earth?"-Leiu

Before The Joker could respond, Arthur asked a question of his own

"You brought that chip to Earth?"

Hearing their unexpected questions, the Joker smile and nodded his head . He sat down and said

"If we survive, I'll tell you the whole story . After all, it's quite a long one . "

Wolfram paused for a moment before saying

"Before we empty our cups, how about we do something first?"

The two stared at him and waited for him to continue, clearly complying with his words .

"We've been here for 52 months and went through a lot together . I admit that I always have been and will be an arrogant prick but I still do know how to respect my equals . "

"So... I, Wolfram Sakamoto, sincerely want to become brothers with you two . "

Ever since he began talking, the two kinds of predicted he'll say such words though it's a bit unlike him . The Joker raised his cup and waited for their response, which didn't take long .

"Then, brothers . "

Arthur followed right after, raising his cup and grinning . As for Leiu, he followed a second after Arthur, softly banging his cup with the other two before all three cups were emptied with one swift gulp .

"So, now that we're officially brothers, a hierarchy must be set!"

"Hierarchy?"-Arthur

"Yes, who'll be considered the eldest and who's the youngest . "

Arthur pondered for a few seconds before saying:

"Hmmm... age cannot be a factor so let's choose another method . "

While displaying a crafty smirk, Leiu said:

"How about a brawl?"

"Hahahahaha now that's what I'm talking about! A free for all brawl! No weapons or Magic!"

Both Arthur and Wolfram agreed so after inspecting the area and setting up dozens of deadly traps, they chose the location of the brawl . Neither Makaze nor Anduril are allowed, The Joker's magic and cards are banned too .

Basically, it's a street fight and whoever wins will be declared as the eldest brother, a simple and effective method .

...

The 'brawl' last for two whole hours and it sure was bloody and violent and in the end, one person remained standing despite being bruised all over his body . The other two were heavily panting while their faces were beaten and back blue and blood leaked out of their lips .

One of them let out a few coughs before speaking:

"You're some freakish shit, my brother, you really are . "

The other one remained silent, trying to catch his breath and recover from the painful yet not deadly injuries he received .

The next day, another the two losers brawled to decide on who'll become the youngest brother . The results of the two brawls were as follows; Leiu won the first brawl and Wolfram won the second which means that the youth became the eldest brother .

Between them, who consider each other equals, only strength matters, age has no meaning to people like them . As long as someone was powerful, even if it was a baby then he or she deserves to be treated equally and with respect .

"This settles it . "

While patting the dust off his clothes, the Joker stretched his hand and helped a grumpy-looking Arthur up while grinning . The three sat around the same table yet again and finished what little remained of that bottle of ale .

"We three agreed to become brothers so..."

Leiu paused for a second and glanced at the other two before continuing;

"If even one of us gets out of here alive then he will do what he must . Our goals are now intertwined and if one falls, the other two must accomplish them in his stead . So... speak, what are your goals?"

After a long talk between the three brothers, the Joker curiously asked

"Hey hey Arthur, tell me, is your wife a beauty? If so then her sister must be pretty too!"

Arthur grinned and started boasting about Lucy's charms and her unique talent . In the end, they spent the whole day talking about their pasts and promising to help each other out if they all get out of here alive .

Chapter 468

"When I met you last time, I saw what you're like and I knew that you're deserving to be my brother's wife . "

As she heard that, Lucy frowned and asked:

"I thought it was the first time you've met us . "

The Joker burst out in laughter and retorted:

"Naaah I tricked you two . I already knew Arthur but it was the first time I saw the old you . "

He paused for a second before resuming the long story:

"It not long after we became brothers that we reached the underground city . "

Still standing behind the door, Angelina was listening to the narrating Joker and becoming more and more dumbfounded . To think that Arthur was the Joker's brother, if her mother were to hear of this, she would certainly flip out . In terms of status, Arthur is her son-in-law but also the brother of her teacher, which makes him someone she should treat with respect rather than kill him at their first meeting .

Fifteen days after the brother's brawl, the trio managed to reach the old church which became heavily fortified and surrounded by countless guards . This place seemed to be the territory of those dark-skinned creatures as Arthur and co haven't met a single Cthulhu ever since they arrived in White Raven .

"Do we slaughter our way through or?"-The Joker

"There's too many of them, we won't be able to hold on for long . "-Arthur

Leiu was about to suggest something only for a violent tremor to occur, startling the hiding trio . The red sky was split in two as an evil and suffocating aura spread to all directions . The ground under the church cracked and a large hand sprung from the underground, it used the surface to support the body coming from below and in the process, killed dozens of those dark-skinned creatures .

It didn't take long for a gigantic monster-like creature to appear before Arthur and his brothers . This being had dark skin and long white hair, it was carrying a blood-red bow and its pupils were golden like the sun .

The second it appeared on the surface, it immediately spotted the stealthy invaders as it turned its head towards them, staring at them with its golden eyes .

Having been discovered, the three jumped in front of the gigantic creatures, ready to fight, however, the creature was as sentient as its followers .

"I thought you've got rid of all those low-lives . "

It had a deep voice that resounded across the whole area, making its kneeling followers tremble with fear . One of them was different than the others, it was taller and had countless scars on its body . It was definitely their leader and the one who facilitated the summoning .

"My liege, please rest assured . We will get rid of them right now . "

It motioned for the kneeling creatures to apprehend the invaders and put them to rest but its actions were a bit late as Arthur, Wolfram, and Leiu already started their assault .

Each of them unleashed a devastating strike, killing many of the defenseless enemies . By the time they picked their weapons and were about to fight, more than a third of them were slaughtered .

In reality, the trio's goal was to eliminate the boss first so after getting rid of some of them, Arthur and Leiu leapt at the gigantic beings, each swinging down their weapon .

Makaze sent out a creepy jet black skull while Anduril unleashed a strike that split the very fabric of this world, causing the fragile space to shatter in pieces .

Alas, this 'Devil' was way stronger than any of their other opponents . It simply used its blood-red bow to block the two strikes, not even flinching when it was hit by their combined assault .

Just as it blocked their two strikes, a large chicken came flying from above and crashed into the Devil . Just as the two clashed, the chicken exploded, causing the target to take a few steps back .

By the time the dust cleared, countless Dark-skinned creatures appeared from underground, the surrounded their 'God' and raised their weapons .

"A bunch of flies!"

An arrow made of white light materialized in the Devil's hand, it swiftly raised its bow and readied itself . Despite its enormous size, its movements were nimble and fast .

The Devil pulled the string and released the arrow, sending it flying at the prepared trio . The might of the arrow was so strong that the collateral damage it did was enough to kill many of the Devil's followers, however, it was uncaring about their miserable lives and only wanted to get rid of those invaders .

Leiu stabbed Anduril on the ground, resulting in a thick wall made of darkness to sprung from below and block the incoming arrow . However, it wasn't enough to totally resist it so Arthur conjured a semi-transparent Dark Barrier which not only strengthened the black wall but also acted as another layer of defense . The Joker added the last touch by throwing one of his special cards at the wall before him .

The card flashed with a red light before it melted inside the dark wall, causing it to change color and rise even higher, piercing the clouds and splitting the sky .

In the end, the arrow was only able to penetrate half of the wall before it vanished, nonetheless, the Devil wasn't done with them . It started bombarding them with numerous white arrows, each one stronger than the last .

By the time the wall was obliterated and a hole big enough for arrows appeared, the trio was ready to launch their counter-attack . Arthur was the first to attack, he tightly held Makaze, which became much larger than its master . Black flames covered them both as the red sky was covered by an encroaching darkness .

Stuck in that world of absolute darkness, the Devil started firing arrow everywhere, obliterating the forest surrounding the church and killing many of its followers .

The darkness lasted for a brief moment before it was absorbed by Arthur, who injected into Makaze and slashed down, sending a devastating strike at the Devil .

This time, the hit was enough to damage the opponent and cause a bloody scar to appear on its stomach but this was but the beginning as The Joker flashed a card at the Devil while mumbling

"First move of the Magician Series: The Devil Within!"

The card turned into countless specks of light and in its stead appeared an equally large being, very similar to the devil but its skin was red instead of black .

It ran toward the Devil and pushed it on the ground then mounted it before starting a bombardment of punches . Unfortunately, the Joker's 'summon' lasted for five seconds but dealt considerable damage as the Devil's face had been beaten into a pulp .

Last but not least was Leiu, who surprisingly discarded Anduril and pulled what seemed to be a pulsating black heart from his chest . He crushed the heart then used the Darkness within it on the ground, causing it to transform into a dangerous black whirlpool which devoured everything .

Everyone in their surroundings was sucked into the whirlpool, including the injured Devil . Unlike its followers, which were dead for sure, the Devil managed to break free from that whirlpool after an intense struggle, however, it suffered heavy damages and was on the brink of dying .

"Fools! You don't know who you're facing!"

He glared at them while snickering, uncaring about its current state . It hysterically laughed while stating:

"My death will be your reckoning!"

He stabbed his hand on its chest, ending its own life and lifelessly falling the ground . Before they could catch a breather, the three noticed that the corpse of the Devil started ballooning in size, clearly about to explode .

Left with no choice, they swiftly retreated, easily dodging the explosion that occurred right after . Sadly, when they thought this will finally be over, the trio was met with another thing that shocked their very souls .

An earth-shattering earthquake occurred seconds later and a majestic city rose from below . The shimmering Mana Crystal pierced the blood-red canopy and stretched as far as the eye could see .

Affected by the red sky, the crystal shone with a malevolent red light before it started shattering, revealing a figure as big as the crystal .

It was a dark-skinned creature with surprisingly handsome facial features and a strange-looking golden and red bow on its back . Its height surpassed 100 meters and the pressure it emitted was truly frightening and suffocating .

To make matters worse, several silhouettes appeared around this god-like figure, they had the same size as the Devil the trio had just killed and there were at least ten or fifteen of them .

It was then that the three brothers tasted real despair but it only lasted for a second before each of them picked up their weapon, ready to fight again . There's no place to run to and no one to lend a hand, they were on their own and they truly believed they can get out of here alive .

"We must live together as brothers or perish together as fools!"-The Joker

Chapter 469

"So, what happened after? Did you survive?"

As the Joker slowly narrating what happened in Riarravar, Lucy couldn't help but ask that question as she was curious about the outcome .

The Joker let out a forced smile and replied:

"Unfortunately, we did not . We were not powerful enough to fight against legions of Cthulhu and armies of other evil races . However, we were still able to fight for ten continuous days before succumbing to our injuries . "

In a battlefield filled with mountains of corpses, whether it's weird-looking monsters or rivers of blood, three men laid on the cold ground, barely breathing as their bodies had dozens of injuries .

The Joker, who sustained the heaviest wounds, coughed lots of blood while trying to open his mouth and talk . As he gazed at the red sky with an absent-minded look, he noticed that the shade of red that dominated the sky was slowly but surely disappearing .

He sacrificed most of his power and ended up killing that gigantic god-like being but the cost was too great .

"*cough* *cough* the clouds have parted *cough* and the skies cleared... it is time I bade you farewell *cough* . "

A pool of blood appeared underneath the man, who was on his last breath, barely able to maintain his consciousness . The other two were in no better condition but they still forced themselves to stand up .

As they faced the dying man, both of them bowed their heads, each saying what's on his mind .

"We tried our best, at least we won't have any regrets . "-Leiu

"If there is an afterlife, I very much hope to become brothers with you again . "

All they got in response was a soft smile from the Joker, who's heartbeat was becoming slower and slower . He mustered all the strength he had left to utter those last words .

"I shall become the wings of rebellion . "

This was the last thing the Joker said before his eyes closed shut and his life ended .

With one of them gone, the two glanced at each other before turned to face the West, where a suffocating pressure was slowly creeping on them . Though they successfully got rid of the forces of the Dark-skinned creatures, the Cthulhu sent reinforcements albeit a bit late .

A ginormous figure, just like the one killed by the Joker, was heading toward them, its appearance different from the last one . This one had eight arms and was holding a large lantern that contained red flames . From the looks of it, it was this being that created the fire which engulfed the entirety of Riarravar .

"Breaketh thy chains of captivity!"

Google search freewebnovel.com

"And fight to erase not the sins but the misdeeds!"

Both of them let out a laugh as they tightly held their weapons and readied themselves for this battle, which probably is their last . They will soon follow their brother and although it's a shame to die when they have come this far, they couldn't just turn around and run away . Their dignity won't allow them to do that, not even Arthur, who swore to return safely to his family .

A day later, after a bitter struggle, a joint attack of Arthur and Leiu managed to seriously injure the big monster but they were still overwhelmed but the enemies' numbers .

"Is this the end?"

Lucy, who's breathing became fast and complexion worsened, asked with a strange tone . The Joker shook his head and replied:

"Oh no, there's still an important piece left untold but before that..."

He flicked his fingers, causing a carefully listening Angelica to appear before her little sister, who was shocked to see her .

"You have heard enough, it's time you go . What I'm about to say is only for Lucy and Lucy alone . "

Lucy didn't snap at her sister or give an intense reaction, she just glared at Angelica for a few seconds before waving her hand, causing a chilling gust to push the shocked woman out of the room .

The Joker snapped his fingers against, isolating this place so that no one can eavesdrop, not even the powerful Matriarch .

"Listen carefully, what I'm about to tell you concerns the destiny of this world... what happened before time and anything before it, how everything came to be and what led to the complete destruction and domination of Riarravar . "

It was a world of nothingness, there were no trees, skies or seas . Just a complete and endless white, just like inside of ARK yet vastly different . There wasn't any kind of energy, no natural laws, even time didn't exist in this strange place .

Three bodies were randomly floating in this foreign plane . Their bodies were illusory, or more precisely, spiritual, meaning that they didn't really exist in that place but were pulled there .

The three suddenly woke up, oblivious to whereabouts and ignorant of what's happening, the only thing they knew is that they died fighting the evil races in Riarravar .

Although the Joker died first, the three awakened at the same time and even when everything around them became clear, they were still confused, wondering what the hell was happening .

"Is this the so-called afterlife? It's not very entertaining..."

The Joker grumbled before he started laughing loudly while trying to pat his brother's shoulders only for his hand to pass through their bodies .

Leiu glanced around him but found nothing too eye-catching, it was just endless white space that stretched as far as the eye could see .

"Perhaps this is where we'll get an explanation for what happened in Riarravar . "

Arthur speculated as he inspected his floating brothers and their semi-transparent bodies . He felt inexplicably weak and a bit dizzy, it's as if this dimension wasn't welcoming him . It was just him, the other two were experiencing the same thing .

The concept of time didn't exist in this plane so it could have been years and seconds felt pretty much the same time .

"You are right, Arthur MoonStar . "

A melodic voice rang in their ears, startling the trio and causing them to turn toward its origin . The sight they were met made them momentarily speechless .

It was actually a woman, blond hair that reached her legs, soft and snow-white skin, and a mesmerizing figure . To add more shock to the trio, she was butt-naked and didn't seem too embarrassed as she elegantly stood before them, inspecting each of them with her two breath-taking golden pupils .

Arthur always claimed that Lucy is the prettiest woman in this world but even his wife paled in comparison to this Goddess . Her beauty was truly out of this world, any men would be charmed by her face and drawn by her gaze .

The three, speechless, maintained their silence, waiting for the woman to explain what's happening .

"I'm sure you have a lot of questions but let's start from the very beginning . I will answer everything later . "

She let out an alluring smile that shook the very souls of strong-willed men like those three .

The woman raised her hand and magically drew something in the air, somehow altering this plane and splitting it in two .

One side was of darkness and the other was of light, two polar opposite harmoniously existed for eternity, or that's how it seemed to Arthur and his brothers .

"Before anything or anyone existed, there was only Light and Darkness, two opposite yet equal things..."

"Wow! You've grown so big!"

Saly hugged Astrith, whose size almost tripled and the aura around him multiplied . He now had three tails and he was no longer covered in lightning, instead, it was stored inside of him, ready to be used at any time .

The little girl became more mature and no longer had that childish look . Her hair and fur became as white as snow and her eyes were sky-blue . The heights this girl reached would astound any person, even her father .

The Joker even stated that she's his most talented disciple, in terms of fighting, that is . She was a bit dull and slow in learning so it took him a lot of time to pass his vast knowledge onto her .

He had left a while ago so she was left with Astrith and her uncle Leiu, who passes the whole day either staring at the jet black sky or swinging his greatsword .

Astrith has finished his training and both the wolf and the little girl were soon going to leave this place . Though she hated this place when she first arrived, her feelings greatly changed over the course of the past few months .

She has grown by leaps and bounds and knew that the Joker was harsh for her sake . She formed some kind of attachment toward this unusual world and unwilling to leave so abruptly .

Unfortunately, Leiu repeatedly told her that she has to leave pretty soon and her role was very important in the upcoming fight . Her wish will soon become true and she'll get to fight alongside her parents, as for the outcome of the fight? No one knew .

Chapter 470: 470

"Before the natural and elemental laws were born, there existed nothing but this Light and Darkness, both harmoniously existing together . There was no time, no life, no death, nothing but these two things . "

Arthur, Leiu, and the Joker remained silent and carefully listened to the naked blond woman, who seemed more like a Goddess than a normal human . Strangely enough, the darkness they were witnessing had the same aura as Leiu's darkness .

As if she could hear their thoughts, the woman explained

"Yes, that is the same as his darkness, the origin of it, more precisely . "

She said that while focusing on the pale youth standing floating in the middle . After pausing for a slight second, she resumed her explanation

"From this Light and Darkness, 'we' were born... or created . As for who 'we' are, we were called 'Ancients' or 'Gods', what matters is that we were the beginning . We were not born infants and didn't go through evolution or anything like that, we had no names, families, or memories, everything was eternal and harmonious . Some were created from the Darkness and others were created from the Light .

Actually, there were twelve of us in total and with our birth, many things changed . We created life and death, worlds and stars, the natural and elemental laws, however, we were unaware that our creations will serve as our restriction in the future . "

This mysterious plane, which was split into Light and Darkness, slightly changed as twelve figures appeared . Six born from the Light and Six from the Darkness, each six were equally distributed into three males and three females .

"At first, we knew not of those mortal feelings human experience such as sadness, anger... love . However, it forever changed when something happened . "

Her melancholic gaze shifted to Arthur, she seemed to be resenting him yet also thanking him for something .

Please visit freearebnovel.com

"You... Arthur MoonStar, appeared in that plane and with your appearance... the Time-Space continuum followed, causing the wheel of time to start, recording the beginning of time itself . "

"I appeared there? Why?"

The Goddess let out a sigh before resuming:

"It was by accident but what you brought with you is a big change . Not only did you eternally change our mindset but you also were the cause of everything, good and bad . At first, after hearing your introduction, we started naming ourselves then we started naming our powers and creating new ones but there were limitations... limitations that we so foolishly set upon ourselves .

That was only the beginning as shortly after that, some of us began competing with each other . A few of us began creating worlds and giving life to new Races .

The most notable Race is the Humans, created by one of the six born from Light, he was the one who never named himself and was named 'God' by all the others . He was also the one who created the God Race . Amongst the twelve of us, he was the most mysterious and reclusive, his character drastically changed right after you appeared . "

The woman paused for a second and studied their expression . The Joker, whose expression wasn't unusually serious, asked;

"So you're saying this 'God' is the same preached by the human on Earth?"

"I do not know what this 'Earth' you're speaking of but he's the one who 'created' the Human race . Also, please refrain of speaking about anything that happens in the future as it'll disturb the flow of time and may lead to serious consequences . Whatever you know of the future, please keep it to yourself and don't speak of it in my presence . "

"I thought the God Race was the one who created Humans . "-Arthur

"That is a common misconception . "

Leiu, who has been keeping silent ever since a while ago, finally spoke .

"What does all of this have to do with Riarravar and us?"

Hearing this, the woman chuckled and said:

"Hahahaha shrewd questions warrant honest answers . Riarravar, a small world, insignificant compared to all the big stars and gigantic planets, is the first world ever created . Two of the six born from the Light worked together to build Riarravar . One of them was the previously mentioned 'God' and the other named himself Tiarius, The GameMaster . Tiarius was the very first 'being' who created the System, which progressively strengthens Humans and other Races . They created Riarravar as an experiment to see how the weak races will adapt in this world with the presence of a basic game-like system . 'God' helped Tiarius only to see what his creations, humans, were capable of . Their achievements were definitely out of his expectations . As time passed and Riarravar flourished, the rest of us grew interested in said world and wanted to add some of our 'touch' to this peaceful world . I, for one, wanted to grant the humans knowledge, knowledge about their world, their history, however short it may be..."

"With all of that said, you've still not told us who you are . "-Arthur

The woman flashed a heart-melting smile at the three while answering:

"I am Quhea, Creator of Knowledge . "

As he heard his answer, Arthur seemed to have thought of someone . He stared at this inexplicably beautiful 'Goddess' and asked again

"Do you know Katrina, the Overgod of Knowledge?"

In response, the woman nodded her head and replied:

"Yes, she's my daughter . "

Arthur's speculation was more or less correct . He knew that Katrina had some relation to Quhea but he needed to ascertain of his guess before trying to link everything together .

'Does that mean that the Overgods in 'X's orb are special? Not humans who achieved the Overgod Realm but naturally born Overgods?'-Arthur

For now, Arthur decided to keep his thoughts and theories to himself . He'll question Quhea after listening to everything she had to say .

"Before I get any further, let me tell you about the Twelve . The six from the Light are; I, Quhea 'Creator of Knowledge', Tiarius 'The GameMaster', 'God', Sedos 'Lightbringer', Thyddor 'The Fighter', Dimitra 'Mother Nature' . As for the one six born from the Darkness, they're; Timos ''Savagery', Medtris 'Demon Queen', Ventus Malum 'Gale Devourer', Moriah 'Shadow Emperor', Zaarae 'Parasite Empress', and Xyktia 'Assassin' . "

After introducing the Twelve, Quhea snapped her fingers, changing the environment from a plane of Light and Darkness into a peaceful and beautiful lush forest .

"For the first few centuries, Riarravar knew nothing but peace and prosperity . However, ignorant as we are, we wanted to join in and put out creations in this miraculous world . Though we were unfathomably powerful compared to your standards, not all of us were skilled in all fields . Just because 'God' created humans doesn't mean that all of us are capable of the same feats . So, in attempt to copy 'God', Timos created a race of his own but the result was a defective and barbaric race . Something that was Evil and only yearns for death and destruction, they were called the Cthulhu, a malevolent race that was discarded by their creator . Although they were abandoned by their 'God', the Cthulhu kept worshiping Timos and tried to wreck havoc in Riarravar in attempt to please him .

Zaarae also created the Parasite race but the first and second batch were weak so they were deemed useless and were thrown into Riarravar . Though, in the end, Zaarae was successful in creating an all-powerful race that pleased her so, she joined hands with Medtris to create a world for Parasites and Demons, which was a Race created by the Demon Queen . "

Before Quhea could continue, the Joker cut her off and said:

"What about those dark-skinned creatures we found in the underground city?"

As if expecting such a question, the woman gave an immediate answer .

"Those are lesser beings, a mix of the Demon Race and the Shadow Race, hence their name; Shadow Demons . "

"Why didn't 'God' or Tiarius stop the Cthulhu from wreaking havoc in Riarravar?"

"Because their goal was to observe humanity and see how it copes with any situation . Though it pained them to see the destruction of a once-beautiful and peaceful world, they could do nothing but watch as everything crumbled .

In fact, the meddling of the parasites, shadow demons, and especially the Cthulhu had greatly angered Tiarius, who went and attacked Timos . "

While letting out a sigh as the peaceful environment around them transformed that of death and destruction .

"It was then that the conflict between the Twelve began . Everybody started seeking supremacy and power, most notable of them was Moriah . As I said earlier, we were all born equal but the powers we granted ourselves ended up differentiating us . Moriah's powers allowed him to infinitely strengthen himself so he quickly became the strongest of the Twelve . Fortunately, Moriah never cared about the conflict between the rest of us and only sought to reach the apex of strength .

Time passed and the conflict between us until it reached a point where we split into two sides . One consisting of those born from the Light and the other born from the Darkness . However, there were still neutral parties such as Moriah, 'God', and Ventus Malum . "