

## Night Ranger - Chapter 378 - 400

Chapter 378: Ahead of Time [3/10]

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

It hadn't even occurred to Marvin that Ancestor's Mystery might activate here.

This thing was essentially a sealing item, used to restrain the Archdevil's head. After he had put it on, the Archdevil's head knew its place and the black-gowned old man didn't appear near White River Valley anymore.

As for the Ancestor's Mystery bracelets themselves, they hadn't had any other changes.

But when he entered the Secret Garden, his wrists grew hot.

This surprised Marvin, but he didn't check the unusual condition of Ancestor's Mystery first. Instead, he calmly observed the situation in the surroundings.

The Secret Garden's entrance was on a green field with all kinds of crops planted throughout. Even the paths were surrounded with pleasing vegetation, and the fragrance gathered in the air, making the place look very beautiful and relaxing.

But Marvin knew that this was only a facade created by the Magic Medicine King.

Since he entered the Secret Garden, each and every move was under the grasp of Magic Medicine King Eric.

The surrounding scenery might be real, or might be fake.

'No good. The priority is to leave this place.'

'If I check the issue with Ancestor's Mystery here, I might run into trouble.'

Marvin began to move while using [Earth Perception] at the same time.

He tried to use his mind to connect with this place, but this space was essentially a Demi-Plane opened by the ancient Mikenshi school of magic. The plane laws were very different from those of Feinan Plane. Up to this point, Marvin still wasn't able to perceive anything.

...

The [Lost Villa] was set up on a small flat hill. During their golden age, the Mikenshi Wizards used the Secret Garden as a public gathering ground for Wizards. Many

Wizards would come here from across the Dead Area to communicate and trade. It could be seen how much the place was flourishing from the huge buildings.

But as an area of the Secret Garden, the Lost Villa had very few good things, only many dangers.

Marvin knew that after the Magic Medicine King swallowed the Wizard Apprentice Eric, it first went to the Lost Villa. It was there that it frantically learnt the ancient Mikenshi Wizards' knowledge.

The way it gained knowledge was very simple, and that was... eating!

The Magic Medicine King occupied this place for a millennium and ate all the useful books, only leaving behind some Magic Items that it most likely couldn't use. Besides a few specific places, the other areas were all in a mess.

Marvin kept moving forward in the Lost Villa's building complex, maintaining a certain speed.

He wasn't walking very quickly because that would arouse the suspicion of the Magic Medicine King, who was secretly observing.

But he wasn't worried. After all, there were five Legends who had entered previously. The Magic Medicine King's attention should mainly be focused on them.

After all, there were five Legends! The greedy Eric wanted to digest them, but it would be a long-term plan.

...

Marvin progressed along a shabby street. He stood at the hilltop and looked back. Over on the green field, some people could be seen rushing in.

However, the people that came in seemed to have a bad relationship. They had only just entered the Secret Garden and already began attacking each other.

This made Marvin shake his head and sigh.

He ignored these people and continued forward, quickly reaching a fairly spacious residential building.

He went in and found that it was free of dust.

'Even a small room like this had an enduring [Dirtless] enchantment.'

Marvin instantly noticed the reason behind the room's cleanliness.

He didn't check further into the details though, instead looking at his own wrists while still maintaining a vigilant attitude.

The two simple bracelets had become even hotter.

They seemed very anxious, growing hotter and hotter at a certain rate.

After a while, the bracelets even began to flicker with a red glimmer.

Marvin pondered... It felt like déjà vu.

The Archdevil was sealed and shouldn't have a chance to play a trick. Then what could it be?

Marvin remained bemused.

But suddenly, he realized that there was a familiar aura!

'This is grandfather's aura?'

'Yes, it's the same as the painting!'

Marvin was shocked and immediately began to feel the change of the Ancestor's Mystery.

Just as expected, when his mind came in contact with the bracelets, the painting of a youth shot out, forming a figure in the air!

"Glad to see you once again, Lil' Marvin." The youth blinked.

Marvin forced a smile.

...

Under the silent night sky, a shooting star suddenly appeared at a corner of White River Valley.

The shooting star spiralled for a very long time before ultimately settling down on the castle's tallest balcony.

The flying magic carpet audibly created some wind as it landed, and a young man alighted from it.

"I have to say, it's completely unreasonable that you are so talented without even awakening our family bloodline." A gentle voice could be heard, before continuing while

feeling aggravated, “Even Marvin with his trash innate talent could awaken his bloodline, it’s way too strange.”

“Big Sis Daniela, you can’t speak that way about my older brother.” Wayne’s expression was gentle, but hearing Daniela’s disdain while talking about Marvin, he felt dissatisfied.

“Yeah, who knows which god forsaken place your older brother is at now! The last traces of him were in Rocky Mountain, fooling around with those three women... Now he is most likely already in the Dead Area. He’s even missing his younger brother’s tenth birthday. As his fiancée, could it be that I can’t say a word about it?” Daniela’s eyes looked fierce.

Very few people in White River Valley could speak rudely about Marvin, but Daniela was one of them.

The pitiful future Ice Empress, because of her oath, and because of Marvin coming to this world, was temporarily unable to return to the North.

She simply remained in White River Valley, acting like a mistress and helping with the construction in White River Valley.

She complained a bit more, and Wayne couldn’t say much about it.

At that time, Anna, who had been standing silently to the side, suddenly asked, “Young Master Wayne, did you find Lady Hathaway on your trip to the Three Ring Towers?”

Wayne shook his head, squeezing out a smile shortly after. “Although I didn’t find her, she left me a magic training manual and had another Wizard pass it on to me.”

“I trained in Ashes Tower for a long time and now finally had a bit of a breakthrough. Next time we meet trouble, I’ll be able to help Brother a bit.”

“Breakthrough?” Daniela asked with shock.

She looked closely at Wayne and questioned doubtfully, “You advanced to Legend?”

“No no no, I haven’t.” Wayne smiled, “It’s just that I walk on a different path from ordinary Wizards.”

“Ancient Wizards’ training method?” Daniela muttered softly. “So what level are you at now? It’s been a while since I saw your strength. You actually train so fast...”

Wayne smiled shyly. “3rd rank.”

Daniela remained speechless.

That freak in front of her became a 3rd rank Wizard at the age of ten.

It had to be known that months earlier, he had merely been a Wizard Apprentice! During that time, he gave up on his original path and chose an alternate path, an ancient training method that Hathaway suggested for him, no longer relying on the Universe Magic Pool.

This definitely increased the casting difficulty, but his progress was still outstanding.

His progress would make anyone jealous.

Daniela herself was a heaven-defying genius, but compared to Wayne, she still seemed inferior.

“Rest early. There are some matters to discuss tomorrow. And Sir Constantine said that in a few days, some big characters will come to the castle.” Anna reminded him in a gentle voice, “Lord Marvin isn’t present, so you are now in charge of the castle’s decisions.”

Wayne nodded. He used a simple spell and returned in his bedroom.

Suddenly, a ghostly shadow appeared beside him.

“Sir Owl,” Wayne greeted calmly.

“3rd rank, huge progress. It seems like you were greatly motivated by your elder brother.” Shadow Thief Owl smiled, but then his expression turned solemn. “Did you meet any issues on your trip to Ashes Tower?”

Wayne shook his head, softly replying, “Although Lady Hathaway is imprisoned, the people of Ashes Tower are still unaware. Lady Dark Phoenix apparently doesn’t want to get involved with the inner workings of the Ashes Tower.”

Owl nodded. “You did great. With Hathaway sealing herself in ice, Marvin should be going crazy. He is already under too much pressure.”

“Since he is now in the Dead Area, we should help him out with what matters we can.” Owl sighed. “Constantine already started contacting people. Even if Dark Phoenix is powerful, she shouldn’t be able to fight several Legends.”

Wayne hesitated, before clenching his teeth and saying, “Sir Owl, the matter of rescuing Lady Hathaway... I think it might not be that simple.”

“I had a dream. In the dream... She was very formidable.”

Owl froze. His expression then turned grave. “Tell me about your dream.”

...

It felt a bit strange for a vivid image of his supposedly dead grandfather to appear in front of him.

But it wasn't the first time, so Marvin could accept it.

Both of them quickly began to discuss and Marvin asked why there was such a strange reaction from Ancestor's Mystery.

He found out that it was because the Secret Garden Demi-Plane was very close to Hell!

The barrier of the Universe Magic Pool was very thin and the obstruction between planes was minimal.

This change was first noticed by his grandfather in Hell. He immediately decided to contact Marvin.

He brought Marvin both good news and bad news.

The good news was that he would soon escape from his trap.

And the bad news was...

[Wizard Calendar Year 819 Month 1 Day 16]

The Gods would attack the Universe Magic Pool.

Hearing this news, Marvin froze!

'The Great Calamity is coming ahead of time!'

Chapter 379: Impending [4/10]

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

The 16th of January!

That date was a month earlier than the 16th of February that Marvin remembered!

The Gods were impatient, but the shadow of the Wizard God had always been looming above them. They only dared to do this because they found evidence that the Wizard God couldn't influence Feinan anymore.

Although Marvin did many things since he transmigrated, affecting the world's development and creating some butterfly effects, it mostly shouldn't have affected the Astral Sea.

'Could it be Glynos' matter?' Marvin's heart sank.

The Great Calamity being this far ahead of time meant that his plans were completely thrown into disorder.

Today was the 2nd of January, only 14 days away from the start of the Great Calamity!

Of course, the Gods teaming up to attack the Universe Magic Pool wouldn't be able to succeed in just one move. They would need at least half a month!

In the game, the group formed by the New Gods included many powerful existences, yet they weren't able to shatter the Universe Magic Pool completely until March!

And during that time, the magic of the Wizards lost its effectiveness and riots sprung up everywhere. It was the most chaotic of times.

Some powerhouses had already sensed a few things but they could only protect a very limited number of people.

The Wizards became anxious and Chaos Magic Power leaked from the Universe Magic Pool, attacking their wills.

Many went insane, turning into humanoid monstrosities.

The Feinan Continent of that time was filled with corpses and berserk arcane energy. Not only was the countryside unsafe, but the cities were too.

Especially in the South. Because of the South Wizard Alliance's high-handed rule, the cities were filled with Wizards.

After the Calamity, areas with Wizards were like minefields.

In fact, the wilderness was a bit safer.

Although there were some magic lifeforms affected by the Chaos Magic Power that turned bloodthirsty and berserk, it wasn't like a gathering of Wizards.

Scattered bombs were relatively less threatening than gathered bombs.

In short, once the Great Calamity started, Feinan would sink into constant chaos!

White River Valley wouldn't escape from this either!

Marvin had stressed many times at the start of the development that they shouldn't recruit Wizards under the Legend Realm to White River Valley.

But because he had a bit of a relationship with Hathaway and Madeline, White River Valley still had some Wizards from both River Shore City and Ashes Tower.

Who knew how many of these Wizards would be able to resist the willpower test from the Great Calamity?

At that time, if Marvin wasn't present, panic would inevitably spread.

The territory might collapse from that point on!

'Fuck! Why did it shift to such an early date!'

Marvin had thought of a lot of possibilities and scenarios, but hadn't expected that the Great Calamity would happen this much ahead of time.

The time he had left was rather tight.

There were only 14 days left!

...

"I was also shocked the first time I found out about this."

Although the youth shrugged, worry still showed in his eyes. "Thus, I checked to make sure. I grabbed a few small Overlords in Hell and confirmed what I just told you."

"For this attack on the Universe Magic Pool, the Gods took out a secret weapon they had prepared for a long time. Even if Hell and the Abyss wouldn't participate, they still had their ways to gain information. Many Overlords are getting ready for battle, preparing to march on Feinan."

"Naturally, there is also the Negative Energy Plane. I heard you got rid of an Evil Spirit Overlord? That is quite an astonishing feat... But there are many Evil Spirit Overlords. Tidomas is the most active one now. You have to be careful of their retaliation."

"Damn... Another space interference."

His grandfather's image blurred. "I'll come back quickly, before that, make sure to protect you..."

His words were cut off as he disappeared.

Marvin's heart was resolute.



To tell the truth, he didn't feel anything towards this grandfather. Marvin thought he was very mysterious, since he disappeared such a long time ago. Even the body's original owner didn't remember anything about him.

But even so, that bloodline connection still made him seem very familiar.

His grandfather was sincerely concerned about him. It was clear that even if his grandfather could communicate through the Ancestor's Mystery, it would use up a lot of Magic Power, or even resources, to transmit a signal across planes toward Feinan.

Him telling Marvin this information about the earlier date had great importance.

At least he wouldn't be caught unprepared.

Thinking about it, if he wasn't aware of the Great Calamity coming ahead of time, he might still be adventuring outside while White River Valley was done for!

It wasn't that he didn't believe in the abilities of Constantine, Daniela and the others, but the problem was that they wouldn't be able to resist against the Chaos Magic Power!

They would likely have to abandon White River Valley and hide in the Shrieking Mountain Range, which was protected by Shackles of Order, but many refugees would lose their lives to the monsters living there.

He had to hurry to White River Valley. He mustn't be late!

Thinking of this, he took out a green Thousand Paper Crane.

This crane was something Owl had prepared for Marvin. Regardless of the distance, it could send a message once.

He had to relay this information to White River Valley!

...

In a dark castle, a group of people were sitting at a round table, discussing enthusiastically.

In front of these people, even White River Valley's Proxy Overlord, Wayne, and the Overlord's fiancée, Daniela, had to be respectful.

Constantine, Inheim, O'Brien, Endless Ocean, Heavenly Deer Lorant, Shadow Thief Owl... And Legend Wizard Leymann!

These Legend powerhouses were gathered in White River Valley.

“Regarding Hathaway’s matter, everyone should be very clear.” Shadow Thief Owl calmly described the situation. “Lady Dark Phoenix is eccentric and hadn’t overstepped her boundaries before. She also knows of Lady Hathaway’s Seer identity.”

“I heard from another source that Lady Dark Phoenix’s power is very formidable, at least not inferior to that of Sir Nicholas.”

After these words, Wayne’s expression wavered. The other source Owl mentioned was naturally him.

Unlike Marvin, he was a true Seer... His dreams were real.

His dream this time was of a huge fight between Marvin and Dark Phoenix. Marvin suffered a crushing defeat to Dark Phoenix’s incredible might.

Her powerful aura left a deep impression on Wayne and was something the other Legends were unable to match up to.

“Regardless, the guys up there are certainly plotting something. We need Hathaway’s Seer ability.”

Inheim calmly said, “I don’t have any friendship with Dark Phoenix. I’ll personally step forward in this matter.”

Owl smiled bitterly and was about to say something when suddenly, a green light flashed.

“What’s that?”

All the Legends frowned.

Shadow Thief Owl grabbed that Thousand Paper Crane and absent-mindedly muttered, “Information about Marvin. Maybe he met a disaster while tempering himself in the Dead Area and is waiting for us to save him...”

But the next second, he jumped up from his seat while cursing, “Fuck! They are crazy!”

Chapter 380: Ambushed [5/10]

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

They hadn’t expected Owl to react so vehemently.

This guy had no limits, as evident from his display of thievery on the Shadow Prince, but cursing like that in front of everyone was a first.

“What’s going on with Marvin?” asked Constantine in agitation.

Wayne and Daniela were even more nervous. The former was genuinely worried about Marvin’s safety, while the latter felt a bit complicated. Her feelings toward Marvin weren’t particularly deep in that way, but there was still her oath about Ancestor’s Mystery. If Marvin died, Ancestor’s Mystery would be lost in the Dead Area Continent and she would never be able to return to the North.

Shadow Thief Owl shook his head, handing over a green note.

They checked it one by one, their expressions changing.

...

After a few minutes, everyone had seen the contents of the note and the atmosphere became very depressing.

“Is the information reliable?” Breaking the silence, Inheim spoke out in a heavy voice.

Owl thought about it for a moment. “Even if that kid Marvin is irresponsible and likes to run all over the place, he certainly wouldn’t lie about this.”

“He said the information came from Hell, and it should be 100% true.”

“Hell?” Doubt and suspicion flashed in Inheim’s eyes. “It’s not easy to interact with those Devils. They are good at playing with people’s hearts.”

Clearly, he was worried Marvin had been deceived.

“Impossible.”

At that time, Wayne suddenly spoke up. “What my older brother said is true.”

They all looked at Wayne in surprise, as he calmly continued, “Before Lady Hathaway left, she left me a training manual.”

“On it, there is a prophecy saying that one day the Gods would go crazy and shatter the Universe Magic Pool.”

“She said it was a disaster that couldn’t be stopped.”

“I finally understand why my brother was worrying that much...”

His tone was filled with regret. If he had known earlier that something like this would happen, he would have worked harder and not let so many of the matters of White River Valley fall on Marvin’s shoulders.

He was carrying too many responsibilities.

...

“A Seer’s prophecy...”

This time, Inheim had no choice but to truly consider the matter. He wasn’t suspicious of Marvin, but his strength was too low after all and he might be deceived by others.

But Hathaway was different.

A Legend Wizard Seer. The things she saw would surely be very accurate.

They looked at each other in dismay. Though they might have felt that some frightening things were about to happen, and that those things might be related to those guys above...

They hadn’t thought that it would be a plan so insane!

Directly attacking the Universe Magic Pool!

“Aren’t they afraid of angering the Wizard God by doing this?” Daniela was puzzled.

“Who knows, maybe they think they can deceive the Wizard God,” Heavenly Deer Lorant sneered. “I have dealt with some of these New Gods and they don’t feel like Gods at all. They are filled with the greed and insanity of Feinan’s races.”

“I don’t think it’s strange for them to attack the Universe Magic Pool.”

Everyone turned silent after Lorant’s words.

Their first reaction had unconsciously been to hope that the information was fake.

Because if it was real, a great disaster was soon to happen.

In their minds, the destruction of the Universe Magic Pool would certainly change this world, but they hadn’t considered what exactly this world would look like in the aftermath.

The atmosphere became somewhat stifling after a while.

“What about Hathaway’s matter?” Endless Ocean asked softly.

Owl shook his head. “Marvin said to be careful of Dark Phoenix.”

He hesitated for a bit before looking at everyone and clenching his teeth. "He told me two additional pieces of information. One of them relates to Dark Phoenix... I don't know whether I should tell everyone..."

"Say it," Inheim encouraged calmly.

Owl was silent for a moment, looking across everyone. These people should all be on the same side.

At that time he finally revealed, "That kid said that after an exhausting investigation regarding Dark Phoenix, he came to a conclusion..."

"She is one of them," he concluded, pointing up with a finger.

Everyone went silent.

Leymann objected in dissatisfaction. "How could Marvin say this, Lady Dark Phoenix is one of the founders of our South Wizard Alliance! She has lived for who knows how many years. And although she is a bit eccentric, she..."

Reaching this point, he suddenly realized something and hesitated.

"...The other four founders of the South Wizard Alliance already died of old age. She doesn't have the aura of someone who broke through the Extreme Bottleneck, and also didn't seem to have mastered any Longevity skill."

Constantine finished his words, "But she is still alive. And she took advantage of this opportunity to take Hathaway away."

Leymann was unwilling to believe it. "But she has always taken good care of us."

"Sealing a very promising Legend Wizard Seer on Black Coral Island isn't taking good care of someone." O'Brien, who rarely spoke, interrupted them. "While I was passing by Bass Harbor, I wanted to check there but was pushed back by a formidable power. It was most likely Dark Phoenix."

Their hearts sank.

As the leader of the Night Walkers, O'Brien's words held a lot of weight.

Moreover, his strength was very frightening. He twisted the Molten Overlord's head off. Seven of the the Azure Matriarch's heads ended up exploding. His strength was extremely tyrannical and had reached the peak of the world.

To be able to make him retreat, there was no one else in the Bass Harbor's surroundings.

“Let’s suppose this is true... What should we do about our plan?” Leymann asked with difficulty.

He wasn’t the particularly inflexible kind of Wizard and had a very good impression of Marvin. He knew that although that kid could cause lots of trouble, he would never lie about this.

There had to be a reason that Marvin could have so many Legends gather in White River Valley.

Marvin had a certain amount of charisma, for so many powerhouses to meet here while he wasn’t even present.

“There is another piece of information.”

Shadow Thief Owl frowned. “Marvin gave us some things to do.”

“We may have to leave White River Valley for a while until we get our stuff done.”

“As for Hathaway... He wants to save her himself.”

...

That’s right, Marvin wanted to save Hathaway himself.

No one knew of Dark Phoenix’s means except him. Even a Legend powerhouse would easily suffer a loss.

He didn’t want what happened last time in the Decaying Plateau to happen again.

The Great Elven King was seriously injured. This time, no one would be able to step forward and take over.

In fact, because Dark Phoenix waited patiently for so many years without creating a religion to gather faith, she had sacrificed a large part of her development potential.

She used a mortal shape to stay in the mortal world and was bound to have mortals’ weaknesses.

In Marvin’s eyes, if he wanted to get a Divine Vessel, Dark Phoenix was the best target.

As a last resort, he would even unleash the Scarlet Monastery’s power!

Whether it was the Heavenly Sword Saint taking care of his little brother, or the dormant Lich himself, they would be interested in Dark Phoenix’s Divine Vessel and Divine Source.

As for now, he had to clear the Secret Garden and quickly find Ivan before returning to White River Valley!

He had to get Hathaway back before the Great Calamity. Although she was a Legend, who knew what Dark Phoenix would do to her?

She was still holding back before the Great Calamity, but once the disaster's changes were irreversible, Dark Phoenix would lose her restraints.

But if she could hide, she was still willing to do so.

After all, after hiding for so long already, she would be ready to keep enduring further in order to accomplish her plot.

This was the reason this woman was so terrifying.

Marvin knew that he had to find the most suitable timing to expose her.

...

'Ivan!'

Marvin closed his eyes and took an item from his chest pocket, one that Ivan used in the past and held his aura. He obtained it from the Thousand Leaves Forest.

The next second, he activated [Night Tracking].

A faint red line appeared before his eyes and seemed to extend far into the distance.

Marvin estimated that Ivan had already crossed the Lost Villa and the Desolate Tower Ruins, and was approaching the Secret Garden's 4th area, the [Mills Garden].

Mills Garden was the most frightening area of the Secret Garden.

That place was where most of the Magic Medicines were planted, but the majority of them had already been swallowed by Eric, leaving only countless traps, fake shells and the Magic Medicine King's plot.

"No good, I have to find him immediately!"

After finding out the Gods' plan, Marvin became extremely anxious.

In the night, his fighting strength soared. He had to settle everything here tonight.

Thinking of this, he sped up, preparing to cross the Lost Villa!

In any case, there wasn't anything valuable left here.

But as he hurried through the Lost Villa, he was attacked with an [Earth Swamp] spell!

The effect was very simple. The ground would transform into sludge, causing people to sink in.

Unfortunately for the caster, Marvin was very skillful and relied on his Godly Dexterity to leap away from this swamp that appeared out of nowhere.

Before he could even confront his opponent about why he had attacked, an Ice Bolt, a Lightning Ball, and an Acid Spray were cast one after the other.

The other party's casting speed was very fast. He stood still, raining down spells like a machine gun, bursting with powerful arcane energy!

He used powerful low level spells, cast quickly and effectively.

He was a Half-Legend of Blackfire Lava!

Marvin noticed a faint green mist behind him.

'These Wizards have such shitty willpower!'

He dodged while sneering at their ineptitude. 'He was actually controlled by the Magic Medicine King so quickly.'

He showed no mercy, relying on his sharp movements to avoid the shower of spells.

"Woosh!"

Just as the spells flew past, Marvin dashed directly at the Wizard.

The latter seemed startled but quickly regained his fierce expression.

Marvin saw what was happening and hurriedly tried to use Shadow Escape to avoid him!

But he was too late to escape this time and heard an explosion as the Wizard detonated himself!

A great amount of Arcane Energy burst against Marvin's body!

"Fuck... Came across a nutcase..." Marvin cursed.



But unexpectedly, he saw the Blackfire Lava Wizard appear from another alley still unharmed, watching Marvin coldly.

Chapter 381: Desolate Tower Ruins [6/10]

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

What was that? Mirror Image Magic?

Marvin was slightly confounded. He had never heard of a Mirror Image that could explode!

'This guy is very powerful. It seems that even in this world, the might of his explosion-type magic is still considerable...'

Marvin had been slightly injured, even with the protection of Magic's Foe!

With that and Marvin's powerful resistances, ordinary magical explosions shouldn't be able to harm him.

Looking at the Blackfire Lava Wizard's cold smile, Marvin suddenly figured it out.

'That guy... isn't controlled by the Magic Medicine King!'

As Marvin had his realization, the ornament on his right arm glowed red!

The Spirit Armband had an abnormal reaction.

Marvin couldn't help but break into a cold sweat.

Had he unconsciously entered the Magic Medicine King's illusion?

'When did it start?'

'Hold on... Could it have started back when I entered the Secret Garden? Was I ambushed there already?'

Marvin was a little dazed.

The Blackfire Lava Wizard in the distance suddenly disappeared. This place once again seemed tranquil.

But Marvin felt that the fight had just begun.

...

'Could it be that the Great Calamity happening earlier is fake?'

'And that my grandfather never appeared to share the information? Was everything a trick of the Magic Medicine King?'

Marvin didn't use Stealth.

When inside this area, Marvin's movements would all be easily seen by Magic Medicine King Eric, even through his Stealth.

He remained vigilant of his surroundings while reflecting on what happened.

He had just entered the Secret Garden when his grandfather sent him some information. Was this a bit too coincidental?

Could it be a misconception?

Marvin couldn't believe it.

He muttered for a bit and opened his status window.

There wasn't any information about him being in an illusion.

It seemed that the system wasn't omnipotent in this regard.

The green Thousand Paper Crane Owl prepared for him had already been used. He also could feel that Owl had received it.

Even if the Magic Medicine King was formidable, it shouldn't be able to imitate the secret ability of Shadow Thief Owl, right?

There was no need to doubt this.

And the previous unusual condition of Ancestor's Mystery should also be real. Even if the illusions reflected things from within people's minds, Marvin almost never thought of his grandfather, so why would he appear out of nowhere?

'Hold on...'

'If everything was really an illusion, I shouldn't be able to see the interface.'

'But I can still think and react. That caster's explosion really injured me... Although the highest realm of illusions can turn falsehood into reality, this shouldn't all be an illusion.'

Marvin's thoughts cleared up.

He must have triggered a trap from the Magic Medicine King while he was running as fast as he could.

That Blackfire Lava Wizard just then was probably someone who had entered the Secret Garden and gotten swallowed before being repurposed into an illusion trap.

After Marvin recognized this, the latter naturally disappeared.

In other words, he was still inside the real world and not in a total illusion, but had fallen for one of Eric's tricks.

He gently caressed the Spirit Armband and Vanessa's Gift. The two pieces of willpower-boosting equipment had regained their serenity.

'Turns out it was a false alarm.'

Marvin smiled bitterly. Thinking about it, however powerful Magic Medicine King Eric was, it would have to devote more of its energy to handling those Legends, so how could it divert its attention to take care of Marvin?

Major illusions would consume a lot of energy and if it was distracted, it would increase the chance of being discovered by those Legends.

At that time, the one dying would be Eric.

Thus, Marvin should be safe for the time being, and as such, he hesitated no longer and left that path, continuing toward his destination.

He spent about ten minutes following the road to reach the bottom of the mountain, leaving the Lost Villa.

When he left, he saw a few more Half-Legends who arrived at the Lost Villa.

They might stay in this area for a long time. After all, they didn't know much about the Secret Garden and would think there was some treasure to be found in the houses.

But this area was already empty.

Marvin sped up and soon arrived at the second area of the Secret Garden.

The Desolate Tower Ruins.

...

This was a taboo area that couldn't be avoided.

It was filled with all kinds of berserk arcane energy, while also breeding some frightening Magic Beasts.

They hid in the shadows eating each other and were extremely ruthless.

If not for the Mikenshi school leaving behind some Shackles of Order, these monsters might have already come out and even the Magic Medicine King would be helpless to deal with them.

This was the only area of the Secret Garden that the Magic Medicine King was unable to control.

His eyes couldn't reach this place and his illusions weren't effective here.

Marvin stopped in front of a fallen stone tablet and looked over the Desolate Tower Ruins.

This area had been a group of buildings constructed in a valley.

Because it was a strategic location for defense, there was no way to circumvent it. Trying to go around it by climbing the peaks on either side would lead to even more dangers!

The Secret Garden was originally established as a Demi-Plane by the Mikenshi Wizards near Hell and the Astral Plane.

Although the probability of meeting a Devil or an Astral Beast on the mountainous path was very low, anyone with enough knowledge of planes would know that the edges of Demi-Planes were very unstable.

Since they might border other planes, if you kept walking, you might look up and discover that you were pulled into Hell by an unfathomable power, or ripped apart by Devil who had been wandering at the edge of the plane. The most likely misfortune to befall you at the edge would be falling out of the plane and being banished into the void by spatial interference.

In short, the Desolate Tower Ruins were dangerous, but couldn't compare with the parts along the edges.

Marvin entered the ruins.

A tall black tower that perhaps had once stood mightily over the area, as if reaching for the clouds, had already fallen and become a ruined wall.

If the [Lost Villa] was the place where Mikenshi Wizards received guests, then this valley was the place where they researched magic.

Mikenshi Wizards were proficient at cultivating Magic Medicines and were famous for it.

But in fact, their studies of magic arrays were even better.

Otherwise, they wouldn't have been able to create such a strange space that could even suppress Legends.

Marvin walked in and could feel the desolation of the atmosphere.

Many things were already worn down by time but were maintained somewhat by a mysterious force, thus still standing straight and not collapsing.

But once touched, they would disintegrate into fine powder.

The Desolate Tower Ruins was an area where danger lurked everywhere.

On the other hand, it was also a good area.

Because the Magic Medicine King couldn't influence this area, there were still many treasures here that had been left behind by the Mikenshi Wizards.

Marvin even knew of one thing in particular.

Suddenly, a shadow in the distance roared.

Bloodthirsty fangs flickered with a light pink radiance in the cold night.

Marvin took a deep breath, his [Azure Leaf]s already in his hands.

Chapter 382: 7th Tower [7/10]

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

In the Desolate Tower Ruins, all kinds of Berserk Magic Beasts were commonly seen.

If it didn't have such strong suppressive forces, Marvin would have even considered using this place as his farming ground.

But his current strength had been substantially weakened. In fact, if not for the suppression left behind by the Mikenshi's arrays, Marvin would have been able to avoid that exploding Blackfire Lava Wizard with his Shadow Escape.

With Major Tenacity and Endurance, Marvin didn't even care about the slight injury, but the suppression here was stronger than before.

Previously in the Lost Villa, some of Marvin skills were still brightly lit.

Shadow Escape for example.

But once he entered the Desolate Tower Ruins, Marvin felt the sealing power strengthening.

All his skills were gray. This was the same as in the Ice Monster Cave.

Seeing the beast approaching, Marvin lifted his daggers, solemnly examining the enemy.

Fortunately, he still had Desperation Style!

...

That Magic Beast had a pretty small body. It originally was some kind of small animal, but under the radiation of Arcane Energies, it had undergone a frightening change. This was a common occurrence in ancient casters' vestiges.

The small villages in the corners of Feinan Continent had some strange killing incidents, such as the [Magic Swordsman Killer], the [Blacksmith House Bloodbath], and others. These were beginner missions the newcomers would start off with. Often, it turned out that an item had been contaminated by Arcane Energy, giving birth to its own murderous consciousness and turning the owner into a monster.

Magic was powerful, but power came with a price. Magic Power by itself represented Chaos. Based on a theory of an ancient Scholar from the Pearl Tower, each time a Wizard cast a spell, it would make the universe more chaotic.

When the chaos in the universe reached its limit, the end of the universe would happen.

And the Universe Magic Pool was holding back this disaster. It made it easier for the Wizards to use their spells, but also made it much safer.

Whether this theory was correct or not, Marvin didn't know.

But there was actually no need to doubt the [Magic is Chaos] theory.

After the Great Calamity, he crossed paths with too many Humanoid Monsters and all kinds of Magic Beasts. They were all contaminated by Chaos Magic Power because their wills were too weak.

As for this Magic Beast before his eyes, its ancestors mostly had been caught by the Wizards and used for magic experiments.

But unfortunately, after the Secret Garden fell, the Black Tower Valley also fell into ruins, eventually becoming the Desolate Tower Ruins of the game.

Wizards died one after the other, while these lifefoms persevered because of their tenacious vitality.

They already knew this territory like the back of their hands and were able to thrive.

Marvin didn't dare to look down on it.

From a distance, it looked like a small boar, but its burst power was fiercer and stronger than a cheetah's!

It actually rushed toward Marvin from the front!

"So fast!"

Marvin moved to the side, trying to dodge, but the little guy nimbly turned in midair, striking over with its tusk!

If Marvin was hit, he would get seriously hurt.

He held his breath, his Superior Reflexes helping to kick him into action, moving his body instinctively.

An Azure Leaf shot up.

"Clang!"

Both sides collided. Marvin's wrist was shaking. This beast almost knocked the dagger out of his hand!

He retreated, rotating his dagger to deflect the beast's attack.

The two once again stood face to face.

'So fast...'

Marvin felt a bit impressed.

That exchange just now was tough despite only lasting two moves, but Marvin managed to stay in control with his Godly Dexterity.

But that Magic Beast's speed, reactions, and nimbleness weren't inferior to Marvin's.

It also seemed a bit stronger than Marvin!

'No wonder it could stay alive till today. Even among 4th rank monsters, it could be considered top-notch.'

Marvin shook his wrist, his expression becoming more serious.

The Magic Beast roared again and dashed at Marvin!

Marvin sneered. The first clash had been a probe, and he had yet to display his full abilities!

The pair of [Azure Leaf]s kept slashing and chopping, aiming at the Magic Beast's vitals from crafty angles!

Desperation Style!

The monster also reacted quickly, trying to dodge Marvin's murderous attacks.

But with the benefits of his Blade Technique Style, Marvin was sure to land a fatal hit.

Although this Magic Beast was nimble, it couldn't keep up with Marvin's sustained attacks.

His daggers were swinging continuously as if weaving a net of slashes, slowly trapping the Magic Beast inside.

The beast became passive, trying to survive as a few slashes landed on its body, slowly exhausting its life force.

As a last-ditch effort, it tried thrashing around.

But Marvin was extremely calm, pressing the attack and locking it in place!

This fight helped him appreciate the power of the Desperation Style.

In his previous fights, the outcome was usually decided in a very short time.

He would use a combo of killing techniques and his enemy would simply die.

But after the Legend Realm, things wouldn't be that simple. Every Legend had their own life-saving skills. To kill them in a hit, besides using a sneak attack, one would also need to have a level advantage. The Shadow Prince assassinating Legends was a good example. Not only did he have a powerful sneak attacking ability, but he was also a God, a cut above most Legends.

In the future, Marvin's long melee battles were bound to slowly increase.

Desperation Style completely covered Marvin's flaw.

He was simply toying with vicious Magic Beast with his Blade Technique Style.



It roared angrily but it was no use.

From start to finish, Marvin didn't go for a decisive blow, constantly weakening its vitality instead.

Eventually, after a few minutes, the Berserk Magic Beast was severely injured by Marvin!

“Woosh!”

A cold ray of light flashed, as a powerful slash came down!

The Berserk Magic Beast was cut in two by Marvin!

‘Hu... Almost four minutes. Although the efficiency was lower, it was a safe and reliable victory.’

Marvin was satisfied with this battle. The Magic Beast's experience was also surprisingly good, giving him about 4000 exp.

Perhaps this had to do with the fact that it had absorbed Arcane Energy for a long time.

It was a pity that this thing's materials were practically useless, so Marvin wouldn't earn anything by killing it.

Marvin didn't put away his curved daggers, glancing to the side instead.

“You have been watching for a while, shouldn't you come out now?” Marvin asked indifferently.

Silence...

Marvin snorted and raised his daggers horizontally as if about to slash out.

Suddenly, the air ahead of him rippled and two strangely dressed men appeared in front of him out of nowhere.

They were holding a strange rag that was soaked in grease and seemed somewhat uncomfortable.

“Who are you?” Marvin frowned slightly.

The two gave a hollow laugh and one of them answered in stiff Common, “We have no evil intent...”

“No evil intent...” Marvin stared at the two men and noticed a smell. “The smell of transformation potion... A familiar feeling... You aren’t human!”

“What are you in the end?!” Marvin shouted sternly.

His expression was very vicious as if he would attack if he wasn’t satisfied with their answer.

In fact, Marvin was very curious.

The strength of these two guys would place them lower than the 2nd rank. Even if they were hiding some of their strength, they still surely wouldn’t surpass the 3rd rank at full power.

How did they get in?

And what was going on with that strange tablecloth? If he hadn’t had a familiar feeling, he wouldn’t even have bothered with them.

The two were trying to cover something. Suddenly, one of them took out a strange item, and with a flash of light, they disappeared!

Marvin was stunned.

It wasn’t like he had never seen that Alchemy Item before.

It was a Short Range Displacement Tool, an item produced by the Ancient Gnomes...

Hold on, Ancient Gnomes!

Marvin suddenly realized. These two felt familiar because they had the aura of Ancient Gnomes.

Although Marvin didn’t have an expert’s Perception, with the help of his system, after he went to Saruha, he was very sensitive to the artifacts of Ancient Gnomes.

In the end, why were these two guys here? And why did they have Ancient Gnomes’ things in their hands?

Marvin couldn’t understand at the moment. But these two guys were pretty weak and they didn’t seem to be targeting him. The fewer complications, the better.

He made a quick check and confirmed that no one else was hidden nearby before departing.

He walked through the Desolate Tower Ruins and after killing another fierce Magic Beast, he finally arrived at his destination.

It was a black tower that had yet to collapse.

There were more than ten black towers like that, some big, some small. They were arranged in some sort of order from the entrance of the valley to the exit.

Marvin was looking for the 7th Tower.

This tower had the wealth left behind by a Mikenshi Wizard, and something even more precious.

An Earth Crystal fragment!

Marvin already had two Earth Crystal fragments in his hands, and with three, he would be able to successfully form a genuine Earth Crystal!

And an Earth Crystal was used to build the foundations of an [Ancient Refuge]. Only with a complete Earth Crystal would he be able to combine the four Vayne Pillars and the Divine Blessing Scroll to open an Ancient Refuge, summoning an Earth Guardian.

Thus, this fragment of Earth Crystal was something Marvin had to get a hold of!

Thinking of this, he didn't hesitate and directly rushed into the black tower!

The first floor was full of dust.

The Ancient Wizards were eccentric. They usually wouldn't use Teleportation Doors to move between floors of a tower, instead using a spiral staircase.

These spiral staircases actually had countless traps that were set against intruders.

Only those who knew the secret incantation could move through freely and not be obstructed.

As for Marvin, he would have to fight his way up.

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T/N: I'm not sure I'll be able to finish another one tonight, so the rest is coming with tomorrow's release (when I was originally planning to release them.)

Chapter 383: Caster Notes

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

Half an hour later, 3rd floor, spiral staircase.

Marvin was panting. Behind him lay a Magic Beast corpse as well as the traces of many activated traps.

He dodged the effects of most traps, but some of them such as lightning traps couldn't be dodged because of their speed.

He could have created an endless amount of Origami Doppelgangers to trip the traps if he were better at it, but because his skill level wasn't high enough, he couldn't create an army of them like Shadow Thief Owl did.

He suffered a lot of injuries, but still managed to reach the 3rd floor.

Even though the Black Tower was very tall, it only had three floors.

The ancient casters' tower had a relatively simple structure, with an underground area filled with holding cells and a hall at the bottom. The second floor had the apprentices' dwellings and the laboratory while the highest floor was the caster's own private residence.

It didn't look as complicated as the modern Wizards' towers.

Marvin's climb up had depended somewhat on luck.

He didn't understand the secret incantations and simply had to fight his way up. If there had been more energy left in the tower, he might have already been turned into a pile of ashes.

In this field, Thieves were definitely a lot better. They had all kinds of ways to detect and disable traps. Marvin had a lot of experience but he didn't have the relevant skills.

Although he had all kinds of tools in his storage item and didn't have to remove traps with his bare hands, he still got hit quite often.

The Desolate Tower Ruins being abandoned for a long time was another reason Marvin dared to ascend this tower.

...

The Black Tower Valley was the home of the Mikenshi Wizards.

And the taller towers belonged to the Secret Garden's Protector, a relatively powerful Mikenshi Wizard.

From what Marvin knew, the 7th Black Tower was the most powerful structure among the Black Towers.

Only this tower still had any loot. The things in the others had already disappeared or turned to waste.

Marvin wasn't totally sure why that was the case.

But when he stood on the woodwork of the 3rd floor, he felt a chill.

There was a sort of evil feeling floating on his heart.

He didn't notice any monsters in the surroundings, but the six small lamps in front of him lit up automatically. The ancient caster wasn't ostentatious. Some rooms were empty and only the master bedroom and the meditation room were relatively finely built.

'What's this feeling? Could it be an illusion?'

After the previous event, Marvin kept a wary attitude.

He looked at his interface and didn't find any signs of a willpower check.

He calmly began to search every room.

Compared to the countless dangers of the staircase, these rooms were relatively safe.

After all, who would set up a pile of traps in the place where they slept?

Marvin made this trip only for the Earth Crystal fragment. If there hadn't been the opportunity to make a genuine Earth Crystal here, he would have already rushed to the 3rd area to find Ivan.

After scouring the area, he found a box in the master bedroom.

The box was hidden under the bed and a faint magic fluctuation emanated from inside.

Marvin opened the box cautiously, which turned out not to have any trap mechanisms.

But within the box, there was nothing besides some straw.

Marvin sneered, "Think you can deceive me with this little trick?"

He reached inside with his hand.

Marvin felt a fluctuation in the straw and grabbed one. The next second, a yellow fragment appeared in his hand.

'Finally got it.'

Marvin impatiently took out the other two Earth Crystal fragments.

The first one came from the Hook Horror nest, the second one came from Saruha, and now he had this one from the Dead Area's Secret Garden.

Of course, there were many fragments of Earth Crystals in every corner of Feinan plane, far more than just those three.

But it hadn't been easy for Marvin to gather these three.

The Earth Crystal fragments attracted each other and didn't need any particular ritual or process to combine them. Marvin put them together and they began to fuse automatically.

This would take roughly fifteen minutes. Marvin didn't have to do anything else in the meantime, so he continued checking the bedroom.

When he was hastily rummaging through it before, he had only been focused on finding the Earth Crystal fragment and didn't pay much attention to other things.

Most of the things here had already turned to dust after so many years.

Only a simple notebook was left on the table, looking relatively undamaged.

Marvin decided to take a look at the notebook.

'Animal skin... Possibly some kind of snake-dragon...'

Marvin was a bit surprised.

Only a notebook with this kind of material would be able to still maintain its condition over so many years.

It seemed to be a diary.

'Could it have been left behind by the Tower Master?'

Marvin was a bit curious.

He began flipping through the book.

Because it wasn't a formal Magic Book, the owner of this notebook didn't leave a seal or spell on the book.

And if there were any tricks, they must have faded away over the years.

Marvin flipped the pages one by one. The handwriting was blurry and faded.

This book might have become illegible in another several decades.

With the passage of time, besides the Gods, nothing was able to last forever.

Marvin was looking through it while also paying attention to the Earth Crystal's fusion.

But the contents of the diary startled him, and not lightly!

He had guessed correctly. This was left behind by the Tower Master, who was known as Orica. He claimed to be the Black Tower Wizards' leader and one of the seven highest representatives of the Mikenshi school.

That guy was very powerful and in those days without the Universe Magic Pool, he managed to become a Legend.

He was different from most other Mikenshi Wizards because besides his knowledge of Magic Medicine, Orica had also conducted research about the soul.

There were several places in the diary where he vaguely mentioned his interest in Soul Magic.

At first he was able to restrain himself, but eventually he began to sneakily make use of his authority to start live experiments.

Until the invasion of the Astral Beast.

As the leader of the Black Tower Valley, he had to help fight the beast.

Ultimately, he defeated the beast with others and sealed it.

But the diary mentioned that he was uneasy about what happened.

'That guy actually survived by betraying his own colleagues.'

He made various justifications of his actions in the diary... Marvin felt contempt toward him.

After that fight, many people in the Mikenshi Wizards' forces were greatly injured. This wasn't unrelated to Orica's betrayal of his teammates.

He himself survived unscathed without anyone knowing what he had done, but the entire Wizard school was seriously weakened.

Thus, his authority in the council increased and he began researching immortality.

By the end of the diary, Marvin could feel that Orica was reaching the end of his lifespan and was already becoming crazy.

At that time, the enemies came.

The plan to release the Astral Beast to fight off the attack was one that Orica himself brought up.

Many people objected to this, but by that time, Orica held immense authority and influence in the council.

As they lost the last battle, the Wizards finally agreed to release the Astral Beast's main body.

This caught their enemies unprepared. The Astral Beast fell, and their opponent also suffered an immense blow.

In fact, the 3rd area was known as the [Astral Beast Remains], which Marvin was aware of.

But what made his blood run cold was the description on the last page of the diary.

[The plan has worked... They eventually agreed to release Duruna...]

[Hahahaha, tomorrow I'll be making the most crucial step on the path to immortality! I'll have more time, time, I need time! I am the most gifted genius since time immemorial! How could I lose to time?]

[The final battle, it might be like that to them, but as far as I'm concerned, it's the dawn of glory.]

The diary came to an end there.

Every page after that was blank.

Marvin guessed that the last page was written by Orica on the day the Wizards agreed to release the Astral Beast.

What happened to his plan?

Did he succeed?

Marvin didn't know.



He had a faint feeling that it wasn't a simple matter. If that Orica survived the final battle, then there would have been two survivors left in the Secret Garden!

Wizard Apprentice Eric and Legend Wizard Orica!

Eric was swallowed by the Magic Medicine King and Orica apparently disappeared.

Was he also swallowed by the Magic Medicine King?

This seemed very unlikely.

The Magic Medicine King was very weak at the time and needed to use deception just to lure a small Wizard Apprentice.

It would have been completely unable to face a Legend Wizard.

'Did this old guy's longevity plan fail? What was his plan in the end? How could it be related to the release of the Astral Beast?'

Marvin frowned.

He was puzzled about this.

But he also didn't know the matters of that year, and even if the old man's plan succeeded, he still shouldn't be able to obtain eternal life.

Without the Fate Tablet, he wouldn't be able to ascend to Godhood. Apart from Gods, only a few classes like Cloud Monk and Liches could attain immortality.

Otherwise, the Magic Medicine King wouldn't be the one in control of the entire Secret Garden, would it?

Marvin put the diary down and threw the matter to the back of his head for now.

The Earth Crystal had finished fusing, becoming a sharp crystal that emitted a powerful energy. In a Wizard's hands, it could be used to alter the terrain.

Earth Crystal was very compatible with the spell [Transmutation], and using them together allowed one to permanently create great changes in the landscape!

You could turn a mountainous area into plains, or change a sea into a snowy mountain!

This was the power of the Earth Crystal!

...

After taking care of the matter of the Earth Crystal, Marvin didn't linger any longer and left the 7th tower.

There was nothing worth staying for in the Desolate Tower Ruins anymore.

Marvin activated Stealth and took off at a sprint. He had the [Stealth Master] ability that would let him travel at full speed while maintaining Stealth.

When coming across a Magic Beast, he would rely on his extreme speed to avoid it.

He rushed the whole way and got out of the Desolate Tower Ruins.

He could see a field in the distance that had a huge skeleton spread across it for about a kilometer. One could faintly imagine what it looked like when it was alive.

This was the frightening Astral Beast. It was a relatively small Astral Beast but had almost been able to destroy the flourishing Wizard school.

But what made Marvin happy was that there was a person next to the corpse.

Ivan!

Marvin rushed over excitedly.

The Elven Prince's expression was serious. When he saw Marvin appear he seemed to be greatly surprised, but he motioned at Marvin to not make a sound.

Marvin was a bit bemused as he drew near.

"Keep quiet, it is still alive!"

Ivan's words were shocking.

Chapter 384: Complicated

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

Marvin froze.

It took a moment for him to recover!

The body of the small Astral Beast in front of him had basically weathered away into dust, leaving only its skeleton.

Ivan actually said that a corpse like that was still alive?

No way!

But Ivan's expression was extremely serious. He was on high alert, watching the Astral Beast's remains attentively.

Marvin was shocked.

...

Ivan was a lot thinner than Marvin remembered from last time they met.

From Feinan to the Dead Area, he had fought all the way.

Even if he was an Elven War Saint, it would take a toll on his body.

His clothes seemed new, but full of holes. He must have fought many times already in the Secret Garden.

He was carrying a sword that he got from some random place, and its quality was very ordinary.

Marvin knew that the Elven War Saint class had a very powerful specialty, [Weapon Greatmaster].

[Weapon Greatmaster]: You can use all weapons at will, including martial weapons, unusual weapons, and others. Moreover, your mastery will be at least Greatmaster!

Such a frightening specialty made it so that Ivan could make use of any weapon in any situation.

Moreover, his barehanded fighting wasn't weak either. The attack power of the class was extremely high.

Looking at the sword in Ivan's hand, Marvin suddenly dashed toward him.

Ivan hadn't expected Marvin sudden movement.

"What are you doing?" He was a bit startled.

Marvin's hand ruthlessly chopped Ivan's wrist!

Edge Snatch!

Ivan's hand loosened and Marvin turned his wrist, grabbing Ivan's sword with his hand.

But before he got a good grip on the sword, an even more powerful chop hit his own wrist.

Reverse Edge Snatch!

In a flash, Ivan snatched back his longsword purely on instinct.

Marvin felt some pain in his wrist as he let out a long breath.

Ivan was puzzled.

Marvin smiled. "Just making sure it was really you."

In this strange garden, he didn't dare to casually trust someone who just appeared. Even if it was an acquaintance, he would still need to check them.

This Edge Snatch technique was something Ivan taught him, so it would be easy to recognize.

With such a skillful reaction, it was definitely Ivan.

The Elven Prince was dazed.

Marvin coughed awkwardly. "Can you find a safe place to chat? I feel like someone is spying on us."

Ivan looked at Marvin thoughtfully. "You also have this feeling?"

"I previously thought it was the recovering Astral Beast but that doesn't seem to be the case. It has yet to awaken..."

The two chatted while moving away from the Astral Beast's remains.

Ivan took out a scroll and tore it apart.

A powerful soundproof barrier appeared around them.

"Speak, what's going on? How did you come to the Dead Area?"

"Hold on, your rank..."

Ivan looked at Marvin like he was seeing a freak!

When they first met, Marvin was a small guy about to advance to Night Walker.

Although there was the Night Monarch's blessing, he had never expected him to reach this point so quickly.

Ivan could faintly sense the aura of a Legend from him. This wasn't surprising, as although the War Saint class was focused on offense, Ivan's body had many enchantments and blessings added by the Great Elven King. One set of blessings put his strength far above that of other Legends, and it was naturally the same for his Perception.

He saw that Marvin was meticulously suppressing his strength and hadn't advanced to Legend yet, but already had the ability to do so.

"You are going for a particular Advanced Legendary Class?" guessed Ivan after thinking for a bit.

Most people in the Night Walker organization chose to advance to the Legend Night Walker class.

After all, this class wasn't weak, and they could receive another blessing from the Night Monarch.

But Marvin was clearly an exception.

He chose another class.

"What class?" Ivan seemed very interested.

"Ruler of the Night." Marvin didn't hide it.

Ivan froze with a strange expression. "You want to imitate the Night Monarch?"

Marvin was somewhat surprised by his reaction. "Why would you say that?"

Ivan was speechless for a moment before asking, "Could it be that you don't know that the great Night Monarch's Legend class was [Ruler of the Night]?"

Marvin was stunned, because he really hadn't been aware of this.

Although the Night Walker organization had a long history, there were very few records concerning the Night Monarch.

Even Sean, O'Brien and the others didn't know what the Night Monarch's Legend class was.

But the Elves had very long lifespans.

Ivan had learnt all kind of knowledge since he was a child, so it wasn't too strange that he knew about the Night Monarch's Legend class.

Marvin had a subtle feeling.

He hadn't expected the Night Monarch to also be a Ruler of the Night.

No wonder he was named Night Monarch by the later generations.

It made sense though. It was rumored that the Night Monarch once had a confrontation with an Ancient God. In the Eternal Night Era, perhaps only a Ruler of the Night would have been able to display such formidable power.

Marvin still had a strand of the Night Monarch's soul lying dormant in his body. After the fight with the crazy Madeline, that strand of soul hadn't awakened again.

Marvin guessed that he had to come across specific circumstances to trigger it.

'Becoming a Night Walker, taking away the Dark Knights, having a piece of the Night Monarch's soul in my body, and walking the Ruler of the Night path.'

Marvin felt strange.

It was as if there was a force connecting him and the Night Monarch.

...

But now wasn't the time to talk about this. Marvin met Ivan and summarized everything he knew.

There were three very important points:

- Everything he knew about the Secret Garden.
- The Great Calamity happening soon.
- The Great Elven King wanting Ivan to return to Thousand Leaves Forest immediately.

Although Marvin only told him the most important parts, he still spent a lot of time.

Hearing those things, even Ivan was shocked.

"You are saying that the Secret Garden's Magic Medicines have already been eaten by that wretched Eric?"

"The Gods attacking the Universe Magic Pool? This... How could this be?"

“He personally banished me, and now is asking me to return?”

Ivan was confused, not knowing what to say right now.

“We need to put aside the other matters for now.” Marvin glanced at the soundproof barrier flickering and said, “We have to leave the Secret Garden quickly.”

“Of course, if the situation allows for it, we will do our best to find Magic Medicine King Eric or the Underworld River Water.”

Ivan understood something and muttered, “A lot of things make sense now.”

He began to tell Marvin what he had encountered before.

He had entered the Secret Garden a day earlier after all, so he had experienced more than Marvin thought.

After entering the garden, the group of five Legends joined hands to rush forward. The ordinary Magic Beasts were easily mown down by the team of five.

But before reaching the 4th area, they met with a large problem.

The 4th area was the most important area of the Secret garden, the [Mills Garden].

Some valuable Magic Medicines were growing in that area.

But the Legend powerhouses encountered an obstacle.

There was a monster guarding the entrance.

Nine-Headed Vines.

It sounded very ordinary, but it was a Legend monster. Its regenerative ability was very formidable, and it could use magic!

The Nine-Headed Vines had already evolved and developed intelligence. It was the garden’s guardian. Only by killing her could one enter the garden.

But the issue was that the Nine-Headed Vines could fight at full power, while the strength of the Legends was suppressed to about two-thirds.

Their fighting strength wasn’t enough to deal with the Nine-Headed Vines.

The other four Legends were still trying to find a way to break the defense of the Nine-Headed Vines.

But Ivan noticed something strange and retreated.

It was instinct toward danger.

He pointed at the Astral Beast's corpse and solemnly reiterated, "I have a feeling he might resurrect."

Marvin felt his blood run cold.

Astral Beast. This was a common term for the monsters of the Astral Plane. There were too many types.

But regardless of their type, beings that were able to survive in the Astral Plane all had the power to destroy worlds.

If it resurrected, even if the Universe Magic Pool wasn't shattered, Feinan could be in grave danger.

Ivan's words also reminded Marvin of something.

Astral Beast corpse... Resurrection...

The old caster's notes!

He gulped and muttered, "No way..."

He frowned and thought to himself, 'No way, there wasn't any Astral Beast coming into being here in the game, and there wasn't any information about this.'

Marvin was a bit confused.

He knew he likely couldn't fully believe those groups of money grubbers who sold information. Big guilds would try to keep some information for themselves. In fact, apart from the most powerful, no one knew what benefits the first guild that cleared this instance got.

What they encountered was a secret, because no video was released to the public before Marvin's transmigration.

It had to be known that in the game, many first clears of instances would influence the plot of the entire Feinan plane. Those who cleared the instances later wouldn't be privy to many secrets.

These different events were very important in Feinan, and if properly exploited, the players could maximize their benefits.



Thus, his secondhand information wasn't to be completely believed!

...

Ivan muttered, "Truly strange, this Astral Beast has obviously been dead for so many years, so why would there still be an aura?"

Marvin's eyes shone. In fact, he already had a hypothesis in mind.

But he lacked proof at the moment and could only make a guess.

"Let's leave it for now," Marvin suggested. "I know a small path that can bypass the Nine-Headed Vines to get into the Mills Garden."

"But that path might be a bit dangerous... we might meet some lifeforms from Hell."

Ivan resolutely replied, "Let's go! There shouldn't be an issue if ordinary lifeforms from Hell appear."

Marvin acquiesced and the two set off immediately.

As for the Astral Beast's corpse, it was still lying there. Yet, from time to time, tiny flames flickered.

Chapter 385: Nine Hells [8/10]

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

The two men quickly left the 3rd area and the Astral Beast's corpse.

Marvin cautiously went back toward the Desolate Tower Ruins according to the information he had.

Although he was told that there were very few dangers on this path, he wasn't as confident in relying on secondhand information.

Perhaps the one who leaked the information was actually covering something up, or maybe since he had changed the world's history and triggered a butterfly effect, something would be different.

In any case, he had to be careful.

They walked between the 2nd and 3rd areas, going toward the tall mountain in the east.

Ivan also had a cautious expression.

Marvin rarely saw him like that.

Most of the time, this guy looked lazy and didn't seem to take anything seriously.

But the Secret Garden made him feel very pressured. Even if he was an Elven War Saint, his strength was still seriously weakened, making him experience some setbacks earlier.

From his appearance, it could be seen that his opponent put up quite a fight.

They traveled silently and quickly arrived at the bottom of the tall mountain.

The sky was dark red, like frozen blood.

So it was this mountain.

Ivan's eyes shone as he saw the continuous changes on the mountain. These changes were minute. Without outstanding Perception, people wouldn't be able to notice.

"This is a crack in the plane?"

Ivan was amazed.

Marvin nodded and explained in a heavy voice, "Bordering Hell."

Ivan understood. "So that's why there is a such a thick and sinister aura."

They continued going forward and soon arrived at a tunnel at the bottom of the mountain.

This obscure tunnel circumvented the 3rd area, [Astral Beast Corpse], and Mills Garden's protector, leading straight into Mills Garden.

But this path could be very challenging, and if it went poorly they might suddenly end up in Hell.

They could also have a smooth journey and nothing would happen.

This all depended on how the plane's rules changed, or in other words, luck.

Ivan knew that under the current circumstances he wouldn't be able to overcome the Nine-Headed Vines, so if he wanted to enter Mills Garden, he would have to take a risk.

Hell's lifeforms, he should be able to handle.

Generally speaking, powerful Devils wouldn't be wandering around these cracks.

“Let’s go.”

Ivan stepped forward and entered the obscure tunnel.

...

A nauseating smell filled the strange cave.

But the cave itself was dry.

Marvin was holding his daggers while watching attentively for anomalies.

Ivan looked at the pair of [Azure Leaf]s and was a bit surprised, but he didn’t say anything about them. His father had a strange character. Giving away the Legendary Weapons he had been using all this time wasn’t too unusual, especially if it was to Marvin.

He wouldn’t be surprised by anything that guy did.

Even if he said he was an incarnation of God Lance.

As the two progressed, the cave gradually began to change.

Within a space crack, directions weren’t fixed.

From the direction they initially took, the tunnel had actually been heading toward the first area, the Lost Villa. But Marvin was pretty sure this tunnel led to Mills Garden because it had been confirmed by another source, a lone player that had nothing to do with the guilds.

That player not only shared some more information, but also included a video.

He and his team were killing some Barbazu and Chain Devils before reaching the 4th area.

The video was only about where the path led, and didn’t give much more information.

It was said that people would meet different things on this path.

There was no point in guessing what they might encounter, and they could only adapt to the situation.

Regarding this, Marvin was very confident. With 9 levels in Night Walker and his Desperation Style, he possessed fighting strength comparable to an ordinary Legend.

Moreover, he had Ivan by his side.

This guy basically had a Main Character halo. He was covered in so many buffs that there wouldn't be anything to worry about in a crisis.

...

As they continued along, howls could be heard in the dark cave, echoing one after the other. It gave a rather ominous feeling.

"Not an illusion," Ivan said.

Marvin nodded.

He could also feel that these howls came from living beings, and seemed to be howls of pain coming straight from one's soul.

The path ahead seemed to consist of nothingness.

Ivan frowned, and softly grabbed Marvin's wrist.

"Careful. That path is a little strange. It won't be good if we split up."

Facing Ivan's unprecedentedly serious expression, Marvin also held his breath.

The two walked forward, stepping onto that nothingness at the same time.

The next second, both their expressions changed!

They saw a crimson world!

A river of blood surged and flowed to some unknown place, disappearing in the distance.

On the blood river, countless small boats were sailing with difficulty.

A lifeform on one boat looked extremely ugly. It was a Barbazu!

Barbazu were also known as Bearded Devils and were mid-ranked Devils!

On the river, many boats had been capsized by the roiling waves and countless souls sank inside.

"Hell... Styx..."

Ivan let out these words.

Marvin paled. "Nine Hells!"

...

The appearance of the Styx let them know where they were. Only in the Nine Hells could one find the River Styx.

The other side of the River Styx was crowded with Amnizu counting the people coming ashore.

These people had been related to Devils during their lives. In fact, in the Prime Material plane, a lot of people had deals with Devils. Their souls would come to Hell after their deaths, unless they were taken away by a Reaper from the Underworld before that.

Even the most common farmer could be tempted by an imp to steal someone else's orchard.

If the farmer did this, then his soul would come to Hell after his death.

That was the story of a certain Devil Overlord in the Nine Hells.

Hell's order was very strict and cruel.

The voices the two just heard came from a distant corner where some Erinyes were interrogating people on behalf of their superior.

These souls were still aware of their past life and the Erinyes' whips could squeeze the power of Order out of them.

Demons liked Chaos while Devils were obsessed with Order. Although both sides were Evil, what they needed was completely different.

Thus, the Demons didn't need souls.

Gods and Devils thirsted for the souls of the inhabitants of material planes, and naturally the Negative Energy Plane needed souls too.

...

The two were standing on a mountain as strange lifeforms were flying over from time to time and carelessly falling in the river Styx.

At that time, a small team of Chain Devils appeared behind them!

A few of them spoke in Infernal:

"Lifeforms invading... It's surprisingly not just souls."

“Hahaha, today we can fill up our bellies!”

---

T/N: Devils' illustrations are on discord at <https://discord.gg/j3CuetU> in the Illustrations server

Chapter 386: Blade Technique Style Greatmaster [9/10]

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

Chain Devils were mid-ranked Devils that were covered in chains and barbs but still looked humanoid.

They had pale white skin with lots of scars, both new and old ones. They were experts at torturing others but also tortured each other.

This group of Chain Devils seemed to be returning from the Shadow Wilderness and they were extremely hungry after paying their soul taxes to their superiors.

The two souls in front of them could definitely satisfy their needs.

Their gazes were especially focused on Marvin's body.

Devils always had the sharpest awareness toward souls. Even though the other human was a bit more powerful, Marvin had the stronger soul.

This was most likely because his soul had fused with his host's after transmigrating.

Whatever the case, this group of Chain Devils appearing in front of them wasn't good news.

A commotion broke out on the distant shore of the River Styx.

Ivan and Marvin's appearance not only attracted that group of Chain Devils, but many Barbazu were also lured over.

Two mortals!

They boldly entered the Nine Hells on their own, a very rare occurrence.

Their souls had yet to be affiliated. If they could offer these mortals' souls to their superiors, they would surely be rewarded, and maybe they would even be promoted. In the very strict world of the Devils, offering bribes and sacrifices was the only way to advance.

...

Ivan frowned. He hadn't wanted them to carelessly enter the Nine Hells.

He quickly suggested, "Since we are still on the edge of Hell, the space is very unstable, so we will most likely return to the Secret Garden if we keep going."

Marvin nodded in agreement as he took a deep breath.

The two glanced at each other and didn't need to say anything else before they acted!

Mortals entering the Nine Hells, what else would they have to say?

They could only cut a bloody path out!

This group of Devils consisted of seven Chain Devils, each of them very tall and covered in iron chains. It seemed like they had no weak points.

In fact, it was so. Chain Devils had no vitals that could be targeted to easily kill them.

Frustratingly, ordinary Chain Devils could control the four iron chains on their bodies to attack, and curved daggers weren't very effective against these kinds of chains.

But since things had come to this, there wasn't any point worrying.

This Chain Devil was his first problematic enemy ever since he learnt Desperation Style. Fortunately, the Nine Hells weren't the Secret Garden, so he was free to use his abilities here.

Shadow Step!

In an instant, Marvin appeared behind a Chain Devil and his dagger swooped down!

The Chain Devil hadn't reacted, but the iron chain on his back slid up to protect him.

In spite of this, Marvin's attack still struck firmly!

"Clang!"

Sparks flew in all directions.

Armor Break!

Shatter!

The two properties activated at the same time and the heavy iron chain was split in two by Marvin!

In an instant, the large chain on the Chain Devil's back came off, exposing his bare skin.

"Aaah!"

Marvin followed up smoothly, ruthlessly slashing over with his second dagger!

This slash was very heavy, almost cutting that Chain Devil in half!

"Hiiiiiiiiiiii!"

The Chain Devil let out a painful sound as his chains shook.

"Woosh!"

Two thick chains flew over at Marvin!

Marvin calmly used the Demon Hunter Steps to easily dodge them.

Hell's lifeforms were truly troublesome.

If it was almost any other kind of being, even if they had an immunity to deadly injuries, Marvin's blow would have already put them near death, possibly incapacitating them.

But that guy still had the energy to fight.

He retreated a few steps as he got ready to counterattack again, but another Chain Devil bellowed in a deep voice and approached to surround Marvin!

"Woosh!"

Sounds of chains flying through the air kept echoing out as Marvin started to have a harder time dodging.

Getting hit by a Chain Devil's iron chain would seriously endanger his life!

Despite being in this precarious situation, Marvin became calmer and more collected.

His footsteps didn't falter, and although there were a lot of chains swinging, they took time to change direction. As long as he was careful he would be able to see their trajectories.

In this way, even if he was in a 1 versus 2 situation, he would still be able to turn it around.



He took a quick glance at Ivan and saw that the latter was displaying his overwhelming might.

Marvin was having a hard time dealing with two while Ivan was slaughtering his five.

This was the gap in strength.

There was still a huge difference between Legend and Half-Legend!

But Marvin wasn't discouraged. Once he advanced to Ruler of the Night, his strength would get a huge boost.

At that time, even if he wasn't as powerful as Ivan, he would at least be far more powerful than most Legends!

Marvin was spurred on by Ivan's performance and the curved dagger in his hand attacked even more viciously.

He had an odd feeling.

These two Chain Devils' sinister expressions didn't affect him at all, and he felt as if he had returned to the Ice Monster Cave, holding his wooden daggers and fighting 64 Ice Monsters.

It was as if Kangen's voice echoed beside his ear, "If you are in desperate straits, you have no choice but to show the limits of your potential to defeat your enemies. Each attack must be faster than the last."

Each attack must be faster than the last...

"Woosh! Woosh! Woosh!"

Suddenly, Marvin's movements seemed to become even more refined. He dodged one Chain Devil's attack and launched a risky attack on the other one.

His attacks were becoming increasingly faster!

The Chain Devil was caught off guard and simply didn't have time to defend.

Moreover, Marvin's earlier blow had already cut his body open, making moving more troublesome.

Marvin's Reckless Dual Wielder property came into full effect, his daggers leaving afterimages. In a few moments, Marvin slashed about fifty times!

"Clang! Clang!"

The chains on the enemy were completely broken, exposing his weakened body.

Marvin wasn't lenient and while making sure to dodge the other Chain Devil's attack, he completely destroyed this Devil with his rain of slashes!

He seemed to have reached the quintessence of the Desperation Style.

Seeing his companion collapsing, the other Chain Devil was frightened.

Not giving him the chance to recover, Marvin focused on him with his murderous eyes and once again raised his daggers, attacking at lightning speed.

...

Ten seconds later, the other Chain Devil collapsed, his chains also completely shattered!

Marvin was a bit startled as his arm ached.

This burst power used a lot of physical strength.

But he was overjoyed.

He looked at his interface and not only had his Curved Dagger Mastery reached Greatmaster, but even his recently learned Desperation Style reached Greatmaster level!

This progress would shock the creator of the Desperation Style, Kangen.

The Ice Monster Cave was customized to temper Blade Techniques and was extremely suitable for the Desperation Style, so Marvin had managed to reach Master level by relying on it.

But being able to understand something so soon in this fight against two Chain Devils, this was a bit too exaggerated.

Marvin himself was a bit confounded by his progress.

He quickly inspected his interface more closely and found another detail.

Something was blinking at the end of the status window before disappearing...  
[Swimming Fish Blessing].

It was replaced by another line:

[Comprehension substantially increased]

There was a countdown after that, for about three days.

Marvin understood.

When he prayed for a blessing on his birthday, the Swimming Fish Constellation really granted him a blessing, but it never triggered, to the point that Marvin had almost forgotten about it.

In his past, this was a privilege only the players and a few natives could get and it would usually temporarily raise some attributes or some other status.

Blessings like Marvin's, even if they were rare, weren't nonexistent.

For these three days, Marvin would require less effort to gain more progress when studying something or training himself.

No wonder Desperation Style leveled up once more.

Greatmaster Desperation Style had one more property!

[Blade Shadow]: When using Desperation, after activating Blade Shadow, Attack Speed increases by 30% and Stamina consumption is doubled.

It was an active effect!

Desperation Style's benefits made Marvin's fighting strength soar continuously. If he weren't in the Nine Hells, he would be looking for a place to better comprehend this style of the Martial Path. If he could reach Grandmaster and become a Legend, his melee ability would reach a very frightening realm.

With a first-rate Blade Technique Style plus a PK expert's experience, he was bound to be the nightmare of many people, and even Gods!

Marvin sighed in regret.

What would he be able to understand in these three days? He had to leave Hell first, returning to the Secret Garden to deal with Eric, and it would be best if he could also get the Underworld River Water.

...

After Marvin got rid of the two Chain Devils, he didn't have to wait more than half a minute before Ivan easily finished the five Chain Devils on his side.

Regarding Marvin's current fighting strength, Ivan was already very impressed.

But now wasn't the time to discuss it.

Many Barbazu were rowing their boats on the River Styx and they could see even more Devils rushing over from the Shadow Wilderness in the distance.

The Devils had sharp senses and the aura of humans drew them over.

Although Devils were different from Demons and might not all attack Marvin and Ivan directly like those Chain Devils did, these guys were definitely interested in their souls.

They had to leave immediately!

Ivan took a deep breath and silently sensed the direction before pointing to one side. "That way!"

His buffed Perception was simply heaven-defying and a masterpiece of the Great Elven King, and let him feel the direction of the exit.

Marvin followed behind.

In this situation, he didn't have another choice.

The two rushed across and climbed over the hill.

But the next instant, both of them drew a cold breath.

What they saw at the bottom of the hill was a dense gathering of souls!

Many Erinyes were ordering them in formation, while some looked coldly up at Marvin and Ivan.

And behind them, Chain Devils, Barbazu, and others were hurrying over.

It looked like a hopeless situation.

Chapter 387: Corps Contract [10/10]

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

They couldn't do anything about this. It was way too rare for mortals to enter Hell with flesh and blood bodies.

Even if it was just the edge of Hell.

'We are fucked...'

Marvin took a deep breath.

Even if they wouldn't necessarily die in this situation, it was still very bad.

Unless they were willing to sign a contract with a powerful Devil Overlord, they likely wouldn't be able to escape.

But contracts had prices, and normally it would be one's soul!

Ivan's expression was unsightly.

The Elven royal bloodline was immortal. After they died, their soul would go to the eternal spring at the secret border and they would be reborn after many years.

But if his soul fell into the Devils' hands, this wouldn't happen.

"Fuck... This is my fault," Marvin said in annoyance.

He knew that the secret path was on the border of the Secret Garden and Hell, but he hadn't expected to have such a bad luck and walk directly into Hell's border. He thought that at worst, they would be fighting Hell's lifeforms on the path like the players in the game.

This was way too troublesome.

Ivan smiled bitterly. "Can't blame you for this."

Shortly after, his expression became grave. "These are all mid-ranked Devils or lower. There are no high-rank Devils or Devil Overlords here, so we might not lose."

Marvin nodded.

Under the hill, the voices of the souls burst out. They still had the memories of their lives and were completely ignorant of what was happening.

Some cursed and were whipped by the Erinyes as a result.

These people had dealt with devils while alive, but most of the time they weren't even aware that they fell into corruption.

They might have been cheated in a deal, or perhaps they had been instigated by Harvester Devils.

These things might be trivial matters that they would forget later on.

But Imps and Harvester Devils wouldn't forget. Once they had a contract, the debt would be recorded on their bodies.

After death, those poor souls wouldn't enter the Negative Energy Plane, and because they didn't believe in Gods, they also wouldn't enter a God Realm.

What awaited them was the passionate hypocritical embrace of the Nine Hells' Devils.

...

As Ivan and Marvin were about to try and cut a bloody path out of the battlefield, a malevolent face appeared in the sky.

It was a Great Devil's head that had three eyes!

Marvin felt cold!

It was that Archdevil!

He was too familiar with that head.

In White River Valley's hidden chamber, the hidden treasure map Toshiroya had on him, and Ancestor's Mystery...

'I didn't expect this layer of Hell to actually be under his control.'

'Indeed, with an Archdevil's strength, even if his head was chopped off, he would still be able to regenerate eventually.'

'This is truly hopeless.'

Marvin was bitter.

Whether it was Hell, the Abyss, or the Negative Energy Plane, they weren't places that someone of his level could intrude.

Diggles was an exception because he had grafted his plane onto the World Tree due to his greed, allowing Marvin to exploit that weakness.

Despite only being a face, the might of this Archdevil before his eyes seemed earth-shattering.

That wickedness would etch its way into one's mind.

It would make people's legs stop without even giving a chance to resist.

And the other fiends stopped moving too. Hell was a place with a strict social order and none would dare to disobey an Archdevil's will.

The three-eyed head coldly regarded the two and said, "Ignorant mortals, you dared to trespass in the Nine Hells."

"Your bodies are too weak. This world's lifeforms can easily destroy you."

"But your souls are pretty good."

"I want to do business with you."

Hearing this, all the Devils were shocked and dismayed.

An Archdevil would rarely personally appear to snatch a mortal's soul. They had a grand status, and it was beyond them to snatch souls like mid-ranked and low-ranked Devils did.

The three-eyed Archdevil's action was something that would rarely happen in the Nine Hells.

It didn't mean it was inappropriate, just baffling.

Perhaps the explanation was that these two mortals' souls were really unique and even the Archdevil was interested enough to make a move himself.

But in any case, these two mortals were already in the Archdevil's hands, so the other Devils could only retreat.

Soon, the desolate wilderness emptied out.

Barbazú began focusing on rowing their boats on the River Styx, delivering souls to the other side. Then, Amnizu would decide the final destinations of these souls. Finding out which Overlords these souls belonged to was a very complicated process. Fortunately, most of the souls had a mark on them.

The Imps or Harvesting Devils that tempted them to fall into depravity would leave an imprint on them to show that the soul belonged to their faction after death.

These souls were howling miserably in pain.

...

The Archdevil's head slowly descended. In an instant, a spatial distortion wrapped around them.

The barrier's surroundings changed, making it impossible for outsiders to see inside, and for them to see outside.

The two were very wary.

But how could Marvin have imagined that a familiar voice would suddenly come out of the Archdevil's mouth?!

"I really didn't expect to meet you so soon, lil' Marvin."

Marvin was stunned.

That three-eyed Archdevil head shockingly turned into a gentle youth.

"It's you..."

Marvin was too astounded to say any more.

After a while, the youth rolled his eyes. "You should call me Grandfather."

Marvin remained silent.

This was really too strange.

A young man who looked younger than him that he didn't even remember actually told him to call him Grandfather!

Ivan was even more puzzled.

Since when was Marvin this close with an Archdevil?

"You are a Devil?" Ivan looked at Marvin in bewilderment. "I only felt the Numan bloodline from your body, so why would he want you to call him... Grandfather?"

Marvin shook his head. This wasn't something that could be explained in a short time.

Earlier in the Secret Garden, his grandfather told him he would soon escape his trap and come back to bring him the latest news from the Astral Sea.

But he hadn't expected to meet him so quickly.

And in such a bizarre way.

A dual class Sorcerer and Wizard that shapeshifted into an Archdevil.

"Is it really that puzzling?"



The youth laughed. "Devils boast of their intelligence, but all of them are inflexible fools that are unable to adapt to the circumstances."

"This layer's Archdevil is being kept sealed by me. Oh right, is the head still in your possession? Be extremely careful of his counterattack."

"But anyway, the forces of this layer of Hell belong to me. I said I was a new Archdevil and overthrew the other one."

Marvin and Ivan looked at each other in dismay.

His grandfather who had disappeared so long ago had sealed an Archdevil and taken his place as a Lord of Hell!

"I can't leave for long, because that guy is very troublesome. I have to keep suppressing him."

"So, how did you two trespass into the Nine Hells? Fortunately, it was the layer I am in charge of, or it might have been very dangerous."

"I'll take you back to where you came from."

The youth also remarked, "Wait until I completely control the forces in this layer of Hell and I might return to Feinan in another form."

"Hahaha, I'm already impatient. I heard you are expanding the White River Valley? I really want to go back and take a look..."

"...Damn, that guy is becoming restless."

He muttered the last bit to himself, frowning. It seemed some trouble had sprung up.

He stopped speaking to Marvin and Ivan and waved his hand. The two felt dizzy.

They had returned to the dark tunnel.

A nauseating smell was still floating in the dark cave.

It was as if everything that had happened was just a dream.

Ivan shook his head while looking at the blood on his sword with a bemused expression. "You have a grandfather on the verge of becoming a Lord of Hell?"

Marvin scratched his head in a daze. "It seems like it."

He subconsciously grasped some things that were in his hands.

A youthful voice echoed near their ears. "These things might come in handy soon."

The two didn't know when those things appeared. This was clearly a gift from Marvin's grandfather to the younger generation.

In his left hand was a contract called a [Hell Corps Contract].

As long as he signed this contract, he would be able to forcibly open a gate to Hell from Feinan and summon a formidable army of Devils.

These Devils would only obey Marvin's orders.

Although the gate would only be opened for a limited amount of time, and the Devils would be expelled by the planar laws back to Hell if that gate collapsed, this was still a very powerful item.

A Devil army could completely crush a powerful city!

As for the thing in Marvin's right hand, it was a yellow potion.

It didn't look like it would have a good effect, but Marvin could feel that this thing was related to his bloodline.

It might be something similar to the Golden Blood, like a potion to break the restraints of his bloodline.

Marvin was now a Level 6 Shapeshift Sorcerer. But he could level this class to level 10 at most. If he wanted to make a breakthrough, he would need a way to further awaken his bloodline. Many people wouldn't be able to do so for their whole lives.

This was the helplessness of Sorcerers.

At that time, external items that could help awaken the bloodline would become very precious.

This potion might be an item with similar effect, which would make it invaluable.

...

"I did feel he was entirely human..."

"But I have a feeling that he is hiding something. Even if he really is your grandfather, if he becomes a Lord of Hell, he might become our enemy in the future," Ivan reminded Marvin after thinking for a moment.

Marvin nodded. He really couldn't see through his grandfather.

“It would have been good if father were still here.” He sighed. He really had no memory of this grandfather!

What if he was a fake? The tricks of Archdevils were really formidable after all.

Leaving the worrying matter aside for the moment, the two men continued toward the end of the dark tunnel.

Soon, a light appeared in front of them.

Chapter 388: Garden of Eden

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

The appearance of the light heralded their escape from the dark tunnel.

The two quickly left the tunnel, and what awaited them was a vast bright area!

The sky was clear and sunshine gently brightened the place. The earth was spacious and fertile, with flowers blooming in the garden.

Mills Garden!

Ivan had an expression of relief.

They finally found this place.

“Let’s go check.”

They quickened their pace because they might be able to take advantage of the fact that the Magic Medicine King was likely preoccupied with those other four Legends to get a better harvest.

It would be best if they could obtain the Underworld River Water for the Great Elven King’s injury.

Such a formidable protector of Feinan was desperately needed for the defense against the Gods.

As they continued their search, the garden’s scenery around them was still as beautiful as before, but the expressions of the two were becoming increasingly unsightly.

Mills Garden exuded such a dense aura of Magic Medicine.

But most of the Magic Medicines had already been eaten!

Only a mess was left behind.

They could see that the medicinal garden had been divided very precisely.

Each area had very valuable Magic Medicines planted and there were wooden signboards summarizing their names and effects.

And there were still traces of arrays on the ground.

But all these Magic Medicines and arrays had been completely wrecked.

There were still some leaves and roots remaining, but the Magic Medicines were already dead.

Marvin and Ivan kept walking, gloomy.

Ultimately, they arrived at a damp area.

There was a wooden signboard with the name [Underworld River Water] in front of them.

This wasn't literally the water of the River Styx, which was also known as the Underworld River and flowed through multiple planes.

But this Magic Medicine was related to it, so it had been named as such.

Marvin and Ivan entered the area.

As expected, the magic arrays here were also destroyed and all the Underworld River Water had been swept clean!

...

"You were right," Ivan fumed, "That wretched Magic Medicine truly swallowed everything here."

Marvin didn't comment.

Although he had expected this kind of outcome, he had still hoped that it wouldn't be the case.

But when he saw this scene with his own eyes, he felt quite dejected, just like Ivan.

The insatiable Magic Medicine King indeed didn't let off the Underworld River Water, even though that particular Magic Medicine had a frightening curse.

But maybe the curse was ineffective against the matured Magic Medicine King.

Ivan, still seething in anger, asked Marvin, "For a Magic Medicine to be able to break all these arrays, were those Mikenshi Wizards slacking?"

Marvin frowned upon hearing that.

He felt that something was wrong.

Mikenshi Wizards' arrays definitely weren't weak.

From his search in the Desolate Tower Ruins, he could feel that the suppression was still strong after all these years. That was proof enough of the strength of the arrays.

Marvin believed the Magic Medicine King was able to swallow the other Magic Medicines.

But breaking through the arrays to get to them... This was a bit too incredible.

There must have been something behind it.

...

But since things had reached this point, it would be pointless no matter how much they conjectured about it.

The two quickly discussed their options and decided that they only had one option now, which was to capture the Magic Medicine King Eric!

If Eric was really the one that swallowed the Underworld River Water, then they could extract the components from it if they captured it.

With that secured, it wouldn't be impossible to save the Great Elven King.

"This garden is too big. If it's like you said and the crafty Magic Medicine King can disguise itself as a wildflower, weed, or something inconspicuous, then we will have a hard time finding it." Ivan frowned in frustration. "I'm not worried about its illusions, but if it purposely focuses on hiding, we won't be able to do anything."

Marvin's eyes shone. "You aren't worried about its illusions?"

Ivan nodded, and seeing this confirmation, Marvin let out a long sigh of relief.

He had been hesitating about whether they should retreat if they couldn't find the Underworld River Water.

Although he had originally planned on capturing the Magic Medicine King, too many strange things had happened after he entered the Secret Garden. Something still felt a little wrong.

His own resistance to illusions was very high, but according to the Mana Wraith, the Magic Medicine King had already reached an extraordinary realm when it came to illusions. If he fell into a trap, he would be done for.

But if Ivan was sure that he could see through the illusions, it would solve a lot of problems.

The Wood Elven heritage was very ancient. They were the descendants of the High Elves. After the Elven Era ended, they were the only Elves who stayed behind to take care of Feinan. Ivan, as the Wood Elven Prince, surely had a lot of good items on hand, but he would ordinarily disdain using them.

Nicholas was very strict with Ivan, but it could be seen that he was extremely fond of his son from all the buffs on Ivan's body.

Although the Magic Medicine King was very powerful, as long as they could break his illusions, the only thing left would be... a Magic Medicine.

Marvin pondered for a bit and then suggested, "I might know where to look!"

...

Before Marvin entered the Secret Garden, he had a discussion with the Mana Wraith.

The latter pointed out that the Magic Medicine King's main body was hiding in the [First Garden of Eden].

This name might be a riddle to others because as far as most people knew, there were only four areas: Lost Villa, Desolate Tower Ruins, Astral Beast Remains, and Mills Garden.

But Marvin knew that there was, in fact, a 5th area.

That was the hidden plane called the [Garden of Eden].

A plane within a plane, this was a masterpiece of the ancient casters, a planeception.

They planted some of their most precious Magic Medicines in the Mills Garden.

As for the world's Magic Medicines that were unique or on the verge of extinction, they were planted in the hidden plane, the [First Garden of Eden].

The Magic Medicine King's main body was also inside because the Wizard who first discovered it believed that its unprecedented ability to consume things was worthy of being researched.

But before his research had borne fruit, this Magic Medicine brought destruction to the Secret Garden in the form of an Astral Beast.

Everything that happened after that was beyond the control of the Mikenshi Wizards.

Marvin knew where the First Garden of Eden was, but he didn't know if the Magic Medicine King was currently hiding inside.

And though he was unsure of the veracity of the Mana Wraith's words, it was still worth checking.

...

The two gave up on looking for remaining Underworld River Water and set off deeper into Mills Garden.

A hidden valley eventually appeared not far ahead of them.

A shallow brook was flowing down into the valley from an adjacent mountain and the water was extremely clear.

Marvin muttered for a bit before walking in the water.

He felt around on the ground for a while before finding what he was looking for.

There were five colored stones. Marvin picked them up and rearranged them.

This was a simple runestone password switch. It was very easy to decipher for those who knew about it, but those who didn't know might be forever stymied.

After a short moment, a rumbling noise echoed from the depths of the valley.

A great amount of dust fell down, and a large door that had been hidden by moss and vines spread out before them.

Ivan gave Marvin a strange look. "Sometimes I feel that the insights of true Seers can't compare with your knowledge."

Marvin smiled bitterly.

His prophetic abilities couldn't stay concealed from all others, especially his very close friends.

But his friends also respected him quite a lot and trusted him.

This was enough.

Although Ivan knew Marvin was very mysterious, he could feel that Marvin had no evil intentions toward him. His origin might be an enigma, but who in this world didn't have a secret?

There were many things that were bound to be covered up and couldn't be shared with others.

...

The two left the brook and walked to the entrance in the valley, where they saw a shadow beside the entrance.

Marvin squinted as the other side quickly said, "You found it. Pitiful transmigrator... Since things reached this point, do you not understand your fate?"

Marvin's mind shook.

Ivan angrily shouted, "Shut up!"

These two words seemed to be filled with magic and Marvin immediately recovered from that abnormal state.

'Fuck... There is actually this kind of spell...'

'It was the same as that thing in the Celestial Stairway.'

Marvin felt troubled. He had almost been tricked by the enemy.

He took a deep breath and looked at the Mana Wraith that had appeared so casually. He asked Ivan, "What did he say?"

Ivan shook his head. "He only opened his mouth and didn't say anything. But I'm sure it was a soul spell. Are you alright?"

Marvin nodded.

It was indeed a spell. But only one person could hear it.

Because it was his own inner voice.

He bottled those thoughts away and glared at the Mana Wraith. "You knew I would come."



“How should I greet you? Magic Medicine King Eric? Mana Wraith Eric? or...”

“Legend Wizard Orica?”

The Mana Wraith’s expression changed when Marvin uttered those words.

With obvious shock, it stuttered, “How... How did you know...”

Marvin grinned wryly. “I saw the diary you left behind. I already had some hypotheses.”

“Seems like I guessed correctly. You actually continued to live after the Mikenshi school’s destruction.”

“Maybe there simply was no Magic Medicine King, or perhaps that Magic Medicine King has already been assimilated by you.”

“You really did scheme for eternal life. Did your plan start forming when you first discovered the Magic Medicine King?”

“The entire Mikenshi school was your sacrifice, including your pitiful apprentice, Eric.”

Marvin stared at the Mana Wraith. “Am I right?”

Chapter 389: Dust of History

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

The valley was silent.

Ivan didn’t understand what they meant. Although Marvin had roughly told him what he found in the 7th tower, he had yet to understand the story of the Secret Garden.

But he hadn’t been very interested in it either.

Marvin glared at the Mana Wraith like a judge before a convict.

In fact, back when they first met, Marvin had been very careful of the Mana Wraith’s words.

When Marvin asked the Mana Wraith if the Magic Medicine King’s illusions had reached the level of Hell Nightmares, the Mana Wraith clearly hesitated before giving out an ambiguous answer.

That answer gave a hint as to his identity.

Then, although Marvin didn't know who he was, he could guess that this guy wasn't the ghost of Wizard Apprentice Eric!

Hell Nightmares were very rare lifeforms. Even a Lord of the Nine Hells might not have met this sort of lifeform before.

They should be as rare as Fortune Fairies, Eternal Dragons, and other incredibly rare creatures. This was a lifeform that ordinary Wizards wouldn't know about!

Even in the Mikenshi school's knowledge system, it would be very hard to find anything about it.

Perhaps only a Wizard at the peak could know of the Hell Nightmare's existence.

But even though the Mana Wraith didn't give a clear answer, his expression and reaction suggested that he knew about the Hell Nightmares.

A mere Wizard Apprentice wouldn't know about them.

This made Marvin doubt the Mana Wraith. And later, when he found the diary in the 7th tower, he made a guess:

After that war, Eric wasn't the only one who survived.

That despicable Wizard longing for eternal life also survived.

But Marvin's information from the past didn't have anything about the Legend Wizard.

Marvin guessed that either his information was incomplete, or the Wizard hid too deeply.

Whatever the case, Marvin stopped fully depending on information from his previous life.

He needed to find more information.

And the Mana Wraith appearing at the entrance of the Garden of Eden answered a lot of questions.

It wasn't the ghost of Eric, but rather the doppelganger of Orica!

As for why he needed a doppelganger, the answer was very simple. Orica had probably fused his own soul with that Magic Medicine.

Or maybe he devoured the soul of the Magic Medicine King with some kind of soul transfer spell and then turned into it.

With Orica's knowledge of Magic Medicines and souls, there were various possibilities.

But what made Marvin doubtful was that even if he wanted immortality and wanted to make use of this Magic Medicine to achieve immortality, why would he attract an Astral Beast?

Could this have been an accident?

Was it the doing of the original Magic Medicine King?

Or was there still another hidden secret?

What about the real Wizard Apprentice Eric? Where did he go?

Marvin wasn't sure anymore.

...

The Mana Wraith looked loathfully at Marvin and said in a low tone, "You think you know the truth."

"You think you uncovered this space's secret... In fact, you are just a ridiculous kid."

"You can only become fertilizer for this garden."

"I originally planned to release you two. Now it seems that it won't be necessary. People who know my identity must die!"

His expression became sinister and he opened his mouth wide!

In an instant, his body fused with that entrance.

A powerful force pulled Ivan and Marvin in!

"You want to take a look at the Magic Medicine King's main body?"

"As you wish!"

"The [First Garden of Eden] hasn't had a guest for a very long time. Hahahahahaha!"

As Mana Wraith's crazy laugh echoed out, Marvin and Ivan were pulled to the Garden of Eden.

The two glanced at each other and Ivan nodded, grabbing Marvin's wrist.

Marvin instantly understood and didn't try to resist, allowing the Mana Wraith to pull them further.

The scenery before his eyes changed.

They were now in an area covered in dark clouds!

Marvin and Ivan were surprised!

This was the First Garden of Eden?

As a medicine garden, it should be sunny and smell like greenery, full of the aura of life.

But the space before them was actually lifeless, an accumulation of evil and filth!

This was a freaking Evil Spirit sub-plane!

The soil here was black and the flowers all around them were wilted. In the middle of the area, there was a plant with a monstrous shape!

Marvin and Ivan looked at this plant in distaste.

They didn't even know what kinds of words they'd use to describe this plant.

It appeared to be a vine-like plant, but it was growing tall like a tree.

Countless tendrils were spiraling on its body.

But the most frightening thing was that bloody faces emerged from the tendrils.

These were the souls of the people that had been swallowed by the Secret Garden!

They were howling in grief, shrieking while full of loathing and rancor!

The Mana Wraith appeared in the air and shattered, fusing with that plant.

The face of a kind old man appeared on the plant and greeted them with a gentle smile.

"Welcome to the First Garden of Eden."

...

Malicious coldness and the wailing of ghosts.

This was the First Garden of Eden? This was completely different from what Marvin had imagined!

All the Magic Medicines had been swallowed by Orica and his body had already become somewhat deformed. The Magic Medicines' properties were all vaguely reflected on his body.

"See these wailing ghosts? Don't you think they are pitiful?" asked the old man in a kind tone. "It doesn't matter though. Soon, you'll join them."

Ivan sneered, remaining silent.

Marvin shook his head. "I finally understand why the Magic Medicine King could break the arrays of the Mikenshi Wizards."

"The person breaking those arrays had been a Mikenshi Wizard. The Magic Medicine King might not have this ability, but the soul of a Legend Wizard could do this."

"Using this kind of method to achieve immortality... isn't this sad?"

Orica rebutted amiably, "No no no, you don't understand."

"Every life will eventually end, and no one can counter the effects of time."

"In my opinion, this shows a problem. If a life was born just to die, then there must be some kind of mistake."

"I only want to correct this mistake."

Ivan dismissed, "Shameless sophistry."

"You think you'll live forever?"

"Anyway, if it really was like this, why did you open the Secret Garden to attract people in?"

This time, the old man's expression changed. He roared menacingly, "Yeah, that's right!"

"It was that wretched Apprentice! The wretched Eric! He wrecked my plan and forced me to fuse with the Magic Medicine King!"

"This wasn't my original plan!"

Seeing Orica's crazy appearance, Marvin inwardly shook his head.

This guy had already gone insane.

He looked at him with pity. "If I'm not wrong... was your original plan to shift your own soul into that Astral Beast?"

The old man's expression was extremely fierce, as he roared, "Yes, that's right! You are very smart! Almost as smart as me!"

"I am the greatest genius of the Mikenshi school. How could I willingly fuse with a Magic Medicine?"

"I ought to have become a supreme existence scornfully looking down at this universe! Even Gods should have trembled when seeing my shadow!"

"But that kid, that shameless kid, he actually disregarded his own safety and destroyed my plans!"

"Wait till I completely fuse these chaotic souls! I'll definitely remove his soul and torment it in eternal fire!"

The old man kept shouting frantically and the whole place began to shake!

Marvin and Ivan glanced at each other and shook their heads.

The old man's roars cleared up what had been hidden in history. The events of those years had slowly resurfaced.

...

Eric was Orica's apprentice and managed to survive the war.

In fact, this was something Orica had deliberately arranged because he still needed a Wizard to assist him.

He wouldn't be able to keep controlling someone whose level was too high, so he chose Eric, who had recently become his apprentice.

The others all died under various schemes and plots.

His goal was to get the remains of the Astral Beast.

This Astral Beast was originally near Feinan but had been slumbering. Orica found it while traveling across planes.

He didn't alarm the Astral Beast at that time. He was still young back then and had been a rather kindhearted Wizard.

But later on, as he grew older, many at his side began to die and he gained an abnormal thirst for immortality.

Incidentally, he obtained that particular Magic Medicine and personally planted it in the First Garden of Eden.

This Magic Medicine greatly enticed the Astral Beast.

A crazy plan formed in his mind.

At that time, his research in the soul domain should have been enough to let him seize the body of an Astral Beast.

The prerequisite was that the victim's soul must be nearly destroyed!

It had to be known that the soul was something immortal while flesh was weak.

Cloud Monks and Liches were immortal because their bodies were immortal, capable of hosting their souls forever.

The Astral Beasts were extremely long-lived, rumored to have a lifespan that lasted longer than the universe. If he could seize the body of an Astral Beast, it would be like living forever.

Thus, he began making his arrangements.

This was a plan that required patience and perfection.

From start to finish, there couldn't be any errors.

Following his plan, the aura of the Magic Medicine attracted the Astral Beast.

The flourishing Mikenshi school had a hard time.

Although they paid a huge price, they still managed to seal the Astral Beast.

This was within Orica's expectations. He wasn't impatient, because he still had enough time to finish his arrangements.

The Mikenshi school made many enemies.

And Orica was actually behind these enemies, vigorously supporting them.

In the end, the opportunity was about to arrive. He had roused them from within and both sides fought.

As he had expected, the Mikenshi school suffered a crushing defeat.

At his suggestion, they released the Astral Beast, intending to take the enemy down with them.

Everything was going as planned and the enemies died along with the Mikenshi school's Wizards. The Astral Beast was also at its last breath.

What remained at his side was an apprentice that followed all his orders and was often ridiculed for being a spineless coward.

But the intelligent and conceited Orica hadn't expected that it was this waste of an apprentice who would ruin his plan.

Chapter 390: Truth Tablet

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

Just as the Astral Beast was at its dying breath, Orica controlled Eric's soul and forced him to sign a contract. If Eric showed the slightest hint of rebellion, his soul would be obliterated.

Orica believed that nothing would go wrong thanks to this precaution.

Thus, he began his own soul transfer ritual. He wanted to expel the Astral Beast's soul from its body and transfer his own soul into it.

But during this process, something unexpected happened.

The apprentice, who had been silent for a long time, suddenly acted out during the ritual and interrupted its process.

Although Eric was only a Wizard Apprentice, he was very clear about what would happen if the ritual succeeded.

His teacher's mind had already been close to insanity. Once he was in control of the Astral Beast's body, Feinan would be in for an unprecedented disaster.

He risked his life and ruined the ritual.

Thanks to this spanner in the works, the disaster was prevented.

The Astral Beast's soul was released, but not expelled.

Orica was shocked and furious. He crushed Eric's soul and then fled, escaping to the Garden of Eden.



The original plan failed and Orica was left alone in the garden feeling incomparably frustrated. While he was brooding, he noticed the Magic Medicine he had planted here which had a very powerful lifeforce and the ability to consume and absorb others.

Another crazy plan formed in his mind.

He fused himself with the Magic Medicine and swallowed its soul to take on his new appearance.

He hid in the First Garden of Eden for a very long time. He didn't know how many years had passed after he finished swallowing all the Magic Medicines in there. He couldn't help but leave and take a look outside again.

It turned out that the Secret Garden was silent and devoid of people, while the Magic Medicines had propagated wildly.

That Astral Beast's corpse already had no signs of life. As for the body of Wizard Apprentice Eric, it was laying down next to the Astral Beast's remains.

After Orica cut Eric's remains into tiny pieces, he realized that he could use Eric's name.

The Ancient Gods had considered soul transfer a taboo. If he was found by some powerful Gods, he would be punished. After all, there was no Universe Magic Pool at that time.

Thus, he chose to fully assume the identity of Eric. That way, if the Ancient Gods used Divine Spells to look into the matter, there would be some deviation.

The greedy and cowardly Orica began taking control over the Secret Garden over a long period of time.

He removed his own resentment that had built up and condensed it into a Mana Wraith that would control the opening and closing of the Secret Garden.

The Nine-Headed Vines guarding the Mills Garden was also a branch of his main body. Because he had swallowed so many Magic Medicines, his strength was very frightening.

Naturally, because of the Magic Medicine body, he couldn't deliberately cast spells anymore.

Especially after Lance set up the Universe Magic Pool, he discovered with shock that his ability to absorb Chaos Magic Power had sharply declined.

This greatly infuriated Orica, but he didn't dare leave this world.

His longevity method still had a flaw and he needed more souls to fuse completely.

This was the truth hidden behind the Secret Garden!

...

The old man's bellows were getting progressively louder.

His expression while looking at Ivan and Marvin was also starting to become filled with greed.

"Rest assured, this process won't be very painful."

"Wait till you become part of my body. You'll be proud!"

"We will rule over the Universe!"

The last sentence was shouted by all the bloody faces on the plants.

Marvin and Ivan didn't seem impressed.

The former sighed, "You made two mistakes."

Orica waved his vines menacingly, spreading them across the area and ready to lash out anytime.

He scowled at Marvin angrily. "What nonsense are you talking about!"

"First of all, you thought Eric died a long time ago. But in reality, he didn't die," Marvin said calmly.

"This can't be!" Orica's face distorted. "Are you making fun of me? I already crushed his soul!"

"Maybe." Marvin shrugged. "But why are you hiding here, not daring to go out?" he asked rhetorically.

"The Astral Beast's body is full of treasures, so why don't you swallow it?"

"That gradually recovering aura, as a Legend Wizard who is also an expert on the domain of soul, shouldn't you feel something strange about it?"

Orica snarled in denial, "Absolutely impossible!"

"That was my body! How could it be snatched by a mere Wizard Apprentice!"

He became extremely violent, the barbed vines that filled the sky sweeping over from all sides.

Each vine had countless faces covering it!

These were all distorted and some were even missing facial features!

But they each had a bloody mouth as well as saw-like teeth!

Facing this, the two didn't cower.

Marvin knew this was merely an illusion.

He could feel that Orica was bluffing. After all, that guy had already fused with the Magic Medicine King, which was only an expert in illusions.

But Marvin didn't get rid of the illusion.

He had no way to do it, but that wasn't true of the Elven Prince beside him.

Ivan had previously affirmed that he could handle the Magic Medicine King's illusions.

He took a step forward while spreading out his palm and a golden light burst out!

The dazzling golden light was bright like the sun and pierced through the entire room.

All the souls began to howl in grief as the vines were ignited.

Orica was utterly frightened. He realized in consternation that the entire space was starting to collapse!

"No! No!"

"What's this... Why is it like this?"

Ivan gave him a look of pity. "Your body already fused with the Garden of Eden?"

"No wonder the space itself is getting affected."

"And you think you are unrivalled here? Unfortunately, you are wrong."

"However powerful the lie, it can still be defeated by the truth."

"Falsehood is the only foundation you rely on. Now, what will be left once I destroy your foundation?"

The next second, the whole space thoroughly collapsed!

The huge plant was turned to dust under the golden light.

An intense energy condensed in the air as an ugly soul was being stabbed by the bright light.

A sense of loss could be seen on Ivan's face.

The Magic Medicines assimilated by Orica had already wholly become part of him and couldn't be recovered anymore.

These tribulations in the Dead Area still weren't enough to find a medicine to cure the Great Elven King's injuries.

...

Marvin looked somewhat awed when he saw this.

He had thought that Ivan meant he had some treasures to get rid of illusions, nothing more.

But he hadn't expected that this guy would pull out a fragment of a Fate Tablet!

A Fate Tablet fragment!

Marvin had handled Ding's main body, so this was something he was very familiar with. But the Plane Law carved on this fragment was [Truth] and not [Luck]!

It was amazing that the Wood Elven family had such a treasure!

Who knew what the person who held the fragment had thought at the time. That person didn't use it to ascend to Godhood.

And now, this Fate Tablet fragment had the aura of life. It was close to being incarnated into a living creature.

This meant that this Fate Tablet fragment might become like Ding, and gradually form a flesh body.

A Truth Fairy.

This was something mortals couldn't imagine.

An ordinary person would definitely choose to ascend upon gaining a Fate Tablet fragment, but clearly, that ancestor of the Wood Elves didn't choose to do so. He might

have been the former Great Elven King, chasing after the traces of the High Elves who left for the distant Eternal Country.

And this Fate Tablet fragment was left behind.

The successive generations of Wood Elven Kings also didn't choose to ascend to Godhood.

This was very praiseworthy.

Before the Truth Tablet fragment, all illusions were nothing but falsehoods!

Marvin sighed while watching as Orica's soul was slowly scattered.

This was a bit different from what he had planned.

But he also knew that Ivan chose to use the Truth Tablet because of his apprehensions.

In his opinion, people like Orica were stains that couldn't be left on this world.

Even if they wanted to keep this Magic Medicine that was full of lies and illusions, Orica's soul would still be intermixed with it and couldn't be separated.

That guy was an expert at playing with people's feelings and there could be some terrible consequences one day if they didn't eliminate him.

Thus, despite the fact that killing Orica would make his endeavor in looking for a Magic Medicine to cure his father a wasted effort, Ivan still didn't hesitate to do so.

This former Legend Wizard was no longer worthy of anyone's respect. He had become a threat to this world.

This filthy soul was bound to perish.

...

Orica's soul was still struggling to live on.

In front of the Truth Tablet, this Legend Wizard's soul had displayed amazing tenacity.

Most of his soul energy had already been crushed thoroughly by the Law of Truth.

But there was still a round sphere.

Ivan and Marvin weren't worried that he'd survive. How long Orica's soul could last was only a question of time.

But then a huge change took place!

Orica bellowed with his distorted expression, "Go fuck the truth!"

"If you want to kill me, you'll also have to pay the price!"

In an instant, the remnants of his soul energy condensed together.

Ivan immediately felt uneasy and told Marvin, "Run!"

Marvin noticed the danger at the same time!

This guy wanted them to share his fate!

Ivan had the Truth Tablet, so the other side couldn't harm him. But the Truth Tablet could only protect its user. It wasn't a conscious Truth Fairy yet!

Marvin used Shadow Escape and fled.

But Orica's resentful expression followed closely, apparently breaking through the restrictions of space, firmly locked on Marvin's body.

"Enjoy this soul energy. I might not be able to see you explode, but that scene will most certainly be beautiful!"

Orica laughed his head off as he disappeared.

At the same time, a frightening soul energy poured into Marvin's body!

He felt like his body was expanding to the limit as he heard the howls of countless ghosts!

'No good... Will I die in such a depressing way?'

Marvin felt a swelling pain. He was nauseated and felt like throwing up as this thought passed through his mind.

However, a log option appeared before his eyes:

[Open Essence Pool to absorb surplus Essences?]

Chapter 391: Blessing in Disguise

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

At this critical moment, how could Marvin deal with so much energy?

Despite Ivan rushing over, trying to use the Truth Tablet to disperse the energy, it had already started pouring into Marvin because of Orica's curse.

His goal was simple. He wanted to take Marvin down with him by using this energy to make him explode!

Marvin was under excruciating pain but he made a quick decision when the option appeared before him.

The next second, something magical happened.

[Essence Pool opened completely, Essence Absorption System activated omnidirectionally...]

[Essence Energy Absorption... Maximum Efficiency]

Marvin was instantly stunned by the change.

He no longer had any disagreeable feelings.

And the general experience on his interface began to skyrocket!

Ivan was extremely worried and asked frantically, "Are you okay? Take the Truth Tablet, quick!"

In order to rescue Marvin, he didn't hesitate to lend him the most valuable treasure of the Wood Elven Royal Family.

But Marvin answered, "I'm fine."

"Put away the Truth Tablet."

His voice was a little strange as he muttered, "It seems to be... A blessing in disguise..."

...

In the quiet valley, a great amount of soul energy seemed to revolve around Marvin, pouring into his body torrentially.

Ivan stored away the Truth Tablet and looked at the scene, flabbergasted.

If it was someone else, even himself... without the Truth Tablet, wouldn't they explode from all the energy?

But that mysterious guy only had some pain at the start and now looked happier and happier as time went on.

Had his mind been confused by the soul energy?

Ivan was a bit worried.

But there truly didn't seem to be any problems with Marvin, and adding to Ivan's confusion, the aura from Marvin's body was growing more powerful!

It looked like... the soul energy was becoming his nourishment.

...

The sudden change in the situation caught even Marvin off guard.

It was a pity that Orica himself had vanished completely, or else he might have had a chance to die while feeling even more miserable.

He had been so sure that Marvin would die, but he ended up surviving and gaining a lot out of it.

Marvin didn't know what to say.

But he had an inkling of understanding toward the theory.

Orica made use of the Magic Medicine's ability to purify the soul energy and use it as power.

This soul energy was a type of Essence.

Others didn't have a system like Marvin's and would never be able to absorb these Essences.

But Marvin was different, having both the system and the corresponding Essence Storage Pool.

The Essence Storage Pool was like a bottomless pit, able to absorb an endless amount of Essences.

These Essences would be reflected as general exp.

After no less than ten minutes, the soul energy revolving around Marvin's body was finally almost exhausted.

Marvin came out unscathed.

He looked at the amount of general exp on his interface and couldn't help but gulp.



Ivan walked over, worryingly asking, "How are you?"

Marvin brightly smiled, "Never been better."

...

More than 500 000 general exp!

This was the most experience he had ever earned since transmigrating!

This was quite the fortuitous windfall. He had originally wanted to find a place to quickly farm exp like Saruha's Theater.

But he hadn't thought that without him even making a move, Orica, the embodiment of the Magic Medicine King, would give him such a huge gift before dying.

It was the last boost he needed to become a Ruler of the Night.

Indeed, he had enough experience to level up his Night Walker class again!

He, who was already a Legend in some ways, could finally advance to Ruler of the Night!

But they were still in the Secret Garden at the moment. He needed a peaceful place to advance because the advancement was a kind of ancient and mysterious ritual.

This ritual couldn't be interrupted, or else his life could be threatened.

Marvin didn't dare to risk it. Thus, he only allocated the experience to Ranger and Night Walker for now.

This way, both classes would reach level 10!

It was very rare for both the Base Class and the Advanced Class to reach level 10 before becoming a Legend. Most people would make use of their subclasses to get enough levels to advance to Legend.

Marvin had more than enough experience to get there!

With both of his classes reaching that threshold, his HP increased greatly, breaking far past the two thousand mark!

2809 HP!

Even compared with Fighters of the same rank, this could be considered very fierce. Naturally, this had a lot to do with the bonuses from Marvin's subclasses.

Apart from this, the two classes' skill points were temporarily left alone. He'd decide on how to allocate them later.

In any case, he would soon advance to Ruler of the Night so he could pay attention to the allocation then.

He wasn't lacking that fighting strength right now.

What made him more excited were the three Ranger specialties he got for reaching the level cap!

Yes, the Base Class had a maximum of 10 levels, but that didn't mean that there was no way to overcome this restriction.

The best example Marvin knew of was the Great Elven King Nicholas, who was a level 21 Ranger.

This was a status that hadn't been reached since ancient times, but he managed to do it. As such, he was one of the most powerful beings in Feinan.

When a class was promoted, the specialties given by the plane would be based on the potential and the development path of the class holder.

Marvin was excited about all three of these specialties:

[Dual Wielding Ruler]: When attacking with two blades, there is a certain chance of temporarily increasing your Curved Dagger Mastery as well as your Blade Techniques by 1 level.

[Melee Ranger]: You gave up on using long-distance attacks, showing that you are a hot-blooded person. Constitution and Strength permanently increased by 1.

[Class Privileges]: When using your class' skills, the effects will be substantially increased.

...

Those three specialties were all very practical.

Dual Wielding Ruler, Two-Weapon Fighting, and Reckless Dual Wielder were part of a set, all of which passively took effect in battle.

Currently, Marvin's Curved Dagger Mastery and Blade Technique were both at Greatmaster level. If they were temporarily buffed by the first specialty, they would reach the peak Grandmaster level!

At that time, his close-range burst power would suppress all others.

And the second specialty was even more exciting.

Everyone knew how tough it was to get more attribute points.

Although Marvin leveled up, since he hadn't advanced to Legend yet, he was still considered a level 20 Half-Legend, so he didn't get any more attribute points from leveling.

Yet this specialty instantly gave him two attribute points!

Thus, his Strength reached 19, just one point away from the first major threshold, while his Constitution reached 17.

As for the last specialty, the description was clear that it would increase the effects of his Ranger skills. Even if it didn't specify how much it would increase them, it shouldn't be too little.

...

In contrast, Night Walker didn't have any bonus specialty reward at level 10.

Night Walker was an Advanced Class after all, so the maximum level was 20. He would get another specialty at level 11.

But now he had a total of 80 Night Walker skill points. If properly allocated, he would get a huge boost to his fighting strength.

For example, the skill that had just appeared, [Night Assault].

This skill's effect was to condense six Doppelgangers to strike the enemy simultaneously. Each Doppelganger's firepower would be equal to the main body's and would last thirty seconds.

This skill was quite powerful.

If not for Marvin intending to make his decisions after advancing to Ruler of the Night, he would have instantly chosen this skill.

...

After spending his exp, Marvin felt filled with power.

He could advance to Ruler of the Night at any time.

The Shadow Diamond was in his hands, as was the Advancement Manual, satisfying the advancement prerequisites. Everything was in order.

The only issue was that he was still in the Secret Garden.

He needed to leave and get somewhere safer first.

With Orica's disappearance, the Garden of Eden disappeared so there wasn't much value in the Secret Garden anymore.

The two considered for a moment and prepared to leave.

Leaving the Secret Garden wasn't as hard now. Orica was already dead and there were many arrays that could be used in the Secret Garden.

Although Ivan was a War Saint, he still had his Elven knowledge.

He would be able to find an array to get them outside.

He also had a long-distance Teleportation Scroll on him, so after they left the garden they could immediately leave the Dead Area Continent and return to Thousand Leaves Forest if they wanted.

The only unfortunate thing was that they didn't manage to get any Underworld River Water.

This made Marvin feel a bit guilty.

After all, he had greatly benefited from his task in the Secret Garden, mysteriously earning an absurd amount of exp.

Yet the Great Elven King, who really needed help right now, was still in an abyss of suffering. The attack on the Decaying Plateau at that time had been initiated by Marvin.

But he was helpless to do anything about it now. There was no Underworld River Water in the Secret Garden, so where could he get some?

The two men left the valley and walked toward the Desolate Tower Ruins.

When they passed the gates of the Mills Garden, they found out that the Nine-Headed Vines had already wilted.

This made sense because it had come from the Magic Medicine King's main body.

As for the four Legends, their corpses were resting calmly on the ground.

They had killed each other and their souls had already been swallowed by Orica.

These Legends, suppressed as they were by the garden, didn't manage to prevail over the illusions.

Marvin thought he was lucky.

If Ivan didn't have the Truth Tablet and the two still chose to keep going, they also could have died.

The two glanced at each other wordlessly and continued on their way.

These people who died to illusions had lost to themselves.

Greed and desires... in short, they died to the evil bred within their own hearts.

There was no point in sympathizing with them.

But just as they passed the Astral Beast's remains, the fluctuation of a frightening life force leaked out from it!

Marvin and Ivan held their breaths!

Chapter 392: Ancient Youth

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

An Astral Beast was on the verge of awakening!

This was a terrifying crisis for Feinan.

Although Marvin speculated that Eric's soul might not have been completely shattered but instead partially merged with the Astral Beast, this was only a hypothesis.

Not to mention, even if Eric's soul was in charge, who knew what kind of changes there might be in his temperament after suffering at Orica's hands?

The most terrifying thing in this world wasn't destructive power, but rather, the one who possessed such power and whether that person would be able to control it.

In the Astral Beast Remains area, the aura of the soul became increasingly stronger.

A life force was rousing. Even though the corpse was still lying inert, it gave them a great deal of pressure!

"No good, let's hurry!"

Ivan looked incredibly worried.

This was the guy who dared to fight the Ancient Red Dragon Ell, but in front of this Astral Beast, even he had an ugly expression!

It showed how terrifying an Astral Beast was!

The two were going to quickly withdraw, hoping they could leave the Secret Garden before the Astral Beast awakened completely.

But at that time, a weak voice spoke into their ears. "Don't... leave."

"I won't hurt anyone..."

It was quiet, but extremely firm.

"Eric?" Marvin asked.

"You know my name?"

The voice sounded a bit moved.

It gradually became steadier. The lifeforce coming from the Astral Beast was still continuously erupting.

Marvin nodded.

Eric sighed, "Teacher already died? If I'm not wrong, he must have died at your hands."

"Otherwise, I wouldn't have been able to wake up."

"It's a pity... I won't be able to hold on for too long."

Marvin and Ivan glanced at each other. This Astral Beast in front of them was truly too frightening.

But within this frightening Astral Beast was a seemingly young soul, which seemed rather unfitting.

They stopped and forced themselves to communicate with Eric.

Soon, Marvin understood what had been missing from the known history:

Eric destroyed the soul transfer ritual and was crushed by Orica out of anger.

He should have died.

But at that time, the Astral Beast, whose soul was on the verge of expiring, unexpectedly saved him.

The instinct-driven Astral Beast knew that its soul couldn't keep going. It had fought two unimaginably hard battles one after the other and then Orica had used a special trick to drain the power from its soul. It couldn't survive anymore.

Thus, it used its final bit of power to enclose Eric's soul fragment in its body.

The Astral Beast's body locked Eric's soul inside, not allowing it to drift away. His soul gradually fused with the Astral Beast's body over the years thanks to the body's frightening vitality.

In fact, he had already woken up a long time ago.

His soul had completely fused and he was also able to control the body.

But he wasn't allowed to actually wake up.

Because Orica was still there, and so was the original soul contract.

Orica could crush Eric's soul with just a thought.

What angered Orica was that the Astral Beast had put a terrible curse on its own body before dying.

Besides Eric, who he had chosen to save, no soul was allowed in.

And Eric's soul couldn't be removed.

Thus, with the passage of time, Eric recovered countless times. Yet what awaited him each time was having his soul ruthlessly obliterated again by Orica!

He was continuously tortured as his soul was crushed and reformed time and time again.

This wasn't something people could endure.

But Eric managed to withstand it.

He eventually realized that he could just remain in a slumber and not awaken unless Orica died, so that he would no longer have to suffer from his soul being crushed.

Now that his teacher had finally been killed by Ivan, he could awaken safely.

The only unfortunate thing was that after the endless years, his soul had suffered too much damage and he couldn't hold on for too much longer.

The Astral Beast's body was strong, yet the nourishment it could give to the soul was limited.

He could feel that he didn't have much time left.

...

"I don't know what era it is."

Eric smiled bitterly. "How many years have I stayed in this Astral Beast's body? A millennium? Two?"

"My friends have already passed away?"

"With how things are, death is also a kind of relief."

Marvin and Ivan were facing him silently.

Eric seemed very peaceful, like a bashful youth from a random village.

Even after experiencing so much pain, his character still hadn't changed.

He only felt lonely.

"At the time when teacher picked me to become his assistant, I simply couldn't believe it."

"Everyone thought I was a waste, but teacher acknowledged me. I was crazily happy."

"Up until I found out it was a trap. After all, he only needed the help of a waste."

Eric's soul let out a bitter laugh.

Marvin could feel that the abnormal life force was now continuously waning.

This might be the last time Eric would awaken. His soul might fade from this point on.

As for the Wizard Apprentice's story, he really had too much on his shoulders.

"You aren't a waste," Marvin declared resolutely. "No waste could stop a disaster that would have destroyed this world. You are a true hero."



“Hero?” Eric sighed. “If I could choose again, I would have refused that old man who came to our village saying that I had the gift to be a Wizard and that he wanted to take me to the Mikenshi school.”

“Because I owe too much...”

Following Eric’s sentence, an image appeared before their eyes:

An old village bustled under the setting sun. A shy youth sat on a carriage with excitement and reluctance while being urged by the coachman.

Standing on the side of the road was a group of people seeing him off with excitement on their faces. Yet among them, there was a girl wearing a shabby dress who was holding back her tears.

She looked like a very ordinary farmer’s daughter.

Sadness emerged in the hearts of Marvin and Ivan.

Eric sighed once more. “She said she would wait for me...”

“I liked her for so many years and I had intended to look for her after becoming an official Wizard.”

“But I never returned.”

“I still owe her a confession...” Eric mumbled.

Eric’s fate wasn’t something he could control.

Perhaps this was the fate of a true hero. He saved the world but wasn’t able to give the best ending to the people at his side.

Regardless, several thousand years had passed. Everything was gone, only leaving the soul of an ancient youth on the verge of disappearing.

“I hate it... Why was I such a coward... Why didn’t I express myself while I still had the chance?”

Eric’s voice rose. “I am a coward!”

“I struggled for so many years in that monster’s body, but what for?”

“There’s no value in my life anymore...”

The power of his soul was now very faint. It felt as if even wind could scatter his soul.

Marvin hesitated as he couldn't bear saying it, but in the end, he clenched his teeth before speaking out. "I know that saying this to you is unfair, and you should be allowed to rest."

"But this world is facing a very frightening threat."

"I hope that you won't just expire like this... This world still needs a hero to rescue it."

Eric muttered, "This world?"

"It's not the world I know anymore. What does it have to do with me?"

Marvin shook his head. "You can open your eyes to look at the world."

"I know you should be able to with your strength."

"Look at this world, what's so different from yours?"

"Children are still innocently playing around, middle-aged people are still worried about their livelihoods, greedy merchants are still conducting ruthless deals, and Devils, Demons, Evil Spirits, and even the almighty Gods are aiming at this land."

"This world still needs you."

Eric was silent for a moment. Ultimately, the last remnant of his soul power disappeared from the Astral Beast's corpse.

Marvin and Ivan looked at each other and sighed.

Eric already did so much.

Him not using the power of the Astral Beast to do evil was already the best outcome.

Choosing to leave now was a relief for him.

He was already incompatible with this world. The people he cherished had passed away a long time ago.

The Astral Beast's lifeforce was dissipating.

Suddenly, a bone appeared in Marvin's hands.

Eric's weak voice drifted out once again. "When you need me, wake me."

"I can only awaken once more. After that, even if I wanted to help, my soul would still dissipate."

“I’ll close the Secret Garden. I’ll be kicking everyone out, so be careful.”

Moments later, the two felt a terrifying repulsive force rush over them.

After their surroundings changed, the two appeared in Breton Village.

There were many people around them, all Half-Legends.

“What’s going on? Why were we suddenly kicked out?”

“The Secret Garden closed? Who got a Magic Medicine?”

“What about those Legend powerhouses? Where did they go?”

As people asked various questions, their eyes focused on Ivan.

Because he was the only Legend who left the Secret Garden.

To this, Ivan only coldly snapped, “Fuck off!”

They all froze.

Chapter 393: Ancient Gnomes

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

In the Dead Area, the strong had always been respected.

Although everyone looked at Ivan skeptically, he was the only Legend who came back out of the five Legends, after all, and they didn’t dare to offend him.

Even the Blackfire Lava Wizards who had blocked this place off couldn’t keep their prideful attitude because their only Legend Wizard had disappeared in the Secret Garden.

Even if all the people here grouped together, they weren’t a match for Ivan.

They all scattered, doubtful and depressed.

Marvin and Ivan didn’t linger in Breton Village for too long.

This place would soon be sealed by Astral Beast Eric, forever disappearing.

The next time Marvin summoned Eric would likely be the last time that youth would appear in this world.

Thinking of this, Marvin felt a bit of grief.

“Is it too selfish?”

“Eric is already pitiful enough, yet I still need him to do more. It’s simply exploiting him.”

“His soul has been destroyed so many times and should have already scattered. He most likely already knows this.”

“But...”

Marvin looked at the piece of white bone that seemed somewhat like a crescent moon and felt a bit sad.

Ivan patted his shoulder, understanding Marvin’s reaction.

With the Great Calamity looming over Feinan, he had to muster all the strength he could.

Elven races, Humans, Vampires, Sha clansmen, Night Walkers, Legend Wizards, those of Rocky Mountain, and even a mystical existence like Eric!

As for the Gods, Eric was a lifeform completely outside of fate.

If there really was a final battle, he was certain that the appearance of Eric would surprise them.

An Astral Beast could also greatly shake this world even if it was near death.

The Gods wouldn’t dare to provoke one!

...

The two left Breton Village but didn’t return to Thousand Leaves Forest yet.

Marvin took Ivan to an abandoned mine north of Breton Village.

This mine was also considered a dangerous place.

Few people in the Dead Area would set foot in it.

But faced with this powerful duo, the few constructs in the mine were torn apart.

Marvin got the second Memory Chip he was looking for.

They then returned to Xunshan Town.

Marvin wanted to check if Black Knight Sangore had attacked again, so he took a trip around Xunshan Town and learnt some things.

Sure enough, after he left, Sangore had led a Black Wizard here.

That Black Wizard was covered in a large gown, making people unable to see him clearly.

His spells were extremely frightening and he almost destroyed the town at the foot of the mountain.

At the crucial moment, the Cloud Monk and Blade Technique Master Kangen intervened.

The Cloud Monk seriously injured the Black Knight. This time he was furious and nearly killed Sangore.

But the Black Knight relied on a mysterious spell to escape.

The Black Wizard didn't have that chance. According to what the people present saw, the Wizard was split almost in half by Kangen.

Marvin frowned.

This outcome had been more than he'd imagined.

Indeed, those that dealt with Devils always had some methods to preserve their lives.

That old Monk attacked seriously and still wasn't able to completely kill Sangore, letting him escape.

Although Sangore was nearly dead when he escaped, with his special constitution as a Black Knight, he only needed some time to be able to recover.

As for that so-called "Black Wizard," he was probably the strongest member of the Black Knight Monastery.

It wasn't too unexpected for Kangen to be able to split him in two. Kangen was a man able to fight Gods during the Great Calamity.

But only his fake body died.

Marvin was sure of this because that guy was a Lich!

As long as his Phylactery wasn't destroyed, his soul wouldn't die.

These two guys were still a hidden danger that would strike sooner or later. But now wasn't the time to handle this matter. Xunshan Monastery had saved him a lot of trouble.

He intended to visit Kangen but was informed by the Monastery's Monks that he had already left.

He had departed together with the Copper Dragon.

Marvin was disappointed and could only prepare to leave the Dead Area Continent with Ivan.

But as he regrouped with Ivan at the bottom of the mountain, he noticed two figures next to the Elven Prince.

Ivan looked at the two with a smile and told Marvin cheerfully, "Look what I found. Two descendants of the Ancient Gnomes."

"Their disguising potions are really effective, they tricked everyone."

The two stood still, seeming frightened and uneasy.

Marvin took a sharp breath!

"It's you!"

Marvin remembered these two guys!

He had bumped into these two guys in the Desolate Tower Ruins, using that strange piece of dirty rag to hide from his perception. At that time, they used a short distance escape tool. And now, they had unexpectedly fallen into Ivan's hands.

"They really are Ancient Gnomes?" Marvin was very suspicious. "How did you catch them?"

"I lured them." Ivan coldly snorted, "They were observing me from the distance while trying to stay hidden."

The two suddenly complained, "We weren't observing you, we... actually wanted your help..."

"Help?"

Ivan frowned.

The Gnomes looked at each other before taking Marvin and Ivan to a deserted area. They shed their disguises, reverting to their original appearances.

These Ancient Gnomes were a bit taller than their ancestors. Their heads seemed a bit bigger, but there wasn't a feeling of anything being out of proportion.

Their eyes were a clear cerulean, seeming to shine with ingenuity.

Apart from that, everything was similar to a wild Gnome.

"Let us introduce ourselves first. I am Zac Rael, and this is my younger brother, David Rael."

"We met some troubles and need help. But we don't trust Humans."

The older Gnome looked at Marvin vigilantly before saying, "But we are willing to trust Elves."

"There are few Elves in the Dead Area, and most of those are corrupt Elves."

"Thus, I hope you can help us," he concluded.

Ivan scratched his head. It was quite a surprise to find a pair of Ancient Gnomes looking for him.

This wasn't an ordinary race. The Ancient Gnomes were different from the current wild Gnomes. They were knowledgeable and had forged deep friendships with the High Elves.

There seemed to have been covenants between them.

Even his father Nicholas most likely didn't remember these ancient covenants.

Ordinarily, he wouldn't mind helping.

But they were rather pressed for time. He wanted to refuse, but Marvin suddenly asked, "What kind of help, can you explain?"

He was rather interested and it almost looked like the words "We'll help if the price is right!" were written on his face.

Chapter 394: Return

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

The Ancient Gnomes' descendants glanced at each other and turned back to Marvin, reiterating determinedly, "We don't trust Humans!"

Marvin rolled his eyes.

From their attitude, the two must have definitely eaten a loss while dealing with Humans.

But fortunately, Ivan was there. He clearly saw Marvin's interest and immediately interacted with them on Marvin's behalf.

Zac and David really were Ancient Gnomes.

The great disaster that year destroyed the Ancient Gnome Empire but there were still some who survived.

They hid in a Sanctuary for who knew how many years.

They almost never communicated with the outside world because nobody knew whether the disaster mentioned by their ancestors in the records had passed or not.

The two Ancient Gnomes naturally wouldn't mention the location of that Sanctuary even if beaten to death.

The Ancient Gnomes that had survived up till now knew that the era was different from the past. Humans ruled this era.

They had hoped that they could stay cut off from the rest of the world.

But there was an issue with their Sanctuary.

Everything was as the prophecy had said: The Sanctuary was on the verge of collapsing and they were about to face an even more frightening disaster!

...

"Prophecy? What prophecy?"

Marvin and Ivan's faces were full of shock.

Zac elaborated, "In our tribe, there was a prophetic book page. No one knew when this page appeared. Someday after we moved to the Sanctuary, it suddenly appeared on our ancestral shrine's altar. It was written in Ancient God Language, which only our High Priest could read, and he read the prophecy to us all."

"This prophecy roughly meant that a disaster was unavoidable."



“Although our tribe managed to survive the disaster that destroyed the Ancient Gnome Empire countless years ago, it was bound to suffer another one.”

“That’s what I’ve heard,” the Ancient Gnome finished, looking at Ivan with sincerity.

It seemed like the Wood Elf’s identity was quite useful. At least it could make many ancient races trust him.

Compared with the terrible Humans... Although mankind had no lack of heroes, it also had many who were despicable scum. The stubborn Dwarves and Ancient Gnomes clearly wouldn’t trust Humans so easily.

Ivan turned silent after this.

A ripple quivered through Marvin’s heart!

The Sanctuary collapsing meant that the Ancient Gnomes were on the verge of returning to Feinan.

This scene felt like déjà vu.

‘It’s... The next expansion.’

‘[Return]!’

Marvin took a deep breath.

When he transmigrated, there had been only a rough explanation of the storyline of the next expansion.

Not only did the Gods return to Feinan, but the ancient races would also return one after the other.

The Ancient Gnomes definitely weren’t the only ones.

It was the same for the High Elves who had left for the Eternal Country. They returned for the same reason as the Ancient Gnomes. The blessed High Elven Eternal Country was also on the verge of shattering.

They were forced to move back to Feinan once again, but this wasn’t their world.

There were other races, races that had disappeared in the 2nd and 3rd Eras like the Dark Iron Dwarves and the banished Numans, that would return from all over.

The entire plane of Feinan would be thrown into chaos.

But the issue was that it was something that was supposed to happen in the future!

What was going on with these two guys?

...

Marvin inquired impatiently but was treated as Human scum coveting their Sanctuary.

Fortunately, Ivan vouched for him so Zac unwillingly answered, "Our Sanctuary... can still last for a few years, but I don't believe that prophetic page."

"Yes! It's clearly nonsense!" David interrupted. "I am an expert in plane structure knowledge. From my research, the Sanctuary is far from the end of its life. It only lacks energy."

"We need to find some Purple Fire Crystals, which would be enough to keep the flame of the Sanctuary burning for... over a hundred years!"

Marvin nodded.

Sure enough, the Ancient Gnomes were using Purple Fire Crystals for energy.

This meant that the Mechanical Titan's system also needed Purple Fire Crystals.

Ivan sighed. "It's not that we don't want to help you."

"But do you know how many Purple Fire Crystals are left in this world?"

"None! It was all dug out by those wretched Dark Iron Dwarves!" Zac seethed while gnashing his teeth.

It seemed like these two guys did their research after leaving their Sanctuary.

"What about you?" Marvin asked.

"You went into the Secret Garden to look for Purple Fire Crystals? There's no such thing inside." Marvin looked at them strangely.

David shook his head. "Nothing we can do about it, we have to try. We obtained a piece of information saying that there might be some there."

"The Elves are the only race left from the ancient times. If you don't know where to look for Purple Fire Crystal, then we don't know where we should look anymore."

The two brothers were disappointed.

They had secretly left the refuge with the lofty goal of getting enough Purple Fire Crystals before returning home with honor.

But they didn't know that the world had changed so much after all these years.

They even had to carefully hide their identity!

Marvin scratched his nose, thinking carefully before saying, "As far as I know, the Purple Fire Crystals in this world aren't completely gone."

The Ancient Gnome brothers suddenly became hopeful. "Where?"

"Your Ancient Gnomes' vestiges," Marvin explained. "Along Feinan Continent's western coast, there are many vestiges of the Ancient Gnomes. There should still be Purple Fire Crystals remaining in some of them, in places like Saruha."

"Saruha? You went to Saruha?"

Zac and David's eyes shone. "Did that place have any Purple Fire Crystals?"

"None," Marvin answered honestly, "only a Mechanical Titan, which I controlled."

"It's a pity it wasn't designed for me; it was very uncomfortable to operate."

A Mechanical Titan!

The eyes of the brothers were almost glowing!

They immediately pleaded, "Take us there!"

"Our teleportation had an issue when we left the Sanctuary and we somehow ended up on this continent."

"Take us to see the Mechanical Titan!"

Ivan saw through Marvin's sly expression and he couldn't help but chuckle to himself.

Marvin was clearly leading the two brothers' thought processes.

But he hadn't been aware that Marvin had obtained a Mechanical Titan, and was also very interested in it. In any case, the scroll used to return would be very quick.

Adding two more Ancient Gnomes wasn't an issue.

"Good, then let's go."

Ivan and Marvin each grabbed an Ancient Gnome and Ivan opened the return scroll.

“Woosh!” After a long five seconds, they appeared in a green room.

“Your Highness Ivan, you finally returned!” The Elven woman called Joan was full of admiration as she looked at Ivan.

Chapter 395: Purple Fire Crystal

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

The Elven woman’s enthusiasm was ignored by Ivan.

Marvin’s group left Ruins City and headed south to reach Rocky Mountain.

When the two Ancient Gnomes saw the Mechanical Titan set up outside Rocky Mountain, they almost went crazy.

They ignored everything else and crawled in, starting to toss around blindly.

Marvin didn’t care about them, because even if they had a way to activate it, it would still be useless. This thing’s energy had already been completely exhausted. Unless they found Purple Fire Crystals, this thing would remain an inert piece of metal.

This trip to Rocky Mountain was mainly to warn the three sisters.

He and Ivan didn’t stay long in there and most of the time was spent in secret talks.

The information about the Great Calamity clearly shocked the three sisters.

Rocky Mountain was in a remote region. If not for Marvin giving them information ahead of time, they might not have known about it when the disaster started.

Although Rocky Mountain had many Sorcerers able to communicate with Demons, none of them were at the level of Demon Overlords.

They only knew that a major event was about to happen.

Otherwise, the Source of Fire’s Order wouldn’t have come down.

Since Marvin told the information to the three sisters, with their intelligence and might, along with the Fortune Fairy’s buffs, they should be able to safely survive the early stages of the Great Calamity.

They had the Source of Fire's Order in hand while the Shadow Prince, the only one who could steal them, had been blown up by Marvin, so they should be secure as long as they took proper steps.

But anything could happen during the Chaos Era, which Marvin warned them of repeatedly.

Rocky Mountain and White River Valley also formed an Alliance.

This time, Marvin was in quite a hurry. Lorie's mood clearly showed her reluctance to see him leave, giving Marvin a bit of a headache.

He was very fond of this smart little girl.

But right now, he had someone very important that needed to be saved.

...

While Ivan and the two Ancient Gnomes were still exploring Hope City, Marvin took a trip further south.

Soon, he arrived at the Pearl Tower of the City of Knowledge.

Mark 47 was surprised to see him pay another visit. After all, how long had it been? And Marvin already found another Memory Chip!

After incorporating this Memory Chip, Mark 47 recalled some more things.

But this time, he didn't have any relevant and useful memories.

This made Marvin feel a bit helpless.

50 000 exp was basically not as valuable for the current Marvin, so he asked whether he could change it for something else.

Mark 47 apologized for holding something back before and gladly agreed to Marvin's request.

Marvin asked, "Is there any Purple Fire Crystal?"

This thing had already vanished from the continent and there was almost no trace of it in the Ancient Gnomes' vestiges.

What he said before was in order to convince the two Ancient Gnomes to come to his territory.

Zac and David were genuine descendants of the Ancient Gnomes. If they agreed to work for him, with those Alchemy books he obtained in Saruha, White River Valley would have the support of the Ancient Gnomes' science and technology.

As for that unreliable Alchemist, Marvin didn't have much hope for him. That guy had wasted such a large amount of resources. It was already very nice of Marvin to not throw him out.

After all, that guy looked very pathetic.

He kept company with Necromancer Fidel and they were considered a pair of weirdos of the territory. They also made people laugh on ordinary days.

But if the territory wanted to develop technologically, it still needed to rely on a professional.

The Dark Iron Dwarves had already disappeared, while the Sha clans mostly just dabbled a bit and were only making firearms that weren't that powerful.

The technology of the Ancient Gnomes was able to found an empire. Even if they couldn't completely develop the territory, if they could make a few constructs to protect the territory, that would be more than enough.

The most important matter was still to tempt these two Gnomes.

Marvin believed that the key to that was the Mechanical Titan.

The Ancient Gnomes' Sanctuary definitely didn't have this kind of weapon. With the Ancient Gnomes' infatuation with machinery, if the Mechanical Titan could be moved to White River Valley, these two would naturally follow.

As for the Sanctuary, it also needed Purple Fire Crystal.

Marvin had already asked and the amount of Purple Fire Crystal required for the Sanctuary and the Mechanical Titan were on two completely different levels.

When the two brothers decided to sneak out, it was only to try their luck.

If one said that the Mechanical Titan needed a Purple Fire Crystal the size of a fist, then the amount of Purple Fire Crystal the Sanctuary needed was the size of a small hill.

In this era, it was almost impossible to find so much.

In other words, the return of the Ancient Gnomes to Feinan was already inevitable.

The two brothers weren't dumb and had realized this, so they merely followed Ivan and Marvin to the western coast of Feinan Continent for the Mechanical Titan.

...

In the Pearl Tower, Mark 47's answer to the question was outside his expectations:

"Purple Fire Crystal, that thing is very valuable."

"Sometimes I would have one as a snack when I was in a very good mood..."

Marvin almost spat blood.

Purple Fire Crystal, such a valuable thing was actually considered food by this strange construct?

How strong was this guy?

Sure enough, things related to God Lance couldn't be measured with common sense.

The construct hesitated for a while before handing a chunk of Purple Fire Crystal the size of half of a fist to Marvin, while saying with a pained expression, "50 000 isn't worth so much."

Marvin laughed mischievously. "But since I didn't get any information from your memories in this Memory Chip, this should make up for it."

Mark 47 was at a loss. He seemed to be in an ill temper and grumpily sent Marvin away.

Marvin held the Purple Fire Crystal, and although he didn't know what memory put the construct in such a bad mood, he still obediently left the Pearl Tower.

This wasn't a place where he could behave as he wished.

Even after the Great Calamity, the Gods didn't dare to take half a step into the City of Knowledge.

This place was also the first location in Feinan where a Source of Fire's Order was ignited.

This was definitely related to Mark 47.

As for those secrets, if he kept helping him, he would certainly find a way to learn about them.

...

Marvin immediately left the Pearl Tower and returned to Hope City.

The appearance of the crystal almost made the two Ancient Gnomes go crazy, but when they found out that Marvin's Purple Fire Crystal originated from the Pearl Tower, they were left in shock.

They no longer asked any more questions, making Marvin curious.

After Marvin inquired carefully, the brothers mumbled an answer that unsettled Marvin.

The destruction of the Ancient Gnome Empire that year was apparently related to the City of Knowledge.

They weren't too clear about the specifics, but the elders of the Sanctuary kept warning them that they shouldn't approach that Pearl Tower to the south.

Even for the Purple Fire Crystal, they wouldn't dare to approach Wind Castle.

In the words of those Ancient Gnomes, a frightening Devil resided there.

Marvin didn't believe those tales, but analyzed the information.

The circumstances of the empire's destruction were very strange. When the High Elves arrived there, besides the Ancient Gnomes sealed in the Sanctuary, the others had all been exterminated.

No one knew what had happened.

In this regard, there was no mention from the nearby City of Knowledge. When the people dispatched by the High Elven King paid a visit, they also avoided the question.

The record on the History Calendar was also surprising:

[Eve of the 2nd Era, Ancient Gnome Empire destroyed overnight. Reason unknown.]

Regardless of which kind of Divination spell was used, the results were always useless, making everyone puzzled.

Marvin always thought that there was a big conspiracy behind this, just like the Great Calamity that was about to happen. It felt like there was a hand manipulating everything from behind the scenes.

Was his transmigration a result of someone manipulating the board too?

Thinking of this, Marvin couldn't help but feel a bit bitter.



What he could do was very limited. He could only protect the people near him.

...

With the help of the Ancient Gnome brothers, Marvin loaded the Purple Fire Crystal in the Mechanical Titan's energy system.

In the operating room, the screen regained its shine after a long time.

Energy Display: 68%. This was considered pretty decent. But with the scarcity of the Purple Fire Crystal nowadays and the consumption of the Titan, Marvin had to save everything he could.

After using his card and locking himself as the one with the highest authority, he magnanimously gave secondary rights to the Gnome brothers.

Zac and David were greatly moved. If not for the race and gender being different, they might have given him their hearts.

The Mechanical Titan was originally designed for Ancient Gnomes and Marvin couldn't sit properly in it, preventing him from controlling it perfectly.

As for the two Gnomes, they almost mastered the Mechanical Titan's controls after some time inside.

They also activated the enlarging and shrinking rune of the Mechanical Titan and reduced it to a tiny Titan that could fit on a palm, suitable to carry around.

With that, Marvin settled everything on the western coast.

After bidding farewell to the three sisters, Marvin and Ivan took the two Gnome brothers to the teleportation array in Ruins City.

The smell of the forest assaulted their senses. This refreshed Marvin, who had been wandering in the Dead Area for a while.

But the news the Elves told him didn't let him relax.

While he had been gone, White River Valley received the highest sanctions of the South Wizard Alliance!

The reason was very "pompous," with the White Elephant Chamber of Commerce appearing personally, testifying that Marvin stole one of their ships.

The South Wizard Alliance was thinking of taking away Marvin's Viscount title and taking White River Valley under their jurisdiction.

Especially in the past week, the wording of the Alliance had become more and more severe.

Needless to say, this was a plot from Dark Phoenix.

Hearing this, Marvin knew that he had to return.

He felt a bit strange though. There should be many Legends supporting his territory. Was the South Wizard Alliance so blind?

Carrying these doubts, he used the Book of Nalu to contact Madeline to come and send him back.

But how could he have expected that after the Teleportation Door opened, she would come out with a very pale face and her white dress covered in blood?!

Chapter 396: Crisis After Crisis

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

Madeline's injury was very serious but under the control of the Book of Nalu, she had to comply with Marvin's order and open a Teleportation Door.

Marvin held his breath, coldness flashing through his eyes.

He left only for so long and something like this happened to his territory?

Even seriously injuring Madeline?

The South Wizard Alliance was indeed a puppet of Dark Phoenix.

He had overlooked this point before. After all, White River Valley was a genuine territory of the Alliance in name.

The Alliance gave Marvin his power and without him making a mistake, they couldn't easily strip him of it.

But this time, with Dark Phoenix working behind the scenes, everything changed.

Most of the Legend Wizards didn't know about the upcoming disaster.

Only a small minority knew some inside information, while the rest of the Wizards of the Alliance were tricked by Dark Phoenix.

This time, there were two Legend Wizards putting pressure on White River Valley, and there was military suppression from both the east and the west.

This was something neither Marvin nor the others had anticipated.

The entire Jewel Bay was alarmed and rumors were spreading that Viscount Marvin had offended a heavyweight of the Alliance, because otherwise there definitely wouldn't be such a situation.

Some even whispered that Viscount Marvin had already died, claiming that his corpse had been seen. Because he betrayed the Alliance, he had been punished by a higher-up.

This rumor was most likely the work of Dark Phoenix. Due to the Book of Nalu, she had seen Marvin dying to the fake Hathaway.

But he hadn't expected that Dark Phoenix wouldn't be satisfied after supposedly killing him, still aiming at White River Valley.

They attacked on the basis of requiring Marvin to return the Southie, but Marvin knew that even if the Southie was given back to them, the Alliance would still act against his people.

When the time came, the soldiers wouldn't be able to avoid fighting.

...

Marvin quickly bid farewell to Ivan and returned to River Shore City with Madeline.

The current River Shore City was also in a depressed mood due to the incoming trouble.

Many nobles had left the city at the call of the Alliance.

A huge army had been formed from the forces of the great nobles in Jewel Bay and the soldiers were already approaching River Shore City.

They demanded that Madeline open the main road since their target was White River Valley and not River Shore City.

That point was understandable.

The Alliance was controlled by Dark Phoenix and wouldn't attack an unrelated Legend Wizard for no reason.

But Madeline was unyielding and wouldn't allow any of them through the main road.

Because the Shrieking Mountain Range separated White River Valley from Jewel Bay, the army could only get to White River Valley through River Shore City.

River Shore City turned into a barricade to hold back the northern power.

But this barricade wasn't secure.

The one leading the army was Dark Phoenix's disciple, Legend Wizard Monica.

She had gotten a lot of pointers from Dark Phoenix and was regarded as one of the strongest people of the South Wizard Alliance.

Madeline had become a Legend quite recently and was then stripped of her evil side by Marvin, leading to her strength decreasing substantially.

Both of them fought outside River Shore City and Madeline got injured while going all-out to block the army.

She couldn't hold on for too long.

On one hand, she was already wounded and on the other hand, her Barrier over the city wouldn't last more than three days.

Two days had already passed when Marvin called for her.

Another day and Monica's army would likely have invaded the city.

The situation in River Shore City was rather unstable right now.

Many people had already fled.

Most of those left behind were the people too poor to leave who could only resign themselves to their fates, and the rest were Madeline's most loyal subordinates.

And this wasn't the worst news.

The Alliance was attacking White River Valley from both sides.

On the sea, there was a fleet led by the White Elephant Chamber of Commerce, including slave-trading ships repurposed into warships, and even the shadow of the Black Sails Fleet.

The Pirate King had even appeared in person.

This news coming from Jewel Bay spread wildly to both White River Valley and River Shore City.

It was clear that they were preparing to land in Sword Harbor and pincer attack White River Valley.

This kind of move startled the entire South.

Everyone was speculating about the true motives.

What was the South Wizard Alliance doing after all?

Marvin was the most prosperous noble lately. He had met many Legends and had personally gotten rid of an Evil Spirit Plane!

This kind of person could be called a hero... and the Alliance was acting against his territory?

This was very baffling.

But not everything had an answer.

All they knew for sure was that this time, White River Valley was really in danger.

And at such a critical juncture, a piece of information came from White River Valley: Viscount Marvin truly wasn't in his territory.

That guy had left for some unknown place.

...

In the tower, Madeline managed to recover somewhat and told Marvin roughly what had happened.

After Marvin finished listening, his expression was heavy.

For Dark Phoenix to do so much, she must have a goal.

Otherwise, she wouldn't have broken her millennium of lying low and enduring.

Anyone with a discerning eye could see that this move by the Alliance was Dark Phoenix suppressing Marvin.

And a few people had realized that Hathaway was sealed in ice in the Black Coral Islands.

Everyone could only sigh at the fate of Viscount Marvin and White River Valley.

If Hathaway was there, even if Dark Phoenix wanted to make a move on White River Valley, it would have been more complicated.

At least three Legend Wizards of the Alliance stood on Marvin's side:

Ashes Tower's Hathaway, Thunder Tower's Leymann, and Madeline.

Unfortunately, Leymann had been sent on to a very dangerous place on an assignment, which was said to be a task given by Dark Phoenix herself.

With Leymann sent away and Hathaway frozen in ice, only Madeline was left, but it was hard for her to withstand alone.

Furthermore, Dark Phoenix chose the best moment to attack.

Before the Great Calamity, the Alliance's strength could be exploited.

And after the news of the upcoming Great Calamity, the Legends who had been staying in White River Valley had left to start their preparations.

They all had friends or forces they needed to contact.

O'Brien went north to gather all the Night Walkers to the Thousand Leaves Forest. The old Shadow Thief went north, the Heavenly Deer disappeared, and the Great Druids also rushed north to the Migratory Bird Council. Even Constantine went to the Saint Desert to notify the remaining Sha clans of the upcoming danger.

White River Valley was facing a major crisis.

Moreover, the place was like a headless dragon, as Daniela and Wayne were unable to make the people feel at ease.

It could be said that White River Valley needed Marvin now more than ever.

But Marvin didn't panic.

He thought about the situation carefully and then asked, "You said that your Barrier will fail tomorrow and Monica will be able to charge in at that time?"

Madeline nodded sharply.

Marvin revealed a cold smile. "In that case, Monica is dead."

Madeline looked at Marvin in disbelief. The latter took out the Shadow Diamond.

His aura began to rise continuously!

His gaze was extremely firm.

It was time!

Advancement, Ruler of the Night!

Chapter 397: Ruler of the Night!

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

In the tower outside River Shore City, a frightening aura filled the air.

The aura of the Shadow Diamond was overflowing and even Madeline couldn't approach.

A black star flickered in her eyes. The Book of Nalu seemed restless, as if wary of Marvin's advancement.

She couldn't get any closer because her injury was too severe.

This was also a reason Marvin dared to advance here!

After a short time, the Book of Nalu seemed to have understood the situation and allowed Marvin to advance to Ruler of the Night.

Madeline returned to normal and activated the Wizard Tower's Barrier to stop the aura of his advancement from leaking.

...

In the eternal darkness, Marvin was standing alone.

These logs appeared in his interface:

[Shadow Diamond activated...]

[Absorbing the Shadow Diamond's Domain power...]

[Advancement requirements met...]

[Advance to Ruler of the Night?]

Marvin confidently chose yes!

The next second, the Shadow Diamond's power poured into Marvin's body.

He'd already had enough experience and his classes had reached the requirements. He only needed an opportunity.

Marvin could feel his strength growing continuously, which felt rather enjoyable.

This was the reason he went all-out to get the Shadow Diamond in Glynos' temple.

Without this artifact, he simply couldn't advance to the powerful class, Ruler of the Night!

More and more power poured into his body and the interface was refreshing crazily.

All the logs were in chaos!

Fortunately, after some time, the interface stabilized!

[Advancement to Ruler of the Night successful!]

[You obtained a Legend attribute point]

[You successfully obtained the class: Ruler of the Night]

Marvin took a deep breath!

He had been waiting for this day, waiting for so long!

He finally had the strength to stand off against this plane's Legends!

Now, his class list had changed:

[Ranger Lv10 – Night Walker Lv10 – Ruler of the Night Lv1]

[Subclasses: Shapeshift Sorcerer Lv6 – Battle Gunner Lv1]

After becoming a Legend, all the levels of classes below Legend rank were no longer counted in the total level. Level 20 would be the base before adding Legend levels.

The current Marvin had reached the level 21 Legend Realm!

But it wasn't over yet. Although the advancement to Ruler of the Night had completed, the gains had just started showing up!

...

Another log appeared.

[Detection of Domain power in the Shadow Diamond, able to choose one:]

[Shadow/Mystery/Slaughter/Fear]

This was a unique characteristic of Legend Powerhouses, having a Domain!



A Domain was a Legend's trademark and was also a part of having an understanding of the planar laws.

Naturally, he could choose other Domains besides the four offered by the Shadow Diamond. The Ranger class offered [Forest/Impartiality] while the Night Walker class offered [Night/Wind/Disguise]. All these Domains could be chosen.

Regretfully, he could only select one Domain to rule as a new Legend.

He unhesitantly chose [Shadow]!

He had been in contact with the Shadow Prince in both lives, and this Domain was very broad. It was also the Domain that Marvin understood the most.

But he hadn't expected the log to pop out with this sentence:

[You already possess the Shadow Domain, choose another one.]

Marvin froze and checked his interface carefully. He was stunned to discover that after his advancement to Ruler of the Night, his Shapeshift Sorcerer class actually gave him an extra Domain, [Shadow]!

But he wasn't too startled, because he could see how it happened.

When he got that page of the Book of Nalu, he gained the innate spell, Shadow Doppelganger. Later, when activating his Numan bloodline, he also obtained the Shapeshift Sorcerer's Shadow-shape.

In other words, the trait of the Shadow Domain naturally flowed in his bloodline. During his advancement to Legend, the Shadow Diamond gave so much power that it directly activated his bloodline, giving him an extra Domain.

This was such a huge benefit!

Sure enough, some bloodlines were really worth it.

Marvin was overjoyed. A new Legend with two Domains! Surely no one would expect that?

Even a Seer like Hathaway only had [Ashes].

Ashes was a Domain of extreme destruction. If she could walk further in this Domain, she would have very frightening destructive power.

...

As for the remaining Domains, Marvin gave up on the three Domains of the Night Walker class. Whether it was [Night], [Wind], or [Disguise], they were either useless to him or somewhat redundant.

The Ranger's [Forest] and [Impartiality] were even more incompatible with his development path.

He still needed to choose from the three Domains remaining in the Shadow Diamond.

[Mystery] was definitely a no go. This was the peak Domain of slyness and craftiness, but wasn't suitable with Ruler of the Night.

Only two were left. [Slaughter] and [Fear] and both were very frightening.

Marvin hesitated a bit before ultimately choosing [Slaughter].

He was a territory's Overlord. Everything he did was to guard his territory and protect the people around him.

He didn't want to become cut off from others. If he wanted to progress in the Fear Domain, he would have to instill terror in the hearts of many.

This wasn't something Marvin was willing to accept.

Slaughter was much better because with the upcoming Great Calamity, he would have many enemies to kill.

Moreover, this domain could make his fighting strength soar. Originally, Ruler of the Night was famous for its capabilities in battle. With the addition of the Slaughter Domain, Marvin had the confidence to fight with those old Legends!

Even if Black Knight Sangore was there, he would destroy him!

...

After choosing his Domain, his next step was to choose his Legend specialties!

These were what the Legends relied on to stand tall above all others.

The number of specialties provided for Marvin to choose from as a Ruler of the Night exceeded sixty!

And he could only pick ten.

This time, he didn't make a quick decision. He browsed each specialty's description in detail.

He even made a draft and copied many combinations of specialties to get a better look.

After no less than two hours, Marvin let out a long breath.

He made his final decision and chose the following specialties:

[Astral Connection]: Each month you can make a trip to the Astral Sea (Not Astral Plane).

[Immemorial Darkness]: Eternal Night duration is increased (500%).

[Death Immunity]: Immunity to Instant Death spells.

[Curse Agreement]: Substantial increase in resistance to curses.

[Eternal Night Banish]: During the night, you have a certain chance of being able to banish someone that isn't stronger than you into another space for some amount of time.

[Double Efficiency]: When using a skill or ability, there is a chance of having its effect doubled.

[Short Weapons Greatmaster]: You can use curved daggers and straight daggers interchangeably, and their masteries will be at least Greatmaster.

[Shadow Home]: The Shadow Plane has become your home, allowing you to move there freely.

[Shadow Sneak Attack]: You can freely appear and disappear in any shadowy region.

[Ruler of the Night]: During the night, all your attributes temporarily increase by 20%.

...

Ten Legendary specialties and each of them was extremely powerful.

Their specific effects would definitely manifest themselves in the upcoming battles.

But the might of the Ruler of the Night class didn't only depend on these specialties.

Advancing to Level 1 Ruler of the Night, Marvin's HP went up by 1000 and he gained 60 Legend skill points.

He instantly spent all of them on one skill.

[Summon Shadow Dragon (60)]: You can summon Shadow Dragons from the Shadow Plane to fight for you. Duration 15 minutes.

The quantity of Shadow Dragons depended on the skill points.

Marvin smiled. He knew the maths behind it. It was about 10 SP for one Shadow Dragon.

60 SP meant he could summon 6 Shadow Dragons to fight for him!

Each Shadow Dragon was at least level 18!

In general, summoning six things at the same time was the limit imposed by the plane's laws.

But Marvin found a clever way to break through this limit.

Among his Legend specialties, there was [Double Efficiency]. This was something he chose after careful deliberation in order to match his skills!

If Double Efficiency was triggered, he would be able to break through the restriction of the plane's laws and summon 12 Shadow Dragons!

And he had 19 Dark Knights!

A Ruler of the Night didn't only mean being a Legend powerhouse, it also meant having an army!

Even a Legend with very powerful dueling abilities would have no choice but to withdraw when faced with Marvin's group assault!

Twelve Dragons were enough to start a war!

Not to mention that he had other means too.

Moreover, even in duels, a Ruler of the Night wasn't a bit inferior to a Pale Hand!

He had waited for this day for so long!

Marvin clenched his fists!

Dark Phoenix, it's time to settle our debt!

...

The dark aura gradually disappeared from the Wizard Tower. Marvin remained sitting calmly on the ground. The Shadow Diamond in his hand had already become an empty shell.

Madeline was trembling in a corner.

She didn't feel a powerful aura coming from Marvin, but her instincts told her that the current Marvin was very frightening!

This was the Book of Nalu warning her.

In the distant obscurity of the Underdark, a female Drow who was preparing a terrifying plot suddenly shook.

She couldn't help but mumble to herself, "Master... So powerful..."

...

The next evening. The Barrier that covered River Shore City and the main road disintegrated.

In the eyes of River Shore City's defenders, there was no hope.

Lady Madeline had already been injured, and they had nothing left.

Outside the shattered Barrier, a woman wearing flamboyant clothes smiled charmingly while looking at the pale Madeline. "Open the path obediently, little Succubus. Persisting will only result in throwing away your life."

But at that time, a thin silhouette appeared at her side.

In a calm tone, he said, "I'd like to know, what is the reason for the Alliance to attack a legitimate noble's territory?"

T/N: Don't forget to shower us with stones. 😊

Chapter 398: Powerful!

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

The originally noisy battlefield went silent at Marvin's sudden appearance!

He seemed to carry an aura that made people not dare to talk.

The Alliance's punitive army led by Monica looked at Marvin in consternation.

This guy wasn't dead?

Lady Monica had clearly confirmed that he had died!

Monica herself had a sudden change in her expression.

But as a disciple of Dark Phoenix, her ability to adapt to the change in situation wasn't bad.

She sneered, "You finally appear now that the Arcane Barrier has shattered? Viscount Marvin, why didn't you personally answer the Alliance's previous order, letting your younger brother answer as a Proxy Overlord instead?"

Marvin nonchalantly answered, "I wasn't in the territory."

Monica smiled sweetly. "Such a coincidence, something like that happened and the Overlord wasn't in his territory."

"But regardless, the Alliance's sanctions have already been issued. From now on, you'll be deprived of your Viscount title and White River Valley will be returned to the Alliance."

Marvin was still as calm as before. "You have no right to do so."

"Hahahaha!"

On the battlefield, a Barbarian sitting on a very large wolf laughed loudly. "Kid, the right to do something is a matter of power."

He smiled and pointed at the densely packed army behind him. "Kid, look. This is power."

The complexion of River Shore City's defenders flushed red.

This time, the South Wizard Alliance was determined to destroy Marvin and didn't even bother to reason.

...

Marvin glanced at that Barbarian. "Who are you?"

"This great Lord is the general of the Hundred War Legion! A third of the land south of the Millenium Mountain Range has been opened up by this great Lord," the Barbarian bragged.

"But a country bumpkin like you not knowing is very normal," he finished with a sneer.

"I want to know your name," Marvin said.

The Barbarian laughed as he replied, "Kid, you are really interesting. This great Lord's name is Leonhardt..."

Suddenly, his laughter came to an end!

A shadow appeared behind him as fast as lightning and a blade fell down!

His head rolled!

Blood splashed around.

"Woosh!"

Marvin returned to his original position, his two daggers still at his waist as if they had never been unsheathed.

He had a cold expression as he drawled, "Good, the first to die was Leonhardt."

"Who is next?"

...

Marvin's words created a commotion!

Especially in the personal armies of the other Overlords. They were used to being tyrannical and overbearing in their own territories. Who would dare provoke them like that?!

That guy was threatening an entire army... alone?

There were no less than five thousand people, along with a 200-man regiment of Wizards gathered by the South Wizard Alliance!

He dared to make such a move under everyone's eyes?!

Moreover, on General Leonhardt, who had some prestige in the South Wizard Alliance?!

This Barbarian not only led the troops bravely in battle but was also proficient in military management and was one of the rare heroes of the Alliance.

Although he hadn't reached the Legend realm, he had been a Level 20 Half-Legend.

But Marvin killed him effortlessly!

Such strength was unfathomable.

...

The people that realized this held their breaths.

At that time, Marvin no longer bothered hiding his aura.

The sun was disappearing on the horizon as night was about to arrive.

On the dusky battlefield, a frightening aura covered the army!

It even startled those two hundred Wizards!

Legend!

This definitely was a Legend realm powerhouse and an exceptional one at that. He was releasing such an intimidating aura.

Monica blanched in shock again!

From the start, she hadn't expected Marvin to appear. After all, Dark Phoenix had assured her that Marvin was dead. And furthermore, Marvin appeared in such a dramatic way.

A Legend powerhouse!

Even if he couldn't win the war alone, he would easily affect the soldiers' morale.

No person wanted to fight a Legend. In general, the status of Legend powerhouses was very high and few would want to come into conflict with them.

Besides the Legend who led the group, the South Wizard Alliance usually didn't have an Overlord that was also a Legend.

But Marvin's appearance broke this convention!

...

"Sir Marvin... He is already a Legend!"

"Heavens! This aura is too frightening..."

"We want to deal with a hero who destroyed an Evil Spirit Plane? A Legend powerhouse? I'm not dreaming right?"



These kinds of voices were faintly audible in the punitive army.

Leonhardt's death not only failed to rouse their desire to fight, but triggered their fear instead!

Because the aura emitted by Marvin was not only his own; there was still a part of the aura inherited from the Night Monarch's remnant soul.

What kind of person was the Night Monarch? The number of beings that died at his hands was immeasurable. His aura would naturally test the wills of most people!

Marvin was standing there while facing the whole army alone!

He had asked, "Who is next?"

But he was actually staring at Monica.

If the one leading the army to battle was Leonhardt, then Monica was the one leading the Wizard Corps.

It was also this Legend Wizard who injured Madeline.

River Shore City's defenders had immediately felt some hope and their morale shot up!

They didn't expect that after a few days, Sir Marvin would have already reached the unfathomable Legend Realm.

Many people present had attacked the Scarlet Monastery with Marvin and knew of his previous strength.

How long had it been? Yet now he was a Legend.

Such rapid growth could only be described as freakish.

...

Monica glared at Marvin as a bad feeling appeared in her heart.

This Marvin would always do such shocking things.

The destruction of the Decaying Plateau was an example.

And now, he was showing this strong attitude in front of a whole army.

Even a Legend powerhouse likely wouldn't win against such an army!

What gave him such confidence?

Monica had always been suspicious. Marvin's strength made her uneasy. He didn't die despite Dark Phoenix's assertion, after all. It would be better to report to her teacher.

But it was impossible to just retreat after mobilizing such a big army.

Today, they had to march on White River Valley no matter what, at least before the Pirate King landed at Sword Harbor.

Lady Dark Phoenix seemed to care a lot about this task and had promised a lot of rewards.

Monica was extremely interested in those.

Thus, after considering this, she sneered, "Viscount Marvin, could it be that you think you can contend with an army on your own?"

"Not to mention, we have powerful allies!"

After saying that, she took out a green bamboo flute and blew on it.

With a grave expression, Madeline informed, "No good, she wants to summon a powerful lifeform."

But Marvin casually said, "Let her."

Madeline froze.

She looked Marvin up and down.

The time the two had been in contact wasn't insignificant, and she had always felt that this guy was hiding something.

Or perhaps, he was afraid of something.

The current him was completely different.

He looked like a blade that had been concealing its strength for so many years and was finally unsheathed, showing off its overwhelming might!

As he stood there, although he was by himself, he felt like an army!

This was a feeling that could only be felt from great Legends.

Yet Marvin had only just entered the Legend realm.

What heights would he reach? Madeline couldn't imagine.

...

Outside River Shore City, the invading army and the defenders were facing off against each other.

Leonhardt's direct subordinates were extremely angry and wanted to lead the assault, but they were blocked by others.

Most of the wars of the South Wizard Alliance relied on the guidance of the Wizard Corps.

Monica was deliberately probing Marvin's strength, and the rest didn't dare to make a move casually.

She watched Marvin closely, afraid he would attack her by surprise like he did to Leonhardt.

She knew Marvin was a Ranger, but Legend Rangers weren't this overwhelming!

He certainly had a very powerful Legend class.

Monica didn't want to put herself in danger, so she used a treasure Dark Phoenix had given her before she left.

Not long after, a thunderous sound came from the horizon.

A huge and imposing shadow was approaching!

"Roar!"

It was a Dragon's roar coming from the distance!

It felt distant yet close, low in volume at first, before becoming increasingly more thunderous!

The entire battlefield was affected. The soldiers with weak willpower were even frightened into falling to the ground!

A Dragon!

Despair immediately appeared on the faces of River Shore City's defenders!

They hadn't expected the Alliance to be so ruthless to use the power of a Dragon!

This was a Black Dragon! His enormous form flew over while covering the horizon.

Even Madeline paled in worry!

With their current strength, they simply wouldn't be able to resist a Black Dragon.

River Shore City's defenders had just seen some hope before losing their spirit again. If not for being in a battle formation, there might already have been deserters!

That wouldn't be shameful because this was a lifeform at the peak of the food chain!

A genuine Black Dragon!

The Dragon descended lazily on the battlefield, withdrawing his wings. "Who called me?"

Monica smiled courteously. "Respected Izaka, it is me."

She raised the green flute in her hand.

The Black Dragon snorted and a gust spread through the battlefield. He muttered, "So it was this contract."

"Very well, what do you need me to do?"

Monica smiled but didn't speak as she pointed toward Marvin.

Who could have guessed that Marvin would suddenly address the Black Dragon with a smile as he approached?

"Turns out you are called [Izaka]..."

"Long time no see."

A spear appeared out of nowhere in his hand.

The Dragon stopped his eyes on Marvin and suddenly let out a mournful shriek, "It's you!?"

"Damn... Smelly woman, you fucking want to kill me?"

As he said this, the Black Dragon changed his previously domineering posture and hurriedly flapped his wings, wanting to escape!

His two vicious eyes were actually filled with fear!

“You want to flee? Isn’t that inappropriate?” Marvin taunted while pointing with his spear.

The Dragon responded, trembling, “Sir Robin, I was truly only passing by...”

Monica was watching the scene, dumbstruck!

The soldiers on both sides were at a loss.

They were rubbing their eyes in bewilderment. Were they really watching a Black Dragon trying to escape after being scared by a Human?

That’s not how it’s supposed to happen!

Chapter 399: Rise

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

The Black Dragon slightly lowered his head, his wings stiffening!

Although he was an Ancient Dragon, he was a Black Dragon!

Black Dragons didn’t have magic and could only rely on their strongest physical bodies to rampage across the land.

They rarely met any threatening nemeses.

But Marvin was an exception.

He was brandishing the Dragon Slaying Spear while his body was emitting an aura frightening enough to make Izaka shiver!

Others might not recognize Marvin, but he certainly couldn’t forget him!

Counting Clarke, a total of four Black Dragons had died at his hands!

And furthermore, he hadn’t even been a Legend at the time.

Now that he had advanced, as Marvin held Weeping Sky in his hands, Black Dragon Izaka had a feeling that if he wanted to escape, he wouldn’t get far!

This was a primal instinct but it was very accurate.

He shivered, not only because he could hear the bellowing of the souls of countless Dragons that had died to the spear, but also because of the powerful aura emanating from Marvin’s body.

Marvin was still walking over.

The Black Dragon hesitated and shockingly lowered his head.

Marvin followed along his head and slowly climbed on his back.

The Black Dragon turned to face the army of Jewel Bay's nobles.

They were already completely terrified!

The sudden change in the situation left everyone unable to react.

"Of the Black Dragons, only you and a female Dragon remain, right?" Marvin asked casually.

The Black Dragon shook and softly whimpered, "Sir Robin, please be lenient."

"As long as you can give me a way to live, no matter the conditions, I'll follow them."

"The Black Dragon race will thank you for the kindness of sparing us," he said very sincerely. Only two Black Dragons were left in Feinan, so if Marvin killed one, their race would eventually be completely exterminated.

Everyone shivered when they heard this, finally understanding something.

"Dragon Slayer Robin!"

"Marvin is Dragon Slayer Robin?!"

"Heavens! How powerful is he!? Even a Black Dragon lowered its head!"

The soldiers from Jewel Bay were completely in disarray!

They weren't a powerful unified army, but rather a temporary coalition of the personal armies of each big noble of Jewel Bay.

These troops were normally used to handle common people and would rarely fight monsters. Meeting such a disaster on the battlefield, they were simply unable to cooperate.

The nobles were only thinking of preserving their own forces, and even more so now that General Leonhardt died. The temporary leaders didn't have any way of controlling them.

And the Wizard Corps was also acting like a restless nest of bees!

They were unlikely to desert since after all, they were led by a Legend Wizard, but the war was gradually deviating from its original path!

...

Hearing the Black Dragon's words, Marvin didn't say anything.

He only faintly smiled and pointed the Dragon Slaying Spear toward the punitive army.

Monica's face became deathly pale!

She couldn't help but berate, "Black Dragon Izaka! We have a contract..."

"Go fuck your contract!"

Izaka's hate toward Monica had already reached an extreme!

If not for that woman, would he have been caught by this frightening killing monster?

He reminisced about when he rampaged across the entire continent as a majestic Ancient Black Dragon, an existence that couldn't be threatened. But now he could only bow his head to a Human, which made him extremely depressed!

Not long ago, he had still been ridiculing those Dragon races that used Magic for being too weak, using their special skills to fight while the Black Dragons were overpowered with just their physical bodies.

Now, he hated it!

If he had some magic, he might have had a way out!

Although the Dragon Slaying Spear was pointed at the punitive army, he could feel that whenever Marvin wanted, it could come down.

At that time, his life would inevitably come to an abrupt end!

The Black Dragon was very irritated.

He could only vent on that woman and the army behind her!

What bullshit contract?

This Great Dragon doesn't care!

An angry flame flickered in Black Dragon Izaka's eyes as his stomach reddened!

“Drop dead!” the Black Dragon bellowed.

He raised his head and aimed at that woman in the sky!

Monica shouted in alarm, “No good! It’s a Lava Breath! Dodge!”

The Wizard Corps behind her was in disarray.

Besides Monica, who had a high resistance to Dragon Might, the rest couldn’t dodge quickly enough.

The lava spurted out of the Black Dragon’s belly like a volcano erupting!

In an instant, bright flames burst across the dusky battlefield, soon followed by mournful sounds.

What Arcane Barrier? In front of a Lava Breath, it became nothing!

Some didn’t even get to utter a sound before turning to ashes from the Lava Breath’s heat!

One Dragon Breath exterminated half of the Wizard Corps!

Monica was startled and angry, having trouble taking in what was happening. She didn’t know how the situation could have developed to this stage.

Everything had been going so smoothly, but it changed with the appearance of Marvin!

She gnashed her teeth in anger while glaring at Marvin and preparing a Legendary Spell.

...

“You go exterminate that army. Don’t play tricks with me. If you escape, I’ll catch you.”

Marvin lightly took a step and suddenly disappeared!

Black Dragon Izaka nodded hurriedly.

Marvin had entered the Shadow Plane!

That sense of death that had been pressuring the Black Dragon suddenly disappeared, relieving him.

He instinctively wanted to escape but unfathomably felt a pair of eyes watching him.



He didn't dare to try to flee.

He could only vent his anger on the punitive army!

The Wizard Corps was already out. Facing the berserk Black Dragon, the Human troops were simply no match!

They had attacked White River Valley this time in order to easily earn some military merits. They didn't even bring siege weapons.

If the army had at least a few ballistas, the situation would be a lot better.

Unfortunately, they had none.

As mournful voices cried out, the Black Dragon rushed into the sea of people, his wings harvesting many lives!

The tyrannical Black Dragon was just venting his rage!

No one on the battlefield could fight him.

The victory seemed to have been in their hands, but now everyone was fleeing, unable to escape the Black Dragon's claws!

Large-scale massacres were common practice for Black Dragons.

In order to live, in order to vent, Izaka was going all out.

In few seconds, half of the army had fallen down on the ground, while the remaining people had scattered. The army had already collapsed!

Madeline and River Shore City's defenders looked at all this with disbelief.

The one leading the Knights was rubbing his eyes as he forced a smile. "I swear, this is the strangest scene I've seen in all my life!"

A young soldier at his side pointed out, "Sir Gordian, you also said that last time Lord Marvin challenged the Heavenly Sword Saint in the Scarlet Monastery!"

Gordian was speechless.

The group of soldiers around him couldn't help but laugh quietly.

The Black Dragon's Dragon Might wasn't covering them. It was only aimed at the enemies, and the defenders were also further away.

Thus, despite the terrible scene on the battlefield, they didn't feel too scared.

These people originally planned to share the inevitable fate of Madeline and River Shore City.

They hadn't expected the situation to end like that.

Regardless of what the Alliance decided to do to face Marvin's rise, they felt that the situation wasn't too bad.

Marvin had entered the Shadow Plane, and seeing Legend Wizard Monica's grave expression, she was clearly feeling great pressure from their great Overlord.

When she fought with Madeline before, she had been very relaxed.

Gordian had a complicated expression.

He recalled the first time he met Marvin. They met in the Plague Envoy's basement and the latter helped him behead the Plague Envoy.

At that time, Marvin was still wanted as Masked Twin Blades.

Now, Marvin was already a Legend he had to look up to.

'White River Valley will rise...'

This was what everyone in River Shore City thought.

...

In the Shadow Plane, the distorted space kept flowing over Marvin.

This sensation made him feel like a fish back in water.

In the past, he'd frequently been in contact with the Shadow Plane. This world was very magical and had countless points of contact with the Prime Material Plane.

He could see Monica's layers of defensive spells.

Legendary Distortion Field, Legendary Arcane Barrier, Legendary Undying Body, Legendary Ice Armor...

She was covered in all kinds of defensive spells, to the point that even her appearance was blurry.

'Truly afraid of death...' Marvin sneered.

But regardless, today was the day she would die!

After becoming a Legend, Marvin wouldn't hold back any longer.

So what if it was Dark Phoenix? At most, she could be only considered a Half-God right now!

If he couldn't defeat her alone, why not simply call up a group to beat her with numbers?

The Ruler of the Night class came with its own army!

Marvin knew that at level 2, the Ruler of the Night class had an aura that could buff armies! This must have been part of the reason the Night Monarch was able to fight his way through the Chaotic Era.

...

In the sky, Monica was staring at the Black Dragon wreaking havoc on the army and couldn't help feeling sour.

After Marvin vanished, she had cast many defensive spells on herself, afraid to act carelessly.

'He still hasn't appeared?'

'No good, I must let Teacher know. Marvin didn't die and even advanced to Legend...'

'I can't delay.'

Monica was anxious and frightened.

She bit her lip and opened a Teleportation Door!

But suddenly, a shadow appeared in front of her!

"Don't worry, your teacher will know about this."

"But you..."

"You won't be leaving this place!"

Before Marvin even finished his own words, he ruthlessly slashed down with his curved dagger!

Desperation Style!

Azure Leaf – Magic Penetration!

Chapter 400: Witch Ruler

Translator: Translation Nation Editor: Translation Nation

Monica had expected Marvin to strike at that moment!

In an instant, a pale green light flew out from her body and surrounded Marvin!

“I’ve been waiting for you for a very long time!” Monica sneered. “There is no Legend class that can contend with Legend Wizards!”

Despite being enveloped by that green light, Marvin just ridiculed with disdain on his face, “Too much nonsense!”

His movements weren’t hampered at all and Monica was surprised to see that curved dagger still slashing down!

The Magic Penetration property didn’t trigger on the first attack, but Marvin wasn’t worried.

Since he was in close range, Monica was already dead.

That green light was a curse that would debuff the target’s speed. Yet Marvin had the Curse Agreement specialty, which made him extremely resistant to curses. A curse like Monica’s simply had no effect on him.

Before Monica could finish any further spell preparations, the Desperation Style was displayed like a sudden gust of wind!

In an instant, Marvin attacked six times!

Magic Penetration eventually triggered a few times and the [Azure Leaf]s easily shattered the Arcane Barrier and the Distortion Field.

The last attack directly chopped Monica’s head!

“Woosh!”

Marvin swung a reverse slash and Monica’s head fell to the ground!

Her eyes were still wide open with disbelief at the events before her death.

A Legend Wizard able to cast earth-shattering spells was killed so effortlessly by Marvin.

This scene was astounding.

Monica died and the Alliance group had completely collapsed.

Faced with the might of the Black Dragon, everyone had dropped their armors and weapons, fleeing in chaos.

Half an hour later, only a pile of dead bodies remained on the battlefield.

At Madeline's direction, River Shore City's soldiers began piling the corpses up to burn them.

She did as Marvin told her and set up a sentry post on the northern part of the main road.

The news of the army returning after suffering a crushing defeat would definitely spread through Jewel Bay in a short amount of time.

As for the news of Marvin surviving and breaking into the Legend Realm, it couldn't be hidden either.

But that was the result Marvin wanted.

With the impending Great Calamity, it would take at least 20 days or so for the Alliance to gather their elites.

And within these 20 days, the world would see a chaotic change.

The Wizard Rule Era would end.

At that time, this conflict would die down because people would be concerned with how to live in this cruel world.

He made Madeline pay attention to the main road just in order to be prepared.

Under the worshipful gazes of River Shore City's inhabitants, Marvin stepped on the Black Dragon and headed east.

...

Black Coral Islands, in a dark hall. A black-gowned woman suddenly opened her eyes!

"Monica... actually died."

"Who did it? Madeline, that newly advanced Legend, simply doesn't have the capability! Could it be one of the other Legends associated with Marvin?"

After thinking for a bit, she grew agitated.

She then started mumbling something.

The Ancient God Language echoed in the hall and a lifelike scene appeared before her eyes.

In that scene, a man was standing on a Black Dragon and brandishing a spear while looking down on the world.

He had a faint smile on his face, apparently containing the hint of a sneer.

“Marvin!”

“What!?”

Dark Phoenix’s face contorted.

In this world, no one could deceive her perception.

She had already seen him on the brink of death at the hands of the fake Hathaway!

‘Could that have been faked?’

Dark Phoenix’s heart was beating crazily.

She faintly felt that there was an issue with her plan.

And it was because of this man!

She bit her lip, closed her eyes, and connected to that bit of Divine Source.

But how could she have expected that the Divine Source had already disappeared!

It wasn’t hidden, and it wasn’t that she just couldn’t get in touch with it... it had simply ceased to exist!

Dark Phoenix’s expression sank.

‘Even my Divine Source has been dealt with... And to be able to show me a fake scene... Only one thing is able to do that.’

Marvin had an Artifact in hand!

Only that Artifact could trick a Half-God’s senses.

“The Book of Nalu!”

Rage flashed through Dark Phoenix’s eyes.

Her cunning face became somewhat sinister.

‘No wonder you would rather pay this price to protect him.’

‘What’s that kid’s origin? How could he grow so fast?’

‘But the price to provoke me isn’t something you can afford!’

Dark Phoenix suddenly disappeared from the hall.

The next moment, she appeared outside the frozen isle.

“Hathaway, you really think I can’t break your Ice Crystal World?”

Cruelty flashed in Dark Phoenix’s eyes. A black flame appeared in her hand.

It grew in size and then suddenly flew toward the ice crystals.

Facing such a strange flame, the ice couldn’t resist and slowly melted.

Hathaway opened her eyes from within the ice. Her expression was peaceful. Facing the erosion from the black fire, she didn’t say a word.

In contrast, Dark Phoenix’s expression became increasingly more twisted and sinister.

“Your sweetheart is very troublesome. He not only avoided my chase, but also killed my disciple.”

Hathaway’s ice was gradually melting, and meanwhile, her body kept changing.

6 years old, 16 years old, 26 years old, the three phases kept cycling.

Her voice came out:

“You lost.”

Dark Phoenix showed a vile smile. “Whether I’ve lost has yet to be known, but today you’ll die.”

Hathaway remained silent and didn’t even try to resist the black fire’s power.

There seemed to be some issue with her body. The Legend aura was gradually being extinguished.

Dark Phoenix watched coldly. This kind of flame had the same origin as the Divine Fire that had harmed the Great Elven King. Hathaway certainly wouldn't be able to resist.

In the end, all the ice had melted and the black fire was wrapping around Hathaway.

She frowned in pain.

The black fire seemed like manacles that spread upward from her legs and gradually crushed her body.

In a short dozen seconds, Hathaway was turned into ashes!

Dark Phoenix finally had an air of satisfaction.

But suddenly, in the remains of the Divine Fire, the ashes gathered to form into a 16 year old Hathaway.

Dark Phoenix was stunned but immediately continued burning Hathaway.

Soon, Hathaway's 16 year old shape was burnt, leaving almost nothing behind.

Only ashes.

At that time, Dark Phoenix noticed something wrong.

This Divine Fire was supposed to burn everything. How could it leave ashes behind?

Sure enough, those ashes once again gathered and turned into a 6 year old child.

Her eyes were vacant.

Dark Phoenix was angry and kept burning her furiously.

She once again burned the 6 year old to ashes. From beginning to the end, she only frowned in pain, never letting out any sound.

This time, the ashes didn't recombine.

Dark Phoenix looked at these ashes doubtfully, about to collect them.

But before she approached, the ashes started to flicker with light.

Twelve aged shadows appeared from the light.



They seemed to be mumbling something.

Dark Phoenix was overwhelmed with shock!

Though very few would know of these twelve Witches' origins, Dark Phoenix, as a being from the 3rd Era with extensive knowledge, naturally knew about them.

They were the twelve aged Anzed Witches!

In the Anzed legends, the twelve Witches were the protectors of the Ashes Magic Precept.

Unfortunately, the Anzed had faded from history a long time ago. The twelve Witches were only considered myths and legends.

The twelve Witches mumbled and disappeared.

The ashes disappeared with them.

Dark Phoenix was distraught with anxiety and immediately waved her hand, summoning a fairy.

"Tell that fat pig to attack Sword Harbor immediately!"

"If they haven't seized White River Valley before dawn, he doesn't need to act as the Pirate King anymore!"

...

What Dark Phoenix didn't know was that the moment the ashes disappeared, a light slowly descended in the middle of Feinan's Millenium Mountain Range.

A 6 year old girl opened her eyes, at a loss.

Standing in front of her was a wrinkled old woman.

The little girl suddenly began to cry bitterly.

The old lady held her softly, her countenance filled with love.

"Don't be afraid, you broke the curse."

"The prophecy said that the person who breaks the curse will inevitably become the new Witch Ruler."

“You will quickly regain the power you lost. You will grow stronger than before, a lot stronger.”

The little girl couldn't stop sobbing. “I know, I know...”

“But... I seem to have forgotten many important things.”

“And something... Very important.”

The old lady was filled with grief. “This is the price of breaking the curse, child.”

“Don't worry. Maybe one day, you'll be able to recall them.”

“Remember your name. You are called Hathaway.”

Hathaway nodded. She wiped her tears and gradually smiled with joy. “I finally get to see you again, Mom...”

...

The mood in White River Valley was rather subdued.

The adventurers in the Adventurer Camp had long since withdrawn. Facing the Alliance's sanctions, everyone could see that the current White River Valley was on the verge of destruction. They didn't want to be affected.

The Shas didn't leave, though. They believed that their leader Constantine would lead them out of any predicament.

The interior of the castle seemed desolate. The leaders weren't present, as they had gone to Sword Harbor because it was the eastern barrier of White River Valley.

The west had Madeline and River Shore City to defend it, while Sword Harbor's defenses were very weak.

In the desolate White River Valley, only a few old men were sitting on their chairs, looking foolishly at the horizon.

At that time, a few furtive silhouettes appeared in White River Valley.

“Hahahaha, I said to circumvent the Crimson Cross and take the secret path.”

“The current White River Valley has no way out and most of their power is focused on defending their sides, so the power in the territory is definitely weak.”

“If we don't rob now, where would our reputation as the Black Hand Thieves go?”

A few people laughed wretchedly as they rushed in front of a few old men.

The fiercest of them sinisterly demanded, "Old man, give us everything you have!"