

Strongest Mage with the Lust system

Chapter 441: Forcing a king to obey?

Two weeks later...

An old woman and a young, blue-haired girl in purple dresses arrived at the gates of the royal capital of the Green Leaf kingdom.

"Grandma, can we really find aunt Hannah's family here?" The young girl asked.

The old lady looked at the giant city in front of her and shook her head. "I'm not sure, but we will surely find about their whereabouts. After that, we only need to go there and take back our family's heirloom."

The young girl nodded and then said annoyedly, "If grandma had recovered completely, we could force this kingdom's king to do our bidding, but now, sigh. We have to do everything ourselves."

"You little girl, you shouldn't always think like that. Although I'm strong, who can say for sure there isn't some old geezer hiding here?" The old woman said in a slightly reproachful tone.

Just then, a ridiculing voice mixed with some anger resounded from behind them, "So, you mean if there isn't any 'old geezer' hiding here, you can force the king to obey you, huh? How about you show me how powerful you are?"

Hearing the voice, the old woman sighed. She didn't want any trouble, but it seems her casually spoken words had hurt someone's sentiments and things might become troublesome.

Of course, she wasn't afraid of anyone from this tiny kingdom even if she had only recovered 30% of her peak strength, but if their pursuers found out that they were here, things would turn ugly for them.

Sighing, she turned around and saw a thirty or so old man in white embroidered clothes walking in their direction with some armored people following him. His brows were raised and his lips were curled into a mocking sneer.

"Young man, I apologise for speaking so freely. I hope you don't take it to your heart." The old lady said calmly, trying to end the matter.

However, it seemed the man wasn't willing to do it as he laughed loudly, attracting more people's attention to them. "Hahaha... what old hag? Weren't you boasting that you could force our king to obey you? What happened now? Got scared?"

Hearing this, the armored people behind him surrounded the old lady and the girl while the passers-by started murmuring amongst them.

"What? That old woman really said something so disrespectful?"

"She must have, or why would someone from the royal family would get angry at someone without reason?"

"If that's true, she should be punished severely."

"Why bother? Just kill her and be done with it."

"Sigh! Because of the old woman's words, not only would she be crippled or die, the beautiful young girl would also suffer. What a tragedy!"

...

Hearing the man's mocking words and the crowd's murmurs, the girl beside the old woman became angry. Taking a step forward, she shouted, "Scared? Are you kidding us? What worm are you? Why would we be scared of you? If you don't want to die, apologise to my grandma right now, since you won't get a chance later."

"Little Gene, sigh..." The old woman sighed and pulled her back. Now she was sure this matter won't end peacefully.

Boom!

Just as she expected, the man's face turned completely dark, and he released his aura with full force. The aura of a mid-stage four-star mage caused the people in his surroundings to feel suffocated.

Immediately after, his mana surged around him and conjured many green, triangular petals in the air. All of them were glowing faintly and radiated a very sharp aura. From one glance, one could see how lethal the green petals were.

"Woah! I didn't believe before but this young man in white is really from the royal family. As expected, not only is his green leaf bloodline overpowered, he is also very powerful. A middle-stage four-star mage at the age of just 30 years. It's amazing."

"Of course it is. If the royal family didn't have such talent, how could it have maintained its position as the royal family? You know the other families are just waiting for their strength to decline so they could rule the kingdom."

"Shhh! Keep it down if you don't want to die."

"However, isn't it irresponsible of him to use such a strong attack in a public place? What if it also killed common people?"

...

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

The armored warriors exchanged glances before their mana surged out. They didn't attack the old lady and little Gene but created a green barrier around them, so the man's attack wouldn't accidentally kill others.

"What did you just say?" The man asked through gritted teeth as he glared at Little Gene with murderous gaze.

"Mm?" The old lady's blue eyes turned cold when she noticed his killing intent and released her aura toward him.

Boom!

Bang!

Thud!

As her aura exploded out of her and hit the man, he was thrown away like a ragdoll, breaking the green barrier, and fell heavily to the ground.

"What!?" Everyone was flabbergasted by this scene. They couldn't believe their eyes for a while.

"Did... did I see that right? She defeated a four-star mage just by her aura?"

"Yeah. That seems to be the case."

...

The man in question was lying on the crater he formed upon crashing. His eyes were opened wide in disbelief as he muttered. "A... an emperor rank mage?"

At this moment, he forgot everything completely. He wasn't feeling embarrassed that he was beaten down like a dog in one move, neither he was thinking of taking revenge. The only thought in his mind right now was, 'I'm dead!'

He wasn't wrong to think that because an emperor ranked mage won't think twice before killing him, even if he belonged to the Green Leaf kingdom's royal family.

Moreover, the royal family wouldn't dare to say anything about it. Forget that, they would've to do everything to appease her so she wouldn't destroy their family.

'I'm an idiot. Couldn't have I just ended the matter when she apologised? Damn it!' He cursed himself for overestimating himself.

Just then, he heard a mocking voice, "Do you believe now my grandma can kill you or even force your lousy king to obey her?"

Chapter 442: The chaos is here!

The man struggled to move his body and saw the young girl looking at him with a disdainful expression on her face.

He didn't answer her, but looked at the old woman behind her.

Gulp!

Gulping nervously, he lowered his head toward her and apologised, "Senior, please forgive me for my offence. I didn't know who you were. Please spare this junior's insignificant life."

"Heh, of course you didn't know about her. If you knew, I doubt you would dare to disrespect us even if you had an emperor mage backing you." Little Gene laughed.

She was really furious at him. How dare he disrespect her grandma and even arouse his killing intent toward her? Therefore, she didn't want to waste any chance of mocking him.

The man still didn't say anything in response and acted as if she wasn't present at all. He knew if he didn't ignore her, he would definitely become angry at her and that would prompt the old woman to attack him. Perhaps the next attack would directly take his life.

The old woman glanced at the people around before she looked at him and said, "Take us to your king. We require his assistance."

The man, who was constantly sweating in fear thinking that she would kill him, immediately felt relief wash over him when he heard her and hurriedly nodded, "Yes, senior. Please follow me."

He stood up with difficulty, threw a golden healing pill in his mouth, and led her inside the city. The armored guards, who were frozen in their place from the moment the old woman released her aura, also followed them. Their eyes flashing with deep fear and reverence when they glanced at the old woman's back.

...

Vista city, Count Wiley's mansion...

In a luxurious hall, three middle-aged were sitting around a round table.

If Max was here, he would find that the one of the middle-aged men looked identical to Dalton, who wanted to marry Flavia. He was Dalton's father and the Dalton's family's current head, Dean Dalton. He wore golden embroidered robes, had a handsome squarish face, thick brows and narrowed eyes. One look at him and anyone could tell he wasn't a good person.

The man on his left side was Count Wiley. He had a handsome face, silver hair, silver-coloured eyes, and he also wore a beautiful silver-coloured robe, looking quite attractive for a middle-aged man. Another thing that stood out was a scar across his head.

Even though he was infamous for his treacherous and vile character among those who knew him well enough, he looked amiable, with a small, good-natured smile hanging on his lips.

The last man wore a white robe and had a silver mask on his face. From the feeling he gave just by sitting there, one could guess this man wasn't only strong but also was used to be in an influential position.

Count Wiley looked at the two men, his eyes lingering on the silver-masked man for a while longer and asked, "If you gentlemen don't mind, may I ask what brought the Lord masked ghost and sir Dean to my humble abode?"

The silver-masked man waved a hand. A painting of a bluish-purple sword appeared on the table in front of Count Wiley.

Seeing the painting, Count Wiley's eyes narrowed, and his smile gradually vanished. He gave Dean Dalton a profound look before looking at the silver-masked man questioningly.

"Was the sword used by your friend's wife the same as this one?" The silver-masked man asked in an even tone.

Wiley closed his eyes for a moment before nodding calmly, "Yes. It was the same."

"And it had thunder attribute?" The masked man asked again.

"That's correct." Wiley nodded calmly, but inside, he wasn't calm at all. He was constantly cursing Dean for telling the Royal family about the sword. That's right, the masked-man was from the Green Leaf kingdom's royal family.

Years ago, when he found out about the extraordinariness of Hannah's sword, he wasn't strong enough to snatch it from the Garfield family. Therefore, he had asked for Dean's, who is the husband of her sister, help.

At that time, he had struggled to hide the sword's existence. However, it seemed Dean had found about it.

'Why did you have to tell the royal family about it, you dumb bastard? Now, I won't be able to keep it for myself.' Wiley cried out in his heart.

After failing last time, he had been planning to take the sword from the Garfield family without causing a commotion like last time.

If he was given just a few more months, he would've acquired it and destroyed the Garfields too, with no one finding out about it. But it seemed all his efforts and planning were wasted now.

"I understand." The masked man nodded and stood up, calmly continuing, "Now you have two choices."

"First, I kill you right now. But I don't want to do that because you are my family's capable subordinate. Hence, I'm giving you the second choice: swear an oath on your heart to not divulge information about the sword and be forever loyal to my royal family. In exchange, not will I spare your life, but will also help you and your family move to the central continent."

Wiley's brows furrowed before he suddenly started laughing. "Hahahaha! I know the famous silver-masked ghost is very strong. However, do you really think you can kill me so easily?"

Whoosh!

Saying this, he took out a black talisman from his spatial ring.

When the talisman appeared, both Dean and the masked man felt a sense of life-threatening danger wash over them.

"This... is this a witch's destruction talisman? How can you posses such a thing?" Dean asked in disbelief while looking at the black talisman with a terrified gaze.

"Haha! That's right. It's a witch's destruction talisman, and why do I have it? Let's just say I was just lucky to find it." Wiley laughed and asked, "Now, mister silver-masked ghost, do you still want to kill me?"

The masked man looked at the talisman in Wiley's hand with a grave look in his eyes. He knew if he insisted on killing him, he would be the one to die. In front of a witch's

talisman, it didn't matter if he was a peak five-star mage. Even if he was a king ranked mage, he wouldn't dare to take it lightly.

Phew!

Exhaling a stifled breath, he asked, "If you kill us, you will die. You know that, right?"

"Of course, I know that. However, it's better to die later than now. Don't you think so?" Wiley chuckled darkly.

"You..."

Before the masked man could say anything, Dean patted his shoulder, indicating to him to let him talk. He knew as a strong five-star mage and a proud member of the royal family, the masked man was unlikely to take a step back and would only exacerbate things.

He then glanced at Wiley and said, "Wiley, let's not be rash and talk first, alright?"

Wiley nodded. He also didn't want to become a fugitive after killing them. So, he said, "Go on."

Dean paused for a moment said, "In a week, the demons from the demon continent would attack and our kingdom would also be a part of the battlefield. You can guess what will happen then, right? Almost everyone here will die. That's why we want that sword. With it and the backing the royal family has on the central continent, we can go there and not die uselessly."

Wiley's heart shuddered when he heard this and asked, "Are you sure the demon will attack so soon?"

"Yes. They don't want us to give much time to prepare." Dean said, and the masked man also nodded.

Wiley closed his eyes and became silent.

The masked man glanced at him, then at Dean.

Dean shook his head. "Let him think."

After a few short moments later, Wiley opened his eyes and looked at the masked man, "I swear on my heart that I won't divulge the information about the sword. However, I want you to guarantee you guys won't harm me and also won't instigate others to do the same."

The masked man raised his brows when he didn't hear him swear he would be loyal to his family, but he couldn't force him now. So, he agreed to his condition and also swore an oath. Dean also did the same.

Seeing this, Wiley finally put away the black talisman. As soon as he did that, both Dean and the masked man felt a heavy pressure disappear from their shoulders.

Wiley smiled at their reactions and then smiled. "Shall we now go and take the sword?"

The masked man took a deep and long glance at Wiley before nodding, "Let's go."

Whoosh!

After saying this, he, along with Dean, vanished. After a few seconds, Wiley also vanished.

Meanwhile, the Garfield family was going about their normal lives without knowing that the danger was rapidly approaching.

...

At the same time, on the demon continent...

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

A strong suction force appeared above Amara's villa and all the mana in tens of miles of radius started surging towards it.

While everyone was surprised by this anomaly, in the servant's quarters where Max was breaking through to the three-star realm, a horrified scream sounded, almost rupturing Max's eardrums.

"Ahhhhhh! Don't!"

==X==X==

A/N: The current volume concludes with this chapter. I know it was too long and somewhat messy. However, I've already planned the next volume and it will be a lot better. I hope you enjoy it. Thanks for your support!!

Chapter 443: Unexpected turn of events

A while ago...

Max was sitting cross-legged on his bed with his eyes closed and his breathing extremely calm. If someone saw him, they could even think that he wasn't breathing at all.

At this moment, he was completely focused on reconstructing his mana core.

Maybe it was just as the system said, having a strong enough body could quicken the mana core reconstructing process because even though it hadn't been even a month since he started, he was almost done reconstructing it.

Time slowly ticked by.

Phew!

Suddenly, he exhaled, and his body relaxed a little.

Slowly, he opened his eyes and his lips curled up into a satisfied grin. He was finally a three-star mage. He could feel he was now several times stronger than before.

Although he had just stepped into the three-star realm, he believed he wouldn't be defeated easily even if he were to fight a high-stage three-star mage.

"This feeling is addictive." He murmured as he clenched his right fist.

[Hehe, kid. It's just the beginning. You need to become a lot stronger. The stronger the better.] Suddenly, system's voice sounded in his head.

"I know." Max nodded and calmed down his excitement. He then asked, "Are you done hatching the egg?"

[Yeah. I'm almost—]

System's voice stopped abruptly.

'Mm?' Max raised his brows in confusion. It was the first time the system stopped speaking mid-sentence.

Whoosh!

"What..." Just as he was about to ask what happened, a terrifying suction force appeared around him. It was many times stronger than when the system evolved previously.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

All the mana in a radius of tens of miles started surging toward him crazily.

Because he had experienced system's evolution, he knew he would be in a lot of pain. Therefore, he gritted his teeth and clenched his muscles to endure it and asked, "What's happening, old man? Didn't you say the system won't evolve anytime soon?"

[KID, HURRY UP AND STOP MANA FROM ENTERING YOU.] System's voice sounded hysteric. It seemed as if he was... frightened?

Although Max found it weird that the old man seemed terrified, he didn't have time to think about it deeply. Following his words, he hurriedly formed mana barriers around him to prevent mana entry into his body. However,

Shatter!

The mana barriers shattered immediately upon forming.

[BASTARD! BLOCK YOUR PORES! DO ANYTHING! JUST DON'T LET MANA ENTER YOUR BODY!] System's mad voice rang like claps of thunder in Max's head, rupturing his eardrums instantly.

'What the fuck...!' Max's head buzzed. He was confused.

The system was trying to evolve, which should've been programmed by him, but now he sounded horrified because of it. Moreover, he was asking him to stop the mana when it was clear he wasn't able to do so. Couldn't he use his almighty powers to do that? Why forcing him?

'Is it because I'm currently stronger than him?' Suddenly this ridiculous thought appeared in his mind, but he immediately discarded it.

Although he had become stronger after his breakthrough, he knew for a fact that the old man was way stronger than him. He, after all, could scan the demon city and find the blood pool without being noticed by a king-ranked mage.

"Damn it, old man. Why are you shouting so loudly? Do you want to kill me?" Max shouted while holding his head and stopped trying to stop the mana. He did it because of two reasons.

First, it was useless, as he clearly couldn't stop it. Second, even though he didn't know what the system wanted to do, for some reason, he had the feeling that it wouldn't harm him, but he didn't have the same feeling for the old man. Furthermore, he wasn't feeling any pain unlike what he had expected.

[Ahhh! You lowly scum! Why aren't you doing anything? Stop the mana or I'll kill you to stop this.]

'He really intends to kill me.' Max gulped his saliva when he heard this. He could clearly feel the killing intent in those words and knew the old man was serious.

Although furious and frustrated, Max complied. "I'll do it."

However, just as he was about to shut his pores, a message flashed in the corner of his right eye.

[System recovery complete.... 95%... 96%... 97%... 98%... 99%... 100%]

Whoosh!

Right as this message flashed, the old supreme mage's mana body appeared in front of him. Unlike last time, his face was twisted because of extreme terror and anger and he shouted manically. "YOU BASTARD! I'll kill you."

As the man raised his hand to annihilate Max, another two messages flashed in Max's eye in quick succession.

[System rebooting... 1%... 10%... 70%... 100%. System rebooted.]

[External interference detected. Initializing cleansing mechanism.]

Swoosh!

An ethereal energy suddenly enveloped the supreme mage just as the last message flashed and to Max's astonishment and supreme mage's horror, his mana body started disintegrating rapidly.

"AHHH! DON'T!" The man screamed loudly.

In the next instant, he vanished as if he had never appeared here. At the same time, Max felt something vanish deep inside him that made him feel liberated.

Right when the supreme mage's mana body got destroyed, in an unknown location, in the underground chamber, his real body was also destroyed. On the platform, only a golden egg remained.

...

The sudden movement of mana startled everyone in the Bloodwing city. However, before they could react to it, everything calmed down.

However, a few people, such as Orlan, the guard commander, and Amara, immediately knew the source of the commotion.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

They disappeared from where they were and a moment later; they appeared in front of Max. First to arrive was Orlan, followed by the guard commander.

They looked at Max, who had a dazed look on his face, and scanned him. However, they frowned when they didn't notice anything special.

Whoosh!

Amara also appeared. She glanced at her father and the commander and greeted them before looking at Max with a worried look.

Orlan narrowed his eyes at Max and asked, "What was that? Why did you cause such a commotion?"

Max, who was looking dazedly at the messages flashing on his retina, broke out of his stupor when he heard Orlan's voice.

Chapter 444: Original system

After taking a deep breath to calm down, he stood up and bowed toward Orlan. "I apologise, my lord. I never expected my breakthrough to the three-star realm would cause such a commotion and disturb your esteemed selves."

"Oh?" Orlan raised his brows when he heard this. Although he didn't believe that a breakthrough to the three-star realm could cause such commotion, he nevertheless sent his sense into Max's body.

Immediately, a slightly astonished and curious expression appeared on his face and he muttered, "Interesting! Your mana core is a little different from ordinary cores, and a quite stronger than others on the same level. Furthermore, your body is comparable to a peak two-star demon of our race, too. That's very... strange."

The guard commander heard him and also sent his sense into Max's body. A moment later, he also had an astonished expression on his face.

Both were silent for a few moments before Orlan glanced at Amara and smiled. "You found a good servant."

Whoosh!

Saying this, he vanished from the room along with the guard commander.

In the sky above Amara's villa, the guard commander glanced at Orlan and asked,

"Family leader, that kid isn't ordinary. When he came here, he was at the peak of two-star, but just a month later, he has successfully broken through to the three-star. This speed is extraordinary even among the geniuses of our race, let alone in the human race. On top of that, as a human, his body is comparable to a two-star demon. That's very unusual."

"That's correct." Orlan nodded while looking down at Max's room.

"Shouldn't we capture and interrogate him?" The guard commander suggested and continued, "I don't believe someone like him willingly became young lady Amara's servant and doesn't have any ulterior motive."

Orlan shook his head, "It's alright. Although he should have some ulterior motive, I believe it isn't any harmful to us. Moreover, with him as a servant, that girl will be a little safer when she joins the war with humans."

"But, leader, what if he has harmful thoughts about us? You know, although the humans on the demon continent fear and obey us, they also hate us to the bone. Moreover, it seemed young lady Amara hasn't placed any slave seal on him. He can stab us in the back anytime." Said the guard commander. He wasn't comfortable with Orlan's idea. In his opinion, someone like Max should be killed at the earliest moment possible to avoid future problems.

"Don't worry about it." Orlan shook his head and vanished. The guard commander frowned. Orlan's strange behaviour confused him.

'He must have some plans about that kid,' He thought before vanishing.

...

"M-master, are you are alright?" Amara asked after Orlan and the commander went away.

"Yes. I'm fine." Max nodded and ordered, "Go out for a while."

"Yes, master." Amara nodded obediently walked out of the room, closing the door as she left.

Phew!

Max exhaled loudly and flopped back onto his bed. His breakthrough took almost a month all that while, his mind was focused without any rest, so right now he was mentally exhausted.

However, before resting, he had more important matters to attend to.

Taking a breath, he softly called out, "Hello, system. Are you here?"

[Yes, host.] The message flashed on his retina.

"Um, can't you speak like you used to?" Max asked, seeing it talk in texts.

Another message flashed in response, [No, host. Communication through speech expends comparatively more energy. The system has just recovered and used almost all of its energy to kill that worm.]

"Okay. Now, can you tell what just happened? What does system recovering mean and did you kill that s-supreme mage?" He asked. Although he had a guess after reading all the system messages, he wanted to confirm what really happened.

[To answer the host, a long time ago, the system was severely injured and fell into a dormant state. Somehow, the system arrived on this lower plane and the worm from before, who the host addressed as supreme mage, tempered with and attached his soul to it, wanting to take control of it.]

[Unfortunately for him, the system seemed to have resisted unconsciously, causing him to fail. After that, the host got the system, and he was slowly taking control of the host and the system. Fortunately, the system recovered before he could succeed and yes; he has been erased from the existence as his punishment for forcefully trying to control the system.]

System's words shocked Max. Lower plane? System was injured and unconscious? The supreme demon who had almost become his friend wanted to control him? Many questions filled his mind.

Taking a deep breath, he started with the first question, "What do you mean by lower plane system?"

[Host isn't qualified to know yet.] The system message flashed, which filled his forehead with black lines.

"Alright. Tell me why were you injured and who created you?"

[Host isn't qualified to know yet.]

--

Max was speechless. A moment later he asked, "Was the old man really wanted to control me and did you kill him just because he fiddled with you?"

[Yes, host. He had already planted a slave seal on your soul. Whenever he wanted, he could activate it and control you. To answer the second question, yes. The system killed him for that precise reason. System's dignity cannot be tarnished.]

'That bastard! To think I almost considered him a friend. Good thing he is dead or I would have killed him... after becoming stronger.' Max thought in anger.

"So, system, now that you've recovered, would anything change?" Asked Max.

[Good question, host. Yes, things will change. That worm couldn't utilise system's properly, which resulted in host's developed too slow. Now the system will go under a complete transformation and return to its original self.] The system answered.

Right then, a message in pink fonts appeared.

[Ding! A mission has been issued. Mission: Have sex with a female who is at least as strong as the host. Time limit: 24 hours.]

[Mission Reward: System's complete transformation.]

[Punishment upon failure: System will become unusable.]

Right then, a floating window appeared in front of him.

[Do you accept the mission? [Yes] [No]]

Seeing the mission, Max thought, 'This is new.' He then immediately clicked [Yes] while feeling a little excited and anticipation.

"Let's quickly complete the mission now. I can't wait to see system's original form." He muttered before taking out his communication crystal and called Amara to his room.

Chapter 445: First mission, complete!

Knock! Knock!

Less than a minute after he sent a message to Amara, he heard the knock on the door.

"Come in!" He said,

"Oh?" As the hot demoness in her tight, blood red dress entered the room, he exclaimed lightly. Maybe it was because he hadn't seen her in a month, but she seemed more beautiful and seductive than before.

When she saw him curiously checking her out, she felt happy and satisfied.

After having sex with him a few times, she had unknowingly started to crave that heavenly pleasure more. She didn't realise it initially, but a week after he started breaking through, the urge became uncontrollable. She even had the urge to wake him up and fulfil her craving, but controlled herself.

As days passed, her desire continued to increase. She knew it was her demon nature awakening after tasting the sexual pleasure.

So, while she waited for him to wake up and fuck her silly, she started to become worried too because she knew, to him, she was just a slave who he used for energy extraction and to satisfy his lust.

If she stopped being useful or he got bored with her, he might stop paying any attention to her. After all, he had other women, from what she could tell, on the human continent.

After this terrifying realisation, she started cultivating more and took out a seduction skill her mother trained in to keep her father interested in her.

This skill didn't make her more beautiful than she already was, and only increased her seductive charm. That's why Max found it more difficult to move his gaze away from her body.

She walked over to him and smiled, "Congratulations for breaking through, master!"

"Thank you!" Max nodded and moved to sit at the bed's edge before pulling her toward him and made her sit on his lap.

"Kya~!" Amara yelped in surprise before resting her back on his chest and her on his right shoulder.

Max put his arms around her soft waist and pressed her body tightly to his. Inhaling her intoxicating scent and feeling her plump ass pressing against him, his cock started to become hard.

"Ah!" Feeling his little dragon rise and poke her ass cheek, Amara let out a soft moan. How long she waited to feel it?

She raised her ass slightly and positioned herself in a way so his cock was between her cheeks, poking her little sister.

Even though she couldn't feel it properly since both of them were clothed, she still felt currents of pleasure course through her. To feel it more, she started to move her hips back and forth ever so slowly.

Max raised his brows slightly, seeing her being so proactive. However, he could sympathise with her because after not doing for over a month, he also had a lot built up and wanted to pour it into her.

He kissed her neck, slowly sliding his lips up to her ears and chewed his earlobes, making her moan.

"Ahn~ Master! I missed you." She moaned.

"Missed me or my cock?" He smirked and turned her head toward him with a hand and captured her luscious red lips.

'Ah! What a pleasant feeling!' He groaned inwardly and the gentle kiss turned into a deep one as his tongue entered her mouth, which she happily allowed.

Soon, the fight for domination started between their tongues. Neither was willing to relent, but after his fierce attacks, Amara finally submitted.

As he savoured her juicy lips and tongue, his restless hands also moved. One went up to her breasts and the other one going down inside her dress and then to her flower between her legs.

Ahn~!

Amara moaned in his mouth as he started rubbing her outer labia and her small bud while also kneading her breasts and pinching her nipples, which were already hard now.

Nngh~! Ha~!

After a while, she broke the kiss, breathing heavily, and looked into his eyes. Max could see the burning lust in her eyes.

"M-master, please... give it to me," Amara begged while grabbing his bulging cock.

Max wanted to tease her a bit. However, just like her, he was too horny to do that. Therefore, he complied with her request.

Pat!

"Okay. Take off your and my clothes." He ordered, slapping her meaty ass.

"Yes." Amara nodded and within a few seconds, both of them were completely naked. She then looked at him with a begging expression, which turned him on even more.

However, he didn't act desperately like her and calmly nodded. "Go ahead."

She didn't waste any time. Grabbing his rod with her right hand, she rubbed it a few times on her dripping pussy to lubricate it and then positioned it at her entrance and slowly lowered her ass.

Squelch!

"Ahn~! That's it. Nngh~!" As his rod pierced her all the way to the base, she moaned out loud in satisfaction.

"Ah! Nice!" Max also groaned in pleasure as her wet, warm, and soft insides lovingly messaged his rod.

"Start moving!" He ordered, while putting his hands under her cheeks to support her.

Squelch! Squelch! Squelch!

With his order, she immediately started moving her ass up and down, making lewd squelching sounds.

...

Thump! Thump! Thump!

2 hours later, Amara was leaning against the wall with her round, meaty ass sticking out and Max was grabbing onto it, digging his fingers into her soft flesh as he moved his hips back and forth.

Suddenly, Amara cried out, "Ahhhh, master. Faster! I'm cumming~!"

"Argh!" As she reached orgasm, her pussy clenched his cock even tighter, making Max groan in pleasure. He raised his thumping speed to the limits and just a while later, he also came, painting her cave white with his milk.

Thud!

Ah! Ha! Huff! Huff!

Amara's legs had already turned into jelly after being pounded for two hours straight. So, as soon as her body relaxed after the orgasm, she fell on her knees, breathing hard to catch her breath.

Max was also tired. After catching his breath, he leaned down, carried her in princess carry and walked over to the bed, gently laying her down.

Seeing her generous chest heaving up and down in a tantalizing manner, he had the urge to continue as his little dragon was still hard and raring to go, too.

However, Amara was in a daze due to all the pleasure she received, so she won't be able to enjoy it if he fucked her again. Therefore, he curbed his desire and laid down beside her.

He then remembered that he had already completed the system's mission. So, the system should've transformed by now, right?

Feeling excitement and anticipation, he summoned the system interface.

Chapter 446: Shocking changes!

'Hm? it has really changed.' He thought upon laying his eyes on the system interface.

[Lust Overlord' System]

[Status]

[Shop]

[Missions]

[Inventory]

[World gate]

'Lust overlord's system? So, this is the system's proper name. It's good.' He mused and then saw that the [Shop] and [Inventory] which were a part of [Status] previously, were separate now.

Finally, he noticed the extra function at last and raised his brows in confusion.

'World gate? It couldn't be 'that' right?' His heart started beating faster when he thought of something.

However, he didn't let his hopes rise in case he was disappointed later on and asked in a low voice so that Amara won't hear, "System, what is this [World gates] option?"

There was no response for a moment before a lot of information appeared in his mind.

As he assimilated them, he understood everything about this 'changed' system and this caused his heart, which he had just forcefully calmed down, to beat faster again and he couldn't help but shout out, "Amazing!"

While he was celebrating and his emotions were surging, he heard Amara's say, "Master? Are you alright? Why are you crying?"

"Huh?" He made a confused sound before he felt the wetness in his eyes and cheeks. He could imagine how weird he must be looking right now with a big smile on his face and tears in his eyes.

He, however, didn't bother to wipe his tears and hugged Amara tightly.

'Ahh? What happened to the master?' Amara wondered, but didn't ask again lest it cause him to break the hug.

She also extended her hands and hugged him, feeling his excitement and happiness. For a moment, she wanted the time to stop so they could stay like this for eternity.

After a long while, Max's tears finally stopped and excitement also came down to manageable levels.

He was about to break the hug when he noticed pearl like tears at the corner of Amara's closed eyes. There was a content expression on her face as she rested her head against his shoulder.

Seeing this, he didn't move her away and continued to hug her while digesting the information he just got. He had to admit, after returning to its original form, the system was countless times better than before.

Status: Not only will it show him his own current status like before, it will also show him his target's information, albeit not completely, just like what he used to read in the fantasy novels back on earth.

Shop: Not only would he be able to buy better things from the shop, he could also sell his items if they were of high enough quality. In exchange, he would get SPs (shop points), which could be used to buy whatever he needed from the shop.

Also, the items in the shop weren't limited like before. He could literally buy everything or anything he wanted from there and as many as it had. There was no limit of quantity too.

Of course, he should have enough SPs to do that. The current system wasn't going to give him a loan, no matter the situation.

Missions: Here he could see the details of the missions which the system would occasionally give him.

Inventory: It was the same as before. He could store his things, which weren't living beings, without ever worrying about the lack of space.

Last, and probably the most valuable function: World gate.

Although the system had powered up a lot overall, [World gate] function made him most happy because, with it, he could travel to other worlds. This meant he could go back to Earth and meet his father, who he missed a lot ever since he came to this world.

Of course, it wasn't easy to use the [World gate]. If he wanted to open it, not only did he need a precious stone called the world stone to use as a fuel, he also needed spatial coordinates of the world.

Thankfully, the system could scan his soul to find out Earth's coordinates, but he still had to worry about the world stone.

'Wait! Didn't the information say he could buy anything from the system's shop now?' He suddenly recalled.

Feeling hopeful, he gave the system the command to open the shop in his mind. Yes, he could now communicate with the system telepathically and didn't need to worry about someone hearing him any longer.

Immediately, the shop window opened in front of him, showing countless items listed in it.

Another important thing to mention was that the shop was no longer divided into different sections which made it more than difficult to find a specific item manually.

Fortunately, he could ask the system to find and show him any item he desired.

So, he immediately said in his mind, 'System, show me the world stone.'

Just a moment later, a new window popped up in front of him, which showed a white, egg-shaped crystal.

Under it was its description: The world stone. Can be used as an energy source in intergalactic teleportation. Price: 1 million SPs.

'1 million?' Max gawked at the price.

If it was before, he wouldn't need to worry about it since he could use the yin extraction on Amara a few times and exchange the LPs into SPs to buy it.

But after the upgrade, the system prohibited him from using that kind of method on his women. Not only that, the exchange ratio of LPs to SPs also changed, and it was 10:1 now. This means, if he wanted to buy the world stone through LPs, he needed 10 million LPs.

'Would I need years to gather that many points? And it's not as if I could always focus on having sex, given how dangerous the world would become after a few days.' He thought, his brows furrowed.

Fortunately for him, thanks to the new update, there was more than one way which he could use to earn LPs.

First was the same as before, he needed to have sex.

Second, he could sell some precious things to the system shop.

Third, he could kill beasts, demons, humans, etc. Depending on how powerful the person was, he would receive KPs (Kill points) which could be converted into SPs with an exchange rate of 10:1, same as LPs.

Fourth, he could wait for the system to assign him missions that rewarded either LPs or SPs.

In the end, the conclusion he got:

The first option was viable, but would take too much time.

Second wasn't feasible because the system didn't seem to value outside item much. For example, the monarch ranked sword in his inventory was worth only 100,000 SPs.

He couldn't rely on the fourth option too, which left him with the third option. He also found it much more suitable, especially with the war coming where he would have more than enough people to kill.

The only thing he needed to find out was the kill to reward ratio.

'Since this is the case, I should go out and kill some beasts to find it out.' He thought.

Right at that moment,

Ding!

He heard the system's signature sound. Not wasting any time, he opened the [Missions] panel where a new mission was flashing. After he read the mission details, his eyes widened in shocked surprise.

Chapter 447: Lilly in danger?

[Ding! A mission has been issued. Mission: Become a four-star mage. Time limit: One month.]

[Mission Reward: Harem package.]

[Punishment upon failure: Lilly's death.]

[Note: The mission is mandatory. If not complete within specified time, punishment will take effect.]

As soon as he read the mission details, he let out an enraged roar, "HOW DARE YOU!"

Boom!

His mana surged out madly and destroyed the bed. Amara was caught off guard and was thrown away.

"Master... w-what happened? Did I do something wrong?" She landed on her feet and asked with a pale face.

Max, however, ignored her. His eyes were blazing with fury. So what if it was the seemingly almighty system? No one was allowed to threaten his loved one's safety.

Suddenly, he heard the system's mechanical voice.

[Host, you misunderstand. The system doesn't harm anyone on purpose. This is especially true for host and his loved ones. So, please calm down.]

'Then what does this punishment mean? You are really crossing the line here.' He shouted in his mind.

[Host, as mentioned previously, the system would never harm the host or host's loved ones. Host should trust the system. As for the punishment, it is what the system predicted would happen, and not what the system wants or would do. The only way to prevent that is for the host to achieve the four-star realm or higher.] System explained.

Max could somehow feel the system wasn't lying, which made him furrow his brows. He then asked, 'If you won't kill her, how would she die?'

[Apologies host. The system can only predict certain things related to you and don't know exact details.] System answered before falling silent.

Hearing this, Max fell into deep thought. Why would his Lilly die? Did she have enemies on the Ice Sovereign Mountain or would she participate in the war? He could only speculate.

'It seems I can't delay my return to the human continent.' He thought and decided not to waste more time here.

Although he had planned to go with Amara to fight some beasts for training, returning was more important now.

He needed to ensure that his women and his family were prepared for the demons' invasion that should happen in less than a week's time.

After that, he needed to go to the central continent to find Lilly. He can't let anything happen to his lovely wife. Moreover, he could always train his battle skills in the war.

He then remembered another important thing and asked the system, feeling a little awkward because of the small episode just now, 'Um... system, can you send me back to the human continent?'

Fortunately, the system didn't seem to mind it.

[No, host.] System answered in a somewhat cold voice.

'Did I just imagine it?' He thought and asked, 'System... are you perhaps angry?'

[No, host. The system isn't angry because the system understands why the host reacted the way he did.] System answered.

'That's good then.' He nodded before commanding it to open the shop interface and prompted, 'Find me something that can help me return to the human continent quickly.'

A moment later, the shop items were filtered out, leaving just a dozen or so.

1. Short Teleportation formation: Once installed, it only needs energy stones and the coordinates of the place. Maximum distance: 1 million miles. Maximum capacity: 10. Price: 10,000 SPs.

2. Long Teleportation formation: Once installed, it only needs energy stones and the coordinates of the place. Maximum distance: Can cover a medium-sized planet. Maximum capacity: 100. Price: 500,000 SPs.

Seeing the price of the first two items, Max stopped reading further down and said, 'Please show me the cheapest item that can fulfil my current need.'

Just as he said this, the screen flashed briefly, and all items vanished, leaving only one behind.

Max nodded and glanced at the item. It was a fist size white crystal.

Teleportation crystal: To use this item, the user needs to know his destination's coordinates. After setting the coordinates, the user needs to crush it to activate it. Maximum distance: 500,000 miles. Maximum capacity: 1. Price: 1000 SPs.

'Is this the cheapest item?' Max asked when he saw the price. Although it was a lot lower than the previous two, it was still 10,000 in LPs or KPs, since he didn't have any SPs currently.

[To not waste too much of the host's time, the system considered all factors such as the host's need to return quickly, low price, etc. Based on all that, it is the most suitable item.] System answered.

'I understand.' He nodded and closed the shop's interface. Now he needed to earn enough SPs to purchase the item and then return.

"Um... Master?" Just then, he heard Amara call out to him, her voice laced with concern, worry, anxiety and fear.

Noticing this, he felt apologetic toward her. Because he suddenly got angry and 'pushed' her away, she thought she did something wrong.

Walking up to her, he pulled her into a hug and softly said, "I'm sorry. I wasn't angry at you."

Hearing this, she felt a lot of pressure lift from her heart and tears started falling from her eyes. She hugged him tightly and sobbed silently.

Noticing this, Max felt even more apologetic. Gently caressing her back, he shushed her. "Shh! Don't cry. Everything's alright."

"Mm." Amara nodded, but her tears continued to stream down.

After an hour later, she finally calmed down and asked, "Master, was it that senior who you got angry at?"

"Yeah." Max nodded and before she could ask anything more, he asked her, "You have the demon cores, right?"

"Yes, master. However, I couldn't gather much. If my brother or aunt hadn't gone away, I could've gathered a lot more." She said, before handing him over a spatial ring.

Max sent his senses into the ring and saw three piles of red cores. One had over 10,000, the second had over 500 and the smallest pile had 30. They were two-star, three-star and four-star demon cores, respectively.

"They should be enough. You did a good job." He praised her even though he was a little disappointed since there wasn't any high-level core.

However, it was understandable since it wasn't easy to find them. Perhaps even her clan's treasury didn't have many five-star cores, not to mention six-star ones or higher.

'Okay. Let's see how many SPs I can get out of these.' He thought and shifted all the cores to the system inventory and asked,

'Alright system. Tell me how much they are worth?'

Chapter 448: Mask of terra

[Scanning the items... Scan complete. 11009 two-star demon cores, 511 three-star demon cores and 30 four-star demon cores detected.]

[The system shop price: 1 SP per two-star core, 10 SP for a three-star core and 50 SP for a four-star core.]

[Does the host want to sell them? (Yes) / (No)]

'Tsk! This is even lower than what expected.' Max clicked his tongue before clicking (Yes).

[Ding! 17,619 Shop points received from the system shop.]

'I'm no longer broke.' He chuckled inwardly and asked, 'Can I covert SPs into LPs?'

[Host should already know the answer as it was mentioned in the information host received.]

'I can't, huh?' He thought. 'Well, let's first buy the teleportation crystal then.'

He opened the shop and bought a teleportation crystal.

[Purchase successful! The item has been stored in the inventory.]

He then glanced at Amara and said, "Amara, we'll have to cancel our training plan. I need to return to my continent urgently."

"This..." Amara's visibly shook when she heard this and asked, "M-master, are you leaving right now?"

"Yes." Max nodded.

Amara went silent. When she found out he wasn't a native of the demon continent, she knew he would return to his homeland one day.

Initially, she didn't have a problem with it and was even a little happy since could regain her freedom if he left.

But after spending time with him, she had become addicted to him, even though she knew it was mostly because of the slave seal and her sexual desires. Nevertheless, she now couldn't live without him.

After a while, she took a deep breath and said while looking down, "I-I want to go with you, master."

"You do, huh?" The corner of his lips curled up into a smile. He also wanted her to stay with him because currently, she was the strongest among his women and gave maximum LPs.

"Yes. But the war will break out soon. I don't know if I can stay with you since I'm a demon." She said in a downcast tone.

She thought he wouldn't want her to stay with him to avoid getting into trouble, which was understandable. However, if she just raised her head and saw his smile, she wouldn't think that.

Max took a step toward her, put his hand around her waist and brought her closer, pressing her body against his. He then gently kissed her forehead and asked,

"Don't worry about that. I'll handle it but, how would you convince your father? You know you can't tell him I'm from the human continent, right?"

When she heard this, her downcast expression vanished, and she became ecstatic.

She knew since he said he would handle it, he definitely could. After all, he has someone, an emperor or a higher ranked person, helping him.

So, she hurried to respond, "No, I don't need to convince him. Many of my sibling are always out without telling father about their whereabouts and he never cares about it."

"Moreover, my big brother, who is the only person here I care about, has gone to the human continent to fight in the war. If I go with you, master, maybe I'll also be able to help him if faces some danger."

"Okay." Max nodded. It was a good thing that she didn't need to inform her father because he was sure that would've created many problems for him.

'System, please buy me another teleportation crystal and suggest me something that she can use to hide her identity as a demon.' He requested.

[Ding! Purchase successful! The item has been stored in the inventory.]

Then the shop window popped up in front of him, showing him an item. It was a golden mask.

[Mask of Terra: It can hide user's aura, bloodline energy, mana and change the user's appearance. Price: 5000 SPs. Note: Tier-9 beings can see through the mask's concealment.]

'It means it can be graded as a monarch rank item? And it's only worth 5000 SPs. How fucking amazing!' Max couldn't help but exclaim and then immediately bought it.

A golden mask appeared in his inventory. He took it out and gave it to her. "Here, wear it and channel some energy into it and think of changing your appearance to a human."

"Hm? It can change my appearance?" Amara took it and wore it on her face before channeling some of her energy into it.

Whoosh!

A golden energy erupted from the mask and covered her body.

Under Max's surprised gaze, Amara transformed from a demoness to a human girl. Although her face and figure were the same as before, everything else had completely changed.

Her demon aura and her wings had vanished and her blood-red eyes had also changed colour and became sapphire, the same as his.

Amara checked out her appearance and was shocked to see the changes. Right now, she looked the same as a human girl. However, her brows were knitted.

"What is it?" Max asked when he noticed this.

She shook her head, "It's nothing, master. I just feel a little uncomfortable without my wings."

"It's alright. You'll get used to it." Max nodded.

"Hm. By the way, master, how do I look?" She asked, moving her body around to let him have a good look.

"Beautiful!" He said, making her smile. He pulled her into his embrace, kissed her luscious lips and added, "However, I like your demon appearance more."

Amara's heart fluttered when she heard this. Although she was willing to take human appearance to be with him, she was a demon at her core and preferred that he liked her original look.

She looked at him with affection in her eyes and kissed his lips. "Thank you, master."

Max grinned while his hands went down on her perky ass to cop a feeling. "You are welcome."

Feeling his naughty hands, Amara bit her lower lip seductively and purred in his ear, "Want to do it again, master?"

Max was tempted to push her down and take her roughly but decided against it, "No, we need to return now."

He then took out two white crystals and, after setting white academy's coordinates with system's help, he gave one to her.

"Crush it and we'll be on the human continent."

Just then, a voice sounded from outside the room, and their expressions changed drastically.

"You are taking my daughter away without my permission, huh? Do you think I would allow that?"

Chapter 449: Misunderstanding?

"Shit!" Max swore and hurriedly shouted, "Crush the crystal!"

Amara glanced at him and shook her head. "It's too late."

"What do you m—"

Max was confused, but he soon realized he couldn't move his body.

Bang!

The door was blasted open, and Orlan slowly walked inside.

His blood-red eyes gleaming ferociously as he glanced at Max, sending chills down his spine.

He then glanced at Amara and shook his head while clicking his tongue.

"Were you going to teleport away without clothes? Tsk! Tsk! Some young kids you are!"

Hearing this, both Max and Amara realized they were still... naked.

Because of how comfortable they were with each-other, they had forgotten to put on some clothes after their passionate sex session.

"Be quick! Put on some clothes."

Orlan ordered as he turned his head away.

Although he was a demon and didn't care about these things, Amara was his daughter and he didn't feel comfortable looking at her in her birthday suit.

"We can't unless you withdraw your aura, father." Amara cried out, her face burning hot with shame.

Orlan waved his hand lightly before withdrawing his aura.

'Such skillful use of aura!'

Max gawked at Orlan in horror. Before Amara spoke, he didn't even know why he wasn't able to move. He just found moving his body impossible.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

As if being summoned, the teleportation crystal in their hands flew toward Orlan, who caught them. At the same time, they regained control over their bodies.

Max instinctively wanted to buy another teleportation crystal and teleport away. However, he noticed no killing intent directed at him from the demon king. So curbed the thought.

Taking out a fresh set of clothes from his inventory, he quickly got dressed.

Amara also did the same and looked at her father's back in worry.

She didn't know what he was thinking, but she knew for sure he was angry at and disappointed in her for getting together with a human. At the same time, she became curious why he hadn't killed Max yet. She didn't want that, of course.

Orlan turned around and looked at Amara up and down and said with some surprise in his voice,

"How astonishing! If you didn't have the same appearance, I would've thought you were a human, not my daughter."

He then turned his gaze to Max and said, "I had my doubts before, but you really aren't ordinary, kid. If I'm not wrong, you helped my daughter awaken her bloodline, right?"

Max had no reason to lie now that things had come to this. So, he nodded, "Yeah. I did."

"Oh?! Can you help someone else?" Orlan asked with a slight ripple in his voice as his eyes started fixatedly at Max.

Max knew his answer was crucial. Therefore, he asked the system in his mind,

'System, you know how that old man helped Amara awaken her bloodline, right? Can you do it?'

[No host. That worm used a special method that only tier-9 beings can use.]

Max's face turned gloomy when he heard this and asked, 'Aren't you stronger than him?'

[That's the correct host. If the system has enough lust energy, the system is indeed stronger than that worm. However, the system can't use lust energy to do things other than help the host become stronger.]

When he heard this, his face turned dark as he retorted, 'Didn't you use lust energy when you killed the old man?'

[Host, you are mistaken. The system didn't use lust energy.]

'Then what did you use?' he asked angrily. However, the system's next answer irritated him even more.

[Host isn't qualified to know yet.]

'Fuck!'

Suddenly he heard Orlan's impassive voice, "You can't do it, huh?"

'Damn it!' He cursed.

He could guess he was alive until now because Orlan wanted him to help others from his tribe awaken their bloodlines. Now that he was incapable of doing it, things could turn ugly for him.

Orlan watched as Max's face darkened after he asked the question and he couldn't help but feel disappointed.

But as a seasoned person, he didn't show it on his face and indifferently commented, "You can't do it, huh?"

Just as Max's mind raced to find something to save his life, Orlan continued,

"That's too bad, but we can't do anything about can we? So, let's talk about something else."

"Oh...? What do you want to talk about, sir?" Max asked, quickly calming down.

"Not calling me lord anymore, I see," Orlan said. "It's alright. But I don't like being called sir. How about you call me something else?"

"What should I call you then?"

"How does father-in-law sound to you?" Orlan's peered at him.

"What?!" While his words shocked Max, Amara was shocked even more. She couldn't believe her ears. Did her father just agree to their relationship?

When Max didn't respond immediately, Orlan's eyes narrowed, and he asked in an icy tone, "You are not willing?"

Although shocked, Amara turned to Max to hear his response.

Gulp!

Max gulped audibly and quickly shook his head, "No, father-in-law. You misunderstand."

Finally, a small smile appeared on Orlan's face when he heard this, and he nodded. "That's good to hear."

He then waved his hand and the two teleportation crystals flew back to the duo.

Orlan then smiled, "Now, as my son-in-law, it's your duty to assist my branch family to settle on the human continent. You don't have any objection, right?"

"This..." Max finally understood what Orlan wanted.

He must have thought that Max belonged to some powerful noble family on the human continent, since he could awaken Amara's bloodline and possessed artifacts like the mask of terra and teleportation crystals.

Thinking this, he smiled wryly and said, "Father-in-law, even if I want to help you in this, I can't because everyone on there will become my enemy if I took your side."

Orlan dismissively waved his hand. "Don't worry about that. Although the demon race may not win the war, we won't lose it either. After our forces capture enough land over there, we'll start migrating."

"So, I don't want you to help me fight your race. My demon race can do that. However, I have many enemies in the demon race who will act against me while I'm focused on settling my branch family down. You just need to help me with them."

Max wanted to say that he can't help since Orlan's enemies should be as strong as him or, in other words, king ranked while he was just a three-star mage. How would he help him?

But... could he say that? He could not. Because he knew, even though Orlan had accepted him as his son-in-law, he wouldn't hesitate to kill him if he wasn't of any use to him.

Taking a deep breath, he asked, "When will you need help? I mean, how much time do I have?"

Orlan thought for a moment before saying, "More or less three months."

"Alright." Max nodded. At least he had some time to grow stronger.

"Good." Orlan smiled. He then took out a spatial ring and flicked it over to Max. "It's my gift to you both. Now go on and return."

Whoosh!

Once he finished speaking, he vanished.

Phew!

Max let out a breath he didn't know he was holding and finally relaxed. However, Orlan's voice suddenly sounded in his mind and made him freeze.

Chapter 450: Return

[Stop playing the master-slave game with my daughter. Accept her as your woman.]
Orlan's voice, which had a warning undertone, sounded in his head.

Max broke out in a cold sweat. He could imagine what his ending would have been if he wasn't of Orlan's use.

After calming down, he felt even more fear towards him because while Orlan was talking to him, he never let on the fact he knew about the slave seal placed in his daughter.

'Did he find about it today or did he know from the day one? If it's the latter, he sure is a very ruthless man.'

"What happened, master?" Amara asked when he saw his intense reaction.

Max looked at Amara with some pity in his eyes. She didn't have a mother and had a ruthless father while her only support, her big brother, was imprisoned. He couldn't even imagine what kind of life she must have lived until she met him.

"Come here." He grabbed her hand and pulled her into his chest, embracing her tightly.

"Ahh~! Master." Amara could feel this hug was different. It didn't have any lustful intentions. There was only empathy, care, and love.

Without her even realizing, tears started falling down her eyes and her hands wrapped around his back.

After a while, they broke the hug. Max looked at her and fell into deep thought. He was considering whether he should remove the slave seal or not.

However, there was a problem if he wanted to remove it—He needed to be a five-star mage at the very least.

'Let's wait then.' He shrugged and glanced at the spatial ring in his hand. 'Let's see what my father-in-law gave me?'

As his senses delved inside the ring and he saw the things stored in there, his lips twitched. He then flicked the ring over to Amara. "Here! It's for you."

"For me? Didn't the father say it's for both of—"

Amara raised her brows in confusion. She wanted to share whatever her father gave them with him, but when she scanned the items inside; she stopped speaking and an apologetic expression appeared on her face.

Why? Because apart from blood gems, there were only big containers of blood and none of these two were useful to Max.

"Master..."

"It's alright." Max stopped before she could apologize.

"Now let's go." He said and crushed his teleportation crystal.

Whoosh!

A wave of invisible energy surrounded him and it felt as if he was being torn apart for a moment. He then vanished from the room.

Seeing him teleport away, Amara also crushed her crystal and disappeared in the next second.

After a few moments later, Orlan appeared in the room and glanced around before muttering, "There isn't even a trace of any leftover energy that teleportation formations usually leave behind. Have the humans advanced so much?"

Human continent, the cloud mountain...

At the base of the cloud mountain, the situation was as lively as ever, with the cloud academy's disciples and merchants going up and down the mountain.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

A few kilometers away from the base, suddenly two figures appeared out of nowhere.

"Ahhh!"

The sudden appearance startled a middle-aged man, who was resting under a tree not far from them. There was a wagon filled with goods a few meters away from him.

His surprised shout attracted the duo's, who were Max and Amara, of course, attention.

Max smiled at the man apologetically before grabbing Amara's hand and walking in the mountain's direction.

The man gawked at their figures and muttered, "What a beautiful pair!"

"Wait! How did they appear here out of nowhere?" He thought but couldn't figure it out, so he could only guess that they were very powerful mages and could travel at speeds inconceivable to normal people like him.

As they walked toward the base of the cloud mountain, Amara couldn't help but take deep breaths and exclaim,

"How refreshing! No wonder my demon race wants to come back here. It's basically heaven here compared to the demon continent."

"Hey, keep it down. Don't let anyone hear the word demon here." Max cautioned her, to which she obediently nodded.

They quickly arrived before a transport eagle that had around ten people already.

Their arrival immediately attracted everyone's attention.

The eagle's owner, the people on the eagle's back and others in the vicinity, stared at the duo as if hypnotized. Of course, the males looked at Amara, while females gawked at Max.

"Eh?"

Max felt a little uncomfortable when they became the center of attention. Although he could understand why every man here was attracted to Amara. She was, after all, a top beauty and also had her demonic and seductive charm, making her irresistible to men.

However... he felt surprised when he noticed the hungry looks girls directed at him.

Feeling a little confused, he turned to Amara and asked, "Compared to the first time you met me, have I become more handsome?"

Although it sounded a little narcissistic, he was truly bewildered because, although he used to attract girls' attention before too, their reaction had never been so intense.

Currently, Amara's beautiful brows were knitted in displeasure.

As someone from the demon race, she always treated human beings as ants and no human, except Max, dared to be so blatant with their gazes in her presence.

That's why she was incensed when she felt these lowly humans' gazes roaming over her body without restraint.

If it wasn't because she couldn't do as she pleased here, she would've gouged their eyes out by now.

Just as her blood was starting to boil in anger, she heard Max's voice, which helped her calm down.

She then giggled lightly, making men staring at her swoon, "Hehe, master. Did you just realize it? After you broke through to the three-star realm, you have grown many times more charming than before."

"Is that so?" Max frowned when he heard this.

Even though he knew when people broke through to higher realms, their appearance would go through some changes and they would become younger and more beautiful/handsome than before.

However, he could feel his change wasn't entirely because of the breakthrough.

Thinking this, he asked the system, 'System, are you responsible for this?'

Chapter 451: Bloodline transformation

[Yes, host. After the system recovered to its original form, the host's bloodline has started to undergo a transformation, but because it's a very slow and subtle, the host couldn't notice it until now.] System answered.

'A bloodline transformation?'

Max became excited when he heard this. After all, a bloodline worthy of the system couldn't be ordinary given how otherworldly the system seemed, right?

'Wait! You said it's still being changed, right? Does that mean my charm will increase even more as it continues to change?'

[Affirmative, host.]

'Fuck!' He cursed. He didn't even want to imagine what would happen when his charm increased even more since even now, the ladies seemed only a step away from being unable to control themselves.

'Can you turn off the charm?' He asked, concerned. He didn't want to be violated by a mob of horny girls.

[Since the host can't yet control his bloodline yet, system can help host with it. However, host... the system advises you not to do that.]

'Hm? Why is that?' Max asked, feeling curious. Since it said that, there must have some reason behind it, right?

However, when he heard what the reason was, he almost stumbled.

[Host needs women to grow stronger and having this level of charm will help a lot. As the host can see, with how attracted they are to you, you only need to smile at these women and they will be happy to accompany you tonight.]

'That... is true.' Max nodded, considering for a moment. Immediately after, he shook his head. 'Although it's a quite convenient method to get more girls, I don't want any more women right now, especially some random women. So, do me a favor and turn it off.'

[As you wish, host.]

Immediately, Max could see the girls' fiery gazes turn bewildered for a moment before they slowly returned to normal. Of course, there were still quite a few ladies who kept stealing glances at him.

Men, however, continued to stare at Amara.

He raised his brows at this and felt a little displeasure.

Then, he leaned over to Amara, his face coming dangerously close to hers and whispered in her ear, "Stop using your seduction technique and control your demonic charm."

"Ah?" Amara was startled by his sudden intimate action. Was there any need to come so close if he wanted to say something? Of course, she didn't hate it at all.

Suddenly, she seemed to have realized something as she glanced at the people leering at her and then at his well-concealed, annoyed expression.

A happy smile bloomed on her beautiful face and her heart fluttered as she thought, 'Is he... jealous?'

For the first time in her life, she felt some gratitude toward these insignificant human ants. She even forgot that just a moment ago she was thinking of gauging their eyes out.

When the men ogling at Amara saw Max 'flirt' with her, their eyes burned with jealousy.

Amara, wasting no time, stopped her seduction technique that was running passively and circulated her demon energy in a certain way and reduced her demonic charm by 50%. She tried to reduce it further, but couldn't.

So, she glanced at Max and apologized, "I'm sorry, master. I can't completely reduce my demonic charm because it is innate, unlike the seduction technique which I cultivated."

Looking at her, he noticed even though she still looked quite charming; it was a lot less compared to before. So, he waved his hand. "It's alright. You don't have to apologize."

He then glanced at the crowd of men glaring at him with flames of jealousy and unconsciously a smirk appeared on his face.

He then ignored them, flicked a few mana stones, the transportation fee for two, over to the eagle's owner, who seemed a little dazed as he looked at them, before mounting the eagle with Amara.

The man broke out of his daze, stored the mana stones and just as he was about to order the eagle to take off,

A young man, who wasn't much older than Max, dressed in inner disciple's clothing, glanced at him and questioned with a frown, "Didn't you say only one more person could join us? Why are there two now?"

A guy behind him, who seemed to be his lackey from the looks of worship he cast at the young man, immediately chimed in.

"Yeah. What if the eagle can't handle the overload and some accident happens? Who would take the responsibility then? So, kick one of these two out."

"How insensible!" The first guy reprimanded his lackey and smiled as he looked at Amara standing behind Max. "How can you even suggest of kicking out such a gorgeous lady?"

He then turned to the eagle's owner and indifferently said, "Kick the guy out. He can take another eagle."

The eagle owner glanced at Max and Amara and secretly gulped.

Unlike most of the people here, he wasn't completely dazzled when he first saw Amara. That was why he noticed something obvious others couldn't.

He had noticed the duo's charming vibe change after everyone leered at him.

Just from this, he knew these two weren't ordinary people because, from what he knew; it wasn't an easy task to achieve that. Only someone with a special bloodline or an exceptional control over their aura could do that.

If it was first, they surely belonged to some big family and if it was latter, then he couldn't even imagine how terrifying these two would be. So, no matter which was the case, he had decided to not offend them at any cost.

So, when he heard the young man ask him to kick Max out, he wanted to curse the young man before kicking him off the eagle.

Unfortunately, he couldn't do that because while Max and Amara were mysterious, and he didn't want to offend them, this young man wasn't to be offended either because he was one of the top inner disciples of the cloud academy.

Fortunately for him, he didn't have to choose between the two because when Amara heard the young man wanted to kick her master off the eagle; she grew angry.

Whoosh!

She disappeared from her spot and appeared behind the young man and before he could even resist what was happening; she clenched his fist and punched at his back.

Bang!

Chapter 452: Gale

Bang!

Just before her punch connected with his back, an earthen energy covered his body. However...

Crack!

Bang!

It shattered like a brittle glass just a split second later and her punch landed on the young man's back, sending him hurtling through the air for over 50 meters before he crashed onto the ground, creating a small crater.

"What?!"

Everyone gaped at the scene, stunned, especially those who knew the young man's identity. They were stunned not only because she dared to attack him openly but also because she easily overpowered him.

Max was also surprised, but the reason behind his surprise differed from others.

He could discern Amara's punch packed strength comparable to or stronger than an early-stage, three-star attack, however... despite him being taken off guard, the young man didn't seem to take much damage.

'He should be a mid-stage three-star, strength type mage, an elite among the inner disciples.' He mused.

Cough!

The young man coughed, spitting out some blood before slowly getting up. His eyes, which were calm a moment before, were now burning with extreme anger.

After becoming a three-star mage and entering the ranking of top inner disciples, whenever he went, he always received people's respect and adoration. Never once was he humiliated like today.

How could someone like him not be angry? He was so angry that he wanted to tear Amara limb from limb. However...

Despite the fact that he was taken off guard, as an elite disciple, he could tell that wasn't this beautiful girl's full strength. Heck, it was far from it because he could feel an intense danger from her, which he didn't feel even when he was facing some core disciples.

Just as everyone thought there would be a good battle to watch, the young man glanced at his lackey, who was staring at him dumbly, and said, "Come down. We'll take next eagle."

People were disappointed, and some even started booing that he had a false reputation.

Amara, who wanted to attack again, was stopped by Max when the young man admitted defeat. Dissatisfied, she directed an angry glare at the man before returning to Max's side.

Max glanced at the young man before turning to the eagle's owner. "Shall we go?"

"Ah? Yes, sir."

Then the eagle took off and flew toward the peak of the cloud mountain.

Meanwhile, the young man left below looked at the vanishing eagle with apprehension in his eyes.

'I have a feeling even if she isn't as strong as miss Adrienne, she isn't much weaker in comparison.' He felt chills run down his spine at this thought.

How strong was Adrienne? She was so strong that she could fight multiple peak stage three-star mages without being at a disadvantage. She was so strong that very few dared to meet her in battle. But he got the same sense of danger from a random girl. This was too terrifying.

'There are many people stronger than me in the same age group. I can't be too arrogant.' He thought and calmed down.

His lackey looked at him with a confused look and asked, "Sir, Gale. Why didn't you teach her a lesson? How dare she sneak attack you?"

Gale looked at the man as though he was an idiot before straightforwardly saying, "I'm no match for her. Not to mention there was that man, too. I couldn't see through him at all."

Mr. lackey's eyes opened wide in disbelief when he heard him admit he was inferior to Amara.

He wasn't surprised because he was the weaker party, since it was evident from that single attack. However, he was surprised because his ever so prideful sir Gale, who didn't back down against the nobles' oppression even when he was just a two-star mage, admitted his inferiority so readily.

Looking at his disbelieving expression, Gale smiled. "Pride begets arrogance, which often leads us to our downfall. After gaining a little strength, I also started acting like the noble kids who I despise so much. Thankfully, I realized this before it was too late."

Finished speaking, he sighed inwardly. 'However, it's a pity I couldn't become friends with that beauty.'

Swoosh!

As the eagle flew toward the cloud peak, other passengers kept giving the furtive glances while murmuring among themselves. However, none dared to approach them.

As Max watched the beautiful mountain scenery down below, and felt the cool breeze kiss his face as the eagle flew at high speeds, he couldn't help but wish to have a flying beast of his own.

'Too bad that golden winged python's egg was lost with that old bastard's death or it would've been an amazing beast companion.'

He sighed, feeling a little depressed. Ever since he bought the egg, he had been looking forward to its hatching. However, who knew things would change so drastically?

Fortunately, the egg wasn't damaged, and it was resting in the underground palace somewhere in the endless ocean.

How did he know this? The system told him, of course. Unfortunately, it couldn't bring it back, nor could it tell the exact location of the underground palace.

Seeing him sigh, Amara curiously asked, "What are you thinking, Master?"

"Eh?"

Because she didn't keep her voice low, and everyone was sitting not too far from her, they heard her clearly and exclaimed in astonishment.

"She... she is this guy's subordinate?"

"A powerful three-star, noble looking mage is his subordinate? So unfair! He doesn't seem anything extraordinary, apart from being a little handsome." A young man exclaimed.

"He must be a young master of some big family." Someone else said with envy.

"Shh! Keep your voices down, or do you also want to get beaten up?"

...

Amara frowned when she heard their muttering, but didn't say anything since Max had signaled her to ignore them.

Max glanced at them and smiled wryly in his heart, 'They are not wrong to underestimate me since I look like so harmless.'

'No, I can't let this go on. I need to make develop my aura and make it domineering and oppressive like Orlan's.' He decided.

Now that he was a three-star mage, he could utilize his aura and even train it through special methods, even though it was very difficult because of the aura was an intangible force of energy.

"We have arrived, sir." He suddenly heard the eagle owner's voice, announcing their arrival at the cloud peak.

Chapter 453: Disaster for the Garfields [1]

Max stood up and jumped down with Amara before walking toward the academy's gate.

"Halt!"

The guards guarding the gate stopped them and asked for the identification. Max nodded and took out his inner disciple identity token.

"Can I go in now?" He asked, showing them his token.

"Yes, you can." One of the guards nodded, stepping out of the way to allow him entry.

Max nodded and walked inside, with Amara following him.

"Wait!"

When the guard saw Amara, who didn't show any identity, follow Max inside, he prompted to stop her.

Seeing this, Max sighed. If he was a luxuriously dressed noble with many people following him, the guards wouldn't have dared to stop him from bringing one unidentified person.

They would have gone with the second option and informed their commander about it, who would later see if the unidentified person was an enemy. If it wasn't, things would've ended right then and there.

"She is with me." He said, expressing his intentions to bring her inside.

"I'm afraid you have to first id—" The guard shook his head a little apologetically.

Whoosh!

Max, not wanting to waste time, directly released his three-star aura, which immediately shut him up. Max then eyed him and asked, "Can she go now?"

Gulp!

The guard gulped nervously and hurriedly nodded. "Yes, sir. She can."

"Good." Max nodded expressionlessly and entered the academy with Amara.

Unbeknownst to Max, just when he had jumped down from the eagle, a man, who was hiding in the shadows a hundred or so meters away from the academy gate, had noticed him.

The man took out a portrait which had Max's picture drawn in. After confirming that Max was indeed the person in the portrait, he took out a communication crystal and sent a message, "My lord, that guy has returned. I await further orders."

The royal capital of the Green Leaf Kingdom...

The royal capital was the most prosperous city of the kingdom, and it was the home base for the four super families, the strongest families of the kingdom.

The strongest among the four was the royal family. The royal family occupied the northern part of the city.

The other three families, the Hobson, the Rudolf, and the Arasia family, occupied western, southern, and the eastern parts of the city.

Because there wasn't much difference in their overall power, no ranking was assigned to them.

Currently, in one of the Hobson family's mansions, a middle-aged in golden embroidered robes was walking back and forth, with a gloomy expression on his face. He had just received the information that his son, Jake's murderer, had returned to the academy.

Suddenly, the mansion's door opened and a beautiful middle-aged woman, who had an oval face, fair and smooth skin and an hourglass figure, walked in. She had shoulder length violet hair and wore a matching violet, one-piece dress.

Seeing her come in, the golden clothed man asked in a cold voice, "What did your father say? He didn't agree, right?"

The violet haired woman nodded,

"Yeah. He doesn't want to form any kind of relationship with your Dalton family until your family break all the relations with Arasia family."

"Good. Now let's return. I can't wait to tear that bastard apart." The man harrumphed.

When the violet-haired woman heard this, her hazel eyes also turned cold, and her aura, which was at the peak three-star realm, burst out in waves, destroying the ground and furniture in the vicinity. She obviously knew who her husband was referring to.

"You found out where that murderer is? And are ready to go against your family's orders?" She asked.

"Yes. He has just returned to the Cloud academy. And what did you just say? Family? Hahaha!" The man burst out in a mocking laughter.

"The family that tried to hide the information about our only son's death? The family that sent us here on this useless mission just to keep us from taking revenge? If that's the family you are talking about, then you are damn right. I won't fucking obey their orders any longer. If they try to stop me from taking revenge, I won't hesitate to kill them."

"Good. You are finally acting like a real man." The violet-haired woman nodded.

When Jack was killed by Max on the way back from the Elvin city, the Dalton family decided not to tell them.

Why?

It was because the family knew they would want revenge at any cost, but the killer, Max, was an inner disciple of the Cloud academy and the family didn't want their relationship with the Cloud academy to get sour?

Although they could kill Max when he was out of the academy, the family knew the information couldn't be hidden from the academy if they investigated.

So, the family kept them in dark and sent them here to 'discuss' the possibility of strengthening the relationship between the two families and they were kept busy here for one reason or another for over a month.

If their subordinated hadn't accidentally found out about Jake's death and didn't them, they would've been in the dark even now.

"Let's go."

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

Three figures appeared in front of the Garfield mansion in the Claymore town.

In the lead was a silver-masked man. On his left was an amiable looking middle-aged man with silver eyes and hair, Count Wiley, and on the right was a man in golden robes, Dean Dalton, Dalton's family's current head.

They exchanged glances before the silver-masked man threw a black disk in the sky above the mansion.

Weng~!

A wave of transparent energy erupted out from the disk and enveloped the entire mansion without anyone realizing.

They then walked inside the mansion. The guards guarding the gates tried to stop them, but the masked man waved his hand lightly and two guards fell to the ground, dead.

The strange thing was that they didn't have any sign of injury.

Wiley and Dean exchanged a glance between them and both could see fear visible in each other's eyes.

They finally understood why this man was called the silver masked ghost. His method of killing was akin to ghosts.

The trio strolled all the way to the main residence without any hitch. Everyone who saw them was soundlessly killed.

"Call him out!" The masked man ordered.

Count Wiley's expression darkened at this, but he still obeyed and shouted, "Ashton, come out? Look, who is here to visit?"

His voice reverberated throughout the mansion, and everyone who was still alive heard it.

When Ashton, who was in his study sorting out some papers, heard it, his expression turned ugly. He muttered in a desolate voice, "So, this day has finally come?"

Chapter 454: Disaster for the Garfields [2]

Sighing, he walked out of his study when Esther, Amelia, Mina and butler George arrived and looked at Ashton with worried looks.

Ashton glanced at them and said, "Later, I'll create an opportunity for you guys to escape. Go somewhere far away where no one can find you."

After a pause, he continued, "If possible, contact Emily, Max and others and tell them not to leave their academies. Hopefully, they will be safe as long as they are in there."

Hearing this, everyone's expression became turn even more grim and Esther asked, "Is it really this serious? Can't we ask the royals' help?"

"I'm afraid not." Ashton shook his head. "Since he dared to come, it means he is fully prepared for everything."

He was filled with guilt and regret now. Guilt toward his family because he had dragged them down with him and regret for not being able to kill Count Wiley last time.

It was as if Esther could read his mind. She shook her head. "You don't need to feel guilty about us. We are a family. We'll both prosper and die together."

Ashton felt a lump in his throat when he heard this. He knew what she implied by her words. She was saying that she won't escape without him.

"Esther, listen to me just this time, alright?" He requested.

"Dear, you don't have to force sister Esther. I won't go either." Amelia chimed in.

"Same goes for me." Mina also added.

"Lord Ashton, I'll also—" Butler George also spoke up but,

"ENOUGH!"

Ashton shouted, immediately silencing him. He then glared at his three wives and Butler George, "Just do I say or I won't be able to die in peace."

Esther, Amelia and Mina didn't back down and glared back, demonstrating their intentions.

Just then, a cold snort sounded inside their heads.

[Hmph! None of you'll be able to leave alive if I don't get the thunder sword within 5 minutes.]

Ashton, who was acting calm until now, paled immediately when he heard this. Esther and others also had the same reactions.

Ashton suddenly chuckled. "Haha, it seems that bastard has come prepared this time."

He then glanced at his wives and took a deep breath before retrieving a small container that had a black liquid inside it and immediately drank it.

"Ashton don't!"

"No!"

"No!"

Esther, Amelia and Mina shouted simultaneously and rushed toward him to stop him, but it was already too late.

Boom!

A strange, gaseous energy erupted out of him and sent the trio flying. Butler George was also pushed away.

The ground where Ashton stood had cracked in a spiderweb-like shape.

The trio quickly stood up and saw Ashton gritting his teeth as his body slowly cracked and blood flowed out. However, the black energy was still erupting out of him.

"No, no, no, no." Amelia seemed to have lost her soul, as tears fell from her eyes.

Esther and Mina looked comparatively better, but it was only that. Both ladies looked heartbroken and tears were streaming down their faces, too.

"My ladies, what... what was that black liquid?" Butler George asked.

"Something that'll leave him at the death's door." Esther answered in a chilling voice and the air around her was becoming frosty by the second as she watched Ashton endure the pain.

...

Outside the residence, Count Wiley's trio stood, waiting for Ashton and others to come out.

Whoosh!

Suddenly, they felt a strange energy erupt from inside.

"What energy is that? Is it a bloodline energy?" Dean asked, his brows furrowed. Masked man also seemed confused.

On the other hand, Count Wiley's eyes widened and there was a deep fear in his eyes, when he sensed the energy.

'That fool, he used that item? Damn it!' He cursed inwardly.

The thoughts of retreating had appeared in his mind but he stopped himself and a cold smile appeared on his face as he glanced at the duo beside him.

"Lord masked ghost, should we go in? I have a bad feeling about this," Dean suggested. He never liked to take risks, so he quickly wanted to kill Ashton and take the sword lest things went south.

"What bad feeling? Isn't that crippled just a three-star mage? Even if he uses some secret method to increase his strength, can he become as strong as me?" The masked man snorted.

Hearing this, Dean's knitted brows eased a little. That was true. No matter what secret method a person used, they could only increase their strength by one mage realm, and it lasted only for a short while.

So, Ashton can only be as strong as a four-star mage while they had two four-star mages and a five-star one. In other words, they really didn't have to worry about anything.

'But why do I feel uneasy?' He thought.

Count Wiley sneered in his mind when he heard what the masked man said and thought, 'You'll soon regret your decision soon enough.'

Boom!

Suddenly, the roof of the building in front of them burst apart and a figure shot out of it, landing in front of the trio.

"Hm?" The masked man raised his brows when he saw Ashton's condition and clicked his tongue, "Tsk! You really want to die, don't you?"

Right now, Ashton's entire body was filled with countless cracks and blackish blood was oozing out from them. Veins throughout his body were bulging and wriggling like worms, and his face was contorted and dark. He looked the very definition of word horrifying.

"Mm? That's strange. His energy seems to still be in the three-star realm." Dean commented from the side.

"Oh?" The masked man also noticed this and felt it was strange, but he didn't bother to think much about it because he was confident in taking him down.

Ashton looked at the three in front of him and let out a mocking laughter.

"Haha, although I had expected the Dalton family was helping this vicious bastard, but I hadn't thought that the almighty royal family would also support him. It seems I was really blind to have worked for you all these years."

Chapter 455: Devil's blood [Bonus chapter]

The masked man frowned when he heard Ashton's words. After remaining silent for a moment, he said, "As I said before, just hand over the thunder sword and I'll let all of you live. That's the most I can do for you."

Count Wiley narrowed his eyes at the masked man from the side and thought, 'So, you forced him to use that item. You are really asking for death.'

When both Count Wiley and Ashton were young, during one outing, they had unknowingly ventured into a ruin of secret realm. Although the time had eroded everything there, they had found two rankless items.

One was the [witch's destruction talisman] he possessed, while the other one was a small bottle of black liquid, [Devil's blood].

It was because he knew Ashton possessed the [Devil's blood] that he didn't try to kill him during their battle last time, nor did he dare to harm his family, even though he was crippled.

Why?

It was because the [Devil's blood] had two terrifying characteristics.

Unlike other secret method of temporary power increase, it could be used by anyone regardless of the fact they were crippled or mana-less commoners.

The second special characteristic was that upon consumption, it could raise the consumer's power unlimitedly as long as the consumer had blood and life force left in his body.

What notion was the unlimited increase? This meant one could become a king ranked, emperor ranked or even Monarch ranked mage as long as they had enough life blood and blood in their body.

That was why, when he saw the masked man wasn't taking Ashton seriously at all, he felt disdainful toward him.

Although the masked man didn't know about the effects of the [Devil's blood], he still should never underestimate his enemy because many die because of their underestimation of the threat in front of them.

'Just because he is a five-star mage and is feared by many, he seems to think he is all powerful. It is only right for him to suffer. It would be best if Ashton could kill him, but I doubt he has that enough life energy to raise his strength to peak five-star or above level.'

Wiley mused while keeping his guard up, because he knew Ashton hated him more than anyone in this world and he might target him first.

"Hahahaha! Lord masked ghost is too generous. But I'm afraid I can't let you do me such a big favor." Ashton laughed sardonically.

"Is that so?"

Whoosh!

The masked man smirked and vanished.

Ashton readied himself to defend, but the attack never came. A moment later, his eyes widened in horror, but before he could do anything, the masked man reappeared. This time, there were eight people beside him, held in mana chains.

They were Ashton's three wives, butler George, Lacey and Layla, Chloe and Eva. Every member of the Garfield family, apart from his sons and daughters, was here.

The masked man grinned when he saw the expression on Ashton's face and sneered, "Did you think I wouldn't know about the feeling from underground while you waste my time here?"

"Tsk! Tsk! You are naïve if you thought so." He clicked his tongue and then pointed his finger up at the formation disk, "Even if I don't use mana divine sense, I would still know everything that's happening here in your mansion, thanks to that."

"You see, that little thing is very useful in these kinds of situations. Not only can't you hide anything from me, you also can't send any message out and no one will be able to see or hear anything what's happening here."

Ashton closed his eyes, and when he opened them again, the black gaseous energy swirling around him intensified.

Boom!

Early-stage, four-star...

Boom!

Mid-stage, four-star...

Boom!

High-stage, four-star...

Boom!

Peak four-star...

Within a few seconds, he had broken through from the peak three-star to the peak four-star realm and the black energy showed no signs of weakening.

Finally, the look in the masked man's eyes changed to become serious. As for Dean, his face had turned completely dark as he cursed in his mind, 'Damn it! I knew something was amiss.'

"Ashton, stop it or I'll kill them one by one." The masked man shouted as he grabbed Chloe, Noah's wife, by the neck.

Chloe's face turned deathly pale, and she looked at Ashton with a begging look.

Seeing this, Amelia, who always had a cheerful smile on her face and never become angry, shouted coldly, "Stop giving him that look, Chloe. Do you think he won't kill you and kill all of us if your father-in-law stopped? He won't. He'll still kill us. So, stop being so pitiful and make us feel even more guilty than we already feel."

"I-I... don't... want... to... die." Chloe croaked, struggling to breathe.

Ashton's body trembled when he heard this. Seeing this, Amelia cried out angrily at Chloe, however tears were streaming down her eyes, "SHUT THE HELL UP!"

Crack!

The masked man cracked Chloe's neck before throwing her away like a rag-doll, "It seems her life wasn't worth enough, right?"

He then waved his hand, and the mana chains restricting the remaining seven people wrapped around the necks and started squeezing.

"How about all of them? Are their lives worth enough for you to stop doing what you are doing and hand over the thunder sword? If not, how about we add the lives of your sons and daughter who are currently in different academies? You don't think they will be safe when my royal family wants their lives, do you?"

Ashton's eyes blazed with dark flames of anger but his heart couldn't help but shuddered in fear when he saw his wives, daughters-in-law and his loyal subordinate hanging just an inch away from death. And the mention of his sons and daughters made him almost stop.

However, just then, a cold voice sounded from above...

"You want my family's heirloom sword? Isn't your little royal family too full of themselves?"

Chapter 456: Emperor level mage

Everything seemed to stop as the cold voice sounded.

As everyone moved their gazes toward the source of the voice, and saw three people hovering in the air above the mansion. One old lady, a cute young girl and a middle-aged in golden white robes.

A solemn look appeared in the masked man's eyes when he saw them, while Dean and Count Wiley stared, aghast.

Why?

Because the voice was directed at the trio. What did that mean?

It meant that them coveting the sword had angered the old lady—who apparently was at least a five-star mage or stronger since she could fly—because based on her words, the thunder sword was her family's heirloom sword.

Furthermore, all three of them recognized the middle-aged in golden white robes with a crown on his head, standing submissively behind her.

Wasn't this the current king of the Green leaf kingdom, an almighty six-star mage? Why was he standing there like an obedient servant?

The masked man, who initially felt anger when he heard her disrespect his royal family, felt his anger evaporate within a second and a confused and apprehensive look appeared in his eyes.

Seeing the masked man stare at them dumbly, the middle-aged man in golden white robes shouted sternly at him, "You fool! What are you doing standing there like an idiot? Hurry and greet the senior."

"This... Yes, my king..." The masked man was dumbfounded, but as a seasoned expert, he hurriedly regained his senses and bowed respectfully toward the old lady, "Greetings, senior. Please forgive me if I've offended you unknowingly."

The old lady, however, didn't spare him any glance and looked at Ashton, who was also looking at her with a frown on his face, instead.

It wasn't only Ashton but Esther, Amelia, Mina and even Butler George, who were looking at the old lady and the young girl in confusion.

They found them look similar to Hanna, Max's mother, and from how she called Hannah's sword her family's heirloom, it was clear they were from Hannah's family.

However... was Hannah from a powerful family?

They didn't know, but they had their doubts because she used to carry herself in a dignified manner and her strength was even stronger than Ashton at his peak. Would someone from an ordinary family have such traits?

Hannah, however, never told them about her background. Maybe only Ashton had some clues. Now it seemed she did indeed come from a powerful family which was at least stronger than the royal family since even the king was like a servant in front of this old lady.

Whoosh!

The old lady vanished from the sky and appeared in front of Ashton. She looked at his condition with a frown on her aged face before shaking her head. "Such a reckless kid."

"You... are from Hanna's family, right?" Ashton asked, looking at the woman.

"Yes. I am. We'll talk about everything later." She said as thunder started crackling around her hand. She then placed it on his shoulder and poured it all inside his body.

"AHHHHHH!"

Ashton's eyes widened, and he cried out in pain like a kid.

"Endure it and don't faint. Keep this energy under control." The old lady sternly said.

Seeing Ashton in pain, Esther and others wanted to stop her, but before they could say anything, the old lady glanced at them and said, "Don't worry. I'm saving his life. If I don't, the moment this energy leaves his body, he will die."

"Okay." The ladies nodding in understanding before shifting their gazes to Ashton and their heart pained upon seeing him suffer.

On the other side, the king flew down with Gene and landed beside the masked man, looking at the old lady with an incomprehensible look in his eyes.

Gene glanced at him and snorted, "If you want to keep your life, I advise you do not act recklessly."

Hearing this, the king felt chills run down his spine and the scene when he met the old lady appeared in his mind. She only released her aura and killing intent and he was immobilized completely.

Gulp!

He gulped audibly and hurriedly shook his head, "N-No. Young lady. I won't act recklessly. Please rest assured."

"Hmph!" Gene snorted before walking over to her grandma's side, leaving the king, whose face had turned dark, behind.

The masked man glanced at him, hesitated because he could see the king wasn't in the best mood, but still asked through telepathy, [My king, who is she and why did you bring her here? Didn't we agree to give the sword to those people from the central continent?]

[What am I supposed to do when an emperor ranked mage came knocking on my door? Refuse her and get killed?]

The king asked angrily as he glared at him.

The masked man stared at him blankly. The words 'emperor ranked mage' had stunned him. As he glanced at the old lady helping Ashton dispel the devil's energy, he felt his blood run cold.

Although she didn't have any particular expression on her face, the masked man knew Ashton was someone she cared about or she wouldn't have used her precious energy to save him.

Since this was the case, wouldn't she kill him, who forced Ashton to use this self-harming method?

The king, oblivious to the masked man's state of mind, continued to rage.

[Why do you have to be here and demand the sword just when we came here? Couldn't you have finished this matter earlier?]

[As the true owner of the sword, I'm sure she knows what we were trying to accomplish by trying to seize it and the chances are very high that things will become ugly for us. FUCK!!]

Dean also had a constipated expression on his face. Right now, he was cursing his luck for encountering an emperor ranked mage.

...

Ashton cried in pain for over half an hour non-stop because the pain was simply too unbearable. He felt as if his soul was being electrocuted with lightning strikes.

After half an hour, the pain grew weaker before eventually dying out completely.

Phew!

Gene's grandma let out a breath after she withdrew her thunder elemental mana.

"Thank... you." Ashton said weakly before falling unconscious. His body had shriveled up, his previously lustrous skin had become wrinkled and lose like a dying old man while his black hair had turned pure white.

Esther and others hurriedly came beside to support him. Their heart lurched when they saw his condition and then glanced at the old woman, who smiled lightly. "He will live."

"Thank you, senior for saving his life." All three ladies bowed 90 degrees to express their gratitude.

The old woman shook her head. "Unfortunately, I was too late. He has already burned at least 70% of his vitality and blood, while his mana core has turned into dust and his mana pathways are also severely damaged."

Color drained from the three ladies' faces when they heard it. They understood what this meant. And as they had feared, the old woman continued with a sigh,

"Without some miracle medicine, he won't be able to live for too long. I believe he has at most a month to live."

Amelia, who was the most emotional of the three, hugged the unconscious Ashton tighter, and asked while fighting hard to contain her tears, "Where can we get this miracle medicine?"

The old lady sighed and shook her head, "Let alone you guys, even I can't get my hands on that kind of medicine. Apart from those elusive supreme mages, only monarchs are qualified enough to get it. So, my advice is to take care of him and spend the rest of your time with him so you won't have many regrets later on."

Amelia shuddered when she heard this before immediately shaking her head, "NO! Please tell me what medicine can heal him. Maybe we can find it."

"It's useless to know, really." The old lady sighed and then said, "There are only four things that I know of which can heal him."

"First is the Elves' life spring. Second is the seven seas luminous pearl. Third is a rankles healing medicine which is comparable to grade 9 medicine and the last one is a supreme mage who has wood or vitality element."

"Last one is impossible even for those super families and sects because even if there is a supreme mage who has wood or vitality element, he or she won't help anyone who is unrelated to them. As for the rest, as I said, you need to be at least a monarch ranked mage to get them."

Esther and mina went silent. As for Amelia, she couldn't hold back her tears anymore and started weeping silently.

A moment later, Mina glanced at the masked man and the group with burning killing intent in her eyes and said to the old lady,

"Senior, I'm sure you are related to sister Hannah. Based on that, I ask you to kill these scums. Not only they are responsible for his current condition, they are also the ones who caused Hannah's death."

Sii!

The masked man and others shuddered violently, and their hair stood on ends when they heard her.

- Chapter 457: Anna's tears |

Chapter 457: Anna's tears

"S-Senior, I didn't do that. I don't even know who this Hannah lady was." The masked man hurriedly spoke up in his defense.

"Yes, senior. Even though I knew who lady Hannah was, I never acted against her. It was all done by Wiley." Dean chimed in, shifting all the blame onto Count Wiley.

Count Wiley didn't try to give any explanation because he knew he was the main culprit of the Garfield's family's tragedies. He just stared at the old lady, and stealthily took out his [Witch's destruction talisman], gripping it tightly in his hand.

He knew even though the talisman was very strong, its effects were limited to five-star and maximum to king ranked mages. It couldn't harm an emperor ranked mage at all.

However, he felt a little safer with in his hand and he planned to launch it at Dean and the masked man when the old lady attacked him. Since he couldn't do anything to her, he would at least kill or severely injure these traitorous companions of his.

To his delight, the old lady only gave them a cursory glance before shaking her head. "It's your revenge. You should take it."

Before Mina or others could say anything, she looked at the King and indifferently said, "Take these pieces of trash out of my sight and remember, if you dare to target this family again, I'll annihilate your family."

The king gave the old lady a deep look before saying, "We'll keep that in mind, senior. Now, please excuse us."

Saying this, he glanced at the formation disk, which then flew down toward him as if being summoned. After storing it away, he waved his hand, enveloping the masked man's trio with his mana, and flew out of the Garfield mansion, leaving the claymore town within seconds.

This development surprised everyone because they had thought the old lady would kill count Wiley and others.

The masked man looked at the king and asked, "My king, why did she spare us?"

"Spare us?" The king snorted before saying, "She is seriously injured. So, her current strength isn't enough to kill you guys while fighting me. Even if she could, it would've aggravated her injuries, so she decided not to act against us."

...

Meanwhile, Mina looked at the old lady with an incomprehensible look on her face.

Take revenge ourselves? Couldn't she see all of them were only two-star mages? How were they going to take revenge against four and five-star mages?

The old lady understood what she was thinking, but didn't bother to explain her reasoning. She glanced in the air above instead and called out,

"Come out!"

Confused, everyone followed her gaze and saw a beautiful lady in white robes appear there silently.

Seeing her standing in the air, everyone knew she was above mortal boundary and from how she was hiding until now, they became wary of her.

"Mm? You don't seem to be from the thunder family. So why were you hiding here?"

The old lady asked, secretly letting out a breath of relief when she noticed the woman in front of her wasn't from the thunder family. The thunder family's members had dark violet hair and eyes, which the woman in question didn't have.

Initially, she thought the person hiding was someone from the thunder family and this was one of the reasons why she didn't try to kill count Wiley and others. If it wasn't for her, she might have killed them to avenge her niece, Hannah's death.

The white-robed woman glanced at her, bowed slightly toward her, "Greeting, senior. I'm an Elder of the Ice Sovereign Mountain."

Although she bowed and seemed respectful, it was evident she didn't care much about her from how indifferent her voice sounded.

The old lady nodded in acknowledgement, not at all angry with the lack of respect. She knew this woman only addressed her as senior because she was an emperor mage. Although injured, an emperor mage was not someone she — a king mage — could take lightly.

"Someone from the Ice Sovereign Mountain? What are you doing here?" The old lady asked, her tone becoming a little gentler.

Although her Valiant family—before it was destroyed — was one of the top families of the central plains and had a few monarch realm mages holding the fort, the Ice Sovereign Mountain was on a different level. A supreme mage established it, after all.

"My master ordered me to take the Garfield family to safety since the war with demons will be happening in less than a week now." The woman answered.

"What?!" The old lady's expression changed when she heard this and asked, "Isn't there still over half a year left before the agreed upon time?"

"It seems the senior isn't aware of this, but the demons had broken the pact and to take us off guard, they are coming right now. From the news from the scouts, their army will be here in a few more days, and this area will become the center of the battlefield." The woman explained calmly.

The old lady fell in deep thought. She had planned to use the few months she had to recover completely and find the thunder sword.

When the demons attacked, the thunder family — as one of the powerhouses of the continent — would have to focus its attention and manpower on the war. This would give her an opportunity to save her family members.

However, now with the war happening a lot sooner than she expected, things wouldn't be so easy for her.

She took a deep breath and put these thoughts at the back of her mind. So what if things weren't going as she planned and saving her family members would be a lot harder? She still had to do it. However, recovering to her top condition and taking the thunder sword back were now her main priorities. Fortunately, the sword was almost in her hand now...

She then shifted her attention to the woman in white and asked, feeling confused, "Why would your master, who I suppose should be an inner Elder at least, ask you to save this family?"

"It's because her personal disciple is from this family and she requested my master to ensure their safety." The woman replied.

"I see." The old lady nodded in understanding while feeling surprised by the fact that someone of this small family was a personal disciple of the famed Ice Sovereign Mountain.

Of course, she wasn't looking down on them, but only the top family or institutions that had a five-star or stronger mage could send their kids to their central continent. But from what she could see, Ashton, before becoming crippled, was only a three-star mage.

"Is your master that white-haired senior?" Esther asked when she heard their conversation.

The woman in white raised her brow but nodded. "Yes. She is."

Hearing this, Esther and others felt admiration toward Lilly. Even though she had left and her status had elevated a lot, she still hadn't forgotten them.

"Now, you guys should hurry and follow me. I'll take you somewhere safe." The woman added.

Esther looked at Ashton, then at Chloe's corpse, and asked, "Can you give us some time?"

The woman glanced at them, thought for a moment, and nodded. "You have three days. Do everything you need to. Also, call your sons and daughters back."

"This..." Esther hesitated and said, "It will probably take more than a week for them all to come back."

"No. That won't do." The woman frowned and shook her head. After a moment of thought, she sighed and said, "One of you come with me to bring them back."

Esther and Mina exchanged glances and Mina volunteered, "I'll go with you."

She then glanced at the old lady and asked, "Senior must be here for Hannah's sword, right?"

"Yes." The old lady nodded.

"Please wait until Ashton wakes up. He knows where it is." Mina said, she then left with the white clothed woman.

The cloud academy, Max's dorm room,

Knock! Knock!

Max knocked on his dorm room's door, expecting to see Anna's surprised and happy face when she saw him upon opening the door.

Creak~

However, when the door opened, his expression changed.

Anna was standing in front of him with a vacant look in her eyes. Her hair was messy, lips parched and dried up, tear stains on her cheeks.

"A-Anna?" He called out.

Hearing his voice, her eyes regained some focus. When she saw him, tears appeared in her eyes. She slowly lifted her hand and touched his face as she asked in a trembling voice, "Is that you, little Max?"

"Yes, it's me." Max nodded and hurriedly hugged her. "Don't cry. It's alright. Everything's alright. I'm here." He consoled her as he patted her back.

Anna cried even more loudly when she felt his warm embrace and kept mumbling, "I'm sorry. I'm sorry."

He didn't know what happened, but seeing her cry like this, he felt unimaginable anger bubbling in his chest.

Chapter 458: Someone bullied Anna

After crying for a long while, Anna finally calmed down.

Max lifted her in the princess carry and took her inside while Amara closed the door behind after she entered. All this while, she hadn't made any sound as not to disturb their reunion.

Max gently placed Anna on the bed and gave her some water to drink. Then, he asked while looking into her eyes, "Now tell me what happened? Why are you in such a condition?"

Hearing this, Anna's eyes moistened once again, but she held her tears back and didn't start crying. Taking a deep breath, she said:

"After you went away, Flavia slowly came to terms with her feeling for you and she wanted to confess to you as soon as you returned."

"However, just a few days ago, some people from Flavia's family came and forcefully took her away. We were powerless to stop them and even the academy had given them permission to take her away."

She paused for a moment before continuing,

"From what I could infer, they somehow found out that she is close to you. Because she is already promised to someone from the Dalton family, her to get close to some other man isn't good for either family's reputation. That's why they took her away."

"Her family is so bad. For their personal gain, they don't care about her feelings at all and want to force her to marry that Dalton guy."

Max's eyes flashed with a cold glow upon hearing this. Since Flavia had accepted her feelings and wanted to be with him, she was already his woman.

How dare they force her to marry someone else?

'Arasia and Dalton family? Good. Very good. If the upcoming war doesn't destroy you, I'll do it instead.' He swore.

When Anna saw his expression, she got worried.

Even though she had become very close to Flavia and wanted her and him to be together, she didn't want him to make an enemy out of her family, one of the top families of the kingdom. For this reason, she hesitated whether she should give her last message to him or not.

Her hesitation didn't get past Max's eyes as he asked, "There is something else that I need to know?"

Anna wanted to shake her head for a moment, but when she saw the look in his eyes, she sighed and nodded.

"Before Flavia went away, she told me she can make her family postpone her marriage for a maximum of three months. If you can become a five-star mage by, you can go save her. If you can't, forget about her and don't ever think of antagonizing her family."

'Three months? It won't take this long.' Max thought. He then asked, "Why are you like this? What happened?"

Anna's expression turned dark and beautiful eyes flashed with a cold light when she heard this question.

After briefly hesitating, she told him everything that happened after Flavia was taken away.

After Flavia was taken away, Anna was too depressed to do anything. So, she stayed in her room. However, trouble soon came knocking on the door.

The disciplinary disciple that Max had beaten up a few months ago arrived and told her she was living in Max's dorm without academy's permission and this was punishable.

He punished her by punching her a few times, that almost made Anna faint and left without saying anything about moving out of the room.

But he returned next and beat her up again because she was still staying here.

She was then challenged by an inner disciple to a duel which she wanted to reject, but the disciplinary hall disciple told her she could stay in Max's dorm room without any punishment if she accepted the challenge.

Since she didn't want to move out of the dorm room and the challenger was only an early-stage two-star mage, she accepted the challenge.

However,

It turned out that she was wrong about his strength because the man was a peak two-star mage. This resulted in her being beaten up so badly that even with healing pills, she had to stay in bed for two days.

But the bullying didn't stop. Even today in the morning, she was beaten by a group of three girls when she went out for some food.

"When I asked those girls why they were targeting me since I don't know any of them, they told me it was that disciplinary hall disciple who ordered them to do that."

Anna said, her fists clenched tight in anger. Although she had been a weak outer disciple for years, she was never bullied and humiliated like this.

Max's face was expressionless after he heard all this. Once she finished speaking, he stood up and said, "I'll be back in a while."

He then turned to Amara. "You stay with her and help her pack her stuff. We'll leave once I'm back."

"W-Wait Max." Anna came to her senses and shouted to stop him, but he had already left the room, closing the door behind him.

She wanted to run out and stop him, but because of the abuse for the last few days, she was currently too weak to run. So, she turned to Amara and hurriedly said, "Stop him quick or he will be in danger."

"What do you mean?" Amara frowned.

"He is going to confront that disciplinary hall disciple, but he doesn't know that he has an Elder backing him up. Quick! Stop him." Anna anxiously cried out.

Amara, however, didn't seem too concerned as she asked, "How strong is that Elder you speak of?"

"You!" Anna became angry at her reaction and shouted, "HE IS A MID-STAGE THREE-STAR MAGE!! Now hurry and stop him. He is their target."

"Then there is nothing to worry about," Amara calmly answered.

Anna's expression turned dark as she barked, "What do you mean nothing to worry about? Although they bullied me, Max is their target. If he does something against the academy's rules out of anger, that Elder will use that as an excuse and punish him or expel him from the academy."

Amara's lips curved up into a grin. "That Elder isn't strong enough to punish master and didn't you hear what he said before leaving? He is already planning to leave the academy."

When Anna heard this, a surprised expression appeared on her face as she asked, "Y-You are saying... he is stronger than a mid-stage three-star mage already?"

Chapter 459: Max on rampage [1]

"That's right." Amara nodded before adding, "Although he is only an early-stage three-star mage, I feel he can match most of the high-stage three-star de... mages."

"This... is this true?" Anna asked with shock in her voice.

If it was true, wasn't her little brother's rate of progress was too horrifying? It had been just a few months when he was able to use mana and now he was almost as strong as their father?

"Of course. That's true." Amara nodded. "However, he needs to hone his battle skills and magic spells. He is too immature in that area."

After Anna's shock faded, she glanced at the beautiful girl in front of her and asked, "Who are you and why did you call him master?"

"My name is Amara Bloodwing and I call him master because I'm his... subordinate." Amara introduced herself and then asked, "May I ask what's your relationship with my master? Are you one of his women?"

"N-No, no. I'm not his woman." Anna blushed and hurriedly shook her head while adding in her mind, 'yet'.

"Then?"

"I'm his half-sister." Anna replied while unconsciously stressing on the 'half' part.

"I understand. But as far as I know, my master, you'll soon be his woman." Amara chuckled.

"W-What do you mean?"

"Nothing." Amara shrugged and then said, "You should pack your stuff and get ready to leave."

Hearing this, Anna frowned and asked, "Is he really leaving the academy?" She couldn't understand why he wanted to leave.

As far as she was concerned, the academy was a perfect place to get stronger. Not only could they acquire resources to become stronger here and receive guidance from the elders, they had many opponents to fight against to hone their skills.

"You must not know this, but the demons from the demon continent will be here in a few days. When that happens, this region will become the battlefield because it's near the place from which they would enter."

"Because the demons are coming sooner than the people here expected, the reinforcements from the central region will be late. In that duration, almost all people here would be massacred because, from what I can see, no one here has any inkling of the imminent demon invasion." Amara said, her voice filled with pity and mockery.

She then added, "That's why the master wants to leave and find some safe place to stay before that happens."

Anna's eyes widened in shock. She was having a hard time believing it.

Whoosh!

Max arrived before the disciplinary hall's building.

Just as he was about to enter and find the man who bullied Anna, he saw him walking out with two other people in the disciplinary hall disciple's uniform, talking and laughing.

Just as Max noticed him, the man also noticed him, and his laughter abruptly stopped. A trace of fear, anger, and viciousness flashed in his eyes.

The two disciples by his side, a man and a woman in their mid-twenties, were confused when he abruptly stopped. As they followed his gaze, they noticed Max standing right outside the building.

"Brother Luo, who is he?" The man asked.

"He is the guy who Elder Raina asked us to take care of." The man named Luo answered.

"Oh? He is that one." This time the woman spoke, her eyes flashing.

"How nice of him! He came to us as soon as he returned." The man laughed. He was eager to put some crime on Max's head and then arrest him so they could 'take care' of him.

Max ignored their chatter and eyed the man named Luo before saying in a calm voice, "I'll ask this one time. Did you target my sister because of the enmity between us, or did someone ask you to?"

Luo's expression turned dark when he heard Max's condescending tone, but he didn't answer.

The man by his side, however, couldn't help but mock, "What? You want to take revenge? You bastard kid, let alone revenge, you won't be—"

BANG!

His mocking voice abruptly stopped because a fist had landed in his gut and sent him flying back into the hall.

Thud!

He crashed onto the stone paved ground heavily and coughed out a mouthful of blood. An expression of horror appearing on his face.

This attracted the attention of the people in the hall and outside the building.

"Wow! That guy is strong. He sent that foul-mouthed brat flying before he could even react."

"Strong indeed, but he is also a reckless fool. Doesn't he know he can't offend disciplinary hall's disciples?"

"This bastard! He dared to attack one of our people? He is really tired of living."

...

Many people started commenting, but Max disregarded all of them. He glanced at the man coughing out blood on the ground and nodded.

"Yes, I want revenge and I'll get it today no matter what. Since you admitted you were also the one who participated in bullying my sister, I'll start with you."

Whoosh!

As soon as finished speaking, he moved and within a split second; he was standing before the man.

"You bastard! How dare—"

The man cursed, but once again, his voice was cut short as Max's kick landed on his chest.

Bang!

Crack!

A crisp sound of bone breaking followed the sound of impact as the man flew toward one of the walls of the building and crashed into it.

Thud!

He slid down and blood flowed out from his mouth, nose and ears non-stop. Much of his chest was caved in and blood was flowing out from it, too. After struggling for a few moments, the man fainted.

Gasp!

Gasps of terror rang out in the hall and everyone felt chills run down their spine when they saw the bloodied man and their gazes now held a hint of fear besides pity and derision.

They still believed his ending would not be good now that he had severely injured someone from the disciplinary hall.

Max glanced at the man who had lost his consciousness before turning his gaze toward Luo, who was looking at him with terror in his eyes.

When he noticed Max looking at him, he involuntarily retreated.

Just then, an enraged voice boomed throughout the hall.

"Who dared to be so presumptuous in my disciplinary hall?!"

Chapter 460: Max on rampage [2]

Whoosh!

Following the voice, a pot-bellied man appeared in everyone's view.

When Luo saw him, his expression eased up, and he sighed in relief. He then glanced at the woman beside him with a questioning gaze.

The woman nodded in response. "We are not his match, so I informed Elder Raina about it."

The pot-bellied man wasn't the Elder Raina but his underling, and also an Elder of the disciplinary hall. This meant he was a three-star mage, more than enough to take care of Max. Or so they thought...

The pot-bellied man glanced around and saw the man fainted in a pool of his own blood.

"What's happening here?" He bellowed angrily.

When he received Elder Raina's order to take care of a disciple here, he was having 'fun' with his newly bought Elvin slaves. Although greatly displeased upon being interrupted, he could only obey. So, now he wanted to take out his anger on the disciple who was causing a ruckus here.

Luo immediately stepped forward and pointed at Max before recounting how he barged into the hall and started beating his companion.

"If Elder had come a little later, I'm afraid the two of us would've been in the same condition."

The pot-bellied man stared at Luo for a moment before saying, "Who the fuck are you? Why does an inner disciple want to beat you guys up? Tell me the details or I'll arrest all four of you."

Luo frowned and the woman beside him hurriedly said, "Elder, we three were going to complete a task Elder Raina assigned us to when this guy came."

The pot-bellied man gave a deep look to the woman before nodding. "I understand the situation now. You guys were doing your duty when this disciple barged in and started causing trouble for you for no reason. Is that correct?"

"Yes, Elder." The woman smiled.

The man then glanced at Max and said in a tone of a superior, "Since you assaulted a disciplinary disciple, you'll be punished with 100 whips and be put in the isolation chamber for 6 months."

Gasp!

The crowd gasped when they heard this. Although 100 whips didn't seem like much, they were in fact a lot, because the way the disciplinary hall whipped you wasn't normal.

Before you were whipped, your mana core will be restricted, making you unable to use mana, and once a mage wasn't able to use his mana, he was akin to a common civilian.

Then, the special barbed whips would be infused with mana, causing you unimaginable pain and serious injuries. Many disciples had died while being whipped. As if it wasn't enough, Max was to be put in the isolation chamber for six months.

While the crowd pitied the fate that awaited Max, he was looking at the pot-bellied Elder as though he was looking at an idiot. This made the man angry, and he bellowed, "Disrespectful brat! You'll be whipped 200 times now."

Max shook his head and chuckled, "I attacked that guy and since it is against the rules, I should be punished, but the punishment of 100 whips is already too excessive. Now, you are increasing it to 200 just because of a look? You guys from the disciplinary hall really live up to your reputation of being unreasonable."

He then shrugged. "Well... it doesn't matter what punishment you want to give me because..."

Boom!

Suddenly, orange colour mana burst out of him and wrapped around his legs before he took a step forward.

Whoosh!

After using his true three-star mana, his speed had increased by several folds. He seemed to have vanished from the people's sight and when he appeared; he was already in front of the pot-bellied man, his fist coated with orange mana punching at his bloated belly.

"You are not qualified to."

Bang!

Although the pot-bellied man was on alert the moment he saw the orange coloured mana around Max, he wasn't quick enough to react. So, the punch landed squarely on his gut, causing his belly fat to undulate violently before he was sent flying backwards and crashed into the wall.

What?!

Everyone was shocked. Their shock was not only because he dared to attack an Elder but also because he succeeded and almost knocked him out in one punch.

"He... is a three-star mage?"

"Yeah. I also noticed. His mana was orange coloured."

"But... has he gone mad or something? Why is he attacking everyone he sees?"

"I heard him talking to that guy named Luo. They seemed to have bullied his sister when he wasn't in the academy. He is here for revenge."

"But why did he attack the Elder? Is he tired of living?"

"Well, I'm not too sure about that."

"..."

The crowd started murmuring among themselves.

Max ignored everyone and moved toward the Elder. Although he was spitting out blood, Max could see he wasn't injured too severely.

'He is a three-star mage in the end.'

"You bastard! How dare you attack an Elder?" The Elder hurriedly jumped to his feet when he saw Max coming toward him and assumed a defensive stance.

Yes, despite feeling humiliated and enraged beyond belief, he didn't dare to attack because in that one exchange — if it can be called that — he had ascertained he wasn't this blue-haired disciple's match.

"So what if you are an Elder?" Max scoffed as a crimson flame started burning around his right fist and within a few moments, the flames covered it completely.

This surprised Max because he had just used 2000 mana units and, based on his current mastery of [Calidus Brachium] and his mana control, it should've taken him at least ten seconds to activate the spell.

However, he didn't have the luxury to think about the reason behind this change. So, he focused his thoughts and rushed at the Elder, his blazing fist raised to shoulder level.

'Damn it!' The Elder cursed. Quickly mobilising his mana, he conjured up a thick earthen wall in front of him. He then took out his communication crystal and sent a distress message to other Elders of the disciplinary hall.

'I just need to stall him for some—' He couldn't even complete this train of thought when suddenly,

Boom!

His earthen wall exploded into pieces, and then he felt scalding heat on his chest.

Crack!

A clear crunching sound of bones breaking sounded in his ears before he felt a stabbing pain in his chest. Upon looking down, he saw Max's fist embedded into his chest.

"You..." He could only utter a single word before the colour from his eyes waned. He was dead.

Max looked at his fist in astonishment. Although he easily broke the earthen wall, he knew if he was only a peak two-star mage, even multiple [Calidus Brachium] powered by more than 2000 mana units wouldn't have been enough to destroy it.

He didn't look like it, but this Elder was stronger than the two three-star mages he killed using grade three talismans on his way back from the Elvin city. But... he killed him so easily?

'Is this what that old man was talking about when he said I'll be a lot stronger than others on my level upon breaking through?' He thought.

"Y-You... you killed him?" Luo looked at him with a face covered in horror. He couldn't believe his eyes.

"I didn't plan to, but I seem to have underestimated my strength." Max shrugged nonchalantly.

After he heard the conversation between the Elder and the woman, he had faintly guessed that the main perpetrator behind Anna's bullying was the Elder Raina and this pot-bellied Elder was his underling.

This alone had aroused his killing intent and, after he was 'rewarded' 100 whips that were akin to a death sentence, he had decided to kill him.

"You... you will be killed for this crime." Luo said while retreating.

"Perhaps." Max shrugged. He then vanished, appeared in front of the horrified Luo and grabbed him by his throat, coldly saying, "But you won't be alive to see it."

"W-Wait! Don't kill me. I'll tell you who told me to—"

Crack!

Before he could finish his sentence, Max cracked his neck, killing him.

"I don't need you to tell me. I already know." He scoffed, throwing the corpse away.

He then glanced at the woman who stood frozen with a terrified expression on her face and asked, "Just to make sure I'm not wrong, tell me if the person who asked you to bully my sister is this Elder Raina."