

SPELLCRAFT 1011

[SPELLCRAFT: Reincarnation Of A Magic Scholar](#)

Chapter 1011: Shocking Confrontation

Ciara's heel clacked on the floor as she closed in on Neron.

Her eyes were narrowed in pure rage, and her heart raced in sheer anticipation. She had thought it would take her an eternity to reach this man, but it had happened so fast.

"I remember all your faces. Everyone who was involved in that ambush..." She spoke in a hushed tone, advancing even more.

"I've taken care of some of them. The last one being Giovanni."

The impact of her heels and the ground created an echo across the room.

"He actually pleaded with me. Begged me to forgive him." She gritted her fist, and her heart tightened with every word she uttered.

"But do you know what I did?" Ciara smiled broadly, almost like a demon would.

"I made sure to kill him, while making sure he suffered in every second before finally giving out."

Stretching her hand out now, ready to begin her round with Neron, her eyes bulged in excitement and anticipation for revenge.

"Now it's your turn."

She closed in, and in just a second, she would have finally been able to touch the trembling Neron.

However—

>VWUUUUUUUUSSSHHHHH!!!<

A sudden bright surge of energy cackled from behind her comrades, and it was also a sign of teleportation.

"Cease your actions this instant!" The voice echoed, deep and commanding.

Ciara had already reached a point where she couldn't stop even if she wanted to. It would be foolish for anyone to tell her to cease her actions now.

Or furthermore, expect her to listen.

However...

"H-huh...?" He instantly froze, her eyes widening as she mechanically tilted her head behind to witness the owner of the voice.

'N-no... this voice. No, it can't be—!'

"I said... cease your actions this instant!" The blue energy that was accumulating in the voice's origin suddenly dispersed, and the man within it suddenly became visible.

Ciara's eyes widened instantly, the moment she saw who he was.

His auburn brown hair was longer than she remembered, and his build was much bulkier than she remembered. He was also dressed as a Grand Federation officer, something she found very odd.

However, despite all these differences, there was no doubt on her mind. The person who stood imposingly behind her was...

"J-Jerry?!"

Ciara's eyes instantly grew wet with tears as she saw him—healthy and alive.

A smile instinctively formed on her pink lips, and she couldn't help but keep her gaze on him, despite the enemy being right before her.

>VWUUUSHH<

He vanished from his position and appeared right in front of Ciara, separating her from Neron.

"J-Jerry, you're... you're alive. I... I..." Tears fell from Ciara's face as she watched him with awe and nothing short of an emotional intensity.

"Ciara, hold on. Something isn't right here." She heard someone say from behind her, but she paid it no heed.

The only one that mattered now was right in front of her.

'Why isn't he saying anything? Why isn't he smiling? Didn't you miss me too? I'm sorry... I... I...' Reaching out to touch his face, her eyes glittering with grateful tears, Ciara smiled softly.

"Ciara wai—"

>SQUELCH!<

"H-huh...?" Ciara felt something sear through her—like a blade of some kind.

This feeling was accompanied by stinging pain, and it slowly began to course through her whole body while intensifying at a point.

"W-wha....??" Her gaze fell to the injury she sustained.

It was a strike directly into her heart.

And it was at the hands of the man she loved most.

"W-why...?"

"You are an enemy. Enemies must be neutralized. All enemies... must be neutralized." Jerry's tone sounded so stiff and mechanical, even though it was still the same voice.

His dead eyes showed Ciara that this wasn't the Jerry she knew, and his unfeeling expression served as more evidence.

How could she have been so fooled?

No, perhaps she knew all along, but her heart couldn't bear it. After seeing him for so long, she couldn't help but hug him.

And so, even with her extremely fatal injury, she drew closer to the one who pierced her and hugged him tightly.

"Jerry... I..." A smile coursed through her face as tears fell.

She felt hurt all over her. It seemed his blade was coated in poison as well, so her entire body felt like it was melting off.

And even though her suit provided her enough vitality to move even after fatal injuries, she could feel herself fade away.

Despite all of that, though, she still clung to him closely.

"M-my biggest regret... was that... I never told you how I felt... even at the very end." Her voice, hoarse and low, whispered.

"You have up your life for me, and you treated me very dearly to you, but... I must have feared that deep down... you didn't see me the same way I saw you..."

Biting her lips as even more tears and blood leaked out of her body, Ciara struggled to breathe now.

Still, her mind was set on finishing everything she started.

"... But I... I didn't have the courage to ask you that...nng..." Her body shuddered as she failed to let go of Jerry despite him bridging out of her grasp.

"... It's too late to ask, but... I will at least say this to you..."

A sad, loving smile coursed through her face as she whispered it into his ears.

"... I love you, Jerry."

And with that, all the energy in Ciara's body finally left her, and she slumped to the ground, drowned in her own pool of blood.

'I-I'm sorry everyone...' She closed her eyes and felt her mind floating away.

No one needed to tell her before she realized it for herself.

This was the end of the line for her.

'In the end... I couldn't have my revenge.'

But that was okay. She got to see Jerry one final time. She got to hold him tightly, and she was able to confess her feelings to him.

Even though she wanted more... she had to settle for those things.

And it made her far happier than how she felt after enacting some form of revenge.

It was a shame that she wouldn't see Neron die, but she took solace in the fact that her newfound allies would avenge her and kill the bastard.

And then, after they were done, she would finally be able to rest in peace with her beloved.

'I know it's selfish, but...' With a final sad smile, she finally felt everything go blank. '... I'll be going ahead now.'

... And then she breathed her last.

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Chapter 1012: Curtains Descend

Silence took over the room after Ciara's demise.

No one uttered a word. There were just various expressions all given in varying degrees.

As they all stared at her bleeding corpse, multiple emotions went through them, and several thoughts flowed through their minds.

None of them uttered them, though.

Instead, the room took a tone of deference to her death. The silence was palpable, and the dead calm was scary just as it was beautiful

However, the lull was shortlived

"Hehe... hehehehe... hahahahaha... HAHAAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA!!!"

The one who laughed, breaking the wall of silence, was none other than Neron himself.

"Hahahahaha! What an idiot! To think she confessed to Phoenix XY-001!" He burst out laughing even further.

His latest and most sophisticated project, Pheonix XY was meant to serve as an attempt at the creation of a perfect, undying soldier.

By brainwashing an individual and infusing several weapons, all powered by Isotope XY, into them, it would make them into the perfect loving weapon.

No emotions. No weaknesses. All that mattered was the mission.

"I never killed Jerry to begin with, you fool! He was a very good specimen, and the perfect scapegoat! You loved your whole life thinking he was dead, but he wasn't!"

And the best part?

The best part was the way she died at his hands after trying to avenge him.

"What a fool! Truly! Hahahahaha!!!"

Neron, who had been scared out of his mind a few moments earlier, was now reveling in his victory.

'Fortunately, he was able to get here quickly enough. I would have had to resort to 'that' if he didn't come on time.' His grin intensified.

Now that his Phoenix XY-001 was here, he was invincible.

"You really are a monster in every universe." A feminine voice echoed in the room, and Neron noticed it came from the blond woman in the group.

Aloe Vida.

"How disgusting." She whispered.

"Hahaha! So you're all still here? I totally forgot about that." Neron ignored her comments, considering the fact that he didn't care for the opinions of dead men.

"They are my enemies." He smiled, turning towards his perfect project. "Kill them for me."

"Understood." Jerry's mechanical voice sounded once more, and he swiftly moved to eliminate his master's opponents.

However, before he could do anything, his body froze—as if locked in the confines of time.

"Huh? What's going on?" Neron murmured, seeing as his ultimate creation wasn't budging despite receiving an order.

"Kill them for me! Do it now!"

"U-under—"

"Shut up." This time, the voice that emerged came from none other than the golden-haired boy.

"This entire thing has been quite irritating to watch." He stepped forward, his tone matching the expression he had.

A frown was planted on his face, and his eyes narrowed on Kuzon.

"We promised her we wouldn't interfere, which is why we did nothing despite everything that went down..." He sighed, eyes glowing golden.

"But now that she's dead, do you really think this piece of junk can actually do anything to me? To us?" Kuzon growled.

Neron didn't understand. No, perhaps he just wouldn't understand.

'He's calling it a piece of junk? No way! It's the ultimate tool! It's Isotope XY counteracts the effects of abilities or dampeners. It has immense firepower. It has no emotions or limits. It requires no fuel, as long as the isotope serves as its power source!'

The list went on and on.

In the end, the being called Phoenix XY-001 was a masterpiece.

How dare this boy treat it as less??

"Y-you dare to—"

"Kneel."

>VWUUUUMM!!!<

An immense pressure accompanied his tone, and Neron found his body—his real body—falling to the ground in obedience to the words of a mere boy.

"I didn't want to damage it too much since our ally was fond of it, but now... might as well destroy your ultimate creation in front of you."

Neron's eyes widened as he noticed something around Phoenix XY.

'T-threads??'

There were strings all over his masterpiece's body, preventing it from moving even if tried.

But how could such tiny, insignificant strings hold something so strong?

Neron had no idea!

He was currently at his wit's end.

"Stop there, Kuzon. You shouldn't destroy that body." The voice of yet another Ciara echoed across the room, sending shivers down Neron's spine.

It took him a second or two to remember there were two Ciaras in the room, and the one who wanted to kill him was already dead.

"Urgh! What now, Ciara? You want to spare it because it looks like Jerry? It's a mindless tool now." The one called Kuzon sighed in exasperation.

It seemed he was very eager to end things quickly.

"No, you idiot. He still has a mind." Ciara responded sharply, moving closer.

"I-idiot...?"

"Its just been altered to suit that bastard's needs. That's the basics of brainwashing."

"You just... called me an idiot?"

Completely ignoring Kuzon's objections to her earlier statement, she touched the stiff Jerry's body and smiled softly.

"He's still in there."

"Haa... you... are you serious right now? So what if he is? You want him to recover his mind and find out he killed his dear friend?" Kuzon groaned, now rolling his eyes at this point.

"Well, I can revive Ciara. Isn't that going to solve the issue?" Jared suddenly spoke up, uttering something so crazy that Neron's mind twitched for a moment.

'Resurrect Ciara? What nonsense is he spouting?'

"Do you even have enough capacity for that? You've used a huge chunk of energy for a lot things already, and I can tell that your body is already at its limits."

"Well, you have a point. The issue isn't even energy at this point. It's my body's constitution. But..." Jared suddenly smiled widely.

"... I never said 'I' would be doing it alone."

'What in the world is he even talking about?!'

>VWUUUUUUUUSSSHHHHH<

Suddenly a portal manifested within the room, swirling and turning to reveal the occupant that slowly emerged from within it.

... It was yet another Jared!

'W-what in the world is this? What is happening here?!' Neron's thoughts echoed as his eyes nearly brought forth tears in response to the absurdity

The new Jared that appeared had a wide, confident smile plastered on his face. His eyes gleamed with such energy, and his presence contained so much power that it made the room around to tremble.

"I'm finally back, everyone." He declared, hands folded in a confident pose.

"Is this a bad time?"

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Chapter 1013: Spilled Feelings

There I was, standing opposite myself.

It had been a while since I saw all my allies, but they all seemed well.

'I figured it'll be nice to surprise everyone about my existence—splitting myself into two and all—but it seems they already know...'

It felt a little underwhelming to end things like this, especially considering the climatic adventures I enjoyed with my little project.

"How are the Avarians and Gatorians, by the way?" Kuzon asked, though I could sense from his tone that it was dry and sarcastic.

The joke was on him, though.

"I quite enjoyed myself. I helped them form a stable and sustainable environment, and taught them the benefits of maintaining a proper ecosystem. You know, all the good stuff."

I had some hardcore Kingdombuilding adventures, and while there were certain nuisances that tried to interrupt my work, none of them really fazed me.

'Everyone should be fine there. They all didn't want me to go, but my work there was done...'
Remembering my parting moments with the new society that formed almost brought a test to my eyes, but I brushed those emotions aside.

There were more important things at play here.

"I seem to be interrupting something important, but it seems you don't look too good... other me." I smiled at the Jared that stood not too far from me.

He was the reason I could track down this zone, and by resonating with him, I was able to teleport so far away from my previous position.

It took a considerable amount of energy, but considering the overwhelming amount I had, plus the power of Spellcraft, it was really no big deal at all.

"Yeah. Apparently we didn't do the fission correctly. Once we fuse back, you'll understand." My other half smiled tiredly, and I instantly understood.

I had already begun to notice some signs on my own, but chose to shelve them all until the work was done.

"Well, we might as well do it now."

Using [The Lovers], it wouldn't be very difficult at all.

"Well hurry. We haven't got all day." Kuzon murmured, rolling his eyes a little in exasperation.

Why was he so worked up lately, I couldn't help but wonder.

"Alright. Let's do this."

I walked closer to my double, and with both of us smiling at each other, and nodding almost at the same time, we activated the effects of our respective Arcana Spells.

"[The Lovers]"

... And that was all it took for things to return to normal.

"Haaa..."

I opened my eyes, feeling an immense surge of energy course through me.

The missing parts of myself suddenly became whole, and I felt like a brand new individual.

"... I've missed this." A smile formed on my face as I stared at everyone around me—both with my eyes, and also with my magical perception.

I could see beyond the base, beyond the Zone, even reaching to the immediate areas outside its jurisdiction.

My connection to this world had never been stronger!

"I'm back."

Looking at how everything seemed to be wrapping up well; Neron now completely subdued by Kuzon, Ciara moving towards the suspended Jerry, and Aloe on standby, there was only one thing left to do.

I walked closer to the dead rebel—Ciara's doppelganger—watching her keenly as I bent to take a closer look.

'Looks like she's smiling. She's at peace, huh?'

To be honest, this girl wasn't particularly my favorite person.

'She's caused the death of countless innocents, and even almost destroyed that Grand Federation Base we were on.'

I doubted it would be the first time she had done something like that, or closely similar.

'But... at this point, I don't think I care.'

I just wanted to save her from death, and help my friend who had become her friend.

"Ciara..." I turned to face the brunette was already placing her hand on Jerry's head.

"Hm? What is it? Don't tell me you can't—!"

"No, I can save her. I'm just curious about something."

All the pieces of our past, the things I had been confused about before, slowly began to make a lot more sense to me.

My curiosity, or rather, conclusion, had reached a point where I couldn't be quiet about it any longer.

"You... like Jerry, don't you?"

"W-what?!" Ciara suddenly burst out, her face instantly turning red as she glared at me.

It seemed like a mix of denial and murderous rage directed at me for even asking.

"You know, I didn't quite understand you, and your relationship with him, back when we were at Ainzlark..."

In fact, out of the entire squad, one could say that Ciara was the person I knew less. I had no idea about her motivations or her true nature.

It was all shrouded in this weird mystery that I never bothered to unpack.

But now, after seeing all that happened—especially with this world's Ciara—and how ours sympathized with her—I arrived at the conclusion.

"You really like Jerry, don't you?" I repeated, my smile widening.

"S-shut up!" She barked back, her face turning red even more.

Her eyes contained less of a murderous gleam and more of a sort of vulnerable softness. It felt sort of fun seeing her like that.

"It's quite obvious, Ciara. We could all tell very easily." Aloe's voice echoed from where she stood, and looking at her, she was making a smug grin.

"Oh? So you knew, Aloe?" I asked with a slight chuckle, to which she shrugged.

"I'm more surprised that you're just catching on. Didn't you know about it too, Kuzon?"

All our gazes went to Kuzon, who was just standing and watching in an aloof, impatient manner.

However, after a few seconds of silence, he finally gave in to our probing gazes.

"Haaa... yes. Of course, I knew. I just didn't care."

"Ueeeeeeee!!! Y-you all knew?! All along?!" Ciara burst out in surprise almost melodramatically.

Her shrieks seemed to frighten even the Neron that Kuzon had captured, and it's overly loud sound caused even me to tremble slightly.

The room was full of chuckles and laughter as we all sort of poked fun of Ciara's sudden outburst.

This was actually the first time I had seen Ciara act in such a way.

"W-well, what about Jerry? Is it obvious that he likes me too?"

The moment she asked this though, the room instantly fell silent.

"Hm? No one's saying anything?" Her voice echoed in the vast lull we all jointly partook in.

The problem wasn't what to say, it was how to say it.

'Does Jerry really like her as anything more than a friend?' My thoughts echoed within me, but I quickly cautioned myself, just in case Ciara could probe within to find out what I just thought of.

Kuzon's nonchalant shrug seemed to corroborate what I had in my mind, but Aloe's onlh smile seemed to widen even more.

"Well, I won't speak for everyone, but over the past couple of months, I've been noticing the signs."

"R-really?!" Ciara's eyes widened with a bright glimmer, completely changing the atmosphere of the room.

"You really mean that?!"

'Yeah, Aloe! Did you really mean that?' My thoughts blazed as I stared right at the grinning lady.

It wouldn't be nice if she was just saying all these things to get the hopes of the girl up.

'As far as I can tell, they're just plain friends, right?'

... Right?!

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Chapter 1014: Emotional End

"Of course I mean it. I see the way he looks at you now. He's clearly smitten by you!" She added fuel to the flames.

"For real?!" Ciara's voice rose higher.

"Of course!"

The exchange, at best, felt strange to me, but I decided not to speak.

"B-but... he's been avoiding me lately. I couldn't even find him during the wedding..."

"That's just a sign that he likes you so much!"

"R-really?!"

"Of course! Trust me!"

"Whoah! You must be right! You won the Magic Ross, after all. Guess that wasn't just pure luck." Ciara beamed, now appearing more excited and enamoured by Aloe's words.

'Well, that's a valid point. Aloe does seem like the most mature and knowledgeable in these things...'

'Maybe I could ask her about... nah, it's not worth it.'

I smiled briefly and shrugged.

"You know, I was a little jealous you won the Magic Toss, Aloe. I thought you were just a conniving bitc—I mean, lady. But now, I can see you're really sincere and nice."

Was it just me, or did Ciara almost say something else right there?

"Why, thank you." Aloe smiled warmly, but I already noticed how she twitched her brow within the hundredth of a second as soon as Ciara said the 'B' word.

Fortunately, it seemed no one was willing to pursue matters any further.

'Thank goodness.'

"You guys... thank you all for your support. It really means a lot to me." Ciara's smile made it all worth it in the end.

We all nodded at her words.

"I really didn't think much of you guys at first, but... it seems... maybe you all aren't Sinbad, after all."

'Hold on, we've been comrades for this long, and she didn't think much of us until now?'

I already figured Ciara wasn't a card I could control, but she always seemed to go along with everything, so I didn't really have an issue with her.

But to think she viewed us so loosely as comrades. It really was heartbreaking.

'And the fact that it's our confirmation of her and Jerry liking each other that makes her see us in a more positive light makes it even worse.'

I huffed slightly, deciding to let the matter die off in my mind.

Some things were just better left unsaid.

"We really should return to the important part of—"

"One last thing!" Ciara's voice interrupted Kuzon, who maintained a calm demeanor, but I could tell he was upset.

"After seeing all that has happened here... I've made my decision!"

We all listened to her speak, though it wasn't like any of us had a choice not to.

"I'll confront Jerry on everything the moment we return! No more hiding or running!"

I wanted to mention how we would probably have to face Legris and whatever plans he had before we could think of romance and the likes, but it was probably better not to kick that hornet's nest.

I could even see Aloe giving me the warning stare, so I backed off.

'Besides, it seems Kuzon's motivation to quickly is also romance-related. I don't want to burst any bubbles.'

"You should do that, Ciara. You deserve to be happy with Jerry... just as we're going to make these two happy with each other." I flashed my completely real smile, giving my best energy in support to their union.

"Jared, you... thanks so much." Her eyes sparkled at me.

Just like that, I was able to score some favorability with Ciara!

'Now that I know what matters her, I should be able to use it to my advantage...'

"I agree with Jared. With all that's happening, it's better to settle things with him as soon as you return—once and for all."

Aloe's warm-hearted words felt more natural, and it seemed Ciara bought more into her words as displayed the brighter twinkles in her eyes.

'Damn it!' I controlled my competitive spirit and decided to settle for what I had.

"Well... I suppose it wouldn't be bad seeing you two together." Surprisingly, Kuzon even rendered some good words.

With an atmosphere so full of life and support for Ciara, the scene that had been overflowing with tension and tragedy a moment ago suddenly became so lighthearted.

"Thank you all... >Sniff< for your support... >Sniff<"

With all our hopeful smiles and cheering demeanors toward Ciara, I could definitely see something positive okay out for both her and Jerry.

Heck, even Neron seemed to be touched by how much love was spreading across the room.

'Oh... he's actually just unconscious. My bad.'

In the end, we decided to end our very odd adventure in this strange world by completing the final piece of the puzzle.

"I know Jerry's mind like nothing else. Even though I've never read it... though I've had the temptation to do it so many times. I should be able to restore this one's mind." Ciara grinned, flexing her nonexistent muscles with newfound energy.

I had to admit, seeing her so pumped up and happy kind of warmed my heart.

"Glad to hear it. I'll revive Ciara with my ability as well. There shouldn't be any complications on my end as well."

We both nodded at each other, having an implicit understanding of our roles in the completion of the entire narrative.

'By reuniting this world's Ciara and Jerry, it'll give her more confidence that things will work out for her and our Jerry. How quaint.' I mused.

"Focus, Jared." Kuzon's words echoed in my ears, snapping me out of my thoughts.

"What are you talking about, Kuzon?" I smiled, finally removing my thoughts from any distracting thoughts and concentrating on my target corpse.

"I'm always focused."

With the bright gleam of my Original Magic, and the glowing particles that began manifesting around the dead body of Ciara's doppelganger, I uttered the Magic Words.

"[The Hanged Man]."

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Chapter 1015: Taking Responsibility

The resurrection was successful!

Looking at the surprised face of Ciara as she awoke from her death was especially satisfying.

She looked so confused and lost, though the fact that I was right on top of her didn't help matters at all.

Well, not exactly on top, but... well... I was beside her actually.

'Maybe my face wasn't the first one she wanted to see.'

Ciara's doppelganger ultimately calmed down when she saw Jerry, though, so things didn't escalate beyond that point.

She was there to witness our Ciara undoing the nasty brainwashing that Neron placed upon her dear lover... or was it friend?

'I'm not so sure. Maybe the two have the same type of relationship as they do in our world.'

The process took some time, especially since Ciara was doing this with her raw power, and not an Arcana.

She was also not using Aether, but pure Mana. It made me wonder how she had managed to survive in this world for so long with her Magic prowess alone.

'She has a Special Grade Mana Core, but still... this is insane.'

Fortunately, her power still excelled in this world, considering she could somehow tweak it's wavelength—though I suspected she did this unconsciously.

'Her Special Grade Core also produces a lot Mana, depending on how much she needs. These geniuses sometimes just makes things harder for the rest of us...'

Well, it was probably fine. It was due to her talents that she was able to survive for so long in this world.

That alone deserved praise.

"Haaa..." Her heavy breath leaked out, and she slowly opened her eyes while pursing her lips.

We all watched her, our hearts racing in tension.

Did she do it? Did she not? The questions coursed through the air.

"It should be alright now." Her voice finally broke the silence, and the smile she gave reinforced her words.

"R-really?!" Her doppelganger instantly let out, her eyes expressing the same glimmer that Ciara showed not too long ago.

'These two really are alike. No wonder Ciara took a liking to her.'

"Yes. Kuzon, you can release him now." Ciara turned to face Kuzon, who was busy sorting out something with Neron by the side.

"Alright then." He murmured, and in no time at all, the strings that bound Jerry unraveled.

The instant his strings snapped, his long auburn hair flowed, and his tall muscular body fell to the ground.

'Urgh, Kuzon, you could have set him in a different angle.' I sighed internally.

"Jerry! Are you okay?!" Ciara—no, sorry, her doppelganger—swiftly rushed to his side, her eyes widened with concern.

"Haha... yes... I'm fine, but..." Jerry's face turned slightly red as he stared at the girl beside him.

The doppelganger seemed to be more concerned with his health, and even thought he was having a fever.

Talk about being completely clueless.

"I'm sorry... for what I did..." He finally whispered, having a sullen tone that sank the mood of the entire room.

"Jerry, it wasn't your fault. You were being controlled." Of course, the lovestruck girl said.

"I know, but... that doesn't give me the right to absolve myself of responsibility." His face scrunched up in guilt and the aura around him reeked of resolve.

"I need to make up for my mistakes."

I could definitely imagine my world's Jerry speaking like this. It seemed like this world's Ciara and Jerry were quite similar to our world's version.

'Man... I really wish I could see this world's version of myself. I wonder how he's like.'

"Y-you idiot! You had me worried. I thought you were dead!" Ciara cried as she stared at Jerry, creating an atmosphere of passion.

"I'm sorry. I shouldn't have left your side. I just... couldn't hear to see you hurt."

"Why?" She blurted out. "Why didn't you want to see me hurt?"

At that point, a daze fell over Jerry's face, and his cheeks turned redder.

"T-that is..."

"Tell me, Jerry. How... do you feel about me?" The question finally landed.

Everyone was silent now, all our attentions converging on the couple who were having a very serious conversation.

Whatever happened here was none of our business, really, but it would really affect how our Ciara would perceive things when we returned.

We all had to see things through to the very end.

"I... I..." Jerry's voice was shaky, but it echoed with sincerity.

And then—

"I love you, Ciara!!!"

—He finally uttered the words.

"I don't want to lose you! I couldn't think of a world without you. That was why... I had to save you back then. I... I'm sorry, but—"

The gross part happened after, with Ciara's doppelganger and Jerry's doppelganger kissing deeply.

Of course, I didn't look away. I wasn't a child, so I embraced the entire awkwardness and observed every moment of it.

"Ueeeeehhhh!!!" Ciara on the other hand, covered her face and turned all red the moment she watched the two engage in the act.

She must have projected herself too much in the scenario.

"You idiot. You didn't even consider what my life would be like without you..." A warm smile, coated in falling tears, radiated on the doppelganger's face as she spoke.

"I love you too, Jerry!"

"Y-you do?!"

"Of course! You really don't have eyes, do you? Y-you fool!"

"Haha... sorry..?"

"S-shut up! You better take responsibility for all this, okay?"

"T-take responsibility? Y-you mean..."

"Y-yes! O-of course..."

Both of them instantly had their entire bodies turn red, and they froze like statues.

Something told me they didn't even really understand what it meant to 'take responsibility'. In the end, they simply stared at each other in silence.

... Until a second round of kissing occurred, leaving me somewhat exasperated.

'We've recovered Ciara. Just two more to go...' With a warm smile finally forming on my face, I personally bid farewell to this current world.

'I hope those subjects of mine are adhering to my teachings...'

We didn't spend a phenomenal amount of time together, but... I had fun!

[**SPELLCRAFT: Reincarnation Of A Magic Scholar**](#)

Chapter 1016: The Next Voyage Awaits!

[Several Grueling Hours Later...]

"We're leaving now." Kuzon muttered, his face as indifferent as usual.

Aloe, Ciara, and I all huddled close to him, smiles evident on our faces.

"As I already said, Neron is currently harmless to you. I've used my Marionette Worms on him, in addition to conditioning him with [The Absolute Emperor]. He will be completely loyal to you and your cause." Kuzon added.

Apparently, while we were all engaged in more mundane activities, he was interrogating Neron, and then he conditioned the poor soul at the last minute.

I had to ask though... what were Marionette Worms? I tried inquiring from him, but Kuzon wouldn't tell me.

"Neron has a lot of androids in this facility, toms of technology you can exploit, and he also has a highly volatile self destruction sequence that you can use in case he's outlived his use and you need to destroy lots of enemies."

The way Kuzon spouted out these words made me afraid of him sometimes.

Honestly!

"Just because you took down Neron doesn't mean the Grand Federation has stopped existing. It existed before Neron came into power, and even afterward, it'll still be a force to be reckoned with."

Ciara and Jerry nodded, having Neron by their side. His face appeared blank, like a robot, so Kuzon had to be right about him not having the capacity to turn against them.

"Your fight against the Grand Federation, and your goal of removing their tyranny... make it your way of atoning, Ciara. And as for you, Jerry... guide her on the right path." I added with a smile.

They both nodded in resolve.

'Their plan is to reunite with the other Freedom Fighters, and then use Zone 0 as their base while slowly dismantling the Grand Federation using the Technology of the very same organization, as well as their leader.'

It was a plan with good prospects, so I wished them good fortune.

"The future of this world is in your hands. Don't mess it up." Aloe smiled brightly as she said.

"Yeah. Kick ass! I'm rooting for the two of you... and of course, this world!" Ciara beamed, her true priorities clearly revealed by her own words.

With our farewells said and done, we decided it was time to leave this place.

'This is the shortest time spent so far. I wonder how the next place will be like...' I smiled.

"Let's go." Kuzon activated the Blu-Blu—if I got the name right—and a golden portal instantly appeared in front of us.

"We're really finally going home!" Ciara beamed in genuine excitement.

'Oh snap! Didn't anyone tell her we're not going right away?'

Sure, we made it seem like we were in a hurry to return home, but we still had a few stops to make before returning home.

"Erm... not quite." I murmured, barely audibly.

"What was that?" Ciara beamed at me, her eyes filled with too much glitter.

'... Na, I'm not taking responsibility for this one.'

However, after thinking about the pact I made with myself, and how I finally decided to be a more reliable person... I decided to just let it out.

"We have a few stops to make before heading back."

"What?"

"Yeah. You're not the only one we lost, you know?"

"So I won't be able to see Jerry right away?"

"Um... no...?"

"B-b-but no one told me about this!" I could see Ciara tearing up, and it honestly broke my heart.

After seeing the two doppelgangers in love, I was sure that Ciara was excited to get together with Jerry.

All of that pent-up energy would have to be stifled by the rest of our journey.

'We aren't even sure how long this next voyage will take.'

I could only brace myself for the best as I patted Ciara on her shoulders.

"We're all your friends, right? Just help save two more and we get to return home."

"Don't touch me." A cold reply came instantly.

The dead look in her eyes told me to back off, and so I did.

"Sorry."

"Haa... it's fine. It can't be helped. If Jerry was here, he would have done the same." She sighed, dusting the part of her shoulder where I touched.

'T-this girl...!'

"Besides, you're all my comrades. Of course, I wouldn't abandon you all so easily." She made a warm smile at me.

'Do you really think I'd believe that after what you just did?!'

I was wrong! I truly did not understand this girl at all.

We both nodded at each other with smiles, and I resolved to myself not to even bother trying with her any longer.

The middle ground that we both had was more than enough.

We decided to face the golden portal instead, finally moving forward to the golden portal in front of us.

"Well... goodbye world." With a final glance behind me, I hopped into the swirling pool in front of me, accompanied by the rest of my comrades.

Whatever awaited us... whoever we would see next... I was going to be prepared this time around!

'The final two are Edward and Neron. Something tells me we'll be seeing the former first.'

I couldn't wait to meet him and see how he's doing.

'I hope he is well...'

[In Another World: Land Of The Demons]

"Heaven Splitting Strike!" A swordsman swiftly moved, brandishing his blade as he increased his pace like the wind.

He tightly gripped his blade and conjured a sharp horizontal strike, instantly devastating his opponent.

"Kriekhhh!!!" The monstrous screaming of the grotesque creature he had just cut down radiated through the air as it perished.

He looked around him to see his other comrades doing the same.

They had already killed a good amount of demonic beasts, and while the swordsman could feel his arm growing weary, he had to persevere.

The image of his absolute ruler and deity flashed in his mind, giving him strength to continue wielding his blade and strive for victory.

"For the God King... victory must be achieved!"

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[SPELLCRAFT: Reincarnation Of A Magic Scholar](#)

Chapter 1017: The World Of Martial Arts [Pt 1]

In a land where Demonic Beasts roam free, and the survival of humanity hinges on strength, a certain group were engaged in a ferocious conflict with the monsters that sought to devour them.

"RAHHHHH!!!"

~SWISH!~

Their voices ascended into the air as their blades rent the evil creatures into nothing but mincemeat.

Each of their weapons, varying in size and length, cut through the creatures with monstrous strength.

The Demonic Beasts, all having grotesque bodies, seemingly made of black ooze, roared and increased in number.

Their animal-like characteristics gave them sharp fangs and very long claws. Some even had spikes on their bodies, and their massive size made their malformed body appear all the more threatening.

Threatening enough to have made the humans back down every single time, running for their lives or even giving in to the despair of death... all until six months ago.

The day of Divine Descent, when the God King visited the land.

It was from that moment on that the world experienced a drastic change... and the humanity was finally given a chance to fight back.

They were graced with the divine power of the God King—capable of changing the heavens and shattering the earth.

... The power of Martial Arts!

'We can't fail!'

The thoughts of Wu Jie echoed in his heart as he swung his blade alongside the rest of his comrades

~SWOOOSSSHH~

The last batch of Demonic Beasts were now closing in on the group of thirty, and while they had yet to sustain any casualty, a majority of them were already greatly exhausted.

'To think that we can't even break past the tanks of the Initial Zone.'

Classifying the Zones of the Demonic Beasts Territory was something they had to do in order to survive.

Most wouldn't have dared to even venture toward the edge of the Initial Zone before the arrival of the God King, but a few had no choice, considering the need for survival among the humans.

However, ever since the God King's descent into the mortal realm, and showing them the power of the transcendent plane, the enlightened humans could now easily trespass the Initial Zone.

A few could even go past it and reach the Purgatory Zone.

Beyond that, though, where the final three—Dreadful, Chaos, and Nightmare—Zones, which only the God King could challenge.

Only he had the power to lead the world and its people down the right path.

~VWUUUMMM!!!~

Wu Jie's blade was now very slow thanks to his weary self, but he never stopped swinging.

The same applied to his comrades.

"The God King vanquished millions of the Demonic Beasts in the Battle of The Millennium Days!" He roared, his body suddenly bursting with innate energy.

The Battle of The Millennium Days referred to their God King's conquest within the territory of the Demonic Beasts. The stories said that he spent ten days and ten nights slaying Demonic Beasts until he arrived at the very core.

He never took a break, and the echoes of his destruction kept echoing to all the desolate humans that witnessed from afar.

Wu Jie knew better than to compare himself with such a being, but that story served as an inspiration for all the Martial Artists of this world.

'The God King... he taught us not to give up! Martial Arts is the ultimate power. We must never fail it!'

And with that logic driving him, Wu Jie clenched his teeth and strengthened his aching muscles.

"I won't fail! Not yet..." And so, with newfound energy, the swordsman charged into battle once more.

... And so did the rest of his comrades.

[Several Hours Later]

It was now late in the night, and the group of thirty currently surrounded a fire to give them warmth.

The world was greeted with the vast sky that served as a great canopy over them, and the stars that glimmered above were simply glowing rocks of divine wisdom.

In this world, each of those stars represented their fallen ones, and the God King had told them that in a world beyond those stars... there existed even more transcendent beings like him.

Did that mean their comrades who had perished were now on the way to becoming transcendental existences too?

Or perhaps they were simply watching over them and waiting for them to be reunited so their journey to transcendence could begin.

No one really knew for sure, and when the question was posed to the God King, he told them to follow their hearts and search for the answers that lay in the depths.

Such profound words from a profound man—no, he was more than a man.

Wu Jie was still dwelling and reminiscing on those thoughts when his comrades began bursting into chatter.

"Haaa... somehow we managed to win!"

"Right? There were more Demonic Beasts than we expected. I didn't think we could all make it out alive, but we managed somehow."

"This way, the Demonic Beasts won't overflow and attack our residence..."

"Exactly. The others are probably done with their patrol in the other regions too."

"We can now experience a new full moon cycle of peace."

"It's all thanks to the might of the God King!"

"Indeed! The God King is the best!"

"The God King rules!"

"He stretches out his hands and carves out the path to the future."

"His words are wise and profound that not even the greatest sages could ever decipher them."

His build is like an unshakable mountain, dwarfing the greatest hills."

The words went on and on, mostly giving praises to the God King

Wu Jie found himself gently nodding his head and smiling.

It pleased him that his comrades knew the true meaning of gratitude.

'If it wasn't for His descent, we would have perished by now.'

After all, in this world, the Demonic Beasts had been at the very top of the food chain.

But the God King changed everything!

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[SPELLCRAFT: Reincarnation Of A Magic Scholar](#)

Chapter 1018: The World Of Martial Arts [Pt 2]

Demonic Beasts had sharp claws, and long fangs.

They could heal from deadly strikes, and some of them wielded strange powers that none could comprehend.

Humans never stood a chance against them!

'We were only spared so we could reproduce and so that the Demonic Beasts could once again take from our numbers...'

Their purpose had been nothing but livestock.

That is, until the God King showed them the path that would change their destiny forever.

'He gave us power. He showed us how to live well.'

They were nothing but primitive people, yet he showed them how to properly cook food, distill water, make clothes, and even several other lessons that greatly improved their lives.

Best of all, he helped them to train their physique and revealed the Nine Fundamental Precepts of the Heavens.

'I only know three. Combining their forms, I developed the Heaven Splitting Strike...' Wu Jie's thoughts echoed.

He was one of the most powerful in the settlement, and the strongest among them had only mastered five forms.

That was how profound the Fundamental Precepts were.

'And that isn't all...'

The God King revealed that he had even more Martial Arts, but he couldn't reveal it to them yet because their minds were weak and their bodies weren't strong.

Also, they hadn't yet awakened the divine power that the God King referred to as 'Mana.'

The Demonic Beasts had the evil power of Miasma, and to combat the stronger ones, they required an equivalent power known as Mana.

'As for the God King, he possesses the power that transcends mortals like ourselves, and has the ultimate energy from the transcendent world of the divine.'

It was the Divine Energy known as Aether.

"I can't wait to return home and tell our tales to everyone else." More voices echoed from the people who surrounded the campfire.

"What do you think, Wu Jie?" One of his comrades finally asked him.

He was usually the quiet type, but he also understood the importance of bonding in groups.

That was something he learned from the God King too.

"Yeah. We have some amazing stories to share. We never backed down, and we were brave till the very end—just like the God King!"

"YEEEESSSSSS!!!" Everyone roared in approval, and the entire camp took on a festive mood.

Tomorrow, by noon at the latest, they would be able to return to their home. It wasn't a particular long journey, but Wu Jie felt impatient for some reason.

He couldn't wait to return and report everything to the God King.

'I'm sure he will praise me. If I also prove my competence, it might finally be time for me to learn the fourth form.'

His face formed a smile that was simply filled with pure delight.

Until...

~VWUUUUUUSSSSSSHHHHHH!!!~

All of a sudden, a golden pool of distorted spatial energy manifested in the sky.

The bright warm glow radiated down, causing the attention of all the people to gaze above at the miraculous sight.

'W-what is that?!' Wu Jie's thoughts echoed within himself.

He had never seen anything so beautiful and densely full of power before.

'This energy... I recognize it!'

There was no way he wouldn't be able to detect what it was considering he had encountered it before.

This was Divine Power!

"E-everyone, to your knees this instant! That is Divine Power!"

The moment he said so, they all gathered together and took to their knees, bowing before the swirling portal above them.

"Divine Energy... this can only mean..." Wu Jie gulped as his entire body shook in the presence of the crushing pressure the spatial rift exerted.

Every single comrade of his felt the same way! They all waited in reverence and also trembling curiosity.

The God King had told them he wasn't the only transcendent one that existed... and that there others beyond their mortal plane.

He told them that some transcendent beings were good, while some were bad.

However, if they were ever to encounter a transcendental being at all, they had to bow and show them reverence.

Afterwards, they had to bring the transcendent one to him.

Only he, the God King, would be able to judge their intentions, as a fellow Transcendent.

'Everyone knows this! No one must act rashly!' Mortals could never go against the transcendent ones.

And so, as silhouettes began to appear from the golden portal, the thirty groveled even further, forcefully planting their foreheads on the dirt.

And so, in a joint anthem, they declared to the emerging beings;

"We welcome you, transcendent ones! The lowly servants of the God King greet you!"

'Huh?!'

Confusion was the first emotion that coursed through me as I witnessed a group of people bowing before me and everyone else as we appeared in this strange new world.

They seemed to be humans, albeit primitive. Their clothes seemed to be borne from animal skin, and they also had blades made from stone.

The workmanship was impressive for such a crude weapon, but it was still very lacking.

More importantly, they spoke out language and treated us with reverence. This was most strange, considering how very warmly welcoming they were.

'This... had never happened before!'

Kuzon and I exchanged surprised glances, and even Aloe and Ciara seemed a bit concerned for the group.

'Hmmm...'

Looking at them, they didn't seem all too special. They didn't even have Mana Particles in them.

They were all simply a bunch of inept people. I could sense Mana around, as well as Miasma, but there were two other strange elements that drifted in the air that I didn't recognize.

They was odd, but I could still resonate with them using Aether.

'I sense Demons too in that direction. Hm. I see... they use Miasma.'

In comparison, I didn't detect any particularly powerful aura coming from the humans, or even in any other direction other than the area occupied by the Demons.

'How are these people still alive? And why are they so close to the borders?'

Well, perhaps they used the blades to fight, but could they really stand a chance?

A lot of questions coursed through my mind, but I didn't allow myself to be distracted by them.

If we didn't know something, we just had to ask. And since the people here seemed friendly, I didn't think that would be a problem.

'Well... I guess we'll have to find out everything we want to know from them.'

[SPELLCRAFT: Reincarnation Of A Magic Scholar](#)

Chapter 1019: The Divine Visitors

Wu Jie trembled in the presence of these mighty beings who slowly began to descend from the golden sky they appeared from.

That must have been the gateway to the realm of the transcendent.

He couldn't believe he had peeked into such a profound reality!

The beings numbered four, and while they were clearly in a different league from him, overwhelming all his senses with their mere presence, he couldn't detect how powerful they really were.

He knew they existed out of his scope, and groveling was all he and his comrades could do.

"Greetings. \$& (¢~ # \$ peace." Wu Jie couldn't really understand the languages of the transcendent ones, save a few words they uttered.

They, as mortals, were taught the Divine Language, but their kinds could only comprehend some sentences and phrases at best.

They couldn't completely understand all of it.

'It is regrettable, but most of the God King's words are lost to our understanding...'

With more time, they would be able to learn more about the Divine Language, but for now, they were limited.

'But since the divine ones have spoken, then we need to say the next thing we were taught.'

"We greet you all, and welcome you to our humble realm. If you so desire, we shall take you to our leader and he will be able to aid you, unlike our limited selves."

Wu Jie heard some murmurs from among the transcendent ones.

He couldn't quite pick what they were saying, but he heard a few words like;

"... Speaking weirdly..."

"Can't understand...?"

"... Speak....language..."

"Maybe... leader...?"

He realized a fatal error he had made in his judgement instantly, and his eyes widened the moment the truth came to him.

'Are they upset that we know the Divine Language?!'

Of course! Costly pearls weren't meant for pigs. The words of the gods did not belong to mere men, after all.

Not all transcendent beings were as benevolent as the God King, so they were currently in dangerous waters.

Wu Jie gulped and slowly decided to help his comrades as much as possible, though he knew the consequences of his failure.

With quivering lips, he uttered words that he could mash up together to properly convey the meaning he desired.

"We know not Divine Language. God King show us. Some. Not all. We greet you, transcendent beings. God King is transcendent too."

The God King once told them that he was going to bear responsibility for all of them. And that meant if they told these transcendent beings that it was according to his discretion, they would definitely understand.

"I see..." Wu Jie heard one of the transcendent ones utter.

This transcendent being drew closer to Wu Jie, sending his heart racing instantly.

'D-did I offend them by speaking the Divine Language incorrectly? Have I doomed my comrades?'

Sweat poured all over his face, and he found his throat to be dry.

Panic gripped his chest, but he could do nothing but grovel harder as the transcendent ones drew closer.

He could only plead that he and his comrades would be spared.

"Relax..." He heard the transcendent being speak, and then a light sensation coursed through his head.

"# _-@+ hurt you."

The transcendent being touched his head, and a sudden feeling coursed through him.

It was instant, and while Wu Jie thought he would die from the interaction, the experience did not hurt at all.

In no time, it was all over.

"Ah... so your name is Wu Jie. I see. I understand now."

'Huh? He's speaking the mortal language?!' Wu Jie's thoughts echoed within him.

How could he do that?!

Even the God King never spoke in the Mortal Tongue. Everyone thought it was impossible for the Divine Ones to utter Mortal language, so they instead decided to acclimate to the words of the Divine.

'Y-yet, he uttered it?!'

Could it be that this transcendent being was... no, that couldn't be!

None was Superior to the God King!

"As I thought... it's Edward." Wu Jie heard the transcendent being murmur, and then, he felt a light feeling coursing through him.

"You can all lift your heads. It's fine."

Wu Jie felt reluctant to do so, but he knew better than to refuse the words of a transcendent one.

His comrades also had a similar understanding, so they all lifted their heads at the same time.

And as a result, they laid eyes on the divine beings.

They all looked magnificent—adorned in fancy wears, compared to their disheveled states. Their faces were clear, and their skins were fresh.

They were just like the God King—no, they looked even more prestigious!

'N-no! No one is more prestigious than the God King!'

The four divine ones had two males and two females in their ranks.

Among the boys;

One had golden hair, and the other had yellow hair.

Among the girls;

One had yellow hair, and the other had dark brown hair.

They were all marvelous-looking. The one who spoke in their language was the boy with yellow hair, and while Wu Jie thought he looked very young, he could sense the age in the transcendent one's eyes.

'They truly are like the God King.'

"You can speak to me in your language, Wu Jie. It's fine. We come in peace as well, so there's no need to be frightened."

The warm feeling in his heart resonated with what the young man said, causing him to nod instantly.

He instantly knee he could trust the transcendent in front of him.

How fortunate for his people! The transcendental beings were good, not bad.

The God King was going to be pleased!

"T-thank you for your consideration, Transcendent ones. We are most grateful." Wu Jie and his comrades bowed their heads.

Truly, gratitude flooded his heart.

"Haha! It's alright. So, you were mentioning something about a God King earlier."

Wu Jie instantly nodded and repeated what he told them earlier in his own native language.

That is; the God King was a transcendent being like them, and he would really love to meet with them.

As expected, the Transcendent one smiled instantly. It seemed he was truly pleased by those words.

"That's perfect! I would also love to meet him." The yellow-haired male one uttered, a warm glow sparkling in his eyes.

"Lead us to your God King."

[SPELLCRAFT: Reincarnation Of A Magic Scholar](#)

Chapter 1020: The God King [Pt 1]

Wu Jie was both terrified and exhilarated to be in direct conversation with a Transcendent.

Even the God King, guardian of his people, was not accessible to just anyone.

There was a hierarchy to be followed, and while he was very liberal with everyone, the God King was someone whose greatness could not be taken for granted.

As a result, only those who had achieved great things could seek his audience freely.

That was why everyone strived to do so well!

"D-definitely, great one!" Wu Jie bowed in response to the blond transcendent, and also gave the same level of regard to the rest who stood behind him.

There was one major issue, though.

'We are exhausted from our earlier fight, and the journey is quite tasking. Even in top form, it will take us six hours to make it make it to our destination.'

But how could he give a Transcendent one such an excuse? To refuse the will of the divine ones was suicide.

"Ah, I see. You're all exhausted, aren't you? Hmm... I understand. It's late at night as well. I understand."

'H-huh?! He knew??' To think Transcendental beings could even peer into the minds of mortals... their power truly was great.

Wu Jie developed even more fear and trembling towards the ones he faced, as well as greater respect for the God King whom he served.

"I can transport everyone to your residence. I can sense a population of humans nearby. I assume that's your settlement."

'Nearby? He can sense our people even at such a distance? Such is the might of a Transcendent one!'

Eyes that could see beyond the limits of mortals, and ears that could hear from thousands of miles away; those who had these powers could be nothing short of divine.

But there was one more word that Wu Jie didn't quite understand.

"T-transport us?"

"Yes. Using Spatial Magic. Don't worry, it'll be instantaneous."

Wu Jie could not believe his ears. His eyes bulged as the man spoke.

"M-Magic...?"

"Yes. I'm sure you all miss your friends and family. I can take you to see them this instant."

That definitely made sense. With divine powers there really wasn't any limit.

'The God King already informed us of this <Magic>. It is inferior to Martial Arts, but it is still useful for certain things...'

Because Martial Arts was superior to Magic, the God King used Martial Arts. He didn't bother with the inferior craft of Magic, thus in the eyes of everyone—including Wu Jie—Magic wasn't considered worthwhile.

'This Transcendent one must be inferior to the God King. He uses Magic, not Martial Art.'

That realization somewhat made Wu Jie's heart flutter with satisfaction.

His deity and king was indeed superior to these divine entities.

"We concede. Please use your Magic, divine ones." Wu Jie smiled, gathering his people together.

They all ignored the flickering campfire in the backdrop, and they now submitted to the power they would soon witness.

Wu Jie watched the Transcendental being discuss something with his companions, and they freely uttered the Divine Language.

He heard the words "Edward" and "Home World" from them, words that the God King often uttered.

It made him certain that they were certainly related to him.

'Perhaps they are his subordinates in the realm of the transcendent ones.'

His mind could probably not comprehend it, so he simply went along with the mood.

"Alright, everyone. Let's go."

In a sudden flash, a gaint blue circle manifested and encapsulated everyone in that area.

"E-ehhh!" Wu Jie shrieked in surprise, and his comrades also let out similar noises.

Their eyes widened in shock as they experienced something they had never witnessed in their lives.

The world around them seemed to blur, and the air itself seemed to contort.

'T-this is—!' Wu Jie couldn't explain it.

There was nothing in his vocabulary he could use to explain exactly what was happening.

It was simply astounding!

'So this... is Magic!'

Magic was so beautiful and amazing, yet it was inferior to Martial Arts. Wu Jie thought of that as a stark representation of how awesomeness the latter was.

'The God King's divine power... is truly the greatest!'

I teleported everyone to their settlement, and it was just as I sensed prior to using [The Tower].

It was a primitive city, albeit quite large. It had thousands of homes, and I counted the number of living humans to be at exactly 14,678.

'I don't sense any other humanoid beings around. This seems to be all the humans in this planet.'

If I used that as my standard, then the humans in this world were quite few.

The houses were mostly made of stone, and they had a moderate size of livestock and plants in the few farms I observed.

So far, it wasn't something particularly interesting, but it was better than I initially expected.

"The God King carved out these sturdy stone houses for us. He showed us how to make them too, and while it takes us a long while to make one, he could do it in a flash!" The man called Wu Jie told me, his eyes gushing of adoration for this 'God King' everyone loved and revered.

He gushed on about how the God King helped them make good clothes from animal skin, and how the tall, but pathetically constructed fence that surrounded the city was also the work of the God King.

'It seems they were more primitive than this, but the God King sped up the process of civilization a lot more.'

From flimsy tents and thatched huts to sturdy stone buildings. That was progress.

They were previously nomadic too, but thanks to the protection and security the God King offered, they settled in a single location, investing in agriculture and stable livestock rearing.

Food and water supplies were stable thanks to the well the God King made for them, and the farm he constructed for them.

The people knew how to hunt already, but thanks to the newly improved stone weapons—like longblades, knives, and daggers—their work became much easier.

Then there was the method of processing food, preserving food, and even preparing meals.

'Edward lived in the wild for some time, so I guess he must have picked up a lot of survival tactics.'

Plus, with his mind already used to the wonders of technology, he would have been better able to see certain things and improve them—unlike these people.

As a result, their lives became drastically better, and as for the one they called the God King... he became their deity and ruler.

'I'm surprised, though. Of all the people that could be leaders... Edward? Really?'

Among primitive people, who would worship strength above anything else, I was sure he fit the bill perfectly.

'I suppose it makes sense now that I think about it...'

Still, despite looking around and taking in everything in my vicinity, there was one question I couldn't answer.

"Where is he? Where is Edward?"