

## SPELLCRAFT 1251

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

#### Chapter 1251: Babe To The Rescue

"This is surprising..."

The deep voice of Legris Damien suddenly echoed across the vast space, instantly putting an end to the moment Ciara and Jerry shared.

The latter fidgeted, rightly expressing anxiety as he heard the voice. As for the former, a deep frown formed on her face.

She was probably incredibly upset that Legris had interrupted her magical moment with Jerry.

"To think you would arrive at precisely the right moment..."

A dark hole, like a stain in reality, began to spread in the sky. Legris appeared from within it, his eyes looking down on the two.

Jerry was still laying on the floor, since he was exhausted, but Ciara was standing upright by his side.

"How did you know that he was in danger? No, that isn't the right question." He sighed.

Darkness slowly began to manifest on his body, the black flames licking his outfit with their forbidden power.

"How were you able to locate us?"

"Hmph! You know nothing!" Ciara responded, giving an antagonistic smile.

Her lips were curled up, but the deep glare she had on her face was yet to fade away.

"Even if my Jerry is universes away, I can still detect him and know his exact coordinates!"

A small "E-eh?" leaked out of Jerry's lips as soon as he heard that, and even Legris had a bead of sweat fall from his face.

"I see. So you've honed your abilities to such an extent. Sensing someone so far away... that's an incredible feat." Legris chuckled slightly, though hints of nervousness could be detected in his tone.

What Ciara had just said so casually was too heavy for him to ignore.

Even Jerry, as he helplessly lay on the ground, could not help but stare at Ciara with absolute wonder.

'She has improved that much? How...?' He gawked silently.

Jerry knew she was a genius, but wasn't this just absurd? The last time they saw she was barely able to detect people on a planetary level.

'Now she can detect people even if they are universes away? T-that's beyond amazing!'

And all of this was even without considering the dimensional barriers playing a huge factor.

"Huh? What the hell are you talking about? When did I say I could do that for just anyone?"

Ciara broke the silence of awe, causing both of the men around her to stare in sheer confusion.

"I only said it applies to my Jerry. How would I be able to detect anyone who is universes away? That's insane!"

Once she uttered those words, Jerry and Legris became momentarily allies in their journey to enlightenment.

Whether Ciara's abilities improved or not was still up to scrutiny. However, it seemed she only cultivated her sensory prowess with one person in mind.

Jerry Keller.

"A-ah, I see. So you only know of Jerry's situation, which is why you came here and saved him right as he was about to perish."

"Yeah, that's about accurate." Ciara responded to Legris' statement with an air of nonchalance.

It was almost as if this wasn't a tense moment in the slightest.

"I see..."

"By the way, I should be asking you how you're not gone yet. I'm sure I destroyed your body, and there also weren't any other bodies of yours around, so how come you're still here?" Ciara asked, both arms folded.

Jerry's jaw dropped as soon as he heard the absurd question.

Did she really ask such a man to explain the secrets behind his one advantage? There was no way in hell Legris would divulge how he was able to—

"Ah, that. As long as variants of mine exist in the same plane of existence as me, I can always respawn."

'WHAT?! He told her?!' Jerry couldn't believe what he was seeing and hearing.

Legris and Ciara were having such an honest discourse that it was difficult to picture them as enemies.

"I see. So other variants of yours are with the others? That sounds bad..." Ciara mumbled, rubbing her chin as she spoke.

"Yeah. Everyone is having trouble dealing with me right now. Well, you're about to experience the same as well." Legris responded with a grin.

"Is that so?"

The conversation felt so laid back that Jerry thought he was the crazy one.

'Is she controlling his mind? Is that what's going on right now?'

Legris didn't seem like he was being controlled, though. He appeared perfectly normal, and his animosity had not diminished in the slightest.

Yet... he was being so genuine.

"It's strange that I can't read your mind or affect you with my [Phantom Link], though. That would have made things much easier..." Ciara sighed, now tearing both hands as if getting ready for a fist fight.

"Well, you can say I'm built different." Legris responded with a shrug.

"What the hell does that even mean?"

"It means I exist in a different plane than you do, so it'll be difficult —if not downright impossible for you to do so."

"Tch. I see. That's regrettable then."

"I suppose. I'm curious to see what you'll offer against me, though."

As Jerry watched them converse more, they seemed like old acquaintances rather than enemies. However, at this point, he had grown desensitized to it.

Rather than try to understand what was going on with Ciara and Legris, he pondered more about his own situation.

'Ciara is saving me again, huh? Even though I wanted to... I promised that... damnit...'

It was a relief to see her, though that didn't stop the pain in his heart from reminding him of his weakness.

He felt horrible.

'This time... this time I failed.'

However, Jerry's lit ablaze once more. He gritted his teeth as he gathered the strength to Clancy both of his fists.

'Next time... next time... NEXT TIME I won't fail!'

It was arrogant of him, but Jerry felt it at the core of his soul.

'I'll keep my promise to you!'

However, since that next time was still a distance off, he could do nothing but spectate the imminent fight that would go down between Ciara and Legris.

'A-ah! I should warn her about him... about his abilities and—'

~Don't worry about me, Jerry. I already have all the information I need.~

Once he heard Ciara's voice in his head, Jerry immediately understood.

'You've gone through my memories?'

~Just a little peek at the recent ones. Don't be mad, I couldn't help myself.~

'Haha... I understand. It's fine.'

Since it was all for the sake of defeating this absolute monster, Jerry genuinely did not think he could even get upset at her for taking the initiative.

~Yay! Now watch me carefully as I kick his butt for hurting you.~

'Thanks, babe. I'm counting on you!'

Whether it was because he called her babe, or that he said he was counting on her, the effects of Jerry's words caused Ciara's entire face to turn beet red.

~KYUUUUUUUUUUUU!!!~

Her internal squeal nearly deafened Jerry, but he managed to survive.

~Just you watch me, babe!~

With her eyes glowing purple, and Aether dancing all around her, Ciara took a step forward and gave the most confident smile ever.

~I'll make you proud!~

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

#### **Chapter 1252: Ciara And Legris [Pt 1]**

Tension was palpable.

The entire graveyard was eerily silent, as one would expect from such an establishment.

None of the three who occupied this domain spoke. They all simply looked at each other in a three way deadlock.

Legris remained in the sky, his gaze focused on Ciara and her alone.

Ciara had a similar gaze on Legris, though her mind constantly remained with the man behind her.

As for Jerry, he alternated his gaze, his heart racing in anticipation of an inevitable conflict.

One would think this silence was doomed to last forever. Until...

"[Superior Mage Mode]."

As soon as Ciara uttered those words, her brown hair suddenly began to change tone. Blackness spread all across it, instantly transforming everything into dark hair.

Her entire outfit also changed, with a dark Mage Robe shrouding her body, with purple designs intricately knitted in with the black.

Her inner wear was a body-hugging tank top and similar-looking shorts.

Seated lightly atop her head was a Mage hat, and it also took on the black color, with designs of purple spread across it.

A staff clung to her right hand, and a grimoire floated on her left—  
both resonating with the rest of her apparel.

The entire transformation barely took a second, and the moment it was done, it seemed she was a completely different person.

Both Legris and Jerry looked downright shocked at the sight.

"How do I look, Jerry? Do you like it?" Ciara swiftly turned to him for attention, her bright smile brimming with energy as she awaited his response.

"Erm... well..."

What was he to say? She certainly looked amazing in this new form, but Jerry personally thought her current apparel didn't resemble something built for serious combat.

The oversized Mage Coat and the tight but skimpy undergarments made it so that she had an infinitely higher sex appeal, but the practicability was lost to him.

Perhaps he was just being an idiot who couldn't see the true advantages of her new form.

Perhaps...

"Well, I'd say..." As Jerry's voice trailed, a sudden rush of wind in the vast space caught his attention.

~WHOOOOOSSSHHHH!!!~

Legris had abandoned his position in the sky, all to close the distance between himself and Ciara while she was distracted.

He was already right behind her by the time Jerry noticed it, and his eyes widened as soon as he saw his darkened hand reach out to touch Ciara.

"Ciara watch ou—!"

~BZZTTZZZ~

A sudden buzz reverberated as an invisible wall repelled Legris' hand when he attempted to touch Ciara, causing him to recoil.

At that moment, Ciara stamped her staff on the ground, sending another sound echoing across the dead calm.

~WHUUUUUUUUUUUUSSSSSHHHHH!!!~

The moment her staff touched the ground, Legris' entire body was ripped to shreds, almost as if he was torn apart by several invisible blades.

"—t." By the time Jerry completed his words, Legris was already dead.

At least, that variant of him was.

"H-huh?" Jerry had to blink multiple times to ensure he wasn't hallucinating. "What just happened?"

One moment Legris was right there, and the next he was reduced to mincemeat.

'It happened so fast that I—'

"So... Jerry? What do you think?" Ciara's voice interrupted Jerry from his thoughts, causing his face to slowly return to her outfit.

Her face at that moment felt a little dull, and her eyes seemed to stare at him like the abyss looking down on its next victim.

The urgency hit him instantly.

He felt a certain chill spread throughout his body, and that only meant one thing.

"It's... amazing."

"Really? You really think so? Yayyy!" Ciara's sweet smile replaced whatever one could call her previous expression.

It made Jerry's heart lighten in relief.

Both for her... and for himself.

"That's one impressive outfit." Once again, just like clockwork, Legris' voice echoed throughout the space around him.

He then appeared from the stain in reality before the black gate closed.

"Wel, I didn't ask you. Who cares what you think?" Ciara responded as icily as anyone could imagine.

"Haha! Don't be like that. You'll hurt my feelings."

"Oh? I didn't think you had feelings."

"Ahh, fair point."

Once again, Ciara and Legris began to speak as if nothing had just transpired between them.

As if he hadn't just tried to kill her, and she too hadn't returned the favor by utterly decimating him.

"I'm just genuinely surprised. You shouldn't have been able to block or repel me with Aether, and I'm sure you know that. Plus, what was that invisible attack? I'm sure I coated myself, so it should have been absorbed."

Legris seemed equally thrilled and bothered by what he was describing.

"Unfortunately, it was all too fast for me to properly register and analyze." He sighed.

Jerry was happy to hear this. It seemed Ciara had a secret weapon she could use against Legris. If she formulated a strategy revolving around this mystery, she could get the upper hand!

"I didn't use Aether. All of that was immensely concentrated wind and spatial pressure." Ciara responded very calmly.

'WHAT?! WHY WOULD YOU TELL HIM THAT?!' Jerry's thoughts screamed.

That could have totally been a hidden card that she could utilize to her advantage.

Why was she just revealing her cards to her adversary?!

'Back when I fought him, I ensured to hide my skills and trick him in order to gain the best chances of success!'

Ciara was much stronger than him, so Jerry knew that if she was to employ such a strategy, her chances of victory would be even higher.

So why...?

"Why are you telling him everything?!" Before he realized it, Jerry yelled out his thoughts.

"Eh?"

"Hm?"

Ciara and Legris respectively stared at him, almost in joint surprise at his words.

The way they looked at him made it seem like he was out of his mind.

And their joint response? It sent him to the very edge of insanity.

"Why not?"

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#### **Chapter 1253: Ciara And Legris [Pt 2]**

"W-why... not...?"

Jerry repeated the words he heard both Ciara and Legris say to him, and he felt an immense wave of confusion.

"I-is it not trite to hide your advantages and utilize them to the most optimal degree?" Jerry stuttered in his speech, but he thought his question was valid.

Or was he the one being crazy?

"You shouldn't have told her about how your ability works!" Jerry yelled at Ciara, and then he turned his gaze to Legris.

"And you... I'm surprised you told her all about why you aren't disappearing. You even answered all her questions honestly."

It felt like he wasn't even witnessing a fight between enemies.

"What in the world is going on here?!"

At this point, Jerry knew he had to let out his inner frustrations.

Watching these two fight made him feel like everything he did to stop Legris and achieve victory was unnecessary.

"Ahh... I didn't think of it that way." Ciara spoke, her honesty oozing from the words she uttered.

"Me neither. But, I can see where you're coming from."

Even Legris seemed totally calm in the matter. The same Legris that was considered an unpredictable mastermind by even Jared!

"Y-you can't be serious! In fights, you're meant to—"

"And how did that work out for you?" Legris' sudden words caused Jerry to pause.

He could not say anything.

"Hiding your abilities and doing your best to win... how exactly did that work out for you?"

In the end, even though he won the fight, he lost the battle. He actually stood no chance, to begin with.

Especially if one considered the bigger picture.

The silence that followed Legris' question forced Jerry to think back on all he did, and just how futile it all ended up for him

"Hey! Don't bring that up and bully Jerry!" Ciara yelled, suddenly drawing him out of his slump.

"Ah! My apologies..." Legris replied, once again causing Jerry to suspect that something was definitely off with the way these two interacted.

He wasn't being crazy at all.

"Jerry, I think you misunderstand what's going on here." Ciara finally turned to Jerry, giving him a warm smile that instantly healed whatever doubts or emotional anguish he was experiencing.

"I understand your points, and in a normal fight... you'd be correct. But, this isn't a normal duel, which is why I haven't taken that route yet."

Jerry still didn't understand, and thankfully Ciara noticed that.

"To be honest, we are at a stalemate. I can't really defeat him, and he can't defeat me either. We both recognize this, so there's really no point trying to one-up the other."

"H-huh...?" Jerry found himself even more confounded than he was before.

"It's simple, Jerry. She's much stronger than I am currently, which means I can't harm her. But even if she tries to harm and kill me, it's of no use."



The way Legris put it made it simpler for him to digest, but that didn't make the situation any easier for him to accept.

"So... you'll just continue to drag this out?" Jerry asked.

"Pretty much. I don't see the problem with that. Legris here is clearly stalling for time, but so am I."

"Ah! So you noticed that already, huh?" Legris responded to Ciara's observation, chuckling a little under his breath.

"Yeah. It was obvious. You clearly have an agenda that is beyond just eliminating us, and you're stalling for it."

"If you know that much, why are you allowing him to keep it up?" Jerry asked, his face depicting obvious disapproval.

To that, Ciara sighed softly.

"I can't do anything about his plans. Even if he was to tell me right now, I have no means of stopping it, especially since the Constellations are not intervening as well."

"Correct." Legris smiled.

"Plus, I'm also stalling for time. I'm hoping Jared, or someone else who is smarter or stronger than I am, figures this stuff out before Legris succeeds."

"That is highly unlikely." Legris added once more.

"Maybe even the Constellations... argh! I don't know, honestly. Right now, Legris won't let us leave this place, and since I have to protect you and myself, it's much safer to simply fill up time by engaging in this form of combat."

Jerry couldn't believe it. All along, this was a battle without stakes.

"To be honest, I would have just been content waiting things out. But, when I discovered that he hurt you, and he probably hurt some of our friends, I decided to keep beating him up. It's pointless, but that's the best I can do."

Jerry perfectly understood where Ciara was coming from.

He couldn't fault her line of reasoning.

"So you're saying... whether we ultimately win or we lose... isn't up to us? We can only wait for external factors to decide?"

"Yes! Precisely! You get it." Ciara beamed happily.

"Yeah, I get it..."

"Then, you don't mind if we—"

"... But that doesn't mean I accept it!" Jerry's voice resonated throughout the area, causing both Legris and Ciara to recoil in shock.

Surely, they had presented the situation in the most logical and reasonable manner. Jerry even said he understood what was going on.

Yet... the expression on his face as he abjectly disagreed with their position was enough to send shivers down anyone's spine.

"I know it's pathetic for me to say this, despite my current situation. I know I lack the strength to back up my words. But... this is all bullshit!" Jerry roared.

"There's nothing you can do? Who decided that?! Wait for external factors to decide... why does it have to be that way?!"

He was breathing heavily now, ignoring the pain he felt as a result of straining himself so much, but Jerry did not care.

From the depths of his heart, he truly believed in what he was saying.

"I completely get why you would arrive at your conclusion... but I do not support it!"

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

#### **Chapter 1254: The Boundless World**

Logically speaking, Ciara and Legris were right.

Jerry wasn't stupid, so he understood the current situation. They were much stronger and smarter than he was, so he was confident that the two of them had considered things even more than he had, so they were justified in their conclusion.

Still... still...

'No! This isn't right!'

If everyone was to live life using their logic, then what was the purpose of existence? Pretty much everything that occurred happened by chance and was constantly influenced by external factors.

However, what it meant to be truly alive and not just existing was the drive to swim against the tides of chance and strive for whatever goal was desired.

No one who truly lived would wait for everything to be decided by the world or others.

If you strongly desired something, you would work hard... strive to your utmost... to achieve it!

That was what living was all about!

"It's too early to give up! I know you haven't truly tried, Ciara! If you really really really try... you can find a way to turn this entire situation around and ultimately stop him!" Jerry yelled at the very top of his lungs.

"Don't give up! I know you can do it!"

It was at times like this, when despair crept up on a living being, that something else began to spring forth within them.

A small beam of light called hope.

The desire for something different—an outcome that was not decided on by anyone else but yourself!

That was what Jerry was currently appealing to.

"There's a chance that—!"

"Would you be quiet? Urgh... people like you disgust me the most." Legris sighed, his eyes radiating nothing short of contempt.

"Weaklings like you who know nothing... dregs who have only their ideals to go by... uttering words that lack substance."

The flames of suppressed rage and downright annoyance in Legris' eyes was enough to send someone into the crevices of insanity.

"Ideals without results. Desires without ability. Nobodies like you only exist to spout out nonsense while the true victors trample upon your precious dreams."

The words were seething as he kept going, depicting so much anger that seemed unimaginable.

Jerry felt overwhelmed by the rage he was experiencing. Yet... strangely, he felt like the flames that burned in those eyes weren't for him.

It was for someone... something else.

"Haa... why don't you just leave this to the ones who can actually do —"

"Oi..." The voice of a certain girl interrupted Legris before he could say any more.

"Ah, did I offend you again? If so, I—"

"... You crossed a line." Ciara spoke with a deep undertone, one that caused the entire world around her to tremble.

The entire dimension actually shook in response to her call.

"I warned you not to, but it seems you aren't the type to listen."

Her closed eyes slowly opened, revealing how the whites in her eyes had turned black, and how her purple irises were glowing even brighter than ever.

"Jerry... I don't really understand what you're saying. But, I agree with you." She whispered, stealing a glance at the boy behind her.

At this point, something about Ciara seemed to have snapped.

"This imbecile needs to be stopped, and I won't know if I can't do it unless I really try."

She took a step forward, and everything within the dimension faded into dust, leaving an entirely blank realm.

Only Legris and Jerry remained intact.

"[Original Magic...]"

"Are you being serious right now? You know that won't work on me, right? We already established that." Even with Legris' words reverberating in Ciara's ears, she was no longer listening.

"[...True Link]"

Something changed at that very moment.

No one but Ciara knew this, but her initial [Original Magic: Phantom Link], which affected the mind of her target, had been evolving ever since she confessed to Jerry.

Thanks to this new bond she shared with him, it grew from a hollow representation of her ability to something genuine and true.

'That's why I am connected to Jerry irrespective of distance or barriers.'

It was a 'Connection' that transcended limits.

And now...

'If I harness that power, and make it so that another is my target...' Ciara's thoughts flowed as she stared at Legris.

'... Then...'

Her entire world instantly changed, and suddenly, it seemed like she had become one with everything around her.

Her mind expanded, far beyond anything she ever thought possible.

The layers of the world—past, present, and future, was now bare.

And at the far recesses... at a depth she could not tread... was the darkness that was Legris Damien.

It was at that point that she truly realized the depths of his existence—perhaps even the opposite.

'It's as I suspected. I really can't stop him...'

The darkness was too deep for her to reach. Even if she attempted to do anything, it would consume her whole.

It was something beyond her current state.

However...

~Who's there? Is someone there?~ A voice suddenly reached out to her.

'What? What is this...?'

Ciara was sure she had passed the threshold of communication. No one was supposed to be able to communicate with her at this point.

Yet, she was hearing a voice.

~You... I recognize you! You're that human! Ciara Epilson!~

Hearing the voice that reached out to her, Ciara felt a strange form of recognition.

It came to her instantly.

'You're... that Constellation!' Was her response to the clearly regal tone that reached out to her.

~Y-yes. I am Aquarius!~

Hearing the name made Ciara remember their first encounter—how Aquarius had made her friends kneel.

~This is surprising! No, it's unbelievable! How were you able to resonate into my wavelength?~

Ciara did not understand what the Constellation was implying.

'Um... this is my frequency. You're the intruding on my wavelength.'

For a moment, there was silence between the Mortal and Constellation.

Both were assured that the other was the intruder, but both were so connected that they knew how genuine their positions were.

After no moment of consideration, they had to arrive at the only conclusion.

'We...'

~... Share the same wavelength.~

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

### **Chapter 1255: Primeval Connection**

'This human...'

Aquarius could not help but focus on Ciara as she had these thoughts.

She recollected what happened prior to this sudden encounter, and it only made the situation even more bizarre.

Even though she was trapped, just like the other Constellations, Aquarius was different from them in one aspect.

Her Representation of Freedom that allowed her to traverse beyond the bounds of anything and everything that existed.

As such, even though her body and most of her power was trapped within the barrier that Legris had surrounded them with, her mind was still able to encompass the entire Constellation Realm.

Everything was a part of her, like a boundless body of water that rushed into rivers, lakes, and streams.

As such, Aquarius found herself seeking out any alternative—any in the slightest—to help the little ones that suffered under Legris.

'I... I made a promise to Jared!' Her thoughts echoed as she clenched her liquid fist.

'I have to protect his friends!'

A promise made by Constellations was one not taken lightly. All of her siblings were also panicking because of this very reason, but she was worse.

She was desperate.

Even though it was illogical to expect any form of intervention or intrusion from an external source, Aquarius kept expanding her mind and observing the battles that occurred, trying to reach at least one person.

Unfortunately, no one could tap into her frequency.

Until...

'We both share the same wavelength? How is that possible?' Aquarius' thoughts were in a bit of a bind, but she knew it was the truth.

~How would I know?~

She truly despised Ciara's lax response to her. It lacked any form of reverence or urgency.

It annoyed her to no end.

'But... now is not the time to be caught up with sentiment.'

At this moment, Jared's allies needed assistance, and she had to help. Even if that meant swallowing her pride for the impudent human before her... Aquarius knew it was inevitable.

'It seems you are yet to know, but it seems your Original Magic is using [Connection] to function.'  
Aquarius finally revealed.

~[Connection]? What's that?~

'An ability that allows anyone to connect with the other without respect for boundaries. It has less to do with the mind and more with the Soul, but... it reaches the same result.'

~Ahh... that was what I desired for Jerry and I. To be connected without any barrier between us. I guess I sort of made that happen with my Original Magic.~

Upon hearing Ciara's words, Aquarius was further intrigued by the girl's power.

Of course, she still heavily despised Ciara.

'Do not treat your power with levity. [Connection] borders on the very essence of energy, and its bond is not to be underestimated.'

~Haaa... I see.~

Aquarius didn't want to tell Ciara this, but her so-called Original Magic was already bordering into the Primeval territory.

'And, strangely enough, it strongly resonates with my Representation.'

The absurdity of it made Aquarius pause in awe, and a proper explanation for something as grand as this eluded her.

'How did she nurture it to this extent...?' She found her thoughts trailing.

Rather unfortunately, her thoughts would only leak out to Ciara since they shared the same wavelength.

~I decided to apply the same level of my Original Magic to Legris in order to stop him. It became a [True Link], and it caused me to expand my mind to a point where we were eventually able to communicate.~

For the first time, Aquarius felt like she got a proper answer from Ciara.

Her tone also seemed less flippant compared to before.

It pleased her.

'In any case, the fact that we can communicate like this means hope is not lost yet. We can save everyone!'

~Eh? What do you mean?~

Aquarius cringed a little with the response she received, but she quickly acclimated to it.

'I need... Haa... I require your assistance since I am currently trapped here with the rest of the Constellations. By enlisting your ability, it is possible to save you and the rest of your friends.'

~For real?!~

'Yes. My Representation allows me to be connected to everyone and everything. Unfortunately, I am currently restricted, and you're the only one I can form a two-way connection with.'

It sounded simplistic, but Aquarius had to break it down so that the human girl would understand.

'As such, I propose a temporary alliance between the two of us.'

~What kind of Alliance will that be?~

If Aquarius had teeth, she would have gritted them with the way Ciara constantly annoyed her.

There was a reason she had been skirting around the issue and not directly saying it as it was.

It could have been because of her pride, but also the hesitation that came with her inexperience in doing it before.

'A... Bond. The one that exists between Familiar and Host.'

~Ahh... that.~

Aquarius thought Ciara's tone felt a bit underwhelming, and that bugged her.

Was she disappointed? Was she expecting something else? These thoughts nearly drove Aquarius mad.

'It's only going to be a temporary one! I'm not doing this because I want to or anything, but it's the only way! I hope you understand!'

~Oh, yeah. Yeah... I totally get it!~

Aquarius could still feel some hesitation on Ciara's end, and it hurt her pride a lot.

She was the most revered and powerful Constellation ever. Plus, this was her first time.

She had expected it to be a lot more special than this, yet... yet... Aquarius was throwing all of it away to save some humans.

'This is all because of you, Jared!' She cursed under her breath.

~What does Jared have to do with this?~

'Arghhh! That isn't relevant! Just forget I said anything about him! Like... anything at all!'

~Okay then...~

The way Ciara's thoughts trailed made Aquarius very doubtful that the girl was trustworthy, but this wasn't the time and place for such.

'Alright! We will form a Bond, and I will be your temporary Familiar. Just listen to my instructions and do what I tell you.'

Aquarius expected some form of resistance from Ciara, but much to her surprise, she was docile.

~Fine! I'll do anything to save my friends! Let's do this!~

While this was admirable, Aquarius did not like the way it sounded.

It was almost like this was just a chore for Ciara, and that she had no choice but to do this with Aquarius, to begin with.

'Whatever! I don't even care anymore!'

Aquarius let go of her ego and pride, and finally settled upon her pact with Ciara.

Right now, the most important thing was the salvation of the inevitably doomed mortals.

And so, the energies of the two began to collide and connect.

Constellation Energy began to seep into Ciara, crystallizing within her as her Core expanded beyond anything she had ever experienced.

As power flowed deep within her, Aquarius' voice echoed deep in her thoughts.



... Almost as if they had become one.

'Let us begin.'

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

### **Chapter 1256: To Save Everyone**

'This... this feels...'

Ciara felt a bliss unlike any other.

It felt like she was surrounded by cool waters, washing her from within and without.

Her entire self was submerged in primeval seas of endless abundance. It poured everywhere, permeating through every fabric of her existence.

Until finally...

"I see it. I see everything!"

... She was able to reach the precipice.

Ciara was able to perceive everything within the Constellation Realm—the worlds within, and those who occupied it.

She watched as her friends struggled against an adversary they could never defeat.

She observed the imminent danger they all experienced.

Watching all of this, Ciara had only one thought.

'I have to save them!'

But how?

It was too early for Ciara to use Primeval Magic, but she had long passed the territory of her Original Technique.

As a result, she found a place at the center.

And she spoke.

"[Pseudo-Primeval Magic: Aegir]"

Once she uttered those words, a tidal wave of energy flowed from within her, like a bottomless sea that consumed all.

It flowed past the dimensional barriers without any resistance in the slightest, rushing forth through the worlds that she desired.

These waves were invisible currents of Aether, merely rushing forth as she willed... a representation of her all-encompassing nature.

Finally, after drowning the worlds in her deep waters, Ciara only had to make the thought.

'Come to me...'

And 'they' obeyed.

~VWUUUUUUSSSH HHHHHH!!!~

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"H-huh? Where am I? Where are we?"

"I could have sworn we were about to be consumed by that blast!"

"How did this happen?"

"Everyone else... is here...?!"

"What's up with you guys? You look awful!"

"H-how did you all arrive?!"

The commotion was vivid, and the combined tension emanating from the various people in the room was palpable.

Right now, all the surviving members of the team found themselves in a separate, blank dimension

Kuzon, Edward, and Aloe stared at themselves in shock.

They already knew of their fates, yet surprisingly... they weren't dead yet.

Serah, Maria, Aurora, Beruel, and Ana also have one another equally stunned reactions.

They too should have died, yet here they were...

Jerry watched the appearance of all of these people, as well as his sudden disappearance from the realm he and Ciara previously occupied and his reappearance into this new one.

... A dimension without Legris.

Then, there was one more person.

"What's going on here? You all looked so worn out and beat up?" Lemi asked in genuine confusion.

Unlike everyone else, she had not witnessed or experienced Legris' invasion and what transpired as a result.

Of course, she would be surprised.

All her friends and acquaintances looked immensely anxious or exhausted.

Some of them even had lost limbs.

Amidst all this chaos, only one possibility manifested in Lemi's innocent mind.

"Were the trials that difficult?"

No one answered her, though a few stole her short glances. They were all trying to figure out the same thing:

How they had suddenly been transported to safety... and whether Legris was anywhere in proximity!

Then....

~WHUUUSH!~

... The last of them showed up, her skin pale as she freefallen from a terrifying height.

Her brunette hair danced with the invisible winds as her usually open eyes were closed. Her body had lost all sense of coordination, and it was clear that she was unconscious.

"C-Ciara!" Jerry screamed, his eyes instantly recognizing the falling girl.

"I got her!" Lemi yelled, swiftly making her way to the sky in a single stride.

Teleporting back and forth took only a second, and she returned to the surface with Ciara's body resting on her two arms.

"She's unconscious." Lemi whispered. "She also seems really drained. It doesn't seem like she's in any fatal danger, though."

The reason she knew so much in such a short period was due to her [Original Technique: Absolute Domain], Spellcraft in disguise.

Of course, Lemi did not know of the latter.

At least... not yet.

"I-I see. This is all because of me. Because I encouraged her so much..." Jerry muttered to himself as Ciara was placed right beside his own laid down body.

He still had not recovered, so he maintained his mostly paralyzed state.

"I must have pushed herself so much... to save everyone."

Even though most of the people present were confused about what happened, Jerry knew it within himself.

It was Ciara who saved everyone!

"Looking at everyone, they're in pretty bad shape. I don't know exactly what happened, but you shouldn't blame yourself too much." Lemi smiled at Jerry, patting his head a little.

Even though Lemi looked about his age, or even younger, she was still hundreds of years old.

"Your friend will be fine. You will too. Just rest a little, okay?"

Jerry didn't know what caused Lemi to suddenly change her personality, but her soothing words caused him to leak out a small smile amidst his pain and guilt.

"T-thank y—"

"But you have to tell me about what happened here! I'm dying of curiosity. Is this really about the Trials? Everyone seems so distraught!"

Jerry found his smile quickly fading away.

Of course, Lemi wouldn't change! There was no way she was being so nice and considerate just for the sake of it.

"W-well, it's a long story, but... we actually—"

~VWUUUUUUUUM~

Before Jerry could complete his sentence, something suddenly manifested in the blank realm.

... Something ominous.

Like a black stain on a pure white surface, dying the world in darkness, a cluster of space appeared.

And from within that space emerged the malefactor that everyone feared.

"Hi, everyone. Did you really think you could escape me?"

Legris Damien stood before all of them with a smile so broad that it extended dangerously close to his eyes.

Before anyone could even say anything or offer any form of resistance, several black stains manifested around them, specifically above.

"You can try to run."

"Try to hide."

"But in the end..."

"... I will always win."

Now a multitude above the helpless ones, towering them in both numbers and height, Legris looked down on everyone.

A grim reality faced them, inescapable... downright inevitable.

"Shall we continue from where we left off?"

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

**Chapter 1257: The Invasion Concludes**

"Shall we continue from where we left off?"

A multitude of Legrises, at least a hundred, encircled the allies.

Some of them—like Ana, Beruel, and Aurora—were capable of fighting, but most of the rest were already spent.

Serah and Kuzon had severed limbs, and their Aether levels were considerably low.

Edward, Aloe, and Maria were perhaps somewhere in the middle. They had exhausted a great deal of their energy, but they weren't in a spot that was too dangerous.

Jerry was down for the count, and even if he wasn't, there was no way he could handle a threat this massive.

Especially when he had barely been able to defeat just one!

Ciara was unconscious, completely out of commission.

All of them trembled at the overwhelming presence that Legris posed, already aware of the kind of scary existence he was.

Well, ALMOST all of them.

"What in the world?! Is that Legris? What is he doing here? How did he... hold on, none of you are surprised? Don't tell me... he's the reason you're all like this?!"

While everyone was on their guard, sweat dripping down their faces, Lemi was completely bewildered by what she was seeing.

'He can make more than one version of himself appear in reality? That's different from what we know of him! How was he able to infiltrate this place? What are the Constellations doing? Or... has he found a way to block them out?!'

Lemi's mind was going into instant overdrive as she tried her best to fit in all the missing pieces of the puzzle so she wasn't lost in the context.

By the time she was able to overcome her initial shock and understand at least the rudimentaries, a few seconds had already elapsed.

'Hold on... he was able to put Serah and Kuzon into such states?' Lemi looked at Serah's severed legs and Luzon's severed hand and leg.

She couldn't help but gulp heavily.

'Look at how everyone is looking at him. He's clearly very dangerous! Damn... this is bad!'

If all of these people, some of which were definitely stronger than she was, could arrive at their conclusion, who was she to dissent?

Before she realized it, beads of sweat were already forming on her face as she joined the others to look above them at the myriad of Legrises that they would soon face.

"Hahaha! This is fun!"

"Entertaining!"

"Amusing!"

"Watching all of you like this..."

"Without Jared or Neron to save you!"

"It's perfe—!"

"Shut up, coward. So you finally admit that either of those two would mop the floor with you, huh?" Kuzon yelled, a defiant smile forming on his face.

Legris' gaze tightened a little, but his smile did not vanish.

"I can't imagine that was easy for you to say. Hope your ego wasn't too bruised when you let that out." Legris responded.

"Try to distract from the point all you like, Legris. It doesn't matter."

This time, it was Serah who spoke, her voice reverberating in defiance.

The fact that it was the two most injured people that stood up to Legris first caused even the rest to step forward in resistance.

One by one, they tightened their fists and narrowed their gazes.

It was so contagious that even the frightened Lemi gave Legris a nasty glare despite how her heart pounded uncontrollably.

"Despair? Hopelessness? There's no such thing here..." Kuzon took a step forward.

His arrogant smile oozed nothing but sheer determination.

"Bring it on!"

The instant Kuzon made this challenge, silence erupted.

No one said anything. There was just a silent wave of approval from his allies, and the quiet surprise that Legris gave.

Rather unfortunately, this decorum did not last long.

"I see..." A Legris spoke, a small sigh escaping his lips.

"It seems I've been too lenient on you." Another uttered.

Slowly, the legion began to close in on Kuzon and the rest. Darkness creeped in, dimming the light.

Even with their bold words, it was clear how little their chances of victory were.

With Legris fast approaching, so was their demise.

"This time, I'll show you all... the true meaning of—"

Suddenly, all the Legrises stopped in their tracks.

They all glanced at each other, as if confirming something. And then after a second, the horde seemed to have a consensus.

"Let's end this here for today. I'll be retreating now..."

Shock filled the faces of the clearly disadvantaged lot.

Why would Legris choose to leave now, especially when he had just expressed confidence over eliminating them all just earlier?

It meant only one thing!

"Looks like I'll soon have company." He whispered.

Dark holes manifested in reality, and the Legris variants began to slip back inside.

No one dared to interrupt this process.

Not only did they lack the proper means to eliminate all the Legrises, but doing so would yield no concrete results.

Legris could not be killed.

~VWUUUUUUUUUUUUSSSSSHHHHH!!!~

As if piercing the darkness with their overwhelming light, the twelve Constellations suddenly appeared amidst the retreat.

Time seemed to pause the moment they arrived, and all things in the realm stopped moving.

"You won't be leaving this place. None of you." Aquarius declared, stretching her hand towards the lot of them.

A few more Constellations budged a little as well, and Legris gave a resigned smile, as if already knowing what was going to happen next.

"Looks like I was too late, huh? I wasted too much ti—"

~BOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOMMMMMM!!!~

In a mere flash, all the Legrises exploded, transforming into pure light.

Just like that, all the variants were eliminated.

The ones within that dimension... the ones that remained hidden in the other dimensions... so long as they existed in the Constellation Realm, they were all eradicated.

"Begone... tainted one." Aquarius whispered, almost in passing.

Silence filled the dimension after that, and the massive Constellations slowly turned to the battered group beneath them.

There was a lot to say, and a myriad of things to discuss.

They all understood that.

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

#### **Chapter 1258: Aftermath Of The Invasion [Pt 1]**

"First of all..." Aquarius spoke, her attention turning in the direction of the two most injured persons in the group.

"... Perhaps we should start with restitution?"

There was silence in the white hall as the Constellations all looked at each other.

They nodded, and all of them sent a flourish that spread throughout the entire dimension.

Glitter-like energy that consisted of many colors floated all about, settling on the injured and tired ones.

As a result, the exhausted members of the team regained their strength, and even the slightly paralyzed Jerry was completely healed.

It felt like he was brand new, and while he was still recoiling in relief, the first thing he did was rush to Ciara and pull her into his arms.

Apparently, even though Ciara was also healed, she needed time unconscious.

The power she used to help everyone was that intense.

With everyone healed up and restored to their prime conditions, two remained the obscure ones.

Serah Crimson and Kuzon Midas.

"Legris said I wouldn't be able to recover my legs anymore. I'm guessing the same applies to his arm and leg. How true is that?" Serah asked the twelve towering beings before her.

Her expression was a simple scowl, and it was clear that she wanted them to be straight with her.

Would she be disabled forever? Or...?

"He is correct. You won't be able to recover your limbs any longer. If it was possible, you would have recovered them already."

Once Aquarius told them of the need, Serah but her lip slightly, while Kuzon clicked his tongue and clenched his fist.

"I had a feeling that would be the case... damnit!"

The others watched them, unsure of what to say. In such a situation, both of them had lost vital parts of their bodies.

Was there really any word of condolence that could be considered appropriate here?

"Do not despair, you two. Just because the both of you can not recover them doesn't mean we will allow you to remain cripple."



Once Aquarius said this, surprise formed on Kuzon and Serah's faces.

It was clear that they were hesitant to fully commit to the hope that they would be whole again, but neither could resist the temptation.

"I thought you said—"

"Yes. Rather than regenerate what can no longer exist, we will be remaking new limbs for you."

In essence, the Constellations would make organic parts for the both of them, independent of their bodies, and then graft the limbs to make them whole.

"That will... work?"

"Indeed." Aquarius nodded, and then turned to her side to speak to one of her siblings.

"Cancer can do that."

At that point, the crab-like entity stepped forth, his body radiating starlight. His legs moved slowly, and every one of his giant steps seemed heavy and imposing.

He left the ranks of the Constellations, who were all surrounding the now-recovered group, and approached Kuzon and Serah.

"Here we go..." He whispered, stretching out his pincers.

The moment he did so, the glowing star light that decorated his body began to glow brighter, and some of them bled out of his exoskeleton.

Suddenly, four items began to appear before him.

Three of them were legs—two looking feminine—and one was a hand.

Once the limbs were created, he sent them towards their respective owners, properly grafting them into their missing areas until they connected seamlessly with them.

"You're up, Capricorn." Aquarius said, turning towards the other Constellation who had been waiting for their turn.

"Sure thing!"

Capricorn's eyes glowed from where they stood, and the points where the newly made arm and legs connected to the old flesh began to glow, and by extension all of the body parts belonging to the targets

Once Capricorn was done, Cancer was already back in his position, and everyone was whole.

"Cancer deals with Creation. Capricorn deals with Constance." Aquarius addressed the two who still seemed to be recoiling in surprise.

They moved their limbs as if they were little children, happiness oozing from their smiling faces.

"While Cancer created your new body parts, Capricorn ensured they were permanent changes onto reality. As such, you can be assured that they won't disappear or fall off one day."

"E-excuse me, great Constellation..." a certain voice pierced the air.

It belonged to Aurora, the Elf Queen. She had a solemn expression on her face, and she was even bowing... a position unfit for a ruler.

"No need to be overly formal, little one. I am listening." Even though Aquarius said that, it was clear that she was satisfied with Aurora's show of respect.

It was far better than the impudence of certain humans.

"Can you bring back our lost comrades?" She asked straightforwardly.

"Ahh..."

For a while, there was dead silence.

"Gerard died in front of me, but I also can't see Z'ark here, so I have to assume he's also gone. Could you... bring them back?"

No one spoke. Deep within their hearts, they were all asking the same questions.

And that was whether or not the Constellations could save the fallen.

The answer, however, was one they were expecting to an extent, yet still shocked to hear.

"We cannot. The fallen kings... can never return."

The crestfallen faces of everyone present told of their true emotions regarding the despairing answer they received.

"M-may I ask why?" Aurora uttered, her tone breaking at this point.

"I suppose it's time we have our long overdue conversation..." The Constellations slightly fidgeted as Aquarius said this.

It was clear that this was just as difficult for them as it was for the mortals.

"We need to discuss Legris... and the implication he has on our reality."

Another moment of silence rang through the blank space, with the only thing audible being Aquarius' sigh.

This was by no means something easy to say, but she had to utter it anyway.

"Legris Damien... does not exist.

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

#### **Chapter 1259: Aftermath Of The Invasion [Pt 2]**

The Constellations had just said something unbelievable.

It was so absurd that everyone who heard them took a while to fully absorb their words, and the consequences that came with them.

"Legris Damien does not exist? That makes no sense! He clearly does."

Kuzon was the one who spoke up, revealing what everyone else thought in their mind.

He tightly gripped his new hand as he spoke, recollecting how he had lost his limbs and almost his life to the fiend.

How could the Constellations say something so absurd now—especially after all they had just experienced?!

"Ahh, perhaps I used the wrong word there. It's more akin to the fact that he does not exist the same way everything else exists."

That didn't do much to explain what Aquarius meant, so confused faces greeted her still.

"Everything that exists in this Tree comes from the Root. The same applies to the Nether Tree. There are only two of those trees in existence, a duality that maintains an intricate balance..."

"I thought Legris was from the Nether Realm." Serah said, her brows raised slightly.

"He... isn't. At least, that doesn't seem to be the case. He does not exist within any of the Trees, and so he is not connected to any Root. Legris has no ties with the only sources of existence, which is why I said he doesn't not exist."

Once Aquarius explained it like that, a majority instantly understood what she said.

Still, that raised even more questions.

"Before we delve more into the topic, we would like to render our utmost apologies to you all." Aquarius stated to all her comrades, and much to the surprise of the mortals, all the Constellations slightly bowed their heads.

An apology from twelve boundless entities... it was overwhelming for the ones who watched them do so.

"N-no, it's fine!"

"Really...!"

"It couldn't be helped!"

They instantly recoiled, muttering their respective excuses as to why the Constellations didn't need to lower themselves so much.

"To be honest, we are still surprised that he could invade our domain. If he is capable of such, it simply means that nowhere is safe from his influence."

The Constellations raised their heads, making the atmosphere more bearable.

Though, the tension remained.

"How long had he been planning this? How was he able to execute his invasion so seamlessly? There remain questions we do not know..."

It was rare to see boundless entities utter words like "We do not know," yet it seemed like that was the case at this point.

"We are well aware that we have not completely gotten rid of him, even with the destruction of his hundred variants. And that is because his very existence rejects our power."

Once again, Aquarius was met with curious stares, but she ignored them.

"The endgame of his invasion eludes me. He didn't seem to have an endgame in mind, but... that is extremely unlikely."

"Ciara said he was stalling for time. Maybe that has something to do with it!" Jerry spoke up impulsively, quickly realizing the weight of his actions.

He shrunk back the moment attention was pushed in his direction.

"I see..." Was all Aquarius gave as a response to the observation.

In the end, that still gave them no headway into figuring out his true motives.

He was stalling for time? Why?

The question remained unanswered.

"You still haven't told us why you can't resurrect our fallen Gerard and Z'ark. I'm personally curious about your reasons." Ana suddenly spoke up, flexing her glasses as she stared at the twelve.

"I have my suspicions as to why, but you should know more than I do."

The Constellations all looked at Aquarius, who had been their mouthpiece thus far, and she nodded while giving a momentary sigh.

It was finally time to divulge the truth.

"Anything Legris affects loses their connection to the Root and takes on his qualities. As a result... they cease to exist."

The black stuff that Legris used was the architect behind this phenomenon.

"Legris mentions how the effects of their nonexistence will spread throughout the Tree if he leaves. How true is that?" Serah asked.

"He isn't incorrect. Even now, the effect of Z'ark and Gerard's nonexistence will affect the history of your world, especially in events that they previously participated in, or indirectly influenced."

An example Aquarius gave was the Demonic Incursion, as well as the Nether Wars.

Without Gerard and Z'ark leading their respective squads, even more casualties would have occurred, and by extension, more damage would have been wrought.

"That sounds terrible!" Aurora gasped.

"Indeed. Fortunately, we managed to contain the ripple effects of their nonexistence... at least for now. That is the best we can do, given the situation."

"In essence, the good news is that our reality will be safe from Z'ark and Gerard's existential erasure, but the bad news is that they're gone forever." Ana asked, her tone as grim as it was inquisitive.

"I suppose you could put it that way."

"I see. I see."

An awkward tension hung in the air. The people did not know whether to grieve for the permanent loss of their allies, or to brace themselves for what would come next.

"Legris is an extremely dangerous—"

"Did Jared know about this?" Kuzon interrupted Aquarius with a question.

His tone was borderline disrespectful, but the suppressed annoyance within his voice was not for the Constellations.

It was directed at someone else.

"That is not in our place to say." Aquarius responded.

"Don't mess with us! It's a straightforward question, isn't it?" Kuzon suddenly yelled, his annoyance evident on his face.

However, once Ana placed her hand on his shoulders and slightly shook her head in disapproval, he slowly began to calm himself.

"I apologize for raising my voice. However, do you want to know what I think" He still had a frown on his face as he spoke.

No one said anything. Perhaps they already knew what Kuzon was driving at before he said anything.

... The fact that Jared knew this truth all along

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

#### **Chapter 1260: Aftermath Of The Invasion [Pt 3]**

"I always found it strange that Jared didn't bother resurrecting the dead ones in that world where we found Legris, even though he should have been able to. We would have gotten more information from them, and if that Hero was strong enough, he could have been an ally. The possibilities were endless, yet he didn't even try."

Kuzon began, his tone growing harsher with every odd he uttered.

"And it wasn't just that world. Every world we passed through, we saw civilizations that had crumbled and loves that were destroyed. Jared would only mourn them and increase his rage towards Legris. Yet, not once did he try to save or resurrect them..."

The more he said, the more the people around him realized where Kuzon was headed.

"I always assumed it was because we were in a hurry, but it's uncharacteristic of Jared not to even try saving those he can. With what happened in that last world... I chalked it down to his rage and all the frustration he had culminating in a single point, but now... now it all makes sense."

Kuzon stared at the Constellations—especially Aquarius—with resolve in his eyes.

"Jared knew all along. He knew those worlds were doomed already. A world without a Hero existing... civilizations without certain people... they were lost causes. That was why he didn't even try."

The moment Kuzon said this, his tone became softer.

"That idiot... he knew all along and decided not to let us in on it. He shouldered all that alone... burdening himself with the complete erasure of those realities!"

Even though no one said it directly, they realized that the villagers that were saved would soon amount to nothing.

According to that world's history, their Hero saved them from the Demons.

Without Zephyr, none of them would even exist.

In essence, they were all probably dead.

No, not probably.

"All those people... they're all dead. He knew that all along. That was why he was so upset. That was why he despised Legris so much..."

Tears fell from the young Midas' eyes as he remembered all the moments throughout their journey that Jared led the charge, not even saying a word about the ruined worlds they passed through.

Back then, he thought Jared was focusing solely on the mission and cold heartedly ignoring the casualties he could have saved.

Now... now he realized how wrong he was!

Kuzon wasn't blaming Jared—far from it.

Instead, he empathized with his best friend. He closed his eyes and felt his heart racing uncontrollably.

'I'm sorry, Jared! All those people...'

Everyone felt the solemn atmosphere press in on them, and the Constellations knew better than to say anything to interrupt the moment.

However, amidst this emotional crescendo, a soft voice echoed through.

"Where is Jared?"

Everyone looked in the direction where the mild and calm voice came from, and they found their eyes on Maria.

Her pale face and expressionless demeanor made her appear to be the only calm person in the room.

Her eyes, however, displayed a sadness that was impossible to ignore. Her lips moved once again and she asked the same question.

"Where is Jared?"

Determination was etched in her gaze, and so, even when she did not receive an immediate response, she opened her quivering lips once more to ask:

"W-where is Ja—?"

"He's in secluded training. He left the realm a while back, and it's unclear when he'll return." Virgo answered.

Aquarius instantly turned towards her, but Virgo shrugged it all off.

"It's no big deal. It's not like he told us to keep his whereabouts a secret."

There was no arguing that.

"Besides, she's his lover. I think she deserved to know."

Aquarius sighed and waved dismissively.

"It's fine. What is done is done. It is true that Jared is currently not present, but that is merely a tangent, since his return is beyond our control."

Aquarius' point was simple.

They could not rely on Jared at the moment, hence they had to focus on the more important and controllable parts of the situation.

And that led them to the next issue.

"What to do with the rest of you..."

It was clear that everyone present had grown considerably since they first arrived in the Constellation Realm, but as proven by their just-concluded battle with Legris... they were still no match for him.

When considering the situation, their surprise and lack of understanding of Legris' abilities played huge roles in their defeat, but even looking at the grander image, it was difficult to imagine them achieving overwhelming victory if Legris had decided to definitively eliminate them.

"He was buying time. He wasn't going all-out."

If he was... how exactly would the situation have ended? That was left to anyone's guess.

"U-urgh... what's going on here? So... loud..."

Ciara's groggy voice suddenly pierced the air, and everyone's attention instantly fell on her.

They watched as she completely regained consciousness. As she rubbed her eyes, yawning and stretching, silence took charge.

... Until Aquarius spoke.

"You did well, Ciara. I acknowledge that. Without your assistance, all the mortals in this room would be dead."

It was very difficult to imagine how just one girl had altered their fates, especially since she still had a small amount of drool on her face.

However, it was the truth.

"While I am a bit hesitant to admit this, we make a pretty good team, Ciara. If you desire—"

"JERRRRYYYYYYYYY!!!"

The moment Ciara fully realized what was happening, she turned her entire attention to Jerry, hugging him tightly as he cried out loud.

"I'm so glad you're okay! You're all healed up too! Ahh! Hope you aren't feeling any residual pain anywhere!"

Jerry, whose only pain stemmed from how tightly Ciara was hugging him, knew there was only one answer he could give her.

"I-I'm perfectly fine!"

Fortunately, his muffled speech was more than enough to comfort her.

"I'm so happy! You're alive! You're alright!"

Apparently, she either didn't hear Aquarius or chose to ignore her.

Because... she never acknowledged the Constellation's words or existence.

... Ever!

\*