

The Strongest Assassin Reincarnates in Another World

Chapter 381 - 381 - Emma

She thought that Aiden would simply ignore those words just like he had always done.

However, this time it was different he seemed pleased by what she had said.

"And what did you? Wander around doing nothing?"

'Just what the hell happened to him? Why is he acting like that?'

There was tons of incomprehension currently entering her mind as she simply couldn't believe what she was hearing at the moment.

She knew that there was something that had happened with the Nightshades while he was in the trial, but he shouldn't be affected by such things.

"I-I also trained..." She replied with a lot of shyness.

She was slowly starting to understand that Aiden was acting indifferent toward her, and it was hurting more and more as time passed by.

A few moments later, the two of them were walking around in complete silence as they were heading toward the training grounds where Aiden would be able to meet with Emma once again.

The maid was in front of them guiding the two of them since they both didn't know the way to the training grounds.

"Uh... who is she?" Olivia whispered to Aiden.

Aiden looked at her and quickly responded not giving her much attention.

"A maid, she's assigned to me."

Aiden decided to give as little detail as possible. He didn't want to give the information that he would have a little meeting with the Nightshades out.

He planned to keep it a secret for as long as possible since there were good chances that he would be a no-show, and the maid wouldn't be able to do anything about it.

If he activated his portal, there was no way that anyone would be stopping him from entering it. He was sure of that much.

He would just run as fast as possible toward it, ignoring everyone that was around him.

"Why is she assigned to you?" She asked.

However, there was obviously no answer coming from Aiden, he kept his mouth shut.

'He really is acting as if I don't matter, huh? I wonder what happened in that trial for him to change that much with me...'

She remembered what was happening before he left. Sure, he hadn't been showing her much emotion, but he still held her hands and cared about her somewhat. At least, that's what she thought.

However, it seemed that it wasn't the case at all.

'Maybe he didn't like it from the beginning and simply didn't show it?'

Truth be told, Aiden had simply never cared enough about her to push her away. She had helped him a lot in the Inter Family Tournament and this was his way of thanking her. But, it was slowly becoming way too much, Aiden decided that he wouldn't be accepting this for the rest of his life and took action.

Questions kept popping up in her mind, however, she had no choice but to dismiss them because they had just arrived at the training grounds.

The maid let both Aiden and Olivia through closing behind them. She was still making sure that he wouldn't be going anywhere.

Even while they had walked all the way to the training grounds she kept looking back every three seconds, making sure that Aiden hadn't disappeared anywhere.

"Now where is she?" Aiden asked as he thought that Olivia would have somewhat of a good idea of where she practiced.

"I have no idea, we'll need to search a little."

Aiden sighed and started looking around the huge training grounds. It was so big that there were multiple private rooms on all sides which made it easier for people to train in tranquility without getting distracted.

"She's probably in one of those," Aiden muttered before looking at his maid. "Is there a way to figure out, if Emma Everheart is in one of those rooms?"

The maid nodded and pointed to the giant screen that was on the wall not too far away from them.

On it, there was written the number of the room and the person assigned to it. Aiden quickly scanned it and found out exactly what he wanted.

"Room 5, alright where is that?"

Shortly after saying that, the maid pointed toward one of the rooms and Aiden directly headed toward it.

Olivia saw the speed at which Aiden was moving and she understood one thing. She wasn't Emma's equal at all, and it wasn't even close. Aiden cared about her a lot more than her.

It hurt to say out loud, but that was simply the truth right now.

There were now in front of a black box with the number five on it, written very big. The wall seemed quite thick, and there were no windows. It really seemed like the classical isolation rooms.

'Is she becoming crazy, training in a place like this?' Aiden thought as he couldn't imagine training in such a small environment completely cut from the world.

He preferred practicing in his room.

"Emma, come out! It's Aiden."

There was not a single sound heard. It seemed that Emma hadn't heard him.

This time, Aiden shouted even louder in hopes that she would hear something.

"EMMA! IT'S AIDEN COME OUT!"

Faint noises were heard this time as it seemed that this room was very well isolated. Not a lot of noise could go through.

Swoosh

The door to the room opened and finally, Emma and Aiden had reunited after one month which was the longest time that they had spent separated from one another.

It took a moment for Emma to recognize the person who had come to see him. However, when she saw him a huge smile formed on his face.

"You're here!" She shouted as loudly as she could.

She did the exact same movements as Olivia as she started toward him at quite a high speed. However, this time Aiden didn't mind it as he opened both his arms as widely as he could.

"I am... I'm finally back... Missed me?" He asked with a little wink.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 382 - 382 - System's Interventions

Aiden was smiling, and Emma was also smiling as they were holding each other. They were looking at one another with sparkling eyes.

It was the first time that Aiden was looking back at Emma with such desire in his eyes.

He would always have that dull look in his eyes, not caring about anything in his eyes. But it seemed that it had changed completely. Maybe it was because of the trial that he had just gone through.

To be quite frank, Emma had no idea why he had such a huge change in his personality, but that was the last thing that she would care about.

'He's happy to see me?!' She thought, exploding with joy.

She held him tightly in front of everyone who was currently training close to them. Most gave them a weird look before going back to whatever they were doing beforehand. It wasn't the first time that they had experienced a touching reunion between two people since it would be quite frequent to have people leaving for their trial and come back being all touchy and emotional.

However, most around the training ground had no idea what happened to cause such reactions from both sides.

"What happened to you inside there?" She shouted, not realizing the place that she was currently in.

It seemed like she was in her own world. She was so happy to meet Aiden again after such a long time, she had missed every single day ever since he had left for his fourth trial.

She had obviously been worried since there had been attempts at his life here in the Emberbane Territory. However, she knew that nothing had happened to him in this world since Aiden was on his trial, so that was one positive about his absence,

'What happened to me inside there?' Aiden thought shortly, unsure if he wanted to talk about such a topic around here with all those people around who could hear everything that he would be saying to her.

"Let's talk about that later," Aiden muttered to her ear, dismissing her question instantly.

Emma looked at him in the eyes and nodded in agreement, understanding why he didn't want to talk about such a thing.

She also didn't care much as she currently only wanted to treasure the moments with him, now that he was back and in her arms. He also seemed a lot more receptive, which was a nice touch.

After a few moments, Emma finally let him go, and she was now on her own two feet. The two of them gave each other a loving look as they left the training grounds without the slightest noise coming from either of them.

They were now all in Emma's room and sat on her bed. It was obvious that both Olivia and Emma had a lot of questions on their mind considering the length of Aiden's trial.

"So, can you answer me now?" Emma asked right away. "Actually before that, why aren't you wearing your m-?"

She closed her mouth instantly when she remembered that not everyone in this room knew about his secret. There was still the maid that was assigned to Aiden with them, they couldn't talk about anything they wanted, at least, not without Aiden's approval and she honestly doubted that she would be getting it.

"About my trial, my task was simple, I needed to kill someone but things got complicated and forced me into staying longer. Either way, there were more things to it, but the important part is that I'm back here without the slightest injuries."

Everyone in the room nodded, even the maid, as she was quite interested in that person since he seemed to have quite a strong relationship with Melinda, their head.

After saying that, Aiden got a little closer to Emma and made sure to whisper something to her ear.

"Don't talk about me being the Reaper in this room."

Emma instantly nodded in understanding. Her earlier assumptions were correct after all.

A few hours later, Aiden had finished talking about his trial. However, he hadn't been able to talk about it in detail since there was a maid following him everywhere.

He was now back in his room as he hadn't wanted to spend the night with the girls. He knew that he needed to prepare for the meeting that would be arriving soon enough.

He was currently wondering what was the best option for him to make. He wasn't sure if going to the meeting with the rest of the Nightshades was a good idea since there was a chance that he would get discovered as Aiden, their son, and that was the last thing that he wanted to happen.

BEEP

It seemed that someone was currently hearing all his thoughts and had something to say. That person is the system, or rather, the Lumithar currently overseeing him.

They had one simple message.

[Go to the meeting with Nightshades.]

They didn't give any reason, they simply ordered him into doing such a thing. Still, question marks arose in his mind. What about the rewards that he had gotten in his fourth trial? What about that [Random Portal]... Shouldn't he be using it? That's what they asked of him.

There was also the system upgrade that he needed to use once he reached level 50 which shouldn't take too long since he was level 45. However, he knew that he would need to join another trial to level up which wasn't in his current plans whatsoever. There were a lot more important things than that.

"Can you tell me why?" Aiden said out loud without the slightest restraint.

The maid gave him a quick look of confusion, however, she didn't open her mouth, not saying the slightest word.

[You will get stronger if you go there. It might accelerate your growth even more than the items that we gave you.]

Aiden was instantly interested in the meeting with the Nightshades. However, he couldn't help but wonder how they knew about such things. Could they see into the future, just how could they be so sure of such a thing?

Still, there was only silence, it seemed like the system wasn't planning on answering him.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 383 - 383 - Important Choice

'Make me stronger? How will it make me stronger?' Aiden thought as he walked into one of the hallways of the Emberbane Territory.

It had been two days since he had gotten those strange messages from the system and he couldn't help but doubt them immensely.

It didn't matter how much time he spent thinking about it, but it made no sense for him to go to the meeting with the Nightshades. The only thing that it could give him was danger.

Because if Aiden were to go to such a meeting he would be putting himself in a lot of danger. Even if it was going to be inside the Emberbane Territory and they would protect him. Aiden knew from Sylas's reactions at the Inter Family tournament that nothing would be stopping him from hurting anyone.

Hell, he had tried to kill him.

'And I still have this,' Aiden thought as he looked at the [Random Portal] item he had gotten.

He still had no idea where he would end up by using it, but from its description, he knew that it couldn't be anything bad.

As time passed, Aiden was more and more tempted to use the item and ditch the meeting. He knew that by doing this he would be getting a lot of different enemies. But Aiden still wanted to do it.

As he continued to think about all of this, the maid assigned to him was still following around, not letting him go away from her sight. Aiden knew that he could escape from her grasp whenever he wanted. However, he still waited a little, weighing his options.

"Are you going to train again?"

'Speaking of the devil,' Aiden thought, as the maid talked to him.

"Yes, I'm going to train again."

It was rare that the maid would actually speak to him, so Aiden found it weird. But he decided to entertain her, there was nothing wrong with it after all.

However, she didn't say another word, staying silent like she always would.

The day passed smoothly and Aiden was coming back from training. He still had no idea of what he would do, and he had been thinking about it all day.

'Leave or stay...'

He knew that by leaving he would be abandoning any chances of coming back to this place as Melinda would probably be on extremely bad terms with him, and he would have his face revealed to the whole world.

Aiden didn't really mind that part since he knew that it was bound to happen one day, but he knew that by not attending the meeting, he would be getting a lot of different enemies. It would make things a lot harder in the future that's for sure.

'If only that system would guide me one more time, or at least, give me more details,' Aiden thought, undecided.

However, this time, no one came to help him. He needed to make this decision by himself and he knew that he couldn't do anything to change that fact.

Another passed, and Aiden once again went to train. This time, he was with Emma. Ever since he had come back, he started spending a lot more time with Emma and he wondered if it was possible for her to come with him in the [Random Portal]. As for Olivia, Aiden had no problems leaving her behind.

She was the one who had wanted to join this family, and Aiden had honestly never really bothered with her.

Sure, she had helped him during the Inter Family Tournament, but that was it. She hadn't done anything else for him apart from being really sticky with him, holding him everywhere.

"What's on your mind?" Emma suddenly asked.

She had noticed that Aiden had been distracted for the past few days. In fact, ever since he had arrived, Aiden had been mysterious.

She truly wondered about what happened during the trial. But she knew with the maid, there was no way that she would know about it.

"Nothing..." Aiden answered, mindlessly.

'I'll tell her later tonight, maybe she will help me make a decision.'

For the first time in Aiden's life, he would be asking someone else's opinion on an important matter. He had never trusted anyone enough to do this. However, he knew that Emma wouldn't betray him, there was no way that such a thing would happen.

"Are you sure?"

Aiden just nodded hearing her question, as he continued to train his dagger skills.

Emma's shoulders went down a little.

A few minutes later, Aiden had taken a small break, and he slowly got closer to Emma. He needed to tell her where to meet him later tonight.

He softly tapped on one of her shoulders, and whispered, "Go in the city tonight at around midnight, I'll meet you."

'The city?' Emma thought as they had never explored it even once.

Ever since they had arrived in the Emberbane Territory, they had stayed in that huge manor. However, Emma wasn't stupid. She quickly understood that it wasn't a meeting that the Emberbanes should know about.

"Where?" She whispered back.

Aiden had no idea, but he remembered his second trial where he had met Mia and it gave him an idea.

"The pub, go to the pub..."

She nodded, and stood back up, acting like nothing had happened. The maid had noticed them getting closer to one another, but she thought of it as normal considering what had happened when Aiden had returned.

The sun had settled and it was now dark outside. It was around eleven at night.

The maid was still watching over Aiden as he was about to go to sleep. However, tonight would be different. He wouldn't be staying in his room.

'Time to make her go to sleep...' Aiden thought.

As he was about to go into his bed and sleep for the night, he suddenly moved extremely fast and went right behind the maid, and hit her with the non-sharp par of his dagger right behind her head.

It was now time for Aiden to head out and meet with Emma once again. He had decided that he had wasted enough time hiding things from her.

Tonight was the night, he would be revealing to her his real identity and everything that he had hidden since the very beginning.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 384 - 384 - Touching Emma?

A few moments later as Aiden's maid was still unconscious, Aiden ran as fast as possible toward the city, more precisely, the bar.

He had to admit that he was feeling scared and excited at the same time. On the one hand, he was excited to reveal some of his secrets to Emma, and he was even debating whether or not to tell her everything tonight.

Hiding those things was becoming harder and harder for Aiden, especially when he spoke to Emma. He was tired of being that mysterious being that would be cold and emotionless to his loved ones. It had to stop and he knew about it better than anyone else.

'Ah. Whatever, we'll see when I get there. It's too difficult to choose right now.'

He wanted to see the reactions that she would have when he would be revealing some of his secrets, it would be a good indicator for him whether to tell her everything or not.

Ding!

Aiden pushed the pub's door wide open, causing the small bell attached to the door to ring.

He gave it a quick look and saw many people drinking left and right. It was very loud too, people were singing and dancing. It wasn't the same type of pub that he had found in Mia's world, completely different.

However, there was one thing that was the same, and that was the alcohol. In all pubs, you would be able to get alcohol, there was no doubt about that part.

'Now, where is she?'

Aiden looked around looking for Emma, the beautiful little elf. And he found her, sitting at one of the tables surrounded by a couple of drunk people.

Aiden kept his calm when he saw this, but he had noticed something quite annoying. They were all touching her back, shoulders, and legs. Their hands were everything except for sexual places.

'Who the fuck do they think they are?'

Aiden slowly walked forward, not wanting people to notice what he was about to do.

'Touching my woman... They really are scared of death, huh?'

Aiden hadn't realized it yet, but right there, at that exact moment. He had made it clear that Emma was his lover. One of the signs of that was the jealousy that he was currently feeling. Also, those people were little bitches, abusing another woman like that when she was clearly trying to defend herself.

"Let me go," Emma shouted out loud.

Everyone in the bar heard her, but not a single moved to help her. They were simply going to let her be abused by those fucking mindless dogs.

Aiden started walking faster. He was now right behind one of the people abusing Emma. He looked over his shoulder and gave Emma a subtle smile, trying to reassure her.

Aiden moved his head close to that person's head, and whispered, "Psst, I would suggest that you leave her alone."

He didn't want to outright kill them, but if they refused or, even worse, laughed at his advice then there would be big consequences, and Aiden hoped that they knew about it extremely well.

"Hahaha! Did you hear this boys? He wants to leave her alone, a fucking peasant is asking us that. Are you even an awakened you fucking piece of trash?"

Aiden kept his mouth as he continued to listen to them. He was interested in what he would say next.

'As if being awakened gives you all the rights, dumbass. Still, I wonder what level they are. It probably isn't high, considering their shitty physiques.'

"We're all level 15, are you sure you want to continue this conversation?"

Aiden simply blinked a couple of times. "15? That's it?"

The man laughed even louder when he heard that.

"What, you're scared now?"

However, the man couldn't be more wrong. Aiden was just surprised at how fucking trash they were. He had to admit that he wondered how Emma had been abused like this by level 15s, he hoped that she had a good explanation, or else he wouldn't be the nicest with her that's for sure.

"Scared? No, not really. Should I be?"

"Looks like we got a funny one, boys!"

"What do you to do to him?"

"Should we kill him?"

"Yeah, let's do it. It's not like anyone here can stop us, hahaha!"

Aiden just looked at them right in the eyes as he couldn't believe their stupidity. He even heard a cute little laughter coming from Emma. It seemed that she agreed with him.

"Follow us, you little bitch. We'll show what happens when you get in our way," one of the men said. "You too, follow us. I want you to witness our greatness."

He had obviously pointed at Emma when he said that.

'Your greatness? She will only witness my greatness you dumbasses.'

Aiden couldn't believe it, he would be in for a lot of fun!

They were now outside and a couple of people from inside the pub had come out of it, wanting to observe the fight between Aiden and the few others.

No one had any idea of who Aiden was. But they knew of the three guys who had been tormenting Emma, they were regulars after all. They were very known to abuse their rights as awakened since there weren't any awakeners in the pub.

"Who wants to go first?" One of them asked.

They still had a little bit of respect when it came to fighting as they wouldn't be ganging up on Aiden, they would be going one by one. At least, that's what they wanted to do until Aiden spoke up once again.

"It's fine, you can come at me all at the same time. It won't be difficult for me either way."

The three of them laughed. "You're going to regret those words, I'll tell you that."

The ones in the public watching this fight had the same opinion. They had no idea of Aiden's strength, but they doubted that he would be strong enough to deal with the three of them at the same time. There was probably a reason that they had never heard of him.

One person fully believed in Aiden, Emma. She even had a smile on her face. The only that was missing right now was popcorn.

'Such confidence, only to be destroyed miserably by Aiden.'

"Alright, let's do this!" One of them said.

They had agreed with Aiden's proposition as they would be attacking him all at the same time. They wondered how he would come out of such a situation, but then they saw something that resembled a blue light coming from one of his shoes.

'Is that... electricity?'

None of them were sure of it, but they knew what would cause something like this. It had to be a skill.

"Ready?"

"Ready," Aiden coldly answered. "This is a fight to the death, please remember that," he added at the end.

Aiden wanted to make them pay, and he would be doing just that. There was no way someone would be leaving her alone, especially after having touched his woman.

"3...2...1... Fight!" Someone in the public shouted.

Aiden dashed forward instantly with the help of his movement technique, appearing right behind one of them.

"Boo!"

None of them had even managed to move yet, and Aiden was already behind them. Just what the hell was that electricity under his shoes? Did it cause him to move at the speed of light?

As soon as they understood how fast he could move, most of them suddenly were not so confident.

One of them even fell on the ground because of the shock that he had received. Aiden scoffed at him. He wasn't going to kill them just yet. He wanted to play with them a little, making them regret.

He dashed toward one of them and hit him with the handle of his dagger. Aiden also made sure to do it as slowly as possible, wanting to give them a chance to react. But it was no use, they still hadn't been able to.

"Come on! Aren't you guys the strongest around here?"

They were all pumped as they heard that phrase. They felt ridiculed, two of them were already on the ground and Aiden could have finished them off, they knew about that part.

"Who the hell are you?"

"Me. I'm just a nobody, someone who's weaker than you guys. Hahaha!"

Aiden couldn't contain his laughter, this whole situation was too funny.

One of them who was still on the ground looked up at him, with a very serious expression on his face.

"What level are you? And what the fuck is that skill of yours?"

Aiden didn't bother to answer them just yet. He wanted to let them guess a little longer.

Emma who was watching this fight was even more impressed by Aiden than before. Looking at his fight, she knew that he had gotten much stronger in the trial. At least, twice as much as before.

Maybe it was because of what had happened there, but she was very curious. He had completely changed once he came out of that trial. He was nicer to her, and a lot more physical with her which wasn't a change that she hated per se.

Aiden dashed toward his enemies once again, and he did the same thing. Hitting them with the handle of that dagger, and every time that he would do that. He would slowly whisper in their ear, "You're dead."

He did that over and over again until his opponents couldn't deal with it anymore. They were on the verge of crying.

Aiden smiled, looking at them.

He had played with them for long enough, it was time to kill them.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 385 - 385 - Shock

"I think that's enough," Aiden slowly muttered. "Are you guys sorry for what you did to her?"

Aiden pointed to Emma as he uttered those words. He wasn't going to kill them until they apologized to Emma. He was doing this for her after all.

He slowly approached them, and grabbed them by their clothes, slowly dragging them across the floor. Their faces and their clothes getting bruised and ripped apart. Once they were in front of Emma, Aiden dropped them onto the ground.

"Still, got nothing to say?"

The three of them tried to open their mouths to say something but Aiden gave each of them a kick in their stomach.

"Can you repeat that? I didn't hear it?"

Emma watched this and couldn't help but look away. This was simply too much for her. She had never expected Aiden to go this far for her. She had heard him talking about killing them, but she thought he hadn't been serious. But looking at the state of those three, it was clear that if it continued that way. They would surely die.

"A-Aiden," Emma softly muttered, getting closer to him.

Aiden looked away from the three bruised guys and looked at her instantly, worried that something might have happened.

"What are you doing, Aiden? Why are you hitting them so hard?" She slowly whispered in his ears.

Aiden was even more confused when she told him that. He didn't understand why there was a problem in the first place. Wasn't he just helping her? They were all abusing her a couple of moments ago.

"Didn't you see what they did to you! That's all they fucking deserve."

Aiden hadn't said this in a quiet tone, he had made sure that everyone around them had heard him loud and clear. He wanted everyone to know that no one could touch her or else he would be coming after them, and that was obviously something that no one wanted.

"Stop Aiden! Stop hitting them! It's okay."

Emma didn't like what was happening at all, she tried to hold onto Aiden's arm. She didn't want this fight to continue. She could see in Aiden's eyes that he was losing himself in this fight, going further than he needed to.

'What's wrong with her? Why is she trying to stop me? Didn't she want this?'

Aiden didn't understand her actions so he stopped hitting them. For him, it was completely normal to hit people who were doing the wrong things. That's what he had done all his life.

However, when he saw how Emma begged him to stop, he stopped kicking them repeatedly.

'Right, I'm not doing this for myself. I'm doing this for her, I can't keep doing this if she doesn't like it.'

Aiden looked away from those three corpses and looked at Emma.

"Uh... sorry about that. I got too engrossed in the fight."

Emma had tears in her eyes now, and she hugged, slowly whispering to him, "Don't do this ever again... I don't like seeing you like this."

Hearing how broken she was, Aiden understood that this wasn't something that Emma had wanted.

At first, she looked happy that he had shown up to defend her. But, as time passed, she had lost her smile and happiness from looking at Aiden fighting.

"Still, don't you think they need to say sorry?"

"W-We're sorry... Please stop hitting us."

The three of them muttered the same thing at the same time, barely keeping themselves conscious.

They had realized that the person in front of them wasn't someone that they could deal with, and they didn't want any problems with him anymore, or else, they knew what would be happening. They would lose their life, and quite fast at that.

"See? At least, they know their place now."

"AIDEN! Stop doing stuff like this! You go too far every time!"

Emma shouted mindlessly, scolding Aiden heavily for what he had just said. The actions that he had just taken were not good and Emma wanted Aiden to realize it before it was too late.

Aiden seemed happy with the result and stopped looking at them as if forgetting what had just happened.

Because of the fight, he had momentarily forgotten about the reason for which he had come here in the first place. He had come here to tell some important things to Emma.

"I-I'm sorry, I didn't know you disliked me fighting that much," Aiden muttered when he heard her being so mad against him. "Want to get out of here?" Aiden asked, wanting to change the subject.

It was the first time in his life that he was getting scolded, and he didn't like it. He just wanted to enjoy his time with Emma, he didn't like seeing her getting angry at him.

"Sure, let's leave..."

Then, Aiden took her in his arms and flew up into the sky.

There was a lot of snow falling from the sky, and it was quite nice to look at.

'Christmas... I think I heard people talk about that, back on Earth,' Aiden thought as he looked at all the snow falling.

For some reason, it had made him think of that time of the year when he started seeing people smile more and having a lot more emotions.

Of course, at the time, Aiden had a lot of difficulty understanding why that was a thing. However, now when he thought about it. It was completely different, and he understood why those people seemed so happy to give stuff.

"Where do you want to go?" Emma asked as she noticed that Aiden's mind seemed to be somewhere else at the moment.

'Oh, right? She's still here.'

"Somewhere alone, I have some things to tell you. It could even be considered a gift..."

Aiden wasn't sure if she was going to like the gift that he would be giving, but he hoped that she did. It was valuable information concerning his identity after all.

"A gift? What sort?" Emma asked, curious.

However, Aiden's mouth was tightly shut as he kept flying in the sky, trying to find a peaceful spot for them to talk.

A few moments later, he had found it. He had decided to go on a rooftop, he thought of it as peaceful, and uh... somewhat romantic.

"Here, be careful," Aiden said as he slowly let Emma leave his embrace.

The rooftop was covered with a little bit of snow, but not too much, making it perfect to walk around, and see the beautiful sight.

"It is beautiful tonight, don't you think?" Emma smiled when saying this.

Aiden didn't say anything and indicated to her, to sit down on the small bench behind her. "I have something to tell you, and I hope you won't panic too much..."

Aiden changed the subject instantly. He wanted to tell her and he didn't want the moment to delay anymore.

Emma just watched him in the eyes and was confused. She had no idea where this was coming from because ever since she had met Aiden he had been one of the most secretive people she had met in her life. So, what would he want to tell her in the first place?

"This is difficult for me to say, but... I-uh... My full name is Aiden Nightshade, and I'm not from this world."

Emma had no reaction. She didn't even move a single inch, her mind was in pure turmoil.

'What did he just say?'

"Can you repeat? I think I heard you wrong."

"My name is Aiden Nightshade, and I'm from another world."

Emma laughed when he said that again. She was sure that he was making a little joke which was out of his character, but she still hoped that it was the reason, he was saying something so unbelievable.

"That's funny, a Nightshade... from another world? Really? You couldn't come up with anything else."

Aiden noticed that she was in pure denial, and decided to sound a lot more serious as he grabbed her by both of her shoulders.

"I'm not lying. I'm from Earth, a place probably very very far from here. I died over there, and I woke in this world, in a completely different body that had the same name as mine, Aiden Nightshade."

Emma just stared at him, when he explained a little more of the situation.

"Y-You're not lying, right?"

She was just shocked by the information that he had just given to her.

He hadn't tried to release a little bit of information, he had just said everything in one go, which made things a lot harder to digest.

"But- Wait, how? Who?"

Aiden just smiled when he heard all those questions.

"So, you're part of the Nightshade Family? Are you serious, right now?"

"I am, although the original owner of this body was abandoned by the Nightshade family."

Emma just blinked a couple of times. "What do you mean? They abandoned a member of their family?"

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 386 - 386 - Sure

Aiden just looked at her and nodded. "They abandoned him because he couldn't awaken."

Emma was confused, not sure she was understanding everything correctly.

"What do you mean? Couldn't awaken, just look at you. You awakened just fine."

"I just told you, I'm not the original Aiden Nightshade of this world. I come from another world."

Emma still couldn't believe him. Even if she wanted to, it was simply too much of a shock for her to endure.

'Other worlds... just like in those trials. Does he come from one of those worlds?'

"What's the name of the world that you come from?" Emma asked, not remembering that Aiden had already mentioned it earlier.

"The Earth, a place where no one has powers. I don't think it's one of the worlds that we can go through in the trials."

Emma nodded, unsure about why Aiden was saying something like this. There shouldn't be any way for him to make sure that was the case. It was probably just guesses coming from him.

"But... all this, why are you telling me this now? After all this time? What happened to you?"

Emma had remarked over the time they had passed together that Aiden was a person with many secrets that he wouldn't reveal... ever. However, here he was telling her everything that was on his mind. Something was amiss, but she had no idea what it was.

Aiden looked at her and grabbed her by her shoulders. He wanted to make sure that he would look as serious as possible when he would be uttering the next words that would be coming out of her mouth.

"Emma... I'm just tired of hiding everything from everyone, it's getting too much for me. I wanted at least one person with whom I would be able to talk. Also... there's another reason, it's considering the meeting with the Nightshades."

Emma seemed to understand what was happening when he mentioned the meeting with the Nightshades. She slowly understood what was truly happening.

"You don't want to go since if they found out about your true identity, they would be taking you in... I get it now."

Aiden had to admit that it was quite a nice feeling not having to explain everything to Emma since she was already smart enough to understand everything on her own.

"So what are you planning to do now? Do you want to leave this family?"

Emma was already asking those questions right after learning what was happening. It seemed Aiden's secrets hadn't affected her that much as they flew over her head the moment she learned that he might be in danger. Aiden had obviously noticed and couldn't help but form a stupid smile on his face.

"I'm not sure... You see-"

They continued their discussion for some time as Aiden started telling her the options that were available to him. He told her that he was hesitant to use that weird Portal item that he had gotten from the trial or not.

Their discussion continued for a long time, and at one point they had changed the subject and were now talking about Aiden's past from Earth. Emma was wondering what had happened to him to get here.

"You were an assassin? Well, that makes sense, hahaha."

Emma couldn't help but giggle when she learned about his past occupation. Everything made so much sense. His personality, his behavior, the way he kills people without even blinking... his jumbled-up emotions, the lack of physical touch from others... the lack of love.

"Aiden, did you suffer back then? Living as a kid, killing people for all of your life. Wasn't it hard to do such a thing?"

Aiden didn't have an answer for her. He had never really thought about it. Back then, it had simply been how he had been raised, everything that he did in the past... for him it was the most normal thing to do as a child.

Now, looking back at it, Aiden knew that wasn't the case, but when all you know is killing, killing, killing, at one point you think there's nothing wrong with it, especially when you're killing bad guys.

Aiden still remembered the day before he died, he was angry because the journalist on the television was saying that he was a bad person and should be going to jail. Aiden

even remembered the phrase that he had said before closing the television. It was something along the lines of: "Why do they even hate? I just killed a bad guy, shouldn't they praise me instead of hating me?"

'How stupid I was...'

"I didn't. I didn't suffer back then, well I did... but that was only because of the training that they had pushed us through. At the time, when you're only a child, being forced into getting stronger every day. It becomes somewhat hard on yourself. However, since you're so young, you don't realize it and it sticks with you." Aiden took a deep breath.

"It really sticks with you, even now... the past training sticks with me. Everything that I endured does. However, it's not really a bad thing, it made me who I am and I don't think there's anything wrong with that."

Emma just listened, she didn't want to interrupt. It was the first time since she had met Aiden that he was speaking so much, and she didn't want to stop him for anything in the world. His story, his past experiences... everything about him was mesmerizing for her. The pain that he went through seemed exceptional, but he was still there standing on his own two feet, not even bothered by all of it.

"Emma, you see even now when I'm training, I don't stop until it hurts me because if I don't hurt when training, in my mind, there's no point in doing so. While I hate what they did to me looking back at it, I don't resent it. Everything they put me through made me the man I am, and I am proud of what I have become in such a short period of time."

Emma just nodded, she didn't utter a single word as he didn't seem to be done with speaking.

"Let's say that I was to use the [Random Portal] to leave toward who knows where... Would you follow me?"

That was the question that had been on Aiden's mind ever since he had started this discussion and he hadn't found a good time to discuss it earlier. He knew he changed the topic of discussion radically but if it could help him make a decision then he would do it without a doubt.

'Follow him? Alone?'

Emma didn't have an answer in the instant, she needed to think about it a little. She knew that by following him, there would be a lot of problems thrown her way as a result. Abandoning the Emberbane family was a very big problem after all, if Melinda were to get mad... a lot of problems would follow.

Aiden and Emma wouldn't be able to go everywhere on their own, there would obviously be some problems regarding all that stuff.

"Can you give me some time?" Emma asked.

That answer somewhat disappointed Aiden as he had expected her to jump in joy and follow him to the depths of this world. But it seemed that she needed to think if the consequences of those actions would be worth it.

"If it can help you, the system told me that it would help me get a lot stronger."

Aiden knew that it wouldn't help her that much since Emma wasn't the type to care about strength all that much. But he still said it, because he wanted her to come with him.

"What about my mom? Would I be able to see her again?"

"I have no idea. But if I were to guess, I would tell you that I will make sure that you will be able to meet her again. She also misses me a lot, don't worry."

Emma was a little reassured by that answer. It pushed her a little more in a certain direction.

'I did come here because I wanted to follow him, after all... I don't think I would be able to spend all my time here without him. At one point, it would get boring and I would want to leave the family for sure.'

Emma knew she wouldn't want to stay here without Aiden, and if he were to leave and disappear then it wasn't complicated she would simply go back to the Everheart Family where she had spent most of her time either way, with her mother and everyone that she knew about.

"Alright, if you decide to leave then I will follow you."

It hadn't taken a lot of time for Emma to decide because she knew that staying with Aiden was what she had wanted in the first place. Why not continue doing it?

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 387 - 387 - Caveman

Aiden was now faced with a dilemma. He needed to figure out if he wanted to leave right away with Emma or go back inside the Emberbane manor to think about it a little.

Aiden knew that going back to the Manor was a ballsy move considering that he had attacked the maid that had been supervising all his actions. He knew there would likely be some consequences that would result in him being restricted. There were good chances that Aiden wouldn't be able to go where he wanted most of the time.

"You want to follow me, you're sure about that, right?"

Emma looked at him in the eyes wondering what was happening. Wasn't he the one who wanted this in the first place? There was a reason she had come here alone at night to meet him.

"Yes, I want to."

"Hmm..."

There were a lot of things Aiden needed to think about as he sat down on the rooftop. Everything was moving so fast in his mind, as he kept thinking about so many different things.

'System, that portal... where is it going to lead me?'

That was the one thing that made Aiden the most worried. What if that portal would guide him to the Nightshades directly? There were chances of that happening, and Aiden didn't want that. There was a reason why he didn't want to go to that meeting, after all.

However, Aiden didn't get any answer. It seemed that the system didn't seem too keen on accepting whatever question Aiden had about those things.

'Ah. Fuck it, even if I go back there's no way, I'll be able to leave again. They will probably put me under a lot more security until the meeting. Melinda seemed extremely serious about it.'

'It's going to make me stronger, right?'

Aiden just wanted to confirm that one last time. He didn't want to use this and get in the middle of the desert or something similar.

Beep!

[It will make you stronger, a lot stronger.]

Aiden dismissed his doubts as he knew that he wouldn't be able to figure out anything if it kept going as it currently was.

"Alright, let's do this."

Aiden had made his choice, he took out the [Random Portal] in his hands and threw it onto the ground without the slightest hesitation.

"Emma, let's go."

Emma got closer to him, as she put one of her hands on his shoulders slowly entering the portal.

A huge blue portal appeared, it started pulling in the snow that was nearby, and there was a small voice that came from the other side of the portal.

"What the fuck is happening?"

The voice was deep and grave. It clearly belonged to a man, and he didn't seem too pleased with whatever was happening.

Aiden knew that he couldn't let this portal out for too long as he walked through it.

'Let's hope that nothing too bad happens...'

Aiden and Emma walked through it and the portal behind them closed immediately. However, there was a small problem, they couldn't see anything at the moment. Everything was dark around them, as if they were in the bottom of a cave struggling to come out of it. The only thing visible was the snow that the portal had absorbed which was covering a little bit of the ground.

"Hello? Is someone here?"

Aiden didn't sound too sure. He sounded worried.

"Why are you here? Who sent you? Was it Syllas, Melinda, Thorin...?"

The man casually pronounced the names of all the founding families without the slightest amount of stress. It was truly something interesting to experience.

"Hello? Answer me?"

'Why can't I see? Shouldn't my eyes be able to see through the darkness now?'

Aiden remembered the training that he had gone through, but for some reason, one of his skills wasn't working properly at the moment.

"No, no one sent us here. Actually, someone did but I have no idea who it really is?"

The grave voice spoke up once again, seemingly interested in what Aiden had just said.

"Explain."

"I got here because of a reward from the system."

'The system?' The man thought.

Aiden couldn't see his face at the moment. But it was clear that there was a little bit of surprise on his face.

'Why would they send him here? Now or all times...'

"A reward? What trial number did you reach?"

Aiden didn't know why the man was suddenly asking such a question, but he answered nonetheless.

"Fourth, it's a reward from the fourth one."

The man didn't say anything for a few moments. Probably thinking about some stuff while Aiden was panicking because he couldn't hear anything anymore.

A mumble was then heard, "The fourth one... only that many."

Even more questions appeared in both Aiden's and Emma's minds. They couldn't help but wonder about what was happening at the moment. There were so many things to consider, but Aiden could sort of feel that they would be getting an answer soon enough.

"So, the system sent you? Is that right?"

"Yes, exactly. I'm sorry if we came here uninvited, but we ran into a little bit of a problem."

The voice didn't say anything for a few seconds. Only tapping his foot on the ground.

"Young man, can I ask you a question?" The voice muttered.

Aiden was intrigued. "Sure, go right ahead."

"Do you possess Qi? Can you use it?"

'Where the fuck did that come from?'

Aiden had no idea why the man had just asked him that when there were clearly no indications that Aiden had access to such an energy. Still, Aiden didn't mutter the slightest thing just yet.

"Why are you asking me that?"

"Wondering about something."

It was a vague answer and Aiden wasn't convinced about telling the man the truth. There was something amiss here.

"Before I answer, can't you tell me where I am?" Aiden asked.

"My home."

The answers were so sharp and vague that Aiden was almost mistaking himself.

"And where is that exactly?"

"The middle of nowhere. Now answer my question, can you use Qi?"

"I can, now answer my question, where the fuck am I?"

The two of them were asking questions one after another without the slightest break. Emma who was hearing the two of them couldn't help but shake her head in response.

"He can use it... There's no way, right?"

Those were mumbles, but Aiden was so close to the man that he had heard them.

"Can YOU FUCKING TELL ME WHAT'S HAPPENING?"

Aiden was getting pissed off, his questions were getting ignored over and over again, and there was nothing he could do about it. As Aiden shouted as loudly as he could, a strong light finally appeared, showing everything that was around.

Aiden's guess from earlier had been right, they were in a small cave in the middle of nowhere. Aiden swiftly looked around himself, and there was nothing out of the ordinary. It was just a small little cave that served as a home.

'But why the fuck did the system send me here? Is there even a point in doing all of this?'

Aiden didn't understand why he needed to be in the middle of a cave in the middle of nowhere. He didn't understand how such a thing would make him stronger.

In his mind, he had just lost a lot of time being sent here.

Aiden looked at the man whose voice was belonging and he looked exactly like what he had imagined earlier.

The man was tall and bulky. He had a huge beard with a few weapons behind his back. If anyone were to look at him, they would have no problem saying that he looked like a caveman.

"Hello, I'm Jake, but you probably know me better as the Mercenary."

Jake extended his hand forward, announcing that he wanted to shake Aiden's hand.

However, there was not the slightest movement coming from Aiden. He just looked at the man in front of him without moving. Memories started flowing in his mind. He remembered months ago when Maelis had talked to him about the Mercenary, someone who was roaming the world. A man so powerful that he wasn't bound by any of the families.

'How did I end up here?'

"T-The Mercenary?"

This time it was Emma who spoke up. She seemed even more shocked to know about the identity of the man in front of him.

"What about you? What's your name, young man?" Jake asked, still with his hand out.

"Right. Sorry, the name is Aiden... Aiden Nightshade."

"Hmm, interesting, you come from Syllas's family. Are you a direct member or did he recruit you?"

Aiden looked at him dead in the eyes. "None of those options, I was kicked out of the family."

For some reason, it felt very good to be able to say such a thing out loud. It was like a weight had been removed from his shoulders.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 388 - 388 - Another One

Jake just kept looking at him. It was clear that he was having some difficulty believing in Aiden at the moment.

'Who gets kicked out from a founding family, is that even possible?'

Aiden noticed this and knew he needed to explain a little. "Problem related to awakening. They didn't like it and kicked me out because of it."

"What family kicked you out?"

Jake seemed interested in knowing about it, for some reason.

"The Nightshades."

Jake didn't seem too surprised. "Ah. Then, it makes sense don't worry. Sylas can be a real bitch sometimes, but none of that matters. Look at you, getting an item that leads you to me. You must have some talent."

Aiden was surprised by the words that Aiden had used. For example, treating Sylas as one of the strongest people in the World of a bitch is truly something.

'I heard about his strengths from Maelis, and how he would be able to answer most of my questions. But I wonder... Is he really as strong as the rumors?'

Aiden was also somewhat sure that the one who could use Qi with a lot of proficiency was the person in front of him. Or else, why would he have asked about it?

That question had simply come out of nowhere.

"Probably a weird request, especially after meeting one another... But can we spar? I want to see how strong you are."

Jake just had a smile on his face when Aiden uttered those words.

"Follow me!"

A few minutes later, Aiden was no longer in Jake's cave and was now outside in the middle of what seemed to be a jungle.

The trees were massive and tall. Aiden couldn't even see the top of a single one of them. As for the ground, the grass was tall almost reaching Aiden's thighs, and there were also a couple of rocks which made it difficult to move around.

"So, are you ready to fight?" Jake asked.

While he uttered those words, a huge sword appeared out of nowhere in his hands as if he had called it. Aiden obviously knew that it came from the inventory, but the way Jake had pulled it out seemed different. He hadn't pulled it out of a portal, the sword had just appeared.

However, Aiden didn't question it as he pulled out his dagger.

Emma was only watching the two of them with great attention. She knew she would be able to learn a couple of things from all of this.

'There's a reason that the system pulled me here, and I need to find it!' Aiden thought.

He could feel the determination slowly summoning within his body, as a deep flame had appeared deep inside his core. It was weird that only after all this time, had appeared, that determination.

Aiden had been determined in the past but right now was completely different. Before he had only aimed at getting stronger to find freedom, but now it was different, he wanted to get stronger not only because of that, but also because he wanted to protect those close to him.

"Let's do it!" Aiden shouted.

Suddenly, Jake disappeared in a flash of light, the only thing he left behind was the grass slowly burning because of the friction from his movements.

'Where?'

Aiden looked around himself, but he couldn't find him.

'Is he behind?'

Aiden turned around and there was already the sword right in front of his head. If he had turned around one minute later, he would have been killed, or at least, he would have lost his fight if this was a real fight.

Aiden raised his dagger and struggled to defend the strike causing him to be pushed back.

'Is this his full strength?'

Aiden was mindblown, he had never been attacked in such a way, and it seemed like it was only starting as Jake once again disappeared appearing behind him.

The only emotion that could be seen in Aiden's eyes at the moment was pure shock from what was happening. He knew that no matter what he would do, there was no way he would win against that man.

For the first time in his life, he truly felt overpowered. He knew that whatever move he would pull out, it would all be meaningless.

"Let's stop this right now... No point in going further."

Aiden knew there was no point. He had fought and put his life on the line against the director in his trial. But the man in front of him... he was... a lot, a lot stronger. Even if he managed a miracle, Aiden knew.

There wouldn't be a scratch on him.

Jake who had been about to make another attack, stopped completely. "Oh, you know when to admit defeat. That's great."

Aiden only gritted his teeth in response. 'I don't, you're just too strong.'

Aiden had seen Melinda and Syllas fight in the Inter Family Tournament, but that was different. Seeing Jake fight, Aiden was sure about it... the founding families heads, they were weaker... a lot weaker than him.

'That's probably why they leave him alone, they know that he's much stronger.'

That was the only logical as to why the founding families wouldn't beg for Jake to join them.

"Well, now that we fought shall I show you around a little. I don't think I told you yet, but you aren't the only one who appeared here recently. There's another person... a girl, an Enchantress."

"I wasn't the only one? How did she come here?"

Jake looked lost when he heard that question. "No idea, one day I woke up and she was there. My guess is that someone, most likely the system, sent her here for some reason."

Jake took a small break and started walking forward. "Well, I'll make you two meet... Oh, now that I remember, she did say something weird when I woke up, I think it was along the lines that she had been sent here because of fate or something like that..."

Jake noticed the look in Aiden's eyes and giggled. "Yeah, I know... she's weird."

A few moments later, Aiden was back in the cave, and only now did he realize how big it was. Jake had a nice home, even if it was situated in the middle of nowhere.

"So, I'm guessing the reason you came here is to become stronger? That's probably why the system sent you, they do that once in a while. It's always annoying."

'They send people here, why? Just who the hell is this man?'

Aiden was confused, he thought he had been the lucky one. But it seemed that this wasn't the first time something like this had happened. Maybe that's why the man didn't look too troubled to have a portal appear in his home.

"Where is that girl you talked about earlier?" Aiden asked as he continued to follow the man, keeping those thoughts to himself.

"A little bit further down there, she's meditating. So, don't make too much noise."

'Meditating, what the fuck is going on here?'

Aiden didn't ask any questions as he continued to follow Jake down the cave. He had to admit that he was quite impatient to find out, who was there at the bottom of the cave.

'He said it was an Enchantress, right? Do I know any?'

At first, there wasn't anyone coming up in Aiden's mind. But then, he remembered that there was someone, the first person he had met when being thrown inside this world.

'There's no way, it would be her though, right?'

Aiden thought of Ava, but he knew that the chances of it being her were very small. Nonetheless, Aiden asked Jake about it.

"What's the name of the person training down there?"

However, didn't seem to remember... "Uh... I think it started with an A or something... I don't know, I'm not good with words after all."

'An A...'

While Aiden knew there were a lot of people in the world who had a name that started with an A... the chances were higher than before.

'There's no way, right? After all this time....'

Aiden wasn't sure, but he remembered what had happened between them. If they ever met again, then Ava would have no choice but to listen to everything that Aiden would be saying.

"Can't we go a little faster?"

Aiden was getting impatient, he wanted to find out about who she was as fast as possible.

"Sure, just run down there and at one point you'll see her. I'm going to continue walking though, I can't be bothered."

Aiden heard him and exploded in terms of speed. He ran down the cave, he wanted to see if the person down there really was Ava.

Even if they hadn't been best friends at the start, it was still meaningful to see her after all this time.

He ran and ran, and finally arrived around the area that Jake had talked about.

Aiden was now face to face with the person meditating, and she still had her eyes closed.

"Ava? Is that really you?"

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 389 - 389 - Reunion

Aiden had difficulty believing that his eyes didn't have some sort of problem. He had expected it, but seeing her once again was different.

She was right there with her eyes closed, meditating peacefully without a care in the world. Aiden didn't say anything just yet as he kept looking at her.

He didn't want to ruin her concentration, and he also didn't want to act so fast. He kept looking at her. Wondering what she would be doing next. However, she did nothing special, she stayed sat with her eyes just like she had probably been doing for hours.

'Did she get stronger?'

Aiden tried to look at what her strength was looking like by feeling the aura that she giving off. However, for some reason, he couldn't tell. It was as if she had hidden all strength from the aura she was currently releasing.

'Should I greet her?'

Aiden was hesitating and instead of saying something he just sat down and looked at her for a few minutes. She just looked... so... how could someone say it, beautiful? Peaceful?

There were so many words to describe her appearance, but those were the ones that would probably fit best. She was peaceful, the meditation was probably helping greatly in that regard.

A few minutes passed by, and Jake still wasn't there.

'It's probably better if I talk with her alone first, considering our history. Who knows how she might react?'

'Alright, let's do this.'

Aiden stood up and slowly walked over to her position. She softly tapped on one of her shoulders, waiting for her to open her eyes, but she didn't. She was focused on her current situation.

"Ava? Is that really you?"

Aiden had no other choice as he finally raised his voice, wondering what her reaction would be like.

"Ah! Who's there?"

She jumped in place when she heard that someone had managed to get so close to her without making the slightest sound. She was almost scared that someone had come for her life.

'Luckily Emma stayed at the top of the cave, or else, who knows what might have happened...'

Ava turned around in the direction of the voice, wondering who had started talking to her. And when she did... her eyes which had been barely open, widened instantly.

"A-Aiden... is that you?" She was shocked, as her body shook a little. "W-Wait... no, there's... no way, right?"

She couldn't believe her eyes as she blinked multiple times, praying that the person in front of her would disappear. However, he did not...

"N-No... don't tell me... since you're here, does it mean that... no please no. Please tell me I'm dreaming..."

The current situation was too much for her to handle, she was scared. She remembered very well what they had said when they had parted ways. If they ever found each other again, she would have to listen to everything that he would say...

She tried pinching herself, but it was no use... the only thing she felt was pain.

'I'm really not dreaming. But... how did he get here? This place... really isn't that common.'

Ava just couldn't believe it.

Why here out of all places?

They could have met at the Inter Family Tournament since she had also been participating, but no... They didn't.

They could have met, in a city from one of the founding families. But no, they didn't.

They could have met, fucking anywhere else than here... Why here in the middle of nowhere?

'Is it because of the system, did it want us to meet again? Was that why they told me that receiving that item was destiny?'

Multiple questions appeared in Ava's mind and Aiden kept his mouth shut as he couldn't help but find her whole reaction extremely funny.

Her mouth was wide open and she hadn't moved her eyes since she had opened them. They were fixated on Aiden.

After a few seconds, she realized that she was still there in front of him.

"Oh... uh... I'm sorry. But is that really you? Why are you here? How?

Who?"

Aiden didn't answer anything yet, well he told her one thing.

"Yes, it's me... I'm Aiden. Nice to see you again, huh?"

There was a little smirk on the corner of Aiden's smile. He was enjoying this moment a lot. In fact, he hadn't expected to enjoy it that much. It was an incredible feeling, having someone in front of you who was so scared to see you again.

"So... uh, Aiden?"

The smile on Aiden's face just got bigger at the question. He knew what would be coming next.

"Do you remember what we talked about... you know... before we left?"

She kept playing with her fingers and looking down when she uttered those words. It was clear that she was very nervous.

'Please say no, please say no...'

Ava hadn't thought about Aiden in multiple weeks. At first, she had been worried about seeing him again, but after so much time had passed, she had thought that there was no way they would be meeting again. Especially, after the Inter Family Tournament.

"I do. I do, remember. But..."

Aiden took a small pause after the "but" on purpose, wanting to see the reaction she would have.

"But what?"

"But, we will talk about it later. Don't worry."

Right after Aiden uttered those words, heavy footsteps were heard coming from the hallway that Aiden had taken to arrive there.

'Took long enough.'

It had already been a few minutes since Aiden had arrived at the bottom of the cave.

"Oh, seems like you guys met already."

Jake who was completely oblivious to the tension between the two, just spoke his mind without minding it. Even if he had known about it, he would have probably done the exact same thing.

Jake wasn't the type to care about a lot of things after all, not after everything that he had gone through. There was a reason that he was still in this cave, after all...

Aiden and Ava ignored it, but there was a reason that the system was sending him "students".

Had he made a deal?

Was it something else?

"We did, hahaha..."

A weird giggle couldn't help but escape Ava's lips. She was just in such an awkward, especially after what Aiden had just told her. It was truly quite weird.

"Everything okay?"

"Yes, yes... everything is fine. Let's just go back up."

'Go back up? Hmm, probably not the best idea with Emma there... Well, they are bound to meet at one point, right?'

Aiden who had been close to protesting to going back up, closed his mouth since he knew there was no point in protesting. Ava would at one point or another meet with Emma.

Still, there was a little bit of worry in Aiden's mind about how Emma would react. She had quite the personality, after all.

'Let's hope she doesn't get jealous or something like that...'

"Alright, let's go."

Jake as had just arrived was now going back up the cave. Everything he had just done was completely useless, and he seemed annoyed about it. But he didn't say anything as he followed them upwards.

A few minutes later, they were now back at the top of it. Emma had joined them and they were now looking at one another around a small round table.

No one had spoken up yet, except for Jake who... for some strange reason couldn't feel the tension in the room.

Emma was looking at Ava straight in the eyes. "So, how did you two meet?"

She had an arrogant tone while she spoke, as if demanding information.

"The first trial... that's when we met for the first time, what about you? What kind of relationship do you guys have?"

"R-Relationship?"

Her face became red instantly when asked that question. The cold front she had put up disappeared instantly leaving place for her true personality.

"W-We are just... uh... friends, right? Friends, right Aiden?"

She needed validation from Aiden since even she was confused about their relationship. In her mind, they were certainly closer than friends, but she didn't want to say anything that might fire back.

"Yes, we are friends at the moment, who knows about the future?"

Emma was even redder as Aiden pronounced those words.

'The future?... Is he thinking about our future?'

Emma was shocked by the words Aiden had used, even if they weren't anything special.

"And we meet in the Everheart family..."

'The Everheart Family?'

Immediately, Ava had a lot of questions on her mind. The composure that she had lost long ago was slowly coming back. She remembered talking with Aiden about his family a couple of months ago in the first trial.

And she remembered it very well, he had said that he was part of the Nightshades.

'Did he lie at that time... Wait this means... that maybe I won't be obligated to listen to what he says? If he isn't part of the Nightshade then he doesn't have much backing. Yes! This is perfect.'

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 390 - 390 - Telling

Ava was starting to regain all the hope that she had lost from meeting Aiden once again. This was just perfect, if he wasn't part of the Nightshades, then she didn't have to worry about anything, well except for one thing... Aiden.

But that was only a small detail as Aiden wasn't as strong as the whole family. He was just one individual, and while Ava knew that he was powerful. She knew there was no way he could take on a whole organization.

'My family is high-leveled, so this should be fine... all things considered.'

"Are they strong?"

That was the only question asked after learning that he wasn't part of the Nightshades. She couldn't help but have a dumb smile on her face.

Aiden had obviously noticed it. He didn't know why she had smiled but he knew that she had done, and that was all that mattered.

"Oh... I'm not part of that family anymore, I changed again."

Jake and Ava were surprised. The smile that Ava had put on also disappeared from her face.

'Don't tell me that he joined the Nightshades...'

If Aiden had joined a founding family, then Ava would still be in big trouble with him... it would bring a lot of different problems her way. There was no doubt about that part.

"Which one did you join?"

While it was Ava who had asked the question, Jake was also very interested in the question, which was quite weird considering that he hadn't paid attention to anything else since it had started.

'Should I tell her?'

Aiden wouldn't make the same mistake as before. He knew that revealing what family you are a part of could make things complicated, he had already experienced it when he had been in the Tutorial.

However, Aiden knew that they were so far away from civilization that there was simply no way that the information would be coming out from her. After all, Melinda was probably revealing some of his personal information to everyone since he had deserted the Emberbane Family.

'Well, to be frank... I don't think I'm part of any family now.'

Since he had left, could he even be considered part of one?

'Still, I can't tell them that, they will think that I'm weak. Such a thing simply cannot happen... never.'

Aiden didn't want to be in a position of weakness.

"We were recruited by the Emberbane Family, both me and her."

Lying to them right now would make things a lot easier.

Ava was even more confused. In fact, she was starting to think that Aiden was just one hell of a liar.

'Nightshades, then the Everhearts, and now another founding family... and all that in a couple of months. Just what is happening here?'

It was hard to believe such a thing was true, but Ava had confused a lot of things. He had never really been part of the Nightshades, however, it was still very impressive to jump from a middle-leveled family to a founding-leveled one.

The difference in strength between the two is simply massive, and Ava didn't believe that he had managed to do such a thing.

'Wait... but why did he leave the Nightshades in the first place... Fuck, this thing makes zero sense.'

"You're lying."

That was the only thing she had managed to come up after thinking for a few minutes.

This was simply impossible no matter how much she thought about it. This whole situation made absolutely zero sense for her. It probably made no sense for Jake too.

"Wait... Aiden, right? You joined another founding family?"

'This boy... he certainly isn't normal. He had Qi, he managed to get kicked from a founding family and join another right after. Just how did he manage such a thing? It simply makes no sense. There has to be a problem somewhere, there has to be...

"No, I went from the Everhearts to the Emberbane family."

"But... weren't you part of the Nightshades, that's what you told me in the first trial?"

Emma who was on the side had her eyes wide open. 'What did she just say? Why the hell did Aiden reveal such a thing to her... this just makes no sense at all. Oh, right? He came from another world...

I mean... yeah, he probably didn't know the meaning of being part of such a family.'

Emma had worked her mind a little and closed her mouth. She knew that such information wasn't one that Aiden wanted to spread. She knew that if people learned that Aiden came from another world, it would be a shock to a lot of people.

"I was... just things changed..."

Aiden didn't want to give Ava too much information. He wanted her to keep guessing and guessing without knowing what would be happening next.

'If she knows too much, it will just make things more complicated... and there's no way that I will be trusting her based on what she did in the first trial...'

She was an Enchantress, manipulating everyone. It wasn't something that Aiden wanted to experience.

'I need to form a contract or something like that to make sure that she will listen to me.'

Aiden thought for a little when he remembered what he had brought back from the fourth trial...

The Slave Contract.

'That's it if we go through that. Then, this whole thing will be over and she will listen to my every word and won't be able to betray me... Yes, this is just perfect.'

Ava had a lot of questions concerning what had happened to Aiden with the Nightshades but she kept them inside, knowing that there wasn't a lot of chance that he would be answering right now. It was probably something private that he didn't want others to know.

'Who knows what might have happened for him to leave that family...'

Ava had given no thought about him being kicked out of it based on how talented Aiden actually was.

"How come you joined the Emberbane Family?" Jake asked.

Aiden was surprised to find Jake so interested in that, but he didn't doubt him too much.

"Ahh... uh... it's complicated you know, lots of things happened here and there."

"Tell me."

This time he was a lot more direct, and he wanted to know.

Aiden slowly but surely started feeling Jake's pressure and it was unlike anything that he had felt in the past, he could feel that he was an ant. He was someone who could get crushed by the slightest attack from Jake.

'This... this is even worse than the aura of Melinda and Syllas combined. Just how...'

Aiden was confused about how such a thing was even possible in the first place since the leaders of the founding families were supposed to be the strongest in this world. Or at least, that's what everyone says...

Aiden had heard a little about the Mercenary, but he had never imagined the gap to be so big between everyone. It was shocking, and he had honestly never thought that such a thing would be possible. Aiden had experienced firsthand both of Syllas and Melinda's auras, and it wasn't comparable to this.

While he hadn't felt confident in facing those two. Aiden hadn't lost the grit of fighting against them, there was always a feeling deep down that he would pull it off, and that he would win against them. But looking at this man... it was different... Aiden knew he had no chance, it was a done deal.

'Just how did he attain such strength... this is just fucking crazy.'

"Alright, alright, I'll tell you... calm down, please."

That was a word that neither Emma nor Ava had expected to hear coming out of Aiden's mouth. They had no idea why he had said such a thing in the first place since all of Jake's aura was focused on Aiden and Aiden only. The others in the room couldn't feel the slightest thing which wasn't necessarily a bad thing.

"Go ahead."

"It all started at the Inter Family Tournament..."

Then, Aiden went on to tell Jake and everyone at the table about the deal he had made between him and Melinda. He had tried telling them lies at the start. But it seemed that Jake had a method to know when Aiden was lying which made things a lot more complicated.

However, it also gave information to Aiden... that he should never lie to Jake... ever. Or else, who knew what might happen?

It was now late at night, and Aiden had found a little bed to sleep on. Emma wasn't in the same bed as his but they were right beside each other with Ava not too far away from them.

Aiden was full of thoughts... he just couldn't stop thinking about so many things...

'Just how did this man get so powerful... and the thing is... he probably did it without any support from any of the founding families. Ah. Fuck, I can't wait for the training to start.'

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 391 - 391 - A Path

Days passed by, and at the start nothing happened. Aiden had tried to ask for training many times, but Jake either ignored him or straight up refused.

He always had the same answer, "Your training needs preparation..."

It was always the same thing over and over again. It had been literal days and there hadn't been any changes.

Aiden was slowly starting to believe that his routine wouldn't change... He will continue to train here over and over again. However, he would still be doing it by himself just like he had been doing in the Emberbane Manor.

"Ah... let's hope that today is different."

Aiden had been saying for the past week. However, there haven't been any changes yet. He stood up and slowly walked toward Emma's bed, waking her up by hitting her forehead with a little pinch... and like always...

"Ah! I told you to stop doing that!" She shouted, hitting Aiden as hard as she could.

However, even though Aiden was being hit. He was smiling, teasing Emma had almost become second nature for him, and he liked it a lot. Seeing her angry, made him happy... It was truly a weird feeling, but Aiden was sure that he wasn't the only one feeling that way because each time he went to tease her, she would blush or hide under a small pillow.

"Keep it down... We want to... sleep..." Jake muttered as his eyes were half-closed after being woken up by Emma's shout.

Aiden scoffed hearing Jake, almost cursing him in his mind. He was tired of this, what was he even preparing? The only thing that he would do was sleep... day after day. It was starting to get on Aiden's nerves and a lot for that matter.

Aiden didn't even bother answering as he grabbed Emma's hand leaving the room. He still hadn't talked to Ava about her using the slave contract. But he would make sure to do it soon enough.

A few minutes later, they were now both outside and they started their usual training... Aiden swung his dagger around with precise movements while Emma used her bow. The same one that she had used when they had fought at first.

"Emma, what do you think about all... this?"

It came out of nowhere... Aiden was usually very silent when training. So, the fact that he was asking a question must mean that he was thinking about something, and it was something very important.

"All this? You mean coming to this place?"

Emma looked around herself when she uttered those words, wondering if he was talking about arriving in this jungle of a place. Seeing Aiden nod... Emma answered, however, she seemed...

"Uh... this place...it's, what would you call it... great! Yeah, it's great... I love it!"

Aiden needed only a single look at her to know that she was lying right now. This was a complete shit show, and it showed.

"Tell me the truth, I don't care what it is."

Aiden sighed... he couldn't be bothered listening to her lies. He wanted to hear the truth coming out of her mouth.

"Then...it's a bit...sad, I guess. Living here is a bit sad, there's no one around. The only thing we do is train, isn't that sad?"

She looked right into Aiden's eyes as she muttered those words. She knew about his background, and she knew that all he had experienced in his past life was something like this. A life away from the real world where you are put against yourself.

Aiden looked pensive, not answering right away. He knew a lot about such a life, and the only thing that he could conclude right now was that she was right. Such a life was truly miserable... it wasn't even sad... it was worse than that.

"Ah... well it isn't the best, but you get used to it, and I'm sure that Jake has something prepared for us... There's no doubt in my mind."

'Actually, there is, but let's try to be positive here.'

There had to be a reason that the system had given him such an item guiding him here. It had to be "destiny" as Ava had told him. It wasn't a coincidence, it was clear that there was someone who had played a part in this meeting.

However, there was no way to know why they had done such a thing. Because... at the moment, Aiden truly didn't see much use in Ava. Sure, she was beautiful, sure she was charming, sure her skills had developed... but was she even strong enough to help him in what he was trying to accomplish...

But thinking about it like that was a little hypocritical coming from Aiden. Emma wasn't able to keep up with him... was there even someone that he had met that could keep up with him?

The only thing that truly mattered was if Aiden liked the person. That was the only way that he would keep you close to him. That was what had happened with Emma, Maelis, and all the others that he had met on the way.

'However, who knows what she might do... the only way for me to trust her would be with the Slave Contract. But it seems... wrong to use something like this.'

Aiden realized over the few days that doing something like this would mean ruining the life of somebody else and he wasn't sure if he wanted to do something like that. It wasn't something that was in his values.

"Hey, Emma... what do you say we fight against each other? Just like when we first met, don't you remember?"

"Uh... where is this coming from?"

Aiden just raised both his shoulders. "I don't know; I just want to compare ourselves. I want to see if I got stronger than you."

Emma was about to open her mouth and tell him that there was no need to do that. But when she saw the expression on his face, she decided to accept. If it was to reassure him, then she would do it without a second thought in her mind.

"Sure, if you want to."

Aiden smiled. "Then, let's do it."

Aiden walked away from her, giving her enough distance for her to be able to shoot at least a single arrow before he came close range to her.

"I'll give you five seconds before I move."

Aiden knew that he had the advantage of her, considering that he was an assassin, so he thought that it would help a little. It probably wouldn't change much but it was better than nothing.

"Alright, let's do it. 3...2...1...Let's go."

Aiden didn't move a single inch just like he had said before. He hadn't lied when he had said that he wouldn't be moving.

Emma almost felt bad, but she charged her arrow and it was aimed directly at his forehead. She knew that there was no way he would be dying from a normal arrow, so she mixed a little bit of her mana with it, creating an arrow completely red that charged at her.

The arrow was moving very fast. However, for Aiden, it was basically moving at a snail's pace... he was able to see the whole trajectory before it had even left her bow.

Aiden moved his dagger right in front of his face, in a very precise spot, and...

Cling!

The arrow bounced off.

'Pretty sure, it's been five seconds,' Aiden thought as sparks of electricity appeared on the bottom of his shoes.

Aiden disappeared from his original and was running toward Emma who kept shooting arrows Aiden's way. However, she knew the outcome... she couldn't beat him... she wasn't even close to his strength anymore.

It hadn't even been that long, maybe three months since he had awakened and he had already become so strong. This growth was unheard of. There was no doubt about such a thing.

"Let's stop this here!" Emma shouted.

She knew that it was already over from the moment that he had activated that skill of his. There was no way that she could react to it.

Emma was disappointed; all she had done ever since he had left and gone inside his fourth trial was a train... but it seemed that it hadn't changed anything; she was still inferior.

'Thinking about it, the only time that I managed to beat him was when we first met... After that, I don't think I ever got the chance to do that again.'

In fact, even when they had first met, Emma had been very lucky to hit an arrow that had deactivated his skill [Mind of an Assassin] if she hadn't... Aiden would have won.

Hearing the urgency in her voice, Aiden stopped right away his attack, and he confirmed his doubts.

'I really am too strong for her to be of any help... She could be a hindrance... ah...no Aiden don't fall into this path again... Being all alone isn't the solution this time.'

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 392 - 392 - Prove it

Days passed once again, and Aiden was starting to realize that coming to this place wasn't a good idea in the first place. The reason for that was that they were doing absolutely all day. It was starting to get too much.

'I should have just stayed back with the Emberbanes... That fucking system tricking me into coming here, in the middle of nowhere.'

The problem with being here without the slightest information about anything is that Aiden had no idea of what was happening in the rest of the world. He had no idea how Melinda had reacted... he knew that he probably hadn't been the greatest way in the world.

She had probably done something like propagating his identity everywhere. However, none of that even mattered in the first place. Aiden wasn't even close to a city anymore. He wouldn't see anyone in literal weeks, months... even worse, years. Who knows how long it would take until that stupid Jake would start teaching them something?

'He's so lazy, there's no point.'

"Jake, are you going to do something today? Or are you going to sleep again?" Aiden asked without any restraints.

Jake was in his bed, as usual, sleeping peacefully... or at least, pretending to sleep as he didn't even respond to Aiden.

"For fuck sake, what do I need to do? I want training. What do I need to do to have you train me?"

Aiden was really at the end of it. He was close to hitting Jake if this continued... he knew it wouldn't achieve anything, but... the frustration was simply too much for him. He simply thought that it would feel good to do so.

"Just... leave...me...alone," he replied in his usual sleepy voice.

However, today was different Aiden wasn't going to leave him alone. He had enough of this bullshit, he wanted to get stronger, and he knew that this man right there in front of him could help him do so very easily.

Aiden had seen his strength from a close and he wanted to reach the same state as him. It was something that he truly wished within him.

He got closer to Jake and smacked him as hard as he could in the direction of his neck. Aiden truly didn't care if Jake was about to die because of it. He wanted to see a reaction out of him, whatever it could be.

Smack!

However, without Aiden even noticing, his arm had been grabbed by Jake's creating a similar noise to the one it would have made when hitting his neck.

'How did he react to that? He's not even facing me. He can't even hear me... just what is with that guy. How is he so overpowered?'

The more time Aiden spent observing this weird person, the more amazed he became. All his abilities were simply on another level, and Aiden had never seen such a thing in the entirety of his life. It was something.

"Teach me," Aiden demanded as Jake was still facing his bed, not even bothering to look at him.

"Then, show me something interesting. Looking at you, I just want to sleep day after day... you even gave up in our fight... talk about boring."

Aiden gritted his teeth as he seemed to have misunderstood something. Was the reason that Jake was ignoring him... that he had given up during their spar.

'No... it has to be something else. Even Ava isn't getting any training...'

Aiden started thinking about all sorts of stuff, but every time it didn't make any sense... there was only one logical answer, and it was that he was just lazy... There was nothing else that made any sense.

"I told you... tell me what I need to do for you to train me," Aiden repeated once again. He wanted to know what he was doing wrong and as fast as humanly possible.

Wasting time wasn't something that he particularly liked. It was something that he wanted to avoid as much as possible. However, right now, it wasn't too much of a big deal since he was literally in a secluded area with no one around him.

"I told you to show me something interesting. Now leave, I want to sleep."

'Ah, that son of a bitch... how can I show you something if you keep sleeping.'

"Then, come outside I'll show you something."

Aiden didn't care about what he needed to do anymore. He wanted training and he would be getting it. He needed to get stronger and he would make sure that he actually would.

Jake kept sleeping in front of him. However, Aiden wouldn't be taking any of that as he grabbed him and dragged him outside.

Aiden couldn't see it at the moment. But there was a huge smile on Jake's face, he seemed extremely happy. It seemed he had been waiting for a moment like this for literal days, and it was finally happening.

'Seems like he's the first one who took action... Well, makes sense, he's the one who's the more strength-oriented... the others, I have no idea why they were sent here. They don't even care about getting stronger from the looks of it. It's weird... maybe something happened with the system.'

Jake didn't know why so many people had appeared in front of his cave, but he wouldn't help anyone for no reason. They needed to prove themselves, and Aiden was doing good. First, he had asked for a spar with him, and now he seemed dedicated to showing something to Jake.

Those certainly were good steps in the right direction. However, Jake still needed to see the potential of the young man. He knew there was talent, but he needed to see if he had worked while having it. He didn't want someone who was given everything. Jake needed a fighter, and he couldn't wait to see what Aiden would be showing him.

'Let's hope that you don't give up as fast as in our fight.'

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 393 - 393 - Camouflage

They were now right outside in the middle of the forest. Aiden was looking at Jake straight in his eyes.

Aiden was concentrated, his eyes unwavering. He would be showing him who he had to deal with.

'He'll have no choice but to train me after I show him that move.'

For the past few days, Aiden had been practicing a new move based on one of his old mentors.

'Camouflage...I wonder how he'll react,' Aiden thought.

He knew how impressive it was to see, and he honestly couldn't wait to see if Jake would be interested.

"So...uh...what am I supposed to do here?" Jake asked, acting as if he was completely disinterested.

Aiden kept staring at him with the same intensity as he uttered, "Just watch me."

A few seconds passed, and Jake was wondering what was happening. Aiden still hadn't moved a single inch, that is, until...he looked at Aiden's feet.

'Are they disappearing?' Jake looked back at him with interest for the first time in a while.

As time passed, his legs had completely disappeared, then it was his torso, then it was his eyes...there was nothing left.

Jake tried to locate Aiden with his aura, but it was strange...he couldn't feel anything. It was as if Aiden had left this world.

'Just what...how? Did he teleport?'

Jake frowned as he looked around himself. He shook his head. From what he had seen, Aiden had no idea how to teleport himself.

"Aiden?" Jake finally uttered, realizing that he had no idea what just happened. 'Is that a skill from the system?'

For some reason, Jake didn't seem convinced that his disappearance was a skill from the system. It was as if...Aiden had learned something by himself. It was most likely a technique; at least, that's what Jake was currently thinking, as he didn't get any response from Aiden.

And the reason why he wasn't getting the slightest response was because he was currently celebrating that it had worked.

The truth was that 'Camouflage' was a very hard technique, and Aiden still hadn't mastered it. So, what he had just done was somewhat of a gamble. However, it had paid off.

'Thank you past...' Aiden thought. 'Still, how did you create that technique, Jack...you didn't have access to mana.'

Aiden couldn't help but remember seeing Jack use this technique daily without any problems. There was a secret about this technique that Aiden still hadn't figured out since he was using mana to disappear while Jack, one of his past mentors, had never done so.

While he might hate his past, he had to admit that without it. He wouldn't have gotten far in this new world...the only reason he was this powerful was because of his past as an assassin.

However, now that months have passed in this new world, Aiden has discovered a complete way of seeing human lives.

'Ah...seems like I ran out of mana,' Aiden thought as he slowly started reappearing in the exact same spot as earlier.

As soon as Aiden reappeared, Jake grabbed both his shoulders tightly...not letting him move a single inch. He was looking at him straight in the eyes, making sure he would hear every word coming out of his mouth.

"How? What? Who? Where?"

Aiden was wondering what was happening.

'Did I do something wrong? Is he mad?'

But then he slowly understood that Jake was simply interested in what he had just done. And...Jake probably wanted to know how to do what he did.

However, Aiden wasn't going to make that easy for him. Jake had been a little bitch to him for the past few days...and it was now Aiden's time to do so.

"Was that good enough? Are you going to teach me now?"

"Sure, sure, I'll teach you. Just tell me how you did that."

The only response he had was a smile.

"You know...I'm not sure. I'm tired. I might go to sleep a little." Aiden appreciated every single moment; teasing Jake was very fun to do.

"Hahaha! I like that!"

Instead of being mad, Jake started laughing as loudly as he could, tapping Aiden on both of his shoulders.

"We'll start tomorrow. You better be ready for your training. It won't be easy."

Jake didn't pressure Aiden any further. He knew that Aiden wouldn't be revealing his technique for nothing in exchange.

"Though, before you go. Just tell me one thing," Jake said as Aiden was heading back toward the cave with a huge smile on his lips. "Was that a skill from the system? Or did it come from you?"

Aiden looked back with a smirk. "I created it. Well..."

He didn't say the rest of his sentence, letting Jake deeply about what he would be saying next.

After uttering those words, he turned around and went back into the caves as much as he wanted to stay and keep training. He had completely run out of mana, and he had affected his body whether he wanted it or not.

Jake just stared at Aiden's back as he kept getting a little further away from him and muttered, "Just who are you?"

Jake's eyes were on the verge of wavering.

"How did you create a technique in days? Is it from the Emberbanes?"

Jake was having a lot of difficulty believing what he had heard coming from Aiden. It was just something that he had never expected before in his life...ever. Being able to completely disappear, erasing your presence as a whole.

It was a technique that all assassins would dream of having. It was a technique that the Nightshades would dream of obtaining. Because as far as Jake knew...the Nightshades didn't have a technique anywhere close to that in terms of strength.

'Well, who cares? I'll just force him to train me if he doesn't want to,' Jake thought, knowing that he was a lot stronger than Aiden.

Then, hours passed, and the next day came. It was finally time for Aiden to start his one-on-one training with Jake.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 394 - 394 - Break Free

"Ready?" Jake asked with a grin as he saw Aiden walking out of the cave.

It was now time for them to begin their training, and from the looks of it, both of them couldn't wait to proceed into fighting against one another.

Aiden walked up to Jake, and they faced each other. There was still clear tension between the two of them. However, it wasn't a bad tension...it was more an air of respect between the two.

Aiden really impressed Jake yesterday when he utilized Camouflage. Jake had never seen anything like it before in his life, and he had found it truly amazing from start to finish.

"So, what do you want to learn from me?" Jake asked.

'What do I want to learn?' Aiden thought.

He, himself, wasn't sure of the answer to that question. He thought Jake would be telling and showing him everything he knew, but it seemed things didn't work that way.

"Are you talking about in general?"

Jake's head slowly tilted. He didn't quite grasp what Aiden meant with such words.

"Just ask me whatever you want, and I'll answer to the best of my abilities!"

Jake wasn't its usual character right now. He actually wanted to help Aiden, which was why he wouldn't back down from any questions. He would be helping him to the best of his abilities.

"Then...could I ask for information about the System?"

Jake frowned. 'He doesn't want to learn how to fight and get stronger? The System? Why would he ask about that before we even start training?'

Either way, Jake just nodded a few times as he didn't think there was anything wrong with having more knowledge of the world.

However, seeing him nod, Aiden was hesitating whether to tell him or not. He remembered Maelis telling him that the Mercenary was probably the only one who would be able to answer all his questions about the System.

'Still...does he know about the Lumithars? If he doesn't...then that would be, well...quite weird. Ah, whatever, let's just try it.'

Aiden shook his head and finally looked back in Jake's direction. He was dead serious, not cracking the slightest smile. He was about questions he had on his mind ever since he had been in contact with the System.

First off, there was one thing that was still a mystery for Aiden...the awakening. The manner in which certain selected people would awaken and, as a result, become beings a hundred times as powerful as normal humans.

'Just who is deciding about that? How can one awaken?'

Aiden knew that the founding families had some techniques to help with the awakening. However, he was almost sure that they came from the Lumithars since the founding families are pretty much the only ones with such deep contact with the Lumithars...well, apart from Aiden, who received their help multiple times.

"Before I ask about anything in particular, I have one question for you. Do you know about the ones controlling everything about the System?"

Jake frowned. "Controlling everything? What do you mean by that?"

Aiden didn't give up just yet. He knew that it was a secret tightly guarded by many of the most powerful awakeners and there was no doubt Jake wouldn't reveal such information with such a simple question.

"What if I name the word... Lumithars? Does it ring a bell?" Aiden said as a grin formed on his face.

As soon as Aiden muttered that word, Jake's calm composure broke down for a millisecond...a reaction that meant everything. There was not a single doubt in Aiden's mind anymore. That man knew about the Lumithars. He knew a lot about the System...however, the question was...how much does he know about it?

"What did you say just now?" Jake said as he slowly walked toward Aiden.

He looked calm with a smile on his face. He looked extremely friendly, just like earlier, but that act was nothing but a smoke screen. Something was about to go down if Aiden did nothing.

Jake raised one of his hands and put it on Aiden's shoulder, slowly applying pressure on it. He slowly got closer to Aiden's neck, his breath brushing against it.

"Where did you hear that word?" Jake finally whispered as his grasp around Aiden's shoulder tightened.

While this had been supposed to be basic training, it had been none of that. If Aiden were to utter a single word, that would go against Jake's wish. Then...death would be the only thing that he would be doing today. After all, Aiden was powerless in front of being such as Jake, who had trained his entire life to become the strongest awakener there was.

Knowing that he had to calm things down, Aiden made sure to calm everything as much as he possibly could, and he decided to tell him the truth.

"They sent me here. They contacted me and told me that I had enough potential to be sent to you. They didn't give me more information. That was it."

"What about those two girls? Do they know?"

"No, they shouldn't know anything about it. I brought Emma here, and as for Ava...I have no idea why she's here. You've probably seen how surprised I was to see her again...well, considering what we had told ourselves when we had last seen ourselves.

Jake didn't move for a few seconds, taking all of that information in. He had to admit that he was surprised that the Lumithars had revealed themselves in front of such a young boy who looked so...naive about this world. It was clear from a single glance that Jake could tell just how much Aiden ignored the world that surrounded him.

Pronouncing their name without the slightest fear...it was almost as if they were allies when it couldn't be further away from the truth.

After one full minute of thinking, Jake finally let go of Aiden and began walking away from him.

"Follow me. I'll show some things."

Aiden couldn't believe his ears.

Was he finally about to learn more about this System that keeps controlling everything in his life? Will he find a way to break free?

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 395 - 395 - Golden Door

Aiden didn't waste any time and followed right into Jake's tracks. He could feel his heartbeat beating faster and faster as he got closer to the cave.

They quickly entered, and both Emma and Ava looked at them, wondering what was happening.

"Weren't the two of you supposed to be training?" Emma asked as she eyed both of them.

Aiden was about to respond but was cut short by Jake. "There was a change of plans."

His answer was short and extremely cold. One thing was clear: he wasn't in the best of moods and wanted this to get over with.

Emma knew better than to push by asking another question, so she stayed silent, giving Aiden some signs to tell her what was going on. However, he just looked away. Emma had no need to know about the system and its origins.

That information was hidden for a good reason.

They quickly left Ava and Emma behind and went deeper into the cave. They walked down for a good ten minutes until they finally arrived in front of a wall. There was no entrance. There was nothing on it. It just looked like a wall made out of rock.

"Uh...is this the place?" Aiden asked as he wondered what was happening right now.

Jake didn't say anything as he kept eyeing the wall as if examining it over and over again, trying to find something on it. But Aiden was right beside him...and he could truly tell that this was just a normal wall.

There was nothing being exuded from it.

There was nothing that seemed out of the ordinary.

'Is this really where he took me?' Aiden thought, a little disappointed.

Aiden was under the assumption that he would be making great advances in his quest to learn more about the Lumithars, but it seemed following Jake had been utterly

useless. However, he didn't make it known right away as he still watched Jake's next moves.

Who knows...he might just surprise him like never before.

Cling

Suddenly, a noise was heard from the other side of the wall. It resembled a bell sound...but that wasn't exactly it.

Aiden glanced to his right and saw that Jake had closed his eyes for a strange reason, probably making work of something.

Then, Jake's eyes widened, and he turned toward Aiden, giving him one last warning before he saw everything on the other side of the wall.

"Aiden. Look at me. Everything that you'll see behind that door...you need to keep it to yourself and yourself only. If you ever reveal what you saw in there to the outside world. No one will be able to protect you...everyone will become your enemy, and when I say, everyone. I mean it."

Aiden gulped. "R-Right...I'll make sure to be careful."

"Then, let's go in."

The wall completely vanished as if it had never existed in the first place, and a room was revealed at the end of it. There was just a simple door with gold markings on it. A door which strangely resembled the one he had entered when he had first arrived in this world.

The door regarding the UOS, the Underground Otherworld Shop. The only difference was the quality between the two doors. Back then, it had been a wooden door that was on the verge of breaking down since it was located in the Slums of the Nightshade Territory. However, this one looked of the highest quality there was.

'Don't tell me...' Aiden thought as he looked at it.

He had a good idea of where that would be sending him, and he couldn't believe it. He had already met some of the Lumithars when he had gone through a portal in his last Trial, but here he was...on the verge of meeting them again.

"Is this what I think it is?" Aiden asked as the wall made out of rock formed itself once again behind him.

Jake just smiled. "I'm not sure what you're thinking about, but this is a direct link with the Lumithars's world. If you enter this place, you'll be able to enter their world."

Aiden frowned. "Wait...did you manage to-"

"Don't ask any more questions. Just go in. I told you already there was a reason that you were sent here in the first place, and if everything you said is the truth, you'll soon forget about your life on Nova. Hell, you'll have no chance but to forget about it."

The more Aiden listened to him, the more panicked he was becoming.

Everything that Jake was saying was mindblowing to him because of what he was currently saying. Jake wasn't like the rest of the founding families' leaders. He had ascended to a greater world.

Aiden couldn't help but remember the words that Melinda had told him when she met him for the first time when he had asked her questions about his body's potential. He remembered telling him about ascending to a greater world and that no one had ever achieved it.

However, Aiden was almost sure of it. The person in front of him had been the first person who had ever ascended to the Lumithar's world. That portal was proof of it. There was no doubt about it.

"Aiden? You're still there?" Jake asked as he waved his hand in front of Aiden's face.

"Right...sorry, got lost in thoughts."

"Well, enough thinking, let's head in and remember, don't tell anyone about what you're about to see. Oh, and one last detail: did you awaken your body potential already?"

Aiden frowned. He didn't know why Jake knew about this, but Aiden decided to let it go because he realized he lacked a ton of knowledge about him in the first place.

Hell, he couldn't use his logic on him. There was no point.

The man in front of him was different from the rest of them.

Aiden started walking in the direction of the door and opened it. He got pulled into it, with Jake closely following behind.

Darkness took over his vision, and a voice rang.

[Teleporting to an Unknown Destination...]

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 396 - 396 - Scarlet

When he walked out of the portal, he was in a completely different world.

"This...is this the Lumithar's true world?" Aiden muttered as he looked around himself.

He remembered meeting a Lumithar during his last trial, but he had been thrown in a weird room with a bunch of people looking at different screens, but that wasn't anything like it.

He was in the middle of a bustling city as thousands of flying cars were roaming the skies. There were huge buildings that almost reached the sky...and then there were people normally walking down the street.

However, all those people had something in common. On their forehead, they had a purple stigma.

Aiden turned to look at Jake and noticed that he didn't have anything around his forehead. He was the only one he had seen who had nothing there.

'What does that mark mean?' Aiden thought.

"Hey, let's go. We need to go somewhere."

Aiden started following Jake but stopped as he quickly realized that he had no idea where he was.

"Wait, wait, wait..." Aiden grabbed onto Jake's shirt. "Where are we? And why are we here?"

Jake just smirked. "Just follow me. You'll see, we're in the best place in the world. The Lumithars's world!"

'Best place in the world?' Aiden thought as he wasn't sure why that would be such a great place to live in.

Everyone seemed busy with something as they walked in the streets without talking or saying anything. They were all focused on the task ahead of them from the looks of it.

"You still didn't answer my other question. Why am I here? Why did you bring me here?"

That was the one thing that Aiden desperately wanted to know. There was no reason for Jake to bring him here. After all, Aiden had only asked to have some information about the system and everything surrounding it.

"Didn't you want to know more about the Lumithars? Well, here we are. This is the best place to know more about them. If you have any questions, you'll be able to ask them in person."

Jake just smirked as he turned around. He had just said that they had somewhere to go, and it seemed that he hadn't been lying.

He got close to the road as he raised his hand up high as if calling a taxi or a vehicle of some sort.

'This sort of looks like those cities that were on Earth. The only difference is that it's much more developed, and every single one of those people is incredibly strong.'

Aiden slowly walked up to Jake, joining him as he heard a few mutters around him. It seemed a few of the Lumithars had noticed him.

Also, the Lumithars aren't a race per se. They are a group of elitists. It doesn't matter what race they are.

"Did you see those two? Did they manage to reach this world alone?"

"Are you stupid...they surely got help from one of the systems. Maybe one of the five Gods helped them get here. Who knows?"

Aiden didn't hear anything as he continued walking. He had just thought they were judging him for not having that weird purple mark on his forehead.

He looked back at those two talking and practically wanted to say, "You two are the weird ones!"

But he calmed himself, keeping everything in. He looked away from them and entered the flying vehicle that had just arrived in front of them.

The vehicle didn't have any wheels and was simply floating over the ground. Aiden just looked at it for a few seconds before entering.

He had no idea how that was possible, but it looked cool.

"Where to?" The driver asked as he looked back, and his mouth quickly became wide open. "A-Are you...?"

Aiden frowned while Jake smiled.

"The Center," Jake said. "That's where we're going."

The driver gulped before accelerating like crazy.

Aiden tapped on Jake's shoulder as he wondered what had just happened. Why was the driver scared of them?

"What's happening to him? Is it because we don't have that weird thing on our forehead?"

Jake smiled. "You'll see once we get there. You'll get all the answers that you want, well...probably."

Time passed by, and they finally arrived at the Center. It was the only building that wasn't made to be extremely tall. It was a huge center, and from its name, Aiden could already guess where it was situated.

They walked out of the vehicle, and Aiden looked around them. Everyone was looking at them. There were a few guards not too far away from them that were guarding the building's door.

Jake didn't say anything to them as he didn't even look at them and walked right by them. He didn't even get stopped as he walked inside the building.

Aiden didn't comment on it as he remembered who he was walking around with. He was with Jake, the only man who had managed to ascend to the Lumithar's world.

Hell, he even had a portal in his home to come into this world.

'Who knows what sort of contact he has?'

As they walked in, they seemed to be in some sort of important building as there were guards everywhere eyeing them and their every moment. And apart from the guards, there was no one else.

"Sir? Is there something that we can do for you today?"

Aiden turned around instantly, wondering where that voice was coming from.

It was from a maid, from the looks of it. Her clothing looked extremely similar to the maids that Aiden had seen in the Everheart Family and the Emberbane family.

She had two beautiful blue eyes, and her clothing was extremely tight, making sure to highlight all her beauty and forms. She also had long blonde hair. She looked exactly like an elf. However, she didn't have pointy ears.

She had two beautiful mountains, and her thighs looked quite pleasing to the eyes.

'Just who is this beauty? Are all the maids in this world this good-looking?'

While Aiden liked Emma and her appearance, he wasn't blind. He was able to admit when a girl was absolutely breathtaking, especially when wearing such a beautiful uniform.

Seeing that Aiden was lost in the maid's eyes, Jake smiled. He also remembered the reaction he had gotten from meeting her. Even now, her beauty was something that he hadn't seen often in his life.

"We're here to meet one of the five Gods?" Jake said as he managed to look away from the maid's incredible body.

"Could you repeat that, please?"

"We're here to meet one of the five gods. It doesn't really matter which one it is. This young one would like to have a bit more information about some things."

The maid eyed Aiden quickly before looking back toward Jake. She didn't say anything, but the look in her eyes was telling enough.

"I'm not sure if this man deserves to meet one of the five gods..."

Jake knew this would happen. However, he had a response ready.

"He was already contacted by one during one of the trials."

'Huh? I was contacted by a god? What the hell does that mean? Who are those gods?'

The more Aiden heard about those things. The more confused he was.

"He was?!" The maid exclaimed. "I'm sorry to have disrespected you. It's a pleasure to meet you. My name is Scarlet, and I am the main maid of the Center. I'm the one dealing with newcomers and the like."

As soon as she heard that he had been contacted in the past, the energy she had been exuding changed instantly. Realizing that there was bound to be something special about him.

After all, he was accompanied by Jake. It had to mean something.

She extended her hand toward Aiden as she used her forms to her advantage. It seemed like she was used to it as her melons squeezed against one another, showing her entire cleavage to Aiden.

Aiden's face reddened as he grabbed her hand back, shaking it.

"My name is Aiden. It's nice to meet you."

Jake looked at the two of them and smirked. He couldn't care less about those small interactions. However, he knew that it was pleasing to talk with Scarlet, so he let things continue until...he finally spoke up.

"So, what about it? Can we meet one of the five gods?" Jake asked again.

This time, he was almost sure that his request would be granted.

"Uh...one of them? I'm not sure any of them are available. I would need to check before telling you."

Jake raised his shoulders. "Do whatever you need to do. We'll wait right here."

Scarlet didn't seem to be too confident as she looked to her left and right. "I-I...will try to contact one of them. But I don't think I will have any answers any time soon."

Scarlet looked troubled by what would happen next. However, Jake stayed extremely calm.

"Take as much time as you need. I just told you that we'll be waiting right here."

"I-I see...I'll be back!" Scarlet practically shouted as she turned around and started running in a random direction. "Oh, and it was nice to meet you, Aiden. We'll probably see each other soon from now on!"

Aiden just nodded as he admired her beautiful body, running out of the room. However, even while he looked at her body, he didn't feel anything for her.

She was simply beautiful. That was it.

A few seconds later, she disappeared, and Aiden turned toward Jake. He had a ton of questions to ask him.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

- Chapter 397 - 397 - Information, Too Much Information

Chapter 397 - 397 - Information, Too Much Information

"So, uh...are you going to explain to me what's happening here or...?" Aiden asked right away as he whispered into Jake's ears.

He didn't want others to hear him asking questions since that would make him look like he was totally ignorant about most things.

"What do you want to know exactly?" Jake smiled as he looked back at him.

"Well, the first question would be...who are you? And why does everyone in this world look scared of us?"

Jake took his time as he pointed toward a seat not too far away from them. He knew that meeting a God would take some time, so he decided to sit down next to Aiden. He would be explaining everything that had just happened to him.

After all, it was extremely confusing for someone who had no knowledge of how the Lumithars, as a society, worked.

"First off, everyone who lives in this world comes from another world from the universe. The Lumithars are simply a group made of the elites of all the worlds that exist, and with all the power they gathered, they managed to create this place.

However, that doesn't stop there. Once they created this world, they needed to find other worlds that could make them grow, and that's when they created the famous system, which everyone has access to on Nova."

Aiden nodded a few times, making sure to take all the information in.

'So...basically, they were extremely powerful, but they wanted to find others like them, and that's how they created this world.'

"What about that mark on their forehead? Why do they all have that?"

Jake smiled. He was somewhat proud that Aiden had noticed that since...quite frankly, it was a detail that would most of the time be glanced over.

"Those with those purple marks were born in this world, which means that they are the son of extremely powerful beings that were basically granted power from when they

were born. However, that's it. They never worked for their power like us, and that's where we come into play.

You see...we don't have a mark, right?"

Aiden nodded as he frowned.

"Those who don't have marks are those who managed to ascend to this world without being affiliated with the Lumithars in the first place. Basically, they are those who managed to reach this place from their own power. Obviously, the system comes into play. But the system...well, that's special; I'm sure one of the Gods will explain it better than I can."

"Alright, so basically, people like us are respected because we worked for our strength?" Aiden asked as he wasn't sure if he was grasping everything right now.

"Well, not exactly. It's part of it, but not totally. Most of them respect us because we are much more powerful than any of them. It's like anything in the world. The weak respects the strong."

"So, we're stronger than the Lumithars?" Aiden asked, still missing a few details about the situation.

"Well, not all of them. The Gods that I previously, and a few others high-placed people are...let's say. Maybe ten times as strong as me, and that's low-balling it."

'Ten times?!' Aiden thought as he couldn't believe it.

He had seen firsthand just how strong Jake was. So, for them to be ten times stronger than us. It had to mean something, right?

'To think that I signed a deal with them about not wanting to harm them? Can I even harm them in the future? Am I bound to be their slave and listen to their every order?'

Aiden's mind was drifting from the discussion as he could remember wanting to be free. But now he realized that it would be a much bigger task than he had initially thought.

"Who are those Gods exactly?" Aiden finally asked, as he couldn't wait any longer.

He knew that there were five, and they were extremely powerful, but that was about it.

"Well, there are five of them, like I just said, and they are...the founding members of the Lumithars and this world. Basically, they are the strongest people in the entirety of the universe."

"A-And I'm going to be meeting one of them?!" Aiden exclaimed, his voice rising.

"Haha! Don't worry, most of them are nice. Well, most...some have quite big egos. So, let's hope we get a nice one this time."

"You already met all of them?"

The more Aiden learned about Jake, the more impressed he was with the connections that this man had. For him, to know personally all of the Gods meant that he was deeply valued in those beings' eyes.

"Uh...are they humans?"

"I don't think so...well, we can never know since most of them can change their appearance as they wish."

Jake was getting somewhat tired of answering all of Aiden's questions, so he said, "You got one more question, then you'll have to ask the God we will be meeting. I taught you the basics so you won't appear too much like an ignorant person."

Aiden opened his mouth but quickly closed it as he actually wanted to be careful about his last question. After all, there was no telling if the God would actually be nice and answer some of his questions.

But as far as he could tell, this trip to this world was the greatest thing that happened in Aiden's new life. He had learned so much, and the more he learned, the more he realized just how weak the four founding families really are.

He knows that he's weaker than them right now. But if he had trained for years, the founding families would have been trying their best to survive under his reign.

'Last question...should I ask for more information about the system? No...that's not a good idea. Maybe I could ask for some tips for training...no. Maybe I can ask about that?'

Aiden had an idea as he raised his head, looking at Jake dead in the eyes.

"The portal that leads us here. How did you get it, and how did you ascend to this world?"

Jake laughed a little when he heard him. "I'm not that good at math, but isn't that two questions?"

Aiden just smiled, unsure if Jake would be answering to both, and news flash...he didn't.

"You'll have to pick one of them. I don't mind answering either one."

Aiden thought for a bit, and the choice was extremely easy. One of those questions was much more important than the other.

"The last one, how did you ascend to the Lumithars's world."

"Hm, smart. Well, actually, while it might seem like this big thing about gaining so much power, you can break through the limits of this world. It actually isn't that incredible.

You get an invite from the system once you manage to unlock all of your body's potential and also get strong enough. Actually...that's a bit of a lie. Well, you'll see if you ever get an invite to get here. Don't worry, I don't think it's anything bad. Uh...might depend on the person."

Aiden listened to Jake and was even more confused than before. He had just half-answered him, hiding some details from him.

"So, how do you come here?"

"Oh, you get an invite, and you decide whether to accept or refuse the offer given to you."

"That's it?"

"Yeah. That's it. There's nothing more to it."

"Why would you even refuse the offer?"

Jake smirked. "Well, that's something for you to find out. I told you, the offer can be a good thing or something bad depending on your view of things. I personally couldn't care less, so I accepted their request since I wanted to get stronger at all costs. Oh, sorry, I started rambling about myself."

"Ah, that's fine, you can continue. It was...uh, interesting."

Jake just closed his mouth and patiently waited in silence. He had revealed so much information that there was no point in telling Aiden anything else. He had to take the rest of that information. If he said anything else, he would probably go into one ear and out of the other.

They were now both in complete silence as Aiden was going over everything that he had learned about in this short yet concise discussion between the two of them.

'So, purple marked means that they come from this world. The five Gods are so powerful that I won't be able to beat them in literal years, and the system will contact me to ascend to this world once I get strong enough.'

Aiden went over it once more, and he was pretty sure that he hadn't missed anything.

"Hey," Aiden said. "Any idea of how long we'll have to wait?"

Jake just shrugged.

Why would he know?

They just had to wait for Scarlet to be coming with good news. After all, meeting that God would be the best thing that had happened to them in a while.

And speaking about her...she showed up a few minutes later, panting because of how much she had just run.

Her gigantic melons were going up and down as she kept breathing in and out.

She looked up and spotted them sitting not too far away.

"One of the Gods is ready to...receive you," Scarlet said as she was completely out of breath.

"Uh...which one is it?" Jake asked as he stood up with Aiden.

"It's Ariel."

Jake frowned. 'Why is she the one meeting us? She always refused to meet me whenever I asked... Is it because of him? Is he even more special than I thought?'

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 398 - 398 - Otherworldly Charm

'Ariel? So one of those gods is a girl?'

Aiden was a little surprised by that fact since everyone called them Gods. Not once had they mentioned that there were Goddesses in the mix.

'Oh, well. It shouldn't be a big deal, right?' Aiden thought as he glanced to his left toward Jake, who had his mouth wide open for some reason. 'Why does he look shocked? Didn't he say that he met all of them already?'

It was weird since Jake had seemed extremely confident in himself when he had barged in, demanding to meet one.

'Meh, maybe he has a strange relationship with Ariel. Who knows?'

Aiden didn't make a big deal out of this as he quickly walked behind Scarlet, admiring her body in the process.

His eyes were always drawn toward it, even if he tried to limit himself. Maybe it was the power that had gotten her this position. It could affect those who are weak-willed.

'Though, I'm certainly not weak-willed... Maybe it's one of her powers? She can affect the minds of those who look at her body.'

While Aiden was making some hypothesis about what her powers could be, he wasn't really discreet as he kept eyeing her butt every step she took. His glance was heavy, and Scarlet could feel Aiden's eyes on her body.

However, she didn't expose him or anything. In fact, she had a slight smile on her face as she kept walking forward.

She was happy that someone as powerful as Aiden was finding her desirable. It was a nice feeling. Everyone in this place was already used to looking away from her.

"We're about to arrive. Oh, and let me give you a small warning...you shouldn't look into the Goddess's eyes."

Aiden frowned. "Hm...why?"

Scarlet just shrugged. "Well, if you want, you can try. But just know that I have warned you."

'Seeing how you're looking at me with such lust. I can't imagine what it will be like when you see her...'

Scarlet kept those last words in as she didn't want Aiden to feel embarrassed. However, she hadn't lied. If Scarlet was an attractive woman, the one on the other side of this door was mind-blowing; some of them might call her the most beautiful woman in the entire world.

Actually, everyone does. After all, her greatest power is her charm.

A few moments later, Aiden and Jake came to a halt as Scarlet stopped in front of a pink door, which reminded Aiden a little of the Emberbane Manor.

He still had nightmares because of all the colors inside that building.

"I'll just tell you one last time. Don't look into her eyes, alright?"

Scarlet didn't say anything as she slowly moved away from the pink door.

Aiden glanced at Jake as if wondering if what Scarlet was saying was important, and the only thing he saw was a quick nod.

In fact, Jake was getting closer to Aiden as he whispered something in his ear, "Just stare at the ground...even if she tries to make you look."

Jake had never met her yet, but from what he had heard from the rumors. The moment you stare into her eyes. Ariel could control you like a puppet...and the reason was even more interesting.

If you couldn't control your lust, it was said to be extremely dangerous to meet the Goddess.

'Let's see what happens in there...' Jake thought as he slowly opened the pink door.

He glanced at what was on the other side of the door. However, surprisingly, it wasn't a normal room...it looked like the door led to yet another place in the world.

This time...it looked like they were stepping into space. The ground was non-existent.

There were beautiful stars everywhere, and the scenery was beautiful. Aiden, who was still waiting to go in, had gotten a small glance inside and still hadn't seen Ariel.

'Right...look at the ground.'

Aiden wasn't stupid enough as to ignore both of their warnings since he, himself, saw Jake doing the exact same thing. He eyed the ground as he walked into the weird space that was Ariel's room.

Or was it a world?

There was no way of potentially finding out.

Only time will tell.

"Oh, who do we have here?" A sweet and charming voice uttered.

Aiden almost felt himself forced into looking up, but he managed to keep his head down.

He had never felt something like this before. The aura Ariel was currently emitting affected his mind, and she had only spoken one sentence.

Aiden now understood why everyone had warned him to look at the ground. If he ever looked up, he wouldn't be able to resist her.

'I shouldn't speak. I'll let Jake do the talking...'

He knew his mind would drift away if he were to have a conversation with her. That's why he decided to let Jake handle everything. Aiden solely focused on not being overwhelmed by her presence.

"Hello?" The sweet voice once again resounded in both of their minds. "Are the two of you shy? Why aren't you talking?"

"Ugh. Hello, my name is Jake Allen, and the one on my right is Aiden."

"I see, I see."

It was weird. Her voice was directly entering Aiden's mind, affecting his entire body as he could feel his cheeks turning red, and that was solely from the sound of her voice.

Good thing he wasn't looking at her!

"Actually, I wasn't supposed to be the one meeting the two of you. But I was way too interested in meeting the one who made our greatest creation succumb in his hands. Aiden...Aiden Nightshade, the anomaly of Nova."

Click

Clack

As she uttered those words, she started walking toward Aiden, and her scent entered his nose. She was also wearing high heels, which made it even clearer.

"I'm not mistaken, right?" She whispered to Aiden, making sure that her breath would brush against Aiden's neck.

Aiden tried opening his mouth, but couldn't.

He was too close, way too close.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 399 - 399 - A Deadly Flower

He could feel her touch. Each of her fingers touched his face.

'Look down...look down.'

Aiden kept repeating those words to himself as his entire body was tense under all of her movements. It was the first time in Aiden's life that he felt scared of looking at someone in the eyes.

In the past, he had fought against many who were much stronger than him. But this was different. He couldn't move under her gaze. He couldn't try anything against her.

If he made one wrong movement, he could potentially die.

"Ah...why are you looking at the ground? Don't you want to look at me?" Ariel added as she smirked when she saw Aiden try his best to look away from her.

"I can promise you that you won't regret it. You'll like it! I promise!"

She was now right behind him as she slowly caressed his back, doing her best to arouse him, and it seemed to work as she saw Aiden's rod rise instantly.

"Oh, what's that thing that you got there?"

Aiden still didn't say anything. He went one step further as he closed his eyes. He could only hear her now.

'Calm...calm yourself, Aiden.'

"Ah...you're boring. I thought this would have worked. But seems like it didn't. You have a strong mind, young man. I'm impressed," Ariel finally uttered as she slowly got further away from Aiden, letting him breathe once again.

It seemed that all of her previous actions had been a test. She tried to see if Aiden had a strong mind and was able to resist all of her advances.

"Please speak up as to why you wanted to meet one of the five Gods. Oh, and you don't need to worry about keeping your eyes closed or averting my gaze. I won't be using my powers against you. It would honestly be quite cruel of me."

However, when Aiden heard those words, he didn't believe her. He wasn't naive. He knew that this could be a ploy. If she changed her mind, then he would be under her control, and that was something that he wanted to avoid, even if it were to cost his life.

'She'll see...Once I'm stronger, she will be the ones begging for me to let her go.'

As Aiden had this thought, he also realized just how big the gap was between him and the very top of the universe. He would have to work a lot, but at the end of it...everything would be worth it.

"Aiden? You can open your eyes. I won't do anything. Even your friend opened them already. I'm telling you, there is nothing for you to fear right now."

"...Is that true?"

Those were the first words that Aiden had uttered ever since he had entered, and even he could feel the fear in his voice.

'I'm...scared? Me?'

He hadn't noticed it yet, but hearing the tone of his voice, it had become clear. He was terrified of Ariel.

Her beauty might be otherworldly, but if such danger came with it. Aiden didn't want it.

Hell, Aiden hadn't even seen her yet, and he had been even more aroused than the time he had spent with Scarlet, where he had been able to observe the entirety of her.

'Just how many beautiful are in this world? And why do they all look more dangerous than the last?' Aiden thought as he focused back on what was happening around him.

"Aiden, it's fine. You can open your eyes. She won't do anything."

'That's really his voice...I don't know why, but I have a bad feeling about this,' Aiden thought as he slowly raised his face and squinted his eyes.

It would be Aiden's first time actually seeing Ariel. He had an image in his mind of what she would look like. However...it was nothing like he had expected.

It was even better than what he had previously thought.

She had two small black horns with pink hair flowing all the way down to her plump ass. Her eyes were as red as blood. It was as if a river of blood had flown through them. Her face was perfect, and Aiden was mesmerized as he kept looking at it. However, the worst had yet to come...her body was left.

Ariel was wearing a tight red dress, which accentuated her forms perfectly. Her tits fit perfectly, and a little bit of her cleavage could be seen. She was extremely fit. However, she wasn't too masculine...looking as if she was an innocent little flower that was waiting to learn about the real world.

'She's a succubus?!' Aiden thought, surprised, as he finally looked into her eyes.

For a quick moment, he felt lost in them as he kept looking at her body over and over again. Lust slowly taking control of his mind.

'D-Did she trick me?'

Aiden tried his best to control himself, but her powers were simply too strong. He could feel himself slowly losing his rationality the more he looked at her.

He wanted to close his eyes, but he couldn't. The pressure was too much for him to handle, and if things continued the way they were, He would become her slave, listening to her every order for the chance of fondling her magnificent body.

A dagger appeared in Aiden's hands at the last moment. He pierced his own hand with it, regaining his rationality because of the pain he was under.

'He managed to close his eyes in this quick moment as he confirmed that this had been a trap since the very beginning...'

Jake had probably fallen under her charm for some reason, or maybe she had taken the tone of his voice, tricking Aiden as a whole.

'He pierced his own hand to escape my gaze. Just who is this young man, and where does he come from?' Ariel licked both her lips as if she were looking at a delicious snack that she couldn't wait to devour as a whole.

Ariel wanted to know more about Aiden.

'It wouldn't be fun if it falls under my charm right away. Let's play with him a little more...' She thought as she glanced at Jake, who had completely lost his mind already.

He was currently lusting onto Ariel's body.

'Hmph, all men are the same. One look at me, and they falter...it doesn't matter how strong they are.'

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

Chapter 400 - 400 - A Goodbye Kiss

Aiden was now the only one in the room who was still in control of himself. However, the real question was, for how long would he be able to pull it off?

Because if Ariel truly wanted it, he would falter just like Jake just did.

"Ok...ok, ask me your questions. I'll answer some of them," Ariel said once more.

Aiden waited a little for Jake to speak up. However, there was no noise coming from his right, which made him more anxious as time passed.

Jake was the one who was supposed to do the talking, so why wasn't he doing it anymore?

"Oh!" Ariel smirked. "If you're waiting for your friend, Jake, to speak up, you'll have to wait for a long time. It's just you and me now."

As she uttered those words, her scent entered Aiden's nose. It made the feeling of danger even stronger. He could feel himself close to faltering the more time he spent inside this place.

'I need to be strong. I need to be strong...'

Aiden did his very best to cheer himself on. However, it was hard for him...very hard.

"Actually, before you ask your first question. You'll have to look at me in the eyes. And this time, I really won't be using my powers on you. It...uh...wouldn't be fun. I like talking with someone like you...you're different from the rest of them."

Aiden didn't know why, but those words made him smile. Also, it wasn't the first time he had heard those words describing himself. The last time he had heard, they were from Emma...right after they had met one another.

'Maybe it's a sign. They're both saying the same thing. Well, the only difference is that she can do whatever she wants with me.'

Aiden quickly debated whether to open his eyes or not, and he honestly couldn't take that risk. He had already received a lot of information by coming here, and he was satisfied with what he had gotten.

If it really came to it, he would prefer leaving this place without seeing Ariel ever again. Well, that is until he became strong enough to deal with her himself.

Because when Aiden would be coming back, she would be the one closing her eyes...scared to even glance at him.

He would make sure of that.

"You want to leave? But we just started?" Her sweet voice entered Aiden's mind.

He could feel the hair on his body rise.

'Was I talking? How did she know that?'

"I think it's obvious enough, hehe! Don't worry, I don't really care that much about it. If you knew how many people thought of me like that. After all, most men want me to be under them."

She was now right behind Aiden again as her hands carressed the front of his body as she made sure to be as close as possible to Aiden.

She was now practically hugging him from behind, her breath brushing against his neck, arousing the lust within him.

"Are you sure you still want to leave~?" She teasingly asked.

It wasn't the first time Ariel was acting this way, and every time she did something like this, she got what she wanted. After all, no man could deal with her. They would all succumb to her beauty and their desire to have her all for themselves.

However, she had said it herself. Aiden was different. He wasn't interested in whatever she might do to him.

"You won't talk to me~?" Her teasing voice now coming from the left side of his body as she slowly put her hands close to his pants.

It seemed she was close to reaching the next level.

"Yes, I want to leave," Aiden finally interrupted her in her acts as she completely stopped moving.

She was in the process of removing Aiden's pants, but she stopped halfway through. She found it funny that he could still think rationally. The only ones who could do that when she tried her advances were the rest of the four Gods.

No other men had managed to resist her.

'Is he really an anomaly? Were the rest of them, right?' She thought as she took a few steps back, looking at Aiden as a whole. 'But, it's weird. He doesn't even look powerful. He looks weak...so terribly weak.'

Ariel was obviously comparing himself to herself, and she couldn't help but notice the huge difference in power between them. So, why was Aiden able to resist her advances, especially when she was using physical contact.

'It shouldn't be possible. He should be crumbling under me, begging me to let him go.'

Ariel thought about it, but she finally found out why this was happening.

Aiden was different from the rest of the men she had come across. However, that was only the beginning, as there was one thing that made him this much more valuable compared to anyone else.

She didn't know why, but he had a much stronger will than anyone she had come across in her entire existence, and who knows just how old she was...

Beep!

The usual beeping resounded in his mind. He knew what that meant...he had gotten something from the system. It was probably a skill or something along those lines.

'Still, I can't look right now.'

"You want to look at me?"

"Ah...right, you can read my mind. Well, whatever. Will you let me go?" Aiden finally asked as she looked at her right in the eyes.

Ariel didn't say anything just yet as she eyed him from top to bottom.

'Should I leave him the mark?' She thought, preparing himself to let him go.

However, she had just had one thing to do before letting him go. She would leave him the mark.

She got closer to him, her face now only a few centimeters away from Aiden. She looked at Aiden's naive face and closed her eyes.

Her head slowly moved closer to Aiden's as she pouted her lips, and in a few instants...they were locking lips.

Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

