

The Strongest Assassin Reincarnates in Another World

Chapter 61 - 61: Crafting the Elixir

Looking at Aiden's eyes, it was clear that there was absolutely no way for Alex to say no to his request.

He had to craft it, or else he would probably be in the same state as the emperor.

"Y-yes, I'll do it," said Alex, who now realized that he wasn't dealing with some random person.

The person in front of him was dangerous.

"Then, get to it. I need to keep my eyes on the emperor in the meantime," said Aiden as he didn't want to take any risk of failing this trial.

The Elixir was simply a bonus for him as he could already have completed this trial if he wanted.

He just wanted to have all the effects possible before leaving this trial.

He would also miss Mia, but he couldn't do much about it as he would be going to another world.

"Humm, to do the Elixir, I need to have my equipment but it isn't here, it's in the little shack back in the garden."

Aiden had kind of anticipated that he wouldn't be able to do it right away without any equipment.

However, that was a big problem as he couldn't really leave Alex as he didn't know what he would do.

'Would he tell the guards?' thought Aiden, but he soon realized that was stupid as Alex had also threatened the emperor even if it wasn't direct.

This would probably result in his death if the emperor were to be released.

This made Aiden think that maybe he could let Alex leave by himself, but he still wasn't convinced that he wouldn't do anything.

"What can you do to prove to me that you won't tell anyone that I'm here?" asked Aiden, who didn't want to leave the injured emperor alone.

"I promise I won't. You should know that even if I tell someone, I will also be killed, don't you get it? I'm also involved in whatever you are trying to do," said Alex, who proved that what Aiden was thinking made sense.

'I guess he's right; he can't tell anyone,' thought Aiden, who was getting more and more convinced that there wouldn't be any problem letting him go alone.

"Alright, I'll let you leave but you need to come back with your equipment here in five minutes, can you do it?" said Aiden as he added a time constraint wanting to make Alex stress and make him act faster as that would result in fewer risks for Aiden.

"Sure, I'll be back in five minutes."

Then, after hearing that, Alex quickly turned around, crossed the fake wall, and went to get his equipment.

However, Aiden started counting the seconds as he would kill the emperor in five minutes if Alex didn't come back.

After all, he didn't want to jeopardize the mission simply for some Elixir that he didn't know the effects of.

Alex hurried as his life depended on it, as he didn't want Aiden to think that he was going to betray him.

But the time he had given him would be a little short as the equipment he needed to get was quite difficult to transport alone.

But he would still do it if that's what it took.

Five minutes later, Alex still hadn't come back, which meant that it was time for Aiden to kill the emperor once and for all.

Aiden started preparing his strike, and his arm was going down toward the neck of the emperor. He started hearing a voice from behind the fake wall.

"Sorry, I'm late," said Alex as he started crossing the wall and saw the dagger that Aiden had right under the neck of the emperor as small amounts of blood started to drip from it.

'I guess he really wasn't kidding when he said that I only had five minutes. One more second and the emperor would have been gone,' thought Alex, but then he started finding it weird that Aiden was keeping him alive.

Shouldn't he simply kill him and be done with him?

'He must have a reason, but what is it?' thought Alex as he prepared his equipment to prepare the Elixir.

But his thoughts were immediately interrupted as Aiden started speaking to him.

"So, hmm, what exactly are the effects of this Elixir?" asked Aiden, as he wanted to know more about it as he still had no clue about what it was.

"What? You don't know its effects, and you did all that!?" said Alex, shocked to learn this.

He thought that Aiden's only goal since their first meeting was to get him to do the Elixir, but it seemed like he was wrong as he didn't even know the effects of it.

"Does that really matter? Just tell me," said Aiden, who wanted to get straight to the point.

"Well, I guess you're right. The Elixir is my invention, obviously," said Alex proudly. "Its effects are revolutionary; after drinking it, you will feel like a new man as power starts coursing through your veins."

'Power, huh? Is it like stats points? Will it have a bigger effect than the potion from earlier,' thought Aiden as he got more and more interested in this Elixir of his.

"What gives this power?"

"Well, it's the cores of the monsters which are used to do it."

'The monsters here also have cores; why didn't I notice before,' thought Aiden, as he couldn't see any monster cores in all the monsters he had killed.

"Then, I'll let you do it," said Aiden as he turned his head toward the emperor, ensuring he hadn't moved since earlier.

And sure enough, when your life is on the line. Anyone would submit under the strong.

The emperor hadn't moved or spoken since earlier. He really had become the perfect subordinate.

Noticing that the emperor couldn't do anything as his legs were badly hurt, Aiden gave his attention once again to what Alex was doing as he started doing some weird concoctions in his cauldron.

Author's Note (doesn't cost coins): Sorry for the lack of uploads. I had some health problems which made me unable to write. I had medical attention, and now everything is fine. I was able to stack a couple of chapters in the fifteen or so days of absence.

I will start posting two chapters a day as usual once again.

Also, I changed the privilege. There will be four tiers, one for 2 chapters in advance (which is 1 coin), one for 5 (200 coins), one for 10(500 coins), and one for 14 (800 coins).

They will become available as I post chapters but keep in mind that I will continue to post two chapters a day, which is why sometimes you won't be able to read the new chapters since they won't reach the tier given for them but don't worry you will be able to read them at some point.

After the first week of uploading, all privileged chapters will be uploaded, and there won't be any problems with reading.

Once again, sorry for the absence. It won't happen again.

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

Chapter 62 - 62: The Elixir

Aiden started watching Alex perform some manipulations with the different ingredients he had brought over here.

There were eyes of monsters and some weird liquids that resembled blood; there were obviously cores of monsters as it was the main component of the Elixir.

After a couple of minutes, Alex started to walk back from the cauldron he had used to craft the Elixir.

"I finished."

Aiden, hearing him, decided to approach the cauldron as he wanted to see what the Elixir would look like.

It was red, and some sort of energy seemed to radiate off of it. As Aiden kept looking at the liquid inside the cauldron, it seemed to change color into a light red, and finally into the color blue.

But it didn't stop there as it continued changing color continuously, it then became green, then orange, and back to red.

It was a cycle that kept going.

"Why does the color of the Elixir keep changing?" asked Aiden, intrigued by what would cause such a thing to happen.

"Honestly, I have no idea. I still need to do some tests on the Elixir as I don't know much about it, but one thing is sure. It is safe to drink," said Alex, as he wanted to reassure Aiden that the Elixir was absolutely no danger.

Then, Alex pulled out of his pocket a small flask to insert the Elixir inside of it, which is exactly what he did.

After doing so, he simply gave it to Aiden as he didn't have much choice.

Aiden simply took it in his hands and started drinking it, as he didn't know if he was going to be able to bring it back to Nova.

Aiden was surprised to see that nothing happened when he finished drinking. No beeping sounds could be heard.

A reaction seemed to happen deep inside his body, but it wasn't even noticeable for Aiden.

The chains that had loosened up when he had awakened once again started to react as he continued drinking the Elixir.

However, Aiden once again had no idea about what was happening inside his body as he didn't know of the existence of those chains.

'Did this thing even do something for me?' thought Aiden as he didn't understand why he tried to get his hand on such a useless potion.

But then, as he waited for a couple of seconds, the usual beeping sound came to his mind.

BEEP

Then, a message appeared in front of him.

[You have awakened the hidden potential of your body.]

Reading this, Aiden was honestly confused as nothing else appeared apart from that small message, and he couldn't get more details.

Alex had told him that he should feel the power flowing through him, but he didn't feel anything like that. If not for the message from the system, he wouldn't have noticed such a thing.

Even when he asked the system inside of his mind, nothing happened. The system seemed like he didn't want to answer. Maybe this was something where he couldn't reveal anything.

After a couple of minutes of trying to gain information about that potential of his. Aiden eventually gave up as he returned to the task at hand, which he could end by simply killing the emperor that was in front of him, doing simply nothing.

His legs were still hurt, which forced him to simply watch Aiden do what he wanted without being able to do anything.

He obviously wanted to escape as despair appeared in his eyes once again as Aiden started to approach him again.

"Alex, help me. I promise that nothing will happen to you," shouted the emperor as Aiden started to approach him once again.

Unfortunately, Alex didn't want to take any risk as he had no idea if he was even speaking the truth.

When someone is close to dying, anything could come out of their mouth; emotions and desperation would instead take control over what they would do or say.

Aiden obviously had a lot of experience in that department, as he often saw people begging and promising things to him when he was close to killing his prey.

Well... when they could see him.

Alex heard the emperor asking for help and simply scuffed as he knew he had no other choice but to watch him die.

He turned and left Aiden in the room with the emperor, confirming the faith of the emperor.

He wouldn't risk his life for him as the emperor couldn't even give him what he wanted anymore.

He finally had access to all the ingredients he wanted to do tests and things of the same genre.

In fact, what could he even do?

He was simply weaker than Aiden and had no choice but to comply with what Aiden asked of him.

Aiden, seeing the emperor in front of him powerless, simply prepared his dagger and started walking toward him.

The emperor, watching him do such a thing, started to panic even more than earlier, shouting even louder than earlier.

He started crawling on the floor away from Aiden, but it didn't matter. One of them was walking, and the other was on the ground ramping.

His shouts also had no effect, as the room which was designed for him had been well built; sounds simply couldn't go through those walls.

His fate was doomed, and he had to accept it.

As Aiden kept getting closer, the emperor started promising things to him this time, and it obviously had absolutely no effect on Aiden, who simply wanted to go home.

He had discovered many things in this place, but it was time for him to see Maelis once again.

Who knew what had happened to Nova while Aiden was gone?

Aiden was actually quite pressed to go back, but he couldn't forget Mia, with whom he had his first experience with women, where he had experienced pleasure like never before.

But then, those thoughts vanished from his mind as he was now close enough to the emperor to decapitate him.

His strike was swift and precise just like all the others he had done on this trial.

Only a single noise could be heard in that room.

The head of the emperor fell on the ground.

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

Chapter 63 - 63: Back to the Everheart Manor

[You have killed the Boss of the trial.]

[You have obtained 2000 XP.]

[You have leveled up.]

[To level up, you will need 5000 XP.]

Aiden noticed that as he leveled up, the experience would also increase, but it wasn't proportional. It kept increasing in an exponential manner which caused a longer time spent on each level.

Who knew how much XP he would need on level 20?

'Why is it so long to level up?'

But if anyone heard about what he had just thought, they would have started coughing up blood. His speed at which he was going to level up was incredible and there were probably not many who were level 14 after finishing only the second trial.

Usually, it would take the third or even the fourth in some cases.

But he quickly dismissed those thoughts as a sudden message appeared in front of him.

Seeing the message, Aiden knew that he would soon be sent back to the waiting room, just like in the first trial.

But he didn't know if it was going to happen right away...

BEEP

[You will be sent to the Reward Room in 5 seconds.]

The system, which seemed omniscient, kind of replied to him with this notification.

Five seconds later, the body that Aiden was occupying didn't disappear in particles since it wasn't his.

Only his mind was separated from the body as he was now in an astral form watching over the body he occupied for the trial.

He couldn't move freely as a portal appeared right in front of him, which sent him to the Reward Room, which just previously looked like the waiting room.

His mind was sent back into his body and took over it.

Arriving there, Aiden waited to get the rewards from the trial and was excited about it, he couldn't wait to get stronger and those rewards were the best way for him to get stronger.

After all, he knew that completing this trial had given him access to Assassin-Related Skills, but he couldn't believe that was going to be the only thing that he was going to get out of this long trial.

He wasn't even on a team for the trial, this surely needed to increase his rewards even if they were already quite high, to begin with.

As he started to think about his rewards, the system started sending messages.

BEEP

[By completing the Trial Objective flawlessly, you have only obtained 3000 XP as you already have a massive reward that has never been given to anyone.]

BEEP

[No other rewards will be given as the access given to you is a major reward that has replaced the ones that you would normally be given to you.]

The system was obviously talking about the Assassin-Related Skills that he would now have access to.

Seeing what the system had just sent him, Aiden was obviously unhappy, but he understood that what he had just gained was massive and that it was a reward that the system had never expected to give him.

He could probably have access to other Class-Related Skills with other trials, which would make him truly powerful by having access to so many skills in the future.

But who knew what the future held for him?

Knowing that he wouldn't get anything thinking about this, he then decided that maybe it was time for him to apply his stats which is exactly what he did.

'Status'

[Aiden Nightshade]

[Level 14]

[Health: 150]

[Mana: 10]

[Race: Human]

[Body: ???]

[Class: None]

[Strength: 5]

[Agility: 4]

[Dexterity: 4]

[Defense: 2]

[Stamina: 3]

[Charm: 5]

[Unallocated Stat Points: 0]

[Equipment]

[Shadow Strike Dagger]

[Return Stone]

[Skills]

[Shadow Strike: A strike which cannot be seen by the enemy except when the enemy has a higher Charm. It cost three Mana Points to activate. It is linked with the [Shadow Strike Dagger].]

[Shadow Steps Lvl.MAX(Passive)]

[Dagger mastery Lvl.3 (Passive)]

[Gentle Touch Lvl.1 (Active Skill), Cost: 0 MP]

[Mind of an Assassin Lvl.1(Active skill), Cost: 0 MP]

He decided to put two points in his charm since one of his skills' efficiency actually depended on it, and he also put one point in Dexterity and two points in Stamina.

He decided to ignore the Defense Stat for the moment because he thought that he could simply dodge the attacks coming to him.

It was his confidence in his skills that made him able to make this choice.

He had also noticed that a one-point increase had indeed appeared in his strength.

But the thing that really caught his eye was a new category that just appeared which was called [Body].

He had no information about it, and when he asked the system, he had simply no information, which meant that this was another thing that he would have to ask Maelis.

Having no other rewards to check out, he started disappearing in particles just like in the first trial.

Suddenly, he appeared in the room that he had last left, the room where he had been unable to learn the Assassin-Related Skill.

He noticed that he was all alone there as Maelis had obviously left during the time that he was away, but as soon as he started moving, beeping sounds could be heard. It seemed like there were movement detectors in this room as it was important for this middle-level family since it contained all their techniques.

Hearing the alarm, Aiden didn't panic since he had nothing to be scared of. In fact, Maelis probably told someone in the guild that someone would appear there in the week to come.

But he still couldn't be sure, so he simply went toward the wall and waited for someone to open the weird door in front of him. Which Maelis had opened with a weird combination when he had first gotten here.

After a few minutes, Aiden started hearing footsteps which indicated that many people were coming over there and not only Maelis.

'Did she actually forget to tell people that I had taken the second trial in here?' thought Aiden, laughing by himself when he heard the voice of a guard from the other side of the door.

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

Chapter 64 - 64: Meeting Maelis Again

"Come out right this instant. I have no idea how you got there, but you better get out," shouted the guard who was on the other side of the door.

Aiden, hearing this, confirmed his thoughts from earlier that Maelis had indeed told no one about him being there.

Then, a weird interaction happened between the guards and Aiden when he noticed that Aiden was leaning on a wall waiting not even caring about what was happening.

Aiden then explained to the guards what happened, but they simply didn't believe him. He didn't want to take any risk since he would lose his job if he let the person in front of him do what he wanted.

But then, the guard asked for Aiden's name, wanting to know more about this person who has a certain connection with the matriarch.

"Aiden," he said once again, not revealing his last name since he knew that it would become dangerous for him.

As Aiden finished pronouncing his name, the guard who was interrogating him was shocked as his eyes almost popped out of his eyelids.

"Wait, are you the guy who finished first in the parkour? The Aiden?" asked the guard, his tone completely shifting as he was now looking excited.

It was as if he was looking at some kind of legend.

Not knowing how to respond, he replied shyly. "Y-yes, that's me. Why?"

"Well, everyone knows about you! You even beat a descendant of the Everheart, just who wouldn't know about you."

Hearing those words made Aiden think, as he didn't know that the little challenge he did before leaving had left such an impact on the people inside the family.

But Aiden was still confused as to why the guard simply believed his words, not even doubting them at all.

However, he didn't want to ask the guard why as he would probably make this conversation longer for no reason, as he simply wanted to go see Maelis at this moment since he had some questions for her.

He wanted to get in contact with one of the four founding families after all, which was sure to be a hard task.

Not wanting to waste too much, he decided to cut this conversation short, asking the guard about where Maelis was at the moment.

He also needed to decide about going back to the Slums to meet the maid or not since she would be alerting the main family about his disappearance.

There were many things to do and he obviously didn't have much time to think about all of those.

But, the guard didn't hold him and simply started guiding him toward the office of Maelis.

After walking for a bit, the guard started knocking on the door in front of him.

The same door that Aiden had seen the last time that he was here.

"Sorry, to interrupt you Madam, but a certain Aiden wants to meet you," said the guard who was clearly respecting the privacy of the matriarch inside this room.

As soon as the guard finished his sentence, the door in front of him opened right away and he saw Maelis peeking her head clearly in search of the person he had just mentioned.

The look on her face was obviously one of worry as she still had no idea what had happened to Aiden in the second trial, she simply hoped that he didn't lose too much of his levels and statistics in it.

The thought that he had actually accomplished the trial alone didn't even cross her mind as she was sure that he had failed.

Even if she had seen his potential, she knew that difference between the first and second trials would be quite hard for some people to adapt.

After all, the two trials didn't have anything in common.

In fact, the second trial was considered the first real trial as it embodied the type of trial that would come after it.

But then, as she looked around she noticed the figure of Aiden which didn't look as frail as before with some of his muscles being defined since he was lean.

His appearance had obviously gotten much better since he had put three points of Charm into it, but it didn't make Maelis blush or even react as she was used to seeing such beauty in her daily life.

Sure Aiden looked better than most with his white hair and red eyes. His chiseled face also complimented his looks, one thing for certain he didn't get weaker in his second trial, or else his looks would have been downgraded and not upgraded.

After observing Aiden up and down, she quickly dismissed the guard and quickly let Aiden enter as she wanted to know more about the second trial and what he had to do since trials would always differ depending on the person.

She quickly gave him a chair and started shooting questions at a speed that was impossible to answer.

"What happened there?"

"What were your rewards?"

"Wait, before that what was your <Trial Objective>?"

"Did you manage to kill the boss?"

Aiden didn't even have the time to answer her but she continued not even noticing it.

It seemed she was a little too excited seeing Aiden once again and she was also happy that he had cleared his second trial, an accomplishment that she deemed impossible.

Aiden not knowing what to do simply started talking calmly trying to calm her down.

"Please relax, I will tell you everything that you want but before that shouldn't we discuss where we left off last time? Shouldn't we talk about whether or not I will be joining this family?" said Aiden, ignoring her past questions and bringing an important subject to the table.

Right before she opened, her mouth he added a little comment, "And just so you know my worth has increased..."

He knew that what he had just accomplished wasn't a small feat and that Maelis would have to give him many resources as she didn't want to go to other families.

Hell, even high-level families would be interested in his talent. After all, it was the first time that someone had completed a trial by themselves.

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

Chapter 65 - 65: Discussing about his Future

"Your worth has increased, and how can I judge that?" asked Maelis, who knew that he had gotten stronger, but she couldn't tell with only a quick look how strong he had gotten.

"Oh, right, I didn't think of that. Well, I guess I could tell you about the rewards I got," said Aiden, understanding that he had to reveal some things about himself for her to offer a good offer to him.

"So, first off, by succeeding in the trial, as you know, I got access to all Assassin-Related Skills, and who knows, I would probably be able to get access to other class skills as well in the future," said Aiden, waiting to see her reaction.

He could see that she started nodding as she seemed to analyze the information that he had just said, after all, it was a first even for her.

"Did the trial give you another reward?" asked Maelis wanting to know more about what he has received.

"Well, I got a [Return Stone] in the trial and some experience at the end, but that was it."

She kept nodding, not being surprised by the lack of rewards since he had already obtained a massive one, in her opinion.

But then she heard an item that she hadn't expected come out of the voice of Aiden.

"Wait can you repeat what you just said?" asked Mia, wanting to be sure of what she had just heard.

"I got some experience at the end of the trial?" said Aiden, unsure why she asked him to repeat.

"Not that, the thing you said right before."

"Oh, I also got a [Return Stone]," said Aiden nonchalantly, not knowing why she was making such a big deal out of it.

'He really did get one, but how did he get it? He was alone, goddammit,' thought Maelis, not understanding how he could have one.

Return Stones were, after all, only obtainable by killing the strongest monster in the trial, and Aiden having one meant that he had succeeded in doing so.

She wanted to know more about how he got it, so she started questioning him.

"How did you get it?"

"Did you get help killing it?"

It was the exact same as earlier; multiple questions kept coming out of her mouth, not letting Aiden talk.

Aiden once again needed to calm her down, "Please relax, I'll tell you, but before that, you need to make me an offer for me to join."

He wanted to see the benefits he could gain from being in a middle-level family.

Coming out of her excitement, she didn't give him an offer but instead a question.

"What do you want?"

The fact that she asked this question meant that she would do anything to keep him here.

His achievements were simply too good to not take him in.

He had completed the second trial alone, he had gotten a [Return Stone], and he had this weird thing where he could gain access to different Class Related Skills.

He was simply too good to pass on. She needed to act before the other families caught wind of his existence.

'What do I want?' thought Aiden as he didn't expect this question to come out of Maelis's mouth.

"Can you give me a couple of seconds to think about it," said Aiden wanting to organize his thoughts to ask exactly what he wanted.

Maelis quickly accepted but she reminded him that she couldn't give him everything she owned, he had to be reasonable with his demands as she didn't have infinite funds.

Even if he was talented and quite promising, she couldn't ruin her family just to obtain him.

Aiden heard her and nodded, knowing that he couldn't be too unreasonable with her.

The first thing he wanted was to have more information about the system which granted everyone power, he didn't understand how it worked as it seemed to be a real person controlling it behind the scenes since it always tried to skip some of his questions.

He also wanted more information about the creation of skills even if the system had answered him vaguely, he needed more details on it since he could get more skills that way.

After all, created skills didn't use the slots that he had for the skills.

He wanted light armor to protect in some places, but that wasn't an emergency. Even if Maelis refused, he didn't really care.

He obviously wanted to learn about their technique and if he would fit with his fighting style, even if Maelis had already told him that he wasn't quite good for a close combatant.

After a minute or so of thinking, the mouth of Aiden started opening keeping Maelis on the edge of her seat.

"Tell me if any of those demands are too hard to accomplish," said Aiden, waiting for Maelis to nod. "Alright, the first I want is probably quite hard to get but I would need to speak with someone who can tell me more about the system which everyone uses."

"During the Second Trial, I noticed some weird things about it, and I need someone that can tell me more," said Aiden as he waited for Maelis to tell him if it was possible.

This was his most important demand and the only one which he really cared about.

"You want to learn more about the system, huh? That should be possible, but what kind of things do you want to learn?" asked Maelis, not sure if the person she had in mind could answer all his questions.

"Well, things like where it comes from? Who created it? How does it create skills, especially for us? Just general knowledge."

Maelis nodded. Aiden was asking good questions, and she was now sure that she could find someone to answer him.

Even though she knew some answers to his questions, her knowledge was quite vague as she didn't care that much about the origins of this system as she had simply lived with it for her entire life.

She didn't want to say things to Aiden that weren't true, which is why she decided not to tell him anything about such things.

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

Chapter 66 - 66: Inter-Family Tournament

"Sure, that's possible. What else do you want?" asked Maelis, knowing that wasn't the only thing that he was going to be asking.

"I want to learn your technique, light armor, and the skill that I was about to learn when I decided to do the trial," said Aiden finding his demands to be quite fair.

In his mind, he knew his value, and he thought that those demands respected what he was worth.

"Sure I can give you all that, anything else?" asked Maelis, also finding those demands quite reasonable.

Hearing her ask if he was done made him think for a couple of seconds, but he didn't find anything else to ask her.

"Yeah, I think that's about it."

As Aiden finished his answer, a contract seemed to appear out of nowhere, on it were some of his demands and the demands of this guild which didn't restrict his movements and even encouraged his freedom.

It seemed that the contract was already ready for him as they simply added his demands on it.

However, as he kept reading the contract he arrived at something that he wasn't quite sure to understand.

It was written that he would have to participate in the Inter-Family Tournament.

'Is it the tournament that Ava mentioned when she disappeared in the reward room? She did say that we would meet again, but I didn't understand what she was talking about at the time. Maybe that was it,' thought Aiden, starting to understand the meaning of the tournament that Ava mentioned.

Having absolutely no idea about what it was, Aiden immediately raised his head with a questioning gaze.

"What is this Inter-Family Tournament, and why do I have to participate in it?" asked Aiden, wanting to know more about it to confirm his thoughts.

"You don't know about it?" said Maelis, surprised, but then she realized that he was part of the Slums and probably didn't have the opportunity to hear about it.

"It's quite simple. It's a tournament between the best talents of the families. You will surely participate in it as you will be our strongest Awakened if you decide to join us. This tournament is held every five years, and it is quite the attraction as everyone comes over to watch the winner of it."

"And don't worry, you won't participate for nothing; you will get great rewards if you perform well in it," said Maelis when she noticed the face of Aiden, who didn't seem too happy about this news.

However, the emotions that came off the face of Aiden weren't because of the reasons that Maelis was thinking.

Aiden was actually thinking about the Nightshade and if they were going to participate in the tournament which caused him to ask a question to Maelis.

"Are the founding families participating?"

Noticing that Aiden hadn't been relieved by her mention of rewards, she knew that there was something else that didn't make him too happy about participating.

'Maybe he doesn't want to reveal his talent? But why?' thought Maelis, not understanding his motive, but she quickly removed those thoughts from her mind as she was only speculating and answered Aiden to the best of her capacities.

"Yes, the founding families will participate, and they will probably win as usual since they have the most resources and techniques out of all the families."

Aiden wasn't surprised by the fact that the founding families were obviously dominating over the rest of the families.

But, the real problem was that participating in the tournament would reveal to the Nightshade family his talent and his existence.

After all, Emily, Aiden's maid, would probably soon arrive at his little house in the slums and find out that he wasn't there anymore and that he had disappeared.

The Nightshade probably wouldn't react over the disappearance of their useless son but they would probably try to get some information about him since they would know nothing about what happened to him.

"Then, can I not participate?" asked Aiden, not wanting the Nightshade to learn about him.

"What? Why? Didn't you hear me, you are going to get many rewards simply by participating," said Maelis, not quite understanding his reasons.

But how could she?

She didn't know anything about Aiden's origins, or else who knew what she might do.

"I just don't want to participate, can I?"

"I guess you can not participate but if it's about your identity and not wanting to reveal it to others, you don't need to worry about it," said Maelis as she was almost convinced that was the reason that Aiden didn't want to participate.

"Every time the tournament is held, some people go under anonymously not wanting to reveal their identity to others."

"Seriously, I can go anonymously?" asked Aiden, as he understood that his problem was going to be fixed.

"Yes, so if you go anonymously there won't be any problem?" asked Maelis relieved to hear that.

After all, going far into the tournament would give her family fame and also rewards as they will have the merit of developing this awakened.

Winning the tournament might give her the power to reach high-level families.

Because to become a high-level family, one needed to have high-ranking techniques and also three members that are over level 50.

One of those conditions was already met but the other wasn't.

That's why she hoped that this tournament would help them in many ways.

Aiden quickly nodded at the question of Maelis not revealing why he didn't want his identity to be revealed to anyone.

He simply let her get ideas about it as it would be simpler that way.

"So, when is that tournament going to take place?" asked Aiden as he still didn't know the date and stuff like that.

After all, he needed to make sure not to be in a trial when the Inter-Family took place.

He didn't want to not respect his contract since the punishment for it was quite severe, he would get stripped of his status as an awakened if he didn't respect the terms.

It wasn't difficult to respect the terms since they only had one demand which was for him to be at the tournament.

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

Chapter 67 - 67: Mana

"The tournament won't be held soon. It doesn't have a date yet, but it is said that it will be in at least a month. So, you don't need to worry about it as of right now. I'll tell you when it's time for you to participate."

Then, after saying that, they quickly talked about some details about the armor he wanted and other stuff like that.

Maelis decided that the armor that he was going to receive was going to be custom-made by one of the best blacksmiths in the guild.

She reassured him that it was going to be quite good and that it was going to be at least intermediate.

After a couple of minutes, there didn't seem to be any problem with the contract, and Aiden simply signed it.

It was now official. He had joined a middle-level family.

BEEP

[You are now bound to the Everheart family.]

Even the system acknowledged his relationship with it since the contract probably had ties with the system since he had basically appeared out of nowhere.

After signing the contract, Aiden was quite impatient as he wanted to meet the person who would answer his questions about the system.

"So, when can I meet the person who knows about the system?"

But as he asked the question, he noticed that Maelis didn't respond right away and started thinking a little, unsure about the delay it would take.

"Well, it will probably take a week or so to get here as he is probably busy at the moment," said Maelis as she still didn't reveal the identity.

"Who is he?" asked Aiden, as he wanted to learn more about the person who was supposed to explain the system.

He wanted to make that he would be good enough, he didn't want half-baked information.

But, clear and simple facts.

"He's a mercenary; he isn't affiliated with any families, even the founding families. It is said that he has obtained a lot of knowledge as he kept clearing trials and exploring the world of Nova," explained Maelis as she started to explain who he was.

Aiden started to get intrigued when he learned that the man she was talking about wasn't in any of the families.

This didn't make much sense to Aiden as he knew that the easiest way to get stronger was to join a family, as they would give resources to you.

Aiden thought about asking him questions about his journey when meeting as he could probably help him.

"Are mercenaries rare?" asked Aiden, trying to get more information.

"Yes, they are. Mercenaries are quite uncommon since most people decide to join a family to get stronger. However, most of the time, those mercenaries are really talented which gave them the opportunity to not depend on everyone else except themselves."

It confirmed Aiden's thoughts from earlier that mercenaries were quite rare and uncommon.

He started thinking that maybe becoming a mercenary would have been a better choice, but he quickly dismissed those thoughts from his mind as he knew that it didn't make much sense because he had already joined the Everheart family.

"Then, can you tell me when he arrives?"

"Sure, how can I contact you?" asked Maelis, as she didn't know of any way to contact him.

"Hmm, I don't really know about that. I lived in the Slums my entire life; shouldn't you be the one telling me?" asked Aiden, as he had absolutely no idea about what they used here.

It probably wasn't cell phones like on Earth since they had access to magic and mana. Who knew what they had come up with?

"You're right. I totally forgot about that. Here, that's what we call a [Mental Transmitor]. Just infuse some of your mana inside of it, and it will connect to mine right away," explained Maelis, as she knew that Aiden had no idea how it worked.

The [Mental Transmitor] didn't look anything like a cell phone. It was as thin as a sheet of paper and was completely white.

Actually, it really resembled a small sheet of paper, but there was probably more to it that Aiden couldn't understand.

Taking the [Mental Transmitor] in his hands, Aiden wanted to try and see if it worked.

But when he tried to infuse mana into the small sheet of paper.

He realized that he had actually no idea of how to move the mana contained in his body.

Sure, he knew that he had 10 points of this Mana since it was in his [Status], but he didn't know how to use it.

After all, his skills didn't require any mana, they simply came from his past life except [Mind of an Assassin] and [Gentle Touch].

He was kind of embarrassed that he needed to ask Maelis, but he still went ahead with it since he had no other choice.

"What I'm about to say might be weird... but I actually don't know how to use Mana," said Aiden with an expression that showed how embarrassed he was at the moment.

This revelation shocked her for a quick second, but she quickly remembered that he was born in the Slums with no knowledge about how the world actually worked.

"Right, don't worry about it. Actually, it's quite simple. I'll teach you how to use it."

"Close your eyes, try to focus on yourself."

"Only what is inside your mind is important everything else is useless."

Then, Aiden entered complete silence as he listened to her every word.

He now had a view of inside his body, he couldn't see anything. He was in complete darkness.

But then, he heard the voice of Maelis once again.

"Try to find the energy inside of you. It should be a small blue ball, it's usually around the neck area, but if it's not there then do not worry it will probably be close to it."

As Maelis said that, Aiden started to try and find the small blue energy which she was talking about.

And after a few seconds, he still couldn't find it.

It seemed like his mana wasn't around his neck.

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

Chapter 68 - 68: Chains

If the mana wasn't around his neck, then where was it?

Maelis had mentioned that it wasn't necessary there, but it was supposed to be close but as he explored the area of his neck.

He stayed in the darkness, unable to find this little blue ball of energy that Maelis had talked about.

"I can't find it," said Aiden, keeping himself in a meditative state, not moving any other muscle except his mouth.

"Try to look around your abdomen; it should be around there," announced Maelis, as she was almost sure that it was going to be there.

Aiden listened and started to look at where his abdomen was located, but once again, he couldn't find his mana.

"It's still not there," said Aiden, deciding not to listen to Maelis anymore as he simply started to explore the dark areas inside his body.

Maelis said something to him, but he simply ignored it.

As he started exploring what was inside him, he started hearing some weird noise.

It seemed to be some sort of metallic noise that kept resounding.

CLING

CLING

CLING

Intrigued, he started to advance toward the noise, and the scene in front of him completely shocked him.

He was now looking around his heart and he could see chains that seemed to completely surround his heart.

Right next to his heart, there seemed to be many things locked. Aiden couldn't recognize most of the things that were chained as he simply had no idea about what they were.

There were some weird purple energy, some blue energy, and some black energy.

There were even what seemed to be solid materials right next to his heart.

Not knowing if he could tell Maelis about his discovery, he decided to ignore the things that surrounded the chains and simply asked Maelis what to do as he had finally found his small ball of blue mana.

It was covered by chains, but it wasn't as bad as the other energies that were present there.

"I think I found it," said Aiden, not realizing that he had spent almost five minutes in complete silence exploring his interior body.

Maelis was panicking when Aiden stopped talking to her, but she quickly became calm once she realized that he was simply concentrating.

And she was right, for the last five minutes he hadn't even noticed her voice speaking to him.

The realization that he wasn't as simple as he expected kind of shocked him, and even more questions started to appear inside his mind.

He wanted to know why there were metal chains inside of him.

'How did the previous owner of this body have this?'

'Was this why he wasn't able to awaken?'

But then his thoughts were interrupted when Maelis answered him.

"Where is it situated?"

Aiden hesitated to tell the truth, but he decided to do so as he didn't want to take any risk so close to his heart.

Maybe the methods would change depending on where the mana was situated, and it was best for him to tell the truth.

"It's around my heart."

"Your heart? Are you sure?" asked Maelis in a tone that didn't seem exactly happy about the news.

"Yeah, I'm sure it's around there," confirmed Aiden, as he didn't understand the change in her tone.

"Well, there's bad news and good news. Which one do you want?" asked Maelis as she noticed that Aiden seemed to come out of his meditative state as he opened his eyes.

"Just tell me, I don't care," answered Aiden, not wanting to lose time, and he simply wanted his answer.

"The positive is that your mana will be more powerful, which will increase the power of your skills, which means that the effects of your skills will be different than what the system tells you most of the time."

"But, the negative is that you will have a lot less mana than others as the heart cannot hold much of it."

She said that really fast, but Aiden quickly understood everything that came out of her mouth as it was very important to him.

"So that means that I won't be able to use skills that require a lot of mana?" asked Aiden as he tried to understand better what this meant.

"Well, not necessarily, but it will probably be better for you to concentrate on skills that are not mana dependant."

Aiden nodded.

He didn't find this news too disturbing as he was already used to fighting without even using mana. This was simply a bonus for him.

The fact that he didn't even use mana before already proved that.

"Well, it's not that bad; the skills that do use mana will be even better," said Aiden, seemingly not taking this whole thing as a big thing.

"Then, if you understand, do you want to finish learning how to use mana?"

"Oh, right," said Aiden as he once again entered his meditative state.

"After finding your mana, the system should have given you access to it. It normally sends you a message."

And she was right, as she said that, the system released a beeping sound inside of Aiden's mind.

BEEP

[You can now use Mana.]

The blue ball that was on the side of the chains started to separate itself and slowly started advancing toward one of his hands.

Then he opened his eyes, and the Mana flowed into the [Mental Transmitor] as it changed color and became blue.

Even the form of the [Mental Transmitor] changed, and he could hear the voice of Maelis coming from the other side of it as she also held it close to her mouth.

After verifying that everything was working fine and that they would be able to contact themselves, Aiden quickly left her office since Maelis told him that his rewards should be coming in about a day or two.

Well, except for the Mercenary, it would probably take longer.

After leaving her office, Aiden was now going toward the training grounds because he was intrigued by what the guard had said when he had first arrived.

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

Chapter 69 - 69: The Legend of the Training Grounds

The girl seemed quite good, as many people were watching the parkour trial.

She was wearing a tight black uniform which clearly showed how fit she was. But that wasn't all that the uniform revealed, her forms and curves could be seen quite easily even from far away.

She had blonde hair and blue eyes, just like a typical elf, she also had their characteristic those pointy ears that indicated that she was, in fact, an elf.

Her slim body truly accentuated her features which raised the rod in between Aiden's legs. It had been dormant since Mia, but it seemed to have woken up when he looked at her.

But Aiden quickly calmed his mind down as he started to look at the scene around him. He wasn't the type to be distracted simply because of a girl, after all.

Then, he started looking around him.

He noticed that there weren't as many people watching as when he had done the trial.

It was to be expected since he had been accompanied by the Matriarch when he had done so, but he still noted it inside of his mind.

Seeing her moves impressed Aiden as he wasn't sure what type of movement she was using.

She didn't look as good as Aiden, but she surely had talent even Aiden couldn't say otherwise.

Interested, he decided to get a closer look as he wanted to learn about who that person was.

As he got closer, he started hearing some people in public talking about her and the performance she was putting up.

"Do you think she will be able to surpass him today?" asked one of the people in the public.

"Nah, no way, he was already on the fourth platform by now, and look at her she's still finishing the third platform. I'm telling you, that record nobody will be able to beat it," answered the other guy, mentioning facts.

The other person had no choice but to agree with him when he heard the information he had just said.

"Who is she trying to beat?" interrupted Aiden as he arrived in the middle of their conversation.

The two of them turned around with judgemental looks on their faces as they simply couldn't comprehend how someone would ask such a stupid question.

"What am I supposed to know?" said Aiden, noticing the looks they were giving to him.

"Of course, you're supposed to. Didn't you hear about the legend of the training ground?" said the man excitedly as if he was going to reveal a secret to Aiden.

"The legend of the training ground?" repeated Aiden showing that he didn't know what they were talking about.

"Well, of course, the Aiden. The one who beat the record of the Parkour Trial in a single try."

'I became a legend,' thought Aiden, not sure if he had understood the man correctly.

After all, he had simply completed one of the many challenges. He didn't do much except place first. He didn't think that it was that much of an achievement that he deserved to be called a legend.

Another thing that surprised him was the speed at which everyone came to know about him in the Everheart Manor.

Things seemed to travel fast inside this family. Aiden would probably have to get used to it.

"This Aiden that you're talking about, is he that great?" asked Aiden, acting like he didn't know anything.

"Of course he is, or else we wouldn't call him a legend," replied the man as if it was obvious.

Confirming once again how they thought of him, he wanted details about the beautiful girl who was trying to beat his record.

"And that girl who is trying to beat his record, who is she exactly?"

Then the two guys once again turned around but their judgemental looks were even more intense.

It almost felt like a crime to not know about the identity of this person.

"You don't know who she is?" asked the man, trying to make sure he had indeed heard him correctly.

"Yeah, who is she?" said Aiden not caring about the looks that they were giving to him.

"Are you new?" asked the man as he simply couldn't understand how the person in front of him didn't know of this girl.

Sure, not knowing about the legend of the training ground was fine. It had only been a week since he appeared but she had been around for years now.

"Kind of, yeah."

"I guess, that explains it then, she is Emma Everheart. The daughter of the Matriarch of the Everheart family."

'Maelis has a daughter?!' thought Aiden as shock couldn't help but be seen inside of his eyes.

'Why didn't she mention it when I first did the trial?'

He was shocked that Maelis hadn't even told him about her, but he didn't care that much as he was also hiding many things from her.

"Is she strong?" asked Aiden wanting to know more about her.

But as he kept thinking about the name, he seemed to remember the rankings when he had first done this trial.

He remembered seeing her name at the top of them.

That meant Aiden had replaced her from the first place in the Rankings.

He didn't like it that much since it gave him attention but it wasn't anything that he couldn't deal with.

"Of course, she is. She's the first in pretty much all the challenges around here," said the man confirming Aiden's thoughts.

Then, he raised his head when he noticed people around him started to leave.

It seemed like Emma had finished her attempt and that she had once again failed at the trial.

Noticing this, Aiden actually ignored the time that she had achieved and started advancing toward the starting line.

Many ignored him simply that some random person had advanced to the starting line, but then a shout was heard from one of the people which had stayed admiring the beauty of Emma.

"That's him! That's Aiden."

He would show everyone why they started calling him the legend of the training grounds.

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

Chapter 70 - 70: Emma Everheart

When people heard someone shout the name 'Aiden', everyone turned around and came to watch what was happening over the Parkour Challenge.

Even Emma seemed to have some sort of shock on her face as she also stared at the man who was approaching the starting line.

She quickly started going down as she started to shout toward Aiden.

"Wait, don't start yet."

But Aiden didn't give her any attention as he started to get ready to proceed with the challenge.

His face became devoid of any emotions as he wanted to concentrate as much as possible on the task ahead of him.

As he prepared himself, his stats were restricted but he didn't mind it.

He also saw the chronometer created by the system, which was on the top right of his vision.

He quickly verified that everything was fine, and then he directly started running as fast as he could.

His goal this time was still to beat the first ranked, but it was different from last time. The best time was already his.

He needed to prove to himself that he had indeed improved.

Emma finally arrived close to starting line but noticed that he had already started the trial, which pissed her off.

Nobody had ever dared to disrespect her. She was the Matriarch's daughter who would even dare to disrespect her.

But she didn't say anything as she started watching the man who was supposedly the one who had beaten her record.

Emma still wasn't sure if that man was actually Aiden, but she still watched, intrigued.

She had to say that his physique was quite pleasing to her eyes, he didn't have an ounce of fat on him which showed the firm muscles on his body.

The view was, in fact, pleasing, but that wasn't what truly interested her. His movement techniques were the thing that she looked at in detail.

As she kept looking at his feet, she just couldn't understand how they were able to move at such a pace even when his stats were restricted.

She just couldn't believe her eyes.

The fact that her eyes had difficulty following his movements meant one thing and one thing only: the person she was watching really was the one who beat her.

Realizing this, she concentrated, even trying to see the methods he had used to beat her.

The first change she noticed was that on the second platform, the one where the floor would fall when stepping on it, he didn't know the best path like her.

He would simply jump when he felt the floor under him open, but this scene was unbelievable.

How could someone even do something like this?

This was the first change between them. Then he jumped on the third platform, the one with lava and rocks, but this time he did the same as her.

He then arrived at the fourth platform, which required him to jump on the walls on each side since there was no platform under him.

However, what he had just done completely shocked her.

He didn't jump in between the walls, he was simply running on a wall almost falling on the ground at any moment.

But the important thing to note was that he didn't.

He had succeeded. He had passed the fourth platform simply by running on the wall.

Emma realized that if she was able to do such a thing, then she would be able to gain time.

However, there was a problem, she had no idea how to do such a thing. It simply looked impossible.

But then, he jumped toward the last platform, the most difficult.

It was the platform on which projectiles would be thrown at the person at an impossible speed.

As she looked at Aiden, she noticed that some sort of red energy seemed to come off his body.

It seemed like he had activated [Mind of an Assassin], but Emma had no idea about this skill of his as she didn't understand what was happening to him.

But then, a shout could be heard from the public watching Aiden.

"He's using it again! The red aura."

Many shouts could be heard around as they seemed excited to see him use this aura once again.

Emma didn't understand what was happening at all what was happening, but she didn't mind it.

She was simply mesmerized by the skill of this person.

She couldn't wait to go talk to him, she wanted to know more about the person which her mother had brought over here.

After all, being the daughter of the Matriarch, she knew about Aiden and how her mother had met him.

She knew that he came from the Slums and she wanted to know how he had such good movement.

She just couldn't understand.

Seconds went by and Aiden was finally at the end of the Challenge.

And the time shown was [1:19], he had upgraded his time by three seconds and this was only his second try on this challenge.

'Who knows how many tries it took to reduce my time by that much.'

Three seconds might seem small but it was actually quite massive, it meant that he had gained three seconds with small details.

Aiden was now at the finish line.

He was happy with the time he had just achieved but he didn't focus on it.

He started looking down and he could see all the people who had watched him but his eyes quickly found the person he wanted to talk to.

After all, what the two guys had said earlier interested him.

She was supposed to be the most talented here, how couldn't he be interested in knowing her more.

He quickly jumped down from the platform and started approaching her.

The looks he was giving her were quite intense but she didn't mind it.

She wasn't looking at his physique, but simply admiring the speed at which he had completed this challenge.

"So, are you the famous Emma Everheart?" asked Aiden who kept looking at her blue eyes.

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

Chapter 71 - 71: Learning More About Her

While Aiden was doing the Parkour Challenge in the Everheart Manor, someone was knocking on his door in the slums.

Tapping her feet on the door as she waited impatiently for Aiden to open the door, but 30 seconds later, she grew tired and simply entered the house.

This person was obviously Emily, Aiden's maid.

"Aiden, you there?" she said out loud in a reasonable tone of voice that could easily reach the entirety of the house.

But, unsurprisingly, there was no answer.

"Stop hiding and come out," she said almost sure that he was currently hiding somewhere inside this house.

After all, she knew that he wasn't doing anything in this place, he always slept on his bed not even going outside.

But she couldn't hear even the faintest noise inside this small little shack.

She decided to search for him inside since there was only a single place where he could hide, the closet.

But as she opened it, there was simply nothing inside of it which meant that Aiden had either gone outside or he had left this place.

Knowing that he wasn't there, she decided that he probably went out.

Even if it was odd, she didn't have much of a choice since she needed to tell the Nightshade family about any changes.

A couple of hours later, it was now the night and Aiden still wasn't there.

She started to lose patience and simply left, as it was pretty much obvious that Aiden wouldn't be coming home.

She didn't care enough about him to search for him, so she simply left as she would go back to the Nightshade Territory, which was quite far away.

'I'll just tell them that he disappeared. It shouldn't be that big of a deal,' thought Emily, knowing that the family didn't care that much about him.

She then left the Slums and went back to the Nightshade territory, preparing herself to announce this news.

Emily was happy that she hadn't found him since it meant that she wouldn't have to come back to this dirty place ever again.

Well, that's what she hoped.

Back to the training grounds of the Everheart Family

"So, are you the famous Emma Everheart?" asked Aiden, who kept looking at her blue eyes.

As he pronounced those words, members of the family kept looking at them, intrigued by how she was going to respond to Aiden.

After all, it wasn't every day that people went to talk to the daughter of the Matriarch openly.

Most people found her unattainable as she was talented, beautiful, and strong. She was simply perfect, from the outside she just seemed like the perfect person.

But to reach that state, she had needed to work her entire life as she didn't want to disappoint her mother.

She knew that Maelis would support her even if she wasn't the best, but she knew that would put pressure on her, which is why she decided to try her best to support her as best as she could.

"Yes, I am, and you're Aiden, right?" said Emma as she had obviously learned his name as she kept trying to beat his record.

"Yep," said Aiden nodding before opening his mouth once again. "So, what did you think? Am I as good as you thought?"

Those questions kind of stunned Emma as she didn't think that he would simply go right into the subject before doing a proper introduction.

But she didn't mind as it would simply save both of them time.

However, the problem was that she didn't really know how to answer.

But, after thinking it through a little, she found what seemed to be an alright answer.

"I thought you would be a little better; with some practice, I should beat you easily," lied Emma without showing any signs of it.

The crowd hearing that declaration was getting more and more excited as some sort of rivalry was starting to be created between the two of them.

But Aiden didn't really care about what she had just said. After all, he didn't think it meant much. In his mind, she simply said such a thing because she thought it was the truth.

He just couldn't pick on those small hidden messages. He didn't have the capabilities to do so.

Living his life isolated without any friends had made him this way, and there was nothing he could do about it as he wasn't aware of what was wrong with his understanding of general matters.

"Alright, I guess, want to go talk in private?" he asked as he didn't want everyone around them to hear about their conversation.

"Sure," said Emma, as she also wasn't comfortable being observed so much.

Then, the two of them started walking toward the entrance of the training grounds as they kept discussing.

The crowd that was watching had understood the message and left them alone not wanting to anger Emma.

"So, what did you want to talk about?" asked Emma, not really having an idea what to talk about.

"Well, I heard that you were Maelis's daughter, so how much do you know about me?" asked Aiden as he wanted to understand the information Maelis had revealed about him.

"Nothing much, she just told me that you came from the Slums and that you had some talent in many things such as parkour," said Emma as Aiden could still feel him beating her in something that had hurt her.

It seemed like she was competitive, not wanting to lose at any cost, but that wasn't the problem of Aiden, who had simply participated to reach first place on the Rankings, but also to prove that he still had a good mastery over his movement techniques.

"So, what do you think?"

"I already told you with some practice, I will easily be better than you," said Emma once again, not acknowledging Aiden.

She didn't want him to think that she was inferior to him.

Author's Note: If I obtain 1000 Privilege Unlocks, then there will be a 5-chapter Mass Release.

To help with the task, you can take the first tier which cost 1 coin, with it you will be able to unlock two privilege chaps per day which would help me a ton.

So, please consider it.

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

Chapter 72 - 72: Emma is Shy

"So, you're strong, right?"

"Yes, of course, I am; my mom said that I was one of the most talented awakened of this generation," said Emma with a proud air on her face.

She seemed to really like to show off and wouldn't lose an opportunity to do so.

But what she had just said made Aiden think, if she was one of the most talented awakened of her generation, then would she also participate in the Inter-Family Tournament just like Aiden?

"Are you participating in the tournament?" asked Aiden, only realizing this now.

"The Inter-Family Tournament? Of course, I am! I'm the strongest there is. I'll make sure to bring back good rewards for my mother."

'Can two members of the same family participate?' thought Aiden as he remembered that Maelis didn't give him much detail on how the selection of the participants actually worked.

"That's cool, I'm also participating," said Aiden, not mentioning his doubts and instead waiting for her reaction.

"You are? Interesting, I didn't think someone like you would be able to get the second spot," said Emma as she was still sending insults toward Aiden.

But every time she did, she noticed that Aiden didn't even react.

It seemed like insults wouldn't affect him at all.

"Do all families have permission to send two members?" asked Aiden, not minding her last comment.

"Isn't that basic knowledge? Low-level families have one spot, Medium-level families like ours have two spots, High-tier families have three spots, and I think you can guess how many the last one has."

It seemed to make sense the stronger your family, the more members you could send, which would, as a result, make your family stronger in general.

"Then, I guess that means we'll both participate in the tournament together."

"Don't believe for one second that we're a team. I don't need help," said Emma, once again showing her competitiveness.

Aiden didn't understand what he had done for her to act that way with him, but he simply nodded his head as he opened his mouth.

"I didn't want to form a team either way."

"I know that I'm beautiful and talented and that you probably wishe-," said Emma as she stopped speaking when she noticed the answer that Aiden had just said.

"Wait, you didn't want to be in a team with me?" asked Emma with a trace of sadness contained in her voice with tears forming in the corner of her eyes.

Aiden didn't quite understand the reaction she was having. Wasn't she the one that had just said that?

Not wanting to deal with a sudden outburst of emotion, he simply placed his hand on her while activating his Unique Skill [Gentle Touch] which worked instantly as the tears that were forming in her eyes instantly disappeared.

'What's happening to me?' thought Emma as she felt her emotions being controlled by someone.

'Is it him that's causing this?' thought Emma as she couldn't find any other reason that she would be reacting this way.

Her conclusion was simple: there wasn't anyone else with them, which only indicated that Aiden was the one who was altering her emotions at the moment.

Noticing her starting to calm down, Aiden removed his hand from her, but he didn't expect her reaction.

"What did you just do to me?" asked in anger Emma.

It was the complete opposite of the reaction Mia had when Aiden used it on her.

Mia felt relieved and calm, which eventually led to them doing the deed, but this time, after he removed his hand, Emma seemed truly angered at him.

"What do you mean?" asked Aiden deciding to play the innocent card as Emma didn't have any proof that he did something.

And even if she did, why was she so unhappy?

Didn't he just remove the negative emotions she was feeling?

Shouldn't she be thanking him instead?

"I was about to cry, but then you touched me, and I lost all the emotions I felt a moment ago."

"What can I say? You seem to like me touching you," said Aiden, not realizing the meaning behind those words as Emma instantly became completely red.

"W-what are you talking about? Why would I like you touching me?" said Emma as her face kept the same shade of red.

"I don't know, can you tell me? Do you want me to touch you again?" asked Aiden as he started having fun seeing the reactions she was having.

"T-touch me again?! What kind of pervert are you?" she said as she became shocked by the words that were starting to come out of Aiden's mouth.

'What the hell is she thinking?' thought Aiden, not understanding why her reactions were so intense.

He simply wanted to touch her shoulder or maybe her hand to show her that he hadn't done anything earlier, but she seemed to think about something else completely.

"I just want to show that I didn't do anything. Stop panicking."

Noticing that he had become serious, Emma stopped speaking as she started to get scared of the aura that he was putting off.

He seemed annoyed at her by the looks he was giving her.

Taking note of it, she quickly got her mind back together as she understood that he didn't want to do anything to her and that she simply imagined a scene.

'Just why did I think of such things?'

But as she thought of that, she started to look Aiden up and down once again, realizing how charming the person in front of her was.

Her thoughts became dirty again as she imagined him touching the most private parts of her body.

Her face was starting to gain the same shade of red as earlier because of those thoughts, which confused Aiden even more as he just couldn't understand the person in front of him.

Out of nowhere, she turned her back and started to leave him as she was simply too embarrassed to look him in the eyes.

She had just imagined him naked, which caused her to have this reaction.

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

Chapter 73 - 73: His New Quarters

Seeing her leave, Aiden didn't go after her as he didn't want to relive the same exact scene once again.

Instead, he thought that it would be great for him to go to sleep.

He had stayed awake for quite a long time in the trial and it was starting to get to him as it started to become visible on his face.

But there was a problem, he still didn't know where he could sleep.

Maelis hadn't told him if he could actually stay here or not.

Returning to the Slums wasn't really a problem, but he still remembered about his maid, and he didn't know if she had come or not yet.

Wanting to know where he would need to sleep, he started walking in the direction of Maelis's office.

But as he got closer, he started hearing the same voice as earlier, the voice of Emma, who was talking to Maelis.

"Mom, I'm telling you, he's a bad guy. He tried to touch my melons as soon as we were alone," she said, completely lying to her mother.

"I don't think he's that type of person. What did he really do? And don't you dare lie to me again?"

Aiden wasn't inside her office, but she could feel that Maelis had become completely serious as the tone she was using wasn't anything like he had heard previously.

Aiden had never heard her sound like that, and he hoped that he would never have to.

Just her voice was scary. He couldn't imagine what would happen facing her directly.

"I-I just don't like him mom, can't you kick him out of the family? Aren't I good enough for you?"

"Kick him out of the family? Are you crazy, you don't understand his talent, how could you after all you only met him one time. I'm telling you, he's special. He isn't like any other awakened that I met before, and just to make it clear," said Maelis as anger could clearly be felt in her voice.

"I will not kick him out of the family even if you ask me to. Yes, you're strong, but with the two of you, I cannot even begin to imagine the benefits that we will have at the tournament."

Realizing that what she was asking of her was quite disrespectful, Emma bowed her head and left Maelis's office since she knew that her mother had made a decision and that she wouldn't be able to change it.

As she opened the door to leave, Emma immediately noticed Aiden, who was right in front of it.

Her blush quickly returned to her face upon seeing him once again.

'How much did he hear?' thought Emma as she didn't want to make him her enemy.

He hadn't really done anything to her, and she knew that her reactions from earlier were out of proportion.

Not wanting to talk to him, she ran away just like earlier, not even meeting the eyes of Aiden.

Then, Aiden stopped looking at her and focused on the person who was looking at him with a smile on her face.

"It seemed like you left quite the impression on my daughter," said Maelis with a smile.

"Did you like our conversation?" asked Maelis revealing that she knew that he had heard pretty much everything.

"Thank you for defending me. I'd say you were quite convincing," said Aiden, showing that he had indeed appreciated what she had just done.

"But why are you here? I don't remember calling you?" said Maelis, showing that she was quite annoyed by his presence.

"I just had a question, where am I supposed to sleep?"

"Did you really come here just to ask me such a thing?" asked Maelis, not understanding how someone with so much talent could be as dumb as this.

"Yeah, do I have a room here, or do I need to find a place for myself?"

"No, you won't need to, but you do know that we have maids pretty much all around this place at your disposal."

"Yes and?" said Aiden, not understanding where she wanted to go with this.

"Then, why didn't you ask them where you had to stay?"

'Oh, yeah, she's right. Why didn't I do that?' thought Aiden as he also found what he had just done quite stupid.

"Either way, it doesn't matter. Follow me; I'll show you your room. Don't worry, I'm sure you'll like it," she said as she gave him a quick wink.

Then, Aiden started following Maelis right behind her as she seemed to reach a place where there didn't seem much as he could see doors on both sides of the walls which made him remember his trial and the castle he had infiltrated.

But she didn't stop at one of the doors in this hall as she continued going forward, and then she took a left where only a single door could be found.

"Little disclaimer before we enter, you'll have a roommate," said Maelis as she started giggling with a smile on her smile.

Aiden immediately thought about who that person could be, but he was almost sure that the roommate she was talking about was Emma, her daughter.

"Don't worry, I'm sure that your rommie will learn to accept you," said Maelis trying to reassure Aiden as he didn't seem to appreciate that he would have to live with someone else.

'Why the hell couldn't I get a room alone?' thought Aiden as he simply didn't want to deal with another person other than himself.

Then, Maelis opened the door slowly, but no one could be seen.

However, the sound of water running could be heard.

It seemed like someone was in the shower.

"Come out of the shower quickly; you have a visitor," said Maelis, as she didn't want to spend the entire day here.

As Maelis said that, the water coming out of the shower head stopped, and the bathroom's door opened.

"You?! Why am I seeing you so much?" she said as she opened the door and saw Aiden standing there inside her room.

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

Chapter 74 - 74: His New Quarters [Part 2]

"Why are you here again?" she shouted as she started walking out of the bathroom and saw Aiden.

"What can't he be here?" asked Maelis, watching the face of her daughter start to turn red.

After all, it was a normal reaction.

Her hair was still wet, and she was almost naked, only with a towel covering her body.

Her well-defined body was seen easily as Aiden quickly glanced at her.

'They're not as big as Mia's,' he thought, comparing inside his mind.

Emma, noticing him looking over her body, quickly covered it.

"Don't look at me like that," she said before turning toward her mother. "See, I told you already he's a pervert. Look at him. He's lusting over my body as we speak."

Maelis, hearing what she just said, turned her head to see what Aiden was looking at and she noticed that he was indeed looking at her body.

However, Emma had lied about one thing, he didn't have any lust in the looks he was giving.

'Maybe her body isn't enough to make him hard?'

After all, the reason why she had brought Aiden over here was to find a place for him to sleep but also to make him and Emma more comfortable with each other.

They were going to participate in the Inter-Family Tournament together.

She wanted them to have a good relationship and not hate each other.

She knew the personality of her daughter quite well and it was pretty known that she didn't like to cooperate with others.

On the other hand, she didn't know much about Aiden's Personality as it hadn't been long since they met.

She thought that this was going to be the best opportunity for her to see how both of them would react to such a change.

"He's not even looking at you," lied Maelis right through her teeth.

"Yes, he is, loo-"

"Stop talking; I don't care if you don't like him or whatever, you need to start to like him as he would be staying as of hmm, well, right now."

"W-What?! Why? Why are you doing this to me?" she said as she started to panic about the sudden news.

"Why are you so mad? You should be thanking me that such a beautiful, strong, and healthy boy is going to live with you," she said, winking at her daughter, who had immediately become red.

"What are you even saying?" Emma as she hid her face, which was constantly blushing.

Aiden, who was watching this scene, was once again really confused by what was happening in front of him.

'Just what is wrong with that girl,' he thought, looking at the girl who was covering her face from him.

This whole was truly ridiculous from his point of view.

A girl started accusing him of being lustful.

Then, her mother defended him.

It really was ridiculous.

"So, I need to live with her until when exactly?" Aiden asked, as he wasn't exactly happy that he would have to live with such an emotional person.

Even if he had his skill, he didn't want to use it on her again as she started shouting at him when he had last done so.

He didn't want to deal with her daily emotional crisis.

"Don't even act like this wasn't your idea, pervert," interrupted Emma, who was clearly angry with his decision to stay here.

"Until the tournament," said Maelis, completely ignoring what her daughter had just said.

"Are there really no other rooms for me?" said Aiden as he kept trying to find a way out of this situation.

"Well... because of your unexpected arrival, all the rooms are currently occupied. I also thought that it would be great if you started to learn a little more about my daughter. And don't worry, you can learn about her in detail." she said, winking at Aiden this time.

'Learn about her in detail? Does she mean taking notes of what she does?'

Aiden just couldn't understand the meaning of what she had just said.

But he just nodded, acting like he did.

"Wait, wait, wait, why are you acting all depressed over living with me?" she said as she looked hurt by the words he had last used.

"Do you really think that I'm that much of an annoying person?" she said as her arms seemed to squeeze the top of her towel, which revealed her cleavage even more.

This action immediately brought Aiden's eye over to her melon area.

"Mom, Mom, look, he is doing it again. He's lusting over my body."

It seemed that her reaction was a ploy to make Aiden look like a pervert once again.

"Alright, stop with your act, Emma, and go put on some clothes, goddammit. I know that you don't like it, but he doesn't either, alright. I was the one who made this choice, and you are going to respect it. Am I clear?" said Maelis raising the tone of her voice and using her pressure across the room.

It seemed that Emma's actions had angered Maelis for real this time.

"I'm sorry about her, don't worry I'm sure she'll open up to you soon enough," said Maelis as she started leaving the room after saying what she had to say.

"Alright, good luck you two and Aiden, don't worry about what you asked they will soon arrive," she said as she opened the door and left the room leaving Aiden and Emma completely alone.

One was half-naked and the other wearing clothes, if anyone entered who knew what would be going through their minds seeing both of them?

"Wait here and don't move. I'm going to put some clothes on," said Emma as she headed toward her bedroom.

A few seconds later, Emma came out of her room with the black uniform that she had worn earlier today when doing the parkour challenge.

"So, I guess that we need to set some boundaries between each other; what do you think?" said Emma as she looked at Aiden, who didn't seem to even care about what she was going to say.

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

Chapter 75 - 75: Sparring with Emma

After Emma showed Aiden where he would live, eat, and shower. It seemed like everything was set for Aiden to actually live inside this place.

The room was actually the same one as Emma's, as she basically had enough space for two beds to fit inside it.

It was decided that they would both prepare their food as Emma specially mentioned that she didn't want to rely on Aiden for anything.

And showering... well, it was quite simple. They would both go one at a time.

Then, Aiden was all set to live in this new environment. He wasn't sad for a single second as his old one was simply garbage compared to this one.

He didn't have a shower in his old place, can you imagine?

Then, he decided to go to sleep to prepare for tomorrow.

The next day, Aiden woke up, and Emma was still sleeping peacefully as he could see her chest going up and down.

Aiden had actually constituted a plan inside his head today.

He would first head toward the training ground as he would be training for the whole month as he wanted to be in his best shape for the tournament.

That was basically his whole plan for the day and for the whole month.

He basically didn't have anything to do for the day except training.

His demands for joining the family would soon arrive, which would occupy him for a little, but he had nothing else.

However, just before he left, he quickly called his [Status] to see what was happening with his next trial.

Would he have to be summoned like the others or something similar?

He opened it and moved his eyes down, wanting to see what was written.

[You can access the Third Trial when you are ready.]

It seemed like he wouldn't be summoned randomly anymore.

After taking note of this, he quickly left for the training grounds leaving the sleeping Emma back in her room.

But as he opened to leave the room, her voice resounded from right behind him.

It seemed she had just woken up as her eyes looked sleepy as if she would fall asleep at any moment.

"Where are you going?" she asked in a sleepy voice.

Aiden, not wanting to waste time, answered rudely. "The Training Grounds."

"That's it?" she asked as if wanting for him to explain more about his plan.

"Yes, I'm going to the Training Grounds," he repeated.

"What are you going to do over there?"

"Isn't it obvious overtake your first place in the rest of the challenges." teased Aiden smiling when he saw the face Emma was making.

Emma wasn't happy hearing him say this as she knew that he could possibly do it.

She didn't know the full extent of his abilities, and that worried her a lot. She didn't know the things where he excelled at.

Well, except for his really good movement, which she had already seen.

"Don't you want to fight me? See who's the best between us?" she asked, almost sure that Aiden wasn't going to refuse.

Some silence remained in the air as Emma waited for his answer.

'Why would he even say no, ahaha?' she thought as no reasons for refusal came to her mind.

"Umm, no, I don't think that's necessary."

Shock then appeared on the sleepy face of Emma which suddenly seemed to wake up.

"Why? Why wouldn't you fight me? I'm the most talented in the family?" she asked, not understanding why he would make such a decision as easily.

"It's quite simple, actually. It's simply a waste of time. What would I even gain fighting you?" he said emotionlessly.

"What you can gain?! Is that why you're refusing? Then, the winner of our fight has the right to ask anything from the other person."

'Surely, this will be enough to convince him.'

The reward for the result of the spar was quite high, but neither Emma nor Aiden thought that they were going to lose.

After all, this whole conversation was a ploy made by Aiden as he actually wanted to fight her since he had first arrived here.

He wanted to know what the top talent of a middle-level academy would be like.

"Sure, are we going to do it now?" asked Aiden, making sure that Emma saw how he looked at her.

"Stop looking at me like that. Just let me change and head toward the training grounds," she said quickly, heading back inside her room.

A few moments later, she came out as a new person with her usual clothes, a black training kit which, as always, accentuated her curves.

"Let's go. I'll show who's the best between us," she said as she went right past him, not caring about the usual looks he was giving her.

'It's funny seeing her getting angry,' he thought, not realizing that the reason that he kept watching her melons was to tease her and annoy her.

He didn't realize it yet, but he actually liked her attitude.

Then, Aiden followed right behind her.

Arriving at the training grounds, Aiden continued following Emma as she seemed to know exactly where to go for the both of them to spar.

As they walked, Aiden noticed that there wasn't anyone training.

'Maybe they're sleeping, weird. I don't think it's that early,' he thought as he looked at the time.

It was written clearly that it was 4 AM.

But that wasn't early at all for Aiden, as he was used to waking up a lot earlier in his past life.

Looking back in front of him, he saw Emma entering a room and telling him to enter.

After entering, multiple beeping sounds could be heard inside Aiden's mind.

BEEP

BEEP

BEEP

[You have entered a sparring room.]

[You cannot die inside this place.]

[The reward for the victor of the spar can be decided beforehand.]

"So, are we doing this?" she asked, her attitude from earlier completely changing as she seemed serious this time.

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

Chapter 76 - 76: Sparring with Emma [Part 2]

Entering the room, the tension seemed to be rising as both Emma and Aiden started looking at each other.

"I don't think we need to set up a reward for the winner; our word is enough," she said, believing that Aiden was a man of his word.

He didn't seem like the type of guy to trick others after all.

From a single glance, it was quite obvious that he was simple-minded, not able to think too far ahead.

But that was far from the truth.

The reason why he looked simple and dumb was his constant emotionless face that made him look this way.

"Sure, but can we kill each other in here?" asked Aiden as he had seen earlier a message that said that they couldn't die at all in here.

"This place is a little special, as you probably know it's a reward from the higher trials and it's quite valuable as it lets the people inside of it do life and death battles without the risk of actually dying."

"So, be happy that you won't actually experience death by my hands?" she said as her kind of friend from earlier completely vanished from her.

She seemed fully focused on the task ahead of her; she only had one thought inside her mind, and it was to win against him.

Winning might not seem like a big deal to Aiden but it was to her as it would determine who is the strongest in the Everheart family.

She needed to know not only her but everyone inside of the family that she was the most talented youngster and that some random kid from the Slums couldn't dethrone her.

"So, are we doing this?" she said as she was now battle-focused.

Aiden was concentrated as much as her, but he simply wanted a good fight between the two of them.

On one hand, he wanted to learn more about her.

Her class, her skills, her talent, all those things interested Aiden deeply.

The second thing that interested him was how strong a talented young awakener actually was, as he hadn't been able to compare himself to anyone since he had arrived in Nova.

He also hadn't been able to have a real fight where he would have to use his skills.

It was now time to prove to himself that he had talent and that his second chance at life wasn't for nothing.

'Let's do this,' said Aiden to himself, encouraging himself as he nodded toward Emma.

Then, Emma seemed to press something in her system as a countdown appeared right in front of Aiden.

[3]

[2]

[1]

[The sparring has now started.]

As that message appeared, the white room in which they were completely changed as they were now in a completely different area. There were trees all around them, almost as if they were inside of a forest.

The length of the room also changed as it got a lot bigger, creating a real arena where both of them could fight to the death, well, to fake death.

As Aiden read the last message, he immediately launched forward toward Emma, not giving her any time to prepare herself.

But she didn't need time to prepare as she had been ready since the beginning.

She quickly started going away from Aiden as she got a weapon out of nowhere.

'Where did that bow come from?' thought Aiden as he just couldn't understand what happened.

But he didn't have time to concentrate on that, it seemed like Emma was a archer or some type of long-range class.

'Perfect, an assassin like me shouldn't have a problem taking her out,' thought Aiden, as it was common knowledge that long-range attackers were naturally weak against close-range people.

This knowledge was obviously known to both Aiden and Emma.

'Shit he has a dagger, what the hell is my luck,' she thought instantly seeing the red and black dagger Aiden was using.

Then after gaining some distance with Aiden, Emma decided to gain some height using the environment as her advantage as she jumped up a tree.

This jump of hers was obviously way higher than a normal person could achieve.

She was awakened after all.

Then, as she landed on a branch of the tree, she charged an arrow inside her bow.

The arrow changed color as she kept pulling it back.

It started as a green color until it became yellow and then completely red.

When the arrow turned in a red color, Emma instantly released it toward Aiden.

The arrow flew at a speed that wasn't humanly possible to react to, but Aiden wasn't normal either.

He wasn't the number ranked in the Parkour Challenge for nothing.

He naturally dodged it as he went to his left, hiding behind a tree.

Bang

It seemed like the arrow had hit its mark, the tree where Aiden was hiding.

Her prediction of where Aiden would go was simply incredible, and this precision was surely only attained with a lot of practice.

But as Aiden thought that he was safe, the tree which he was hiding behind started poking at him a little.

Feeling some pressure in his lower back, he quickly looked behind him, and what he saw shocked him.

The arrow which Emma had shot wasn't normal at all, it had gone through the whole tree.

Yes, it had slowed, only poking Aiden a little, but it was still a massive achievement.

The red arrow was probably the cause of this, but Aiden couldn't be sure of what she had done to it.

But his first thought was obviously that it was a skill of hers, as pure strength simply couldn't have such a result.

His quick analysis told him that it was a skill that accentuated the speed and penetration of the arrow she was using.

If she was able to use it a lot, then it would surely become a problem.

Knowing that he had no other choice when seeing that skill. He decided to take this fight seriously as a red aura seemed to come off his body.

He had activated [Mind of an Assassin].

Hurt her.

Kill her.

None of that mattered anymore.

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

- Chapter 77 - 77: Sparring With Emma [Part 3]

Chapter 77 - 77: Sparring With Emma [Part 3]

Killing her didn't seem so bad anymore; even if she died, it wouldn't even be real.

It would be a fake death.

Knowing this, he activated [Mind of an Assassin].

His red aura was coming off from both sides of the tree, and he was immediately seen by Emma.

This was quite an easy feat for her since she had trained from a young age to perceive clearly even from a long distance.

She needed to have this much talent if she wanted to be equal to Aiden.

'What is that energy coming off of him?' she thought, not knowing what was happening.

Not knowing what to do, she drew another arrow which once again changed color to red.

'I have to be careful; this skill uses one point of mana, and I have 25,' she thought, knowing that she just couldn't continue to use those special arrows for a long time.

Then, the figure of Aiden, enveloped in that red aura, appeared on the right side of the tree.

But, Emma quickly noticed that he wasn't even trying to find where she was, he was looking in front of him not caring about anything else.

Noticing that he seemed distracted, she shot a normal arrow aiming directly at its head.

She didn't use the mana-boosted one as she wanted to keep some mana for other skills of hers that would demand more of it.

She saw the arrow coming closer and closer to his head as Aiden still didn't move.

It would only take less than a second before it would hit him.

'Is he alright? Why isn't he moving?' she thought, finding it weird that he would suddenly not move for more than fifteen seconds.

Fifteen seconds might seem short, but a lot can happen in that time.

For example, an arrow going directly into your head.

But when the arrow was about to hit its target, the body of Aiden simply took a step to the left evading the arrow with precise movement.

'How? How did he do such a thing? He didn't even look at it,' she complained to herself inside her mind as the movements he just pulled didn't make any sense.

After evading the arrow, Aiden slowly raised his head and seemed to have spotted the spot in which Emma was hiding.

He had found the tree and the branch on which she was.

'How can he be so fast?' she thought as Aiden started moving at a much faster pace than her own.

He was slowly getting closer and closer to her. He was only 70 meters or so behind her.

Having no other choice, she quickly accelerated using one of her skills which made her gain 75% of her current speed.

By using this skill, she distanced herself from Aiden again as she turned again, charging one of her arrows.

It turned red, and she then released toward Aiden once again, aiming for his head.

Aiden was still not looking at it, but he dodged it by simply moving his head to the right this time.

'Again, but how? Is it because of this aura around him?'

Her thoughts were quite normal as Aiden seemed to change ever since this red aura of his appeared around him as if he following the movements of someone else.

'I need to find a way to make that aura disappear,' she thought instantly, trying to find a solution to this problem of hers.

She wanted his aura to disappear because if the fight continued like this, she would lose, and by a large margin at that.

But how could she stop that aura from enveloping him?

'The aura seems to come from inside his body, from within him,' she quickly analyzed, looking at Aiden.

'Wait, within him? Yes, that's it,' she said to herself as she seemed to have found something to stop the strongest skill of Aiden.

After thinking that, the bow in her hand changed to an even bigger one with white and gold lines intertwined inside of it.

This bow seemed to be of much higher quality than the one she had used before.

'Alright, just like you practiced,' she said, encouraging herself.

Then, a little blue ball seemed to come out of Emma's hand as it seemed to form some type of arrow.

It looked like she was trying to create an arrow purely out of mana.

The little blue balls seemed to start to form the shape of an arrow, just like she wanted.

It seemed ready to be used as she grabbed it, once again looking at Aiden, who was still quite far away from her.

Giving her the time to aim correctly at Aiden, make sure not to miss this time.

Then, she released the arrow, aiming straight toward Aiden, who was still running at full speed toward who knew where.

'Please hit, please,' she kept thinking as she knew that he could dodge it at the last moment.

The arrow was getting closer and closer.

It was now one meter away from Aiden's face, still moving really fast.

Aiden did not have even half a second left to dodge it.

As Emma was holding her breath, scared of what was going to happen, the mana arrow seemed to enter the body of Aiden, not damaging his exterior physique.

It seemed like the mana arrow only attacked his insides which was exactly what she wanted.

'What happened? How did I get hit? My shadow didn't even move. Did it not see what hit us?' Aiden thought, confused, that [Mind of an Assassin] had a flaw.

And this flaw cost him, as pain overwhelmed his body in its entirety.

It seemed like this attack based on mana had been completely missed by the [Mind of an Assassin] skill which resulted in him being hit.

'I shouldn't fully trust it next time I use it,' said Aiden to himself as the red aura that came off his body started to vanish a little.

Seeing this, Emma was obviously overjoyed as she had succeeded in making that aura of his disappear.

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

Chapter 78 - 78: Sparring with Emma [Part 4]

[Your skill <Mind of an Assassin> has been forcefully deactivated.]

This was the result of being hit by the arrow created solely of mana.

It seemed like the arrow Emma had launched wasn't a normal one, as Aiden could only feel pain from his insides.

'What the hell just hit me?' he thought, confused, reading the message from the system.

'Can she deactivate any skill that she wants?'

However, if that was one of the power of that arrow, it wouldn't matter much against an opponent like Aiden, as he rarely even used skills.

'Shit, another arrow,' he thought, seeing something at a fast speed toward him.

It seemed to be a normal one this time as Aiden could perceive it easily, dodging it by doing a quick step to his right.

Then, Aiden looked up and started searching for where that arrow had come from.

He needed to have an idea of where she was before acting and moving around.

He needed to plan how to get rid of her.

Then, as he continued thinking, another arrow aimed at his head came out on his upper left, flying down at a high speed.

He didn't even concentrate on the arrow as he simply dashed forward in the general direction of where the arrow had come from.

After all, it wasn't simple to spot someone who was hiding in one of the multiple trees of this forest.

Sure, Aiden had the match-up in terms of being close-range and her long-range.

But the environment of this fight clearly favored Emma as she could hide herself easily, always changing spots without being noticed.

Aiden running was still looking up trying to see a glimpse of her but without success.

'I need a change of plans. This simply isn't going to work. I can't even spot her,' he thought, looking around himself.

As he started thinking about another plan, another arrow came toward him but this time from his right.

It seemed like Emma had gotten enough time to go around the other side in that small amount of time.

She clearly wasn't second in the parkour challenge for nothing, it seemed.

'I need to be faster than her just like earlier,' Aiden thought as he remembered that he was close to catching her earlier, but then she accelerated like crazy out of nowhere.

But he noticed that she was panting a little after accelerating like that.

His decision was made. He needed to increase the speed at which he was going right now.

That was basically his only solution, as he didn't have time to find anything else.

He was in a fight to the death right now, so he couldn't sit down and think about a better alternative.

Then, he decided that he would also go on one of the trees that surrounded them, making him harder to spot and hit.

As he landed on one of the branches that were close to where Emma had shot her arrow the last time.

He saw what seemed to be a black figure jumping from one tree to another without losing any time in doing so.

She was minimizing her movements to the utmost, trying to reduce the chances of Aiden catching up to her.

But it was simply the inevitable.

Finding her, he didn't lose any time and also jumped from one tree to another.

But there was one thing that was different between the two of them.

The time that Emma took to jump to another tree, well... it was the time that Aiden took to jump two.

It was only a matter of time before Aiden would catch up to her.

Sometimes, Emma quickly turned her body and shot an arrow at Aiden, but when doing so, she lost her momentum and made Aiden catch up to her even faster.

Those arrows sent by Emma would also need to be dodged by Aiden, which caused him to slow down.

But after some time, Aiden was once again at a distance where he could try to strike at Emma.

She was still a bit far from him, but striking should be possible.

'Is she going to use her skill again?' he thought, already expecting her to do so.

But she didn't do anything of the sort, she turned around getting another weapon out of nowhere.

Aiden couldn't help but be amazed at how she got things in her hand out of nowhere every time.

She now had another weapon in her hands, which wasn't a bow or anything of the sort.

It was a dagger, just like the one Aiden was using.

'Is she stupid? Does she think she can beat me with a dagger?'

However, Emma couldn't have known that Aiden was a past assassin who had trained how to get better and better with a dagger especially.

Then, another type of fight started.

It was the fight of an expert against a beginner.

The moves she was executing weren't bad at all, and she had clearly practiced using a dagger before.

But it couldn't match the experience Aiden had with the weapon, having spent years practicing with it.

Aiden could literally see through all her moves.

'Fuck, what can I do now?' Emma thought as she kept trying to attack Aiden as much as he could not letting him the chance to land a hit on her.

Because she knew from the way he was handling her attacks that if she slowed even for a millisecond then she would lose.

'Do I really need to use that skill again?' she asked herself as she knew that her acceleration speed came at a great cost.

That skill of hers which made her go a lot faster than she would normally would cost 10 Mana Points, which was almost half of her total reserves.

She knew that if she used it now, she wouldn't have any mana left for the rest of the fight as she would have used it all.

'But if I do use it, what else can I do? It's too easy for him.'

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

Chapter 79 - 79: Family Technique

'Should I use that?' she thought, still debating whether or not to flee with her skill.

'Yeah, if I can't beat him using this, then what else can I even do.'

As she was thinking that, she was still sending a lot of attacks toward Aiden who was calmly defending them as he was a lot more experimented than her.

His dagger was moving exactly to the spot where her attacks would be deflected by only a little.

If someone was watching this scene, they would simply be amazed by the talent proposed by those two.

Then, realizing that she had no other choice but to use that, she turned around and started running with her skill activated which rendered her mana capacity to a complete zero.

She wouldn't be able to use any skill that used mana.

But she already knew all of that, so why did she still decide to go ahead and run away from Aiden?

What could she possibly do to defeat him?

After gaining some distance because of her movement skills, she looked right behind her to see how much time she had.

Looking at the distance between the two of them, Emma seemed to have at least 30 seconds before Aiden caught up to her.

Knowing that time was of the essence, she closed her eyes, making sure she remembered everything correctly.

"I draw my bow, then I use the energy that surrounds me, then..." she whispered in a weak tone.

Telling herself the steps to pull this off made her find some confidence.

She then applied everything that she had just thought of.

She started by drawing her bow without an arrow inside of it. Only the string was pulled back.

She then closed her eyes, which instantly caused a shift in the environment.

He had such a huge effect that even Aiden, who was quite far away from her, felt it.

'Why is the wind going in that direction,' he thought, feeling the wind coursing through him.

Her hair started to fly around because of the sudden arrival of the wind that surrounded them.

But that wasn't all, water and rocks also started to be pulled around condensing around the area where the string was pulled.

All those things started to form an arrow, which wasn't solid, constantly moving around as making it completely solid was really considering where the elements came from.

But the best thing about what she had just used was that this arrow had more power than anything she could even imagine to muster.

And the funny part.

Well, it didn't even consume mana to use.

However, the reason why he hadn't used it yet is because of its complexity.

It might have seemed easy from the point of view of someone on the outside, but the concentration needed to pull this off wasn't a joke.

The more concentrated you are, the more the elements you are attracted to you which in a result creates an even bigger attack.

What she had just done wasn't something random that she created on the spot. It was the technique of the Everheart family.

A technique that she had taken years to learn, even with her talent.

A technique that would be able to defeat Aiden.

Seeing the amount of energy her bow was amassing, she continued and continued to gather it, making sure that there would simply be no way for Aiden to dodge or protect himself.

When Aiden was close enough, she released the string of her bow, and a massive boom sound was heard.

BOOM

This sound came from the wind that she gathered.

But that wasn't all.

The rocks, which were also mixed with wind, started to move at a fast pace toward Aiden, and not only that, but they were everywhere.

There was literally no way for Aiden to dodge that attack.

Even if he hid behind a tree, then it wouldn't do anything as the wind with the rocks would simply go through it.

'Am I really going to lose?' thought Aiden having no idea of what to do.

Even with the movement technique that he had developed in his past life, he simply couldn't do anything to survive this attack.

He could feel it; this was dangerous, and if he didn't dodge, then he would die and lose this fight, owing a favor to Emma.

'Then, I guess that's it. I wonder how death will feel this time,' Aiden thought, knowing that there wasn't any danger of dying inside this place, just like Emma had said earlier.

The rock and the wind started going through his body, not even slowing down as they simply went through him, not even losing any momentum.

The pain was felt by Aiden, but he wasn't much compared to when he had last died at the hands of Jack.

Then, a single rock penetrated the forehead of Aiden killing him on the spot.

For a split second, he felt devoid of anything, as if he was the definition of useless.

'What did I even do in both of my lives?' he thought as questions kept popping up in his head, questioning his very existence.

This split second might have been short, but it had been an eternity for Aiden.

But his mind immediately went back to the situation at hand when he heard Emma's voice.

"Seems like you lost to me after all," she said smiling proudly.

"Congrats, but I have a question: what the hell was that final attack of yours?" said Aiden, intrigued as her last attack was the only reason why he had lost to her.

"Oh, that. Well, the Everheart technique," she said as if it was common knowledge.

"You don't know of it? Weird I thought for sure, that Mom would have given access to you," she said confused by the development of the conversation.

"Don't worry, she promised me that she would show it to me. I guess she just wants to give my rewards all at the same time."

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

Chapter 80 - 80: The Family Technique [Part 2]

'So, a technique is really that strong,' thought Aiden, falling into his thoughts, not caring about his surroundings.

'But it doesn't fit me at all; it looks like a bow is needed to use it; I'll need to see how it works as I still don't know if I can make use of it,' he thought, not sure if he wanted to learn how to use another weapon.

He was, after all, used to the dagger and had a lot of experience, but if he came to getting stronger by learning how to use a bow, then he would absolutely do it.

He knew that the way to be respected and not betrayed was to be the strongest.

Because the strongest person or most influential person in the world is always the one who determines the rules of the world.

That's what he wanted to aim for, he wanted to be strongest determining how others lived under his rule.

"And for this technique of yours, is a bow needed for it?" he asked, wanting to make sure that his assumptions were correct.

"Well, yes, or any long-range weapon, but the bow is probably the best one you can choose."

'So without a bow, I wouldn't be able to use that kind of technique at all,' he thought, realizing that maybe joining this family wasn't that great of an idea.

He now understood how strong and essential the techniques that families had were.

At the Inter-Family Tournament, it was almost certain that everyone participating would have access to one since the participants were usually nurtured from a young age.

If Aiden was the only one without access to one, then he would surely have problems competing against others.

He also knew that he would be one of the people who would be determined the weakest if they based it on stats alone.

He had, after all, only completed two trials, making him level 14.

But those who had awakened since they were young clearly had the advantage.

'Should I learn the bow? Is that really my only choice to have a better shot at the tournament?' he thought, having no other choice if he wanted to have a technique for the tournament that was a month from now.

'Emma did say that he took her years to learn,' he thought, unsure if he was going to pull it off.

Then, he looked up in front of him and saw the face of Emma right in front of him.

"Woah, you really were focused; what are you even thinking about?" she asked, seeing that since earlier, he had been complete except when he asked that question.

She was so close that her boobs touched Aiden's body a little bit.

But when she saw that he started moving, she quickly backed off from him, not wanting him to notice.

Aiden did notice, but he didn't mind as he was about to request something from Emma.

"Umm, Emma."

"Yes... Aiden?" she asked, unsure of what was going on.

"I know that you won the fight and all, but let's say that I asked something out of you. Would you be fine with it?" he asked before quickly adding. "and let's say that this something would be beneficial for both of us."

"What is it?" she asked, curious that Aiden was this serious about something.

"What do you say that you teach me how to use a bow and that I teach you how to use a dagger better?" he asked, looking carefully at her, noting all of her reactions.

She was clearly surprised, but she quickly calmed down. "So you want my help, huh?" she said smiling that Aiden was depending on her.

This request once again proved that she was the best and the most talented.

"Sure, but for me to accept, you will need to say something," she said, smiling even more.

"Why? It benefits both of us, shouldn't you just agree," said Aiden, not sure what she would be asking him of.

"Don't worry, I'll accept your offer if you say those exact words," she said, giggling a little. "Emma Everheart is the best, and I will never surpass her."

'She only wants me to say this, but why?' Aiden thought, not understanding why she would go to such lengths to feel like she was the best.

'Does she want acceptance that much? Guess it doesn't really matter. I'll just say it and be done with it,' he thought, not understanding how someone would reach that need of acceptance.

"Sure, I'll say it if that's what it takes," he said, noticing that Emma was giggling as she watched him do as she said.

Her behavior from before the fight was gone and replaced by a more casual and happy Emma who lost all seriousness around her.

"Emma Everheart is the best, and I will never surpass her."

"Haha! You really said it, so how does it feel to be weaker than me?" She said, getting closer to Aiden without even realizing it.

"Well, if I'm being honest, I don't really care that much about it. It's just words. My future actions will simply prove that I'm better than you."

"You're no fun. Why can't you be sad over losing against me," said Emma, realizing that he didn't mind what he had asked of him at all.

She found it weird because it seemed like Aiden didn't have any type of an ego, which was clearly different from the other young awakened that she had met before him.

Those talented people always thought of themselves as the best they were. They also all had an extremely big ego over their head.

If one of them had been asked to say such a thing, they would probably have refused, but Aiden didn't even hesitate, as if all of this didn't even matter and was only in his way.

"You're a weird one Aiden," she said, noticing all the differences he had from the other people she had met before.

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