Thief 481

Eternal Thief

Chapter 481: Misleading Everyone

Ace witnessed everything from a corner and couldn't help but smile wryly, 'That woman! I told her to leave but she clearly had some other ideas. Although that demon tells the truth, they won't believe him so easily and leave this place.

'Now they'll probably soul search him to find if he's telling the truth or not. I just hope she didn't leave such a loophole, or my mission will become cumbersome.'

In the end, Ace still continue and followed the first-floor manager's group toward the second floor.

The customers didn't leave nor get back to whatever they were doing, instead; they waited and see if this was true or not. Some impatient ones quickly left toward the evil blade clan estate to confirm with their own eyes.

This also gave Ace some pressure because if they startled Gatlin, he might sense something amiss and directly head here.

Although Freya's plan was good, it also gave Ace a feeling of urgency.

On the second floor, the interior was the same as the first floor, or slightly lavish.

Ace noticed an old alchemist was waiting for the first-floor manager with a gloomy expression.

'Well, they're distracted at least.' Ace's lips curled as he sneakily dodged that group and headed toward the treasury.

The Second-Floor Manager gravely looked at the First Floor Manager and the spooked demon and said, "Go back, I'll take him to the first protector."

The First-Floor Manager seemed reluctant since he also wanted to know if this was true or not, but it seemed he had to wait like everyone else. So, he nodded and handed over the demon to the Second-Floor Manager, and headed back.

While the Second Floor Manager take the spooked demon toward the third floor where the first protector lived, Ace was already inside the hidden corridor and successfully opened the second treasury.

The treasury was the same as the first floor's and it was all filled with storage rings.

Ace took them with no pause.

The system's voice sounded again after he empty the entire treasury.

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[2nd Floor of the Target has been theft successfully!]

[Total Rewards: 1,000,000 TP]

[Thief Point(s): 32,842,100]

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Ace took a sneak peek in those storage rings he had just theft.

'They're all Grade-1? Which means on the third, fourth, and fifth floor, they're probably treasuries for Grade-2, Grade-3, and Grade-4?' He thought while he left the treasury space.

There wasn't anyone outside as well, so this one also goes smoothly and he headed toward the third floor.

However, he noticed, when he reached the third floor, that it was without any customers and there was a massive counter in the center and some alchemists were standing behind that counter.

Although the interior was different, he had completely remembered the treasure blueprint, so he knows the hidden meeting room was behind that counter.

However, before he could spring into action, that door opened and the Second Floor Manager exited with a middle-aged demon who had a dignified aura and sharp silver eyes.

The demon who caused the commotion was nowhere to be seen. He was probably dead after a soul search or wasn't sane anymore.

Nevertheless, from the grave expression on both demons' faces, it was apparent that they weren't happy.

'Don't tell me she really left such a loophole?' Ace grimaced.

However, to his surprise, that middle-aged demon took out an array plate, activated it, and spoke. His voice rang in every part of the treasure pagoda.

"Every association member heeds my command. The evildoer Sky Stealer tried to steal from our life grandmaster but failed. Now, he's entrapped in the evil blade demon estate, head there and help in the search for that villain!

"Any volunteer will be rewarded if they help the association this time in getting rid of this menace from our land!"

This announcement caused a tremendous commotion and everyone headed toward the evil demon blade estate in a hurry to get their hands on the thief and claim the reward from the royal council and life demon association.

In contrast, Ace was completely baffled by this announcement. They had completely hidden the fact that Gatlin was robbed of his storage ring by him.

But on second thought, he felt Freya probably used that demon to observe the barrier from a distance and then sent it here to cause distraction. Which she succeeded in.

The demon looked at the Second Floor Manager and gravely said, "Lead your floor staff and third-floor staff there as well. I'm going to the Guild. That demon didn't go there first, which means they had no idea what happened. We need the Life Masters and all the help we can get to find that thief!"

The Second Floor Manager nodded and quickly left with the other demons on the second floor.

The demon with the array used it again, but this time it wasn't connected with the whole tower.

"Is it true?"

Four different voices of demons sounded in unison, with a hint of anxiety and bewilderment.

"Yes, I used soul search and he experienced some of the events that happened as well as he heard Grandmaster's outrageous voice." His expression went clouded at this moment. "The situation is graver, and we had to find that thief no matter what, or the association might hang us all to protect its reputation!"

"It's that grave?!" a woman's voice sounded.

"I'm afraid, yes. Seal the pagoda. I'm going to the guild to alert the Life Masters. This is going to be a very long night. Sigh..."

With that, he cut the connection and headed toward the life demon guild, which was a few hundred meters away from the treasure pagoda.

Ace was elated with this development and silently wait in a corner. He waited for everyone to leave before he could start his theft spree.

A few moments later, he saw alchemists, rune crafters, and crafter smiths hurrying toward the first floor.

This process lasted for over fifteen minutes before he felt the formation on the treasure pagoda got active, and the entire pagoda went dark as all kinds of formations and arrays went active.

However, Ace had the core formation with him, so those arrays and formations didn't affect him.

'Since the first protector left, there are only four protectors left. They should be on floors 5, 10, 15, and 20. Which means I should first clean all the floors before focusing on the floors with protectors.' A thievish light shone in Ace's eyes as he quickly sprang into action.

He first headed toward the third floor's treasury.

Soon,

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[3rd Floor of the Target has been theft successfully!]

[Total Rewards: 5,000,000 TP]

[Thief Point(s): 37,842,100]

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Similarly.

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[4th Floor of the Target has been theft successfully!]

[Total Rewards: 7,000,000 TP] [6th Floor of the Target has been theft successfully!] [Total Rewards: 250,000 TP] [7th Floor of the Target has been theft successfully!] [Total Rewards: 1,000,000 TP] [8th Floor of the Target has been theft successfully!] [Total Rewards: 2,500,000 TP] [9th Floor of the Target has been theft successfully!] [Total Rewards: 5,000,000 TP] [11th Floor of the Target has been theft successfully!] [Total Rewards: 7500,000 TP] [12th Floor of the Target has been theft successfully!] [Total Rewards: 1,500,000 TP] [13th Floor of the Target has been theft successfully!] [Total Rewards: 3,000,000 TP] [14th Floor of the Target has been theft successfully!] [Total Rewards: 7,000,000 TP] [16th Floor of the Target has been theft successfully!] [Total Rewards: 1,000,000 TP] [17th Floor of the Target has been theft successfully!] [Total Rewards: 2,500,000 TP] [18th Floor of the Target has been theft successfully!] [Total Rewards: 4,000,000 TP] [19th Floor of the Target has been theft successfully!] [Total Rewards: 8,500,000 TP] [Thief Point(s): 81,842,100]

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Ace's eyes glow like the sun when he saw the total amount of TP he collected from sixteen floors and he was even tempted to give up the last four floors with four protectors. He had already got so much.

"Hey system, my mission is complete, right? Since I theft almost all the treasures, can I go now?"

But he still had to ask the system. Without its confirmation, he didn't dare to leave.

"[Without Twenty Treasuries, the mission will count as a fail!]"

"Why are so greedy?!" Ace cuss, but the system didn't bother to reply like always.

With a dark expression, he thought, 'Well, now that it comes to it, I have no other choice. I don't know how much time I have left before they figured it out!'

Ace directly headed toward the 20th floor, since he was now closest to it.

This floor was the most guarded because all the high-grade talismans and runic treasures were here. Furthermore, the protector of this floor was a rune crafter as well, and he was on the same level as a Life Master!

Eternal Thief

Chapter 482: Just a Harmless Robbery

After the announcement of the fifth protector, all the protectors were alert and no longer in a cultivation state or in their secret chambers. They were all alert for the worst.

That's why it was now more difficult for Ace to enter the treasury room on their watch. The moment he opened any door, they will instantly know something was amiss!

Furthermore, the more time he spends in the treasure pagoda, the more he'll put himself at risk because it had already been over half an hour since that protector left and the other demons with him.

The evil demon estate wasn't far from here, so he had to finish his business before they came running here.

Ace slowly opened the locked door of the twentieth floor, while his eyes were affixed on a white fate point a few meters away and that demon in the main hall.

However, no matter how careful Ace was, the floor protector noticed the big door of the floor was open!

"Who?!" An aged, hoarse voice rang with a hint of astonishment, 'How can the locked door open by itself? Is the array malfunctioning?'

But he knew his thought was ridiculous because the Life Treasure Pagoda was well maintained and the arrays and formations were checked every week because they can't afford any mishap in this place.

"Sigh... and here I thought I could have done this thing with no hurdles." A helpless, bitter voice sounded before the door was completely opened, and a hooded figure walk nonchalantly inside.

Ace saw the old demon with dark orange skin and bullhorns sitting cross-legged not far away from the hidden room.

However, the moment Ace walked in, the old demon's golden eyeballs went wide with shock and trepidation.

He abruptly stood up and roared, "How did you get in here?!" He suddenly felt something and his expression went wide from aghast when he saw the dark hooded figure on his floor.

"Well, yes, this is a robbery, and I need you to step aside. I still have other..." Before Ace could ask 'nicely'.

"Presumptuous Trespasser, don't even think about leaving this place!' The old demon roared as he released his entire aura and took out a formation plate.

However, to his dismay, the formation plate in his won't activate the moment he pours Qi into it, and suddenly his eyes land on the shimmering formation plate in that hooded figure's hand.

His expression turned ashen as his voice stammered, "Y-y... you're that Sky Stealer?!" He instantly understood what was going on. They were all misled by this thief!

Ace chuckled with a hint of mockery, "So, you finally figured it out, but sadly, you won't get any prize. So, now wait here patiently while I do my business. There's no need to get hurt. This is just a harmless robbery."

Just as his voice trailed off, the First Protector's heart lurched, and thereafter the entire floor suddenly lit in the gray light before it engulfed the First Protector without giving him a chance to struggle!

"Y-you can't do this! There's still... time, back off and the Life Demon Association won't persuade this matter! But if you go through with it, you won't have any place on his continent anymore!" First Protector's face was twisted with fury and anxiety.

He knew this formation was made to block and restrain any soul realm cultivator like him, and now he was just a sitting duck. But he was more worried about what was going to happen next.

Even if Ace won't do anything to him, the association won't let this matter slip by and might make an example out of him or even use him and other demons involved in this blunder as a scapegoat to protect their reputation!

That's why he started to use threats that, as a matter of fact, were true.

However, Ace merely smiled coldly. He wasn't afraid of anyone in eight provinces right now, since no one was here. As long as was out of here, no one could find him.

"Just stay put. It won't take long, I promised." Ace guaranteed as if he was going the guy a favor.

He walked past him while the First Protector struggle furiously to break the restriction. But he knew the best how futile his efforts were.

"NOOO... bastard comeback... comeback!" He roared amok, but Ace was already long gone toward the treasury.

A few moments later, Ace's footsteps sounded again. He had a content smile on his face as he glanced at the notification.

=====

[20th Floor of the Target has been theft successfully!]

[Total Rewards: 10,000,000 TP]

[Thief Point(s): 91,842,100]

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However, on contract with Ace's content smile, the First Protector looked completely aghast and listless now, as if he was already dead.

Ace console, "Why are you gloomy? You just have to run. It's so simple. Anyway, farewell. It was nice robbing you." He sneered.

The First Protector howled as he watched Ace leave, "I WILL HUNT YOU DOWN... COUGH!" He spat blood the next moment.

The same scene played on the fifteenth floor soon after,

"Just a harmless robbery. No need to get physical."

"NOOOO!" The second protector howled like a dead dog.

Thereupon,

=====

[15th Floor of the Target has been theft successfully!]

[Total Rewards: 9,000,000 TP]

[Thief Point(s): 100,842,100]

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Thereupon, on the tenth floor,

"It's a harmless..."

"Evildoer, I cursed you to die to horrible death! I'll kill you, I'll kill you..." the demoness kept cursing with bloodshot eyes as Ace completely ignored her.

Soon,

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[10th Floor of the Target has been theft successfully!]

[Total Rewards: 8,500,000 TP]

[Thief Point(s): 109,342,100]

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The last floor master wasn't any new either, as he could only roar hysterically while restrained like a caged beast as Ace do his thing.

It didn't take long before,

=====

[5th Floor of the Target has been theft successfully!]

[Total Rewards: 9,500,000 TP]

[Thief Point(s): 118,842,100]

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However, with this last notification rang the mission completion notification as well, which Ace was eagerly waiting for all this time.

But he didn't have the time to check the rewards, since this wasn't the time or place. He quickly left toward the exit while those protectors were still restrained on their respective floors.

However, the moment he left the treasure pagoda in stealth, he heard the passing demons abruptly stop and hollered as they pointed toward the treasure pagoda as if they have seen a ghost.

Feeling something wasn't right, Ace couldn't help but look at the building as well, and his eyes widened with tremendous surprise.

There was a huge vertical dark owl symbol on the entire treasure pagoda as it glowed in those lights and with his name, there were two mocking words, 'I'm Here!'

"System, after this stunt, I'm afraid the entire Life Demon Association will turn every rock to search for me."

Ace couldn't help but complain, but the thrill in his eyes couldn't be clearer as he looked at this imposing thief symbol and name on the life demon treasure pagoda!

But he knew now he needed to flee this place even faster since the entire blade domain will soon know about this.

Without hesitation, he ran toward the exit. There wasn't anything here for him anymore.

While Ace was escaping, the news about the infamous thief symbol being printed on the life demon treasure pagoda soon reached the ears of big powers in the inner domain market.

One had to know the treasure pagoda was the tallest and most imposing building, except for the demon castle in the inner domain. So, the news traveled even faster.

However, the last place to find out about this colossal matter was going to be the Evil Blade, because they were still searching madly for the thief while the barrier was still active.

Gatlin burned down every probable location but still didn't find any trace of Ace, which made him almost faint from anger, but he didn't let them deactivate the barrier unless he was absolutely sure that the thief wasn't there.

After all, his entire wealth was on the line!

Over half an hour later after Ace stole Gatlin's storage ring.

An enormous group of demons suddenly emerged outside the barrier, and most of them were wearing different professional robes of the Life demon association.

Three old demons with grave expressions were leading this group. They were none other than two Life Masters and Fifth Protector who informed them twenty minutes ago.

Now, they were here to help and bring quite a force with them. Some of them were the customers who were present when that demon was there to 'seek help'.

"Evil Blade Demon Clan, open this barrier and let us in!" The Ruin Life Master used his Qi to make his voice hundreds of times louder.

Gatlin, who was still busy searching, was startled when he heard the familiar voice. 'Why are they here? How come the news gets out?!'

Eternal Thief

Chapter 483: A Hitch on the Road!

'Why are they here? How come the news gets out?!'

Restless, Gatlin quickly headed there, and when he saw the vast crowd outside the barrier and most of them were from the association.

Ridge also appeared with another wizened demon, this was the former patriarch of the Evil Blade Demon Clan and also Ridge's father, Melvin!

Melvin appeared soon after Ace stole Gatlin's storage and he had no choice but to help in any way he could because this thievery happened in their territory.

Although now everyone knew it was that thief who kidnapped Grandmaster's disciple to lure him here so he could steal his storage ring, the problem was a person in their clan was also involved!

Since Gatlin saw his face himself, he would naturally not let the Evil Blade Demon Clan off the hook if the thief managed to escape.

However, this situation rubbed both Melvin and Ridge in a bad way because no one had time to ask for reinforcement, nor did they want anyone to know about this since their reputation was on the line.

But somehow, these association members appeared, and they seemed to know what transpired here a couple of minutes ago. This was strange.

"Why are you here?!" Gatlin looked at three old demons with a stiff face, but he didn't let them open the barrier.

Alchemy Life Master, Samuel replied with a grave expression, "We received your order, Grandmaster, and we're here to capture the Evildoer Thief!"

Everyone shouted in agreement to show their high spirit.

"We won't let him get away this time!"

"You can leave everything to us, Grandmaster. I have already alerted the domain knights as well. They'll be here anytime now."

Ridge and Melvin's expressions fell as they looked at Gatlin.

But to their surprise, Gatlin's eyes were opened wide with trepidation.

Gatlin stammered, "I... I-I didn't give any order?! Who told you to leave your posts?!"

The Fifth Protector answered in befuddlement, "But I soul search myself and seen the scene..." however, his expression changed at this moment.

Although it was, he heard Gatlin's voice and saw the scene of this barrier manifesting. But he had never seen Gatlin asking for reinforcement because that demon simply couldn't take the soul search and his head explode.

But this much was enough to make Fifth Protector believed what that demon said was true and hurried over here.

However, now...

Gatlin's expression turned instantly aghast as if his heart was in his mouth.

He roared, "Open this barrier quickly. The Treasure Pagoda is in danger. Open it, damn it!"

The bystanders almost forget to breathe when they heard Gatlin!

The Runic Life Master, Kenny's expression, also turned, and he turned around as he howled, "Quickly go back, quickly!"

"Follow me!" Melvin's expression turned ashen as well. He quickly opened the barrier and also head toward the treasure pagoda at full speed!

'If this really was all planned, then the entire blade domain will suffer the wrath of Life Demon Association, and the King might even hand my clan to them to dodge this responsibility. I can't let this happen, no matter what!'

In ten minutes, those soul realm cultivators were now in the market area.

But soon everyone wobbled all of a sudden as their expression turned pale as they looked at the majestic pagoda in the distance.

There was a huge owl imprint on it as if they carved it recently and words that sends almost everything into despair. They knew what they were afraid of had happened!

"Hahahahahah..." Gatlin suddenly laughs hysterically, which was eerily to the bystanders.

"All over... everything is... over..."

These were the last words before Gatlin vomited a huge amount of blood and lose his footing as he fell backward.

"Grandmaster!"

Everyone panicked!

It was simply an upheaval for the entire inner blade domain!

Ace was still in the outer blade domain at this moment and wasn't far from the exit gates which led to the shadow mountain range.

Suddenly his footstep came to an abrupt halt and his heart almost jumped out of his chest when he saw a few figures fifty meters away from him.

Without even thinking, he leaped into a passing carriage.

"Who?" A demon's startled voice rang when the door of his carriage was abruptly opened but didn't see anyone until this voice, filled with chinless, sounded.

"If you speak, I'll kill, just stay silent!"

A dark pink skin demon appeared out of nowhere and sat right in front of him and surprisingly that demon witnessed the robe color of this newly emerged demon was still changing.

The copper skin demon instantly felt chill as he looked at this demon who had a meaningful smile on his face and he nodded with perspiration on his forehead. He had no choice in this matter.

The demon flushed out a wine bottle and glasses.

"Here, drink with me." He said, which was more like an order!

The demon was caught between tears and confusion.

Some figures suddenly pass the carriage, two of them looked at it with a hint of indecision.

"Did anyone notice a strange Qi undulation?" Dark Hole asked with narrowed eyes.

"I do. But it vanished all of a sudden." Killer replied.

The others looked confusedly at them, as they weren't as sensitive as these two toward the danger.

Dark Hole suddenly released his martial sense on the lavish green carriage, since that strange Qi undulation vanished around this carriage.

He only sensed two demons inside. One was a Qi river cultivator, while the other was a Qi foundation bundling realm and the Qi gate-level coachman.

"It was probably my imagination. Let's go. We need to alert everyone here." Dark hole found nothing, so he didn't persuade the matter since there was a more pressing matter for them to handle.

"Elders can go to the council, while we'll take a detour to the Life Demon Pagoda. I need to refill my soul pills, or everyone can go together. I promise you they won't hold back on us." The masked demoness invited.

Everyone's eyes brighten since they knew those stinky eccentrics wouldn't dare to ignore the direct order from this person!

"Then we have to thank Her Highness in advance!"

Inside the carriage, Ace sense them leave and couldn't help but sighed in massive relief, he nearly got exposed just now.

He had seen the Earth Demon King in that secret realm that day.

That's why he didn't dare to remain in stealth or they could've found him. He was extremely lucky only two of them notice, or things wouldn't have ended pleasantly for him.

'Did they manage to get rid of that thing? But they clearly seemed in a hurry and not everyone was present. Those three masked demons were even more mysterious. It was like they didn't exist in my soul sense even though they didn't use any kind of skill, maybe powerful treasures. Just who are they?

'Well, it matters not anymore, since I have completed my mission in time or I might've really been doomed this time; if I had waited for the association's reaction.'

Feeling solace, he finally looked at the demon who was looking at him while sweat was streaming all over his face.

Ace smiled in his disguise. "Thanks for your help. Here you can take this wine bottle, to show you my appreciation."

"N-No problem." The demon forced an ugly smile. He just wanted this guy out of here as soon as possible.

Ace nodded before he exited the carriage, and his face changed into another demon as he got mixed into the demons walking on the side path.

This time he didn't use any skill, afraid more demon kings might be coming soon.

But luckily no one appeared, and he exited the gate without any hitch.

Again, he changed into another demon face and put on his hood, and left toward the meeting place, where he told Freya to wait for him.

After half an hour,

Ace finally appeared in the forest. He wasn't in stealth, so anyone could see him.

Suddenly, a small bird flowed past him.

His lips curled and followed that bird and after walking for a mile inside the forest, he saw a familiar figure in a cloak.

"You shouldn't have pulled that symbol stunt on that building!" Freya's unhappy yet pleased voice rang.

She was naturally monitoring the treasure pagoda since Ace was gone there, but she was shocked the infamous symbol of Sky Stealer emerged on the entire pagoda!

She couldn't help but her own unique symbol as well after she witnessed the magnificent scene of demons noticing it in awe and fear.

Ace sighed helplessly, "You can complain to the goddess about it. Nevertheless, even without my thief symbol, they won't let this matter rest, will they?"

Freya giggled, "Well since all of this is over, released my reward!"

"I already did. Now let's go." Ace said he put his hand on her shoulder and sternly warn before he takes her to his thief's space, "I'm warning you don't touch things in my space and don't go anywhere close to that wall in the center or I'll throw you out!"

Eternal Thief

Chapter 484: Final Mission!

... don't go anywhere near that wall in the center or I'll throw you out!"

Freya frowned and retorted, "Hmph, what kind of person do you think I am?"

"Still, don't say I didn't warn you, alright?" Ace squinted his eyes with a hint of coldness. He clearly wasn't joking around.

"Fine." Freya didn't retort anymore and let him take her into the thief's space without any resistance.

She appeared in a corner where storage rings were placed in piles. It was her second time coming here.

She couldn't help but look around with great curiosity and she finally spotted the wall-like structure in the very center of this space.

'Just what is he hiding there?' Although she was curious, she didn't dare to test his bottom line. So, she took out a comfortable chair and sat down.

Ace observed Freya and was speechless when he saw that big chair she pulled out which look more like a bed. He shook his head wryly and stop paying attention since she wasn't going against his order.

He had already decided to head toward the mist domain to hide for the time being and also to see where the second ability of the Live Fate Map led him to.

He didn't forget about the Golden Black Arrow shape Compass Point, which continues to indicate in the Mist Domain Direction.

According to Moira, it can indicate the best direction where he should go to find the fortunate opportunity that will be most suitable for him, or it might be a thing that he needed the most!

Freya's main body will also meet him there so it was a plus.

Three hours later, the dawn was breaking and Ace was already miles away from the blade domain. So, he decided to rest and also see the rewards of his labor.

After making sure the area was safe, he finally opened the system interface with ecstasy.

[Chain Mission: 1] -Mission: I'm Back! -Status: Complete [Chain Mission: 2]

======

-Mission: I'm Here!

-Description: Steal the entire treasury of any King Domain Level Branch of Life Demon Association, Life Demon Treasure Pagoda!

-Status: Complete -Reward (1): 150,000 EXP & 150,000 SP -Reward (2): Random Pick Pocket Talisman -Reward (3): A Clue about Mind Stealing [Claim Reward/ Later] [Chain-Mission 3 has been unlocked: Continue?] ====== Ace's eyes widened slightly. 'So, the mission was unlocked soon after the second mission was complete?' He remembered the last time the second mission came a week later. "Give me the reward first," Ace ordered. ===== [Reward (1): 150,000 EXP & 150,000 SP has been added to the host's status] [Martial Cultivation: Heavenly Dark Sea [Stage-9]] [EXP: 5,120,000/10,000,000] [Soul Cultivation: Orange Wind Soul Core [Stage-9]] [SP: 5,120,000/10,000,000] [Elemental Orb: 0/1] [Reward (2): Random Pick Pocket Talisman has been transferred to the Living Thief's Space!] [Heavenly Talisman: Random Pick Pocket Talisman (Grade-8)] [Use: One Time] [Effect: Pick Pocket a random Grade-8 Treasure from the target.] [Reward (3): A Clue about Mind Stealing] -Claim? ======

Ace's eyes flashed when he saw the Random Pick Pocket Talisman's use, "System, just to make things clear, is this Heavenly Talisman will only pickpocket a grade-8 treasure, not lower or higher?"

"[Yes.]"

Ace couldn't help but smile in satisfaction. 'So, I have to find someone with a grade-8 treasure, huh? Not to talk about Grade-8, even Grade-7 Treasures are extremely rare, which means whoever had a Grade-8 treasure will not take it out easily. But the moment I get the wind of it, hehe...' he suddenly laughs thievishly.

He was very satisfied with this Heavenly Talisman, which will grant him a free grade-8 treasure.

'Let's see the mission. The last reward might need me to enter a deep cultivation state, which I don't need right now. I'm still in the enemy's territory,' Ace mused.

"Opened the third chain mission!"

======

[Mission: Want to Kill Me? Watch me Steal!]

-Synopsis: Someone had tried to kill the host with a High-Grade-7 Killing Formation and refined the host's blood. This is unacceptable!

-Mission Type: Chain Mission

[Chain Mission: Last Mission]

-Mission: Want to Kill Me? Watch me Steal!

-Condition (1): Infiltrate the Royal Demon Institute.

-Condition (2): Rob the Treasury of the Royal Demon Institute!

-Condition (3): Rob the Library of the Royal Demon Institute!

-Reward(s):

-Rewards of Completing (Condition 1):

1. 500,000 EXP & 500,000 SP

2. Thief's Vision

- 3. +1 Grade in Heaven's Stealer Dismantler Principles
- -Rewards of Completing (Condition 2):
- 1. 1,000,000 EXP & 1,000,000 SP
- 2. Soul Stealth Art

3. Fundamentals of Array Crafting (Grade-1 to Grade-3)

-Rewards of Completing (Condition 3):

1. 3,500,000 EXP & 3,500,000 SP

2. Absolute Pick Pocket

3. Three Intermediate Item Upgrade Tokens

-Thief House Members: Allow

-Time: 15 Years

-Punishment: The end of the mission!

=====

Ace's eyes were glued on the rewards and couldn't help but asked hastily, "System, if I completed the two conditions and failed to compete in the last condition, I can keep the rewards for the first two conditions, right?"

"[Yes.]"

Ace couldn't help but grin. "This is the first time you're been so generous to give me rewards in portions before I complete the entire mission. Hey, where is this Royal Demon Institute, by the way?"

"[The host has to find it out himself.]"

Ace grimaced as his eyes flashed with a sharp glint. 'I never heard of any Royal Demon Institute in the eight provinces. The system would also not give me these kinds of rewards, just rob a random place after I robbed the treasuries of treasure pagoda.'

Suddenly, he thought about the three Demon Institutes: 'Could it be this Royal Demon Institute is in one of those institutes in the royal zone?! Then how did the system know? Well, it'll be the least of my worries if this institute is really in the royal zone!'

Nevertheless, he still felt excited about the rewards he'll get after completing the first condition. Infiltrating their ranks should be a piece of cake for him.

But he won't underestimate the security level of this place if this place was really in the royal zone.

After resting for an hour, he embarked on his long journey again.

While Ace was heading toward the Mighty Mist Province,

The Inner Blade Domain was in turmoil after everyone find out about the theft of the entire treasure pagoda!

If High Elder Dark Hole and his companions hadn't appeared in time, the situation would be far worse than this.

Furthermore, it was a tremendous blow to the reputation of the Life Demon Association and a slap on the face of the Royal Demon Council and the Royal Zone.

Not only the High Elder and Demon Kings were furious, the most furious out of them were the three masked demons from the royal zone. Especially the first demon who appeared before the female demon.

When he saw the words, 'I'm Here, he couldn't help but roar in frustration, and his previous injuries break open.

The most frustrating thing for them was they didn't have time to deal with this issue because the corpse army and corpse king were still alive and if left alone for a long, there won't be a blade domain anymore.

Furthermore, most of them were still missing, including the Blade, Mist, Blood, Moon, Spear, Exalted, and four high elders including White Sword while the Council Minster was trapped in his own skill so he could buy time until someone from the royal zone arrived.

So, they also had to search for them and unite the strongest force of the eight provinces and hold on until the help arrived.

But they still can't let that thief get away after what he has done. It was a blunt provocation toward the authorities. So, they decided to use their full resources to capture that thief after they were done with the corpse army problem.

Inside a bright room, a masked demon was looking at the golden cube that was shimmering brightly.

A deep, imposing voice rang. "How is the situation?"

The demoness speaks in a gloomy tone, "Not good. Not only I didn't secure the inheritance, but that hateful animal released a corpse army upon the land. Council Minister is currently holding their general it back, but it won't last long..." She told everything that transpire in the ruin from the start to finish, "We need backup or this will not end well for the outer continent and might even threaten our position!"

"Even the council minister wasn't enough?" The imposing voice sounded astonished, before it solemnly ordered, "I'll send a Grand Demon Duke. It should solve the problem. Focus on tracking that beast. We need that inheritance, no matter what!"

The demoness replied in affirmation, "Alright."

But her voice turned gloomy again, "But we have another problem that might make the Life Demon Family furious this time."

"Oh? What is it? Who dare to provoke that hornet nest here?" that voice sounded amused and curious.

"It was that hateful Hex Demon Thief, he..." She told me about what happened to the life demon treasure pagoda a few hours ago.

"Hahahaha..." the voice suddenly laughed out loud in delight!

Eternal Thief

Chapter 485: Witch

The mist domain terranes were filled with a faint layer of mist all year long and it was chilly in here as the sunlight seldom reached this place.

But for those who were proficient in the art of stealth, these terranes were like their home ground. Just like a certain thief.

A month passed since Ace has left the Blade Domain.

He was already in the Mighty Mist Province, but he didn't go toward the Mist Domain. Instead, he continued to move in the North direction.

Because Freya's actual body was in the Misty Rain Forest, which was a borderline between Mist Province and Spear Province, it was also an excellent location for him to claim his last reward as well.

Furthermore, the Golden Black Compass Point was still pointed in the same direction, which means the Mist Province wasn't the last place.

Ace stopped in a remote place with a pond nearby.

"So, where is your main body? I'll be in the Misty Rain Forest in four days?" He sends his voice into the thief's space, where Freya was lazing around while eating translucent grapes.

His face darkened as he felt like a jockey who was carrying a young princess toward her castle.

Freya leisurely replied, "I don't know, the moment you put me here, I lost contact with her."

Speechless, he threw Freya out and looked at her. "Why didn't you say so?"

Freya frowned when she appeared outside and noticed the mist around, and then looked at Ace's dark expression.

She snorted, "I had already said I'll be there, so contact didn't matter. Besides, I can still feel my existence, so it doesn't matter if we had contact or not. But I have to say, that space of yours can cut out my connection with my actual body and I can't feel the location as well."

Ace helplessly said, "Now, where are you?"

Freya looked meaningfully at Ace before she looked around and then she replied, "Oh, I'm a day away from this place. But you are still four days away, so wait here. I'll come to you."

Ace nodded and then asked, "Fine. Do you know the condition of the blade domain after we left?"

Freya didn't reply and close her eyes for a while before she opened them as a hint of shock flashed past them.

She said in astonishment, "It seemed something big has happened in the eight provinces after we left. Some kind of corpse army is spreading between Blade and Moon province, and many noble demons are summoned to defend the borders."

Ace's eyes suddenly narrowed when he heard this. "What about the Demon Kings?"

Freya instantly noticed the change in Ace's reaction. "You knew something, don't you?"

"I only knew the corpse army originated from the same ruin where I was captured. But I knew someone who can tell me the entire story." Ace mysteriously simile.

"Who? I don't know how, but it seemed even the collective force of the eight demon provinces and the royal demon council weren't able to suppress that army. Just a week ago, the envoy from the royal zone summon wild demon kings as well." She told with a frown.

Ace was astounded. "How did you know?"

"Heh, do you think my reach is only in the eight provinces?" She looked disdainfully at him. "Anyhow, this matter seemed to be quite important, and they didn't want that corpse army to enter any province. Now tell me what is going on?"

"I'll tell the real you." He sighed. "But what about the demon kings of eight provinces?"

He had seen the Earth Demon King, Ghost Demon King, with the group of masked demons and two other unfamiliar demons, but he didn't see Blade Demon King that day.

Freya said with uncertainty, "There wasn't any information about them. But it seemed only Earth and Ghost Demon Kings were holding commands in Blade and Moon Provinces. It seemed they had suffered casualties, which they don't want to reveal."

Ace couldn't help but sighed, 'Even demon kings gone missing? What about Thomas and the others?' He was only concerned about Thomas.

Freya, on the contrary, was quite in a good mood, "It seemed the demons are going to suffer big this time. I wish they would lose all of their territories. Then let's see if they continue to be dominated as they were in the past, humph!"

Ace couldn't help but shook his head. "We don't know the true strength of demons. Their actual strength lies in the Royal Zone, even you weren't able to infiltrate that place despite your abilities."

Freya's elated expression darken as she coldly looked at him, "Are you on their side?"

Ace shrugged his shoulder. "I'm on your side, naturally. I'm just telling you the fact. I bet they had already asked the royal zone for reinforcement, and this thing will end quickly than both of us expected."

Freya didn't have words to rebut Ace because she knew the foundation of the demon race wasn't something anyone could shake. Not some corpses, at least.

"How about you tell me about this soul clone technique of yours? It is quite interesting, you can share everything between your body and this body." Ace changed the topic since he didn't want to upset Freya.

Freya looked meaningfully at Ace. "You can't use it."

Ace chuckled, "You told me you needed to retrieve it before you can re-cultivate? I didn't have time to ask about it that time, so tell me now?"

Freya thought a moment before she said, "This is a connate ability of my race, Witch's Avatar. I can split a part of my soul and then plant it into a fetus and make it my Witch's Avatar."

Ace frowned when he heard it. "So, this demon?"

Freya coldly said, "This body's real owner was the illegitimate daughter of the Exalted Demon King's Second Son!"

This time, Ace was really shocked. "Then how did you get your hands on that woman?"

"Although my Witch's Avatar is a unique and powerful ability, it had its own limits. The fetus has to be three-month-old, not above or low. Then it needed to be talented in the soul path, and its bloodline can't be higher than mine or lower by two grades.

"Most importantly, if it dies at any time, I'll suffer an unrecoverable soul injury and can never enter the manifest realm or create another Witch's Avatar. So, what do you think I have done to make sure I reached this point?" Freya's eyes were exempt from any emotions, as only darkness could be seen.

Ace suddenly felt cold from that emotionless gaze and finally understand why her race was called the Evil Witch Race. They were ruthless and can do anything to reach their goal!

He took a deep breath and said, "I think you seduce that Second Prince like you once try to do the same thing with me by using Aliya. Then it wasn't hard to guess what happened next."

Freya chuckled darkly, "This avatar was too important for me if I wanted to control my syndicate. Besides, only the Demon Tamer Tribe had the bloodline that can control beasts, and this suits my needs well. So, I did what I have to do. But now it's a pity I have to abandon this body." She lamented.

Ace snorted. "You are getting a cultivation technique far more powerful than anything in this world. I'm afraid; even your ancestor might abandon their entire bloodline to get this chance."

Freya giggled suddenly, "Well, it's me now, so they can only cry in their grave."

Ace's eyebrow spasmed. He couldn't help but thanked the system for those restrictions in the Thief House or he might never trust his woman with his back. She's just too dangerous!

Afterward, they wait for the real Freya.

A day passed, and night descends.

Ace suddenly felt a strong soul signature heading in their way and it was even stronger than Life Grandmaster Gatlin!

He looked at Freya, and she merely nodded.

Thereupon, a euphonious voice rang, "We finally meet Leader Ace!"

Ace saw a figure appear in front of him without hiding her presence.

Freya's long white hair was like a hanging shawl. Her sharp, beautiful face filled with pride and an aura of coldness. Her slightly knit curved eyebrows combined with the pair of eyes with gray irises, and golden tri-pupils excluded a mysterious yet majestic aura, which was now mainly focused on Ace.

Even though she was wearing domineering black armor, it could still not conceal her curvaceous and mature figure. Every part of her body was equally attractive.

Along with her white hair, cold and proud temperament, peerless mature face, and proud and erect bosom, which could be clearly seen even though it was closely wrapped by the armor, made even Ace's eyes widen.

Especially that pair of eyes with golden tri-pupils, giving off an impression of maturity, elegance, tyranny, and pride, which was filled with a bizarre kind of enchantment.

She was nothing but a Witch!

Eternal Thief

Chapter 486: House Mission?!

Looking at the bewitching beauty clad in armor before him, Ace kept his composure and greet back, "Indeed, we met."

Freya's tri-pupils shimmered with a dark glow as she looked at this familiar yet unfamiliar man. She knew about the natural beauty of her race, which can sway even saints. But this guy didn't even show the tiniest reaction, which made her somewhat have a higher opinion of him.

But Ace was astonished actually because he never thought an Evil Witch would be like humans except for her eyes. No one can find a difference.

"Let me get this out of the way before we continue." Freya suddenly pull a dazzling smile as she moved toward her Avatar.

Ace merely nodded, but he was scrutinizing. Although this ability was quite nefarious, it was still quite useful, especially if someone like him have it.

Freya stood in front of her Avatar and suddenly she put her jade-like slender finger on top of her Avatar's head.

Now that Ace looks carefully, Freya and her Avatar have 70% resemblance and that also explains her Avatar's beauty as well.

Suddenly, Freya started to mumble something at an extremely fast pace, and the next moment thereafter, dark ancient symbols started to appear on the Avatar's body before, one by one, they crawled toward Freya's finger.

Ace's eyes narrowed. 'Magic?' he had heard the basic explanation about magic from Freya, but experiencing it was something else.

She was just chanting something and he could feel the Qi around them stirring as those ancient symbols moved back to her.

This process last for ten minutes before the last symbol was taken away by Freya and the moment it happened the demoness's body suddenly started to decay at an extremely fast pace before it turned into a blue sand statue and crumbled!

Freya looked at Ace, who seemed to be bewildered by what just happened, she giggled coldly, "Don't worry, I'm alright."

Ace looked at Freya's teasing smile that could take a person's soul away. He sighed, "Glad to know. You didn't leave behind anything, do you?"

"Every Witch's avatar had the same ending, and it's not like they had their own personality. It was just me altogether." Freya impassively replied before she tossed her Avatar's storage ring toward Ace.

Ace received the ring and looked at her in confusion.

Freya said, "This is my greeting gift. There's everything you need to control the syndicate while I was gone. Aliya's communication cube is also in there. You can command her if you need anything."

Ace looked at her with a doubtful gaze, "And you're giving me the control of your entire syndicate just like that?"

Freya suddenly moved closer to him until there were only a few inches left. Ace could even smell her wild fragrance, but he looked right into her charming eyes without any emotions or blinking.

Freya was 6.3 feet tall, slightly shorter than Ace, she said in a seductive tone as she moved her crimson lips, "Even I'm yours. Do you want it?"

Ace suddenly curled his lips and he flash his hand toward her sharp chin, and she let him touch her face without even blinking. He replied as he held her soft chin, "This trick won't work on me. Now don't waste more time."

"Tch, you're no fun. How do you know? I never show any defects?" She couldn't help but complain about Ace's sharp sense. She knew he was weaker than her, but he seemed far more capable. Especially when it comes to lying!

Ace suddenly come extremely close to her face as their noses almost came in contact, which slightly alarmed Freya as he revealed his actual face all of a sudden.

His dark blue eyes stared deep into her eyes. She felt like something pulling her into those starry eyes as she felt her heart pound suddenly with this mysterious feeling creep out.

He mysteriously said, "I can tell when someone is lying because I'm a liar, but can you tell when I'm telling the truth since I never lie?"

Freya's heart palpitated all of a sudden and she quickly took a few steps back, freeing herself from Ace's grip and that invisible, oppressive feeling that was telling her to submit. Her breathing was slightly unsteady.

Freya just felt Ace's [Charm] which he had no idea how to control, but he knows as long as she was related to darkness it'll work, and it did!

Ace knew if he wanted to control this woman, he had to establish his dominance. She was just too bold and if he back off right now, she will never respect him or follow his words seriously.

She would only fear his status, not him, so he just used one of the many tricks he had learned to counterattack her seductive attacks, and it goes beyond well.

Ace smirked at this moment. "Now, let's go. It's time for everyone to meet." He pretended as if nothing happened as he wore his demon face again.

Freya felt that mysterious force vanished after Ace's face was disguised. 'He's too dangerous, or maybe because of his cultivation technique? Hmph, I'll see what can you after I also cultivate in top tire technique!'

She was resentful after she felt that strange feeling mixed with forbidden pleasure and suppression, which she had never felt before. Now she won't antagonize Ace anymore. She was afraid he would use that strange thing again on her, so she became obedient for the time being.

Although she wanted his position in the Thief House, she can't get it if she was dominated by him first!

"Give me your hand." Ace smiled meaningfully as he moved his hand toward her, he suddenly felt great after he watched that arrogant witch have a taste of her own medicine.

"What, not feel like giving yourself to me anymore?" Ace tease.

Freya looked at Ace with gritted teeth, "Hmph, rogue!"

Leaving this harsh comment, she placed her hand on his, but the vigilance in her eyes didn't drop and since he was in his demon disguise, she didn't feel any danger.

Ace didn't tease her anymore and took her into the thief's house!

The moment Freya appeared in the familiar dark surrounding, it was her first time coming here with her real self. This time she saw a creepy house, not the space filled with storage rings.

'So, this is the thief's house? This peculiar feeling is from my... bloodline?' She was shocked when she felt just breathing here was enough beneficial to her bloodline!

With great anticipation, she quickly goes toward the Thief's House.

However, the moment Freya entered the thief's house space, the Thief House interface suddenly popped up in front of him.

=====

[Thief House]

[Rules & Regulation of Thief House...]

-Rule Creation Remain: 2

-Rule Change Token: 0

[Thief House: Level-1]

[House Leader: Ace White]

[House Members: 3/3 (House Full)]

1. Noa Night

-Thief Genre: Thief Assassin (Trainee)

-House Rank: Excellent Member

[View More Details]

2. Freya Witch

-Thief Genre: Evil Thief (Newbie) -House Rank: Normal Member [View More Details] 3. Winter Fox -Thief Genre: Faceless Thief (Newbie) -House Rank: New Member [View More Details] [House Point(s): 22,000] [House Mission(s): 1] (New) [House Leader Mission(s): (Edit)] (LOCKED) [NOTE: During House Mission, this feature will be unavailable!] [House Punishment(s)] -System Punishment: 0 -House Leader Punishment: (Edit) [Locked] [NOTE: During House Mission, this feature will be unavailable!] [House Shop: 3] [Locked] [NOTE: During House Mission, this feature will be unavailable!] 1. Thief Assassin 2. Evil Thief 3. Faceless Thief [Recycling Shop] [House Points Exchange Platform] [Locked] [NOTE: During House Mission, this feature will be unavailable!] [Exchange Rate: 10 Thief Points = 1 House Point] [House Call: Lock] [House Meeting: Lock] ======

Ace suddenly felt like a mountain just hit on his head when he saw the house mission, as well as all his privileges, got locked by the system.

"You can't do this to me right now!" Ace couldn't help but bellow.

He was extremely furious since he got a mission already and it was already hard enough and now the system had given him another surprise to make his life even more difficult.

But like always, he was ignored and left without any explanation. "

"Fine, you win! Open the house mission for me!" He cussed resentfully and opened the house mission, which was going to be the very first mission the house members will get from the system.

=====

[House Mission (For House Leader)]

-Mission: A Grand Entrance!

-Description: All the Thief House Members have been assembled in the Thief's House, it's time to make an appearance. As a House Leader, the Host must guide the new thieves toward the right path and test their abilities before introducing the newcomers of the Thief House to the grand world stage!

-Task (1): Guide newcomers!

-Task (2): Plan A Heist!

Requirement (1): All House Members must be involved in this heist or it will deem a failure!

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<u>Eternal Thief</u> Chapter 487: The Thieves Meet

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[House Mission (For House Leader)]

-Mission: A Grand Entrance!

-Description: All the Thief House Members have been assembled in the Thief's House. It's time to make an appearance. As a House Leader, the Host must guide the new thieves toward the right path and test their abilities before introducing the newcomers of the Thief House to the grand world stage!

-Task (1): Guide newcomers!

-Task (2): Plan A Heist!

Requirement (1): All House Members must be involved in this heist or it will deem a failure!

Requirement (2): All House Members must reach the [Excellent Member] Rank at the end of this heist or it will deem a failure!

Requirement (3): All House Members must reach [Trainee Thief] Rank at the end of this heist or it will deem a failure!

Requirement (4): The Heist must be worth at least 5 Million House Point or it will deem a failure!

Requirement (5): The House Leader can't participate in this heist physically except for the planning and providing guidance or it will deem a failure!

-Time: 3 Years

-Punishment: Leader Authority Revoked for 20 Years

[Reward(s)]

-Law Fragments: Depend on House Performance

-House Call: Unlock

======

Now, Ace's expression finally changed when he saw the unfamiliar reward with the name 'Law' in it.

"What is a law fragment?!" He quickly asked with a slightly hastened breath.

This time the system didn't torture the poor fellow and tell him.

"[A Law Fragment holds 1% of law comprehension.]"

"Really?!"

He didn't dare to believe it because he knew just how difficult it was to grasp these laws. They were just too mysterious, and he had never seen anyone taking or having any records about them.

Now, all of a sudden, the system revealed that it had the means to give him law comprehension. How could he remain calm?

"[Yes. The host will be rewarded with Law Fragments from Thief House Missions. The exceptional the members perform, the more law fragments host will be rewarded.]"

"Damn it, you could've told me sooner! At least I would make the house full long ago if I know I will get these law fragments!" Ace couldn't help but swear in vexation.

He finally understood the benefits of the thief house were not just limited to free thief points and getting powerful helpers. It was probably just the tip of the iceberg.

Ace was now far more motivated than ever to complete a mission!

But there was still one problem, he couldn't participate in it physically, this was a test for his leadership ability and this house members teamwork abilities which will be going to be quite problematic.

Furthermore, the time was extremely short. Winter and Freya still didn't start cultivating in their respective cultivation techniques. So, it's going to be a close one.

Ace was about to summon them in the spacious hall when he was started by sight when he sent his conscious into the thief's house!

Noa and Winter just exited their room while Freya was standing at the entrance.

Their eyes were filled with gloominess for some reason.

Realization dawned on him. 'They got their missions!'

Just a few moments ago, when Ace opened the mission, Freya, who just entered the house, also received notification as well as Noa, who was indulged in alchemy, and Winter, who was jolted from her hibernate state!

They all received one similar mission which made them understand the benefits of the Thief House weren't free!

[House Mission]

-Mission: A Grand Entrance!

-Description: All the Thief House Members have been assembled in the Thief's House. It's time to make an appearance on the world stage and prove yourselves worthy!

-Task: A Memorable Heist!

Requirement (1): Plan a Heist under the leadership of the House Leader!

Requirement (2): All House Members must be involved in this heist or it will deem a failure!

Requirement (3): All House Members must reach the [Excellent Member] House Rank at the end of this heist or it will deem a failure!

Requirement (4): All House Members must reach [Trainee Thief] Thief Rank at the end of this heist or it will deem a failure!

Requirement (5): The Heist must be worth at least 5 Million House Point or it will deem a failure!

Requirement (6): The House Leader can't participate in this heist physically except for the planning and providing guidance or it will deem a failure!

-Time: 3 Years

-Punishment: Expel from Thief House (All of them)

[Reward(s)]

1. 500,000 House Points (For Everyone)

- 2. A Single Bloodline Evolution (For Everyone)
- 3. A Secret Skill (For Everyone)

======

How could they remain idle after seeing the punishment?

Furthermore, Noa and Freya clearly knew this mission wasn't issued by Ace, but by the 'Goddess' and they felt greatly distressed when they thought just how harsh the Goddess was with punishment.

Winter, on the other hand, was in hibernation because she was recovering from her soul injury, and she was only eighty percent recovered when this mysterious force made her wake up.

When she saw the mission, she felt like murdering Ace since she wasn't even a normal member yet much less an excellent member that was three ranks above her, and on top of that, she had to work with the others which she wasn't fond of since she didn't trust anyone.

Winter came out to find Ace and so does Noa, and Freya just entered the house when she was stuck on her spot while reading the mission. They all bump into each other this way!

Freya's eyes narrowed when she saw the Masked Demoness with pitch-back eyeballs, while she was shocked when she noticed the pink fox giving off a ghastly aura.

She could tell it wasn't just any demonic beast.

Noa was also shaken up when she saw Winter, but she was more bewildered when she saw Freya, who was extremely gorgeous. She couldn't help but narrowed her eyes with a hint of hostility.

Winter, on the other hand, was surprised when she saw Freya because her eyes were just too eyecatching and she knows all the powerful races in this world, but she never heard of a race with tri-pupils and white hair.

Furthermore, she had this extremely dangerous feeling from this woman which she only felt from a soul manifestation realm, but she could tell Freya wasn't in that realm yet, but not far away either.

As for Noa, she completely took her as a low-level demon since she was extremely weak in her eyes with that peak Soul River cultivation of hers. She even thought Freya was the first member, not Noa.

While Freya had the same thought as Winter, as she thought Noa was the last one.

They both underestimate that masked demoness.

Freya was the first one to break the silence in her cool tone, "It seemed we all received the same mission. And here I thought it would be a happy first gathering between confederates, alas."

Winter showed her sharp teeth as she looked at Freya. "What kind of creature you are?"

"An Ancient Beast?!" Freya's eyes widen when she heard Winter speaking in demon language, "So, you are the one who's responsible for that corpse army?!"

Winter's eyes suddenly shimmered with complacency. "So, you know? Does this mean those hateful demons are suffering from my wrath? Hmph, that's what they get from pushing me too far."

Freya chuckled, "It seemed our opinion about the demon race is similar. The name is Freya."

Winter also seemed to find a kindred spirit. "I never thought I would find a fellow visionary here. I'm Winter. You can tell me if someone bullies you, I'll turn them into a corpse puppet, humph!" She proudly towered her head.

Noa was now completely out of the loop as she looked at that talking fox in astonishment since she read about the ancient beast race and the infamous All-Knowing Parrot who was also not a demon.

'Where did the leader find them here? Furthermore, they both hate demons?' She couldn't help but wonder and felt displeased when those two belittled the demons and took her like a wind.

"I'm glad you two belligerents are getting along, but don't forget there's a demon in our house as well, and she's your senior. So, respect her, or I won't stop her from bullying you!" Ace's cold voice sounded at this moment.

Ace was really speechless with those two zealous women that hate the demon race to the core and completely ignored Noa, who was far weaker than them.

Although he knows Noa didn't like to talk with strangers but she was far more obedient than these two schemers. Furthermore, she was humble and didn't barge about her achievements.

Noa was dumbfounded when she heard Ace's words.

While Freya and Winter's focus turned to the masked demoness with a hint of hostility. They naturally didn't put Noa in their eyes since she was weak, but Ace said she can bully them. How laughable!

Noa finally spoke coldly, "I'm Noa, a Thief Assassin." She merely nodded afterward.

"Tell them your House Rank and Thief Rank!" Ace encouraged.

Noa felt it was unnecessary, but she still did as told, "Excellent Member, and Trainee Thief!"

Eternal Thief

Chapter 488: Move On

"Excellent Member, and Trainee Thief!"

Freya and Winter's eyes widen slightly when they heard Noa has already completed the two conditions in the House Mission, which means Noa had the biggest chance to pull this off and she can also help them with their rank problems as well.

Freya finally move toward Noa and smiled amiably and performed a noble demon salute, "I'm Freya, an Evil Witch. I apologized for my rudeness. I have no grudge against you since you are a member of the Thief House. But my race was butchered by the demon in the past so you can understand my enmity with demons. I hope you'll forgive me."

Noa looked at this charming woman in armor with a hint of shock when she heard about why Freya hated demons. She knew better than anyone what it felt like to lose their entire bloodline, and Freya had lost her entire race on top of that.

'It seemed she was also scheming her revenge, but unknowingly met with Leader.' Noa presumed since this was how she met with Ace as well.

She nodded. "I can understand. Don't worry about what Leader said he likes to joke." Her voice was impassive and cold.

Winter now looked at two women with a hesitant look in her eyes, but she knew for this mission they had to get along, so she could only swallow her pride.

"I'm Winter. P-please to meet you." this takes all her willpower to say, especially to a demon.

Noa nodded as she still looked at the big fox with wonder. She never thought she would meet with an ancient beast here, of all places.

"See, it wasn't too hard?" Ace snickered as if he was holding back his laugh.

Winter shouted in indignation as she looked at the ceiling, "Perverted Scoundrel, I demand an explanation!"

"Perverted?"

"Scoundrel?"

Both Noa and Freya were startled when they heard Winter calling Ace in such words and wonder what happened.

Ace's unhappy voice rang. "Ignore her. She was possessed by an Evil Spirit, so her mind was affected."

"What did you say? Come here if you have guts!" Winter roared in outrage.

"Stop screaming, or I won't help you." Ace threatened coldly.

Winter gnashed her teeth but didn't speak anymore since she knew this was really a predicament where they need Ace.

Freya's eyes shimmered with a strange glint as if she discovered something interesting.

But she had a more important thing to worry about. She asked sternly, "What did this expulsion mean in punishment?"

Ace replied in a stern tone, "As you all know about the house rules, once join you cannot leave, so once you expel you can relate what that means."

He knew system ways of doing things were extremely harsh, especially with the first mission. He had got a death punishment as well on his first mission.

Now that the house was full, it wanted to test the members' ability, if they were worthy of being with Ace or not. It won't hesitate like Ace to get rid of them if it found them a burden, even if Ace had other thoughts.

The three women also fell silent when they heard Ace confirming it. They had already thought about it.

Although they all knew the opportunity they have were top of the world, now they have to prove themselves to be worthy of this opportunity.

Noa was the calmest of the others and said, "We just have to trust the Leader. Although he can't take part in the mission, don't forget, that he can help us craft the entire theft plan. Did you forget who is he?"

Freya's eyes suddenly widen slightly. She didn't forget how Ace had done all those thieveries himself. He had no one to aid him in them and she only join recently.

Especially the theft of Life Treasure Pagoda, which seemed impossible, but Ace pull that off!

"Heh, see? She knows me the best. I won't let you die as long as you don't want to. So, first, change your cultivation techniques. You two didn't have to erase your foundation, so it wouldn't be too difficult for

you to cultivate in the river core realm in one year, right? Noa is probably not far away from it, either." Ace's confident voice rang as if everything was under his control.

He knew if they had to keep their morale high as a leader, or they might not pull this off. Furthermore, he had to guide them through this so he will not hold back on them either.

The first thing was to cultivate the system's cultivation techniques so they could mold into their genres, and after that, he would have a year to think about it.

Winter's eyes narrowed. "I can, but I need pills and a massive amount of them!"

Although crossing four realms in a year from the start was possible, since she had already cultivated them before. But she needs a huge number of pills, with this environment of the thief's house, and even with her stock, it wasn't enough.

Freya suddenly giggled charmingly, "Don't worry, if there's an individual who had the greatest number of pills in the entire eight provinces, then it would be our Great Leader."

Noa's eyes suddenly widen and couldn't help but asked, "Did he?"

"Heh." Freya chuckled and nodded in acknowledgment.

"What are you talking about?" Winter was perplexed since she was the only one who knew nothing.

Ace's cool voice rang in agreement. "Just focus on cultivating. Pills weren't an issue. It is also not wise to appear right now."

"Then I leave everything to you. I'm going to cultivate. There's no time to waste. I'll see you in a year." Freya decisively left toward her own room in a hurry.

She had accommodated over twenty-five thousand HP, so she wasn't willing to waste time finding out about the corpse army and the past of the other two members. She can do all this after she has kept her life.

"I'm also going. Don't forget to give me Soul Recovery Pills as well. Hmph!" Winter also quickly left, since she had enough house points to buy the cultivation technique.

Noa was also about to enter her own cultivation room to start cultivating the Night Demon Body Transformation.

However, Ace's voice rang. "Don't resist."

She suddenly felt another pull and was startled, but she didn't resist and the next moment she appeared in another dark space, but she was shocked when she found there were countless storage rings!

"Don't be alarmed, this is my personal space." Ace's calm voice rang, "I take you here because you are already far ahead of the others, and also an alchemist. As you can see, this entire site is filled with storage rings that have raw materials for both paths. You can take as many as you want for your practice and collect materials for your body cultivation technique as well."

Noa was shocked when she heard this, and couldn't help but say earnestly, "T-thank you."

Ace chuckled, "Don't mention it. I have my personal reason as well. Just give me the soul pills and martial pills you have no use for in the future. So, we both benefit from it. Take this as well. I think it should belong to you and you can use it better than anyone."

Noa suddenly saw a golden and green ring appear before her and she take it with bewilderment as if she had seen it somewhere.

"This is your teacher's ring, and his entire legacy is in it as well. Although I stole it from it him, he might've given it to you in the future, eventually. This way, I also won't feel too bad about it as well." Ace mocks himself with a wry smile.

He knew Gatlin treat Noa quite well or he would never have appeared there for her so quickly, which also made him feel somewhat bad for the old man. But he was a thief, and this was his way of living and his path.

So, he could only do this much to make his heart less heavy.

Noa also felt emotional when she saw the vast amount of materials and knowledge in it, as well as the ancient red cauldron with a dragon engraving. It was a soul cauldron of Gatlin and his most precious treasure. He once showed it to her and promise to give it to her as long as she reached his level.

She remembered Gatlin's gratified smile that day, and clench that ring, 'I'll never let your legacy die... teacher.'

"After you're done, tell me, and I'll send you back." Ace's voice sounded and didn't disturb her anymore since he could feel her complex emotions.

'This would be a normal thing in the future and they will turn into liars like me... is this the way of a thief?' Ace couldn't help but wonder.

But then shook his head. He would never regret his decision to become a thief, and being a lair wasn't so bad as long as he remained honest with the ones he trusts.

He was now moving toward the mighty spear province, but he was still not done with the house members.

He sent his consciousness into the Winter's space and she was just about to start the cultivation when she heard his stern voice.

"Tell me everything about the corpse army!"

Eternal Thief

Chapter 489: Interrogating Winter

Winter opened her eyes when she heard Ace's stern voice and growled, "Are you planning to save those demons? If yes, then give up."

"Do you think I'm a savior?" Ace scoffed.

"Then that's good to know." Winter seemed to be relieved after she heard that and said, "Since you didn't want to save them, then why do you want to know about the corpse army? Perhaps, are you interested in creating your own corpse army?"

Ace's voice turned cold at this moment. "If you continue to beat around the bush, do you believe I'll throw you out right now?"

He could tell this fox didn't want to reveal the information about the corpse army for some reason, and that's why she kept talking in circles.

But he didn't care about this ghastly inheritance and all he wanted to know about the dead orb-guardian and where was the elemental orb!

Before, Winter was wounded, and he also had a mission to take care of, so he let this matter rest, but now he won't since Winter was now awake and he had time to spare.

Winter sensed Ace was impenitent about something and she remembered he told her about there was something quite important he wanted from that ruin.

In the end, she decided to give him what he wants because Ace has the support of a God, so why did he want to walk on this nefarious path? She also had a new path ahead of her now, and if she completed this mission, she could reach far greater heights than her previous self.

But first, she had to let her past self go, who was once betrayed and didn't trust anyone ever since.

Ace and the other two members can't scheme against her, so there wasn't any need to keep suspecting them. On the contrary, if she made Ace unhappy, she had no idea what kind of authority he had as a leader in this place. Just the ability to send her out and let her into this magical space can speak of how high Ace's control was over them.

That's why she gave up!

A thick book appeared in front of her, which had a worn-out appearance.

She sighed as looked at the thick, worn-out book with complicated emotions in her eyes.

She speaks, "Over eight hundred years ago, I was sent here as a spy with another member of my clan. We even succeeded in infiltrating deep into the demon continent. But when we were heading to the blade province, we suddenly stumbled upon the ruin and decided to explore it.

"After we spend half a year exploring this ruin, we found an unknown passage, and my companion volunteered to scout it. After making sure there wasn't danger, we went together, but who would've thought the person who I consider as close as my sister will scheme against me!" Thick killing intent rage in her beastly eyes.

"In her scouting, she had discovered a treasure at the end of the passage, but a special kind of array was protecting it. She was a runic genius, so she knew her way around the arrays.

"I was naïve to think she thought of me as her sister as well and walk right into that array when she told me she had already dispelled it, but it wasn't. The moment I enter that array, she took the treasure, and I got trapped instead." She gnashed her teeth with hatred. "For years I was trapped in that darkness, and many times I consider committing suicide, but whenever I remembered that scheming bitch face and how she could be enjoying riches, I would hesitate.

"It was then when I start hearing voices filled with the temptation of power and revenge..." She had a forlorn look in her eyes at this moment.

Ace couldn't help but said, "It was that dark mist?"

"Yes. It told me it was the same as me and wanted to give me the entire inheritance and passed away without any regrets. I wasn't in my best state at that time, so I believed it and didn't resist the 'inheritance'. It was probably then when it entered my knowledge sea in the sham of giving me its power.

"It also left me this book with everything I need to know about the inheritance and the special space that belonged to its tribe once. As for that Corpse King, I was supposed to possess its body and then I have a heaven-defying talent and full control over the corpse army hidden beneath that lake. I even refine corpse acolytes, so when the time comes I would easily raise anyone to the ground who comes between me and my revenge.

"But it seemed I was doing all this for someone else and the moment I control over that Corpse King's body, that soul will take control over me since I would be in a vulnerable state.

"Everything I knew about the Corpse Demon Tribe is in this book. You can have it. I don't need it any longer." She said in a resolute tone.

Ace's deep voice rang, "Why did a corpse possess consciousness, and why can't you take control of that army without it?"

"The Corpse King was a special existence which was made from something called a 'Nature Deity' according to this book and the corpse demon tribe didn't have resources to make a perfect corpse king so they make this half-complete product.

"That's why to control it, one needed to refine it and possess it, but this is a double-edged sword because according to the records the Corpse King's conscious can't be erased and if you show even the slightest weakness, it will devour your soul and take back the control of its body.

"As for the corpse army, it was made especially with the method, which needs a corpse king to control. If someone tries to take control of the corpse acolytes without a corpse king, they will have a tremendous burden on their mind and body.

"Furthermore, those corpses can grow as they devour the living and as they grew, it becomes hard to control them if you didn't increase your power as well. That's where a corpse king comes into the picture that put a little burden on your mind and you can suppress it and also the other corpse with it.

"I had to say those demons were lunatics because every generation the strongest of them will possess this Corpse King and rule the tribe. It was the symbol of power and consider the biggest honor in their tribe." She sneered with killing intent.

Ace also felt this Corpse Demon Tribe had something wrong with their brain since they dare to play with corpses and risk their lives for an unstable power.

"Why happen to them? They seemed quite powerful?" Ace questioned.

In his view, although this tribe was made of madmen, they were extremely strong and developed just the techniques to refine the corpse army and the corpse king can make them invincible in this world.

He still didn't forget about that dark mist's threat, it left before the system destroyed it.

This tribe might have deeper roots than any other demon tribe, and he didn't want to be an enemy with them if he had a choice.

Winter shook her head. "There weren't any records about this. It was like they all vanished into thin air. I was never able to find out about this but, that bitchy mist seemed to be sure they were still alive and well. I'm looking forward to meeting with them once I cultivate into higher realms. Furthermore, I'll make them regret even scheming against me!"

The one thing that Winter hates most is someone scheming against her, despite her being the same.

The book suddenly vanished at this moment and Ace's pacifying voice rang, "Don't worry, we'll make them pay if they appeared. Just focus on getting better. I'll send those pills your way in a few hours. Remember, you are not alone anymore."

Winter sighed with uncertainty. She said nothing and close her eyes. She knew what Ace said was true, and she wasn't willing to let this chance slip by.

Outside,

Ace looked at the old book in his hand and stored it away for now. He was still traveling toward the deep parts of the demon continent.

He'll first find a place to lie low before he read it and he might discover some clue about the elemental orb.

But after listening to Winter, he didn't have high hopes, since this 'Nature Deity' seemed to die a long time ago. He had no idea where it died and who to take the Ice Orb afterward.

This was getting more and more complicated and he only hoped that the orb was still in this world or he would be in big trouble!

While Ace was crossing the mist province,

The Mist Castle wasn't so calm at this moment.

Today, Mist Demon King returned abruptly, and with her was none other than Blade Demon King and some young demons and blade envoys!

Eternal Thief

Chapter 490: Grand Demon Duke's Arrival!

Royal Demon Council in Blade Domain,

The hall was filled with a gloomy atmosphere as everyone looked at the status report of the corpse army movement.

The corpse army wasn't a secret anymore. Many demons were summoned from all over the eight provinces and wildness to keep the corpse army in check between the border of blade and moon provinces.

As for why they needed so much assistance to annihilate the army of over a million corpses, it was because that corpse army wasn't just some random corpse but they had special traits which made them deadly.

Grim Jade had a surly expression when she spoke, "How can those corpses multiply instead of decreasing?! Is this report accurate?"

A council elder replied, "These are accurate, and we received them this morning, High Elder. According to the commanders on the front lines, those corpses are extremely strange, especially the ones who had no skins or flesh. We called them Skeletons.

"These Skeletons are extremely strong, and their bones are as though as legendary grade-4 weapons. I'm afraid those corpses might be of demons with attainment in body refinement.

"But the deadliest thing about them is they didn't eat flesh like the other corpse but they use some kind of skill to make more corpses and it's like they had an endless supply of Qi.

"Then there are those who are half skeletons and half flesh, we're calling them Rotten. These guys had their own special ability that released a white smoke that is like a plague and anyone weaker than them infected with it will turn into a corpse puppet in three days. There's no cure currently.

"Lastly, there are Flesh Eaters, these are the newly born corpse puppet. They had no particular unique ability, besides they can quickly evolve into Rotten after eating an excessive amount of flesh."

The atmosphere become chilly when they all heard this. They couldn't help but felt dreadful toward the tribe known as the corpse demon tribe. Although they were long forgotten in the river of time, this corpse army was proof of their prowess!

Dark Hole frowned, "Even Demon Kings are helpless?"

"I'm afraid so. Those skeletons are the most difficult to deal with, despite being in the soul realm. They are extremely difficult to kill. They had to annihilate the core of their head. But the moment they felt danger, those cores fled into another corpse, and that corpse then can turn into a skeleton as well.

"Currently, there are over 50,000 Skeletons and they are extremely slippery. The moment they sense Demon King level existence approaching, they hide underground, and martial sense didn't work on them either.

"As for rotten, they are an even bigger problem because they can use strange skills of the river core realm instantly and continuously bombard our side all day and night. Currently, there are over 700,000 rotten and that number is rising!" the same elder reported as he sweated profusely.

No one had thought that corpses could be such a deadly force.

Grim Jade couldn't help but sigh bitterly. This was the first time in tens of thousands of years that the demon continent was forced into such a situation.

"Is there any news from esteemed envoys?" She asked. Now they had no other way than this.

They had reached this final conclusion that the thing the Council Minister was still holding back was the only thing that can turn this thing around. Because those corpses were released, at the same time when that thing came out and it could control them.

"They said the help would arrive in a day." The elder replied with a hint of relief.

"Good. But we can't pin our hope on killing that thing will end all of this. The Lord will only get rid of that corpse and save the council minister. He won't help us get rid of those corpses. Tell those rune crafters to hurry with their grand formation." Dark Hole sternly commanded.

The elder suddenly frowned as he said with a hint of gloom, "I have already told them, but they are delaying the construction, probably because we didn't take any action against the thief."

"Are they out of their damn mind? Is their reputation more important than millions of lives?!" an old demon bellowed outrageously.

"It was all their fault, to begin with. They can't keep their treasures safe themselves and now they are blaming others? I think that thief did a damn good job teaching those arrogant pricks a lesson, or they didn't put any in their eyes!" another elder sneered.

If anyone was happy about the theft of the treasure pagoda, then it has to be the royal demon council because these two were the strongest forces in the eight provinces and on equal ground.

But the life demon association was always rich with resources and they were extremely stingy with the outsiders. They didn't give these noble demons faces and limited the supplies they can buy from them.

However, now the entire association had received a reverberating slap on their face from a mere thief and they were all maddening with rage since there wasn't any trace of the thief despite the huge bounty they put on his head and arrange a manhunt.

But they didn't receive any help from the royal demon council since they were all busy with the corpse army and if they push too far, they might anger the royal zone.

So, they had no choice but to swallow their resentment and put the thief hunt on hold and help the royal demon council to get rid of the corpse army first.

But those rune crafters were deliberately delaying the construction of a mass killing formation, which can help them tremendously in deadly with skeletons and rotten.

This make these elders sulk to no end, but they knew not to push too hard in this delicate situation.

"Just tell them to be quick, don't taunt them or they might pop a vein or two in anger." Dark Hola chuckled mockingly. He was also gloating over those arrogant pricks' misfortune and silently give the thief a thumbs up.

All the elders smile faintly as the atmosphere in the room before lighter, even Grim Jade showed a rare smirk.

The elder who was reporting chuckled and continued, "Lastly, we received news that two demon kings, Mist and Blade, have appeared in the mist domain with their subordinates and young demons who were lost in the ruin." He said.

"Finally, some good news. Summon them back. We need all the help we can get until the help arrived." Grim Jade seemed relieved, but her expression fell when she asked, "Is there any news on the remaining demon kings and three high elders?"

They were all separated when the Corpse King used a ghastly skill and council ministers had to seal it with themselves. Furthermore, if the council minister hadn't acted, they all would have been annihilated with that skill that day.

Nevertheless, they were still wounded gravely and barely escaped.

The elder grimaced and replied, "No, we didn't receive any news about their whereabouts. But this morning we received a report that a black snake was spotted in the moon province."

"Could it be Jade Space Serpent of Exalted?!" Dark Hole's eyes brightened.

They were all very familiar with that magnificent beast of the Exalted Demon King.

"I have already sent someone to look into this. We'll know by tomorrow." The elder replied confidently.

Suddenly a young demon appeared in the hall and respectfully kneel before he reports with a hint of excitement, "Elders, the esteemed envoys summoned High Elders post hastily. It seemed to help has arrived!"

"Hahaha... good, very good. Let's go!" Dark Hole instantly laughs out loud and quickly left with Grim Jade.

Inside the Blade Demon Castle,

Currently, two masked demons sat in the throne hall while Killer wasn't present today because he simply didn't have the right to be here no matter how strong he was, his status was nothing but like a commoner in front of this demon sitting majestically on the throne!

This demon also wore a crimson mask, but his dark eyes and his long crimson antlers were giving off the feeling of uncontrollable bloodlust as if he was crawled straight from hell!

A husky voice that made anyone's skin crawl sounded from this masked demon. "Your Highnesses, I'm here on two missions."

The dark masked demons seemed to be extremely respectful as they spoke in unison, "Please state your intention, Grand Demon Duke!"

Grand Demon Duke was the title that can only be given to a demon that was weaker than the Demon Emperor, while stronger than any being on the demon continent!

Even the members of the imperial household had to be respectful to a demon with the title of Grand Demon Duke.

The Grand Demon Duke's voice was exempt from any emotions as he spoke.

"First, to get rid of the pest.

"Second, to detain the thief name Sky Stealer!"