Unlimited Power - The Arcane Path (COMPLETED)

132 Chapter 131

"Your Majesty

" Leon said. "First and foremost

she is a friend. So

I trusted her when she said that she wasn't aware of the plot to murder your son. However

her teammates also used her as a hostage in order to kill me. She led the mission

which ended up causing the death of your son

but while the others received the mission to kill him

her sole mission was to steal the water dragon's scales. That crime must be punished nonetheless

but I wish to ask for Your Majesty to be lenient."

"I see... in that case

I will trust your judgment." Makoto nodded. "About the punishment

I don't think anything will be necessary. Thanks to you

we are obtaining a lot of resources of the dungeons you cleared

and since you also taught Ren and his subordinates how to use Earth Manipulation

a lot of people were learning the basics of magic."

"I'm glad to hear it

" Leon said.'

'Leon didn't recall giving Ren the order not to reveal that kind of information to anyone. Besides

now that many people in Las Vegas could use it

that information was bound to spread.'

"That being said... I'm a bit disappointed

Leon." Makoto said. "You defeated those three

but gave their position to others. Why didn't you decide to become the new leader?"

"I don't think I would become a good leader

" Leon said. "If I can lend a hand

l will

but I don't intend to solve all the problems of the Allied Forces. I would rather spend most of my time close to my sister and playing with my niece.'

"Is that so

" Makoto smiled. "It makes sense; you worked hard to reunite with your family; I guess you deserve that. Well

about the directors... after we interrogated them

we discovered a few interesting things. As you had expected

they received those legendary items from someone."

"Is that so..." Leon frowned.'

'''Yes

they didn't know that person's name

but they said they found him inside a dungeon

" Makoto explained. "By the look of things

that person wasn't a human. It was a creature that came from another world... I guess we should treat that as an enemy

even though it had a human shape

it also had dragon scales and a tail."

"A creature that could talk with humans and had human shape..." Leon frowned. "I suspected that they obtained the items from someone that came from the dungeon

and I would eventually investigate it... but I guess it is useless."

"Why do you think that?" Makoto said.'

"Because just like our world

I think the world of the monsters is connected to many others

" Leon said. "It is impossible to determine where that creature came from. It looks like a dragonnewt

but I have never heard of a dungeon that has those creatures."

'That's right... Dragonnewt a creature born between a dragon and a human." Makoto rubbed his chin. "I guess we have no choice but to wait until that monster decides to visit us again."

"Did they say anything else?" Leon asked.'

'''Yes

it looks like the creature tempted them with sweet words

" Makoto answered. "They had to become the leaders of our world in order to save it. Because in the future

a calamity would come

and the world had to be under the rule of a small group to survive the torment. That creature gave them those weapons in order to 'help' them."

'Putting the sweet words aside

Leon wondered why the monster gave them that kind of information. Maybe that would happen

so Leon and everyone else had to prepare themselves

but what would the creature gain by doing that? That was what Leon was most concerned about.'

"It looks like you are very worried about that

" Makoto said. "But I believe we can overcome whatever happens if Japan and the Allied Forces of the North-America work together."

'''Yes

Your Majesty

" Leon nodded. "I believe we can do that while respecting our differences and traditions. Let's also work together to convince the other nations that we don't have time to fight against ourselves."

"Of course

" Makoto nodded. "What is your next plan of action

Leon?"

"For the time being

I want to learn a new skill

and I noticed that your daughter could perhaps help in that regard."

"...How?" Makoto frowned.'

'As expected

Makoto was quite the over-protective father. He worked hard for the best of Japan

but the subject was family

he was extra cautious.'

"I want to learn how to heal wounds that recovery cannot do anything about it

" Leon explained. "So

I think I can find a few clues if I talk with her or if I observe her working."

"... Very well

you can observe her working and ask questions about her skills." Makoto said. "However

information about her cannot be spread."

"Of course

I won't share what I learn about her powers with anyone

" Leon said.'

"All right

Ren. You should accompany Leon since you two are close friends." Makoto said.'

'"Yes

Your Majesty." Ren got up and bowed.'

'After that

Leon

Betty

and Ren left the meeting room.'

"Long time no see

" Leon said. "It looks like you got promoted.

"'Hahaha

you helped to pave the way that led me to my current position

" Ren said. "Before I forgot about it

here are the coins that I obtained when I sold the materials."

'Leon accepted Ren's handshake and then obtained 150000 coins. He was supposed to be happy to receive that

but he still had no idea how to spend those coins. While he thought that

they left the main building of the palace and as if Betty held her breath for the entire time

she sighed in relief.'

"Phew... that was scary." Betty said and offered a handshake. "Nice to meet you. My name is Betty."

"Hello

you can call me Ren." Ren accepted the handshake'

133 Chapter 132

'It didn't take long before they found Yuki

like her father

she was also working very early. It was only obvious

but even though the world society was recovering from the damage that suffered over the last years

things were still pretty hard. Humanity could grow stronger and more resilient

doing all kinds of things

even without fighting. However

sickness still tormented a lot of people

now more than never

since most laboratories that produced medicine got destroyed.'

'The number of people that needed her skills was so high that the queue to receive her treatment was long even before breakfast. So

Leon started to wonder how she managed to use her mana for so long.'

'When those three approached

the soldiers nearby Yuki frowned and the sick people too. However

since Leon only needed to observe

they didn't approach too much. Besides

they didn't want to disrupt her concentration. Unfortunately

just watching her was already enough to annoy Yuki.'

"... What?" Yuki asked without hiding her displeasure while looking at Leon.'

'Leon and Betty looked at each other surprised due to the fact that the princess of Japan could speak English.'

"Lady Yuki

your father

gave permission for Leon to observe you while you are working

Your Majesty also gave him permission to ask some questions

" Ren explained. "Leon wants to learn how to heal grave wounds that the recovery stat can't."

"...It's impossible for him." Yuki said.'

"Why?" Leon asked.'

"I can see that you are quite good using mana

"Yuki answered. "But

you aren't good to feel it."

"And?" Leon asked.'

"... If you can't feel it

then you cannot fully control your mana or the mana from others." Yuki explained.'

"I see... that is why you don't run out of mana." Leon rubbed his chin. "You only use your mana to stimulate the mana inside their bodies. I presume you don't have to use a lot of your mana since you are just making good use of their mana."

"That's right

"Yuki said. "Perhaps you can learn how to fully control your mana

but without feeling the mana of other people

you will never be able to learn how to heal them."

"How can you be so sure?" Leon asked.'

"I can feel your aura; you have the aura of someone who tends to use your mana violently

"Yuki explained. "I can clearly see that you are the type of person who tries to solve everything with brute strength."

'Leon rubbed his chin and nodded; she was completely right. In the land

he learned how to overpower his enemies since if they get too close

he wouldn't have time to heal his wounds. Regardless

it looked like to learn how to heal; he had to learn how to feel the mana of other 's people. Leon never tested that in other people

but he bet he could feel their mana if Leon uses Mana-Eater.'

"Lend me your hand for a second

Ren

" Leon said.'

"....Sure." Ren frowned.'

'Ren hesitated a little

but then let Leon touch his hand

but then soon he retreated when he felt his energy being sucked.'

"I see... so that is mana from another person." Leon nodded. "It isn't all that different from magic items. But I guess I can't use it like that."

"... That's right

now stop pestering me and go away."Yuki snorted.'

'Leon ignored that and just observed Yuki healing people. As expected

he couldn't see anything happening; he only saw the results. Some people started to throw up

and others collapsed due to exhaustion. Even the process of healing sickness and poisons wasn't magical. She used their mana to get rid of the poison or the bacteria in their bodies

but they still had to get rid of those bacteria by throwing up or using the toilet. As for the curses

the process of eliminating the curses caused some mental strain

probably because the curses stopped certain areas of the brain from working correctly.'

"Like she said

I always my mana offensively. However

to learn how to heal wounds

I have to learn how to use it without causing harm."

'Leon didn't know how

but Yuki was capable of feeling everyone's mana

and she could control their mana just by touching their hands. The process complex

but it wasn't abrupt

and considering that she didn't exhaust her mana

it was quite delicate.'

"First things first

I have to use my mana to feel other's people mana. She can feel my mana even without touching me

so I guess I should learn that first."

'Leon

more or less

knew how Yuki's skill worked

so he had to emulate her powers bit by bit. Leon sat on the ground and closed his eyes and tried to emit his mana to his surroundings slowly. When he tried to absorb mana from the core

he did it roughly

so he ended up learning a skill that cost too much mana. This time

he had to do it calmly.'

'Leon felt his energy leaving his body

but he couldn't control it after a while

it was like the energy that emerged with the mana of the ambient. Besides

even though Ren and Betty were around him

he couldn't feel their presence even though his mana passed by them.'

"I'm making a mistake somewhere..."

'In the end

Leon also had to divide into several small steps the first step of how to sense other people's presences mana. Instead of trying to feel their mana immediately

he decided to create a thin layer of mana around his whole body. That being said

emit mana throughout every single part of his body was easier said than done. But Leon insisted... and after three days practicing without stopping

he succeeded. However

he got an unexpected result.'

'Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Mana Armor.'

'You obtained 01 status points.'

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'Leon couldn't help but frown

he wanted to learn a sensory skill

but he ended learning a defensive one. But at least he managed to obtain a spell that wasn't offensive; the first step had been taken.'

'Leon's muscles were quite sore

so he stretched out only to find Yuki showing a fed-up expression and Betty behind as if she was about to die.'

"Did you finally give up?" Yuki asked while frowning. "I'm tired of seeing you here every day."

"Can I stop this? I'm tired of meditating..." Betty moaned'

'It looked like Betty also meditated for three days

as for Ren

he was a busy person

and he didn't have the nerve to stay like that for three days in Makoto's home.'

"We are done here; I believe I completed the first step

" Leon said.'

""Yeah

right..." Yuki smirked.'

"See for yourself." Leon activated Mana Armor.'

'When Yuki felt the layer of mana around Leon

she couldn't help but frown. Although the result was a bit different

he could use that to feel mana to some extent. However

to reach her level

he would have to make that layer of mana less dense but bigger.'

"Is it finally time to go home?" Betty asked.'

'"Yes

we solved most of our problems

" Leon answered. "So

it's time for us to train as much as we can before the next problem arises."

'It looked like Magic Armor could absorb physical and magic damage

at the cost of Leon's mana

he wouldn't suffer any wound even if a grenade explodes under his feet. It was very interesting

but it was still inefficient. Besides

if he wanted

he couldn't protect his allies with that skill. The mana shield was possible the long-ranged version of that skill

and Leon was quite certain he would learn it while he tries to expand that layer to feel other people's mana. Just when Leon was about to leave

he heard Yuki's voice coming from behind.'

"Hey... if you manage to learn how to heal wounds

I want you to teach me." Yuki said as if it was a matter of fact. "You observed me learn that

so I have the right."

"I don't know if you have the right or anything

but... sure." Leon said.'

'It wouldn't be simple to teach something that he didn't even learn

but by doing so

he would make Makoto owe him a few favors. Although Leon could do a lot of things by himself

support from allies would save him a lot of time.'

'Although Leon was hungry and thirsty

he decided to buy just a few things and eat along the way

even though it wasn't that pleasant to eat inside a monster's mouth. However

they at least had to say farewell to Makoto. Surprisingly

he was having his breakfast alone and decided to invite them.'

"You certainly are a hard worker

Leon

" Makoto said. " I couldn't meditate for three days straight even if my life were on the line.""

"It's just a matter of practice

Your Majesty

" Leon said. "I want to help a friend

so I want to learn that as soon as possible. Besides

the knowledge of how to heal people will prove useful to humanity. Since your daughter gave me a few pointers

I will teach her once I learn it."

"You have my gratitude

" Makoto said.'

'Although Makoto was the emperor

his breakfast was somewhat standard. Although the taste of everything was superb

he always eats simple things. Fortunately

he was a fan of pancakes

so Leon and Betty had a good time eating with him.'

'It looked like Ren was busy doing something

so they left without saying goodbye. That being said

they would see each other

probably... so there was no need to worry about such things. On the way back

Betty started a conversation while Leon was trying to expand the Magic Armor.'

"Did I already meditate enough?" Betty asked. "How about some practical lessons?"

"... All right

is there some kind of element do you wish to focus on?" Leon asked. "I bet everyone can learn the four basics relatively fast

but it's better to focus on one. Gisela did that

and she learned one spell after training for one month."

"I want to learn fire spells

" Betty said.'

'''Well

you do look like an arsonist

but we aren't in a good place to train fire manipulation

" Leon explained. "You already know Earth Manipulation

you should try Water Manipulation now."

'It was a bit more complicated than earth

but Betty learned Water Manipulation quite fast. However

she found some difficulties trying to control the wind. So

while she was practicing

Leon resumed his own training. Now that he learned the basics

he just has to be patient that eventually

he would reach the desired level.'

'Twenty hours later

Leon and Betty were finally back to Las Vegas

and the city was back to its feet. Everything with the exception of the destroyed buildings was back to normal. However...'

"Hey

I see a lot of armed individuals..." Betty frowned. "I thought only fifty soldiers survived."

"I guess a few came here looking for someone to teach them magic

" Leon answered.'

'New York had a lot of survivors

but Leon didn't expect that more than one hundred would come. When they arrived at Amanda's home

Leon finally understood what had happened when he asked her for explanations.'

"It looks like Sarah and Tom also sent that message to several other cities

" Amanda explained. "The survivors from Houston ended up going to all directions

but once they heard that information

they decided to come here. There five hundred soldiers and fifteen hundred regular citizens that wanted to learn magic from you. Most of them are interested in the steel weapons you can make."

'Leon frowned when he heard and then he started to regret a little

the problem of shortage of human resources disappeared

but now he had to teach two thousand people magic... He finally found the thing he could do to make the world better.'

135 Chapter 134

'Teaching two thousand people would be a pain. Although Leon could ask for a payment

he decided to make them work to protect and rebuild the city. Before anything

he decided to divide those two thousand into four groups. Each group would work for six hours protecting the boundaries of the city or working inside to make things more convenient. After that

Leon would teach them for two hours.'

'Leon had a hard time organizing those people

but since they would help the city

he didn't have to do it alone. Everyone helped him

at least everyone who was living in Amanda's house. Amanda

Hector

Betty

Sasha

and even Gisela helped.'

'Some individuals complained when they learned that they had to work in order to live in Las Vegas and to learn magic

and so they left. But the majority decided to help; they became even eager to help after the first day of lessons. Leon managed to make every single of those two thousand survivors use Earth Manipulation.'

"I'm beat..." Leon said and then sat down on Amanda's garden after the fourth lesson.'

"Thanks for your hard work

master

" Gisela said while she was swinging a great sword.'

'It was 08:00 AM; the only ones at home were Gisela

who was training

Maya

who was playing with water ball that was floating around

and Leon

who just finished the first day of the new survivors training. Checking the progress of so many survivors was tiresome

but at least it was worth the hassle. Besides

it wasn't like Leon wasn't training himself. He was making several spears flying around to increase the level of his skills and to make the survivors work hard by showing them something they could do if they try hard.'

"Master

can you please create a heavier sword?" Gisela asked.'

"Sure... It looks like you enjoy training with heavy weapons." Leon frowned and then started to create a heavier greatsword.'

"Yes

I feel alive like never before after training until I barely can move my arms

" Gisela said.'

'Leon could understand that feeling; it was the feeling of accomplishment after surpassing one's limits. However

only physical training wasn't enough. Gisela also needed combat experience. Leon had planned to train her in that regard

fighting against someone more powerful would make her skills level up faster. But now that she couldn't see

that was impossible. It was also dangerous for her to train magic alone

so she would only do it when Leon was around.'

'When Leon finished the greatsword

he frowned at the weight

he barely could swing it

but Gisela could. She had already surpassed him in terms of raw strength

but that was only obvious since Gisela was increasing only her health

strength

speed

and endurance.'

"I guess she more or less has the strength of a rank B soldier... she just needs combat experience."

'Leon wondered if Gisela would accept his help if he offers it

she wanted the power to return home by herself. But obtaining the strength to cross the oceans while defeating megalodons was even harder than learning magic to defeat them. Regardless

that topic was out of the question since Gisela couldn't return home even if she wanted. Without her sight

she wouldn't be able to give directions. So

instead of worrying about that

Leon returned to his practice.'

'Despite the fact that a few demons appeared here and there

things were going well in Las Vegas. Thanks to the Angelic Bow in Amanda's hands

Leon didn't even have to fight. Unfortunately

he would have to return the bow. However

he was wondering if it would be fine to give one of the rings to the Russians. They were far more useful than the bow

but Leon would only do that after he learns telekinesis and gravity himself.'

"Maybe I should pay them instead of giving items..."

'It would be great if they accept it

but since the bow was kept in a holy place

the chances of that happening were relatively small. Maybe instead of that

Leon could create some weapons for them steel arrows and bows were quite powerful

after all. However

that could only be decided once he talks with them.'

'Now that Hector

Amanda

and Sasha had a lot of subordinates

they saw themselves with a lot of free time. Since they weren't the type to waste good chances

they decided to learn magic from Leon during the afternoons. Betty wasn't on the same level

but she also joined them. Thanks to that

Hector and Sasha

who were struggling with the process of learning the first spells

progressed a lot and finally learned Earth Bullet.'

"Hehe

this is so cool

" Hector smirked. "I never thought that being able to attack from far away without using my spear could be so cool."

"Earth Bullets belongs to the weakest class of attack

" Leon explained. " It doesn't have enough piercing power

but I guess it can be useful to knock down human opponents. However

with your current level of intelligence

you won't even be able to annoy a Desert Wolf. You have to meditate more."

"But that is so boring ... "Hector looked away.'

"Working out isn't fun either

but the results are important and motivating

" Leon said. "You will grow stronger if you train and fight; the same applies to magic."

'Aside from Hector

no one complained

so Leon never got tired of helping his friends. Although Gisela couldn't practice new spells

she used the afternoons to meditate since she couldn't swing the whole day a sword which was heavier than herself. The greatsword weighed eighty kilograms and had the size of a male adult. It was so impressive that with each swing

Gisela made anyone nearby feel a powerful wave of wind.'

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'After one week of lessons

all survivors could manipulate the essential elements... to some extent. After that

they decided to focus on training a single element in order to learn an offensive spell as fast as possible. Usually

that would mean that Leon's workload would increase. However

he already explained the theory dozens of times

so the only thing the survivors could do was to practice while he corrects them.'

'Leon also progressed after training his mana to cover the area around his body; he finally learned the magic that could protect himself from projectiles and all sorts of attacks with a barrier that also let his friends approach him.'

'Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Mana Shield.'

'You obtained 01 status points.'

'However

since it was a defensive spell

it didn't work to feel the mana of his allies. Leon was sure that he was on the right path

but he still had to let his mana become thinner to the point where barely any energy was spent.'

"I still can't see mana

but I can feel my own mana around my body. However

considering that it can protect me

it means that it is too dense ... "

'Leon had never been good with delicate work; things would be even more difficult since he was dealing with mana

and the only to control it was with his mind. Still

he had no choice but to learn. Although it was a pity not to train the skills he just learned that could save his life one day

Leon made a promise and his mind; he would do everything in his power to learn how to heal severe wounds.'

'One random day while Leon was trying to make the mana shield thinner

Hector appeared to bother him. Since Gisela was meditating and Maya was sleeping on his arms

he decided not to make much noise.'

'''Leon

can you teach me an electric attack?" Hector asked.'

"Dude... you can't even use an ice spell yet." Leon frowned. "Ice is easy to control and to make; thunder isn't it. Do you really think you can learn such a thing?"

"Can't you give some tips like always?" Hector asked.'

"... I only know a single electric attack

and it isn't user friendly." Leon said. "I eventually will try to learn since the skill to paralyze an enemy is very useful

but for the time being

I decided to learn things that won't hurt me."

"Can you show me?" Hector asked.'

"I can

but what house do you want me to destroy in order to demonstrate that?" Leon asked.'

"Is that powerful and hard to control? It sounds like you are talking about a lightning bolt." Hector laughed.'

'Leon laughed too

but only to make Hector feel like an idiot. Although Hector was annoying

Leon didn't have a single thing to complain about his current life. He lost his parents

but that was something beyond his control. Thanks to the power Leon obtained

now he could spend his days teaching magic to survivors

playing with Maya

and talking with his friends. Considering how happy he was

his four years alone on that island had been worth the trouble.'

'Two weeks passed after that without anything happening

the only thing that happened was some calls that Sarah and Tom made to ask for some more steel bows and arrows. It looked like ordinary citizens decided to participate more actively in defense of the city after a few dungeon breaks that happened. They offered some payment

but Leon denied it. It was better for them to use the coins to strengthen the defense of the cities

if they do a sloppy job even after receiving so much help

Leon will talk with them a little bit.'

'Anyway

after training whenever he had the chance

Leon finally learned the skill he wanted. However

he didn't let that go to his head since it was the first step in order to heal Gisela's eyes.'

'Congratulations! You have learned the skill: Mana Dominion.'

'You obtained 01 status points.'

'The effective range was relatively small

but the more it levels up

the bigger would get. Leon could feel the mana of everything around in a range of three meters around himself. It was so useful that he could predict the enemies' actions just by feeling their flow of mana. As long as he levels up that and keeps active

the chance of him suffering ambush decreased by manifold.'

"Now that I can sense other people's mana

I just have to learn how to stimulate them."

'That being said

before learning how to stimulate other people's mana

Leon had to learn that by making his own wounds heal. All in all

he had to return to the part where he had to wound himself again. Leon couldn't do that in the middle of the day

much less when someone was nearby

so he decided to train that only at night.'

'Like everything Leon learned so far

he had a hard time understanding the principles and making things work the way he wanted. But in the end

after trying several different methods

he succeeded in healing a small bit of a wound. It took another couple of weeks

but by concentrating his mana in a certain part of his body and stimulating that mana

the energy itself reconnected the damaged cells. Still

the system didn't recognize that as a spell.'

"Mmm � � it is probably because I'm slow

and I'm no able to stimulate all the mana in all cells at the same time."

'Regardless

Leon was sure that with practice

he would learn the healing skill

and the second part of his training would be complete. However

the third part would be very difficult. He could heal wounds

but in the last part

he would have to heal body parts that didn't exist anymore. That would be one hell of a challenge.'

137 Chapter 136

'Things were going well

perhaps too well. Leon was living such a good life that he started to kind of fidget

he was still working to solve several problems

but even so

he was having an easy time. He was the kind of guy who couldn't get used to a lifestyle where nothing caused him any trouble; it was all thanks to that island.'

'But in the end

that was just his instincts warning him that soon he would face some serious problems. He understood that when one of Makoto's ninjas suddenly appeared at Amanda's house when they were having breakfast. Everyone with the sole exception of Leon picked their weapons

even Betty

who already knew them. She was quite the scaredy cat...'

"Relax

guys

" Leon said. "He is one of Makoto's subordinates. Did something happen? Did he sent a message?"

"Lady Yuki has been kidnapped; His Majesty requests your assistance." The ninja said.'

"... Who is Lady Yuki?" Amanda asked.'

"She is the princess of Japan

" Leon answered. "How did that happen? I've never seen her leaving the palace."

"The contents of the situation are confidential." The ninja said.'

"I guess people like us can't get involved

" Hector said. "What are you going to do

Leon?"

"You should go and help them; I can teach the survivors while you are away

" Amanda said.'

"...Yeah

" Leon nodded after thinking for a while.'

"I want to help

but I guess His Majesty doesn't want to spread information more than the necessary

" Betty said.'

"Be careful

master

" Gisela said.'

'Leon was quite troubled by that situation

he and Makoto didn't owe anything to each other

if anything

Makoto would be the one who was owing Leon more than a few favors. However

in times of crisis

it is common for a nation to help an allied nation. The Allied Forces of North-America were still organizing themselves after losing the directors so that Makoto couldn't rely on them. He wanted to rely on Leon... it couldn't be helped

but Leon would have to stop his training.'

contact me immediately

" Leon said to everyone.'

'By the look of things

Makoto wanted to solve that problem quietly

even though his daughter's life was one the line

he was aware that he couldn't make an international commotion. That was why he requested Leon's help alone. Anyway

Leon didn't have many things to carry. He already had two big weapons

so carrying the shield of dawn would be troublesome. Aside from his sword and scythe

he decided to take the gloves

the rings just in case. It goes without saying

but he also was using his armor

cape

and amulet.'

'''Well

then

I'm going

" Leon said.'

"Be careful and try to return as soon as possible

" Amanda said.'

'Leon nodded

in a little more than one month

would be Maya's birthday. Leon wanted to be present so that he would work hard for it

but he was aware of the fact that defeating the guys who captured Yuki wouldn't be a walk in the park.'

"I'm sorry

Gisela... even though I promised you..." Leon said.'

"It's all right

master." Gisela smiled. "We'll be waiting for you.""

'Leon nodded

and then he and ninja guy left Las Vegas using a platform of earth. Although those guys could cross distances faster

Leon was aware of the weaknesses of such a convenient skill.'

While he was flying

Leon was concentrated on the job to reach San Diego as soon as possible

but once they were in the mouth of the megalodon

he resumed his training. The best thing he could do was to learn how to heal wounds faster and level up the Mana Dominion. Mana Shield would also help him in the mission. However

he decided to keep his new cards hidden.'

"I doubt that she was kidnapped so easily without the help of someone inside the palace... I have to be careful in order not to let information about me spread too easily."

'As of late

Leon didn't hold back. So

Makoto's spies and spies from other nations knew more or less what Leon could do. With that kind of knowledge

they could find a way to counter his skills

he was training daily in order not to let that happen

but caution was still necessary.'

"Fortunately

Mana Dominion can level up just by being kept activated

and I can recover mana while keeping it active."

'Leon thought of leveling up that skill later

but once he realized he could let that working non-stop even while he was sleeping

he changed his plans. Unfortunately

Mana Shield and Mana Armor didn't work like that. It could only level up by blocking attacks.'

'When Leon arrived in Tokyo

it was already midnight. As soon as they left the megalodon's mouth

the ninja teleported them to the palace

and there Leon saw Makoto arguing with his advisors. Surprisingly

Makoto was arguing and looking viciously at Ren.'

"Your Majesty

I brought Leon." The ninja said and then disappeared.'

"Leon..." Makoto sighed to calm down his nerves. "I thank you for answering my call so fast."

"It is alright

" Leon said. "I believe we don't have time to waste

SO

shall we get to the business?"

'''Yes

two days ago

the palace was attacked by a group of Russian spies

" Makoto explained. "We managed to repel them

but the attack was only a distraction

they had an agent infiltrated

and that agent kidnapped my daughter."

"Who kidnapped her?" Leon asked.'

"Seiji...he and his soldiers struck down the imperial soldiers and fled to Russia

" Makoto said while he was clenching his teeth. "I trusted him

I considered him to be my right-hand

and still he betrayed me

he betrayed all Japan! I cannot forgive him..."

'''So

the baldie did ... " Leon murmured.'

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"Your Majesty

please reconsider!" Ren said. "You don't have to do that yourself!"

"Shut up

Ren

" Makoto said. "What kind of emperor would I be if I don't punish those who threaten my family and betray my country? If I don't do that myself

I don't deserve to be the emperor; I don't deserve to be a father."

'Leon frowned when he heard that

it was only obvious why

but Makoto was way too nervous. He wanted to participate in the mission to rescue his daughter

and he also wanted to kill with his own hands

those who betrayed Japan. Ren looked at Leon

hoping that he could persuade Makoto; by the look of things

the other advisors didn't dare to argue with emperor when he was so decided to do something. Although Ren was new in that position

he was the only one who said clearly that it was a stupid idea.'

"Your Majesty

I also think that is a bad idea

" Leon said.'

'Leon didn't know how strong Makoto was

but considering that he trained at the earth dragons' dungeon

he wasn't a weakling. However

he wasn't just strong; Makoto was also a very important figure for the country. The imperial family was that influential at the moment.'

"I'm sorry Leon

I'm thankful for the fact that you are willing to help

" Makoto said. "However

not even an ally like you will change my mind."

"Your Majesty! Do you have any idea what will happen to Japan if you die?!" Ren got up and shouted. "If something happens to you and Lady Yuki

then our nation will certainly will ... "

"Shut up! I'm going to make sure that nothing will happen to her!" Makoto raised his tone. "If you say such a foolish thing again

you will pay the price."

'It looked like Leon misjudged Makoto's personality. Although he wasn't young

he was very hot-blooded. Anyway

he sure knew how to put Leon in a bad spot; if something happens to him

the chances of the Allied Forces losing Japan was an ally were quite high. By the look of things

Makoto only had two kids and if Leon fails in the mission... then they surely would lose Japan was an ally.'

'Still

Leon could understand Makoto's anger; if something similar happens to Amanda or Maya

he will destroy half of the world to rescue them. Leon could barely keep his head cool when his friends were injured or threatened by his enemies; if something happens to his family

it wouldn't be strange if he decides to destroy a few cities or even countries. He had the resources to create an army of skeletons

and he had the patience to train alone on an island for four years

after all.'

"I never liked baldie all that much

but I thought he was quite loyal

" Leon said. "Did something happen for him to change his mind?""

"Yes..." Makoto sighed. "After you dealt with those three

we observed Sarah and Tom for a while. Eventually

we concluded they wouldn't cause any problems for the time being

so I decided to move the majority of my spies that were working in America to other locations. Seiji didn't approve of my actions. Then a few days later

it happened."

"Is that all?" Leon frowned.'

'''No

it looked like he was waiting for an opportunity

" Makoto explained. "We investigated his residence

and we found clues that showed that he has been maintaining contact with those who help the power in China

India

and Russia's territories. He waited until he concluded that Russia would win the battle for Europe and Asia. To show his loyalty

he kidnapped my daughter."

"I see... well

I guess in the end

his reasons don't matter all that much." Leon said. "When will we depart?"

"Leon!" Ren frowned.'

"What? I tried

and I can't imagine him giving up on the idea." Leon said. "I don't have the influence or persuasive power to convince him of staying here. The only for him to stay behind is by locking him a steel cage or by beating the crap out of him. Do you want me to do that to Your Majesty?"

'In the end

Ren could only show an exasperated expression. Makoto was the emperor of Japan; there wasn't a single person on earth that could convince him of staying at home. Ren was also aware that Leon was in a bad position. In the worst-case scenario

all his work of the previous months will be for naught.'

"We will decide that soon

for the time being

you should rest and wait

" Makoto said. "The room you used before is available

we will call you eventually."

'Leon nodded; it looked like Makoto was being careful. He probably already had decided everything

but also decided to hid that information in case Seiji left a spy behind. Leon doubted that he would be able to rest before such a critical mission

he had to rescue Yuki and make sure that Makoto won't die. Considering the dangers of the situation

he decided to train as much as possible; there was a chance that the healing spell would come in handy.'

- 'Health: 75/75 +'
- 'Mana: 1814 +'
- 'Stamina: 70 +'
- 'Strength: 66 +'

'Dexterity: 10 +'

'Speed: 42 +'

'Intelligence: 281 +'

'Endurance: 84 +'

'Control: 117 +'

'Mentality: 97 +'

'Luck: 01 +'

'Recovery: 600 +'

'Willpower: 75 +'

'Coins: 775471'

'Status: 00'

'Skill List'

'Active Skills: Earth Manipulation Lv 62

Water Manipulation Lv 37

Wind Manipulation Lv 34

Fire Manipulation Lv 36

Earth Transformation Lv 39

Water Transformation Lv 29

Wind Transformation Lv 34

Fire Transformation Lv 33

Earth Creation Lv 42

Water Creation Lv 37

Wind Creation Lv 31

Fire Creation Lv 36

Mana Armor Lv 02

Mana Shield Lv 02

,

Mana Dominion Lv 13

'Passive Skills: Pain Resistance Lv 21

Spearmanship Lv 54

Sleep Resistance Lv 13

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'Leon had to wait for an entire day before a ninja transported him to outside of Tokyo. Fortunately

he used that time to practice healing skills. That said

he still had a long way ahead of him before he could truly learn the spell.'

'Much to Leon's surprise

he appeared in the middle of nowhere

and he didn't see the team that would help him

he only saw Makoto.'

'''Good

keep an eye on things while I'm away

" Makoto said. "If you flnd any important information

you should only share with the advisors in the meeting room and when all of them are present."

'''Yes

Your Majesty." The ninja who brought Leon nodded and then disappeared.'

"Shall we go?" Makoto asked.'

"Wait a minute

Your Majesty." Leon frowned. "Where are the other members of the team who will rescue the princess?"

"We are the team

" Makoto said as if it was a matter of fact.'

"You can't be serious..." Leon facepalmed.'

"You can rest assured

Leon

" Makoto said. "Although I don't have the means to defeat you

I'm the strongest soldier of my own army. Besides

after Seiji's betrayal

I can't trust anyone who has power. You are powerful

but you obtained the power to reunite with your family

so I can trust you."

"I'm thankful for having your trust

Your Majesty

" Leon said. "But still... this is crazy. Do you understand what you are doing? Although I don't have a daughter

I would do some crazy things to protect my sister and niece

but I'm an ordinary person

and you are not. Can't you see that you are putting your country in a bad spot?"

"Don't worry about it

I solved the most pressing matters

" Makoto explained. "The advisors can deal with the minor issues that will present themselves in the next few days."

'Leon could only sigh

he already knew that Makoto was crazy enough to participate in the mission to rescue his daughter

but not crazy enough to only select two people for the job. Still

Leon was aware that it was a waste of time convincing him

but he still tried for a while. In the end

Leon would have to succeed in the craziest of the missions.'

"What is the plan

Your Majesty?" Leon asked.'

'"First

you will have to call me by my name

" Makoto said. "Seiji and his soldiers left the castle using a similar skill that my ninjas use. So

we lost them completely; we don't have any idea where they went. Our only option is to look by them by investigating the hard way. I doubt that they already reached Moscow

so we have to look for them before they reach their goal."

"Can't you use your spies to find them?" Leon asked.'

"... All the spies that I used to watch the Russias stopped giving their reports two days ago." Makoto explained. "Perhaps they are dead

or perhaps they are working for Seiji."

'Leon felt a headache; in that mission

they truly couldn't wait to be helped by anyone. To make matters worse

Russia was stupidly large

Leon had no idea where to go or what kind of routes Seiji and his lackeys would use.'

"I don't know anything about the geography of Russia

so I will follow your orders

" Leon said.'

"Let's start by going to the North

" Makoto said. "We should use your earth platforms as much as we can at night. By the day

we should walk to avoid suspicious since you already are well-known in my country."

'It looked like not even Makoto's spies knew how fast Leon could be. For some reason

Leon didn't saw a single flying dragon since he left the island

so he crossed the ocean flying without worrying about attacks. When morning came

Leon and Makoto arrived at Russian East Coast near a place called Vladivostok.'

"To think that you could fly so fast..." Makoto said

visibly impressed.'

'n his own Leon could fly at almost seventy meters per second. While carrying his luggage and Makoto he could only fly at fifty meters per second. But he decided to keep that information hidden.'

"Makoto

can you speak Russian?" Leon asked.'

"Yes

" Makoto answered.'

"In that case

I will let you do the talk in case we find someone

" Leon explained. "If you see that people are getting too suspicious of us

you should cough three times

that will be the sign for me to attack anyone nearby."

"All right

but let's not be hasty

" Makoto said. "A few Russians wanted my daughter

but that doesn't mean that all Russians are to be blamed for the crime."

'''Well

it's your call

I will just obey

" Leon said. "By the way

do you fight with your bare fists? Where are your weapons and equipment?"

"Information about the weapons and equipment I use is common knowledge in Japan

" Makoto explained. "So

I decided to leave everything behind and just brought my sword.'

"... Where is your sword?" Leon frowned.'

'For a second

Makoto made a silver katana float above his right hand. It was a magic weapon that could appear and disappear according to his will and looked very convenient and powerful.'

"I guess that will do

" Leon said. "Anyway

first

let's rest for a while. I will make some equipment to use and disguise ourselves.'

'That region seemed empty

but they still had to be careful. After hiding themselves behind a few rocks near the beach

Makoto watched the surroundings for people and monsters

meanwhile Leon made two sets of armor. Although the final product looked quite good

it was very thin since it was only a disguise. Leon made sure to make helmets that would hide their faces well.'

"I guess this is enough for the time being

" Leon said. "Use those gloves under your gauntlets; this should keep you alive."

'As much as Leon wanted to use those gloves to protect himself

it was better to let Makoto use them. Everything in order to avoid the worst-case scenario.'

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'Although Makoto's plan was crazy

at least he came prepared. He had brought the magic box that could store a stupid amount of things

and inside of it

he stored everything that they would need for the journey

including a stupid amount of mana potions. If Leon had imagined he would do something so insane

he would have brought the shield of dawn.'

'Anyway

thanks to the spies' work

Makoto had a pretty detailed map of Russia's territory. The map showed the best roads

what cities were being used by survivors

and even the localization of dungeons. Still

despite so much information

Leon couldn't help but frown. All because to reach Moscow

they would have to travel seven thousand kilometers. It was almost the same distance between New York and Rome.'

'To make matters worse

since Russia had a lot of dungeons and its territory was vast

the number of monsters was high everywhere. Although Leon was using earth to auxiliary their movement while they pretend they were running

they had to stop many times to fight. They got attacked by Ice Slimes

Frost Dire Wolves

Frost Bats

and Frost Trents.'

'Makoto charged forward like a bullet

and with a single swing of his sword

he split the head of a Frost Dire Wolf. He heard the sound of something hissing through the air

Makoto turned and used his sword to block perfectly an Ice Arrow that a Frost Bat shot. Once again

he charged forward

but in the last moment leaped to split Frost Bat in two.'

'Meanwhile

Leon used his spear to cut a Trent in pieces swinging his spear horizontally. Those were slow and big

their only advantage was their long-ranged magic

which was the lcicle field

and Frost leaves

but by using earth under his feet

Leon was fast enough to kill them. Contrary to the other slimes

Frost slimes were quite easy to kill with physical attacks because their cores were made of ice.'

'Anyway

even though Makoto was the emperor of Japan

his fighting style was quite simple. There were no elegant footwork or skills. He used brute strength to overpower the enemies

speed to surprise them

and lightning reflexes to stop their attacks.'

"Fighting without using magic is a pain..." Leon said while he used a steel spear to pierce the head of a Frost Bat."

"I feel the same way

" Makoto said. "Fighting without my katana makes me feel weird. That being said

you are quite strong

even without magic."

'Leon created a spear for him to use since Spearmanship level was quite high. As for Makoto

he was using a long steel sword that Leon also made. It wouldn't be weird if some Russians use katanas

but it was better to avoid any suspicions.'

"Makoto

is there any chance that Seiji's new friends may ask for ransom?" Leon asked.'

"I don't think they will

they are probably planning to use my daughter and make me surrender my country

" Makoto answered. "Then

on the first chance

they will kill Yuki and me. After that

they will kill the advisors and every single famous soldier in order to make the population lose all the hope and surrender themselves."

'Leon nodded

in the end

without leaders or those related to them

ordinary soldiers and citizens would have no choice but to follow the new chain of command. It wouldn't be weird if Seiji did that to become the new leader of Japan. The people leading the Russian survivors had a lot of territories to maintain

so the best option would be to put loyal individuals to keep things under control.'

"I can understand that the chances are low

but what will happen if they ask for ransom?" Leon asked. "What if some other problems happen while you are away."

"Not to worry

I gave my ninjas the order to only give my advisors reports in the meeting room for a reason

" Makoto explained. "I put several electronic devices around that place

and I can hear everything there in real-time."

'Makoto pointed to a small earphone on his ear... Although he was a hot-blooded middle-aged man

he wasn't a fool. For some reason

he had faith in the ninjas that worked in Tokyo

but Leon decided not to ask. Like William

Makoto probably has his own way of keeping things on a tight leash.'

'Since Leon and Makoto were quite close to Chinese territory

it didn't take long before they found some survivors. However

the situation wasn't like they expected. The number of monsters was plenty in that region

but they saw Russian and Chinese survivors killing each other. Leon and Makoto decided to hide behind a hill and observe the battle.'

"We are only here for a few hours

and we already found survivors killing each other..." Leon frowned. "I knew that the situation between those three countries wasn't good

but to think they would fight even here ... "

"The situation is pretty much like this all over the borders between Russia and China

" Makoto explained. "Even though both nations have a lot of dungeons

they start a fight whenever someone tries to steal resources."

'Leon nodded

in the distance

he could see a cargo truck

and it looked like the Russians were trying to slow down the Chinese survivors. Things were so tense that they didn't even consider trading or selling resources amongst themselves.'

'''Well

it's only obvious. When one or more powers are fighting for hegemony

they use many methods to weaken their rivals."

'That being said

the number of monsters around was so big

that stealing resources from dungeon wasn't even necessary. Both sides were just wasting time and doing those crimes just to piss each other off. Leon thought that after four years

the world has stabilized

but he couldn't be more wrong. With the sole exception of Japan

the whole Asia and Europe was a warzone. No wonder he had such an easy time 'borrowing' the Angelic Bow...'

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'Leon and Makoto found a road that would lead them directly to the next big city. However

that road was very near to the border

and since it was in pretty good shape

both Russians and the Chinese used that. Leon could see the signs of dozen of battles nearby.'

"I don't think it's a good idea to move during the day

" Leon said. "I can build an underground shelter

and we can move freely at night using my earth platform."

"Unfortunately

they don't fight only during the day

" Makoto said. "I also heard that the Russians managed to save a lot of their military equipment. It's only a rumor

but it seems that they have several satellites working and in orbit. We will be noticed if we move too fast."

'Leon nodded

since their territory was big

several military facilities escaped the dragons' rampage of four years ago. Although guns were quite useless now

there were other ways to kill a human and obtain an advantage over other nations.'

"Luckily

most humans move faster than cars now

" Makoto added. " And I'm pretty sure that Seiji and the other traitors are moving by car

so we have a chance to intercept them before they reach Moscow."

'''So

we have to find them before they reach Moscow

" Leon said. "However

we cannot get noticed by their satellites

and we also have to discover the route they are using ""

'Makoto nodded

acknowledging that it was easier said than done. Regardless

it was the only thing they could do

so there was no point in complaining. Along the way

Leon and Makoto found several survivors camp. Although several cities in Russia had been recovered

the numbers of survivor's camps were stupidly high because a lot of the survivors who couldn't fight became farmers. Thanks to mana

any plant could bear fruit in a matter of a few hours. So

those who didn't want to fight used their mana to plant and reap food while a few soldiers protect them. That being said

Leon and Makoto didn't find more than two soldiers in each of those camps

and they didn't look all that reliable. The same thing as that was also probably being done in America

but Leon didn't notice until now.'

"Maybe I should see with my own eyes the situation of the new farms back home... I don't think there could be so terrible like this

but I guess it's a good idea to think of a way of how to decrease the danger to the farmers."

'Leon created steel bows and arrows

Tom and Sarah probably sent some of those to protect those places

but he wondered if that was enough. It wasn't easy to master a bow

something more friendly-user would be preferable...'

"Like a rapid-fire crossbow... it would become pretty heavy an object made of steel that could shot steel bolts

and the survivors would have a hard time maintaining the crossbow usable

but it was more useful to save lives."

'Leon would have to do a few tests

but it looks promising... but he also felt that he was only creating more problems for him to solve. Anyway

after running for an entire day

Leon and Makoto arrived at a city called Khabarovsk. Although it was pretty close to China

the city was pretty big and had a lot of houses that endured the chaos of four years ago. As expected of a place so near the border

the security was tight. The number of guards was tight

but they stopped those who looked strong and had magic items. Leon's magic items were inside the magic box

but he and Makoto also were stopped. Apparently

one of the guards didn't like Leon's eyes.'

'Leon tried to act naturally

and Makoto stepped forward to talk with the guards. Eventually

the guards lowered their guards

and then Makoto whispered something on a certain guard's ear before offering a handshake. Makoto bribed him.'

"What did you say?" Leon asked.'

"One of the guards said that you looked too suspicious

too angry..."Makoto explained. "I said to them that we lost a few friends in a recent battle

and we separated from the other members of our group. We are here to look for them

and I also paid the guard to make him help us."

"Won't that backfire us?" Leon frowned. "If we leave a trace behind..."

"Don't worry

he offered himself to help

" Makoto said. "But it's clear that he only said to gain a few easy coins

he won't do anything. Anyway

don't talk

all right? They don't like strangers."

'Leon nodded

even though he whispered it was better to be safe than sorry. Fortunately

the number of soldiers using helmets and armor was quite high

even inside the city. It was probably because that city suffered a little from dungeon breaks. Thanks to that

no one looked at Leon or Makoto when they entered one tavern without taking off their gear.'

'Even though they had a lot of supplies inside the magic bag

Makoto ordered them a lot of food and beer. It had been a long time since Leon drunk anything alcoholic

and he didn't like the idea of drinking while working

but it was necessary to do that as a cover. Makoto intended to stay there for a while and hoping to hear something interesting

after all. However

the mood in the tavern was quite gloomy. Everyone was drinking silently.'

'For some reason

Leon didn't feel anything while drinking the beer

even though it had been a while

beer was weak like juice. After drinking the fifth glass

Leon frowned while looking at Makoto

but he just shrugged. It looked like the problem was with him.'

"Mmm... maybe my Poison Resistance is counter-attacking the effects of the alcohol."

'It was the only logical explanation

and considering that he spent four years eating slightly poisoning fish

it was kind of obvious. Anyway

when Makoto realized that Leon couldn't get drunk

he had an idea.'