

Vile 101

Chapter 101: Purple Lightning Snake

“Where are we going, Erni?”

“Hm? Why did you call me Erni instead of the usual Eren?”

“I just felt I should call you by that name. Aunt Nina calls you that, right? Hmph! I can call you the same then. And you didn’t answer my question.”

Eren was seen traversing through the forest again, heading away from the cave he had selected to go through his transformation at.

Reen was now absorbed into Eren’s body. And they were talking via their mental connection. Of course, Eren was sharing his senses with the latter as well.

After getting out of the cave, Eren had told Reen to destroy it. This was another of his safety precautions to keep Reen hidden from any prying eyes. The guy was always paranoid about random things.

She could cast the same spells as him now after going through that transformation.

The magic beasts and demon beasts had their way of casting spells. Their spellcasting was a fusion of various concepts. The concepts that humans referred to as schools of spells.

The beasts didn’t have to study the spells like humans. They’d just develop a set of innate spells inherently available to their species.

Reen had her species-related innate spells, which unfortunately weren’t that offensive. One of them was a healing spell that she had used a while back on Eren.

But after the transformation, she could mimic Eren’s mana circuit within her and use it to cast spells like him.

The most advantageous thing Reen had going for her was the fact that she had an elemental affinity in all the elements. And her innate nature of devouring didn’t create any conflict with her casting of spells. The inherent nature devoured the concepts of humanoid spell-casting and allowed Reen to make them her own.

Plus, Reen had Eren’s memories and experiences of those spells available to her. So it was only natural that a C-Rank demon beast like her learned to cast the F-Rank spells instantly.

“Well, we are going to complete some missions first. And then have a look at the site I told you about.”

“But weren’t you going to involve Marla in your plan to retrieve Malva Hibiscus?”

“I am still planning to if there’s a need. But I’m just going to take a quick look first.”

If I can avoid manipulating Marla into helping me, I would. Every instance of manipulation takes a chunk away from the layer of trust after all. We need to use such instances frugally to make the best use of them.”

“*Sigh! Erni, I still can’t understand half the things you say. Never mind. Let’s go to our next destination.”

Reen was getting smarter at interpreting a lot of things including human interaction. But the concept of manipulation was still a difficult subject for her straightforward beastly mindset to grasp in a short time.

Reen coated Eren’s legs with her slimy stuff to strengthen them before executing Blitz Steps her way. This was the absolute maximum speed the butcher’s current body could withstand without feeling any repercussions.

Reen was making use of spell hyperdrive from Eren’s memories to get the maximum juice out of the spell while ensuring Eren’s safety. And as she was a C-Rank beast, she wouldn’t receive any backlash from the hyperactive spell execution as long as her mana storage supported it.

Unknown to Eren and Reen herself, she was getting very adapted to using spells belonging to a particular school even though her mimicry of mana circuits within herself wasn’t a complete match to that of humans. It was like she was trying to combine two concepts to create something that belonged to her.

“These snakes are so irritating. You want me to eat them?”

“This magic beast is called Nuuhaietlik or by its common name, Purple Lightning snake. It’s a lightning element beast with a focus on speed and agility, just like me. And yeah you can eat some of them.

But not before I battle with a few meant for my use. The retrieval of their bodies is part of my Besanc mission. I want the proof of a genuine battle present on their bodies before I can submit them to Besanc and complete that mission.”

A bunch of oversized purple snakes were staring at the new intruders who barged into their nests unceremoniously. At first, they only saw a mere human in the liquid stage of the F-Rank. With their sheer numbers, they could overwhelm him in no time.

But then Reen started talking with Eren openly and made the poor beasts realize who they were up against. The boy was hiding a demon beast in his body.

But their survival instincts kicked in the face of adversity. And it caught fire after seeing that the human boy was the only one who was going to go against them.

The species of Nuuhaietlik, AKA Purple Lightning snake, was known for its speed and agility. Its lightning-based innate spells were strong too. But the beast had an unpredictable way of taking part in the frontal assault. It would retreat midway before initiating a counter move from the state of defence.

That’s why it was difficult for F-Rank humans to keep up with the beast’s attack if their class wasn’t focused on speed and agility as well. After all, no matter how powerful your spells are, it’s a game over if your attacks can’t land on the enemy and theirs do.

Eren had Reen's speed boost that she gave him after casting Blitz Steps her way. He made use of Sedated Perception to tackle the snakes' speed and took care of them one by one.

At the end of the fight, most of the young Nu Haietlik backed down from a fight and retreated deeper into their dens. Almost all the adult snakes had been killed by Eren. Reen had already separated herself from Eren and was relishing the dead bodies of the snake buffet her master had created for her.

"Reen, make sure you eat them well, nice and slow. Because you are going to mimic their body type and innate spells. And manifest your presence in the form of these snakes when I call for your support with people around me."

That's right. Eren had another reason to hunt the F-Ranked Purple Lightning snake. He already had the Beast Contract spell in his possession. And it was in LA's records. The administration might get curious if he didn't make use of the transcendent spell to tame a beast for himself.

That's why he accepted this particular Besanc mission. The records of Besanc and Novice Treasury would offer a cover for his newfound powers.

As for Reen mimicking the magic beast's form. It was even simpler. She could mimic the specialities of the prey she ate. She needed to eat a couple of Nu Haietlik more to comprehend their way of casting the species-related innate spells. But she had plenty of them to do just that.

Reen morphed into a beautiful girl after she was done eating the snakes in her slime form. She mimicked the form of Nu Haietlik exactly before jumping straight onto Eren.

A wondrous scene was taking place at this time. The giant purple snake was absorbed into the boy's body and disappeared without leaving a trace. Next, the boy closed his eyes and concentrated while moving his lips a little. It seemed like he was talking to somebody. But it could also be that he was speaking spell incantations.

When he opened his eyes, Eren and Reen were ready to cast their dummy Beast Contract spell. Eren's skin started manifesting scales and a slight purple tinge over it. The area under his eyes also started turning green and his pupils seemed vertical, akin to that of a beast.

Eren's legs that had blue tongues of lightning surrounding them now had a few streams of purple lightning mixed. In short, Eren's visage had changed drastically after executing the dummy Beast contract spell.

Next, he tried the beast manifestation. Eren followed the instructions to a T but only a lifeless mana body appeared in front of him before dissipating into a thin air. This was to be expected. Reen's soul hadn't left her body. There was no soul tattoo imprinted on the caster's body from which to draw the soul.

That's why the beast manifestation part of the Beast Contract spell didn't succeed. Eren needed to do more research on the mana body-related spells so that he could emulate this part of the spell too. Meanwhile, he could pretend that he hadn't mastered the beast manifestation.

But whatever Eren had done now was enough for him to initiate his next set of plans. Even without the beast manifestation, he was confident in tackling most problems that might come in his way.

With this effortless execution, Eren now had the option to call forth and depend upon Reen when he was in a pinch without blowing his cover. Of course, Reen was only allowed to manifest the prowess of an F-Rank magic beast.

Eren practised his moves while he was in the contract beast form. Reen had adapted to the snake completely. That's why her mimicry of the snake's manifestation allowed the butcher to experience the same boost in speed and agility as he might have had if he had gone for a normal Beast Contract spell with the Nuu Haietlik.

He nodded to himself after confirming everything about the dummy spell was as per his requirements. He told Reen to cancel the manifestation before looking in a faraway direction:

"Now let's check out this thing called Malva Hibiscus, shall we?"

Chapter 102: Training Regime

"Do you sense anything, Reen?"

Eren was seen hiding behind a large tree. In front of him was a large waterfall that had been created by the Leona river making its way through the uneven terrain. The other side of the river was regarded as the Themyscira region.

That's right! Eren was here to see if he could take away Malva Hibiscus without anyone's help. Levine had told him he'd be able to find the ingredient after entering the Themyscira Amazon's region.

But what she didn't know was that the ingredient was located not far from the border itself. The same border between the Amazon's and LA's respective areas of governance.

The butcher was hiding because the C-Rank beast that was protecting the Malva Hibiscus was said to be dwelling in this area. In the previous timeline, the time at which the 5th year student had retrieved the ingredient was during winter when the C-Rank beast that was protecting it was drowsy due to hibernation.

But it was still summer during this timeline. Eren couldn't count on catching the C-Rank beast off guard. He had to either avoid the beast completely or kill it then and there. Because the beast would keep on following his trail if he tries to break free after getting detected.

That's why he was depending upon Reen's senses. She was scanning the area with her mana sense to locate the C-Rank magic beast. And since she was a demon beast, the mana beast won't necessarily act in a hostile manner after being scanned by her senses.

"Um... I have good news and bad news. The good news is that the beast is old and injured. It's a tiger type beast that is suffering from an injury on one of its hind legs. It is currently resting on a raised platform created by a large rock located on the other side of the river. Not very far from here.

The bad news is that the beast who must have injured it is also nearby. It is also a tiger type beast that is also suffering from a gaping wound on its abdomen. It seems there was a turf war.

The nearest beast from us has lost the battle. But it is refusing to let go of the ingredient it is protecting. The young beast that has won the turf battle wants to make sure it is in good health before their showdown begins for the next time.

But the old beast is cunning. It is planning to attack the young beast at night to take care of it for good, allowing it to secure both the turf and the ingredient necessary for evolution.”

Eren was left aghast by the amount of information that was provided to him. He couldn't help but ask:

“Reen, who told you about the beasts' past and their current plans?”

“The beasts themselves. They first asked me about the reason for my presence here. I told them I'm just passing by before enquiring them about their current situation. They were relieved by my answer and told me these on their own.

Oh! They also told me not to interfere in their business otherwise they'd forget the hierarchy and start to fight with me for real without worrying about the consequences.”

Reen said all this like it was the most natural thing in the world. Eren slapped his forehead after hearing her explanations. Of course! She was a demon beast and could communicate with beasts of all kinds. He had subconsciously started treating her like a person. So he forgot about the peculiarity of the demon beasts.

Then the realization hit him. What the fifth year student faced or dodged was not only a demon beast in its hibernation but also the one that had been worn down by the constant turf battles with another of its kind.

But that realization didn't help Eren in his current predicament. He could create a distraction for the old beast and take the ingredient from the area under its control swiftly before running away.

The C-Rank ingredient was going to be hidden and not get easily located. But with treasure-finder Reen beside him, he wasn't worried too much about that fact. He knew he'd find Malva Hibiscus, retrieve it, and be long gone before the injured beast could snap out of the distraction and do something about it.

But the second beast had complicated matters. If he encroaches on the disputed land, both the beast will get focused on eliminating Eren first before setting their quarrel.

That meant the battle was evident if he decides to make his move now. And he wasn't ready for such a battle at all. Even with a non-battle type demon beast fighting alongside him, he couldn't overcome the challenge raised by two magic beasts in the C-Rank. Plus, he needed to adjust his battle style to his current equipment and BTP level. He couldn't just enter the fray blindsided without fine-tuning his battle skills to his current standards.

Eren's mind was clear after thinking things through. It came to a decision quickly after having all the facts at its disposal.

He needed to retreat and come up with a different plan. The butcher wasn't suicidal. Neither was he someone who liked to put himself in mortal peril before being assured of the benefits.

Eren retreated the way he came from without wasting a second more in there. He needed to plan things up a little before coming here again. But when his plans succeed, he won't just have the ingredient but also the bodies of two C-Rank beasts. He could make a small fortune selling them off in a black market.

Two days had passed and Eren was back at the check-post again. Marla was waiting for him there as they had planned.

“Holy Artemis, you broke through into the liquid stage already? Whaaa... what did you do?”

The first question Marla asked Eren was driven by utter surprise. The boy had just raised his BTP suddenly. But now he had even crossed a small stage. There was something up with this student.

“Aaah! Yes. Even I wasn’t planning to break through into the liquid stage of the F-rank but was still able to because of a transcendent spell.”

“Go on.”

Marla wanted him to explain further. Which the butcher did with his blend of truth and bullshitery. He concluded his explanation with his recent success in completing the Besanc missions he had assigned to himself.

“Purple Lightning snake must have been an apt match for you to break through like that. Your choice to go for that beast was spot on.

That’s the secret behind any successful ranker. They are less famous for their talents and more for the choices they made along their respective journeys. You too are up to a good start.

Anyway! It’s good that you broke through the next stage. It’d help you greatly in the upcoming intraclass ranking wars. And it’d also help you in your regime planned by me.”

Let’s not waste time anymore. Here’s your regime. Your ID stone will keep track of your daily progress.”

Saying that Marla sent him his regime through her spectral screen. Eren opened the screen from his end and accepted the same. Now he could see a new tab gets opened that read ‘Official Apprenticeship’. And the sub-tab had the list of his daily regime.

The variety of exercises and the number of their reps were overwhelming. And what was even more overwhelming was the fact that he couldn’t take weekends off in his exercise schedule.

Eren had a sweat on his forehead just thinking about following this regime. And this was after he had broken through into the liquid stage.

And he couldn’t skip any of the variations or tweak the number of reps his way because the ID stone was going to keep track of things. The butcher never thought Marla was a low-key sadist by giving him this schedule when she thought he was still in the initial stage of the F-rank. Things would have gotten much worse if Eren had decided to break into mid-stage before meeting the voluptuous amazoness two days ago.

“Chop chop, boy. Your daily regime has started from today. If you want a productive afternoon and evening, you might want to start completing the daily regime in the morning. And make sure to have plenty of nutritious food and sound sleep every day. Otherwise, your body would just break down instead of getting better due to the training.

You will meet me twice a week. I'll inform you about the scheduled date, time, and place along with the job type. Don't worry. I will make sure that your potion-making lessons along with the paid lectures you want to be part of don't clash with my meeting schedule.

I'll go easy on you today since it's the first day of your daily regime. But we will start fine-tuning your close combat skills and practise live combat practise from the next time. I want to see how well versed you are in using the beast contract spell."

Marla had given Eren a concrete plan. Now he had a stable path planned in front of him in terms of his close combat style. Marla would guide him thoroughly when it comes to the nitty-gritty of the close combat style along with katar usage. He needed to take care of his progress in other departments on his own.

"Thank you, master Marla. I'll make sure to follow your schedule thoroughly. I'll see you after a few days."

Eren bid adieu to Marla and made his way to his dorm house. The days were going to be long and weary from this day onwards for Osan Woods' Butcher.

Chapter 103: Making a Move on Julie

"497... 498... 499... 500!"

Eren completed the last rep of his push-ups and laid on the ground, heavily perspiring. He didn't even have the energy to speak but he wanted to check on his progress. So he called out the spectral screen to check some numbers:

Name- Eren Elijah Idril (Verified)

Organization- Lionhearts Adventurers' Academy

Academic Status- Class 1/C

Ranked Status- unranked

Merit Points- 2,516 + 50

Battle Points- 456

Base Stats:

HP- 4 / 4

MP- 5.1 / 5.1

STR- 2.3

AGI- 3.8

INT- 3.2

BTP~ 18

BTP Visibility- Private

Ranking Technique- Five-star, lightning element, Indra's Levin

F-Rank Spells:

LE, Four-star, movement type: Blitz Steps

LE, Four-star, defence type: Blitz Shield

LE, Four-star, attack type: Blitz Bolt

LE, Four-star, Area of Effect: Blitz Storm

LE, Four-star, healing type: Blitz Heal

TE, Four-star(?), miscellaneous: Sedated Perception

Apprenticeship: Verified

Daily Training Regime: Complete

Run: 5KM / 5KM

Pullup: 500/500

Situp: 500/500

Pushups: 500 /500

Eren's daily training regime was completed with the last round of push-ups. He immediately gained 50 merit points as a result. This was another benefit of doing an LA-verified apprenticeship. Students would gain Merps for staying on their schedule.

Although Eren was rich now, he always welcomed more Merps no matter how big or small the incoming number was.

Eren sat back up and executed his ranking technique. This was the quickest way to get rid of the exhaustion for rankers. And with the liquid-stage F-Rank mana flowing through his mana circuits, it took only an hour for him to come to normalcy.

Eren then got fresh and went to Adapt Levine's lectures. She took a surprise test of her students right after in which the butcher performed splendidly. The Adapt potion-maker didn't ask Eren about the ingredient retrieval. She figured the boy would tell her himself if and when he makes progress.

Eren met up with his team members and discussed a few of the strategies that they could use in the upcoming inter-class ranking wars. Then he took his leave and left the rest of the team members to their devices.

The butcher was going to leave the LA grounds today. Every student could do that a limited number of times every month. And he used this privilege today to go to a bar named Blue Nightingale located in the city of Lionhearts.

Students and LA staff would occasionally visit the city to relax and unwind. It was the closest city they could be in that had all the luxuries they needed.

Plus, the city had strong ties with LA. So the students and especially the LA staff would be treated with respect at any establishment in the city.

Blue Nightingale was a well-known place in the city of Lionhearts. Rich students would also hang out there from time to time. But LA staff benefited the most since they would receive exceptional discounts there.

Eren wanted to go to this very bar because he had asked around and found out that Julie Ekheart was a frequent visitor here.

The woman liked to party. Even when she was in the city of Osan, she had selected a nice place to do her part of info-gathering at; another bar. Tonight she was going to meet someone really special and dangerous.

“Lady, you owe me a drink!”

Julie was busy drinking her wine in the Blue Nightingale when she heard the weirdest claim. She looked up from gazing at the edges of her glass to see a tall, slightly dark man who looked to be in his late twenties. He had a clean shave and short brown hair.

He looked different but the guy’s facial features reminded Julie of Dom Walker. Then chided herself for thinking like that. The guy was either dead or hiding way deep in some remote village somewhere. He wouldn’t come here, to the city of Lionhearts just to get captured and killed.

“Um... what do you mean?”

Julie couldn’t help but ask. She felt there was something off about him. But at the same time, she wanted to engage in talking with him. She felt like she could find a lot of her answers if she talked with this guy.

“I mean you have to take the responsibility.”

The guy replied with a dazzling smile. He didn’t ask for her permission and joined her at the two-person table straightaway. To be honest, Julie didn’t dislike that rude behaviour. She always preferred dominant men.

‘Looks like this evening will be fun. But then again, I say that every evening I come here.’

Julie had this thought and replied to the stranger’s smile with a gorgeous smile of her own. She had another sip of her drink and didn’t say anything.

The LA’s assistant professor just looked at the man sitting opposite her and hinted with her eyes for him to continue.

“Hehe! I said you have to buy me a drink because I dropped mine after looking at you. Now you have to take responsibility for stunning me with your beauty at the worst possible time.”

The man replied with confidence at which Julie couldn't help but laugh. This was the most creative and effortless pick-up line she had heard getting used to her all her life.

The duo got to talking. Julie liked the guy's mature talks that were sprinkled with a hint of wits and sarcasm. She got to know that his name was Ron Damian and that he was a private guard of a merchant troupe.

The man carried himself with elegance. And whatever he spoke just made sense to Julie. Plus, he was an E-Ranker just like her. So their ranking status was also in sync.

But the most attractive thing about him was the fact that he was rich. Julie liked all things rich. And the guy had made sure that he'd show her his wealth by ordering expensive mana-imbued wines that belonged to the exclusive collection.

After random talks, Julie asked Ron what else he had in his arsenal to impress her. To which, Ron was replied with unmatched boldness.

"Hahaha! Yes, I get creative sometimes when I see beautiful women like you. Okay, this is something I came up with just now while talking to you. Listen to this:..."

Chapter 104: Power of Cheesy Pick-up Lines

"I get creative sometimes when I see beautiful women like you. Okay, this is something I came up with just now while talking to you. Listen to this:

Girl, are you a delayed kingdom tax?"

Ron Damian asked Julie as they had just seen each other. The latter was again intrigued by the former's approach:

"And why would you ask that?"

Julie asked while raising her brows and a hint of a smile on her face.

"Because you've got FINE written all over you!"

Ron delivered his jab with a smirk of his own!

Julie couldn't help but laugh wholeheartedly at Ron's weird and extra cheesy pickup lines. But the guy was lucky. Because extra cheesy was exactly how Julie liked things to be.

"Hehe! Okay, one more and we shall finish our talk at the bar!"

Julie looked meaningfully at Ron after saying that. Her subtle message was clear. Ron needed to seal the deal with his last chance so that they could spend the night together. Or he was going to have to talk to his bottle of rum. Either way, the talk at the bar was over.

Ron seemed like he got the drift. He got semi-serious and gave her another verbal jab:

"Alright! Here's the last one: Girl, are you a haunted house?"

Julie didn't seem to like this delivery. Because all the other jabs Ron had given her talked about and praised her beauty. But this question was too odd for those types of positive answers. She thought the guy had gotten off the track but she gave him a chance anyway:

"I'll bite. What does that mean?"

Ron smiled faintly after hearing Julie's obvious question. He kept quiet for a while to build anticipation. And it was working from the looks of things. He delivered his finishing punch when he felt the time was ripe:

"Because I'll scream when I'm in you."

Julie was surprised first after flashing a hushed smile. That smile soon turned into a burst of genuine laughter. She had been convinced:

"Alright! Tell me, Ron, where are we going next?"

"Hehe! My lady deserves only the finest of things. Let's go to Grand Hiyat. I'll call the carriage."

Grand Hiyat was another famous establishment located in the centre of the city. It was preferred as a go-to stay by most nobles and important business tycoons who are passing through the area. Renting a room at the establishment highlighted Ron's heavy wallet even more.

Of course, Julie wasn't stupid. She knew a private guard couldn't afford to spend money like what Ron was doing in front of her. So she asked him about the same. But it seemed like Ron was came prepared with the answer knowing full well he'd be asked something like this:

Ron told her in a hushed voice that he and his employer were dealing in contraband artefacts found in the black market. He was in charge of dealing with the buyers and delivering goods. And in return, his employer would share a part of the profit coming from those shady deals with him.

Only then did things make sense for Julie. She didn't judge the guy for dealing in the black market. She was used to doing those things in her early years anyway. Even now, her unrestricted lifestyle wasn't exactly what one would call ideal.

One wrong thing about Ron assured Julie that everything else was fine. Human interactions were weird that way. One would always try to find fault in a seemingly perfect-looking person just to feel better about themselves. Unblemished characters seemed to always create suspicions in peoples' heads.

"Oooh la la! So this is the luxury room of Grand Hiyat. I must say, I'm impressed. Tell me honestly Ron, how many women have you brought to this place before?"

Julie whistled a little after entering the luxurious room Ron had booked for them. There were embroidered drapes, an elegant interior with intricately carved furnishing, and a king-sized bed with a seemingly fluffy bed.

Every little item or shade of the said item was meant to bode well with the overall visual style of the room. The illuminance was sombre and mellow. And there was a faint scent of sandalwood present inside the room.

In short, the ambience in the room was just right for passionate intimacy.

“Well, to be honest with you Jules, I haven’t brought anyone here. Hehe! You’d be the first.”

Ron said this while resting himself at the window seat that was decorated with floral printed sheets and lush pillows. He took out another bottle of wine from his storage. This was another expensive, E-Rank wine made from one of the finest ingredients.

Ron traced his fingers along the edges of the cork. Seemingly pondering over something as played with the merlot bottle in his hand.

“Why would you lie now, Ron? You and I both know you are a butterfly. I’m not averse to it because, hehe, I also have my wings to fly. But the least we can do at this point is be honest about each other, you know.”

Julie smiled and sat beside Ron who was looking outside the window, gazing at the moons and stars. He didn’t look at his intimate-partner-to-be and only chuckled before replying:

“I’m not lying Jules. I said I haven’t brought anyone “HERE” in the luxury room before. I usually book normal rooms at the Grand Hiyat. So you’re technically the first partner to be brought into the luxury room.

I just thought you were special so I went the extra mile. Hope you liked my gesture.”

Julie was satisfied with Ron’s answer. She wanted to say she did like the gesture. But somehow she felt that the mood demanded silence.

Therefore, the E-Rank lady decided to observe the guy for now.

Ron brought out two wine glasses after a while. And filled them up just enough so that one could swirl the content within without it spilling over. He placed one drink Jules and picked up the other.

Ron swirled his wine ever so lightly in a clockwise and then in a reverse clockwise motion. Only then did he kiss the glass with his lips before gulping the E-Rank potion down, one sip at a time.

Every action of Ron spoke that he was used to the life of luxury. The wine he drank, the clothes he wore, and the uncaring attitude to go for the most expensive choice in everything worth having meant the private guard had a successful career as a middleman in the black market.

‘I’ve caught a rich whale this time it seems. Good for you Julie. Now if you could just make him spend more money on you with tonight’s performance, that’d be great.’

Julie thought to herself. She already started to make plans on how to suck Ron dry of all his money.

What she didn’t know was that Ron also had his designs on her.

Ron Damian was none other than Eren Idril in a disguise!

Chapter 105: Full Moon in the Sky P1*

Ron Damian was none other than Eren Idril in a disguise!

Eren was using Reen fused with his body to take care of the E-Rank wine, lest he suffers side effects. He decided to go with the name Ron Damian because he couldn't find a good name.

But Reen told him to go with anything "random" after feeling his conundrum. So he derived the name "Ron Damian" from the word random itself.

Eren didn't want to but somehow ended up taking a portion of Dom's facial features. He still wasn't used to shapeshifting after all.

Plus, Reen must have shared gene memories of her prey with Eren during their fusion. That's why he could only change into a certain personality Reen had eaten so far. That restricted the number of people he could take the shape of.

But the good thing was that he could tweak his appearance to make it look like he only looked like Dom but wasn't. This was the reason Julie thought Ron looked like Dom but later discarded that idea.

Julie lifted the wine glass that was placed between the two and smelled the mild aroma of the wine before savouring it, a small gulp at a time.

Any pep-talk was not necessary anymore. Ron filled both their glasses up once they got empty and kept both of them busy in their current activities.

"Jules...."

Ron finally broke the silence looking at the full moon peeking through from a school of black clouds outside. He looked deep in thought, almost mesmerized by something.

Julie too looked outside, following her partner's gaze while replying:

"Hm..."

That's what she could muster. She felt like the wine was having a strong effect on her. Plus, the way Ron talked made her feel like he had seen the world. Therefore everything he said was subconsciously followed through by her consciousness.

"Aren't we all like a moon in the sky? No matter how bright we can shine sometimes, we always have a dark side."

Ron aka Eren started spewing bullshittery wrapped in euphemism. He knew most women bought that stuff in bulk, no matter what their backgrounds or intentions were.

And his long experience with women was starting to pay dividends. That's because Julie forgot about catching a large fish at that moment and felt something deeply personal in that sentence.

She felt like she too was like a moon. She had her moments in life. She had enjoyed life to the fullest she could.

But there were also some dark shades to her that she didn't want the world to see. She felt like Ron's sentence was specially made for her life.

She kept her glass away and hugged Ron hurriedly. It was like she was intoxicated with an array of emotions that were making a mess inside her head.

And that flurry of emotions needed a channel to get out. And Julie saw that channel in Ron.

Eren hugged Julie back in response. He soothed her back with her pat. Then he went face to face with her and asked with a mild smile on his face,

“Jules... What is it? Did I say something wrong?”

Eren asked her while raising Julie’s face with his two fingers placed right below her chin. He could see a deadly blend of regrets and lust in her eyes.

“Oh, Ron... No, you haven’t said a word wrong. You are right.

We all have dark sides to ourselves that we don’t want the world to see. But I want you to make me forget about mine tonight.

Make love to me Ron. Fu*k my brains out. Purge all my thoughts and let me find peace in exhaustion.”

Ron didn’t need to be told twice. He immediately planted his lips on Jules. The first contact sent a jolt through Julie’s back.

It was like a volcano was bubbling inside her. She was breathing heavily as a result. But that didn’t stop her from giving the kiss all of her sheer focus and commitment.

Eren could feel that his wine had worked. This was the same wine he had gotten for Nina. But this was an E-Rank variant of the same brand.

Eren was glad he had spent a small fortune in acquiring a few sets of this wine for each rank, from F-Rank to D-Rank.

Of course, Eren hadn’t mixed any aphrodisiac in the wine. Nor did he need to use the wine and get her drunk to get into Julie’s pants.

He needed the wine, a strong dose of it in fact, inside Julie’s system for what he was going to do post-coitus. And for that, he needed to tire her out and make her go to sleep under the strong influence of alcohol and sex.

By now, the couple in the heat had found their way on the king-sized bed. Eren was on top of Julie, kissing and smooching her.

His tongue made its presence known inside her mouth. He also nibbled the lady’s earlobes, sending her into the deeper parts of ecstasy with slight pain as her guide.

Eren’s dick had woken up from its long slumber. He started rubbing his erection against Julie’s mound, letting her know of his little guy’s wakefulness.

“Aaah... Ronny... my tits... grab them... squeeze them... bite the nipples... hu... hurry”

This lady was wild through and through. She knew what she needed and didn’t shy away from asking for it.

Ron undressed Jules till she only had a lacy bra and floral print panties. He dived right in and started squeezing the firm and ripe globes placed in his palms.

Julie also lifted her back in the air a little in anticipation of her tits getting squeezed. She was enjoying every moment of pain and pleasure unleashed on her through Ron's reckless usage of force.

Ron too only had his last piece of clothing on him. Julie tugged onto the edges of his underwear with her toes to subtly hint that he needed to get rid of it.

Ron obliged. With the power of transformation, he was able to grow his average sized dick into a huge donger that would scare most teen girls.

But Julie wasn't a teen. She was plenty experienced in this field. She was unable to look away from his long and thick and long rod, seemingly mesmerized by its visage.

Chapter 106: Full Moon in the Sky P2*

The pace of Julie's breathing increased even more at the sight of Eren's massive dick. The anticipation had her heart go on a rampage, beating like war drums.

Ron's strong and bulky arms gently embraced Julie. He started rubbing his bare schlong over her now-wet panties with even more vigour than before.

Ron closed his eyes as his mouth reached for Julie's soft lips. The lady cooperated fully while closing her own eyes as well, savouring the moment.

"Mmm!"

The act of kissing and smooching again lasted for a while. Ron released his lips after what felt like only a few moments to both of them, creating a thin thread of saliva between both of their lips as they disconnected.

Ron AKA Eren used this moment to take a good look at the wild lady in heat laying in front of him. Julie's eyes spoke volumes about her current state. They told Eren that she was completely immersed in the sea of lust.

With all things said about her money-grabbing nature and her uncaring lifestyle, Julie was a beautiful woman. No doubt about it.

Her shoulder-length hair was medium blue in shade. Her purple eyes sparkled with wild abandon as they intensively gazed at him, yet Eren could see a tinge of self-conscience flickering within.

Julie's rosy lips were soft and full. They were reflecting the faint moonlight coming from the window because the coat of saliva was on them. The scene would cause any man's heart to race wild.

"Ron... Ronny"

Jules mumbled Eren's fake name in a hushed tone.

"I'm listening, my dear!"

“I hope this does not become our only night of togetherness. I want us to keep on meeting and explore each other.”

Julie didn't forget her mission to go fishing. She asked her rich partner to keep on meeting her in an alluring tone.

Ron smiled lightly before whispering in her ears:

“Let's focus on the present first before moving to the future...”

Jules could feel a tingling sensation in her pussy folds when Ron's warm breath tickled her ears.

“Let's get those clothes out of the equation, Jules. They'll only get in the way from now on.”

Ron started stripping Jules. His gentle and smooth movements revealed his expertise in this field.

Moments later, Julie Ekheart was seen completely naked on the bed. Her bottom lips didn't have pubic growth near them. The lady liked to groom herself well.

Jules had knockout knockers. Their size was huge for her seemingly petite figure. Her light pink nipples had gotten pointy due to the exposure to the cold outside and her ecstatic state.

The rest of her body was well-sculpted as well, like a fine piece of statue. Her white skin was soft and smooth to touch. Eren didn't have a complete look at her butts yet, but he could tell it was round and thick.

Jules didn't have a single hair on her limbs either. Eren laid eyes on her heavy honkers that were a little red due to his consistent presses.

His already stiff and recently enhanced dick hardened even more as a result. He wanted to press and molest them some more.

“Oooohh... Ronny! Press them. Squeeze them. They are all yours to play with.”

Ron was now completely onto Jules. That allowed the latter to simply lay back and enjoy the sensation she was feeling.

“Aaaah.... More Ronny... Yes... that's it... aaaaaah”

Jules started moaning with her long breaths interrupting her speech in between. The anticipatory sensation in her pussy folds grew even stronger than before.

Eren was satisfied after playing with Julie's tits after a while. He slowly went down her next:

Unlike the teenage girls who would close their legs first out of instinct, a veteran like Julie faced the situation head-on. She spread her legs without a care in the world to invite her partner into tasting the finest nectar he could ever taste tonight.

Ron started kissing his way down. He first kissed her tummy and kept on kissing his way towards Julie's thoroughly wet pussy.

When the butcher reached near Julie's wet cunt, a sweet and sultry fragrance aroused his nose. That caused his dick to straighten up some more in delight.

Jules had already spread her legs. Her wet and moist pussy was out in full display for Eren to see and take pleasure in observing.

Without any further delay, Eren planted his lips directly against her pink petal box. And began exploring it with his tongue:

“Ahhhh!”

Jules couldn't help but utter a deep moan the second she felt something slippery enter the inner sanctum of her pink fleshy world. A violent tremble ran through her body in response to Eren's glib tongue working overtime.

“Ro... Ronny Damian... you... aaaaah... you are good!”

Julie's erotic moans were like words of appreciation for Ron. He increased the pace of his assault even more.

The pussy juices flowed non-stop from Julie's wet cave like a never-ending stream of droplets running across the surface of a glass window on a light rainy night. And Eren savoured every last drop like a parched traveller in the middle of the desert finding a source of water to drink from.

“There... yes! Right there!”

The E-Rank assistant professor grabbed her student-in-disguise's head and pressed it against her mound while opening her legs some more and lifting her butts a little. The student's tongue started exploring even the deeper parts of her fold as a result.

A wave of relief washed over Jules as she came hard over Eren's face. But the guy didn't want to stop. He began licking her clit while inserting two of his fingers inside her cave.

Her pink button was still sensitive due to her recent release. So she wanted to pull Eren away from the spot for the time being. But the butcher never gave her the chance for a ceasefire.

It wasn't long before Jules came hard again. The crystal clear yet viscous juice made its presence known on the bedsheet and Eren's face. A thick smell of sex started to build inside the luxury room now.

Chapter 107: Big D Energy P1*

Eren chuckled as he wiped his face off with another sheet nearby:

“Hehe! Forget the wine. This drink right here is more intoxicating.”

The LA assistant professor couldn't help but smile at that statement. There was also a shade of red on her cheeks, indicating no matter how bold and experienced in the game she was, Jules was still a woman with a bit of self-conscious.

She covered her face with her hands to hide from her partner for the time being. But Ron removed those hands away and pressed them on either side of the bed before saying with a thirst for more written all over his face

“Let's keep looking at each other as we move in for the finale.”

Jules and Ron both smiled at each other after he said that. The last bit of self-conscious was removed from Julie's psych and she nodded affirmatively.

Ron rubbed the fleshy pussy folds with his enhanced donger while he kissed the woman passionately.

"My dear, your pussy hole feels tight. It seems you haven't been stretched by a dick of this size before. So brace yourself, okay?"

"Aah! Yeah. Go ahead, Ronny!"

Ron was telling the truth. No guys that she had previously been with had a dick of this size. This was going to be her first monster dick experience.

What she didn't know was that the guy who was currently low-key bragging about his size was average at best a few days ago.

Eren felt like he had activated Sedated Perception as he slowly pushed the tip of his big dick into Julie's cave.

"Aaahh... hol.... Hold on!"

Jules felt the pain of her pussy walls getting stretched in a long while. The corner of her eyes became a little moist. Her pussy was producing juices in abundance to make the penial entry as smooth as possible.

'This size is enough to exhaust her!'

Eren thought to himself as he continued to pierce Julie's tight vaginal hole carefully. Her pussy walls were tightly wrapped around his meat stick. It was a memorable experience for both of them.

Eren's manually enhanced rod was finally fully inside Julie's hole. The dick's mushroom-like head was touching the end of her hole.

It was a confidence-boosting feeling for Eren as he hadn't experienced this kind of fucking in both his timelines, where he could exert so much dominance with just his dick's size alone. It was something he would never get tired of.

"How does it feel, dear, getting pierced by Ron's spear?"

I've heard ladies say that- once you go Ron; others will let you down. I know... I know the pun is bad. But that doesn't change the fact that it wants to convey, does it? Hehe!"

Eren openly bragged about his dick size to Jules in a teasing voice. Julie rolled her eyes at that pun. But she could not deny the tall claim had a hint of truth hidden in it.

Julie struggled a bit to lift her head to look at her stomach that felt like she had had a heavy dinner. She was even surprised that her pussy could take all that dick inside along its full length.

"Buckle up, Jules. The real fun starts now."

Eren warned Julie like a gentleman he was.

Seeing her nod, Ron Damian began moving his hips. He started with a slow pace and increased the intensity after Julie's pussy walls adjusted to his current dick length. The moment of pain was gone and now she was showing signs of pleasure on her face.

"Ahhh! More Ronny! Fuck me... aah.. more."

Julie's mind had become empty from all the distractive thoughts. The only thing she could feel now was an addicting sensation in her cunt and the profound bliss that came with it.

The only sound that could be heard inside the luxury room of the Grand Hiyat at this moment was Julie's seductive moans and heavy breathing with the sound of something akin to a lump of meat getting pounded in water.

"Ahhh! Harder baby! Destroy my pussy with your dick! Yeah, that's it.

That's the way. It is."

Jules pleaded for a harder pounding as she tightly embraced Ron's neck.

Eren had no reason not to oblige. He tightly gripped onto her slim waist. And lifted her into the air to start a fresh round of pounding.

Eren had already come once now. But his erection didn't fade as it was something that he had achieved not after getting exy but through his newfound powers. So he didn't have to worry about premature ejaculation anymore.

Eren felt like he had been liberated from the common shackles placed on the entire male community in this act. His size could be anything he wanted it to be. And his dick would stay standing even when he ejaculated.

He felt like a huge weight had been taken away from burdening his shoulders. That gave Eren the energy to keep on fucking an E-Ranker like Julie without showing signs of exhaustion.

Of course, Reen had a lot to do with that as well. She had shot up Eren's BTP values in the next rank by fusing with him while controlling her power output to that of the E-Rank.

Eren's thick meat rod started hitting the end of her pussy canal repeatedly, knocking intermittently on the entrance of her womb.

The way Julie's big rack jiggled with each of Eren's thrusts was a sight to behold for him. The erotic look on her face, the sound of her butt cheeks getting spanked with his thursts enhanced the immersion further.

"Aaah! Ro... ony! It's coming. It's come...ING!!"

Julie Ekheart tilted her head backwards and screamed the last part of her sentence loudly. He stuck out of her mouth. Her body shrivelled like it had a seizure instantly afterwards. Suffice to say that the pussy juices came out of her wet cave, like there was no tomorrow.

But Eren became merciless after he got addicted to using his big dick energy. He didn't want to stop just yet. He continued to thrust his monster schlong into her.

Eren again felt like he was close to reaching his climax. So he increased his pace some more.

Julie's previous experiences were paying their dividends. She soon recovered from her previous orgasm and got ready to brace herself for another.

"I... I feel like I am going crazy, Ronny!"

Jules couldn't help mention her current state honestly.

"Hehe! Crazy is... good, dear. We should all go... crazy sometimes."

The butcher said this while ramming his cock deep into the wet hole. He was feeling some tiredness as well. But he ignored it with his sheer will to fuck to his heart's content.

Eren released another of his white loads into Julie's pussy after a few more minutes of thrusting. He filled her vaginal canal with plenty of his thick cum. The quantity was such that the nut couldn't all stay inside the small internal space and some of it started dripping out.

Chapter 108: Big D Energy P2*

The Butcher lightly kissed the assistant professor at LA on her lips afterwards. However, despite already releasing his Yang Essence, he didn't pull his penis out of her hole, keeping the white substance tightly sealed within.

The duo took this moment to catch their breaths. Julie was never this exhausted before. Not even her strenuous training as an E-Ranker came close to making her feel this spent.

"Ronny. That was so intense, dear. I feel like my head is still buzzing. And my legs have gotten weak.

But still. I think I needed this. Thank you."

Julie came clean stating her current condition.

"You are always well- "come." Haha! And I should thank you for being such a bodacious and bold beauty."

Eren used his glib tongue in another way to achieve the same result; please Julie! She was pleased with his reply, flaunting a mischievous smile in return.

Yes, Julie had a smile plastered on her face. Until she noticed that Eren's dick was still rock-hard after coming so much inside her pussy!

She quickly looked at Eren with disbelief written all over her face.

"Ronny... why is your dick so hard after you just came?"

The lady couldn't help but ask Eren about his unusual libido. To which the matter only chuckled and replied:

"Hehe! To be honest, my ranking technique is special. Releasing that little amount of nut would not even be close to my usual limit."

Eren didn't want anyone to link the powers he obtained from the fusion with his demon beast to his real identity. So he made that thing about a special ranking technique up on the spot. There were numerous techniques and spells available in all fields anyway. So he knew Julie would not raise doubt on his statements.

The butcher lied through his teeth like a pro. Even he had realised that he had become a compulsive liar, even more so than his previous self in the past timeline. He'd lie and cheat his way if that could prevent anyone from asking too many questions about himself.

Julie was totally at a loss for words and kinda scared after hearing his answer. He was still not satisfied? Even though her body was still recovering from all that intense play?

"Please don't tell me that you are already at your limit, dear. That was only a warm-up. And you call yourself an assistant professor in LA? Hehe!"

Eren looked at Jules who wanted to say some in return but was stopped midway.

She could only smile mirthlessly after that. This guy, although rich, handsome, and powerful, was going to become a bane of her life if she kept on seeing him.

However, as worn out as her body may be at this moment, Julie could tell with certainty that she was craving for more of Eren's rod getting plunged deep inside her wet cave.

Jules mustered her courage after a few moments. She stared at him with a narrowed gaze that flicked with confidence and lust:

"You are going to pay for looking down on me, mister! Come at me with all you've got. And be prepared to be sucked dry of all your cum. Your balls are going to deflate from releasing so much cum in one go. Hehe!"

Jules first started her claim as false bravado. But the act of speaking the claim out loud gave her the confidence she needed to act on it.

Eren also smiled mischievously after hearing Julie's statement. For the first time since she met him, Jules felt like Ron was hiding so much from her just from that smile alone. Her womanly instincts were right on spot but she was too lost in her lust to care about something on those lines.

"Very well, we shall play with each other all night! Let's see who gives up first. Haha!"

The butcher laughed out loud. Then he started ploughing Julie again and thoroughly enjoyed the addictive feeling of making a mess of her pink petal box.

"Seems like she is deep asleep. Reen, you can come out now."

Eren commanded his demon beast to show herself. To which the latter obliged by separating herself from his body.

Eren immediately felt like he had lost all his energy after Reen brought him down to his original F-Rank status. He felt like he could use some sleep too.

But this was not the time. He had a lot to do and experiment on Julie.

That's why Eren went the extra way to completely exhaust Julie. He didn't want her to wake up or resist whatever he was about to do with her.

Of course, he didn't want to hurt Julie. Killing or injuring her would make the authorities focus on the Osan Woods' Butcher again, thinking he might be a possible culprit. And that would in turn come back to haunt him.

What he needed to do instead was gain information from her. But he couldn't ask her directly.

As 'easy' as she was, Julie Ekheart was still an E-Rank assistant professor at LA. So getting sensitive information from her in a face to face conversation, that too within only a night's interaction, was next to impossible.

Plus, asking her upfront would raise Julie's suspicion of him. So the butcher would be left with no gains and a target on his back. Sometimes asking about things would land you in more trouble than staying quiet.

What Eren needed was a way to extract Julie's memories without harming her or leaving any trace behind. The spells, artefacts, and techniques would always leave a trace of their usage behind. And it almost always harms the person who was being subjected to the procedure.

Eren didn't have such spells or artefacts in the first place. And even if he did have them, he won't use them carelessly like this.

He was supposed to gain information from Jules after all. Not create and leave the trails of his existence behind. Otherwise, that'd become counterproductive.

But the butcher wasn't completely out of options either. What he did have made him able to gain the information without facing any repercussions related to it.

He had Reen!

Chapter 109: Extracting Memories

Eren could use Reen to extract Julie's memories and share them with him. At least that's what he was planning before using any other means.

Reen's powers were peculiar in a lot of ways. She wasn't a battle-oriented demon beast. But her other distinguishing abilities made up for that lack of traits.

When Reen ate her prey, she processed their memories as well. But she used to ignore most of those fragmented memories because they weren't compatible with her. Her lack of sufficient intelligence was also a roadblock.

All she could process were some bits and pieces that didn't make sense in her head.

But all that changed with her new transformation, increasing her intelligence in the process. At least that's what Eren had conjured. The beast contract spell gave Reen the ability to process the memories of her prey better.

The conjecture was based on the fact that Reen could extract the memories of Purple Lightning snakes that she ate. As her master, Eren could take a quick look through those memories via their mental connection.

Reen shared her experience with Eren that what she used to process before were mostly blurred images. But now she could see them more clearly, that too as moving pictures with audio and surrounding details looped in.

Eren wasn't aware of Reen's power before the transformation. But that is because he wasn't made privy to these memory fragments before the transformation. It was like those foreign pieces of memory fragments stayed foreign in her head.

But the transformation changed all that. And with Reen's improved intelligence stat, it became easier for her to process those memories with efficiency. The improved intelligence also helped her share those memories with her masters as if they were her own and not some foreign entities.

But that was not all. On that day, Eren had also observed that Reen could extract the memories from half-dead magic beasts before killing them. She would just spread her slimy mass over them and the memory extraction would begin as she slowly digested her prey.

That's what gave Eren the confidence to carry out this experiment. He wanted to see if Reen could still do that with humans as her prey. Extracting their memories without killing them.

Of course, Eren wasn't aware how Reen's prey felt at the time of their memories getting read by a foreign entity. And things were bound to get more difficult with a human with higher intelligence and perception getting subjected to this procedure.

Therefore Eren exhausted Julie completely before commencing this part of his plan. If this doesn't work out, he'd have to tell Reen to kill the assistant professor while ensuring the blame falls on Ron Damian.

But that too had a problem. Ron Damian was a made-up identity. Anybody would come to that conclusion if they start digging.

So Eren wanted to give Reen's powers a chance before he burnt his bridges. And he had to do it.

The more he learned about Reen, the more he felt that the figures in the shadows won't let this matter go this easily. They had to have been cooking something. And he needed to know what that was.

Eren knew being passive all the time wasn't always in his best interest. He needed to take some risks to gain leverage over his unknown enemies.

"Should I eat her?"

Reen asked while shapeshifting into a beautiful naked girl. She had now changed her proportions from petite to curvy, just the way her master liked them. Maybe that was done subconsciously after getting to understand Eren's preferences or maybe that was intentional.

But Eren was too focused on Julie to care. He looked at Reen with a serious expression while saying:

"No need to kill her as of now. Try to extract all her recent memories without harming her. She shouldn't wake up during the process. But be careful anyway.

Now go. We don't have much time."

Eren commanded Reen with a stoic voice. Reen understood and felt the seriousness of the matter. She nodded her head before again turning into her original slimy mass.

The slumbering, half-naked Julie's body was seen being covered by a slimy substance. And that slimy substance was glowing with a faint mana radiance.

'Aaah... Erni...

The memories are too many...

With... overwhelming details.

Feeling... weird.'

Reen sent a mental distress signal to her master as soon as the process started. Eren knew things won't go that smoothly so he was prepared:

'Alright, Reen. Stop for now. And rest.'

Eren sent her a mental message and observed Julie's condition. The bodacious E-Ranker looked like she was having a bad dream.

Her face was showing signs of stress and restlessness. But overall she was fine and breathing normally.

Eren told Reen to go slow for the next time and focus anything about Osan Woods' Butcher in her memories. Reen obliged and started her operation again after a while.

The master-beast duo completed their operation and left the place using the dark of the night as their cover. There was no meaning in staying there any longer and risk blowing their cover.

Before leaving, Eren left a perfunctory letter on the room's bedside table, telling Julie about how he enjoyed her company. He told her that he was contacted by his employer and therefore had some urgent work. But that they'd meet again after he finishes the current assignment.

The butcher had written this letter so that Julie gets pacified and doesn't start digging into his past. At least not anytime soon. She'd wait for "Ron" to finish his work before meeting her.

Eren thought of a lot of things going wrong in his plans. His past experiences in the previous timeline gave him a reason to. That's why he thought about countermeasures even before the problem arrived. The now-teen old man tried to implement precision in each of his moves.

And thanks to those countermeasures born out of OCD behaviour, Eren had the information he wanted while ensuring his identity remained hidden in the process.

Eren was using a colt service to travel back to his dorm room. It seemed like he was pondering over something as he traversed through an almost empty road in the light of the breaking dawn.

Eren had shared some of Julie's memories with him that was related to him and the subject of his interest. He couldn't help grabbing his chin with one hand and caressing it while controlling the colt using the leash with the other:

"Hmm! So they know Osan Woods' Butcher or someone related to him has entered the LA grounds!

What should I do now?"

Chapter 110: Trap Within a Trap

"Hmm! So they know Osan Woods' Butcher or someone related to him has entered the LA grounds!

What should I do now?"

Eren had realized that he was in big trouble from peeking into Julie's memories. She had been told a little amount of information by Lin Karr who himself was only privy to the information he had received from his superior till now.

The butcher knew there was no loose end from his side. His carefulness knew no bounds when it came to his survival. But no matter how full-proof the execution of each of his actions was, there existed various specialists in the ranking journey who could predict and even prophesize something or the other about a certain event that might have happened or will happen in the future.

The only thing he could do was to prepare himself in advance. That's why the butcher was so keen on keeping tabs on Lin's team. He knew that since that group has already been dragged into this mess, they'll be made aware of the updates whether they liked to listen to or not.

'But how can this information benefit me? What can I do in advance?'

The wheels inside Eren's head started churning. He thought of various possibilities and probabilities. In the end, he concluded that, since they had included the 'accomplice of the butcher' part, they were not sure about him being here in LA.

That could also mean Julie was given a limited amount of information. And they might have already confirmed through some means that the butcher was in fact on LA grounds. They could just be trying to figure out its identity.

'I still have some leeway. I need to come up with a simple yet effective plan to get out of this mess. This Osan Woods' incident just keeps on getting in my way, damn it. When will I be free from this hunt?'

No. I'm thinking this in the wrong way. I only want the hunt to end from my end when I should be thinking about how it should end from their end.

For a hunt to end, someone has to serve and die as prey.

I need a decoy.'

Eren's eyes shone with ethereal radiance after coming to this point. The figures hiding in the shadows were looking for the butcher because they hadn't found him yet. He needed to give them their butcher for them to stop looking any further.

Thanks to the information he had right now, Eren could put forward another performance while ensuring his safety.

“Aaaaaaaaaaaaaa!”

Somewhere within the dense forest on LA grounds, a group of students could be seen partaking in practise battles. This group was none other than Eren’s party. He had returned to his dorm room, gotten fresh and summoned his team members to practise with them.

Currently, Eren was seen practising with Steve. He had told the latter to be vocal about his spell executions. And Steve was only following his orders.

Steve’s new spell needed him to control the surrounding mana with the help of auditory mana fluctuations. That’s why he was shouting. Thanks to the berserker class, it would not hinder his battle performance either.

Eren had suggested the change of spell to Steve a few days ago when he had consulted the latter about his incompatibility with his previously practised spell. The spell Steve was practising now, named Kulak, required him to shout his heart out while imbuing mana in his vocal cords.

“Aaaaaaaaaaaaaa!”

“Stop, stop, stop! Steve, I think you need to practise your control over imbuing mana in your vocal cords. Your output is not standardized so it is making things difficult for you. Maybe you should stop the spell practise and get back to the basics.

Sometimes having the ability to cast spells is not enough. You also need exceptional expertise in casting them to make them a go-to tool in your arsenal. Practise your basics as I’ve told you.”

Eren seemed the sole boss of his entire team. He would oversee the practise matches among his teammates from time to time and guide them in various fields. Steve was just another of his pet projects to raise an exceptional berserker that he couldn’t become in his previous life.

But it was not like he didn’t have problems:

“Will you fight me now? Why are you hesitating like a shy little girl?”

Renita pestered him to have a duel with her again. The butcher had a hard time handling this little lady.

First, her battle style didn’t have many flaws. And second, her moves and spells were related to the ranger class which he didn’t know much about. So he couldn’t give her much guidance.

Without that guidance acting as leverage, Eren couldn’t tame this fierce vixen who was the most cunning amongst her peers of the same age. She tried to bait him with an apt choice of words, or at least so she thought. Alas, Eren wasn’t to be underestimated:

“Stop treating me like a little kid or a man insecure about his masculinity. Do you think being called a shy girl is insulting to me? I love shy little girls. They are..”

“Eren, my bro. You should stop doing any more damage to your image. Otherwise, these girls will see you as a pedo.”

The butcher wanted to continue but was interrupted by Jake with an awkward smile on his face.

‘This little vixen had set a trap within a trap for me.’

Only then did Eren realize that even knowing about the bait wasn’t enough sometimes. You needed to come up with an appropriate response to dodge it completely.

“Hehehe! So you like little girls. Why don’t we have a duel then? And I promise this news stays with our team. Otherwise, who knows? News on the campus travels fast and travels wide, you know.”

Eren didn’t know whether to smile or laugh at this. Pedo? Pfft! If these guys knew he had been sleeping with women much older than his current age, what would they think about him?

But suddenly he was reminded of the Recluse R*pist incident from his past life and his expressions turned cold. Because even that incident was focused on tarnishing his image.

Even when Renita was only making fun of him to have her way, the way with which she chose to do it irked him thoroughly.

“I’d suggest that you keep your silly pranks to yourself, little lady. You wanted a duel, right? You’ll get one. But that won’t be because you baited me into it. 500 Merps, for one duel. That’s my charge to guide you. Pay up now or come again after earning the amount to have your wish fulfilled.

Now tell me, are you willing to pay that amount? If yes, we’ll have that duel right now!”

The scrooge made use of his newly introduced way to earn Merps to pressurize Renita. Only he was supposed to manipulate these young guns. Not the other way around.