

Vile 231

[Chapter 231 - Julie Returns](#)

There was no despair or shame in Eren's voice that Roody was expecting. It sounded like he was just saying the usual things. Like two plus two equals four. And in this case, it was.

But that didn't stop Roody from being dumbfounded by Eren's nonchalant expression.

"You... are you serious?"

Eren nodded before replying

"I am. I would have accepted my loss right now if it was allowed to."

Roody didn't reply after that. For some reason, Eren's rational words made all the irritation Roody had accumulated in his heart vanish into thin air. So he sighed and proceeded forward to have his inter-year ranking match.

Just as Eren had said, White Raven had lost against Roody's Wreckers. Eren and his team had improved tremendously over these three months. But without the battle passes, they couldn't fill the gap of power and experience they had with their opponents who were equally hard-working as them if not more.

Eren didn't put much of his efforts into the match either. That's because he wanted to pacify the second-year students with his loss. The butcher thought one huge win was enough for the time. He didn't mind losing some Merps in favour of second-year students leaving him alone. He couldn't say he liked losing his Merps, but he had made peace with it.

"Guys like you are rare, Eren Idril. Glad to have met you, even when it was not on the best of terms. Let's grab a few drinks sometime."

Roody brought his hand forward for a handshake with Eren and the latter accepted his gesture. The former smiled lightly before starting retiring from the battle with his entire team.

"Eren, why did you tell us not to give our best efforts in winning the match? We had a fighting chance, you know."

Becky complained like always. Eren smiled like he didn't mean it before replying:

"No, WE didn't. You all are too green to think that you could win against second-year students without the battle passes.

I had a fighting chance if I were to fight only two of them, excluding Roody. I could have taken care of them using Renita the way I did last time.

Of course, they would have been prepared for my moves, so it would have been a lot more difficult. So I would have been taken out as well as soon as I got rid of their tank and fog-element guy.

I certainly couldn't have stood a chance against Roody."

Jake heard Eren's statement and agreed with him fully. But he added his own thoughts as well:

"I think Eren didn't want us to conflict with the second year. Sometimes taking a step back can help you go a long way."

Eren looked at Jake and patted his shoulder before commenting

"Spoken like a true businessman in the making. I have high hopes for you, Jakey. My White Raven shop isn't going to run by itself.

By the way, you guys should worry about the upcoming Besanc missions. I'm sure you must have started attending the live demos already."

Everyone affirmed what Eren was asking them. The Besanc was going to open for most first-year students who had sufficient prowess and battle experience to participate in Besanc missions now.

Eren had been preparing his teammates for these missions for a long while now. The Besanc team missions were lucrative in terms of money and resources. But why were they equally dangerous as well.

Most of the first-year parties would have their teammates heavily injured or killed in the Besanc missions. That would result in parties being dispersed and new parties getting formed as a result.

The butcher didn't want to put his efforts into recruiting members he couldn't completely trust because of the danger level of these missions. Neither would he shy away from those missions.

That's why he had invested so much time, effort, and resources into his teammates. It was almost time to receive dividends on that investment.

But before that, Eren needed to meet with a certain person using one of his aliases for one last time. That was because he had received an interesting message from that person.

"You sure took your time getting here, Ronny. I hope everything's alright. Perhaps you have new followers now? Hehe!"

Julie Ekheart commented right after she saw Ronny AKA Ron Damien come to the place they had met and drunk before. She had used Eren's anonymous contact method that he had shared with her to contact him.

Eren had decided to burn his Ronny aliases for good. And he wouldn't have come here even for this bodacious beauty. But the offer she had presented him with was tempting.

Ronny had worn a face mask like every other participant in the auction event. Furthermore, he hadn't been captured by the recording device. So his face was still a mystery. The bounties announced on him only contained him with his mask on.

So nobody would have suspected Ronny to be the same person who was currently one of the most-wanted criminals. But Jules was different. Because she had come in contact with him before this kingdom-shaking event took place.

Julie had connected the dots between the Ronny she met and Ron Damien that was currently being talked about throughout the kingdom. That was because of Ronny's talk with her.

Ronny had said to Julie that he was serving as a middle man between his employer and his customers in the underground market. And Ron Damien in the news was said to have conducted an auction event of a few peculiar ranking items.

So Julie contacted Ronny and asked him to come to meet her. She wanted him to be a part of her organization. An organization with which she couldn't allow her association made public.

Just like Eren, Julie had another facet to her. She was a cultist too!

[Chapter 232 - The Illuminati](#)

Julie had used her channels to see one of the items and found out that they were all from the Beast Bloods hideout. The same hideout that was known within the cultists to be destroyed by the city of Silvermoon.

Ron Damien had already been connected with the Beast Bloods. So Jules assumed that Ronny's employer must have belonged to the cultist organization.

Cultists would seldom let rankers handle their business affairs. That meant Ronny was also a Beast Blood. Probably lower in rank than the person who had allowed him to conduct the underground auctions.

Then the auction Ron had organized must have been his clearing-stockpile event that needed to be done before he went off the grid for a while. In Julie's mind, it all made sense.

Eren too had remembered why Julie was melancholic about the bullshittery he was spewing to make her sleep with him. When she hinted to him in the message she had left for him that she was a cultist, her talk of that night made sense for him too.

Eren wanted to come in contact with a genuine cultist organization after reading through Edgar's journal. He wanted even more research than the cultists had on Anthropos and demi-humans to understand what he was.

Ron Damien's cultist background as a member of Beast Bloods had already been presumed by Julie as a cultist as well. Now that the Beast Bloods branch near the city of Silvermoon was destroyed completely, he could claim that he was part of the organization too and nobody would be there to refute him.

Plus, the name Ron Damien must have achieved a celebratory status within the cultists by now. His adventures or rather misadventures with the scion of Slughorn had become public knowledge. So it was easy for them to accept him as one of them.

The best part of the whole thing was that Ron Damien was a masked entity for the rankers. His facial identity was still not known. Therefore, no rankers' organization would be able to tie him up because he used his alias a few more times.

So Eren took his risk and decided to let Ronny take the wheels on this one. He wanted to see what Jules was offering him:

Coming back to the present.

"You sure took your time getting here, Ronny. I hope everything's alright. Perhaps you have new followers now? Hehe!"

Ronny smiled before pulling a chair in front of the cultist-in-the-shadows assistant professor of LA. The latter had chosen the same table at which Ronny had impressed her with his cheesy pick-up lines.

"You are right, I'm one of them. Just like you. I wanted to lay low for a few months at this time after things blew out of proportion than I had anticipated. But your message has forced me to meet you. Now tell me, why did you contact me all of a sudden?"

Ron asked while pouring himself a drink from the wine bottle that he just ordered as soon as he got to the place. Then he filled the lady's glass as well before fixating his gaze on her:

"I just knew you were like me when you left. It's been a few years since I opened myself to a person without worrying about the consequences.

So when I heard you pour your heart out in front of me, I had guessed that you must have also carried another identity. And identity that you couldn't have made known to the public. Just like me.

I heard about the Slughorn Scandal and figured out your identity. I also know that the things you sold at the auction event conducted at the city of Nilaami contained items that could only be found at a certain place."

Eren AKA Ronny retrieved the F-Rank sound barrier item from his storage and activated it.

Then he raised his glass before gulping a sip from his wine glass. The butcher flashed a smile at Jules before saying:

"That's right. I am one of the Beast Bloods. My branch members have all been killed. I survived because I wasn't at the place.

See? I have come clean in confirming all that you seem to have figured out on your own. Now can we get back to the offer you were talking about?"

Jules smiled at Eren after she saw that Ronny was still nonchalant about the whole incident. He was going to hide in the shadows, but something told her he wasn't as concerned about his safety as he should have been.

"Yes, Ronny. It seems you are in a hurry so I won't beat around the bush. Why don't you work for my organization now that you seem to have broken ties with the Beast Bloods? I mean you would have been safely sent to one of the Beast Blood's hideouts if you were still being accepted by them, am I wrong?"

Julie asked while lifting her wine glass and airing the wine inside it in suave. Eren didn't look panicked and replied just as easily:

"Correct again as well. The Beast Bloods don't want me because they have completely given up on the branch at the city of Silvermoon. They don't want to invite trouble by still being associated with me. Who can blame them, right? Haha."

Eren highlighted with his speech that at the end of the day every cultist was on his own. The concept was true for rankers as well. But with cultists, it had been taken to the extreme.

"Yeah. Cultists cut down on the deadweights after all. But I know someone with potential when I see one. You shouldn't have joined the Beast Bloods in the first place, Ronny. They are all mad lads.

What I'm offering you to be a part of is considered as one of the elitist groups of cultists. Should you choose to accept my offer, I will assure you that you won't be mistreated in my organization the way you were by your anthrope friends."

Eren raised his eyebrows before asking the question he was guessing the answer of:

"Elitist cultivation organization you say? Might I ask what organization you represent?"

Jules smiled a cunning smile before saying the net words in a hushed voice even when she knew the sound artefact was active:

"We call ourselves... the Illuminati!"

[Chapter 233 - Therianthrope Transformation Mimicry 01](#)

"We call ourselves... the Illuminati!"

Julie confessed and looked at Ronny's reaction. As she had expected, his eyes had been opened wide in surprise as soon as she said the organization's name she was part of.

Ronny AKA Eren was surprised. But it was for a different reason. This was because he knew that some years from now two of the cultists' organizations would wage war against each other.

Nothing much was public knowledge about the war between two cultist groups. But Eren knew one of them had its name revealed to the public as the Illuminati.

The Illuminati later had another conflict with another cultist organization but it soon found the allies it needed to keep on engaging with its enemies. But it was never revealed to the normal populace what the organizations were fighting about.

The Illuminati had been in the limelight for some time during Eren's previous timeline. But he had been too busy making ends meet to care about kingdom-level affairs.

And now the same Illuminati had its members approach him. Eren guessed that whatever the reason for that conflict was, it was connected to why Julie had approached him. Because the timing of this whole thing made it appear to be the case in the butcher's head.

"Do you know about us?"

Julie had a look of interest when she asked Ronny. The latter nodded before replying

"Only a few details. You guys like to infiltrate the establishments and remodel them from within to suit your needs. Why are you guys looking for me?"

Julie flashed a smile before affirming what Eren was saying

"That's right. Unlike Beast Bloods or most of the cultist organizations that are filled with degenerates and criminals, Illuminati only takes those people who have a relatively successful career in their field.

The reason is simple. We want to reshape the establishments' beliefs from within. Anyone can cause mass direction if you think about it. Where's the talent in that. Real talent is when you destroy the things you want to destroy and replace them with something better without making a noise.

Beast Bloods had never allowed you to grow. But with my organization's backing, I can assure you that you'd get more than you ever could be retaining your current affiliation.

So what do you think? Do you want to come with us?"

Julie asked with a subtle temptation in her voice. Eren didn't reply immediately. He seemed to be thinking about something as he gulped the contents inside his wine glass some more before finally commenting:

"I know that the cultists' organizations work on one fundamental principle, no matter how radical or mild they are. Equivalent exchanges and equivalent benefits.

If I have so many benefits just being part of your organization, surely there must be something in it for you too in recruiting me. Tell me what that is upfront. I always appreciate straight shooters."

Julie hadn't doubted Ronny's intelligence. But keeping a sane mind in the face of benefits highlighted that part of the former's personality she had come to admire.

"Hm. You are right. But before I tell you that, I need to confirm something about you."

Eren raised his eyebrows but he didn't say anything. His silence was enough for Jules to continue:

"I need to see if you can go through the therianthrope transformation before I tell you the reason for me inviting you to my organization.

After that, I'll ask you about some not-so-well-known details about Beast Bloods to confirm your association with Beast Bloods. Just to confirm your identity as a member of Beast Bloods.

Finally, I'll have you sign a non-disclosure contract. Are you willing?"

Julie had stoic expressions when she said that. Eren didn't take long as he finished his wine before replying:

"I am."

A few days before the meeting with Julie took place.

Eren was talking with Agatha about a few details he had found in Edgar's journal.

"So do you not feel any voracious hunger from time to time? Or to be more specific, what has changed for you since you've gone through the therianthrope transformation?"

Agatha was confused and irritated. Because just a few moments before, Eren was discussing business stuff with her. Now he had shifted to asking about Beast Bloods and her transformation again.

She wasn't used to sudden shifts of gears. But she forced herself to calm down before replying:

"Not really. I feel that my trigger for anger and survival instinct has been altered from normal rankers. But I always had those emotions enhanced in the first place. So I can't say for sure.

Why are you asking?"

Eren pondered to himself after hearing his slave's response.

'So nothing changes for Anthrops and people using Beast contract spells. Or the changes aren't noticeable enough for the rankers on an individual level as they are for me.

But it would be wrong for me to assume things based on Agatha's words alone. I need to see her in action.'

Thinking this, Eren commanded Agatha to perform her therianthrope transformation in front of him. The latter just sighed after witnessing her master's erratic whims before obliging.

Agatha started transforming. Her height grew a little. The muscles on her limbs became more prominent. Plus, she started having a distinct fur growth on those limbs. Her eyes also changed from those of normal humans to those that had vertical pupils.

Agatha was a cute young girl. She was a bit shorter than Eren. But her transformation had pushed her height by four to five inches, allowing her to surpass Eren's normal stature.

Her white hair and light green eyes were still the same after her transformation. But now they had the air of a beastly aura around them.

But the biggest change Agatha had after entering her transformed state wasn't physical. Her mana signature now had the subtle aura of a mana beast mixed in it.

Any normal ranker would be able to sense the deviation in mana signature because the transformation had caused the mana signature to spread forth in the vicinity. Meaning a normal anthrope of Agatha's level couldn't mask the signature once they entered their transformed state.

That or Agatha just wasn't skilled enough yet to do it.

[Chapter 234 - Therianthrope Transformation Mimicry 02](#)

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That or Agatha just wasn't skilled enough yet to do it.

Eren got closer to Agatha while she was in her transformed state. He started looking at her transformed body keenly which put her in an awkward state. But she stood still to let her master continue what he was doing.

Eren started touching her skin and poking his fingers at her muscles. He was also using his mana sense to scan her entire body. Agatha started blushing because the butcher had already crossed the personal boundaries with this very act of his. That too with a straight face on.

'Reen, what do you think?'

Eren asked his beast companion. All his senses were shared with her so she was observing the Anthrope girl with him.

'Hmm. Her skeletal structure had changed along with her musculature. But they are on a superficial level. But her mana signature has changed drastically. And yet, one can conclude that she is a human.'

Eren kept on analyzing Agatha's body while caressing his chin. He thought of something and asked the C-Rank demon beast his next query:

"Reen, you have seen Ivor perform his transformation. What would be the difference between the transformations obtained through beast contract spell and therianthropy?'

Eren could deduce the differences himself but he wanted Reen's opinion since she could analyze these things on a deeper level than him because of her ranking status.

'Visually speaking, the two methods of transformation won't seem that different from each other. But the beast contract spell only focuses on changing the musculature of the ranker. Whereas, therianthropic transformation goes beyond just musculature alteration and changes the ranker's skeletal structure, only if temporary.

This slave of yours has tried her finest to play it cool in front of you. But I can assure you that the process must be painful. Unlike the beast contract spell, the therianthropic transformation causes a ranker to feel pain. But in return, they get a much larger boost in body state value than the beast contract spell users could ever hope for.

Her five senses and her mana sense also seem keener than they would be if suppose she had executed only the beast contract spell.

We have already discussed the deviation of the mana signature. Compared to the beast contract spell, the therianthropic transformation would make the ranker's mana signature deviate drastically.

Apart from these changes, I don't see anything to be different.'

Reen concluded her analysis and waited for her master to register his thoughts.

'Will we be able to copy the therianthropic transformation the way we did with the beast contract spell?'

Eren asked what he was thinking finally. He was almost sure that he would be able to copy the therianthropic transformation with Reen's help. But he asked just to be sure.

'Well, yeah. Your bones and your muscles have become pretty malleable ever since your transformation. You'd not suffer during your therianthropic transformation mimicry at all.

The cosmetic effects are easy to copy and produce. What you need to worry about is the deviation in the mana signature. It won't be the same as the beast contract spell. So alone, your bluff will be found out.

Hehe! But you are never alone. With my help, the deviation in mana signature is no biggie. I just need to sync the tiny bit of my mana signature with yours. And the very attribute of my mana signature would cause the biggest deviation in yours.'

Eren heard this and smiled.

'Let's do a demo of my therianthrope transformation shortly in front of this lass. I want to get her opinion.'

Eren commanded Reen to help him go through an anthrope-like transformation. The latter didn't have any problem with it. So she obliged:

Eren used the purple lightning beast as the base of therianthrope transformation. Therefore instead of fur, his transformation started producing distinct scales over his skin. And just like the real one, his stature increased and his height even crossed Agatha's enhanced height by 2 inches.

Eren's mana signature also deviated distinctly as his mana signature spread forth. One had to say that Reen had done her job fabulously. She had taken note of every little thing and made sure that all of them are implemented in Eren's therianthrope transformation mimicry.

Agatha was left dumbfounded after she saw Eren go through his transformation. At first, she had thought that Eren was executing the beast contract spell she knew him to be using. But her expressions and her thoughts changed as the latter had his transformation with her.

"Eren, how can you perform Anthrope transformation? Did you take on the path of therianthrope?"

'Why would I take the path that is but a mere imitation?'

Thought Eren to himself before leaving his slave to draw her conclusions. He wasn't obliged to answer her queries after all.

But his transformation had positively confirmed something for him. It meant that he could act as a genuine therianthrope as well. This was another card he wanted to have in his deck.

The butcher would have never thought the card he had prepared in advance was going to get used so soon. After hearing Julie's demand to show him his therianthrope transformation, he was glad that he had come prepared. It had given him the confidence to play Julie's sudden curveball.

"I can indeed show you my therianthrope transformation. But do you think this is the time and place to do that?"

Eren asked Jules with his signature smirk. His intentions couldn't have been any clearer.

"Hehe! That night wasn't enough for me either, Ronny. Who says business and pleasure can't get along. Grand Hiyat is under some heat right now. So it might not be a good idea to go there.

But I know just the place. You just need to follow me.

Let's go. Show me the beast that's inside you."

[Chapter 235 - Under Her Spell P1](#)

"Let's go. Show me the beast that's inside you. Hehe!"

Jules said in a playful tone and got up from her seat. Eren smiled and retracted his sound-isolation artefact before getting up as well. He gestured with his hand for his companion to proceed.

Eren found out after some time that Jules had led him outside the city of Lionhearts. Their rental colts had carried them miles away from the city in a few hours.

"Where are we going exactly, Jules?"

Eren finally asked after he chatted with Jules on random things during their journey. The latter smiled in response before speaking up:

"There's this natural pond nearby from where we are. Despite what you might expect, the water feels lukewarm to touch even during the night. Perfect for us to get immersed in. I thought we should spice things up from last time. Hope you don't mind. Hehe!"

"Hm. Alright. Why would I mind? I'm just glad I don't have to come up with killer pick-up lines this time. It's gratifying when you get to spend quality time without having to work hard for it every once in a while, you know."

Eren said and chuckled a bit. He made Jules remember the way they had met and interacted the last time. She shook her head and mirthlessly smiled before replying to him as they continued their journey on their colts:

"I'm sure you know this, Ronny. But I'll say this to highlight it again. Pick-up lines don't work the way you think they do. The good ones can only fetch attention. It's the one you are trying to woo that decides if they should work or not."

Ronny didn't take long to comment as he sped up his colt to match up with Julie's speed:

"They serve as effective ice breakers, yes. And with such a fine lady by my side, I'll try to break or shave away the ice with all my might if I have to."

Jules felt Ronny's words working on her again the way they did last time. She smiled and pointed at the front before saying:

"Hehe. You don't need to break that ice when it has already been melted away, Ronny. Look, our destination is right up ahead. I'll see what else your tongue can do apart from praising me so much."

Ronny and Jules eventually reached their destination. The pond was located at the edge of a small cliff and wasn't that deep. It was connected to a creek that was streaming down from the mountains in the distance.

The running water would fill the pond before travelling downwards. But its temperature would rise while it was inside the pond. That was because there was a lava vein at the bottom of the pond. It had turned the pond into a natural spa.

Eren had to admit that the place was pretty amazing. The location was covered by dense vegetation around it. Plus, it was only two nights away from the full moon. So the moonlight and stars had added to the already pleasing ambience.

The light breeze carried a faint and fresh scent of the wild. Eren smelled it and found it pleasing. But he felt something was odd.

He felt that the setting was too picturesque. Or rather, it felt too picturesque for him.

So he asked Reen to confirm:

'What do you think?'

Eren could hear Reen chuckle in his head before she replied:

'Hehe! You sure took your time to notice it. Thankfully, you are using your head to think this time and not some other part.

That's right. It's an E-Rank illusion spell that Jules is casting on you. She is what you humans call an illusionist.'

Reen confirmed Eren's doubts. By now he and Jules had both gotten off their colts. They were holding each other's hands as they walked towards the spa pond.

The butcher could now see that the surface of the water was not serene as he thought it'd be. There were light bubbles that would pop up every so often. 'The reason behind the water staying lukewarm even during the night,' he guessed.

'But why keep casting the spell on me now? And it sure isn't working the way it should if I can feel it is affecting my senses. So why is she still casting it?'

Reen pondered for a while before replying to her master's questions:

'I guess she doesn't know that it is not working. Hmm. Your status as a non-human might have rendered the illusion spell on your senses practically useless.

The spell itself isn't harmless. So maybe she wanted to lower your guard before drawing the truth from you that you wouldn't normally share. Hehe. This lady still underestimates you.'

Eren agreed with Reen's guess. His body's stats had been augmented to that of an E-Ranker using E-Rank strengthening he had achieved with the help of Reen. But it kept his intelligence unchanged.

An E-Ranker's illusion spell should have still worked on F-Rank Eren even when he was pretending to be an ace ranker. But his status as a non-human must have offset that logic.

Julie's spell was meant to be cast on humans after all. As a result, Eren felt his pleasure senses getting worked on. But his rationale stayed unaffected by that change.

'Now that I recollect the first time I saw this food... err... Julie. She had tried to cast the illusion spell on who she thought was Dom too when you had sent me to talk with her.

Her spell didn't work on me. But we can consider her to be a skilled illusionist if her spell can still affect you this much despite being a non-human.'

Eren nodded internally at Reen before stopping at the edge of the pond:

"You look beautiful under the moonlight, Jules."

Eren committed as he embraced his companion The latter returned the hug she received before saying softly:

"Ronny, I told you. You don't need to break the ice. Sometimes silence is golden."

"I know I don't need to. But I want to. This everyday night has turned into a surreal moment for me now that you are with me. I feel like I'm living inside a dream."

'The spell is working. Just as they had told me, the illusion spells work fine on Anthrops.'

Jules felt relieved after she had assumed this point. Her vetting of Ronny would be much smoother and reliable if her spell was in effect while she carried her Q&A round with her partner.

Or so she thought.

[Chapter 236 - Under Her Spell P2*](#)

'The spell is working. Just as they had told me, the illusion spells work fine on anthropes.'

Thought Jules as she lifted her head and kissed Ronny on his lips. They both started feeling each other's bodies as the light kiss turned into an extended liplock.

Eren grouped Julie's butt cheeks with both his hands as she started undressing him. He acted a tad intoxicated as if still under the effects of her spell and tried to rush things up a bit.

"Slow down there, Ronny. Remember, business and pleasure need to get harmonized.

Why don't you show me your therianthropic transformation and stay at it before we start enjoying each other's company?"

Eren acted as if drunk on the feeling of lust as he nodded at Julie's suggestion. Then he proceeded to execute the therianthropy transformation using Reen's help.

This time he used Agatha's beastly features as a base. His eyes turned into that of a beast's as the pupils turned vertical. The rest of the beastly manifestation was the same as what he had observed with Agatha.

Tweaking his mana signature was taken care of by Reen. She had based the alteration on what she had observed with Agatha. That's why Eren's deviation in mana signature was akin to that of an anthrope's.

The duo paused their activities and let Eren complete his transformation. Jules looked at the changed sight of Ronny in front of her before commenting:

"My my, Ronny. You should have started with this the last time, you know. So many lost opportunities."

Ronny and Julie had been stripped of all their clothes by now. He stepped into the pond and stopped walking further as soon as he reached knee-level depth. Then he turned backwards and gave his hand to the illusionist that was with him before replying:

"Don't worry about lost opportunities, Jules. We can always make new ones when the time is ripe. Like what we have this time."

Jules took Ronny hand in hand and followed him inside the pond. The water was pleasing to the skin and invigorated her. She felt that she should have cast the illusion spell on herself as well to enhance what she was feeling, just like Ronny.

Ronny stopped stepping further into the pond as soon as the water reached his waist level. He then turned back and spoke up:

If I stay in this state tonight, I'll eat you whole, Jules. Hope you know what you are asking me to do."

Ronny said in a deep voice. He hadn't forgotten to ask Reen about modulating his voice as well when he had entered his transformation.

"Hehe! Don't worry, Ronny. I can take it. You just empty your head and let your instincts take over you. Here, I'll lead the way."

Saying that Jules took Eren's hand and placed it on her right breast. Her right nipple had hardened under the effects of her state. So Eren started his assault on her body by firmly pinching the pink bud between his fingers.

"Ummmmm!"

An ecstatic moan escaped Julie's mouth. She held Ronny's hand that was fondling her breast and pressed upon it, telling him not to stop. The latter didn't need more encouragement anyway. He caressed her left butt cheek with his other hand while fine-tuning the pink nipple with the other.

Julie's blue hair gave off a lustrous sheen as she tilted her head backwards, enjoying the ecstatic pain coming from Ronny's fondling of her body.

Pain. Since Ronny was in his transformed beastly status, he had started getting rough with the illusionist. But surprisingly or unsurprisingly, she didn't mind. Her constant moans and constant chanting of Ronny's name in ecstasy indicated she liked the rough treatment.

Ronny carried on his assault as his face drew closer to Julie's neck. His slightly canine teeth bit onto her neck. This was a move driven by Eren's instincts. And as soon as he did, the blood that he tasted felt sweet in his mouth. Neither was he repulsed by tasting the foreign blood in his mouth.

'Hm? Do I like tasting blood now? Is this another consequence of being fused with Reen?'

Eren AKA Ronny thought to himself as he withdrew from his act. He didn't mind tasting human blood. Neither did he care about the repercussions of the newfound trait he had found out about himself.

Eren didn't care that his very act could be deemed as cannibalism. Animals would eat others of their kind when they had to. Humans hypocritically thought they were above animals by putting such

pretentious restrictions on themselves. And then they would proceed to commit even more vile deeds than animals ever could.

Eren's point of view was that if killing humans for the sake of his benefits was a normal thing for him, then devouring them was no different. But he had no desire to continue with the blood-drinking feast just yet.

"Aaaaaaaah! Ronny, you beast. More. I want more."

Ronny obliged. Both of their groins were immersed in water. The butcher first started to play with Julie's clit as he fingered her love hole with her other hand. The warm water doubled the lady's pleasure level even further as she allowed her partner easy access by adjusting her legs.

'She is almost about to lose her concentration and stop her spell execution.'

Reen informed Eren. The latter nodded internally and stopped driving the illusionist to the edge. For some reason, he thought the lady should be in control of her senses while assuming that he wasn't.

Ronny started praising Jules some more before resuming the act. That momentary respite was enough for the illusionist to get back to her senses and maintain her spell.

She started asking Ron some personal questions after ensuring from her end that he was way too deep to care about hiding facts from her. Their act carried on as she proceeded to guide his actions.

She asked him about his experiences in Beast Bloods. Then proceeded to ask him about his recent adventure in the city of Nilaami. Like always, the butcher added a hint of truth in his lies and made her drink the cocktail of his bullshittery.

Jules thought she was in full control of the situation. But unbeknownst to her, Ronny was choosing appropriate words to answer her interrogative questions with.

Ronny had figured out that Julie needed the handicap of her illusion spell to know that whatever she was getting from him was the truth. So he just made her think that everything was working out her way.

The most compelling illusions were those when the subject thought they were in complete control of the situation after all.

[Chapter 237 - Under Her Spell P3*](#)

"Aaaah. Go deeper, Ronny... that's it... that's it... there... right there."

Jules was getting screwed hard by Ronny in his beastly form. By now, her interrogation round was over. She didn't have to maintain her illusion spell anymore. So in this round, she let go of herself and started enjoying every moment of being fuc*ked to perfection by her companion.

But Julie's consistent guidance was annoying to Ronny.

'What's this about "right there"? Bit*ch there are only two places down south my di*ck could be in.

And you should be glad I can go deep if I want to. Go deeper! Haah! What would other guys have done if you asked them to suddenly pull the leftover dick out of their stomach?'

Eren AKA Ronny couldn't help but have this thought. He had lifted one of Julie's legs with his hand while she firmly stood on her other. The leg spread had been aptly used by Ronny as he could perform deeper strokes.

Wet sounds filled the surroundings. As they were still immersed in waist-level water, the sounds of waterplay were prominent. They had an auditory pattern about them, dictated by Ronny's slow yet consistent moves.

He nudded inside Jules after a while. But that didn't make him stop. He kept on driving his beast-sized co*ck hard inside her vaginal canal and pulling back out almost its entire length before shoving it deep inside her yet again.

'Someone is looking at both of you from a distance using an artefact. Possibly this girl's associate.'

Reen's voice sounded in Eren's head. That made him stop for a few seconds before resuming what he was doing. He wasn't surprised. Now he understood why this vixen had brought him here. It was to show what she had caught to her accomplice.

Eren kept on fu*kking Jules. The latter had come twice now. But since they were doing it while standing partially immersed in water, her post-cum state wasn't apparent. As the duo's state of affairs continued, pond water and 'pound water' kept mixing.

"Clean my coc*k with your mouth, Jules."

Ronny commanded Julie after a while. Just as a new climax was about to be washed over Jules, her partner interrupted his actions with a selfish request. The tone of his voice was commanding, oozing undisputed dominance.

'I don't dislike it. Hehe.'

Julie thought to herself as she proceeded to go down on Ronny. The latter grabbed her head and shoved his di*ck down her windpipe as soon as she took it inside her mouth.

Her gag reflex kicked in and Jules started choking on Ronny's dick. But that didn't stop him from driving his dick deep inside her mouth. He had grabbed her head by her head, giving him the control he needed to dominate his partner while having a blowjob.

Jules soon started to enjoy giving head too. She used one of her hands to excite her pussy while she took Eren's cock inside her mouth with its entire length.

"It's coming."

Eren said and pushed Julie's head against his cock from behind. His produce soon found a cosy place down the latter's throat.

Julie didn't waste even a drop of Eren's produce as she gulped it down entirely. There was also a bit of water mixed in, but that only made it easier for her to swallow the load she was given.

"Argh!"

Ronny grunted in pleasure as he released all his load inside Julie's mouth. What surprised Julie was the fact that his di*ck was still standing rock hard post-nut.

"This technique of yours sure seems intriguing. And..."

Julie got back on her knees and commented. Ronny could see it in her eyes as they met his. It was fear.

"And what, Jules?"

Ronny asked as he helped her stand up. The latter smiled mirthlessly before replying:

"And surprising. People would do everything you ask them to do on a condition that you give this technique to them."

'Yeah. Just be an Osan Woods Butcher and mess with all the bigshots in the kingdom.'

Eren spoke in his head as he used his Ronny alias to chat with Jules before their next session. The two took some breathers and got out of the pond.

They continued their sessions all night as Ronny alternated between releasing his load inside Julie's three openings. Julie had to wait until dusk fell before she requested retirement.

This time Ronny didn't force her. He soon got out of his beastly state and looked at his partner who was busy getting dressed up. He too followed her lead. Soon they were as prim and proper as they were before their extended carnal act.

The person who was watching you has left the area. It seems you checked out in their eyes.'

Using her mana sense to confirm it, Reen said to Eren. That was all he needed to hear before asking his next set of questions:

"Now that you've confirmed my Anthrope status, care to tell me what do you guys need me for?"

Ronny asked with a stoic expression on his face. This time, he was completely blank about Julie's intention in approaching him this way.

"Your status as an anthrope is more significant to us than you, to be honest, Ronny. Especially when you are now a rogue member of Beast Bloods who hasn't gotten back to them yet."

Ronny raised his eyebrows but remained silent. So it was his supposed anthrope status they were after.

'But the Illuminati aren't Beast Bloods. Why are they searching on anthropes then?'

This question popped in Eren's head. But Julie wasn't going to tell him answers to all his questions just yet. To elaborate further on what she was saying, the former had to sign a nondisclosure agreement with her.

"The Illuminati have found an entrance to an ancient purgatory. The exploration team needs a certain number of anthropes for us to open it completely and see what's inside it."

Having finally received confirmation of Eren's status, Julie explained to him why she had approached him. The butcher had already confessed to Jules while supposedly under her illusion spell that he was an ex-member of Beast Bloods with no intention of joining them again.

She needed his presence as an anthrope to open purgatory.

[Chapter 238 - Ranker's Purgatory](#)

Jules needed Eren's presence as an anthrope to open purgatory.

A ranker's purgatory, or just purgatory, was similar to a ranker's utopia in many ways. It was a separate dimension created by S-Rank entities in their final stage of the rank to choose their successor by testing their mettle.

But unlike the ranker's utopia, a purgatory was created by heretic rankers of their time now known as cultists. A purgatory was much more brutal and dangerous to explore than a utopia. Purgatory exploration usually results in heavy casualties.

But these risks carried substantial rewards. A purgatory usually contained the S-Rank entity's complete inheritance. High-ranked heretic rankers of their times would rob and plunder all the riches they could find. And then they would dump all their loot in the separate dimensions they created.

As a result, a purgatory usually contained a variety of riches that appealed to rankers and cultists of different paths and elements. Purgatory was a sought-after place despite the risks it carried because it offered heftier rewards upon its successful conquest.

Eren finally understood what the non-disclosure contract was for. It seemed that the Illuminatis wanted to keep this purgatory a secret from prying eyes. His expressions of surprise were then quickly replaced by stoicism as this understanding dawned on him.

He let Julie continue:

"They say the way to Elysium is through purgatory. Because of the special nature of this purgatory, this statement couldn't be more accurate. It must hold a lot of unseen ranking resources we could use.

Now that you know and have signed the contract, I'll ask again. Are you interested in exploring the purgatory with the Illuminati?"

Ronny shook his head before raising another of his doubts:

"I'm not that easy to commit, Jules. You know that. I understand the secrecy and your extended line of questioning. But why the need to keep things a secret from other cultists?"

I have known cultist organizations joining hands with others of their kind in exploring the purgatories found in the past. The things you discovered are ideal for you to explore with Beast Bloods. Why the secrecy?"

Jules chuckled in response to Ronny's query before explaining further:

"It seems you were kept away from the organization's politics when you were in the Beast Bloods. That bunch of rag-tag cultists are wilder than hungry boars found in the wild.

What do you think they will do when they find a purgatory made exclusively for them? They will try to outplay us, the ones who have found it first.

Finders keepers, Ronny. We don't want to share the purgatory with anybody else. Our appetite is that big.

Cultist organizations forming alliances isn't a novel phenomenon. In general, those seeking to explore purgatory seek out allies to share the damage and mitigate. But..."

Jules trailed her explanation, hoping her companions turned allies would get what she was referring to. The butcher didn't disappoint her:

"But cultists are cultists. They would betray and backstab anyone for greater benefits. They would find loopholes in contract or face the grim aftereffects of breaching the contract itself to gain shallow benefits."

Jules nodded her head before taking his line of thoughts further:

"That's right. The Illuminati have seldom operated with other cultist organizations. That's because we understand how other organizations work.

We have much better and efficient ways to deal with such problems. In general, we would activate our sleeper cell contacts within the kingdom's hierarchy to find us external help.

We usually try to sort such problems by ourselves without involving any other cultist organization. Anonymity and no-mess operations are our forte after all.

It's only when things get out of control do we look for allies. But this is not the time to look for allies, Ronny. This is our time to try to get all the benefits purgatory has inside it for ourselves."

Eren scratched his chin in Ronny's form. Another obscure point became clear to him at this point.

'So the reason this vixen is looking for rogues from the Beast Bloods is so that they won't report it to their organization. Their absence would not be noticed by the same.

Her illusion spell was for her to confirm that I'm indeed an ex Beast Blood and not connected to the organization anymore.'

Reen was also thinking of another point after she processed what the vixen had said to them. She let her master know what she was thinking:

"Erni, the Illuminatis fought with an unknown cultist organization in the previous timeline's future right? Maybe it was because of this purgatory that it had found.

The other organization must be the Beast Bloods. Since this anthropomorphic organization partakes in the path tabooed by the kingdom, all the information related to its existence and activities would get heavily censored or redacted entirely.'

Eren agreed with Reen's conjectures. He even praised her before adding further:

'It seems the Illuminatis didn't have a choice but to fight with the Beast Bloods in my previous timeline. The high-ranked entities of Beast Bloods are pure heretics at their core. When they discover the peculiarities of the purgatory in question, they will act with desperation.

The Beast Bloods likely discarded or didn't care about dominating the resources when they discovered that they couldn't take on the Illuminati alone. That means they leaked the news to other cultist organizations in the hopes of raising a united front to fight against it.

It might have forced the Illuminati's hand and it was forced to look for allies against the Beast Bloods and the allies they had found. That was how the war among cultist organizations might have taken place in my previous timeline.'

"Ronny, what are you thinking? Are there any questions you want to ask?"

Eren's dialogue with Reen was interrupted by Julie as she thought he had some questions on his mind. The latter shook his head before giving her the reply to her earlier question.

"No. Everything is clear. I'm in, Jules. But I'd need some time to prepare. Like a few weeks to two months. Will it be okay?"

Eren agreed to join the Illuminati's expedition but with a condition. He couldn't just walk into a lion's den without preparing for countermeasures. Most of all, he didn't trust the Illuminati. As sophisticated as they might seem in handling their business, they were cultists at their core.

In this life, Eren had decided that he would do the backstabbing and not the other way around.

[Chapter 239 - \[Bonus \] Lady Zee](#)

"I'm in, Jules. But I'd need some time to prepare. Like a few weeks to two months. Will it be okay?"

Eren raised his condition. Jules was expecting this so she agreed to it immediately:

"That would have been the case even if you didn't ask about it, Ronny. My organization also needs to look for more rogue anthropes to join us in our exploration. Plus, we need to analyze purgatory and find out to whom it belongs.

This is an ancient purgatory, Ronny. Ancient even by purgatory standards. So we can not let our guards down. We can take all the time we need and prepare ourselves for the unthinkable before we even think about entering that separate dimension.

So take your time. We are in no rush."

Eren nodded at Jules after hearing her reply. He had already started thinking about the things he'd need to explore purgatory.

Eren would have suggested Agatha join the exploration as well. Unlike him, she was a genuine anthropes after all. But her association with the real him was part of the official kingdom record. His name would get linked up if he tried to sneak an ally into the exploration team.

Maybe he could talk with the guys that were caught by Eren's team while they were on their way towards the city of Silvermoon and get them onboard. But they were now part of the city administration's resources. It wouldn't just hand them over to him because he needed them.

Eren needed to come up with a different approach. Agatha was his valuable pawn because of her involvement in his business. She had started handling his business well these days. He couldn't just put her at risk for this exploration even if he finds a way to sneak her inside the exploration team.

Renar and the rest his the team would serve perfectly as his disposable weapons within the exploration team. But to release them from the clutches of the city's administration, he needed to come up with another shady plan.

'I didn't want to do this. However, exploring purgatory is far too critical. *Sigh. Blackmail it is.'

Eren immediately thought of a makeshift plan and kept it aside for the future. The details needed to be fine-tuned so his hands do not get burned in the process.

"You are spacing out way too much Ronny. Are you sure everything's alright?"

Julie's concerned voice landed on Eren's ears and he snapped out of his inner thoughts. He smiled at her before replying:

"Oh, I was just remembering the last night we had. It seems I was so hyped about our time together that my memories have become fuzzy. Hehe! Would you like to create new ones with me in their place?"

Julie rolled her eyes before replying in denial:

"Oh cut me some slack Ronny. I like things to be a bit rough, yes. But it'll be beyond torture if I engage anymore in those activities with you."

Eren chuckled before agreeing to Julie's decision:

"Haha! You can't blame me for trying my luck. Anyway. Where are we heading next?"

Jules shook her head before clarifying her stance:

"WE are not going anywhere. You are. I come here to relax often. And I'd like some time alone. So..."

Eren nodded after understanding what Julie was talking about. He bid her adieu by kissing her on her lips before departing from the place.

Julie was left all alone. She waited by the pond for quite some time, watching her reflection in the water below.

The dawn break arrived. And with it, came a shadow that appeared behind Julie. The illusionist could see the reflection of that shadow on the surface of the water.

The shadow was of a mature lady who seemed to have a huge scar on her left cheek. Her features made her a very attractive woman in her 40s. But the scar gave her a domineering vibe.

"Lady Zee, did you find him to be suitable for our mission?"

Julie turned around and bowed in front of Zee. The latter sized up the illusionist before replying with a hint of tease in her voice:

"I'm surprised you can still stand on your own two feet after your rigorous activities last night. Do you need some more time to recuperate?"

Julie's cheeks turned red after listening to Zee's comment. But before she could come up with a satisfactory reply, the latter carried on:

"Alright. No need to get flustered. It was part of the mission after all. So I understand. And there's nothing wrong with seeking pleasure in the work you do.

That boy seems quite suitable for our mission. I was keeping tabs on your spell execution with my artefact as well.

You were dangerously close to breaking your spell. Thank the heavens, things worked smoothly and our vetting was successful.

The person who tipped off the city of Silvermoon about the Beast Blood's hideout has done us a huge favour. There are a good number of rogue anthrops roaming around in this part of the kingdom because of it.

We just need to find enough of them before we think about our next set of plans. So far, you did a fabulous job. Keep in touch with this Ronny guy. Use "any means necessary" to get inside his head again if you find a chance to do so."

'This bitch thinks I'm some chea*p slut who'd open her legs for anything that remotely resembles a di*k.

Well, to be honest, I'm indeed a slut. But I sure ain't cheap. And with Ronny, it is more than just a casual fling.

This granny won't get it.'

Julie thought to herself before nodding at Zee's instructions. There was no point in telling her senior about what she felt about Ronny. The lady was one stone-cold bi*tch.

It was now Julie's time to retire from the place, leaving Zee all alone. Once she was alone, the lady looked in the direction Ronny had gone off to and couldn't help remembering what she had felt back then when she was observing Ronny from a distance:

"Why do I get the feeling I wasn't the only observing party last night? It feels like there was someone keeping tabs on me as well."

[Chapter 240 - \[Bonus \] Tracking Spell](#)

Renita was seen using her ranger-specific spells to lead her team through the Beast Sanctuary.

Casting her tracking spell in the vicinity, she attempted tracking the team's target for the mission. It was tracking a sounder of wild boars known as Earth Suidae. The Besanc mission the team had accepted was to collect 40 tusks of Earth Suidae after all.

Earth Suidae was an earth element wild boar species in the F-Rank. It was known for having a tough hide and exceptional endurance. Plus, its inherent earth element spell would allow it to create a sturdy exoskeleton made of earth, covering most of its body.

Earth Suidae would literally become a tough nut to crack once it utilizes its inherent spell. Furthermore, it would travel in packs, traversing through the forest in search of food. It was an omnivore species and its appetite knew no restrictions.

Killing an entire sounder of Earth Suidae and collecting the tusks was not an easy task because of these traits. Therefore, there were few takers among F-Ranker students for this mission.

Eren had selected this mission because of its lucrative value. The reward in Merps was enough of a temptation. Plus, the mission would test all of its team member's progress as well. It would give him a fair idea about how his party is fair as a whole in real-life scenarios.

Renita's wind-element tracking spell was simple. The wind would pick up the trails of various signs of life around her as she cast the spell. Then a group of dense gusts of white wind would flow in the directions of those signs of life while creating runic patterns in the air.

The runic patterns would be based on the signs of life the tracking spell has picked up. So they held a meaning that the rangers could understand and decipher for the most part.

Therefore, a skilled ranger would be able to tell more details about the target they were tracking by looking at the runic pattern their tracking spells would create. A reckless ranger would miss the obvious warning signs that the runic patterns imply, thus leading their team astray.

It was obvious that the ranger class had drawn parallels between it and the historian class. But unlike the spells in the historian class that generated in-depth analysis of recent past events, the spells in the ranger class were fine-tuned to give only the necessary information for tracking while omitting the rest.

The ranger class spells were also less taxing on the rangers. The historians would only be called upon by the team when the purpose of their task was to know what had happened at a particular place. The rangers would be better at tracking the team's target in real-time.

Renita was using her spell to do the same. After she cast her spell, there were many runic patterns created in the air around her. She dispersed the runic signs which indicated old signs of life as well those that indicated solo or a small group of animals. Her team wanted to track an entire sounder of boars after all.

She finally saw the runic pattern that was indicative of her target after a while. She dispersed the rest of the runic pattern and concentrated on the one she zeroed in on.

Renita had benefited significantly by being guided by Almera who was also a wind-element tracker. The latter's lectures had been paid by Eren to help his ranger in progressing further in her class.

Eren paid significant attention to raising his team's ranger. And that investment was showing its effect now. Renita quickly understood the patterns and informed her team about the sounder's current direction, its strength, and the ballpark range of distance away from the team members. This range was based on the traversing speed and elapsed time.

According to Renita's estimations, the sounder they were tracking carried at least 25 members in it. They were at least 7 Earth Suidae adults with a late-stage F-Rank ranking. There were around 9 members that were in the lower stages in the F-Rank. Rest were unranked boars, possibly young infants who followed their parents around.

The number of F-Rank beasts in the sounder wasn't small. But Eren had said to his team members that slaying this group of wild boars won't be too difficult for the team if every member played their roles right.

During their trip through the forest, most of the White Raven team members were tense. All except Ramy who had put his worries to rest as soon as Eren told him not to worry.

He would chat with his team members as they tracked their targets. A team member's worry would be relieved by his fearlessness wrapped in the comic touch of his lisp. It was the team's first Besanc mission after all. And their shadow team leader had selected one of the most difficult missions a team of first-year students could find in the Besanc.

"How faw awe we fwom ouw target?"

Ramy asked Renita while looking at her with a serious expression. As if itching for battle with the beasts, he had already drawn his sword out. It seemed that he wanted to show his improvement to his idol.

By now everyone in the White Raven could understand what Ramy was trying to say even when his lisp twisted his speech way too much. The ranger tried not to laugh at his question and answered honestly.

"We should be about an hour away from their current spot according to our and the sounder's traversing speed.

Eren, should we rest and recuperate before contact is made? We've been travelling for hours now."

Renita asked her crush after thinking about her teammates' condition. Jake was panting hard and Bel looked mortifyingly exhausted. Becky also gave her the hint that she needed to relieve herself.

"Alright. Guys, we'll stop here for a while. Get fresh and eat something. We'll discuss battle strategy as soon as everyone has their grub."

The butcher agreed to his ranger's suggestion. They needed a sound plan before starting their battle with one of the fiercest groups of animals in the F-Rank.